

SOUTH YORKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

22 JULY 2019

PRESENT:

Councillors: S Ayris, A Buckley, T Cave, T Damms, R Frost,
P Haith, C Hogarth, P Price, C Ransome, S M Richards,
C Ross, R Taylor and Dr A Billings

ACO T Carlin, S Booth, S Gilding and A Strelczenie
(South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service)

A Frosdick, M McCarthy, L Noble, S Loach and M McCoolle
(Barnsley MBC)

M Buttery
(Office of the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner)

Apologies for absence were received from S Norman,
N Copley, M Potter, CFO J Courtney, QFSM and
DCFO A Johnson

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were noted as above.

2 ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

3 URGENT ITEMS

None.

4 ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

None.

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS IN RELATION TO ANY ITEM OF BUSINESS ON THE AGENDA

None.

6 REPORTS BY MEMBERS

Councillor Ransome referred to one of the Independent Members of the Audit and Governance Committee whose second and final term of office would reach a conclusion at the end of autumn 2019. She requested confirmation of the recruitment timetable for the appointment to this position.

L Noble stated that planning for the recruitment process had already commenced. It was intended to advertise the vacancy w/c 12 August 2019 across all South Yorkshire District Councils, Town and Parish Councils and the third sector. Two Members – including one Independent Member – will be invited to sit alongside Councillor Haith on the evaluation panel for the appointment of a new Independent Member, which would hopefully include an overlap period to provide continuity.

Councillors Frost and Taylor had attended JADE Youth and Community Centre in Dinnington, Sheffield on 19 July 2019. JADE had been partially funded by the Stronger Safer Communities Reserve (SSCR), and helped young people with activities which enabled social education, economic and employment opportunities for life progression which included fire safety, road safety, anti-social behaviour, drug and alcohol awareness. A community memorial garden had been opened in memory of Leonne Weeks who had been murdered in 2017, which contained artwork made from recycled bottles and bottle tops, and demonstrated what could be achieved through community working and SYFR engagement.

7 RECEIPT OF PETITIONS

None.

8 TO RECEIVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC, OR COMMUNICATIONS SUBMITTED BY THE CHAIR OR THE CLERK AND TO PASS SUCH RESOLUTIONS THEREON AS THE STANDING ORDERS PERMIT AND AS MAY BE DEEMED EXPEDIENT

M McCarthy read out the following question received from the Fire Brigades' Union, together with the response received from CFO Courtney:-

'How many times has the fire authority including service managers lobbied central government since the pensions shortfall became apparent, on which dates, to whom and what was their response?'

The Chief Fire Officer had provided the following response:-

'Given that this is a sector wide issue, our main lobbying has been through the National Fire Chiefs Council. The pensions issue has been discussed at each of the three NFCC meetings since the news first broke. These discussions culminated in Roy Wilsher's writing to the Police and Fire Minister on behalf of the sector, to set out our grave concerns about the implications of the Government's current position on the pensions' deficit given the significant cuts that have already been imposed upon the service since 2011. During that same period, I have raised the pensions issue with HO representatives on three occasions, and HMICFRS on two

occasions. I have a further meeting with Luke Edwards, Director of Fire and Resilience, and Jonny Bugg, both from Home Office this week (w/c 24th June 2019)'.

Councillor Haith queried the outcome of CFO Courtney's meeting with L Edwards and J Bugg from the Home Office.

S Booth stated that SYFR's Executive Team had attended part of the meeting at the Home Office. SYFR had provided L Edwards with a direct question in relation to the pensions position, who had outlined that the Government had assessed each sector affected by the pensions position individually. L Edwards had not provided any assurance to the fire sector that the pensions issue would effectively be managed through the provision of the ongoing grant. Therefore, SYFR had understood that it had been correct in not forecasting the pension grant to continue. L Edwards had reiterated that there was a different approach within the Government to resolve the pensions issue across the fire and rescue services, police and NHS etc.

