

**REPORT OF THE LANCASHIRE COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY  
18 DECEMBER 2017**

**1. CAPITAL AND REVENUE BUDGETS 2018/19 – 2022/23**

The Authority noted the draft Capital Programme and Revenue Budget for 2018/19 - 2022/23.

The Authority authorised consultation with representatives of non-domestic ratepayers and Trade Unions on the budget proposals and agreed to give further consideration to both at the Budget Fixing Meeting scheduled for 19th February 2018.

**2. CORPORATE SAFETY, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT POLICY**

Under Section 2(3) of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, employers must prepare, and where necessary revise, a written statement of health and safety policy. The existing safety, health and environment policy document, which was last considered by the Authority in September 2016, had been recently reviewed and amended as required. As the health and safety and environment functions were managed in a similar way it was considered appropriate for the Authority to declare its intent for both health and safety and the environment in the same document which was endorsed at the meeting.

**3. CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO FRA COMBINATION  
SCHEME ORDER**

The Government had commenced a consultation to vary combination schemes of Combined Fire and Rescue Authorities to enable the application of the 'representation model' (referred to in the Policing and Crime Act 2017); this would enable Combined Fire and Rescue Authorities to appoint Police and Crime Commissioners to be represented with voting rights, where the Authority had agreed to a request by the Police and Crime Commissioner. Members expressed different views. Some were concerned that the Government's intention to enable further integration allowed for the potential takeover by the Police and Crime Commissioner when the Authority, which was a democratic body, was already working well for the benefit of the people of Lancashire and that this would enable the Police and Crime Commissioner to have a vote which would affect the political balance of the Authority. Conversely, some Members thought it would be a positive opportunity for the Police and Crime Commissioner to attend Authority meetings to gain a better understanding of the work of the Fire Authority and evidence the level of collaboration particularly for the Inspection by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services next year. Members voted and the Authority agreed for the Clerk and Monitoring Officer to respond with a yes, to agree with the proposed amendments to vary the combination schemes for Fire and Rescue Authorities in order to implement the 'representation model'.

FRANK DE MOLFETTA  
Chairman

LFERS  
Fulwood