

POLICE AND CRIME PANEL
Wednesday, 27th January, 2016

Present:-

Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor R. Frost

Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor A. Jones
Councillor G. Jones

Sheffield City Council
Councillor J. Armstrong
Councillor J. Campbell
Councillor S. Mair-Richards (in the Chair)
Councillor J. Otten

Co-opted Member
Mr. A. Carter

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors C. McGuinness (Doncaster), C. Vines (Rotherham) and E. Wallis (Rotherham) and Mr. S. Chufungleung (Co-opted Member).

F37. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

37.1 It was noted that a question had been submitted from a member of the public that had been asked on a number of occasions. The member of the public concerned was not present at the meeting, however, the Chair ruled it as being out of order due to it being repetitious and the questioner having been previously told that it was a procedural matter which had been submitted to the Chief Constable.

37.2 A member of the public asked the following question:-

“Despite recently being the victim of an armed robbery, I am not someone who wants the sight of armed police on the streets of Sheffield to become familiar or normal.

Is the PCP or PCC able to comment on any conversation they had with the Chief Constable or the PCP with the PCC in respect to the armed police on patrol in Sheffield city centre over the Christmas period?

Were they or the PCC consulted on the matter or was it handed down from the Home Office as a fait accompli?

If so, where does this leave the so called democratic control of the Police that the PCC is supposed to represent?”

37.3 The Police and Crime Commissioner replied that, as far as the Police were concerned over the Christmas period, it was a reaction to the attacks in Paris. The judgement was taken, which was not dictated by the Home Office or the Home Secretary but were local judgements taken, not just in Sheffield, but other local centres and Chief Constables put some armed police in centres like Meadowhall and city centres in order reassure people. The Police and Crime Commissioner had not been consulted. There had been a reaction from the public mainly favourable but not everybody. It was thought that the Chief Constable would reflect upon the reactions and think about that if he feels needs to do anything like that again. The Commissioner did not see it as being routine and depends upon the level of threat that is perceived by an individual Chief Constable. The Commissioner and Chief Constable do discuss things but it was his decision at the end of the day.

37.4 As far as armed officers are concerned yes there were armed officers but they were not visible to the public; they were in cars going about South Yorkshire 24 hours a day but you did not see them because the Force needed them to respond immediately if there was an incident.

37.5 Councillor G. Jones reported that Doncaster Council had been made aware that armed police were going to patrol particularly in the Frenchgate Centre in Doncaster and told that was happening following the issues in Paris. One complaint had been received about the armed police being on the streets, however, Councillor Jones had spoken to people subsequently who were reassured equally in that measure. It was a one-off particularly following those fateful attacks and hopefully would never see it again but it had certainly given reassurance to most people.

37.6 A member of the public asked the following questions:-

(a) "How does the Police and Crime Commissioner feel about moving the Fire Service and Police Force together. As the Police Force seem to suffer changes about every two years could they not be left to settle down to the local Police team working before more changes take place. These changes always have a grave impact on partnership working which then impacts on the public.

(b) How valuable does the Police and Crime Commissioner see the Confirmer system set up by South Yorkshire Police and used in partnership with Neighbourhood Watch and if he approves of it could he ensure that the Force use it for crime information. Instead of ignoring it because they have not time. Is this not a waste of money?"

37.7 With regard to question (a), the Police and Crime Commissioner agreed that there had been turbulence happening within the Police Force and it did need to settle down and embed and the local Police teams needed a period of stability to settle. As far as collaboration and partnership possibly with the Fire Service concerned, there was an agenda now which was not being driven by the Force locally, South

Yorkshire had its own ideas about collaboration with the Fire Service, but it was very much from the Home Office and Home Secretary. This appeared to be the direction of travel from the Government and it seemed to be fairly clear at some point there would have to be discussion with the Fire and Rescue Services. That is not to say South Yorkshire did not value a partnership with the Fire Services as there were a number of things that could and were done together such as shared buildings for example the building at Maltby. That was the level at which the Force was taking things in that partnering/sharing way but recognises there were pressures coming from the Home Secretary.

37.8 With regard to question (b), the Police and Crime Commissioner felt it was a valuable service. It was maintained by South Yorkshire Police and performed a valuable service. It was the Commissioner's understanding that the Police were now so stretched in terms of officers and officer time that the ideal of them operating the system and sending down messages on a pretty regular basis will probably not happen because the personnel were not available. His advice would be for Neighbourhood Watch ought to meet with the District Commanders or with local Inspector to see what it could do to make it a better system.

F38. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PANEL

38.1 Councillor Frost asked the following questions:-

(a) "I would like you to look at sharing buildings with the fire and ambulance services on 'out of town' sites to enable valuable sites to be sold and reduce running costs.

(b) Tackling crime and anti-social behaviour is a key priority and remaining committed to Neighbourhood policing. Already warranted officers have been moved to LPTs and now PSCOs are being centralised so we will miss their local knowledge built up over time. Is this the end of neighbourhood policing?

Penistone members are concerned that at certain times they will be left with no cover as travelling to Penistone can be delayed by traffic or weather problems. How can this be overcome?

(c) We are already seeing difficulties getting officers to PACT meetings and Crime and Safety Sub-Groups. How can Elected Members report problems/concerns to the Police? How do we set PACT priorities?

There were good links between Neighbourhood teams and Berneslai Homes HMOs responsible for anti-social behaviour where information was shared and appear to be lost. How can these links be restored?

(d) Crime is rising and the teams getting intelligence and with links to the community are being lost."

38.2 With regard to question (a), the Police and Crime Commissioner replied that the South Yorkshire Police and South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Services were already looking at ways to share buildings and reduce costs for both services. Maltby was a good example of a shared facility and it was envisaged this would happen more over the next few years. They would also be looking at working with the Ambulance Service though this was more complicated because they operated on a Yorkshire-wide basis.

38.3 With regard to question (b), the Police and Crime Commissioner replied that he was committed to the concept of neighbourhood policing though the size of the Force had had to be reduced in recent years due to funding cuts.

The new Local Policing Teams had a neighbourhood focus and officers were being equipped with hand held computers that allowed them to stay in communities to write up their reports. They did not have to keep going back and forth to police stations.

Police Community Support Officers were being retained as part of the new Local Policing Teams as a pledge had been given that the percentage of PCSOs would remain at about 6% (225 PCSOs) for the next four years to 2020.

They were a vital resource for enabling communities to feel safe and as a source of local intelligence for the Police.

The Commissioner had given reassurances to Penistone residents that, despite the cuts, their concerns would be addressed and the local Inspector understood very well that some of the smaller or more remote communities must also be kept safe and feel safe.

38.4 With regard to question (c), the Police and Crime Commissioner reported that since there were fewer officers their attendance at community meetings was being reviewed. He would ask all local groups – TARAs, PACTs, Community Forums etc. – to talk to their local Inspector about how the Force could engage with them in the future. Local arrangements would vary. Some meetings may arrange for officers or PCSOs to attend on a less frequent basis. All groups could arrange for information to be passed electronically.

38.5 With regard to question (d), the Police and Crime Commissioner reported that not all crime was rising. In fact some crimes which concerned community groups a great deal – such as burglaries – were falling. It was vital that community groups worked with South Yorkshire Police to understand the new Local Policing Teams and to agree ways of continuing to share information.

This was one reason why the Commissioner was determined that the number of PSCOs would remain at the present number for the next four

years.

38.6 Mr. Carter asked the following question:-

"It relates to the decision taken by the Police and Crime Commissioner to move his office location from Regent Street in Barnsley to the Police Headquarters in Carbrook in Sheffield. I did have a little concern about what message that might give to the general public in terms of the independence of the PCC from the Police Force to be located conterminously with him. I suggested, although I appreciate it is a matter entirely for the Commissioner's for his consideration and determination, that it might be helpful if the address given at least indicated a certain separation from the Chief Constable and his Command Team."

38.7 The Police and Crime Commissioner stated that the OPCC had very much taken the latter point Mr. Carter was making. He explained that clearly there was an environment where the PCC was having to save every penny possible and a principal motive for moving was financial and the move was going to save something like £100,000 a year. Consideration was then given as to where the OPCC would move to and, because the Police estate was shrinking, there were a number of options in terms of police stations, either whole or partly, and all had been considered and finished up with Carbrook which had space in it. The OPCC had moved into part of the ground floor and had a separate entrance and was separately badged. Mr. Carter was right in terms of what the OPCC put on their e-mail address, address and notepaper and must make the distinction absolutely clear. Perception was important and the PCC and OPCC had thought long and hard about that and in the end became an inhabiting factor before made the final decision. All things being equal Carbrook was the obvious place to go. Staff had moved in and been there for over a week.

38.8 The other key thing was in terms of the savings in petrol and people going backwards and forwards by Meadowhall to Barnsley. The Senior Command Team were highly paid people spending a good proportion of their life every month on the motorway stuck in traffic. .

38.9 Mr. Carter asked if the Commissioner was now required to pay relocation expenses to members of your staff by virtue of change of their office?

38.10 The Police and Crime Commissioner stated that there had been some cost in altering the building and the other costs of the kind you mentioned because changing terms of conditions. There would be some initial costs but it was then envisaged saving a lot of money.

F39. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 27TH NOVEMBER, 2015

39.1 Consideration was given to the minutes of the previous meeting of

the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel held on 27th November, 2015.

39.2 It was confirmed that a letter had been sent to the IPCC expressing the Panel's disappointment with regard to the lack of progress (Minute No. 30 CSE Update).

39.3 The Chair stated that the revised procedure for the initial handling of complaints would be kept under review (Minute No. 31 refers).

39.4 Arising from Minute No. 28.5(a) (the report by Professor John Drew), the Police and Crime Commissioner reported that the report had taken longer than initially hoped but was now in the process of being written up. There was some sensitivity around its release date due to the trials taking place at Sheffield Crown Court, however, all local authorities would have sight of the report before an announcement was made.

39.5 Mr. Carter asked if Panel members in future could receive the draft minutes of meeting in advance of the next meeting's agenda to allow submission of any possible questions to the Commissioner.

Action:- (1) That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 27th November, 2015, be approved for signature by the Chair.

(2) That Panel members receive the draft minutes as soon as possible after the meeting – Immediate.

F40. PRECEPT PROPOSAL FOR 2016-17

40.1 Consideration was given to a report, submitted by the Chief Finance Officer to the Office of the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner, containing information about the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner's proposed Council Tax precept for the 2016/17 financial year.

40.2 Attached to the report was a draft of the Police and Crime Plan setting out the strategic direction for policing in South Yorkshire and providing the information necessary for the determination of the revenue budget and Council Tax precept.

40.3 The Chancellor had announced the outcome of the Spending Review on 25th November, 2015, stating that the Government would protect overall Police spending in real terms over the spending review period, an increase of £900M in cash terms by 2019/20 which would provide funding to maintain overall Police force budgets at current cash levels.

40.4 The Spending Review also provided some Police and Crime Commissioners greater flexibility in their local funding decisions by allowing those areas that had historically kept Council Tax levels low to

increase the Band D Council Tax by £5. The 2015/16 Council Tax for policing in South Yorkshire was the eighth lowest policing Council Tax in England and therefore the "greater flexibility" was available to the Commissioner.

40.5 The Police Minister announced details of the Police Grant for 2016/17 on 17th December which stated that for 2016/17 direct resource funding for each Police and Crime Commissioner, including precept, would be protected at flat cash levels assuming that precept income was increased to the maximum amount available. This meant that no PCC would face a reduction in cash funding next year compared to this year and the majority would see marginal increases in their spending power.

40.6 An analysis of the grant funding position for Policing in South Yorkshire showed that funding from the Government, in respect of Police Grant and Formula Grant, would fall by approximately £1M in 2016/17. However, the Police Minister was able to suggest that funding for South Yorkshire would actually increase by £0.9M by assuming that Council Tax income would increase by £5 on a Band D property and that additional income would be generated by a small rise in the tax base.

40.7 The Police Funding Settlement was only for one year which made it difficult to undertake medium term financial planning. It also meant that assumptions had to be made as to the potential levels of funding for years beyond 2017 linked to the overall Home Office totals shown in the Spending Review document.

40.8 The net revenue budget for 2015/16 was £240.128M. On the basis of the funding settlement and assuming a Council Tax increase of £5 for a Band D property, the overall net revenue budget for 2016/17 would be, based on the current tax base and with no inclusion of the Collection Fund position, no more than £239.724M an overall reduction in resources of approximately £0.4M.

