

Minutes

Full Authority

Date: 13 December 2024

Time: 10:30

Venue: FSHQ

Present:

Cllr D O'Donovan (in the chair), Cllrs I Ahmed, A Ali, K Bruce, J Bryan L Buckley, C Burke, A Butt, R Dickenson, R Downes, T Hinchcliffe, C Keith, A Parnham, M Pollard, K Renshaw, T Salam, F Shaheen, U Sutcliffe, S Tulley and R Wood

In Attendance:

Apologies:

Cllr E Carlisle and Cllr D Hall

1. Chair's announcements

The Chair announced that WYFRS were successful in the Excellence in Fire & Emergency Awards on Friday 6 December 2024 and were winners in 2 categories:

Innovation of the Year

Awarded to the Fire Control team for their work in developing processes to manage a situation such as the Grenfell Tower fire where a large number of fire survival guidance calls are being handled and information needs to be passed between the control room, crews on the ground and commanders. This was also recognised as innovative practice by HMICFRS during their most recent inspection.

Team of the Year

Awarded to the Youth Interventions Team for the wide range of work that they do across the county supporting young people in so many ingenious ways. Increasingly using data to target their work the team were recognised for the various interventions and programmes that they deliver.

2. Admission of the public

There were no items requiring the exclusion of the press and public

3. Urgent items

There were no urgent items.

4. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interest in any matter under discussion at the meeting.

5. Minutes of meeting held on 27 September 2024

Resolved

That the Minutes of the last meeting held on 27 September 2024 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

6. Matters arising

There were no matters arising

7. Minutes of Committees held since 27 September 2024 and of other relevant Outside Bodies

Resolved

That the Minutes of Committees and other relevant outside bodies as circulated be received.

8. Calendar 2024/25 Amendment

The Director of Corporate Services submitted a report which sought approval for the proposed programme of meetings for 2024 – 25.

Resolved

That the programme of meetings 2024 – 2025 be approved as detailed at Annex A to the report.

9. Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP) 2025/28

Members considered a report from the Director of Service Support which provided an overview of the formal consultation and engagement plan, which is required to develop the WYFRS Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP) for 2025-2028.

Members challenged the report author on the flexibility of the plan to include emerging issues, including climate change, battery storage locations, increasing use of electric cars and bikes. Members further challenged the report author on the period to which

the achievement percentages and procurement savings quoted relate to, which it was confirmed will be revised to reflect the most up to date data before publication. Members welcomed the engagement with the diverse communities of West Yorkshire, including the use of social media and bi-lingual staff to maximise contact.

Resolved

The consultation and engagement plan, which includes a 10-week external formal consultation, be approved.

10. Bonfire 2024 Review

Members considered a report of the Deputy Chief Fire Officer detailing the planning and operational response undertaken by West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (WYFRS) in collaboration with West Yorkshire Police (WYP) and the Yorkshire Ambulance Service (YAS) for the Bonfire period 2024. It was noted that WYFRS actively engaged with local schools, influential community members, faith leaders/groups, youth services, local authorities, and other emergency service partners to promote community education and foster ongoing relationships within and around at-risk areas, building on long standing relationships cultivated through years of collaborative work.

The report included statistics going back to 2019 showing the success of the collaborative work undertaken and a breakdown of incidents over the period by District.

Members thanked the Service for their dedication and successful results, including the impressive work done by the Youth Intervention Team (YIT), specifically in the Shipley, Bramley and Harehills districts.

Members challenged the report author on the social media data presented in the report and requested further information on this, which was provided following the conclusion of the meeting. Members queried the ability to drill down further into the data presented by District to pinpoint specific areas and were advised this is possible and could be discussed with the relevant District Managers. Members requested clarification of the additional costs associated with the period, which relate to the employment of an additional staff member.

Resolved

That the report be noted

11. Performance Management Report

Consideration was given to a report of the Head of Corporate Services which advised of the Authority's performance against key performance indicators for the period 1 April 2024 to 1 December 2024.

Members noted and discussed the following:

- Number of fatalities
- Cause and volume of prison fires
- Possible involvement of WYFRS in the sale of vapes
- Support provided to Firefighters involved in traumatic incidents

Members welcomed the fantastic amount of partnership collaboration work and agreed this is the best way forward.

Resolved

That the report be noted

12. Programme of Change Update

The Director of Service Support submitted a report updating members of the progress in relation to the Programme of Change 2024/25.

Members requested an update on the redevelopment of Halifax and Huddersfield Fire Stations

Resolved

That the report be noted.

Chair