Councillor Haith requested that SYFR's Executive Team continued to press the issue.

Councillor Ransome echoed the sentiments of Councillor Haith. She queried the Authority's next steps in terms of continuing to lobby the Government on the issue.

Councillor Taylor stated that Members would have the opportunity to meet with the Home Office at various meetings and conferences. He suggested that the Authority required advice on the matter.

S Booth referred to CFO Courtney's response which had indicated a sector led response through Roy Wilsher, Chair of the National Fire Chiefs' Council (NFCC), which would continue. At the SYFR Executive Meetings, CFO Courtney had reiterated that on every occasion that the National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) had met, pensions had formed part of the agenda, and would continue to do so. Pensions lobbying would continue through the NFCC across the sector. CFO Courtney would continue to raise the issue when he met with Home Office officials.

Councillor Taylor considered that the Authority needed to add their voice to the process, and he welcomed any ideas from Members.

9 MINUTES OF THE EXTRA ORDINARY AUTHORITY MEETING HELD ON
14 JUNE 2019

Councillor Richards queried which SYFR officer would provide a report to the Authority on the issue of protecting the wildlife around the new Parkway Fire Station.

S Booth stated that L Murray, Joint Head of Estates and Facilities Management for SYFR and SYP would produce the report. SYFR was currently ascertaining the alleged issues with Sheffield City Council's Planning Department.

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Extra Ordinary Authority meeting held on 14 June 2019 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

10 MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD ON 24 JUNE 2019

Councillor Ross referred to the Annual Authority meeting held in June 2018, and the omission of the Chair of the Authority as part of the Appointments Committee. He queried whether Councillor Taylor should be a Member of the Appointments Committee, in view of a number of potential upcoming SYFR senior appointments to be made.

Councillor Taylor confirmed that he would become a Member of the Appointments Committee in place of Councillor Damms, who would sit in his place on the Appeals and Standards Committee.

RESOLVED – That subject to the above amendment, the minutes of the Annual Authority meeting held on 24 June 2019 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

11 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY AUTHORITY MEETING HELD ON 24 JUNE 2019

Dr Billings requested that the minutes be amended to indicate that he had given consideration to the possibility of the Police and Crime Commissioner role becoming the Police and Fire Commissioner, which had not been progressed as it was felt non-productive to change an arrangement that was working well.

In respect of the Service Level Agreement (SLA), Councillor Haith requested that the report be submitted to the Audit and Governance Committee meeting in September 2019 to provide further clarity around the roles undertaken by BMBC and SYFR, to ensure that Members were clear about the services provided and by whom.

A Frosdick confirmed that the information would be included within the report to be presented to the Audit and Governance Committee meeting in September 2019.

Councillor Haith referred to A Hunt who had recently left BMBC. She requested that Members be provided with information on how the risk element of the Service Level Agreement (SLA) would be delivered, to the Audit and Governance Committee meeting in September 2019.

Councillor Ayris sought clarity on A Frosdick's comment made at the last Authority meeting whereby if the Authority made a decision to move away from the current contract, that there would be a two year notice period to take effect. He queried whether this was specified within the Contract Standing Orders, whether it applied solely to going out to tender for the Internal Audit element, or whether this applied to the suggestion for the whole of the service provided by BMBC to go out to tender.

A Frosdick stated that the two year notice period was referred to within the 1986 contract between the Authority, BMBC and the other South Yorkshire district councils. He could not speak on behalf of BMBC, but should the Authority reach a

stage to tender for alternative arrangements, he did not envisage that BMBC would seek to uphold the two year provision. He considered that the two year notice period would have been included within the contract in order to provide stability. In relation to the Internal Audit element, BMBC would be agreeable to relax the notice period provisions in order to test the market.

Councillor Ransome queried why A Frosdick had suggested at the last Authority meeting that only the Internal Audit element of the SLA should go out to tender, and not the whole service provided by BMBC.

