COUNCIL MEETING, 20 JULY 2017

REPORT OF THE

Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority

PART II

8. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- 8.1 At its meeting of 13 June 2017, Councillor Chris Carter was re-appointed Chairman of the Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority. Councillor Liz Fairhurst was re-appointed as Vice-Chairman. The Chairman welcomed all Members, both new and returning to the first meeting of the Authority in the new municipal year.
- 8.2 In accordance with the outcomes of the efficiency and effectiveness review, which concluded in September 2016, the Fire and Rescue Authority was meeting for the first time in its new formation of 10 Members. Consequent to the revised structure, a proposed Constitution for HFRA was presented to the Authority. This followed the review and revision of a number of governance documents and their consolidation into a single Constitution in line with the recommendations of the Governance Improvement Plan. The Authority received the proposed Constitution and considered the key procedural changes entailed within it. With a number of minor amendments, the Constitution was agreed. In reaching this decision, the Authority noted that the Members' Allowances Scheme for 2017/18 was potentially no longer suitable for the revised Authority size and structure and therefore tasked members of the Standards and Governance Committee with reviewing the Scheme. Pending the outcome of this review, it was agreed to suspend the payment of all Member allowances. In light of the agreed Constitution, the Authority proceeded to make a number of appointments to various roles within the governance structure.
- 8.3 Prior to the meeting, the retirement of the Chief Fire Officer had been announced and a leaving date of 31 December 2017 confirmed. The Authority considered options for how to proceed with the recruitment of a new Chief Fire Officer and agreed to establish a cross-Party Member Working Group to further evaluate options and make proposals for a recruitment strategy to the July Authority meeting. In recognition of the strategic partnership with the Isle of Wight Council, in particular the sharing of the Chief Officer by the two Authorities, it was agreed to include a nominated representative from the Isle of Wight Council on the Member Working Group.
- 8.4 The Fire and Rescue Authority received a report of the Chief Fire Officer providing information detailing a collaborative approach to consider governance arrangements of the Fire and Rescue Authority in Hampshire. This is enabled by a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that has been signed between Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority, the Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Authority and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner to

facilitate a Fire Governance Options Appraisal Project between the parties. The Authority endorsed the approach as set out in the report.

Further details on these items can be found at the following link:

• Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority 13 June 2017

Councillor Chris Carter Chairman of Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority