



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
Fire & Rescue Service
Creating Safer Communities

Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham
Fire and Rescue Authority

MEMBERSHIP OF THE AUTHORITY, APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES AND BOARDS AND DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Report of the Clerk and Monitoring Officer

Date: 27 May 2022

Purpose of Report:

To confirm membership of the Authority following the Annual Meetings of the County and City Councils; To confirm the committee structure and to request nominations to committees and boards and to confirm dates of meetings. It also seeks to appoint Chairs of certain committees from those appointed to serve on them.

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1. BACKGROUND

Following the last Annual General Meeting in May 2021 the Authority has been able to successfully return to face to face meetings in order to deliver its wider community safety agenda. During the course of the Coronavirus Pandemic the Authority live streamed its meetings through YouTube to ensure that the public at large had the ability to view the decisions that were being taken. This live streaming has continued as part and parcel of the Authority's desire to ensure transparency of decision making and to encourage wider public engagement.

At the last Annual General Meeting the Authority approved the request from then newly elected Police and Crime Commissioner, Caroline Henry, to become a full voting member of the Authority in accordance with the enabling legislation. That also includes an entitlement to seats on certain committees should the Commissioner so indicate.

At the Annual General Meeting the Authority is required to resolve what committees are to be appointed and the number of voting members. In accordance with the previously established practice it is also recommended that the chairs of major committees, other than Policy and Strategy, be appointed at the Annual General Meeting in order to ensure continuity of business.

2. REPORT

2.1 The City Council has appointed the following members:-

- Councillor Steve Battlemuch (Labour)
- Councillor Nicola Heaton (Labour)
- Councillor Patience Ifediora (Labour)
- Councillor Gul Nawaz Khan (Labour)
- Councillor Nick Raine (Labour)
- Councillor Dave Trimble (Labour)

2.2 The County Council has appointed the following members:-

- Councillor Callum Bailey (Conservative)
- Councillor John Clarke (Labour)
- Councillor Robert Corden (Conservative)
- Councillor Eddie Cubley (Conservative)
- Councillor Sybil Fielding (Labour)
- Councillor Tom Hollis (Independent Alliance)
- Councillor Johnno Lee (Conservative)
- Councillor Michael Payne (Labour)
- Councillor Mike Quigley MBE (Conservative)
- Councillor Roger Upton (Conservative)
- Councillor Jonathan Wheeler (Conservative)
- Councillor Jason Zadrozny (Independent Alliance)

2.3 Committee Structure

Following the last County Council elections in May 2021 the committee memberships were reviewed to take account of the political balance requirements. These requirements have been re-reviewed as a result of the appointment of the Police and Crime Commissioner to the Authority and as a result certain of the committee sizes have been adjusted. These would need to be reviewed again should circumstances alter.

2.4 Committee Membership

- 2.4.1 The Authority is asked to appoint members to the Committees set out in the table below in accordance with the political balance rules and, from those appointments, to appoint the chairs of the Human Resources, Community Safety and Finance and Resources Committees. The Chair of the Authority will act as Chair of the Policy and Strategy and Appointments Committees. The Chair of the Personnel Committee will be appointed at each meeting.
- 2.4.2 Following the previous changes to the Standards Regime the Authority resolved to address any issues of a Standards nature through the Policy and Strategy Committee. Since that change was made, there have been no Standards issues to address.
- 2.4.3 In addition to the committee appointments, the Authority is asked to appoint members to the Strategic Inclusion Board on the basis of 3 Labour Group places, 2 Conservative Group places and 1 Independent Alliance Group place.
- 2.5 Pensions Board – the Authority is asked to appoint 1 councillor member and 1 officer member together with a councillor substitute. The current councillor member is Councillor Fielding and the officer member CFO Craig Parkin who undertook the role when he was DCFO. Given Mr Parkin’s promotion to CFO it is recommended that the officer role be undertaken by ACFO Michael Sharman. The current councillor substitute is Councillor Neal who is no longer a member of the Authority so a replacement will need to be appointed.