40.9 The overall forecast budget gap amounting to £10.5M. There was the potential for this to reduce following the determination of the tax base and collection fund position by the district councils. The gap would, therefore, need to be met from savings in revenue expenditure in 2016/17.

40.10 With employee costs representing approximately 90% of the revenue budget, it was likely that the majority of the savings would be found from reductions in employee numbers. Where such reductions involved severance/redundancy payments, the costs would be a feature of the Reserves Strategy. The approach to reducing such numbers would in part be determined by the review of operating structures which was being carried out and guided by the working assumptions set out in the Police and Crime Plan 2016-20.

40.11 The PCC would need financial reserves in order to ensure funding

was available to meet future commitments and avoid unplanned reductions in activity as a result of unforeseen or unbudgeted expenditure. The costs associated with legacy issues was not included in the revenue budget previously. There was no nationally recognised measure of the level of reserves but the Audit Commission suggested that most Chief Finance Officers regard an amount of between 3% and 5% of net revenue spending as a prudent level for general reserves.

40.12 The PCCs Reserves Strategy would be finalised as part of the budget process, however, during the current financial year the PCC had changed the planned strategy of using general reserves to contribute to funding the capital progress to preserving reserve levels for potential future legacy costs. This had resulted in planned review contributions to capital for 2015/16 being released back into reserves and the financing of capital spending replaced with borrowing.

40.13 In renewing the Police and Crime Plan 2016-20 Putting Safety First, there would be more emphasis of emerging themes of:-

- Victims of domestic abuse, human trafficking and hate crime
- Seeking to understand the causes of fatal road traffic collisions to enable greater prevention
- Developing an effective counter terrorism capability
- Ensuring an effective response to armed criminality within South Yorkshire
- Building confidence with the public and contributing to community cohesion

40.14 The following working assumptions would underpin all decision making:-

- Remaining committed to neighbourhood policing
- Deploying resources to areas of highest demand based on threat, harm and risk
- Finding ways to understand and address appropriately feelings of safety
- Distinguishing more carefully between demand that requires an appropriate police response and demand that is the primary concern of other partners
- Consulting public and partners about what they expect of South Yorkshire Police
- Encouraging the workforce at all levels to contribute towards improving service delivery
- Maximising partnerships with other forces, local authorities, emergency services and others in the criminal justice system at local, regional and national levels, where it makes for greater effectiveness and efficiency
- Embedding the Code of Ethics for policing in our culture

After the Police and Crime Commissioner had completed his presentation of the budget report, the Members of the Police and Crime Panel asked the following questions:-

- The OPCC had organised two events with partners to look and map who was doing/providing what in particular areas and was there any duplication/overlap, could the resources be pooled and work together better. The message was coming back that everyone was squeezed and struggling with the financial situation but unless all agencies worked together the small resources available may be wasted so it was important all worked together
- The back office functions of HR, Finance, IT, Legal and Finance – were shared with Humberside and had resulted in a number of savings but there was more to be done. Priority based budgeting, a close look at activities to ascertain if any more savings could be made, was being undertaken. This not reflected in the budget as that work had only just commenced but it was hoped that more savings would be found during the financial year. There was already co-operation with other Forces with regard to specialist activities.
- The possible 50-60 jobs would go through natural wastage so the likely gaps were known. However, it was now becoming more difficult to redeploy given the vastly reduced workforce
- The £4.8M funding for Legacy issues was divided into two. Firstly, £2.4M for the potential costs of the National Crime Agency inquiry into CSE and the remaining £2.4M for the Hillsborough costs which were ongoing. What this figure represented was if there were additional costs, and there would be in both areas, the minimum that would certainly have to be found would be £2.4M. If South Yorkshire applied to the Home Secretary for a specialist grant and for it to be favourably looked upon, she had made it clear we would have to stand the first £2.4M of expenses which was roughly 1% of the total budget so as a precaution we need to have £4.8M in there
- The settlement going forward, unlike local authorities who were given some reassurance over the next 4 years the Police did not; the fund was for 1 year only. There was the flexibility relating to the ability of the Commissioner to raise the Council Tax £5 but it was not known if that would be available for the next year. The Commissioner had not been formally asked to sign off the budget for 2016/17 as work was still taking place to find ways of balancing the budget. As part of the budget process work was still underway in terms of the medium term forecast from April 2017 onwards. At the present time it was felt that the forecast would involve a flat line police finance settlement position probably assuming there would continue to be a reduction in Government grant but that those reductions would be offset by Council Tax increases as that appeared to be the assumption underlying the spending review. That would mean that the reductions

in spending would have to be found in future years to offset Government increases and costs increases

- It was not felt that a full collaboration of South Yorkshire and Humberside Police Forces was being moved to. The two Forces were working very closely together as it made sense being neighbours. The collaboration still had a long way to go and more savings to be achieved. However, the footprint for the new Sheffield City Region, was different and had to be considered. The Police operated at national, regional and local levels.
- The Ministry of Justice Grant was funding that was issued annually. The figure for South Yorkshire for next year was £1.6M, a slight increase on 2015/16. There was no indication of the level of funding in future years. It funded Youth Offending Teams
- The number of Specials were rising. They were trained officers and could do everything a Police Officer could do but they were not available when they were at work. The use of volunteers generally was something that the Home Secretary was very keen all Forces look at South Yorkshire was being cautious and clear that they were not using volunteers to do things that should be paid jobs within the police force
- It was not a comprehensive list of emerging themes in the Putting Safety First Plan. Domestic abuse, human trafficking and hate crime had been in the Plan previously but suddenly seemed to have come to the fore. There was a HMI report on domestic abuse which said that South Yorkshire had to improve with regard to domestic abuse. Having a police force able to deal with these issues meant having to have the right calibre of officer and training
- It was becoming a real anxiety for the increased use of the Police Force as the "last resort" particularly with regard to cases involving mental health. There were growing concerns and issues on the Police having to respond when someone was in trouble. Discussions were taking place with the NHS and local authorities with regard to mental health cases as police officers were not trained. It was a growing area of concern across the country
- The staff at Atlas Court were doing a very difficult job with outdated equipment. They had great responsibility when receiving a call, making a judgement and making the right response to that call; it was a skilled operation. They were as much front line as neighbourhood police officers. There was a Capital Programme of approximately £12M. Tenders had been received with the chosen bidder being selected by 1st April; there would then be a period of a year for the design of the actual technology which would be state of the art. It was acknowledged that in hindsight more should have been done earlier but last year when there had been real difficulties with 101 it had not

just been the equipment but also some mistakes made about the number of people in Atlas Court which had now been rectified

Action:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That the contents of the documents detailing the Police and Crime Commissioner's proposals for "Securing the Future of Neighbourhood Policing" be noted.

(3) That the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel supports the proposal, now submitted by the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner, to increase the Council Tax by 1.95% for 2016/17, by £5 for a Band D property (a 3.3% increase) to £153.16, equivalent to an increase of 10p per week.

F41. INTRODUCTION OF THE OPPORTUNITY FOR GENERAL QUESTIONS FROM PANEL MEMBERS TO THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

41.1 Stuart Fletcher, Legal Adviser to the Panel, presented a report proposing changes to the Rules of Procedure to introduce the opportunity for members of the Panel to ask general questions of the Commissioner.

41.2 It was proposed that, in relation to Point 9 of the Procedure, in the absence of the Member who had given notice of a question, that the Member be supplied with a written answer.

41.3 Discussion ensued on point 7(2)(b) of Appendix 1 "most not repeat or substantially repeat any question that has been asked and answered at a meeting of the Panel in the six months preceding the date of the meeting". It was established that it would be for the Chair to make a judgement call as to whether the question had been answered previously.
Agreed:- That the Panel's Rules of Procedure for meetings be amended to include the procedure in relation to questions from members of the Panel to the Commissioner on general matters, as set out in Appendix 1 including the further revision to Point 9.

F42. UPDATE ON THE OPERATION THE COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

42.1 Stuart Fletcher, Legal Adviser to the Panel, presented a report on the handling of complaints received against the Police and Crime Commissioner.

42.2 The following complaints had been resolved:-

1. A complaint about the timeliness of South Yorkshire Police's response to a robbery.

As this complaint was an operational matter it had been referred to South Yorkshire Police. The complainant had been informed that this had happened.

2. An anonymous complaint had been received that on two occasions the complainants had been unable to speak to someone when using the 101 number to try to contact the Police.

As this was an operational matter it had been referred to South Yorkshire Police. However, as the complaint had been made anonymously it had not been possible to inform the complainant of the action taken.

3. A complaint had been received in respect of the former South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner.

This had been referred to the Independent Police Complaints Commission who would decide as to whether the issue would be investigated further and at that stage a further report would be provided to the Panel.

42.3 Mr. Carter expressed concern that neither himself or Steve Chufunglung had been consulted in the above complaints as per the revised complaints procedure.

42.4 The Legal Adviser advised that the proposed changes had not been implemented as yet. They required specific changes to the complaints procedure which would hopefully be submitted to the next meeting, therefore, the complaints had been dealt with under the existing procedure of the host authority dealing with the initial handling.

42.5 Michelle Buttery, OPCC, reiterated the assurance given at the previous meeting that, when the process did change, the Office would seek to involve the two independent members in the vetting process so they could witness and quality assure the process.

42.6 Disappointment was expressed that the complaints procedure was still under review and not implemented as yet.

Action: That the report be received and the contents noted.

F43. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Action:- That meetings be held on 4th March, 15th April and 27th May, 2016, all commencing at 11.00 a.m. in the Rotherham Town Hall.

SHEFFIELD CITY REGION COMBINED AUTHORITY

AMP TECHNOLOGY CENTRE, WAVERLEY, ROTHERHAM, S60 5WG

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14 MARCH 2016

PRESENT:

**Councillor Sir Steve Houghton CBE, Barnsley MBC (Chair)
Councillor John Burrows, Chesterfield BC (Vice Chair)**

**Councillor Ann Syrett, Bolsover DC
Councillor Chris Read, Rotherham MBC
Councillor Julie Dore, Sheffield CC
Councillor Simon Greaves, Bassetlaw DC
Mayor Ros Jones, Doncaster MBC
Councillor Lewis Rose OBE, Derbyshire Dales DC**

**Ruth Adams, SCR Executive Team
Fiona Boden, Sheffield City Region Executive Team
Huw Bowen, Chesterfield BC
Peter Dale, Doncaster MBC
Mel Dei Rossi, SCR Executive Team
Tom Finnegan-Smith, Sheffield CC
Andrew Frosdick, Monitoring Officer
Andrew Gates, SCR Executive Team
Amy Harhoff, SCR Executive Team
Julie Hurley, SYPTE
Sharon Kemp, Rotherham MBC
Kate Platts, SYPTE
Dave Smith, SCR Exec Team
Gareth Sutton, Sheffield CC / SCR
Daniel Swaine, Bolsover DC / NE Derbyshire DC
Neil Taylor, Bassetlaw DC
Diana Terris, Clerk / Barnsley MBC
Craig Tyler, Joint Authorities Governance Unit
Eugene Walker, S.151 Officer**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor G Baxter

1 APOLOGIES

Members apologies were noted as above.

2 ANNOUNCEMENTS

None noted.

3 URGENT ITEMS

None.

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

None.

5 VOTING RIGHTS FOR NON-CONSTITUENT MEMBERS

It was agreed that no items required voting to be confirmed on non-constituent Members.

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

None.

7 REPORTS FROM AND QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

None.

8 RECEIPT OF PETITIONS

None received.

9 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

None received.

10 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 1 FEBRUARY 2016

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting of the SCR Combined Authority held on 1st February 2016 are considered to be an accurate record.

11 RATIFICATION OF THE DEVOLUTION DEAL

It was agreed to defer this item to a further meeting of the Combined Authority to be convened after all 9 districts' full councils have had the opportunity to discuss and consider the ratification of the Devolution Deal, noting that Bassetlaw DC and Sheffield CC were not due to discuss the matter until 18th and 19th March respectively..

It was agreed to convene this meeting on 31st March, 2016, the date of the next LEP Board meeting.

RESOLVED, that a further meeting of the SCR Combined Authority will be convened on 31st March to consider the CA's ratification of the Devolution Deal.

12 2016/17 CA/LEP REVENUE BUDGET

A paper was presented to propose the revenue budget for CA/LEP activity in 2016/17.

Members were reminded that each year, under law, the Combined Authority (CA) is required to set a balanced revenue budget.

It was noted that the paper highlights material proposed growth in the CA/LEP's non-programme expenditure, particularly around staffing, marketing, and development costs. This reflects the absorption of the Transport Hub cost base into the CA/LEP budget for the first time, but also wider growth in activity as the CA/LEP operationalises the Strategic Economic Plan.

Members were advised that the paper shows that many cost pressures are offset by a significant increase in income accrued from Enterprise Zone retained business rates. However, income generated is not sufficient to cover the growth in expenditure. Increases in subscriptions are required to meet this cost pressure.

Reflecting sensitivity to partner budget pressures, the paper also proposed a means of sharing this pressure to ensure that no partner authority pays more to the CA as a Financial Group than it did in financial year 2015/16.

RESOLVED, that the Combined Authority Members:

1. Approve the proposed £10.41m revenue budget;
2. Approve the means by which the £1m deficit associated with the adoption of the Transport Hub is shared amongst the partners; and,
3. Note the use of £1,114k from the CA/LEP LGF Revenue Reserve to support Business Growth programme activity.

13 2016/17 CA & PARTNER CAPITAL PROGRAMMES

A paper was received to provide an overview of the current shape of the CA/LEP capital programme proposals for 2016/17

It was noted that the programme is characterised by the significant growth (174% increase on 15/16 outturn) on projects managed from the SCR Executive but the proposals do not take account of a potential devolution deal

Members were advised that further programme proposals are being considered separately to enable officers to produce a broader capital programme should a devolution deal be reached.

It was confirmed that the programme is based around encompasses each Executive Boards' business plans.

It was confirmed that is approved, the programme will be commissioned through the SCR Executive directly (the direct programme) and also programmes run by partners who form part of the CA Financial Group (partner programmes), including the SYPTE capital programme and Local Transport Partnership (LTP) Integrated Transport Programme.

It was noted that the paper is also seeking approval for the passporting of Highways Capital Maintenance grant to South Yorkshire partners.

Members were advised that Partners' transport programmes have also been subjected to, and endorsed by the Transport Committee.

Mayor Jones requested more information to explain the benefits of all schemes in terms of contribution to the economy. It was confirmed this would be evident in future reports.

RESOLVED, that the Combined Authority Members:

1. Note that this is a finance only paper without performance narrative.
2. Approve the proposed shape of the capital programme.
3. Note the significant growth of the programme to be commissioned and managed by the SCR Executive.
4. Note that this programme does not take into account potential devolution resource.
5. Note the capitalisations of costs to support the delivery of the programme.

14 SHEFFIELD CITY REGION INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN

A report was presented to provide Members with an update on the Sheffield City Region (SCR) Integrated Infrastructure Plan (IIP).

Members were reminded that the SCR IIP sets out the infrastructure priorities to support stronger economic growth for The Sheffield City Region and is aligned to the Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) growth ambitions.

It was noted that the SCR IIP is based on three key analyses: (1) a capacity analysis of SCR land and transport, (2) network analysis across SCR economic infrastructure, (3) distinct spatial packages for each SCR growth area and local centre. The Plan will form the basis of commissioning the future SCR infrastructure programme of capital investments as well as providing recommendations on more human activity that could stimulate investment.

It was noted that scheme promoters will be asked to develop integrated proposals in spring/summer 2016 and the SCR IIP will be presented to the SCR Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Board for sign off on the 31 March ahead of launches at parallel summit events in London and Sheffield in the spring.

RESOLVED, that the Combined Authority Members note the contents of the report.

15 PROPOSED REFRESH OF THE SHEFFIELD CITY REGION STRATEGIC ECONOMIC PLAN

A paper was presented asking the Combined Authority to endorse in principle a refresh of the Sheffield City Region (SCR) Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) that was originally published in March 2014.

It was noted that this refresh would articulate in a single place the City Region's existing delivery commitment secured through its Growth and Devolution Deals. Additionally, it is proposed that it will identify the City Region's priorities for future funds, including further Local Growth Fund (LGF) bids and the Gainshare award.

It was noted that on the expectation that these funds will be oversubscribed, there is a need to develop the SCR's prioritisation mechanisms to ensure that it can identify the optimum programme of activity to deliver sustainable economic growth.

RESOLVED, that the Combined Authority Members:

1. Agree in-principle to the refresh of the SCR SEP
2. Agree that all SCR wide strategies will be led by and follow on from the SEP.
3. Endorse the refreshed SEP being used as the basis for the SCR to determine its future City Region funding priorities
4. Note that additional work will be developed in parallel on how the SCR can prioritise different types of investment that it will want to make, the conclusions of which in terms of approach will need to be set out within the City Region's Assurance and Accountability Framework
5. Provide the SCR Executive with a mandate to develop a project plan for the SEP refresh, including the approach to prioritisation

16 SOCIAL INCLUSION FRAMEWORK

A paper was received seeking endorsement of the Social Inclusion Framework and support for further integration of social inclusion objectives into City Region operational and governance processes

Members were reminded that the Social Inclusion Framework – a framework for measuring the impact of social inclusion in communities across SCR – aims to consider strategies and techniques to promote social impact to accompany the growth delivered through city region investments through the recognition and championing of 'inclusive growth'.

It was noted that following the SCR CA and LEP initiating the development of a social inclusion framework, as an integral companion to its Strategic Economic Plan (SEP), the Social Inclusion Advisory Board has recommended three key objectives underpin the SCR Framework.

These three objectives will be the focus of measurement, to assess the impact that the investments made in SCR are having on households and communities and cover; More people in employment and paid a living wage, More people in work taking up training opportunities and progressing in work and More people living in affordable and decent quality homes

It was noted that following discussion with the Executive Boards the recommendation was made to also focus upon the development of more educational pathways pertinent to the world of work. Given the crucial position an individual's educational development has on their life trajectory.

Members reiterated their expectations that the thematic Executive Boards will take ownership of their relevant social inclusion objectives.

Cllr Rose asked that this work also take account of rural issues, noting these areas have the lowest average wages across the SCR.

It was confirmed that the best means of achieving this requirement, whilst enabling the districts' social inclusion leads and also the SCR Overview and Scrutiny Committee can contribute to this work, is under consideration.

RESOLVED, that the Combined Authority Members:

1. Support the recommendation of the Social Inclusion & Equalities Advisory Board to focus on four areas; employment & the living wage, progression routes and skills development within the workplace, educational pathways and decent homes.
2. Endorse the framework and support ongoing work to integrate it within the city region's operational and governance processes, and promote this to with the executive leads within the City Region.
3. Agree in-principle the governance structure for the Social Inclusion Framework (based upon the option detailed in sections 3.6 and 3.7 of the report).

17 SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL TRANSITION YEAR FUNDING BID

A paper was received to inform Members of the intention to submit a bid to the Sustainable Travel Transition Year (STTY) fund.

It was noted that the current Local Sustainable Transport Fund 2 (LSTF2) allocation ends on 31/03/16. The DfT announced continuation funding on 15/02/16 to bridge the gap between the end of LSTF2 and the start of a new Access Fund which will be announced later in 2016.

Up to £2.5million is available to Combined Authority applicants through a competitive bidding process this funding focuses upon cycling, walking and access to employment

It was noted that a process has been undertaken with Partners and Head of Transport Service representatives, to propose the schemes for inclusion

It was noted that due to limited resources within the SCR Transport Team and the tight timescales, consultancy support has been sought to assist with the application process.

The deadline for submitting applications is 29/03/16.

RESOLVED, that the Combined Authority Members:

1. Note the paper contents and the benefit of applying to the STTY fund.
2. Note the short timescales and agree to delegate sign off to the Chair of the Transport Executive Board (Cllr Dore) and the Chair of the Combined Authority (Cllr Houghton).
3. Approve the award of an £18k grant to SYPTE to commission consultancy to support a bid into the STTY fund.
4. Note that the Transport Executive Board (TEB) will consider the longer-term approach to this type of activity.

18 SUMMARY REPORT - BUSINESS GROWTH EXECUTIVE BOARD

RESOLVED, that the recommendations made by the Executive Board are noted and endorsed.

19 SUMMARY REPORT - HOUSING EXECUTIVE BOARD

RESOLVED, that the recommendations made by the Executive Board are noted and endorsed.

20 SUMMARY REPORT - SKILLS, EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION EXECUTIVE BOARD

RESOLVED, that the recommendations made by the Executive Board are noted and endorsed.

21 SUMMARY REPORT - TRANSPORT EXECUTIVE BOARD

In addition to the summary report, a paper was presented to update Members on Rail North developments.

It was noted that the requirement of the Combined Authority to nominate a deputy director of Rail North is currently under consideration.

RESOLVED, that the recommendations made by the Executive Board are noted and endorsed.

22 SUMMARY REPORT - INFRASTRUCTURE EXECUTIVE BOARD

RESOLVED, that the recommendations made by the Executive Board are noted and endorsed.

23 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chair, and Members, requested that their thanks be placed on record for the work undertaken by the SCR Executive Team and the districts' officers on the Devolution Deal.

CHAIR

SHEFFIELD CITY REGION COMBINED AUTHORITY

THE AMP TECHNOLOGY CENTRE, WAVERLEY, ROTHERHAM, S60 5WG

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 31 MARCH 2016

PRESENT:

Councillor Sir Steve Houghton CBE, Barnsley MBC (Chair)
Councillor John Burrows, Chesterfield BC (Vice Chair)

Councillor Graham Baxter MBE, North East Derbyshire DC
Councillor Leigh Bramall, Sheffield CC
Mayor Ros Jones, Doncaster MBC
Councillor Chris Read, Rotherham MBC
Councillor Lewis Rose OBE, Derbyshire Dales DC
Councillor Ann Syrett, Bolsover DC

Sir Nigel Knowles, SCR LEP
Julie Kenny CBE, SCR LEP
Ruth Adams, SCR Executive Team
David Armiger, Bassetlaw District Council
Huw Bowen, Chesterfield BC
Sarah Fowler, Peak Park NPA
Andrew Frosdick, Monitoring Officer
James Henderson, Sheffield CC
Sharon Kemp, Rotherham MBC
Dave Smith, SCR Exec Team
Daniel Swaine, Bolsover DC / NE Derbyshire DC
Diana Terris, Clerk / Barnsley MBC
Craig Tyler, Joint Authorities Governance Unit

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor J Dore, Councillor S Greaves,
Councillor A Rhodes, Councillor L Roberts, Councillor A Western, D Bunton, J Mothersole,
J Miller, N Taylor and E Walker

1 APOLOGIES

Members' apologies 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 VOTING RIGHTS FOR NON-CONSTITUENT MEMBERS

It was agreed that no items required voting to be confirmed on non-constituent Members.

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

None.

7 COMBINED AUTHORITY RATIFICATION OF THE SHEFFIELD CITY REGION DEVOLUTION AGREEMENT

A paper was received seeking the Combined Authority's ratification of the Sheffield City Region Devolution Agreement (i.e. the in-principle deal). The report provided an update on local council ratification, progress made regarding the in-principle deal, a summary of the public consultation process and detail on the potential changes to the Combined Authority geography as a result of clauses within the Cities and Local Government Act 2016.

Members were advised that in advance of the meeting, the draft Devolution agreement had been presented to all 9 SCR full councils and unanimously ratified.

Cllr Rose asked when clarity will be received regarding the expressions of intent by some non-constituent districts to seek constituent status. It was confirmed that subject to various known and potential processes, including wider public consultation, a decision by the Secretary of State is expected on this matter sometime during the autumn.

Cllr Burrows confirmed further meetings were planned to discuss Chesterfield BC's intention to attain constituent status and address points of pertinence, including the presentation of the draft Devolution deal's Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) to full council on 6th April.

Cllr Houghton informed the Members present of confirmation from Cllr Greaves that Bassetlaw's Members wish to attain SCR constituent status for their district.

It was noted that discussions with colleagues from Derbyshire CC and Nottinghamshire CC are continuing to discuss matters of note in respect of overlap areas. Members were advised of the contents of communications with the counties, sent by the Clerk.

Cllr Houghton informed Members that correspondence has been received from the Secretary of State welcoming the decisions made by the 9 SCR districts and the opportunity to engage on further devolution processes.

