

**Minutes of the Meeting of
Shropshire and Wrekin Fire and Rescue Authority
Strategy and Resources Committee
held in the Beech Room, Headquarters, Shrewsbury
on Thursday, 17 March 2016 at 2.00 pm**

Present

Members

Councillors Mrs Barrow, Carter, Roberts (Chair), Turley, West and Wynn

Officers

Chief Fire Officer, Deputy Chief Fire Officer, Treasurer, Head of Finance, Head of Service Delivery Transformation, Head of Service Delivery, Planning, Performance and Communications Manager, Corporate Support Manager and Executive Support Officer

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Hartin.

2 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

The Chair reminded Members that they must not participate in the discussion of, or voting on, any matter, in which they had a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, and should leave the room prior to the commencement of the debate.

No Disclosable Pecuniary Interests were declared.

3 Non-Exempt Minutes

Members received the non-exempt minutes of the Strategy and Resources Committee meeting, held on 4 February 2016.

It was proposed by Councillor West, seconded by Councillor Carter, and with Councillors Mrs Barrow and Wynn abstaining, as they had not been present at the meeting, it was

Resolved that the non-exempt minutes of the Strategy and Resources Committee meeting, held on 4 February 2016, be agreed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

4 Public Questions

No questions, statements or petitions had been received, from members of the public.

5 Committee Work Plan 2016/17

This report reviewed progress against the Strategy and Resources Committee 2015/16 Work Plan and put forward a 2016/17 Work Plan for consideration and approval by Members.

The Corporate Support Manager (CSM) advised that following discussions at the risk management training session, officers would include consideration of corporate risk within pertinent reports rather than presenting separate corporate risk reports to the Committee.

The Chair commented that the risk management training session had been very good. The CSM agreed and stated that it had also been timely.

It was proposed by Councillor West, seconded by Councillor Roberts, and

Resolved that the Committee:

- a) Note progress made against the Strategy and Resources Committee 2015/16 Work Plan; and
- b) Approve the Work Plan for 2016/17, attached as an appendix to the report, without amendment.

6 Committee Terms of Reference

This report proposed some minor amendments to the Terms of Reference of the Strategy and Resources Committee for consideration and recommendation to the Fire Authority, following the annual review conducted by officers.

The CSM outlined the change relating to corporate risk management reporting as set out on page 2 of the report. Councillor West commented that this change made sense.

It was proposed by Councillor Carter, seconded by Councillor Mrs Barrow, and

Resolved that the Committee, having considered the proposed amendment to its Terms of Reference, as set out at section 4 of the report, agree to recommend the changes to the Fire Authority.

7 Review of Member Role Descriptions

This report asked Members to review the Role Descriptions for the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Strategy and Resources Committee and for the Chair of the Strategic Planning Working Group.

The CSM asked if Members were happy with approach taken, whereby links were given to documents on the website, rather than attaching the documents to the printed papers, as with the Role Descriptions referred to in this report. Members indicated that they were happy with this approach.

Councillor Carter commented that, unlike at Shropshire Council, the use of Telford & Wrekin Council IT equipment by Members was voluntary. Councillor West proposed, therefore, that Telford & Wrekin Council Members of the Fire Authority be supplied with hard copies, if they required them. The CSM undertook to write to the Members concerned to check, if they wished to receive paper copies.

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Barrow, seconded by Councillor Roberts, and

Resolved that the Committee, having reviewed the Role Descriptions for the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Strategy and Resources Committee and for the Chair of the Strategic Planning Working Group, agree the changes proposed.

8 Service Targets 2016/17

This report presented the proposed Service targets for 2016/17.

The Planning, Programme and Communications Manager presented this report with the Head of Service Delivery Transformation and the Head of Service Delivery (HSD) providing further detail, as required, on the changes made to the targets.

Councillor Mrs Barrow asked how the Service evidenced the impacts of its prevention campaigns. The HSD explained that it was difficult to align campaigns with direct impacts on performance. The best approach was to look at statistics nationally and use judgment with regard to this Service's performance.

There was also some discussion around the use of 'Exeter' data, which related to people aged over 65 years of age. This data had been used successfully with Telford & Wrekin Council and similar work was now being undertaken with Shropshire Council.

In response to a question from the Committee the Chief Fire Officer (CFO) explained that it was necessary for the Service to set targets, as they directed and/or changed the Service's organisational strategies. In addition, they assisted with the assessment of the Service's performance. The CFO also explained that targets were an inheritance from the Department for Communities and Local Government and that this might change now that fire services came under Home Office direction.

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Barrow, seconded by Councillor West, and

Resolved that the Committee agree the proposed Service targets for 2016/17.

9 Local Government Act 1972

It was proposed by Councillor West, seconded by Councillor Carter, and

Resolved that, under the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded for the following agenda item on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined by the provisions of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act, by virtue of paragraph 3.

10 Exempt Minutes (Paragraph 3)

Members received the exempt minutes of the Strategy and Resources Committee meeting, held on 4 February 2016.

It was proposed by Councillor Carter, seconded by Councillor West, and with Councillors Mrs Barrow and Wynn abstaining, as they had not been present at the meeting, it was

Resolved that the exempt minutes of the Strategy and Resources Committee meeting, held on 4 February 2016, be agreed and signed by the Chair as a correct record

The meeting closed at 2.30 pm.

Chair.....

Date.....