

MERSEYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

26th JUNE 2007

**PRESENT: Councillors Jimmy Mahon (Chair)
John George, Ted Grannell, Don Prout,
Karen Afford, Steve Niblock, Andrew
Blackburn, Eddie Clein, Jack Colbert, Ken
Roughley and Lesley Rennie.**

**Apologies for absence were received from
Councillors: Tony Newman (Chair), Sharon Sullivan,
Dave Hanratty, Jimmy Kendrick, Les Byrom CBE,
Betty Lowe MBE and Vera Best.**

1. Preliminary Matters

- A) Declarations of interest: Personal interests were declared by Councillors Eddie Clein, Karen Afford, Jack Colbert, Jimmy Mahon and John George in relation to items 6 and 7 of the Agenda regarding NWF&RS PFI Project – Kirkdale fire station and NWF&RS PFI Project - Outline Business Case. Members identified their involvement on Planning Committees.
- B) Late Items: The Executive Director of Resources requested that a late item - CFO/130/07 Backward Looking Efficiency Statement - be considered by Members following consideration of the Revenue Out Turn 2006/07 and Statement of Accounts, which the Chair had determined should be considered as a matter of urgency; and
- C) Items for exclusion of press and public: There were no items of business which required the exclusion of the press and public.
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2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

It was agreed that item 10 – Questions on the Discharge of Functions- be changed to reflect Councillor Jimmy Mahon as the responsible Member to answer questions on the discharge of functions for Sefton.

The proceedings of the General Meeting held on 19th June 2007, inclusive of the amendment above, were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

3. Implementation of Voluntary Redundancy / Early Retirement Arrangements
(CFO/53/07)

Members noted report CFO/53/07 of the Chief Fire Officer concerning implementation of the framework for dealing with expressions of interest for the scheme.

4. Best Value Plan 2007/08 Update
(CFO/90/07)

Members considered report CFO/90/07 of the Chief Fire Officer concerning the final performance review of achievements and future targets in the BVP 2007/08.

Resolved that:

The Authority noted and approved the achievements and future targets in the BVP 2007/08.

5. Consultation on Revision of Trading Powers
(CFO/100/07)

Members considered report CFO/100/07 of the Chief Fire Officer concerning Communities and Local Government circular FR/24/2007.

Resolved that:

That a response be made to the circular as suggested in paragraph 9 and submitted by the deadline of 20th July, 2007.

6. NWF&RS PFI Project – Kirkdale Fire Station
(CFO/103/07)

Members considered report CFO/103/07 of the Chief Fire Officer concerning approval of a change to the scope of the Merseyside element of the Project.

Resolved that:

The Authority agree to vary the scope of the Merseyside element of the North West Fire & Rescue Services PFI Project by:

- (a) building a joint 2 bay fire station and Operational Resource Centre on the site of the current Kirkdale fire station on Derby Road; and
- (b) abandoning proposals to build a new 2-bay fire station on Westminster Road, Kirkdale

7. NWF&RS PFI Project - Outline Business Case
(CFO/125/07)

A presentation was given to the Authority by the PFI Project Manager. Members then considered report CFO/125/07 of the Chief Fire Officer seeking approval to the Outline Business Case for MF&RS Private Finance Initiative Project.

Resolved that:

The Authority;

- (a) approved the Outline Business Case to be submitted to Communities and Local Government;
- (b) agreed to meet the funding gap for the Merseyside element of the Project estimated to be £427,000 per annum for the life of the contract, i.e. 28 years, but acknowledges that the funding gap could vary and, for this reason, agrees to keep the provision of £550,000 that it has already approved for the PFI Project in its medium term financial plan, in future years budgets as a hedge against risk.
- (c) noted that the revenue budget contains further underlying provision of £125,000 per annum for PFI management costs and the Authority has established a specific PFI reserve of £680,000 as a hedge against risk.

8. Treasury Management Annual Report 2006/07
(CFO/121/07)

Members considered and noted report CFO/121/07 of the Executive Director of Resources concerning the activities and performance of the Treasury Management operation in 2006/07 in accordance with the CIPFA Code of Practice.

9. Annual Review of Internal Audit
(CFO/122/07)

Members considered and noted report CFO/122/07 of the Executive Director of Resources concerning the work of Internal Audit in 2006/07.

10. Revenue Out Turn 2006/07 and Statement of Accounts
(CFO/123/07)

The Executive Director of Resources gave a presentation on this item. Members considered report CFO/123/07 of the Executive Director of Resources regarding the final revenue outturn position for 2006/07 and seeking approval for the 2006/07 statement of accounts.

Members gave thanks to the Executive Director of Resources and his team for the understandable and informative presentation.

It was requested that a full list of projects be presented to Members from which the five priority projects were taken to invest the underspend from 2006/07.

Resolved that:

- (a) A full list of projects would be presented to members at a future meeting.
- (b) Members noted the revenue outturn position for 2006/07.
- (c) Members approved the reserves and Statement of Accounts for 2006/2007.
- (d) Members noted that the Chair of the Authority is required to sign the accounts on behalf of the Authority following approval by the Authority.

**11. Backward Looking Efficiency Statement
(CFO/130/07)**

Members noted the 2006/07 Annual Efficiency Statement, (AES), "Backward Look".