A Frosdick referred Members to the report that had been presented at the last Authority meeting which related to two elements around the substantive support provided to the Authority by BMBC, and the agreement that this would be referred to the Audit and Governance Committee. The report had also identified the issue of the future of the Internal Audit contract, and the agreement to test the market, which will also be discussed by the Audit and Governance Committee.

Councillor Ransome queried why officers had suggested that only the Internal Audit element of the SLA be market tested i.e. value for money or compliance reasons.

A Frosdick had highlighted at the last Authority meeting that the Authority was the commissioner of the services from Barnsley MBC, and had the authority to make decisions in relation to its support services. Barnsley MBC was happy to continue to provide support services as long as they were required by the Authority. The view had been expressed by many Members around the benefits and value-for-money of market testing the whole SLA, when there was not an obvious alternative to provide such services. In respect of Internal Audit, there is a larger market in terms of services, and it would be a worthwhile exercise to test the market. The Authority was able to test the market for the whole SLA should it wish to, and consider that to be beneficial.

RESOLVED – That subject to the above amendment, the minutes of the Ordinary Authority meeting held on 24 June 2019 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

12 MID YEAR FLEET STRATEGY PROGRESS - PRESENTATION

Members were provided with a presentation on the progress of the mid-year Fleet Strategy and plans for the future.

The Fleet consisted of 54 members of staff which were based across 3 sites consisting of an HGV workshop in Rotherham, a bodyshop and light vehicle mechanical workshop in Rotherham, and a light vehicle mechanical, commissioning and auto electrical workshop in Sheffield. The SYP and SYFR fleet consisted of 900 vehicles, SYFR had 729 items of specialist equipment, approximately 100 – 150 vehicles were commissioned annually and travelled over 12 million miles for SYP and 1 million miles for SYFR per year. SYP had a revenue budget of £4m with a £2.1m capital budget, and SYFR had a £1m revenue budget and £2.4m capital budget.

The collaborative vision was to create a joint fleet management structure, retaining local and specialist delivery, combining both management and administrative functions in a shared structure, whilst retaining local delivery, pooling expertise, specialisms and experience in house. It was also planned to rationalise the workshops to provide workshops over two sites at the SYFR premises in Eastwood and in Sheffield, to ensure that the workshops were fit for purpose and sustainable for the future.

Members noted the joint and collaborative management roles which included SYP auto electricians working on SYFR appliances, SYFR technicians repairing SYP vehicles i.e. horseboxes, SYFR provided input into the horsebox tenders, and SYP drivers received HGV training and certification from SYFR examiners. The benefits from the joint and collaborative management roles had achieved a strong strategic direction, increased staff resilience and skill set, the sharing of expertise, a reduction in costs in terms of technicians, and an increase in staff morale. Both SYP and SYFR staff were very proud of what had been achieved for both organisations and the work undertaken.

The Estates Team had costed four options for the co-location of the SYP bodyshop at Eastwood, and Option 4 had been supported by the Delivery Board and Collaboration Board, which would provide for the SYFR Central Stores at Eastwood to be relocated to the spray booth area within the Eastwood vehicle workshop, and the Central Stores would be converted to a bodyshop. Works were anticipated to be completed in May 2020. The Collaboration Board had approved the costings for the joint fleet management system, to be progressed over the coming months and scheduled to be completed by the end of March 2020.

Approximately 625 SYP vehicles had been installed with the new telematics system and this would be progressed with SYFR vehicles through the IRMP Board in due course. Both SYP and SYFR were in the process of signing up to the Driving for Better Business programme.

Councillor Taylor requested that Members be provided with copies of the presentation slides after the meeting.

Councillor Ransome queried whether the smaller fire appliance was a new initiative and whether it had been utilised in other fire and rescue services.