Sir Nigel Knowles, Chair of the SCR Local Enterprise Partnership, congratulated Members on reaching this historic moment, suggesting this was a fantastic opportunity for the City Region to affect how it is positioned nationally.

RESOLVED, that the Combined Authority Members:

1. Note the progress that has been made since the in-principle deal was agreed in October 2016 – in particular those matters detailed in section 4 relating to geography, the relationship between any future mayor and the Combined Authority and future constitutional changes.
2. Note and take into account that an online consultation exercise took place from the 2nd December to the 15th January.
3. Note that all nine of the councils within the Sheffield City Region have endorsed and where required approved formal ratification of the devolution deal.
4. Note that Bassetlaw District Council and Chesterfield Borough Council have indicated their intention to pursue "constituent" membership status of the SCR Combined Authority and Bolsover, North East Derbyshire and Derbyshire Dales District Councils have indicated their intention to be "constituent" members of any North Midlands Combined Authority that may be created.
5. Ratify the devolution agreement (set out at Appendix A) and consent to a future 'enabling order' being laid which provides that a mayoral election will take place in May 2017.
6. Give delegated authority to the Clerk of the Combined Authority to be authorised to consent to the 'enabling order' being laid which provides for a Mayoral election to take place in May 2017.

CHAIR

SOUTH YORKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

15 FEBRUARY 2016

PRESENT: Councillor J Andrews BEM (Chair)
Councillor A Atkin (Vice-Chair)
Councillors: S Ayris, A Buckley, A Cave, P Haith, R Munn,
C Ransome, S M Richards and J Satur

DCFO J Roberts, B Sandy, P Shillito and M Topham
(South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service)

D Terris, A Frostdick, J Bell, F Foster, M McCarthy, D Cutting,
L Noble, A Hunt and M McCoole (Barnsley MBC)

Apologies for absence were received from
Councillor G Furniss, Councillor E Hughes, R Bywater,
CFO J Courtney, ACFO M Blunden, I Rooth, G Kirk, D Hanson
and M Wright

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were noted as above.

2 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Richards informed the Authority that Councillor Furniss' husband, Councillor H Harpham had sadly died; his funeral would take place at Sheffield Cathedral on 16 February. Councillor Harpham had been the MP for Brightside and Hillsborough, and he had previously been the Deputy Leader of SCC and one of the few striking miners from Nottingham. Councillor Richards conveyed condolences, on behalf of the Authority, to Councillor Furniss.

Councillor Ayris also expressed his condolences.

3 URGENT ITEMS

RESOLVED – That an urgent item entitled 'Disposal of Former Station Site at Mansfield Road, Sheffield' be considered at Item 23 on today's agenda.

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

RESOLVED – That the following agenda items be considered in the absence of the public and press:-

Item 21 'Payment of Expenses to the Chair of the Local Pension Board'.

Item 22 'Fire Risk Assessment Services Through Safety Solutions'.

Item 23 'Disposal of Former Station Site at Mansfield Road, Sheffield'.

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

RESOLVED – That Councillors Andrews and Cave declared an interest at Item 14 on the agenda entitled ‘Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Barnsley MBC: 1 April 2016 – 31 March 2017’, as they were Members of BMBC.

6 REPORTS BY MEMBERS

Councillor Ayris referred Members to a letter he had sent to D Terris, Clerk to the Authority, which indicated his intention to raise the issue of the Wirral Roofing and Cladding contracts that SYFR had entered into. Councillor Ayris commented that Members had had sight of the correspondence circulated; he suggested a discussion on the best approach, to address a number of serious issues which required further exploration.

Councillor Ransome commented that she felt alarmed that the issue had not been addressed over a long period of time; she hoped that the issue would be thoroughly looked into.

D Terris commented that the information at this stage was incomplete, and she suggested that the Internal Audit Team investigate the matter. It was imperative to have the full information available before drawing any conclusions.

Councillor Richards, Chair of the Audit Committee, commented that Rob Winter, Head of Internal Audit, would be requested to present a preliminary report to the next Audit Committee for discussion.

Councillor Munn had attended the opening of the National Emergency Services Museum on 20 January, and together with Councillors Atkin, Andrews and Ransome, he had attended the opening of the new Parkway Fire Station on 29 January.

Councillor Haith had accompanied CFO Courtney on a visit to Doncaster Fire Station, and she thanked White Watch for their full and frank discussions which ranged from fire hydrants to self-rostering.

7 RECEIPT OF PETITIONS

None.

8 TO RECEIVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED – That Members had received the questions submitted by the public.

9 NOTICE OF MOTION

Members considered the Motion received from Councillor Ayris which gave notice under Standing Order 6 of the South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority’s Procedural Standing Orders, of his intention to move the following Motion at today’s meeting:-

“Considering the magnitude of the ‘unconventional’ payments outlined in the Review by the Internal Auditors of Overtime Payments to Principal Officers, finds the Chair of the Authority culpable in acting beyond his delegated authority in 2009 and again in 2013 by failing to report such action and associated expenditure to the Authority and therefore recommends he consider his position and resign as Chairman of the Fire and Rescue Authority”.

Councillor Haith commented that each Authority Member had received a letter from Councillor Andrews, which informed them of his intention to stand down as Chair of the Fire Authority in May 2016. In view of this, Councillor Haith wished to submit an amendment to the Motion:-

“This Authority recognised the considerable achievements of South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority under the long leadership of the current Chair of the Authority, including the opening of the new state of the art fire stations. It was noted that the Chair had already indicated that he will not be seeking re-election as Chair at the Authority’s annual meeting, so as to allow the Authority to provide an undivided focus on tackling the unprecedented massive financial cuts imposed on the Service by this Government and the previous Conservative / Liberal Democrat Government”.

Councillor Richards gave thanks to Councillor Andrews for his long and diligent service to the Authority, in which he had been very passionate about SYFR.

Councillor Cave commented that she would be very sad to lose such a superb colleague.

Councillor Satur thanked Councillor Andrews for his wonderful service to the Authority, and she added that the amendment to the Motion would provide continuity to the Authority until May to allow BMBC to find a suitable replacement.

Councillor Atkin reiterated the comments made above by Members.

RESOLVED – That:-

- i) Councillors Atkin, Buckley, Cave, Haith, Munn, Richards and Satur voted in favour of the amendment to the Motion, and asked that their votes be recorded.**
- ii) Councillors Atkin, Buckley, Cave, Haith, Munn, Richards and Satur voted in favour of the substantive Motion, and asked that their votes be recorded.**
- iii) Councillors Ayriss and Ransome voted against both the amendment to the Motion and the substantive Motion, and asked that their votes be recorded.**

10 MINUTES OF THE AUTHORITY MEETING HELD ON 4 JANUARY 2016

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Authority meeting held on 4 January 2016 be agreed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

11 PRESENTATION ON HIGH VOLUME PUMPS (HVP)

The Authority received a presentation on High Volume Pumps (HVP) in relation to the SYFR Flood Relief in December 2015. Members noted the following key points:-

- SYFR had been contacted by the National Coordinating Centre at 5pm on a Saturday afternoon in December 2015, to request resources be deployed in Cumbria to assist with flood efforts; within less than 2 hours SYFR had deployed its resources to assist in the affected communities. A total of 12 personnel had provided assistance in Carlisle and Cockermouth, with 5 vehicles plus a pod for a prime mover.
- On Boxing Day 2015 SYFR had been deployed to Croston, Lancashire where 19 personnel had provided assistance, with 7 vehicles used plus 2 pods for prime movers.
- SYFR's National Resilience Assets were located at Aston Park and Tankersley Fire Stations.

Station Manager Tottie provided Members with an insight into the SYFR Flood Relief work in December 2015.

Councillor Richards queried the lessons learnt and whether they could assist in future relief projects.

AM Shillito commented that SYFR recognised the benefits of training. A regional exercise had been held before Christmas 2015, to test and assess protocols and procedures in the event of such an incident occurring in South Yorkshire. AM Shillito gave credit to the resilience of SYFR personnel, who had engaged with communities at a time of need.

Councillor Atkin commented that the assets deployed were part of the national resilience and queried whether they were paid for nationally rather than SYFR, and also whether any additional equipment could have been used to provide additional assistance.

DCFO Roberts commented that the high volume pumps and incident response units formed part of the suite of national assets. Initially the vehicles had been paid for on the back of New Dimensions in early 2000. However, the Government had now paid for the assets and had handed them over to fire and rescue services. Constant reviews were undertaken on what national assets were required at any one time.

Councillor Buckley requested that a letter of recognition be sent on behalf of the Authority to the crews who had attended the incidents, to thank them for their hard work and efforts, and for continuing to uphold the reputation of SYFR.

RESOLVED – That the Authority noted the presentation.

12 PRESENTATION ON STOCKSBRIDGE EMERGENCY FIRST RESPONDER

The Authority received a presentation on the Stocksbridge Emergency First Responder (EFR). The following key points were noted:-

- The scheme formed part of a national trial across the country, which was being trialled with SYFR retained personnel. Greater Manchester and London Fire and Rescue Services were also trialling the scheme with wholetime fire crews attending medical emergencies.
- The voluntary scheme provided support to the ambulance services by professional organisations, as part of the paid duties of their staff, and it also complemented the gaps in the Community First Responder Scheme.
- Yorkshire Ambulance Service (YAS) provided 2 day specific training which was assessed every 6 months, level 2 in safeguarding, YAS governance training, 4 CPD sessions per year and the option to ride with YAS once per year.
- EFR was now live at Stocksbridge, Rossington and Dearne Fire Stations, with 22 staff trained as EFR and a total of 17 staff actually responding (with others awaiting DBS checks).
- There had been a total of 125 calls received from 1 November 2015 to 1 February 2016.

Firefighter Richardson and Station Manager Tottie described a typical working day as an EFR. Members noted that simple basic intervention was key in saving lives; a large proportion of retained duty stations wanted to become involved in EFR.

Councillor Richards queried the age of paediatric patients treated by EFR. She also queried whether the dual purpose hybrid ambulance fire vehicle that was currently being developed in West Yorkshire could prove useful in the joint work with SYFR and YAS.

AM Shillito commented that paediatric patients 8 years and under required specialist interventions.

DCFO Roberts commented that the dual purpose hybrid ambulance fire vehicle had been on trial in the South West of the country. Lincolnshire Fire Service now operated 3 ambulances, which provided for a quicker turnaround time; there was the potential to expand the vehicles into the workforce. Members noted a great deal of work was required with the FBU nationally, on the 5 work streams which included EFR.

AM Shillito commented the EFR was a new work stream and new initiative for South Yorkshire. A working group had been established which took soundings from practitioners, representative bodies and YAS etc. to provide for a consistent operating model.

Councillor Richards commented that she had requested the presentations received today at the last Audit Committee Meeting. Given that Members had found the presentations to be very useful, and extremely positive, she requested that similar presentations be brought to the Authority in the future.

RESOLVED – That the Authority noted the presentation.

13 BUDGET, PRECEPT AND COUNCIL TAX 2016/17

A report of the Clerk, Treasurer and Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive was submitted to inform the Authority that it must set its Precept and Council Tax for 2016/17 by 28 February 2016. The first draft of the 2016/17 Revenue Budget and Capital Programme had been considered by Members at the 4 January 2016 Authority meeting, and had since been revised and presented at Appendix A to the report.

The Council Tax options were presented and the Authority considered the impact.

Councillor Satur made a suggestion for an additional £2m of reserves to be set aside for another round of the Stronger Safer Communities Reserve (SSCR).

F Foster commented that the funding for SSCR would be utilised from earmarked reserves, and that a further report would be presented to the Authority on how the funding could be used.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) **Approved the Authority's 2016/17 Revenue Budget at Appendix A.**
- ii) **Approved the 2016/17 Capital Programme as set out in Appendix B.**
- iii) **Approved the Treasury Management and Investment Strategy at Appendix C including:-**
 - a. **Affordable Borrowing Limits and Prudential Indicators.**
 - b. **The Minimum Revenue Provision Statement.**
- iv) **Approved a Council Tax increase of 1.97% for 2016/17.**
- v) **Approved the earmarking of £9.82m of Reserves as set out in paragraph 60.**
- vi) **Noted that a further report be brought around options for the Medium Term Financial Position.**
- vii) **Agreed that an extra £2,000,000 from earmarked reserves be used for SSCR.**
- viii) **Councillors Andrews, Atkin, Buckley, Cave, Haith, Munn, Richards and Satur voted in favour of the above resolutions iv) and vii), and asked that their votes be recorded.**
- ix) **Councillors Ransome and Ayris voted against resolutions iv) and vii), and asked that their votes be recorded.**
- x) **Noted that a further report be brought in relation to how SSCR funding could be used.**

14 SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT (SLA) WITH BARNESLEY MBC: 1ST APRIL 2016 - 31ST MARCH 2017

A report of the Clerk to the Fire and Rescue Authority was submitted to provide Members with an updated Service Level Agreement (SLA) for consideration, and sought the Authority's approval to implement the revised SLA with effect from 1 April 2016.

