

**AWDURDOD TÂN AC ACHUB CANOLBARTH A GORLLEWIN
CYMRU**



MID AND WEST WALES FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

**NOTE: THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION BY THE FIRE
AUTHORITY AT ITS NEXT MEETING**

COFNODION

CYFARFOD YR AWDURDOD TAN

Ystafell Caer,

Pencadlys Y Gwasanaeth Tân Ac Achub, Caerfyddin

19 MAWRTH 2018

MINUTES

OF THE FIRE AUTHORITY MEETING

The Caer Suite,

Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Carmarthen

19 MARCH 2018

10.00 – 11.30

72% PRESENOLDEB/ATTENDANCE

Presennol yn y Cyfarfod/Present at Meeting:

Cadeirydd/ Chair: Councillor R Rees-Evans
Is-Gadeirydd/ Deputy Chair: J Curtice

Aelodau/Members: Cyng/Cllrs: A Brinn, K Broom, M Charles, M Crowley, L Frayling, P James, K Laurie-Parry, R Lewis, D Thomas, E Thomas, J Warman, E Williams, A Woolcock,

Ymddiheuriadau/Apologies: Cyng/Cllrs: K Curry (*unable to attend due to inclement weather conditions*), C Evans, J Hale, S Joseph, A Llewelyn, C Mills, T Van-Rees

Yn Bresennol /In Attendance: D Daycock, C Moore, C Davies, R Quin, R Thomas, K Jones, I Cray, M Harries, S Jenkins, C Jackson, S Mansbridge

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors C Evans, J Hale, S Joseph, A Llewelyn, C Mills and T Van-Rees (notification received post meeting that Councillor K Curry was unable to attend the meeting due to *due to inclement weather conditions*).

2. DECLARATIONS BY MEMBERS OF ANY PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS

All Members present declared that they had a personal interest in the items relating to, or likely to affect their own Constituent Authority, including matters relating to the respective Public Service Board reports set out at Agenda Items 7-12.

All Members declared a personal interest in Item 6 of the Agenda relating to the Annual Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales 2018/19.

All Officers affected by the report declared that they had a personal interest in relation to item 5 of the agenda, namely the Pay Policy Statement 2018/19.

3. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS / PERSONAL MATTERS

The Chair extended a warm welcome to Mr Chris Moore, Section 151 Officer, to his first meeting of the Fire Authority.

Members were reminded that one-to-one training on the Core-HR system was available on conclusion of the Fire Authority Meeting.

A warm welcome was extended to Councillor K Broom, who had replaced Councillor K Madge as a Carmarthenshire County Borough Council representative on the Fire Authority. The Chair paid tribute to Councillor K Madge for his sterling contribution to the Fire Authority during his term of office.

The Chair was delighted to announce that the Service had been awarded the bronze accolade in the 'Fire & Rescue Service of the Year Award' at the iESE Public Service Transformation Awards on 6 March 2018. Fire Authority Members congratulated the Service which they felt had been recognised for demonstrating true innovation and delivering improvements to the lives of residents and local businesses within the Service area.

The Chair was delighted to welcome back Councillor M Crowley to the Fire Authority following his recent illness.

The Chair referred to the recent LGA Annual Fire Conference attended on 13 and 14 March 2018 which focussed in the main upon implications emanating from the Grenfell Tower incident.

The Chair reported that discussions were ongoing with the Welsh Government Cabinet Secretary in respect of proposals to revise the governance and financial arrangements for Fire and Rescue Authorities. Members were informed that further information was expected to be provided by way of a Welsh Government White Paper consultation publication expected at the end of the year.

The Chair, on behalf of the Fire Authority, extended his condolences to Councillor K Laurie-Parry following her recent bereavement.

The Corporate Head of Response provided an overview of an incident in Llandysul on 18 March 2018 whereby a casualty was rescued from the river by the Swift Water Rescue Team. Members commended crew members for their dedication and competencies which had resulted in the rescue of a casualty in extreme and adverse weather conditions.

4 TO CONFIRM AND SIGN AS A TRUE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE FIRE AUTHORITY MEETING HELD ON 5 FEBRUARY 2018

The minutes of the Fire Authority meeting held on 5 February 2018 were approved as a true record of proceedings.

Matters Arising

Page 2, Item 3, Paragraph 5: Councillor P James expressed his gratitude to Tregaron Fire Station in respect of the welcome and hospitality provided during the blessing of its new appliance on 29 January 2018.

Page 3, Item 4, Paragraph 5: The Clerk/Monitoring Officer confirmed that a report containing a synopsis of discussions at the Treasurers' meetings would be provided to Members in due course.

5 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE A REPORT ON THE PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2018/19

The Clerk / Monitoring Officer presented the Pay Policy Statement 2018/19 which was required to be published by 31 March annually under section 38(1) of the Localism Act 2011. Attention was drawn to the Appendices of the report which articulated the Authority's policies towards a range of issues relating to the pay of its workforce which sought to demonstrate openness and transparency of the process adopted by the Authority.

Members' attention was drawn to Section 5 which had been updated to reflect the inclusion of a defined Market Supplement Scheme for non-Chief Officers and Section 17 which had been updated to include any referrals to the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales during 2017/18.

RESOLUTION

It was RESOLVED that the Pay Policy Statement for 2018/19 be approved.

6 TO RECEIVE AND NOTE THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES 2018/19

The Clerk / Monitoring Officer presented the annual report of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (IRPW) which set out its determinations on the payment of remuneration and allowances to Members and Co-opted Members of Fire and Rescue Authorities for the 2018/19 municipal year.

