

Minutes of the meeting of the  
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE held in  
the Fire and Rescue Service  
Headquarters, Barmston Mere on  
MONDAY, 18 JULY 2011 at 12.00  
Noon

**Present:**

Mr. G. Cook in the Chair

Councillors Mole, Ord, Padgett, Trueman and Watters and Mr J P Paterson.

**Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillor Bell and Miss Goodwill.

**Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**Minutes**

8. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting held on 27 June 2011 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

**Statement of Accounts 2010/11 (Subject to Audit)**

The Finance Officer submitted a report to provide members with the certified copy of the Authority's Statement of Accounts 2010/2011 (Subject to Audit) as at 30 June 2011 for information.

Dennis Napier spoke to the report and reminded that the audited accounts needed to be approved by members of the Committee at its meeting in September, as the accounts of the Authority must be approved before 30 September of each year.

The Committee had received draft accounts at its meeting held on 27 June and other details were also provided to help explain the main changes to the accounts for 2010/2011 brought about by compliance to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) for the first time.

Members were advised that no changes had been made to the financial statements to those previously distributed, however there were a small number of minor amendments made to the text in the document. Members would also have another opportunity in September to discuss the accounts, when the audited accounts were to be approved.

Members were referred to Page 6 of the Statement of Accounts and noted that the Band D level of Council Tax, after allowing for Revenue Support Grant and National Non Domestic Rates receipts, was set at £73.16 for 2010/11. This represented an increase of 0.91% over the 2009/10 Band D level and was the lowest percentage increase of any Fire and Rescue Authority in England.

Attention was then drawn to the Pension Reserve, in particular the deficit of (£550,000) and members were advised that this cost was initially deducted from the accounts and then credited at a later date once assessed by the Actuary.

Members then noted that the Authority had approved a capital programme for 2010/11 of £4.924m which was subsequently revised to £4.552 million during the year. Actual expenditure for the year was £3.892 million and this was financed mainly from revenue contributions of £3.781 million and also from a small capital grant of £0.021 million.

The financial benefit of the PFI scheme was then acknowledged particularly the annualised efficiency savings of £933,395 in 2010/11.

The Finance Officer reminded the committee that the Local Government Finance Settlement announced in January 2011 set the level of grant received reduced by 9.5% for 2011/12 and a further reduction of 3.4% for 2012/13. This scale of grant losses was a great concern for the Authority.

Referring to the Movement in Reserves Statement members noted the £538,603,000 reserve and commented upon the need to be cautious in how this was spent as some was already earmarked.

The committee then thanked the Finance Officer for the information, and it was:-

9. RESOLVED that the Statement of Accounts 2010/2011 (Subject to Audit) be noted.

(Signed) G.N. COOK,  
Chairman.