Member feedback had indicated that Members wished to retain the level of service previously received going forward into 2016/17.

Members noted the facilitation of the Authority's £2m Stronger Safer Communities Reserve was undertaken by the SY Joint Authorities Governance Unit.

Councillor Ayris expressed his strong concerns in relation to the Policy Management section of the report, as he considered that information and advice had not been received in a timely manner in order to allow Members to make informed decisions in the fulfilment of their statutory role.

A Frosdick commented that he understood that positive feedback had been received at the Corporate Planning Workshop held in January on the service provided to the Authority; he would deal with any specific issues that Members wished to raise in respect of the wider services provided by Barnsley MBC.

D Terris added that the Authority was happy to receive any comments or constructive criticism in order to continually make improvements.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Considered the revised SLA.**
- ii) Agreed its implementation with effect from 1 April 2016.**
- iii) Reviewed the SLA on an annual basis.**

15 REVISION TO THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR JOINT LIAISON FORUM (JLF)

A report of the Clerk to the Fire and Rescue Authority was submitted to provide Members with draft revised Terms of Reference for the Joint Liaison Forum (JLF) and provided clarity on the consultation and negotiation arrangements within the Service.

Councillor Richards requested that Section 5 of the report be amended, to provide clarity that the agreement reached for the JLF to meet more frequently would assist in maximising Member attendance and strengthen JLF as a vehicle for employee representative bodies to raise issues of concern with the Authority.

RESOLVED – That Members approved the revised Terms of Reference for the Joint Liaison Forum (JLF) with immediate effect.

16 PAY POLICY STATEMENT

A report of the Clerk to the Fire and Rescue Authority was presented to provide the revised Pay Policy Statement for the Authority for 2016/17 for consideration of the full Authority, as required under the Localism Act 2011.

J Bell commented that whilst the redundancy, retirement and re-employment information was currently up to date, legislation was going through to prevent the re-engagement of individuals who had been in receipt of a pension for a period of 12 months. An amended report would be submitted to the Authority once the legislation had been passed.

RESOLVED – That Members approved the attached Pay Policy Statement.

17 REVISED RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY AND STRATEGY

A report of the Clerk to the Fire and Rescue Authority was submitted to present the revised Risk Management Policy and Strategy. The revised document provided synergy by covering the risk management arrangements for both the Fire and Rescue Service and the Fire and Rescue Authority, and had already been endorsed and approved by the Audit Committee.

It was noted that the Audit Committee Members had positively received the risk management training provided on 3 November 2015.

RESOLVED – That Members accepted the revised Risk Management Policy and Strategy.

18 DECEMBER 2015 PROJECTED OUTTURN REPORT

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive and Clerk and Treasurer was presented to inform Members of the projected revenue and capital spend for the 2015/16 financial year based on actual and committed expenditure to December 2015 and a projection of spend in the remaining quarter of the year.

Members noted that a projected underspend of £580,000 had been reported to the November 2015 Authority meeting. The underspend was now projected to rise to £713,000, which was an increase of £133,000.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the contents of the report.

19 BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive was presented to set out the proposed construction works to fire stations at Aston Park, Edlington, Lowedges and Tankersley, which would create permanent accommodation following the decision to introduce close proximity crewing (CPC) operations.

Members noted that the schemes would be delivered in two phases, with Aston Park and Lowedges in the first phase and Edlington and Tankersley in the second phase; the budget for the programme was £1,635,000.

Councillor Buckley queried whether CPC staff had been consulted.

DCFO Roberts commented that a positive response had been received from staff at the Phase 1 CPC station.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Noted the contents of the report.
- ii) Approved the proposals for the construction works at Aston Park and Lowedges.

20 PARKWAY AND BIRLEY UPDATE

B Sandy informed Members that Parkway Fire Station was now open and fully functional; the land on the outer side of the fence and the pathway remained areas to be resolved between Sheffield City Council and Bam, the contracted builder.

Members noted a number of 'snagging' issues at Birley Fire Station, and discussions were underway to rectify the problems with RLB, the construction and property consultants. Funding was currently being withheld for both fire stations, until the issues had been resolved.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the update.

21 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED – That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and the public interest not to disclose information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

22 PAYMENT OF EXPENSES TO THE CHAIR OF THE LOCAL PENSION BOARD

A report of the Clerk to the Fire and Rescue Authority was submitted to request Members give consideration to the payment of an annual allowance to the Chair of the Fire and Rescue Authority's Local Pension Board, with effect from the inaugural meeting which was held on 13 July 2015.

Members noted that the Scheme of Allowances would next be reviewed in 2017.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Agreed that the annual allowance be paid to the Chair of the Local Pension Board (in line with payments to FRA co-opted Members) as stated within the report.
- ii) Agreed to backdate the allowance to 13 July 2015.

23 FIRE RISK ASSESSMENT SERVICES THROUGH SAFETY SOLUTIONS

A report of the Business Development Manager SYFRS Safety Solutions was presented in response to increasing market demand, and in line with a number of Fire Service commercial operations offering similar services. Safety Solutions was looking to incorporate Fire Risk Assessments as part of its portfolio of products and services.

RESOLVED – That Members gave consent, in principle, to the provision of Fire Risk Assessment Services via the Trading Arm, Safety Solutions UK Ltd.

24 URGENT ITEM - DISPOSAL OF FORMER STATION SITE AT MANSFIELD ROAD, SHEFFIELD

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive was submitted which summarised the offers received for the former fire station site at Mansfield Road, Sheffield.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Confirmed the acceptance of 'Offer B' for the Mansfield Road fire station site.
- ii) Authorised the Head of Asset Management to conclude negotiations and complete the disposal.

CHAIR

SOUTH YORKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

11 APRIL 2016

PRESENT: Councillor J Andrews BEM (Chair)
Councillor A Atkin (Vice-Chair)
Councillors: S Ayris, A Buckley, A Cave, P Haith, E Hughes,
R Munn, C Ransome, S M Richards and J Satur

CFO J Courtney, DCFO J Roberts, ACFO M Blunden,
B Sandy, F Edmonds and M Topham
(South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service)

J Bell, F Foster, M McCarthy, L Noble and M McCoole
(Barnsley MBC)

Apologies for absence were received from
Councillor G Furniss and A Frosdick

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

RESOLVED – That agenda item 18 entitled 'Control Collaboration Project (CCP) Update' be considered in the absence of the public and press.

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

None.

6 REPORTS BY MEMBERS

None.

7 RECEIPT OF PETITIONS

None.

8 TO RECEIVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

9 MINUTES OF THE AUTHORITY MEETING HELD ON 15 FEBRUARY 2016

Councillor Haith queried when the Authority would be provided with a further report on how the Stronger Safer Communities Reserve (SSCR) funding would be utilised.

M McCarthy commented that a report would be presented to the next Stakeholder Engagement Board meeting before submission to the Authority meeting in June.

Councillor Richards referred to the two presentations received at the February Authority meeting, which Members had found to be very useful. She suggested that consideration be given for a presentation provided to every alternate Authority meeting, to provide Members with an understanding of all aspects of the work undertaken by the Service.

Councillor Satur requested an update on the disposal of the former station site at Mansfield Road, Sheffield.

B Sandy commented that the paperwork had now been completed, and the matter was anticipated to conclude within the next few weeks.

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Authority meeting held on 15 February 2016 be agreed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

10 FIRE STATION CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive was submitted which set out the framework and resources required to project manage the construction works now being undertaken at the key Fire Stations of Maltby, Edlington, Lowedges, Aston Park and Tankersley.

Councillor Richards referred to the last two major schemes that had been considerably over budget, and she queried what guarantees were in place to ensure that this would not happen again.

B Sandy commented that the budget costs had been underestimated at the start of those two major schemes. In relation to this scheme, the Service had agreed a fixed price with Kier, who had been appointed as consultants to deliver the construction works at all sites. RLB, the Authority's quantity surveyor, had reviewed the figures and the Service was confident that the budget would remain within the amount specified; any cost overrun or any savings would be funded/retained by Kier.

Members noted the vacancy for a building surveyor. It was the intention, if approved, to utilise a senior programme management resource to ensure that all projects could be completed on time, within the scope and within the fixed budgets already agreed. It was anticipated that the total cost of the role would be in the region of £162,000 which represented a 6% fee level against the original budget costs of £1.2m for Maltby and £1.635m for the CPC works.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Noted the contents of the report.
- ii) Approved the proposals with regard to the project management arrangements for the construction projects.

11 REGIONAL CHARTER ASSESSMENT 2016

A report of the Clerk to the Fire and Rescue Authority was submitted to inform Members of the Regional Charter Assessment 2016.

Members noted that the Authority had become the first Fire and Rescue Authority in Yorkshire and Humberside to achieve Regional Charter Status in 2012. The Authority had agreed in June 2014 to work towards re-assessment for Charter Status in 2015, or for the higher award of Charter Plus. On 25 February 2016 the formal re-assessment had been conducted, and the Authority had successfully been re-awarded the Charter Status for the next three years.

Councillor Haith referred to the verifiers' suggestion for a common personal development plan document which would be a more efficient and effective way of ensuring that learning and development needs were met. She queried whether this would be undertaken.

L Noble commented that a personal development plan was currently in place, but that consideration would be given to the versions used by the other District Councils to check if improvements could be made.

Councillor Richards gave thanks to L Noble for the work undertaken on the self-assessment documentation.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Noted the Assessment report, and the Authority's successful re-award of Charter Status.
- ii) Noted the improvements recommended at pages 9 and 10 of the Assessment Report – Continuous Improvement and Verifiers' Suggestions.

12 SUPPORT SERVICES REVIEW - OUTCOMES FROM IMPLEMENTATION

A report of the Deputy Chief Fire Officer/Director of Service Development was presented to provide Members with background information relating to the Support Services Review (SSR) including confirmation of the outcomes from the implementation of the SSR.

Members noted that it had been approved at the Authority meeting in December 2014 for the release of £1,523,000 from reserves to deal with the costs associated with Early Voluntary Release (EVR) redundancy payments, and related pension payments where applicable. A number of staff had taken up the opportunity for EVR and no compulsory redundancies had been made. DCFO Roberts commented that the SSR had concluded on 31 March 2016, and was expected to yield £1.3m of savings, however to date it would achieve £1.2m of savings. Due to

the collaboration with Humberside FRS ending, HR, Training and Occupational Health now need to be reviewed.

Councillor Buckley expressed his disappointment that the report did not provide enough information for the Members to challenge upon. He proposed, within his capacity of Chair of the Scrutiny Board, that the Board undertake a post implementation review.

Councillor Haith requested sickness level information in relation to stress, to determine whether the SSR process had been a factor.

Councillor Andrews commented that the sickness level information would be provided to the Scrutiny Board.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Noted the report.
- ii) Agreed that the Scrutiny Board undertake a post implementation review of the Support Services Review.
- iii) Noted that sickness level information in relation to stress be provided to the Scrutiny Board.

13 QUARTERLY REPORT ON REGULATION OF INVESTIGATORY POWERS ACT 2000 (RIPA)

A quarterly report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive was presented on the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA). The statutory guidance required that the Authority should receive a quarterly update of the use by the authority of surveillance and use of Covert Human Intelligence Sources (CHIS).

DCFO Roberts referred to an Inspection of RIPA within the Authority which had taken place on 8 January 2016 with Assistant Surveillance Commissioner HH Norman Jones Queen's Counsel (QC) who had stated within his report that the 'Service should be commended for the efforts that had been made to achieve a proper level of compliance with complex statutory provisions'.

Members noted that there had not been any occasion of telecommunications details being obtained by the Authority under RIPA in the last 12 months; DCFO Roberts proposed that this be incorporated into the quarterly performance report.

Councillor Haith requested that Members thanks be conveyed onto the staff involved in the work.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Noted the contents of the report.
- ii) Agreed that future RIPA updates be included within the performance report.

