

EAST SUSSEX FIRE AUTHORITY

Report of a meeting of the East Sussex Fire Authority held at Fire & Rescue Service Headquarters at 10.30 hours on Thursday 18 June 2015.

Present: Councillors Barnes, Buchanan, Butler, Deane, Earl, Galley, Howson (Chairman), Lambert (Vice-Chair), Morris, O'Quinn, Peltzer Dunn, Penn, Scott, Taylor, Theobald, Whetstone and Wincott.

1. QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS

1.1 The Fire Authority has congratulated Deputy Chief Fire Officer Gary Walsh on being awarded the Queen's Fire Service Medal announced in the Queen's Birthday Honours List. Gary has been recognised for his contributions to the Fire & Rescue Service both locally and at a national level. The Fire Authority has also recorded its congratulations to Trevor Green on being awarded an MBE. Trevor has been recognised for his contribution as a Community Volunteer and for his work with the charity Operation Florian.

2. SERVICE HEADQUARTERS – STAGE 3 REPORT

2.1 The Fire Authority has considered a report of the Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive (CFO&CE) that presented the business case for a relocation of Service Headquarters to the Sussex Police site in Lewes.

2.2 The Policy & Resources Panel on 28 May 2015 had considered this report and recommended that the Fire Authority approve the relocation of Service Headquarters (SHQ) to the Sussex Police site in Lewes with the delivery of improved use of space elsewhere in the ESFRS estate. Members had considered the stage 2 asset appraisal in November 2014 and had agreed to progress with a stage 3 outline business case on the relocation of Service Headquarters (SHQ) to a shared facility with Sussex Police in Lewes.

2.3 Negotiations are continuing with Sussex Police on options for rent and service charges, and upfront payments. The relocation of Service HQ to Lewes would set a framework for the transformation of future service delivery.

2.4 The Fire Authority has agreed that:

- (i) option 2, the relocation of Service Headquarters (SHQ) to the Sussex Police site in Lewes with the use of space elsewhere in the ESFRS estate be approved;
- (ii) the Capital Programme be varied to include the capital scheme SHQ relocation for £650,000;
- (iii) the one-off revenue costs of £0.276m be funded from the Improvement & Efficiency earmarked reserves;
- (iv) authority be delegated to the CFO&CE, in consultation with the Treasurer and Monitoring Officer, to agree the draft terms of the leases/licences for the Sussex Police site and the Policy & Resources Panel be asked to approve the final terms of the leases/licences;
- (v) the disposal of the existing SHQ site at Upperton Road be approved;

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- (vi) authority be delegated to the CFO&CE, in consultation with the Treasurer and Monitoring Officer, to agree the draft terms of the disposal of the Upperton Road site in line with the best consideration reasonably obtainable and the Policy & Resources Panel be asked to approve the final terms of the disposal; and
- (vii) the implementation of the agile programme to support future working styles and future Service transformation be commenced.

Councillor Taylor abstained.

**COUNCILLOR PHILIP HOWSON
CHAIRMAN OF EAST SUSSEX FIRE AUTHORITY**

19 June 2015