



MINUTES OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE held on Wednesday 19 August 2015 at Fire Service Headquarters, Winsford at 1.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors S Nelson (Chair), P Booher, P Carey, D Flude, S Parker, B Rudd and J Weatherill.

PART 1 – MATTERS CONSIDERED IN PUBLIC

1 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

A APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors J Joyce and M Biggin.

B DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS

There were no declarations of Members interests.

C MINUTES OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of the Policy Committee held on 24 June 2015 be confirmed as a correct record.

D NOTES OF THE RISK MANAGEMENT BOARD

RESOLVED: That the notes of the meeting of the Risk Management Board held on 14 July 2015 be received, for information.

Matters Arising:

A Member requested further information in respect of two corporate risks which were detailed in the notes. She asked for clarification in relation to the comments on over the border response arrangements in the Alsager area (Risk No 804 – Opposition to plans to change emergency response arrangements) and whether there was any further information on risk no 868 – clawback of funding by government in respect of reserves.

The Head of Planning, Performance and Communications responded that the Service was aware of proposals for changes to fire cover by Staffordshire Fire Authority that may have had an impact on the Alsager area and this was identified as a potential risk. However, the proposal was not progressed. The Authority would continue to monitor neighbouring authorities' plans to identify changes that may impact upon areas in Cheshire to mitigate risks.

The Head of Finance explained that there was no further details available on whether the Government would introduce any proposals to clawback funding but this was flagged as a risk which the Authority would continue to monitor.

2. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED:

That under Section 100(A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) Order 2006, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the item of business listed below on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Schedule 12A to the Act in the paragraph indicated:

Paragraph

(3) Information relating to the financial or the business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)

3 CONSTRUCTION OF PENKETH FIRE STATION

The Assistant Chief Fire Officer (ACFO) introduced the report which provided information about the outcomes from the detailed pre-construction work that had been carried out by the Authority's agents and ISG plc (ISG). Members' approval was sought to enter into a design and build contract with ISG plc and complete any associated documentation in relation to the construction of a new fire station at Penketh. The ACFO made a presentation which supplemented the information in the report and provided a visual overview of the site and design proposals.

The Head of Finance provided a summary of the financial implications and the Head of Legal and Democratic Services briefed Members in relation to the procurement and construction contract and the land purchase.

Members discussed the details of the report and were satisfied with the recommendations proposed.

RESOLVED: That

[1] the report be noted; and

[2] Officers be authorised to enter into a design and build contract with ISG plc and complete any associated documentation for the construction of a new fire station at Penketh.