12. Appointment to Committees

At the Annual Meeting of the Authority it was decided that Group Leaders would submit nominations of Members to be Appointed to Committees at the next meeting.

Resolved that:

The Authority approved the following Members and named alternate's be appointed committees:

(a) Policy & Finance Committee:-

<u>Voting Members</u>		<u>Alternate</u>	
Cllr Don Prout (Chair)	(Lab)	Tony Newman	(Lab)
Cllr Dave Hanratty	(Lab)	John George	(Lab)
Cllr Jimmy Mahon	(Lab)	Ted Grannell	(Lab)
Cllr Andrew Blackburn	(Lib Dem)	Steve Niblock	(Lib Dem)
Cllr Vera Best	(Lib Dem)	Jack Colbert	(Lib Dem)
Cllr Eddie Clein	(Lib Dem)	Jimmy Kendrick	(Lib Dem)
Cllr Les Byrom	(Con)	Betty Lowe	(Con)
Cllr Lesley Rennie	(Con)	Ken Roughley	(Con)

(b) Community Safety Committee:-

<u>Voting Members</u>		<u>Alternate</u>	
Cllr Ted Grannell	(Lab)	Don Prout	(Lab)
Cllr John George	(Lab)	Dave Hanratty	(Lab)
Cllr Sharon Sullivan	(Lab)	Jimmy Mahon	(Lab)
Cllr Steve Niblock	(Lib Dem)	Andrew Blackburn	(Lib Dem)
Cllr Jack Colbert	(Lib Dem)	Vera Best	(Lib Dem)
Cllr Karen Afford	(Lib Dem)	Jimmy Kendrick	(Lib Dem)
Cllr Betty Lowe (Chair)	(Con)	Lesley Rennie	(Con)
Cllr Ken Roughley	(Con)	Les Byrom	(Con)

(c) Performance & Audit Committee:-

<u>Voting Members</u>		<u>Alternate</u>	
Cllr Don Prout	(Lab)	Dave Hanratty	(Lab)
Cllr John George	(Lab)	Tony Newman	(Lab)
Cllr Jimmy Kendrick (Chair)	(Lib Dem)	Jack Colbert	(Lib Dem)
Cllr Steve Niblock	(Lib Dem)	Andrew Blackburn	(Lib Dem)
Cllr Lesley Rennie	(Con)	Ken Roughley	(Con)

(d) 08 Committee:-

<u>Voting Members</u>		<u>Alternate</u>	
Cllr Dave Hanratty	(Lab)	Tony Newman	(Lab)
Cllr Sharon Sullivan	(Lab)	Ted Grannell	(Lab)
Cllr Jack Colbert (Chair)	(Lib Dem)	Vera Best	(Lib Dem)
Cllr Karen Afford	(Lib Dem)	Eddie Clein	(Lib Dem)
Cllr Lesley Rennie	(Con)	Betty Lowe	(Con)

(e) Appeals Committee:-

<u>Voting Members</u>		<u>Alternate</u>	
Cllr Tony Newman (Chair)	(Lab)	Don Prout	(Lab)
Cllr Jimmy Mahon	(Lab)	Ted Grannell	(Lab)
Cllr Jimmy Kendrick	(Lib Dem)	Jack Colbert	(Lib Dem)
Cllr Vera Best	(Lib Dem)	Eddie Clein	(Lib Dem)
Cllr Ken Roughly	(Con)	Lesley Rennie	(Con)

(f) Appointments Committee:-

<u>Voting Members</u>		<u>Alternate</u>	
Cllr Tony Newman (Chair)	(Lab)	Don Prout	(Lab)
Cllr Jimmy Mahon	(Lab)	John George	(Lab)
Cllr Eddie Clein	(Lib Dem)	Jack Colbert	(Lib Dem)
Cllr Vera Best	(Lib Dem)	Jimmy Kendrick	(Lib Dem)
Cllr Les Byrom	(Con)	Betty Lowe	(Con)

(g) Standards Committee:-

<u>Voting Members</u>		<u>Alternate</u>	
Carole Roberts (Independent Member)	Chair		
Dewi Phillips (Independent Member)			
Cllr Ted Grannell	(Lab)	Cllr Don Prout	(Lab)
Cllr Dave Hanratty	(Lab)	Cllr Jimmy Mahon	(Lab)
Cllr Vera Best	(Lib Dem)	Cllr Jimmy Kendrick	(Lib Dem)
Cllr Karen Afford	(Lib Dem)	Cllr Andrew Blackburn	(Lib Dem)
Cllr Leslie Rennie	(Con)	Cllr Les Byrom	(Con)
Cllr Ken Roughley	(Con)	Cllr Betty Lowe	(Con)

(h) Consultation & Negotiation Panel:-

Voting Members

Cllr Ted Grannell (Chair)

Cllr Jack Colbert

Cllr Ken Roughley

(i) Management Board:-

Voting Members

Cllr Tony Newman
(Chair)

Cllr Les Byrom

Cllr Eddie Clein

Cllr Jimmy Mahon

(j) Member Training Liaison Group:-

Voting Members

Cllr Don Prout (Chair)

Cllr Vera Best

Cllr Betty Lowe