Committee (total places)	Labour Group places	Conservative Group places	Ashfield Independents
<u>Policy and Strategy Committee (6)</u> – to include the Chair of the Fire and Rescue Authority plus 5 other members	3	2	1
<u>Human Resources Committee (6)</u>	3	2	1
<u>Community Safety Committee (6)</u>	3	2	1
<u>Finance and Resources Committee (7)</u>	4	3	
<u>Personnel Committee (7)</u>	4	3	

– to include 1 member from the HR Committee.			
<u>Appointments Committee (6)</u> - to include the Chair and Vice Chair of the Authority	3	2	1

2.5 **Dates of Future Meetings**

The proposed schedule for full Fire and Rescue Authority and Committee meetings is as follows:-

2.5.1 **Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire and Rescue Authority (10.30 am unless otherwise stated)**

22 July 2022

16 September 2022

16 December 2022

24 February 2023

26 May 2023 (AGM)

Facilities will be made available for all Groups to hold pre meetings at 9.45am prior to full Authority meetings.

2.5.2 **Policy and Strategy Committee (10.00 am unless otherwise stated)**

24 June 2022 (at the rising of Finance and Resources Committee)

11 November 2022

27 January 2023

28 April 2023

2.5.3 **Human Resources Committee (10.00 am)**

1 July 2022

4 November 2022

13 January 2023

21 April 2023

2.5.4 **Community Safety Committee (10.00 am)**

17 June 2022

7 October 2022

6 January 2023

24 March 2023

2.5.5 Finance and Resources Committee (10.00 am)

24 June 2022

14 October 2022

20 January 2023

31 March 2023

2.5.6 The Personnel Committee will meet as required.

2.5.7 The Appointments Committee will meet as required.

2.5.8 The Strategic Inclusion Board will meet at the rising of each full Fire Authority meeting excluding the AGM.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The City Council provides the Clerk and Monitoring Officer for all meetings of the Fire and Rescue Authority, Policy and Strategy Committee and Personnel Committee. It also provides for a Constitutional Services Officer to be present for all committee meetings identified in 2.5 above, for which agendas and minutes will be circulated by the Clerk. For 2022/23 the cost to Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire and Rescue Authority for these services will be £41,500 plus VAT. Any additional services and printing costs will be recharged separately.

3.2 The Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) is currently reviewing the allowances paid to Fire and Rescue Authority Members. As an interim measure the IRP recommended to the Full Fire Authority at its December 2021 meeting that the existing arrangements, with certain approved changes, should continue pending a further report.

4. HUMAN RESOURCES AND LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no human resources or learning and development implications arising from this report other than those that relate to member development and training.

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

An equality impact assessment has not been undertaken because this report does not amend existing policy or service provision. There are no specific equality issues arising from this report.

6. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

There are no crime and disorder implications arising from this report.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There is a legal requirement for the Authority to hold an annual general meeting.

7.2 The Combined Fire and Rescue Authorities (Membership and Allowances) Amendment Regulations, which came into effect on 18 March 2020, varied the Nottinghamshire Fire Services (Combination Scheme) Order 1997 in the manner set out in Schedule 17 to those amendment regulations but, in particular, provided the ability for the Police and Crime Commissioner to request that they be appointed to the Authority with full voting rights.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

Failure to agree committee membership and to set dates and times for meetings may lead to a failure of the governance arrangements.

9. COLLABORATION IMPLICATIONS

There are no collaboration implications arising out of the contents of this report.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:-

- 10.1 appointments to the Fire and Rescue Authority be noted;
- 10.2 the committee structure be approved;
- 10.3 appointments to committees and appointments of committee chairs be made and dates of meetings be approved;
- 10.4 appointments be made to the Strategic Inclusion Board and Pensions Board.

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR INSPECTION (OTHER THAN PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS)

None.

**Malcolm R Townroe, Solicitor
CLERK AND MONITORING OFFICER TO THE AUTHORITY**