

Minutes of the Governance and Transformation Committee

28 January 2019 at 09:30 a.m.
at Fire Service Headquarters, Vauxhall Road, Birmingham B7
4HW

Present: Councillor Aston (Chair).
Councillors Barrie, Brackenridge, Edwards, Hogarth
and Young (Vice Chair).
Professor Brake.

Apologies: Councillor Walsh.

Observer: Tim Martin, Head of Governance, West Midlands
Combined Authority (WMCA).

1/19 Declarations of Interest in contracts or other matters

There were no declarations of interest.

2/19 Minutes of the Governance and Transformation
Committee held on 10 December 2018

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 10
December 2018 be approved as a correct record.

3/19 Scoping the Role of the Mayoral Fire Committee

Karen Gowreesunker, Clerk to the Authority and Strategic
Enabler of the Strategic Hub, provided an overview of the
report:

The report was submitted to the Committee for Members to
formally agree the proposals for the advisory role of the
Mayoral Fire Committee (MFC) which had been developed in

the workshops held at the November and December meetings of the Committee.

The report set out the backdrop to the MFC and outlined the work undertaken so far including the elements that were considered whilst developing the recommendations for the role of the MFC.

The proposals that had been agreed by the Committee as the role of the MFC was developed were detailed within section 3.6 of the report:

- Section 41 Leadership Principle
- Local, Regional and National Representation for West Midlands Fire Service (WMFS)
- A briefing Planning Forum
- Audit and Risk
- Scrutiny
- Firefighters' Pension Appeals
- Appointment and dismissal of the Chief Fire Officer
- Joint Consultative Panel
- Constitution of the MFC
- Governance and Transformation Committee

A report detailing the full outcomes of the work of the Governance and Transformation Committee was provided within Appendix A.

In addition, Members were updated on developments regarding the draft WMCA (Fire Functions) Order 2019.

In answer to Members' questions, the following points were raised:

- The proposals for the advisory role of the MFC had been positively received by the Mayor and it had been agreed that the section 41 leadership principle was an important function.
- With regard to the membership of sub-committees, it would be for the parent committee to determine membership. However, it was noted that not all existing members of the parent committees represented a West

Midlands constituency and this would need to be a consideration when determining membership.

- With the proposals for the advisory role of the MFC agreed, this meant that the MFC was effectively ready to be implemented as and when required (subject to developments around the progress of the draft Order and subsequent transfer).

Resolved that the Committee approved the proposed role for the MFC.

The meeting finished at 10:12 am.

Contact Officer: Stephen Timmington Strategic Hub West Midlands Fire Service 0121 380 6680