S Gilding confirmed that the smaller fire appliance was a new initiative which had been introduced to enable easier manoeuvrability down narrow streets and would be more operationally effective. The smaller fire appliance would be able to undertake the same functions as the larger fire appliances, it would contain the same equipment and would be able to attend the same types of incidents. She understood that other fire and rescue services had also trialled the smaller fire appliances.

ACO Carlin stated that SYFR had taken steps in making the smaller fire appliance more fit for purpose in comparison to the traditional fire engine, which was a heavy vehicle with large dimensions. For some time SYFR had run a campaign, displaying signs on specific streets regarding gaining access for fire appliances due

to inconsiderate vehicle parking. It was considered that the fire appliance could be made even smaller, and consultation was ongoing with firefighters on this issue. A project would also commence at Rivelin Fire Station, around the particular issues faced. The smaller fire appliance met all of the requirements of the firefighters, and would save SYFR a considerable amount of money over its 10 year lifespan. Nationally, other fire and rescue services were using smaller fire appliances.

Councillor Ransome queried whether the smaller fire appliance was environmentally friendly and cheaper to run in comparison to the traditional fire appliances.

ACO Carlin confirmed that the smaller fire appliance was cheaper to run compared to the traditional fire appliance; it was the first step, in several steps of a cultural change, as to what a fire engine should look like. The smaller fire appliance would be operated for 3 months at the Central Fire Station and 3 months at Doncaster Fire Station. Following each 3 month period, a full evaluation would be undertaken via the crews who had ridden on the appliance, and a decision would be taken as to where the fleet strategy would go, based upon the feedback.

Councillor Buckley queried that whilst it was not possible to have an electric powered pump across the fleet, whether the majority of the vehicles were petrol or diesel operated, and what moves were being taken towards having more electrically powered vehicles.

S Gilding stated that the majority of the vehicle fleet was diesel operated, with an increased number of SYP electric powered vehicles. All vehicles would be reviewed to ascertain which were the most suitable to increase the electric powered vehicles for SYFR; this had initially been undertaken for some of the non-frontline vehicles i.e. Facilities Management.

Councillor Buckley queried the plans to install electric charging points at the new Barnsley Fire Station, and police and fire stations.

S Gilding confirmed that she was working with L Murray on the matter, and electric charging points would be considered as part of any new build project.

Councillor Hogarth queried how confident SYFR was that the costs on each side of the collaboration was paid fairly, rather than one organisation subsidising the other.

S Booth stated that the arrangement was currently agreed at a strategic level through the Collaboration Board. S Gilding's post was a shared post between SYP and SYFR, to which both SYP and SYFR paid 50% of the costs; everything else was considered on a case by case basis. The paint shop and bodyshop from SYP which was currently housed within the Main Street Police Station in Rotherham, would move to the SYFR Central Stores function at the Eastwood site. The business case was currently being worked up to ascertain the relevant costs for SYFR and SYP.

In relation to the fleet management system, there were 42 SYP users in comparison to 9 SYFR users; the costing had been split proportionately.

Dr Billings queried whether any Facilities Management vehicles would be exempt from the proposed congestion charge in Sheffield.

S Gilding said that the Service was currently liaising with SCC as part of the consultation process. It was envisaged that emergency services specialist vehicles would be exempt from the proposed congestion charge. Consideration is still being given as to whether the Facilities Management vehicles would also be exempt, and this may require an increase in electric powered vehicles.

Dr Billings queried whether the 200 SYP bicycles were in use.

S Gilding stated that the number of SYP bicycles had significantly dropped and were traditionally used by PCSO's. Further work would be undertaken to ensure that they were used as often as deemed necessary.

Councillor Taylor gave thanks for an interesting and informative presentation.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the presentation.

13 STATION PLANS/STATION DASHBOARDS - PRESENTATION

Members were provided with a station plans and station dashboards presentation, which provided an update position on the Station Plans and District Plans that had been presented to Members by Group Managers within the districts earlier in the year.

