

REPORT OF THE LANCASHIRE COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY - 21 FEBRUARY 2022

PAY POLICY STATEMENT FOR 2022/2023

In accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 a pay policy statement for 2022/23 was considered. 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 were not chief officers.

HER MAJESTY'S INSPECTORATE OF CONSTABULARY AND FIRE & RESCUE SERVICES UPDATE

Following the recent inspection by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services the Service received a debrief 9 February 2022 however, Inspection reports were expected to be published in the late spring 2022 although no specific dates had yet been confirmed. When the final report was received in summer it would provide clarity and direction, enabling focussing of resources on the areas requiring strengthening to ensure the Service continued towards its aim of being graded as outstanding.

Members were updated on the national state of fire report produced by Sir Thomas Windsor which was released in January 2022. The report highlighted that overall, nationally there had been progress from round 1 inspections with improvements in culture and people and investment in fire protection. However, an area identified as being problematic was the resourcing and prioritising of prevention work. Other areas identified as requiring further improvement included the diversity of recruitment and challenges around the on-call duty system.

FINANCIAL STRATEGY INCLUDING REVENUE BUDGET 2022/23 - 2026/27

The Financial Strategy encompassed: the Treasury Management Strategy, Reserves and Balances Policy, the Capital Strategy and Budget and the Revenue Budget.

The Authority considered a report of the Treasurer that presented a gross revenue budget requirement for 2022/23 of ££63.0m. The Authority considered council tax options for 2022/23 which met the requirements to deliver a balanced budget and maintain an adequate level of reserves and determined a £5.00 increase (6.9%) resulting in a council tax of £77.27 for a Band D property.

COMMUNITY RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN 2022 - 2027

In July 2021 the Planning Committee approved a draft Integrated Risk Management Plan along with the revised name '*Community Risk Management Plan*' for public consultation. The Plan outlined the approach to be taken to identify and mitigate risk within Lancashire for the next 5 years. After a 10-week consultation period at its meeting in November 2021, the Planning Committee agreed amendments and that the consultation was adequate in respect of scale and scope. The Authority considered and endorsed the refreshed Community Risk Management Plan which would be published in April 2022.

DAVID O'TOOLE
Chairman

LFRS
Fulwood