

Minutes of the Scrutiny Committee

26 September 2019 at 10:30 a.m.
at Fire Service Headquarters, Vauxhall Road, Birmingham
B7 4HW

Present: Councillor Spence (Chair)
Councillors Barlow, Barrie, Edwards (substitute) and
Jenkins

Apologies: Councillors Dehar, Gill and Young
S Middleton

Observer: Councillor Brackenridge

30/19 Declarations of Interest in contracts or other matters

There were no declarations of interest.

31/19 Exclusion of the public and press

Resolved that the public and press be excluded from the rest of the meeting to avoid the possible disclosure of exempt information under Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006 relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

32/19 Review of Business Continuity Information

A presentation on the Service's business continuity arrangements had been delivered to Members at the Policy Planning Forum held on 17 September 2019.

This information is marked **Official - WMFS Public**. It is your personal responsibility to ensure it is distributed to the appropriate people only.

Officers had assessed and updated corporate risk 6 'Business Continuity and Preparedness' and the subsequent two options proposed for the business continuity arrangements of the Service were provided in the presentation. Following the Policy Planning Forum, the Scrutiny Committee requested that the business continuity options, and the recommended option be brought before the Committee for scrutiny. Therefore, a special meeting of the Committee had been convened.

The Committee reviewed the information regarding the business continuity arrangements.

Upon the request of Members, ACFO Sarah Warnes was in attendance and provided further information on the proposed arrangements in answer to Members' questions.

33/19 Working Group Discussion

In tandem with item 32/19, the Committee considered and discussed at length the information provided regarding the proposed options for the business continuity arrangements. The Committee agreed that:

- the proposed options for business continuity arrangements would be the subject of a review by the Scrutiny Committee.
- the scope of the review would be to consider the two options for the business continuity arrangements.
- the report on the business continuity arrangements which was due to be submitted to the Fire Authority on 30 September is to be deferred to allow for the completion of the scrutiny review process.

34/19 Timeline for Review and Next Steps

The Committee considered the timeline for the review and the potential next steps.

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The Committee agreed that separate meetings of the Scrutiny Committee would be convened to undertake the review of the business continuity arrangements.

The Committee noted the immediacy of the decision to be made.

The meeting finished at 11:55am.

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