A Strelczenie stated that SYFR would utilise the available data in order to make the South Yorkshire communities safer through joint working. Within the Sheffield District Plan 2019, there had been a slight decrease in the number of deliberate primary (including vehicles) fires and deliberate secondary (anti-social behaviour) (ASB) fires during July 2019 in comparison to previous years, as a result of the data now being utilised. Data mapping was available to crews and managers within each district area, which enabled SYFR, its partners and community safety teams to target specific incidents. Crime maps and data mapping would be overlaid to identify data led ASB issues; the blue routes identified would enable SYFR Crews and/or SYP to drive by the identified ASB routes at specific times of the day to try to mitigate any issues. District Managers, SYP and local authorities attended strategic meetings in an attempt to combine efforts to reduce all types of ASB.

Members noted that spikes in deliberate secondary (ASB) fires were based upon a 3 year average, which coincided with the months of the school holidays and were generally weather dependent. A particularly hot period of weather had been encountered in April 2019, which had resulted in a spike of deliberate secondary (ASB) fires i.e. loose refuse and grass fires etc. Operation Light Nights would provide intervention activities for young people and focus on the months of July to September at known ASB locations which tended to occur between the hours of 4.00 pm to 8.00 pm.

Pre-planned engagement activities would take place in the Barnsley areas utilising SYFR crews, SYP community support officers and BMBC. Specific areas had been targeted where it was considered that education was required for young people.

The Doncaster District Plan 2019 highlighted that, following a calendar of campaigns, SYFR would work with partners to reduce the number of incidents within the district from the previous year by 10%. A high number of ASB had been encountered in July 2018 due to the extended periods of hot weather. To date, the ASB figure in July 2019 had reduced as a result of the data utilised by the local crews based in Doncaster and the management team. SYFR worked closely with DMBC and SYP regarding the specific problems encountered in Edlington, to educate the people within that community. Prisons had been one of the largest contributors to primary fires. SYFR was working closely with Doncaster Prison Governors to enable fire investigations to be undertaken, with a view to extending prison sentences in the instances of deliberate fires.

SYFR was working closely with the NHS and St Leger Homes in Barnsley to achieve approximately 40 referrals per month in each station area of those people most vulnerable to fire, to ensure that SYFR crews attended the homes of the most vulnerable and those most in need of smoke alarm installation.

Councillor Damms requested that Members be provided with the presentation slides before the meeting, wherever possible.

Councillor Ransome gave thanks for the presentation. She queried the position in relation to fly tipping which had become a problem within the rural communities.

A Strelczenie referred to the mobile technology on the fire appliances that was utilised to identify local areas of fly tipping. Crews within that area would take photographs of fly tipping to be reported to the local authority.

Councillor Richards queried whether the ASB fires which tended to occur between the hours of 4.00 pm to 8.00 pm suggested a particular age group of young people. She also queried whether this necessitated additional work in schools.

A Strelczenie referred to the raw data which indicated that many ASB fires occurred generally in parks, play areas or close by, which would suggest the likelihood that ASB fires were caused by younger people. SYFR's Community Safety Team attended many South Yorkshire schools. Year 6 children attended the Lifewise Centre, which covered a range of activities including ASB and fire setting. SYFR worked closely with SYP who would increase their patrols around particular areas where there had been a significant spike in ASB, and SYFR crews would attend those areas at specific times to discuss ASB with the young people.

Councillor Taylor gave thanks for an interesting and informative presentation.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the presentation.

14 PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE AUTOMATIC ATTENDANCE TO COMMERCIAL AUTOMATIC FIRE ALARM ACTUATIONS

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive was presented to provide Members with rationale and evidence to support the restriction of attendances to commercial Automatic Fire Alarm (AFA) mobilisations. A commercial premise was

considered to be any retail, office, industrial or further education premises where there was no potential sleeping risks. SYFR was one of the few remaining fire and rescue services that attended alarm activations at commercial premises, especially during daytime hours.

