

## **REPORT OF THE LANCASHIRE COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY 18TH FEBRUARY 2019**

### **1. COLLABORATION**

The Authority noted that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman had met with the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) on 22 January 2019 where they received assurance of his intention not to proceed with any changes to the fire governance arrangements at this time. During the meeting the potential for further collaboration was discussed which required further consideration and included: i) the delivery of Police Public Order Training from Service Training Centre – this work had in part already been initiated which had been observed by Home Office officials at a visit the previous week; ii) the potential for the relocation of Service Headquarters to Hutton and iii) the formation of a small Board of 8 with 4 representatives from the Police (2 from the Police and Crime Commissioners Office and 2 from the Constabulary) and 4 from Fire (2 Members and 2 Officers). However, as the Combined Fire Authority (CFA) was the decision-making body, the Chairman was in discussions with the Chief Fire Officer and the Clerk on how this might be constituted.

The Authority remained committed to deliver the best outcomes for the public in Lancashire and the Service continued to work collaboratively with the Police. The Chairman stated his gratitude to all Members of the CFA for their support in maintaining current governance arrangements. He confirmed that he would be thanking all Members of Lancashire County Council (LCC) on behalf of the Authority at the next Full Council meeting and he had already written to MPs and Lancashire Leaders. County Councillor O'Toole acknowledged the cross-party support received from Members of the CFA and LCC colleagues and commended the Chairman for his determination in opposition of the proposal.

### **2. PAY POLICY STATEMENT FOR 2019/2020**

The Director of People and Development presented a report informing the Authority that in accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 a pay policy statement for 2019/20 had been prepared. The pay policy published data on senior salaries and the structure of the workforce and demonstrated the principles of transparency. The pay policy statement set out the Authority's policies for the financial year relating to: the remuneration of its chief officers; the remuneration of its lowest paid employees; and the relationship between the remuneration of its chief officers and that of other employees who are not chief officers.

The Chairman announced that he had received the Chief Fire Officer's notice of intention to retire with effect from 30 April 2019 and that the appointment of a successor had begun.

### **3. REVENUE BUDGET 2019/20 - 2023/24**

The Authority considered a report of the Treasurer that presented a gross revenue budget requirement for 2019/20 of £56.5m. This allowed for the increase in pay costs arising from forecast pay awards and revised pension contributions all of which was partly offset by the identification of £1.2m of efficiency savings/budget reductions.

The Authority considered council tax options for 2019/20 which met the requirements to deliver a balanced budget and maintain an adequate level of reserves and determined a 2.99% increase (£2.02 per annum) resulting in a council tax of £69.48 for a Band D property.

FRANK DEMOLFETTA  
Chairman

LFRS  
Fulwood