14 FITNESS TESTING - UPDATE

A report of the Deputy Chief Fire Officer/Director of Service Development was presented to provide Members with an update with regard to the introduction of fitness testing within South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue (SYFR).

DCFO Roberts informed Members, that since the production of the report, national guidance had been agreed with the NJC; the Service was now in the process of aligning its processes with national guidance, to which it was hoped to achieve an agreement. The Service had recruited a Fitness Advisor who had the necessary qualifications and experience to oversee the fitness testing and development arrangements within the Service.

Councillor Ayris queried whether the fitness tests being carried out had been hindered by the Fire Brigades Union (FBU) not being in agreement with the implementation of the Fitness Policy into the Service.

DCFO Roberts commented that very little fitness testing was currently taking place; an amnesty period would be enforced when the policy was rolled out. It had been the intention to implement a draft policy from January 2016 to June 2016, at which point a testing period would commence.

Councillor Satur queried the percentage of firefighters that had undertaken fitness testing on an informal basis, together with the consequences of failing a fitness test.

DCFO Roberts commented that there had been a full schedule for firefighters to undertake the fitness test, and the uptake had been high across the Service, but this had been significantly compounded by the FBU's current Trade Dispute, and Action Short of Strike, which confirmed that FBU members would not comply with SYFR fitness testing requirements. If a firefighter failed a fitness test within the national guidance, a gym test would be undertaken to assess cardiovascular fitness; if the standard was not achieved then an occupational health test would be undertaken to assess heart and lung function. The Service would put measures in place for individuals to become fit enough to undertake the fitness test. If the fitness standards could not be met then a decision would be made to determine whether the individual would be internally redeployed or referred to a medical body, and for the Authority to consider early release from the Service.

Councillor Richards requested that further progress reports be submitted to the Authority.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the report.

15 FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE EQUALITY FRAMEWORK - SOUTH YORKSHIRE
FIRE AND RESCUE (SYFR) GAP ANALYSIS

A report of the Deputy Chief Fire Officer/Director of Service Development was presented to inform Members of the United Kingdom (UK) Fire and Rescue Service Equality Framework which set out three levels of attainment in relation to equality across all areas of service provision. The Service was currently at the Achieving Level against the Framework.

DCFO Roberts commented that Members' guidance was sought in relation to an application being submitted for accreditation as an 'Excellent' Fire and Rescue Authority. The Support Service Review had reviewed all of the Service's internal processes and day to day work. Members were informed that additional resources would be required if it was agreed that the Service should work towards the 'Excellent' Level of the Framework.

Members noted that any equality and inclusion issues, both nationally or internally, would be reported to the Authority following the dissolution of WOD Board.

Councillor Haith queried the number of bi-lingual volunteers that the Service would recruit. She also queried when a report would be presented to the Authority on the review of the 2013-18 Consultation Strategy.

DCFO Roberts commented that he was unsure of the total number of bi-lingual volunteers. A great deal of work was currently underway in relation to the review of the 2013-18 Consultation Strategy, and work would shortly commence to refresh the new integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP). He would chase up the position of the Consultation Strategy and ensure that it was brought back to the Authority.

Councillor Ransome queried how the data would be shared.

DCFO Roberts commented that the Data Protection Act had not been refreshed to align with new technologies; exiting data work had been undertaken nationally which provided a whole raft of data which was useful to identify individuals deemed vulnerable. It was unclear what the Home Office position would be for the transfer of data and information, to ensure that the public bodies responsible for care within the communities could access information freely.

Councillor Atkin referred to a recent data sharing meeting with AM Shillito. He would attend a Safer Rotherham Partnership Board meeting today at which an item on data sharing would be discussed, and he hoped this would go from strength to strength.

Councillor Cave expressed her thanks to F Edmonds for production of the comprehensive report.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Considered the Gap Analysis and related Action Plan.
- ii) Provide officers with a direction on the way forward for the Authority.

16 CORPORATE PERFORMANCE REPORT - QUARTER THREE - 2015/16

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive and Clerk and Treasurer was submitted to provide Members with the details of corporate performance for quarter three of 2015/16, and set out the current position for South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue's (SYFR's) suite of Local Performance Indicators (LPis).

Councillor Buckley commented that the report had been submitted to the Scrutiny Board in March. He gave thanks on behalf of the Board, to the Service, for the revised report format which enabled Members to better digest the information.

Councillor Ayris referred to the peak in primary arson incidents during August and October, and he queried whether any Police evidence was available to establish the cause of the peak in August.

ACFO Blunden commented that there was a tendency for primary arson incidents to peak over the summer months and holiday periods. Members were referred to the Authority meeting held in November 2015, where a Member had raised the issue of a high volume of vehicle arson incidents in the Fox Hill area of Sheffield. Following the meeting, the Service had worked in collaboration with South Yorkshire Police, who had identified and detained one individual in connection with the incidents; car arson trends were in-line with previous years.

Councillor Richards referred to the recent peak in primary vehicle arson incidents in the Wath and Dearne areas. She queried whether the Service looked at the overall causation factors and whether assurance could be given that random cars tended not to be targeted.

DCFO Roberts commented that the Arson Reduction Officers worked closely with the local policing teams to ensure individuals/gangs were identified, and that the law enforcement agencies would be informed of any intelligence to suggest targeted attacks.

Councillor Hughes referred to the number of mobilisations to false alarms, and she queried whether these had ever coincided with a real fire thereby preventing an appliance from being mobilised.

DCFO Roberts commented that such analysis was not collated, but that the Service would always ensure that an appliance was available for re-deployment where necessary.

Councillor Munn requested that the 17 to 25 year old category be included within the table to identify the number of people rescued from RTCs from April to December 2015, together with in-depth information to establish the cause of the collisions.

Councillor Haith referred to the six deaths which had occurred due to fires during quarter 3, four of which had been due to accidental dwelling fires. She queried whether there had been any particular cause where community safety advice could be targeted.

ACFO Blunden referred to the Health Conference held in February 2016, where key personnel from across the four metropolitan boroughs had met to establish key data sharing agreements. In relation to the four deaths due to accidental dwelling fires, it had been established that the individuals had been known to other agencies. One of the incidents had been kitchen related and the other three incidents had occurred in homes that did not have smoke detection within the premises.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Noted the contents of the report.
- ii) Scrutinised and commented on the information presented within the report.

17 DRAFT PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK 2016/17

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive and Clerk and Treasurer was submitted which set out the first draft of the Framework for 2016/17. The Performance Management Framework was reviewed annually to ensure that it reflected the Service's key priorities and to enable the outcomes related to those priorities to be monitored.

Members noted that, for the first quarter of 2016/17, provisional targets would be set to enable the Service to continue to monitor its performance, and would be revised once the outturn figures for 2015/16 were known. The finalised Performance Management Framework for 2016/17, together with the agreed targets, would be presented to the Scrutiny Board on 23 June 2016 and the Authority meeting on 27 June 2016.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the contents of the report.

18 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED – That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and the public interest not to disclose information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

19 CONTROL COLLABORATION PROJECT (CCP) UPDATE

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive was presented to provide Members with an update on the progress of the joint Control Collaboration Project which was being undertaken in conjunction with West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (WYFRS).

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Noted the progress of the project to date.
- ii) Agreed that periodic reports be submitted to the Audit Committee.

CHAIR

SECTION 41 MEMBER BRIEFING



MARCH 2016

Please find below information from your
Section 41 Member representative on South
Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority
Cllr Pat Haith



Next generation of GPs pitch ideas for closer working between fire and health service

The next generation of health practitioners have pitched ideas for how the fire service and doctors can work better together to improve wellbeing in South Yorkshire.

Dozens of University of Sheffield medical students were provided a placement opportunity with South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue to give them a practical insight into potential ties between the fire service and health bodies.

The Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health students then presented their ideas for how the fire service could help to reduce demand on health services in South Yorkshire in a 'Dragon's Den' style competition.

The winning group came up with innovative ways in which the fire service can help to prevent falls, with one in three people aged over 65 in the UK experiencing a fall each year.

The group's ideas included training fire service staff to identify fall hazards, setting up a referral pathway between the fire service and GPs and developing a mobile application which details practical steps people can take around the home to reduce their risk of falls.



Assistant Chief Fire Officer Martin Blunden, said: "We already carry out tens of thousands of home safety visits across South Yorkshire every year.

Often, it is the unique skills and reputation of our staff which are the reason why the fire service is successful in interacting with high risk individuals, where other agencies may be less successful. So it makes sense that we use this contact to better support wider health outcomes in our communities.

"We were impressed by the enthusiasm of all the students in researching their ideas for how the fire and rescue service can contribute to local health outcomes, and were particularly impressed with the innovative approaches taken by the winning team."

Nationally, fire and rescue services, NHS England, Public Health England, the Local Government Association and other partners, including Age UK, have been working together to explore how they can work better together to demand on health and social care systems and improve the quality of life of vulnerable people.

Current collaborations in South Yorkshire include a range of health related programmes and projects, from co-responding with Yorkshire Ambulance Service, through to several preventative activities with third sector organisations, like Alzheimer's Society and Royal National Institute for the Blind



Did you know you can watch all Authority meetings LIVE?

All Fire Authority meetings are open to the public and are broadcast live on the internet. Visit www.southyorks.gov.uk. You can also view previous meetings.

Whilst viewing the meeting you can contribute comments and debate proceedings with other viewers via CoverIt Live or Twitter.

Follow the South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority on Twitter

@syFireAuth



South Yorkshire Fire—Health and Wellbeing Conference

South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue is about far more than fighting and preventing fires.

Discover the full range of activities we deliver to help keep local people healthy, safe and well.

Please visit our website :

<http://www.syfire.gov.uk/safety-advice/safe-well/health-and-wellbeing/>

Birley Moor Fire Station officially opened



A new multi-million pound fire station in Sheffield has been officially opened. Lord Mayor of Sheffield Cllr Talib Hussain formally unveiled the new Birley Moor fire station.

The new £3.5 million building built by BAM Construction Limited helps to provide first-class emergency fire cover to the south and east of Sheffield, covering a far greater area of South Yorkshire than the former, part-time station at Mosborough, right on the Derbyshire border, was able to.

Birley Moor fire station houses one full time and one part time fire engine, plus some specialist vehicles. It started receiving its first 999 calls in July 2015 and confirms the service's commitment to providing the best possible emergency response service to the people of South Yorkshire.

The station boasts a number of environmental sustainability features and is also a community facility, with a room available for use free of charge by local community groups, charities and other third sector organisations.

White watch firefighters used the station's training tower to perform a demonstration in front guests, who included teachers and pupils from nearby Birley Primary School.

Speaking at the event Chief Fire Officer James Courtney, said: *"The financial pressures the fire and rescue service faces are both well documented and unprecedented. But this is the second fire station opening I have attended in recent weeks and the facilities both at Parkway station and here at Birley Moor are the best possible physical reminder of the fact that despite the challenges we face we remain absolutely committed to supporting our future"*.

**Local Government Association (LGA) Fire Conference
9th & 10th March 2016**

The Annual Fire Conference was held in Bristol in early March and attended by representatives of the Fire and Rescue Authority and Service. The delegates were expecting more information on the current thinking coming from Government, particularly around the proposed greater role for Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) and the new statutory duty to collaborate.

In reality, there was little that the Minister for Policing, Fire & Criminal Justice—The Rt Hon Mike Penning MP—said in his speech which the sector were not already aware of. For example, there was no further indication of whether there will be an Fire Services Inspectorate introduced along the lines of what is already in place for Police Forces.

One announcement the Minister did make was that, whilst centralised procurement would not be enforced for Fire and Rescue Services, Government would have no qualms about highlighting the significant procurement disparity which apparently exists across the sector.

The Minister also touched on the subject of the enabling legislation for PCCs having responsibility for Fire and Rescue Services. He made the point that, where a PCC does present the Home Secretary with a business case, other stakeholders will be expected to justify their resistance. Clearly, there is significant ministerial weight behind this initiative, although with Devolution as another factor in the equation, he accepted that a patchwork of different governance arrangements for Fire and Rescue Services around the country may result.

Cheshire's Chief Fire Officer and current President of the Chief Fire Officers' Association (CFOA), Paul Hancock, spoke about the excellent collaboration and innovation Fire and Rescue Services are already delivering up and down the country.

There was also a clear view that the move to the Home Office has been a positive one, from the level of ministerial engagement to the department's greater understanding of the contribution of the fire and rescue service to areas such as national resilience.

Keeping People with Dementia Safe and Well



Pictured from l-r : Pete Jones, Partnerships Officer, SY Fire and Rescue, Cllr Cynthia Ransome, Cllr Roy Munn and Cllr Pat Haith (South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority)

The Service recently launched their 'Keeping People with Dementia Safe and Well' event at Fire Headquarters in Sheffield.

The launch provided an opportunity to gain more information about the network of Dementia Action Alliances in South Yorkshire and the work they do, the Service's Safe and Well Partnership and 'Dementia Friends'.

It also provided attendees the opportunity to network and share their experiences and knowledge, as well as link up with various agencies for help and assistance.

Midwives to provide fire safety to mums-to-be

Thousands of mums-to-be will be educated about home safety thanks to bespoke fire service funded room thermometers.

Following a recent successful trial of the thermometers in the Barnsley area, maternity units across South Yorkshire will now hand out the thermometers to expectant parents.

As well as telling parents when their baby's room is at the correct temperature, the specially designed thermometers will also display important messages about topics including home fire safety and smoke free homes.

There will also be a focus on Stop Smoking Maternity service, whereby specialist midwives give practical advice and support to families who smoke. As well as greatly increasing the risk of house fires, smoking in pregnancy is known to increase the risk of miscarriage, still and premature birth and other complications.

The project has been awarded just over £23,500 under South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority's funding scheme, the Stronger Safer Communities Reserve.

The fund saw dozens of registered charities, community organisations and partner agencies come forward and apply for grants from the £2 million fund, which had been set aside from the Authority's reserves.

Groups were able to bid for as little as £5,000 or as much as £250,000 to support projects which reduce injuries, save lives and make South Yorkshire safer. Key objectives for the fund include prioritising the most vulnerable, collaboration and data sharing.

South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue high risk co-ordinator, Sarah Broadbent, said: *"We already have a strong relationship with the midwives at Barnsley Hospital, including a successful referral scheme ensuring the most vulnerable families in the borough are referred for our home safety check service."*

"This latest project will see important fire safety messages delivered to thousands of families in South Yorkshire, at a busy time in their lives when basic home safety issues could easily be forgotten."

Joanne Poskitt, Specialist Midwife in Drug and Alcohol Use at Barnsley Hospital, said: *"We work closely with the fire service already as it is well documented that there are links between a smoking home and sudden infant death or meningitis."*

"The thermometers are a practical and simple tool which will help parents provide a safe sleeping environment for baby, information on creating a smoke free home and offer the opportunity for a free home safety check. We have already been handing out the thermometers in Barnsley and will now be extended to the whole of South Yorkshire."

Fire Service funding helps youth club project reduce anti-social behaviour

A partnership youth project is helping to turn around



anti-social behaviour on one of Sheffield's toughest estates.

Photo (L to R): Andrew Watson (Salvation Army), Matt Gillatt (SYFR), Cllr Jackie Satur (South Yorkshire Fire Authority), Steve Vinson (SYFR)

The Dark Nights project works with partners including Salvation Army, South Yorkshire Police and South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue to deliver a 12 week youth club project on the Badger Estate, Woodhouse.

The scheme was awarded nearly £5900 under the South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority's funding scheme, Stronger Safer Communities Reserve.

The project runs from January to March, when the number of alternative, positive activities available to youngsters in the area is normally at its lowest. Young people meet once a week to take part in activities, including dance classes and tours of fire and police stations, as well as educational sessions around first aid, road safety and the consequences of anti-social behaviour.

SYFR arson reduction officer Steve Vinson, said: *“Engaging with young people in this way is one of the best ways of building lasting, positive relationships which have long term benefits for the communities we serve. It’s only by working together that public agencies can put together initiatives like this one and we are grateful to all the partners involved in helping us deliver these youth clubs.”*

The Stronger Safer Communities Reserve saw dozens of registered charities, community organisations and partner agencies come forward and apply for grants from the £2 million fund, which had been set aside from the Authority’s reserves. Groups were able to bid for as little as £5,000 or as much as £150,000 to support projects which reduce injuries, save lives and make South Yorkshire safer.

For more information about the fire service’s work with young people, visit www.syfire.gov.uk

SOUTH YORKSHIRE PENSIONS AUTHORITY

11 FEBRUARY 2016

PRESENT: Councillor S Ellis (Chair)
Councillor R Wraith (Vice-Chair)
Councillors: E Butler, B Lodge, K Rodgers, A Sangar, J Scott,
M Stowe, B Webster, J Wood and K Wyatt

Trade Unions: G Warwick (GMB), F Tyas (UCATT) and
N Doolan (Unison)

Officers: J Hattersley (Fund Director),
S Smith (Head of Investments) and F Bourne (Administration
Officer) (SYPA)

A Frosdick (Monitoring Officer), D Hanson (HR Business
Partner), and M McCoole (Senior Democratic Services Officer)
(BMBC)

Apologies for absence were received from
Councillor H Mirfin-Boukouris, R Askwith, G Chapman,
B Clarkson, F Foster, M McCarthy and J Bell, T Gardener,
N MacKinnon and L Robb

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were noted as above.

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

RESOLVED – That agenda item 4 entitled ‘Government Consultation on LGPS’ be considered in the absence of the public and press.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

4 GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION ON LGPS

A report of the Fund Director was presented to seek Members’ views on the proposed responses to the Government consultation and guidance papers relating to the pooling of LGPS investments. Both South Yorkshire LGPS Funds had held meetings since November 2015 to discuss aspects of the consultation.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Agreed that the draft responses presented be approved subject to minor amendments such as accepting that good practice be exercised in the event of potential conflicts.

Pensions Authority: Thursday 11 February 2016

- ii) Agreed that the responses should reserve judgement in so far as the detailed guidance was still awaited.
- iii) Agreed that a budget be established for the expenditure of ongoing work, at an initial limit of £50,000, and that a further contribution of £7,000 be made to Hymans Robertson for their work associated with the project.
- iv) Noted that a future report be presented if any further funding was required.
- v) Agreed to continue to pursue negotiations with the preferred pool whilst acknowledging the need to remain open to the potential to explore alternative options if appropriate.
- vi) Agreed to continue communicating with other pools.

CHAIR

SOUTH YORKSHIRE PENSIONS AUTHORITY

17 MARCH 2016

PRESENT: Councillor S Ellis (Chair)
Councillor R Wraith (Vice-Chair)
Councillors: B Lodge, H Mirfin-Boukouris, K Rodgers,
A Sangar, M Stowe, B Webster and K Wyatt

Trade Unions: G Warwick (GMB)

Officers: J Hattersley (Fund Director),
G Chapman (Head of Pensions Administration), and
I Baker (Pensions Manager) (SYPA)

M McCarthy (Deputy Clerk), N Copley (Finance Service
Director) and M McCoole (Senior Democratic Services Officer)
(BMBC)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor E Butler,
Councillor J Scott, Councillor J Wood, F Tyas, R Askwith,
A Frosdick, J Bell, B Clarkson and F Foster

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were noted as above.

2 ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

3 URGENT ITEMS

Councillor Ellis referred to a request from the Investment Board for the Authority to give consideration to an urgent report entitled 'Climate Change Policy Statement 2016'.

RESOLVED – That Members agreed that the urgent report be taken at Item 18a on the agenda.

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

RESOLVED – That agenda Item 19 entitled 'GMP Reconciliation' be considered in the absence of the public and press.

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

6 MINUTES OF THE AUTHORITY MEETING HELD ON 14 JANUARY 2016

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Authority meeting held on 14 January 2016 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

7 MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 11 FEBRUARY 2016

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Authority held on 11 February 2016 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

8 WORK PROGRAMME

Members were presented with a copy of the cycle of future meetings work programme to 9 June 2016. Members noted that upon approval of the rolling schedule of meetings, that the work programme would be updated and populated with items for consideration by the Authority and Boards.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the contents of the report.

9 SECTION 41 FEEDBACK FROM DISTRICT COUNCILS

Councillor Ellis commented that the district councils had been kept up to date on the pooling arrangements and that there was a general sense of contentment.

10 CIVICA

Members were provided with a plan of Civica's key deliverables to the Authority, by T Fletcher, I Taylor and A Smith; the plan had been agreed and implemented in November 2015. It was noted that deliveries to address each of the requirements had been made, and a number of the pieces of functionality had been signed off and were in use. Valuations and Annual returns were in the final testing phase; Civica was committed to meeting the customer deadlines. Members were informed that significant performance improvements had been made, and that Civica was continuing to work with South Yorkshire to find further performance gains.

T Fletcher referred to the challenging time that had been encountered by the Authority and Civica during the implementation phase of the system. Civica had shown a level of naivety in taking on a number of implementations with contractual constraints from the Authority's existing system supplier which had resulted in the requirement for 8 sites to 'go live' at the same time. She added that Civica had continued to grow and a structure was now in place; Civica had employed an additional 25 members of staff. Civica had engaged with the Local Government community and objectives had been set for the legislative changes; key objectives had been agreed with the User Group, and investment would continue into the product.

Members noted Civica's key deliverables:-

- The annual allowance development had been delivered on time and was currently being tested by all customers.
- There had been a number of changes to the pension increases to accommodate the negative CARE increases for the year. These had now been completed and delivered, and were being implemented and run by a number of sites.

- The annual returns development had been delivered to a number of test sites, to be delivered to the Authority by the end of March.
- The valuation extract had been completed in a number of phases, to which the Authority had been one of the test sites. This was now in the final test phase before being released.
- The first version of the performance fixes had previously been released and the second version would be released today. Problems had been encountered by the QA Team, which had resulted in the second version being released 3 days later than previously stated.

The Authority noted that work was on track for the transfer of data from the Nottinghamshire Fund, although minor resource problems would be encountered in relation to the Easter holiday period.

Councillor Ellis sought clarification as to whether the annual returns were due for completion for tomorrow.

A Smith commented that the annual returns had been delivered on 9 March, and customer feedback was awaited by 18 March; any arising issues would be resolved in-house, and all sites would 'go live' on 18 March.

Councillor Ellis expressed concern that the Authority had been used as a test site on numerous occasions, that acknowledgement should be made to the Authority's staff for the additional work undertaken, and the learning gained by Civica from the Authority. The Authority wished to continue working with Civica, to limit the damage suffered to date, but Councillor Ellis considered Civica's past learning to have been at the Authority's expense. At the last Authority meeting Civica had been informed on how much the Authority's performance had been affected, together with the reputational damage suffered and the overtime costs incurred in the excess of £50,000, which had not yet concluded.

T Fletcher commented that Civica had supplied pension solutions for 18 years, and that there had been a great deal of growth in the business over the last 2 to 3 years. Civica had become a competitor in the Local Government Pension Scheme market; Civica should have revisited some of the risks and issues for all sites. T Fletcher added that the Authority would continue to see improvements to the system, and that G Chapman and herself would work on efficiencies rather than going down a formal route of compensation costs, to be discussed in further detail.

Councillor Lodge expressed disappointment that the Authority's reputation had been damaged, which would take time to recover, and that staff sickness levels had risen. He added that it was frustrating that one of the release dates within the report had slipped by 3 days.

Councillor Mirfin-Boukouris commented that Civica had not addressed previous concerns. She suggested that Civica provide the Authority with compensation cost proposals to enable a good working relationship moving forwards.

Councillor Sangar commented that the Authority's staff had taken a hit in the level of performance delivered, and that Civica had not provided milestones in terms of performance moving forwards.

T Fletcher referred to Civica's internal team which undertook fortnightly meetings with the 12 Local Government customers, and that weekly updates were despatched on key deliverables; processes were in place to measure Civica's performance; she would ensure that the Authority was included onto the weekly distribution list.

G Chapman commented that the Authority would meet deadlines by the end of the month; the system was now reaching the point where it became under the control of the Authority, and the interaction required with Civica would lessen. The Authority was already in a position to resolve some problems in-house. Once the system was running in the background, the Authority would be in a position to develop the system further to meet efficiency requirements. It was vital for the Authority to be able to send out the valuation data in a format that the Actuary could use. It was envisaged that within the next few months, that only work and project issues would be raised at these meetings instead of Civica and UPM issues.

Councillor Rodgers commented that Members, as the board of trustees, had many demands, and that the Local Pension Board would look at this area of performance. Members of the Pension Scheme were interested to know that the scheme was running effectively, and that money was not being spent on staff overtime. There were a total of four main local authorities with over 400 employers including parish councils and schools who expected the Authority to perform well in order to provide the service that they required. Councillor Rodgers expressed concern that issues were still slipping and he considered that Civica should propose a compensation of value, to indicate its commitment to the Authority moving forwards.

T Fletcher commented that discussions would be held in relation to the compensation request, to ensure that the Authority would receive efficiencies; she was confident that an agreement could be reached.

Councillor Ellis commented that the Authority's performance levels were beginning to rise; the Authority had always been a high performing Authority with dedicated staff, and that it was imperative to return to this high level. She added that it was necessary for Civica to provide a good quality product that was delivered on time, with milestones that were delivered on time, and that it was hoped that the improvements made would be built upon. The Authority looked forward to the gesture of goodwill/compensation for Members discussion.

G Chapman commented that he would ensure that Civica came back with a serious compensation proposal to the Authority, to which he would circulate to Members via email for discussion; he would provide Members with an explanation of any technical offering to enable full consideration as to whether the offer was deemed sufficient compensation. He suggested that the Administration Report presented to the Corporate Planning and Governance Board include an explanation on the last quarter in relation to the UPM and Civica relations. It was noted that a member of staff had further developed the system in-house, which had resulted in a cost saving to the Authority; the system was now enabling issues to be completed in time and confidence was starting to grow.

RESOLVED – That the Authority:-

- i) Noted the update.

- ii) Agreed that Civica would provide the Authority with a serious compensation proposal.
- iii) Noted that an explanation on the last quarter, in relation to the UPM and Civica relations, be included within the Administration Report to be presented to the Corporate Planning and Governance Board.
- iv) Would be included onto Civica's distribution list for the weekly updates on key deliverables.

11 MEMBERS' TRAINING AND EDUCATION: EXTERNAL CONFERENCE

A report of the Head of Pensions Administration was submitted to bring to Members' attention the 13th Annual LGPS 'Trustees' Conference which was scheduled to take place on 23 to 24 June 2016 at the McDonalds Hotel and Spa in Manchester. The conference was expected to be all-inclusive, as in previous years, at a cost of £500 per delegate.

RESOLVED – That Members agreed that two places be booked onto the conference.

12 PENSIONS ADMINISTRATION STRATEGY

A report of the Head of Pensions Administration was presented to seek Member approval to the attached draft Pensions' Administration Strategy to become the final version for an implementation from 1 April 2016.

Members noted that the first draft of the proposed Administration Strategy had been presented to the Authority meeting on 14 January; the document had since been amended following suggestions and amendments received from Members. Employers had also been presented with the Strategy at the Authority's annual forum in November 2015, and it had been issued for formal consultation to employers on the following day.

G Chapman commented that prior to 1 April, the article would be published on EPIC, the employers system, and there would be a follow up email. This would be sent to over 1,000 users. There would be further discussions with employers.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Considered and approved the amendments made since the meeting of 14 January 2016.
- ii) Made any final comments or suggestions on the content and format of the Draft.
- iii) Approved the document, subject to any further commentary, as the final and formal Pensions Administration Strategy for the Authority, and that it be introduced with effect from 1 April 2016.

13 GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION ON INVESTMENT POOLING

J Hattersley referred to the recent Investment Board meeting where Members had been provided with a verbal update on investment pooling. There was no further news.

Members noted that the proposal had been submitted at both Authority and Pool level, and that initial comments from the Government had been expected last week. Work was continuing to move development forward although without guidance from Government there was a real risk of unnecessary effort being expended. With this in mind the preferred pool partner had recently sent a letter to Government seeking clarification over how many legal structures were being considered. Preliminary estimates of the costs to establish pools ranged from £2.5m to £3m per pool.

A date had provisionally been agreed for a meeting to discuss governance issues with fund representatives (two from Chairs, Vice Chairs and Section 151 Officers) in mid-April.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the update.

14 QUARTER 3 PERFORMANCE SNAPSHOT REPORT

Members were presented with a copy of the Business Planning and Performance Framework's Snapshot Report for 2015/16 Quarter 3.

G Chapman referred to a total of 19042 cases that had been processed during the quarter, of which 86.10% had been on target. This had equated to a 24.18% improvement in performance on the previous quarter. There were early signs of a reversion to pre-UPM performance levels.

I Baker commented that it was difficult to forecast when performance levels would return to 99%, as the impact on the annual exercise for the year was unknown, and a number of glitches remained in the system.

Councillor Wraith queried how this would impact upon the Accreditation Award.

G Chapman commented that it was hoped that the issues would not have an effect on the Accreditation Award; an annual review would be undertaken in the next few weeks, prior to the full submission next year.

Councillor Ellis requested G Chapman and I Baker to reflect onto staff the huge milestone achieved in removing the backlog against all of the problems and challenges encountered.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the report be noted.

15 BOARD CHAIRS' REPORTS

Councillor Ellis referred to the additional meetings held during the last quarter in relation to the pooled investment arrangements. It was disappointing that funds still awaited guidance from Government but in the meantime Member and officer relationships were being formed at pool level and these confirmed that negotiations were being entered into with the best possible attitude. Once the Government had approved the Authority's and Pool submissions work on further detailed negotiation

would be delegated to the Investment Board with the Authority updated via minutes and special meetings, where appropriate.

Councillor Ellis commented that J Hattersley had been incredibly flexible in relation to his imminent retirement and had agreed to a phased three month extension. Recruitment advice would be sought from BMBC Human Resources in conjunction with the Treasurer.

16 TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT 2016/2017

A report of the Treasurer was submitted to seek Members approval of the treasury management procedures and strategy to be followed by the Authority during the forthcoming financial year.

The Fund Director referred to the statutory requirements for the Authority to set out a Strategy Statement for the forthcoming financial year. As in previous years it was noted that not all of the legislation which governed councils' treasury functions was applicable to this Authority. However, this year the Authority needed to publish a Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement.

Members noted that monies remained outstanding from two UK subsidiaries of Icelandic banks: Heritable and KSF. It was expected that a full recovery would eventually be received from Heritable. The position was less positive in relation to KSF; an additional dividend was due later in March which was expected to bring the recovery up to 83.755p in the pound. Although prospects for recovery stood at approximately 85%, it was going to be some time before the additional monies would be received. The Fund Director was exploring the possibility within the market of selling the claim to that debt.

Councillor Sangar queried the judgement that would be made in selling the debt.

The Fund Director commented that the Heritable debt totalled £38,000 but that the KSF debt was closer to £810,000. There were thought to be 3 brokers interested in buying such claims. The Treasurer had to judge whether or not any received bid offered value given the opportunity costs involved in continuing to hold the claim.

RESOLVED – That the Authority:-

- i) Adopted the Annual Investment Strategy and recommendations set out in Appendix I.
- ii) In accordance with Section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2003 approved an Affordable Borrowing Limit, on a rolling basis for the forthcoming year and two successive years as outlined in Appendix II, of £250,000 being the maximum amount the Authority could afford to borrow.
- iii) In accordance with the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2008 approved the Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement (MRP) outlined in Appendix III.
- iv) Agreed to keep the above under review.

17 CONSTITUTION OF THE SOUTH YORKSHIRE JOINT LOCAL PENSION BOARD

A report of the Deputy Clerk was submitted for consideration to the amendments to the Constitution of the South Yorkshire Joint Local Pension Board.

The South Yorkshire Joint Local Pension Board had considered its amended Constitution on 1 October 2015, as approved by the Authority earlier that day. The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Joint Local Pension Board had subsequently met with officers from BMBC's Joint Authorities Governance Unit to discuss the Constitution further.

The Joint Local Pension Board had requested that Sections 4.1.1, 4.1.2 and 4.1.5 be removed from the Constitution, as it was considered that they were not in the spirit of the legislation and could prevent the Joint Local Pension Board fulfilling its role.

Councillor Ellis invited G Boyington, Chair of the Joint Local Pension Board to address the Authority.

G Boyington commented that the Joint Local Pension Board considered it had a harmonious relationship with the Authority. The Board considered that Section 4 of the Constitution was extremely prohibitive, and that the wrong impression could be created by being so restrictive; information should be widely captured, to ensure effective and efficient administration of the scheme.

M McCarthy referred to the early comparative benchmark data that had been released. Other authorities had also chosen to adopt the model framework, and it was anticipated they too would have made slight amendments in one or two areas.

RESOLVED – That Members agreed the suggested amendments as detailed in Section 3.4 of the report.

18 MEETINGS OF THE AUTHORITY AND BOARDS 2016/2017

A report of the Clerk was submitted for Members consideration to the proposed schedule of Authority and Board Meetings during 2016/17.

Members noted that the meetings of the Authority and Boards were currently fixed up to the Annual Meeting on 9 June 2016; additional meetings would be arranged in relation to the pooled investment arrangements.

Councillor Rodgers noted Authority and Investment Board meetings scheduled for 23 June 2016 would clash with the EU Referendum.

M McCarthy commented that Members' availability would be sought to re-arrange the meetings.

RESOLVED – That Members approved the following cycle of meetings for 2016/17, subject to the Pensions Authority and Investment Board meetings scheduled on 23 June 2016 to be re-arranged:-

| | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|------------|
| Pensions Authority | Corporate Planning & | Investment Board | LPB |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|------------|

| | Governance Board | | |
|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------|
| | 2016 | | |
| | 2 June* | | |
| 9 June (Annual)** | | | |
| 23 June*** | | 23 June** | |
| To be re-arranged | | To be re-arranged | |
| | 20 July**** | | 20 July |
| | | 15 September | |
| 6 October | | | 6 October |
| | 20 October | | |
| 24 November | | | |
| | | 8 December | |
| | 2017 | | |
| 12 January | | | 12 January |
| | 16 February | | |
| | | 9 March | |
| 16 March | | | 16 March |
| 8 June (Annual) | | | |
| | 1 June | | |
| | | 22 June | |

* This meeting was originally scheduled for 16 June 2016

** Meeting dates already arranged

*** Additional meeting of the Authority if necessary to discuss LGPS pooling (prior to the Investment Board) as discussed at the meeting on 11 February 2016.

**** This meeting is on a Wednesday. Member availability has been obtained.

18A CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY STATEMENT 2016

A report of the Fund Director was presented to seek Members' approval to publish a Climate Change Policy Statement.

Members noted that a report had been tabled at last week's Investment Board meeting on the outcome of the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference, COP21 or CMP 11, held in Paris from 30 November to 12 December 2015. The report had suggested that the Authority might wish to publish a Climate Change Policy Statement and a draft version had been provided for consideration.

Board Members had suggested changes to the draft and a revised version was subsequently circulated to Members and Advisors (1). A further revision was then suggested (2). It was noted that officers had concerns in relation to the practicality of

implementing both versions and their compatibility with the Authority's existing policy of not divesting from positions. Officers suggested a revised version (3).

During an in-depth discussion regarding the three suggested versions Councillor Wyatt referred to a letter received today from the Sheffield Climate Alliance and Councillor Ellis commented that the Advisors had agreed the revised version (3).

Councillor Webster proposed an alternative version of 3, which was seconded by Councillor Sangar. When put to the vote this amendment was not accepted.

Members then approved the adoption of version 3 of the Climate Change Policy Statement.

Councillor Webster requested that the policy be reviewed annually. He also suggested that a copy of the policy should be sent onto the lobbying groups and individuals who had contacted the Authority on the issue. He requested the Board should receive a report on how the policy would be implemented.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Considered the draft versions of the Climate Change Policy Statement attached to the report.
- ii) Agreed to issue version 3 of the Climate Change Policy Statement.
- iii) Agreed that the Climate Change Policy be reviewed annually.
- iv) Agreed that a copy of the Climate Change Policy be sent onto the lobbying groups and individuals who had contacted the Authority.

19 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED – That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and the public interest not to disclose information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

20 GMP RECONCILIATION

A report of the Treasurer was submitted to seek Members approval to appoint ITM Ltd to undertake the stage 2 GMP Reconciliation Service in accordance with Contract Standing Order 3.1(h).

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Considered the contents of the report and approved the award of a contract to ITM Ltd to perform the task of GMP reconciliation in accordance with Contract Standing Order 3.1(h).
- ii) Approved a supplementary estimate in the sum of £99,000 during the 2016/2017 financial year.