Members noted that the proposal would not affect the current Pre-determined Attendance (PDA) to residential or sleeping risk premises, or high risk sites (Control of Major Accident Hazards (COMAH)) within the SYFR boundaries.

Councillor Ross expressed concern at Option 1 presented within the report. He observed the merit of SYFR not attending the commercial sites during the day time, but he expressed concern regarding the night time hours, when the likelihood would be that no employees would be on site. In the minority of cases where there was a fire during night time hours, the fire could be contained before it developed further. He queried the rationale as to why colleges had been excluded from the list as an exception to commercial premises.

ACO Carlin stated that currently when SYFR received a commercial AFA report to attend an empty factory during the middle of the night, Control would make a predetermined decision whether to deploy one or two fire appliances, and an external survey would be undertaken. If it had been concluded that there was no outward signs of a fire inside the premises, then Control would contact the key holder, and the fire appliance(s) would be held outside of the premise awaiting their arrival. The fire appliances contained thermal imaging cameras which could be utilised to identify hot spot areas. SYFR's professional view was that this would not be a life risk incident. The risk would be the potential fire that could take hold, and the alarm receiving centre would be able to identify further detector heads being activated due to the fire progressing.

Councillor Ross suggested that as a compromise to the fire appliances having to wait outside of a commercial premise for the key holder to arrive, that firefighters could undertake an external check of the premises with a heat detector, and if a fire had not been identified, the crews could leave without having to wait for the key holder to arrive.

ACO Carlin commented that this could be a possibility, although it would not eliminate the fire appliance being deployed for an average of 18 minutes which would prevent the crews from attending any other responses during that time; he would be reluctant to take that step. In respect of the question around Colleges, these involve people aged 18 years and above and were a different risk category to schools, as their responses and abilities to evacuate a building were more aligned to public assembly buildings and shops in comparison to the controlled evacuation of a junior school.

Councillor Ayris queried the protocol in respect of identifying whether there were any rough sleepers in empty factory buildings.

ACO Carlin commented that SYFR was aware of the derelict premises within South Yorkshire; a rough sleeper count was undertaken every morning. SYFR was able to ascertain rough sleeper site information i.e. car parks and other locations and the local station manager and crews would be aware of these. He considered

that it would be a significant requirement for crews to give consideration to rough sleepers at every night time commercial AFA; SYFR would deal with the intelligence around such risks accordingly.

Councillor Richards queried whether sixth form colleges, which were attended by people aged 16 to 18 years old, fell under the category of responsible adults. She referred to universities which had been excluded from the list as an exception to commercial premises. Universities are major contributors to the wealth and economy of Sheffield, and she would like Universities to continue to be supported as well as possible. She considered that the Universities would have first class fire alarms and sprinkler systems, and that any AFAs received from them during the night time would more than likely be an actual fire. She expressed concern that university and college premises should continue to be made available to the people who used them, to enable individuals to continue their education and employment within Sheffield.

ACO Carlin referred to the relatively simple process which enabled SYFR to count those identified premises which were critical to the infrastructure of South Yorkshire, on a case by case basis; colleges and universities would still be empty buildings during the night time. The Authority could, if it so chose, provide SYFR with a direction to those premises which was key to the ongoing economy and education of South Yorkshire.

Dr Billings queried whether any data was available on the approximate 100 genuine fires that had arose from the 3500 AFA triggered incidents per year. He also queried whether it would be possible to deploy an SYFR car to attend a commercial AFA, whether this had been undertaken at other fire and rescue services and whether it had led to any unnecessary risks being undertaken.

