

TAYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE BOARD

Minute of Meeting of the Tayside Fire and Rescue Board held in the Committee Room 1, City Square, Dundee on Monday 31 October 2011 at 11.40am.

Present: Angus Council
Councillors J Whyte, R Myles, H Oswald, M Salmond (substituting for Councillor D Fairweather) and P Valentine.

Dundee City Council
Councillor C Roberts, Bailie H Wright; Councillors D Bowes, A Dawson, E Fordyce and R McCready.

Perth and Kinross Council
Councillors R Band, P Mulheron and L Simpson.

Also in attendance: S Hunter, D Boyle and J Iannetta (all Tayside Fire and Rescue); G Taylor, Clerk, S MacKenzie, Acting Treasurer, and L Brown, Committee Officer (all Perth and Kinross Council); S Torrie, Head of Scottish Fire and Rescue Advisory Unit and C Wyllie, Henderson Loggie.

Apologies: Councillor D Fairweather, Angus Council; Bailie R Wallace, Dundee City Council; Councillors A Maclellan, D Scott and A Stewart (all Perth and Kinross Council).

Councillor R Band, Convener, Presiding

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest made in terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

(i) Tayside Fire and Rescue Board of 22 August 2011

The Minute of Meeting of Tayside Fire and Rescue Board of 22 August 2011 was submitted, approved as a correct record and authorised for signature.

(ii) Perth and Kinross Community Planning Partnership of 11 February 2011

The Minute of Meeting of the Perth and Kinross Community Planning Partnership of 11 February 2011 was submitted and noted.

(iii) Perth and Kinross Community Planning Partnership of 28 February 2011

The Minute of the Special Meeting of the Perth and Kinross Community Planning Partnership of 28 February 2011 was submitted and noted.

(iv) Perth and Kinross Community Planning Partnership of 20 May 2011

The Minute of Meeting of the Perth and Kinross Community Planning Partnership of 20 May 2011 was submitted and noted.

3. AUDIT OF TAYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE BOARD 2010/11 AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2010/11

There was submitted a joint report by the Chief Fire Officer and the Acting Treasurer to the Board (FB/11/38) presenting: (1) the report on the audit of Tayside Fire and Rescue Board for 2010/11 conducted by Henderson Loggie, External Auditors, and (2) the Board's Statement of Accounts for 2010/11.

C Wyllie of Henderson Loggie gave a short presentation on the findings of the audit and answered questions from members.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of the report to members and the Controller of Audit on the 2010/11 audit produced by Henderson Loggie be noted.
- (ii) The Statement of Accounts for 2010/11 be approved.

4. EXPENDITURE MONITORING REPORT 2011/12

There was submitted and noted a joint report by the Chief Fire Officer and Acting Treasurer to the Board (FB/11/39) providing an update on the situation regarding the Board's projected revenue and capital expenditure for 2011/12 as at 30 September 2011.

5. TAYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE QUARTERLY ACTIVITY REPORT JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2011

There was submitted and noted a report by the Chief Fire Officer (FB/11/40) advising of the production of the Tayside Fire and Rescue Quarterly Activity Report for the second quarter of 2011/12.

6. TOWARDS A SAFER TAYSIDE 2012/13 – CONSULTATION PROCESS

There was submitted a report by the Chief Fire Officer (FB/11/41) seeking approval for the publication and distribution of the Towards a Safer Tayside 2012/13 consultation document which will inform key stakeholders of proposed changes to the services delivered by Tayside Fire and Rescue and the way in which the services will be delivered.

Resolved:

The Towards a Safer Tayside 2012/13 consultation document appended to Report FB/11/41 be approved for publication and distribution to key stakeholders.

9. SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION “KEEPING SCOTLAND SAFE AND STRONG: A CONSULTATION ON REFORMING POLICE AND FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES IN SCOTLAND”

There was submitted a report by the Clerk to the Board (FB/11/42) advising members of the Scottish Government consultation on the reform of the police and fire and rescue services in Scotland and seeking approval to submit a consultation response by the Board to the Scottish Government.

Resolved:

- (i) The contents of the consultation response attached at Appendix 1 to Report FB/11/42 be approved as the Board’s response to the Scottish Government consultation document *“Keeping Scotland Safe and Strong: A Consultation on Reforming Police and Fire and Rescue Services in Scotland”*
- (ii) The Clerk to the Board be authorised to submit the response to the Scottish Government by the closing date of 2 November 2011.

10. HUB EAST CENTRAL TERRITORY – APPOINTMENT OF PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT PARTNER AND ESTABLISHMENT OF HUBCO

There was submitted a report by the Chief Fire Officer (FB/11/43) providing an update on the selection and appointment of a private sector partner to work with partner agencies in the East Central Territory Hub and the establishment of Hubco.

Resolved:

- (i) The establishment of Hubco, the investment in Hubco shareholding of £100 and the provision of participants’ working capital of £300,000 through Hub enabling funds from Scottish Government be approved.
- (ii) The selection of Amber Blue as a private sector development partner in Hubco, as recommended by the Hub East Central Territory Programme Board, be approved.
- (iii) The entering into of a Territory Partnering Agreement, Shareholders’ Agreement and Participants’ Agreement with delegated authority for signature to the Chief Fire Officer to execute on behalf of Tayside Fire and Rescue Board be approved.
- (iv) The appointment of Mr Tom Steele, Director of Strategic Projects and Property, NHS Forth Valley as a B Shareholders’ Director on the Board of Hubco be approved.
- (v) The appointment of Miss Catherine McFie, Territory Hub Programme Director, as a B Shareholders’ Representative and Participants’ Representative under and in terms of the Participants’ Agreement with delegated authority to take any actions, grant any approval or consent or sign any notice requiring terms of the Shareholders’ Agreement and Territory Partnering Agreement be approved.
- (vi) The appointment of the Chief Fire Officer as Tayside Fire and Rescue representative on the Territory Partnering Board with authority to make any decisions on its behalf which require to be taken by the Territory Partnering Board pursuant to its constitution be approved.

- (vii) The contents of the Territory Delivery Plan be approved.
- (viii) It be noted that the duties of Tayside Fire and Rescue Board within the Hub East Central Territory Board will be taken over by the Single Scottish Fire Service as its successor in 2013 and that the implications of this are as yet unknown.

IT WAS AGREED THAT THE PUBLIC AND PRESS BE EXCLUDED DURING CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEM IN ORDER TO AVOID THE DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION WHICH WAS EXEMPT IN TERMS OF SCHEDULED 7A TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1973

THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER AND THE ACTING DEPUTY CHIEF FIRE OFFICER LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT.

Prior to consideration of the following item Councillor H Oswald expressed her concern at the late submission of Report FB/11/44. Thereafter, at the request of the Convener, the Clerk to the Board provided members with an explanation as to why the usual timings for the issue of reports had not been met on this occasion; at the conclusion of which the Board proceeded to consider the report.

P1. REFORM OF THE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE IN SCOTLAND – TRANSITIONAL WORKFORCE ARRANGEMENTS

There was submitted a joint report by the Clerk to the Board and the Acting Treasurer to the Board (FB/11/44). The Board heard from the Clerk and the Acting Treasurer to the Board as well as from the Head of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Advisory Unit on the proposal outlined in the report.

Resolved:

- (i) To note the suggestion by the Chief Fire Officer of Tayside Fire and Rescue as detailed in paragraph 3.4 of Report FB/11/41.
- (ii) To request that the Clerk to the Board and the Acting Treasurer to the Board seek the advice on behalf of the Board, as detailed in paragraph 3.5 of Report FB/11/41, reporting back the findings to a future meeting of the Board.