It was reported to Members that the IRPW had determined that there was to be an increase of £30.00 on the basic salary for Members of Fire and Rescue Authorities, made payable from the date of the Authority's Annual General Meeting.

Members were reminded that, at its meeting on 11 December 2017, the Authority resolved to reinstate a senior salary to the Deputy Chair of the Fire Authority in line with the determinations of the IRPW.

The Clerk / Monitoring Officer explained that the Authority was also required to publish and maintain an annual Schedule of Member Remuneration detailing the payments made to Members in the coming municipal year.

RESOLUTION

It was RESOLVED

- 1. That the IRPW's determinations in relation to Members' allowances and remuneration for the 2018/19 municipal year be noted.***
- 2. That delegated authority be given to the Clerk / Monitoring Officer to update the Schedule of Member Remuneration within the Authority's Constitution and to make any necessary amendments to the 2018/19 Schedule from time to time during the municipal year in order to reflect any changes in membership of the Authority or Committees, or as a result of any Supplementary Reports issued by the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales.***

7 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE POWYS PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD LOCAL WELL-BEING PLAN

The Temporary Deputy Chief Fire Officer (TDCFO) provided an overview of the six Public Service Boards across the Service area which had been established in line with the requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The Act places a collective well-being duty on each Public Service Board to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of its area through its contribution to meeting the seven national well-being goals established by Welsh Government.

The Temporary Deputy Chief Fire Officer provided a synopsis of the key elements of the well-being planning process which involved an extensive programme of research, evidence gathering and engagement with key stakeholders, which had culminated in the production of local well-being plans for each of the Public Service Boards across the Service area. Members were informed that the Authority, as one of four statutory members within each of the Public Service Boards across the Service area, was required to approve each well-being plan prior to its publication.

Councillor P James queried the resource implications in supporting the Public Service Boards. The Temporary Deputy Chief Fire Officer explained that the principles of the partnership working required significant resources on a shorter-term basis, however it was envisaged that substantial benefits would be derived for all organisations in the longer term. The Chief Fire Officer reiterated that the Authority was a statutory partner within the Public Service Boards across the Service area, nevertheless discussions were ongoing with the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales to explore the possibility of combining Public Service Boards in the future where there was commonality on issues and a clear benefit to do so.

Consideration was given to the 4 Objectives identified within the Local Well-being Plan for the Powys Public Service Board.

RESOLUTION

It was RESOLVED that the Local Well-being Plan for the Powys Public Service Board be approved.

8 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE CEREDIGION PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD LOCAL WELL-BEING PLAN

The TDCFO introduced the report, and consideration was given to the 6 Objectives identified within the Local Well-being Plan for the Ceredigion Public Service Board.

RESOLUTION

It was RESOLVED that the Local Well-being Plan for the Ceredigion Public Service Board be approved.

9 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE PEMBROKESHIRE PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD LOCAL WELL-BEING PLAN

The TDCFO introduced the report, and consideration was given to the 2 Objectives identified within the Local Well-being Plan for the Pembrokeshire Public Service Board.

RESOLUTION

It was RESOLVED that the Local Well-being Plan for the Pembrokeshire Public Service Board be approved.

10 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE CARMARTHENSHIRE PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD LOCAL WELL-BEING PLAN

The TDCFO introduced the Report and consideration was given to the 4 Objectives identified within the Local Well-being Plan for the Carmarthenshire Public Service Board.

RESOLUTION

It was RESOLVED that the Local Well-being Plan for the Carmarthenshire Public Service Board be approved.

11 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE NEATH PORT TALBOT PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD LOCAL WELL-BEING PLAN

The TDCFO introduced the Report, and consideration was given to the 6 Objectives identified within the Local Well-being Plan for the Neath Port Talbot Public Service Board.

Councillor A Woolcock commented that he felt that there was a democratic deficit in the make-up of the Public Service Boards whereby only one elected member represented each Council and these concerns had been raised within Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council. The TDCFO provided assurances to Members that all four statutory members within a Public Service Board were required to reach consensus prior to any decisions being resolved. Councillor E Williams stated that Council Members were invited to attend meetings of the Carmarthenshire Public Service Board where appropriate, and were able to participate in discussions.

In response to concerns raised by Councillor R Lewis regarding the value of Public Service Boards, the TDCFO clarified that the Public Service Boards had been established by the Welsh Government to provide a collective joined-up approach to ensure smarter ways of working.

RESOLUTION

It was RESOLVED that the Local Well-being Plan for the Neath Port Talbot Public Service Board be approved.

12 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE SWANSEA PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD LOCAL WELL-BEING PLAN

The TDCFO introduced the Report and consideration was given to the 4 Objectives identified within the Local Well-being Plan for the Swansea Public Service Board.

The Chair expressed his appreciation to all Officers, and in particular the Engagement, Planning and Performance Manager, who had contributed to the work of the Public Service Boards generally to ensure that more efficient services would be provided to residents across Mid and West Wales.

Councillor J Warman expressed the view that further awareness of Public Service Boards would need to be raised amongst residents in the light of Local Government Reform and budget constraints. It was suggested that the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales be invited to a meeting of a Public Service Board to enable further discussion on the matter and would allow for any queries to be addressed directly.

RESOLUTION

It was RESOLVED that the Local Well-being Plan for the Swansea Public Service Board be approved.

- 13 ANY OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT BY REASON OF SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES, THE CHAIR DECIDES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A MATTER OF URGENCY PURSUANT TO SECTION 100(B)(4) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

There were no items of urgent business.

Meeting closed 11.30.