ACO Carlin commented that firefighter representative bodies may have a different view on breaking up a fire crew to send an individual out to investigate a commercial AFA. The alarm receiving centres were surprised that SYFR continued to send out attendance to a commercial AFA. SYFR proposed to continue to attend as many key important risk premises as possible; other fire and rescue services did not attend any, or attended fewer, commercial AFAs than SYFR. SYFR was considering this issue using a risk-based approach. He could not recall any commercial AFA within the last 3 years that had resulted in a significant fire in South Yorkshire.

Councillor Price sought clarification that SYFR would always respond to a 999 call, and also in the event of an AFA in a community centre to which a 999 call had been made to indicate that the alarm was sounding.

ACO Carlin confirmed that SYFR would always respond to a 999 call, including a call to report a fire alarm sounding. If a community centre was not connected to an automatic auto dialler, then Control would make a decision whether to deploy a fire appliance. SYFR would never remove the ability for Control to send a fire appliance to investigate.

Councillor Buckley commented that universities had their own internal monitoring systems i.e. security guards and personnel who would form part of that monitoring system, and they could investigate and contact the monitoring controller to indicate whether it was a false alarm, and inform SYFR accordingly.

ACO Carlin commented that SYFR would never not send a fire appliance where Control considered that an investigation was necessary. SYFR did not receive fire calls from well managed premises, even though they had automatic centres. At Meadowhall, the security guards would have a 5 minute period from receiving notification of a fire alarm being activated, to intercepting the call to SYFR. SYFR constantly challenged and managed those premises which had repeated unwanted fire signals, in line with NFCC policy. A charging policy had been imposed for repeated offenders who had received a series of warning letters, to charge them for SYFR attendance.

Councillor Frost referred to the 54% of neighbouring fire and rescue services that no longer attended unconfirmed commercial AFAs at any time, and he queried whether any issues had been encountered with them not attending.

ACO Carlin was not aware of any issues that had been encountered with the neighbouring fire and rescue services that no longer attended unconfirmed commercial AFAs. Pre-determined attendance changes had been applied from national operational learning, where best practice was shared.

Dr Billings referred to the 3,500 AFA triggered incidents per year. He queried if Option 1 was approved, how often SYFR fire appliances would leave the fire stations to attend fires in South Yorkshire.

ACO Carlin stated that SYFR was in a vicious circle - the more it became effective and efficient, the more punishment it received for delivering those efficiencies. This related to reducing road risk and increasing the time available i.e. home safety checks, to reduce the incident demand.

Councillor Ross stated that the report did not include the proportion of day time and night time call outs. He expressed his concerns surrounding sixth form colleges, and therefore he could not vote in favour of Option 1.

ACO Carlin queried whether Councillor Ross would be happy to vote in favour of Option 1 if SYFR reviewed the attendances to colleges and universities.

Councillor Ross commented that it would be helpful to review the attendances to colleges and universities. In relation to Option 2, he was unsure how much of the 3500 AFAs were attributed to day time/night time attendance.

Councillor Taylor requested that the policy be amended to identify and address the concerns raised.

ACO Carlin would provide Members with details of the day time/night time attendance figures.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Noted the contents of the report.
- ii) Endorsed Option 1.

Councillors Ross, Ayris and Dr Billings voted against the decision to approve Option 1

An abstention was received from Councillors Richards

15 MEMBER LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT - REVIEW AND THE YEAR AHEAD

A report of the Clerk to the Fire and Rescue Authority was presented which provided Members with a review of the learning and development undertaken in 2018/19 together with a forward look to learning and development in 2019/20.

L Noble commented that the Authority had run less learning and development sessions in comparison to previous years, in order to provide focus on the key issues i.e. Statement of Accounts, Treasury Management and Audit. She had emailed Members on 25 June 2019, in respect of the previous Chair's request to introduce a 360 Degree Appraisal. To date, there had been no Member take up for the appraisal, although a recent submission had been received from an Independent Member. She did not consider that the Authority would be re-awarded the Regional Charter Status, based upon the current level of Member learning and development engagement.

Councillor Ayris queried whether Members had received feedback from the LGA Annual Fire Conference held in March 2019. He also queried whether those Members that had attended the conference were still Members of the Authority.

L Noble stated that she had provided Members with written feedback following the LGA Annual Fire Conference held in March 2019, together with a copy of the conference programme and presentations; she would resend the information to Members. Councillors Haith, Damms and Taylor had attended the event.

Councillor Richards considered that the 360 Degree Appraisal process provided a good opportunity for Members at the appropriate time. Due to her being an incoming Member onto the Authority, she would complete the appraisal process at a later date.

Councillor Taylor queried whether it would be feasible to undertake the 360 Degree Appraisal process with a number of Members, or to undertake them individually.

L Noble commented that it did not make a difference either way – the forms and the process were ready and it would be a case of identifying volunteers from the FRA, SYFR and Barnsley MBC to complete the appraisal forms. Councillor Taylor and L Noble would discuss the matter further.

Councillor Haith requested that Treasury Management awareness should be presented to the Authority prior to the Audited Statement of Accounts.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- a) Noted the skills, learning and development acquired in 2018/19.
- b) That Councillor Taylor and L Noble would discuss further Member engagement in the 360 Degree Appraisal process as discussed at the Corporate Advisory Group held on 7 May 2019.
- c) Continued with informal ‘Development Discussions’ to complement the 360 Degree Appraisal process, which would inform an appropriate and targeted Learning and Development Schedule for 2019/20.
- d) Agreed not to apply for re-assessment for the Regional Charter award.
- e) Noted the wider Learning and Development ‘Offer’.

16 LEAD MEMBERS 2019/20

A report of the Clerk to the Fire and Rescue Authority was presented to propose the Lead Member roles for 2019/20. Lead Member roles had first been established in September 2007 and had worked extremely well in supporting the Authority in key areas of work. During 2017-18 and 2018-19 the wider Lead Member roles had been put on hold pending a review of their effectiveness and the requirement to have Lead Members in certain areas.

L Noble highlighted the vacancy for a Lead Member for Health and Safety to support the Service.

Councillor Hogarth agreed to become the Lead Member for Health and Safety.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Considered and approved the Lead Member roles as detailed below:-

Area	Lead Member
Strategic Partnerships (Health, Community Safety etc.)	<u>S41 Members</u> Cllr Robert Frost (Barnsley) Cllr Robert Taylor (Rotherham) Cllr Tony Damms (Sheffield) Cllr Pat Haith (Doncaster)
Risk Management (Audit)	Cllr Pat Haith Chair of Audit & Governance Committee
Performance and Scrutiny	Cllr Alan Buckley Chair of Performance and Scrutiny Board

Stakeholder Engagement	Cllr Peter Price Chair of Stakeholder Planning Board
Equality and Inclusion	Cllr Alan Buckley Chair of Performance and Scrutiny Board <i>(as E&I is a key topic for the Board)</i>
Learning and Development	Cllr Robert Taylor Chair of the FRA
Health and Safety	Cllr Charlie Hogarth

- ii) Noted that Councillor Hogarth would become the Lead Member for Health and Safety to support the Service.

17 DRAFT MINUTES OF THE APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE HELD ON 19 JUNE 2019

RESOLVED – That Members noted the draft minutes of the Appointments Committee held on 19 June 2019.

18 KEY ISSUES PAPER AND DRAFT MINUTES OF THE LOCAL PENSION BOARD HELD ON 26 JUNE 2019

L Noble stated that the Local Pension Board continued to keep a watching brief on the Government Actuary's Department (GAD) Valuation and pensions shortfall. A Bosmans, Chair of the Local Pension Board, would present the Local Pension Board's Annual Report to the Authority meeting in September 2019.

Councillors Buckley and Taylor declared an interest, as they were recipients of the Firefighters' Pension Scheme.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the key issues paper and draft minutes of the Local Pension Board held on 26 June 2019.

CHAIR