

**TYNE AND WEAR FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY
MEETING: 23rd JUNE 2014**

**MEMBERSHIP OF AUTHORITY, APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEES AND
APPOINTMENT OF SPOKESMEN FOR 2014/2015**

Report of the Deputy Clerk to the Authority

MEMBERSHIP OF AUTHORITY

The following appointments have been made by the Constituent Authorities to the Fire and Rescue Authority:-

Gateshead M.B.C.	Councillor G. Haley	(Lab.)
	Councillor P. Mole	(Lab.)
	Councillor C. Ord	(Lib.Dem.)
Newcastle City Council	Councillor N. Forbes	(Lab.)
	Councillor D. Stockdale	(Lab.)
	Councillor H Stephenson	(Lab.)
	Councillor R. Renton	(Lib.Dem.)
North Tyneside M.B.C.	Councillor C. Burdis	(Lab.)
	Councillor J.L.L Harrison	(Lab.)
	Councillor S.E Mortimer	(Con.)
South Tyneside M.B.C.	Councillor J. Bell	(Lab.)
	Councillor J. Perry	(Lab.)
Sunderland City Council	Councillor T. Wright	(Lab.)
	Councillor M. Forbes	(Con.)
	Councillor B. Price	(Lab.)
	Councillor N. Padgett	(Lab.)

Gateshead Council consider their appointments to the Fire Authority at the first Cabinet Meeting of the Municipal Year. This meeting will not take place until Tuesday 24th June, however the effect of sections 31 and 32 of the Local Government Act 1985 is that a Member of the Authority who has continued to be a member of the constituent council will remain a Member of the Fire Authority until receipt of notification of any change.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES AND APPOINTMENT OF SPOKESMEN

The present political balance of 12.2.2 gives a distribution of seats as per Appendix 1 attached.

A copy of the 2013/14 composition of the Authority's Committees and Sub-Committees together with a list of the Authority's spokesmen for 2013/14 is appended at Appendix 2 for information only.

The Authority is reminded of the duty, under the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, to maintain political balance on the Committees and Sub-Committees or to approve "alternative arrangements" pursuant to Section 17 of the 1989 Act. A resolution to approve "alternative arrangements" requires a unanimous decision of the Authority.

On 17 September 2012 the Authority appointed Anthony Atkinson and Sheba Joseph to act as Independent Persons for the Authority, in accordance with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011. The appointments were for two years with an option to extend for a further three years. Anthony Atkinson has advised that he does not wish his office to be extended. In view of the fact that no complaints have been received, it is proposed that at the present time the Authority retains only one Independent Person, namely Sheba Joseph, whose appointment will be extended until midnight 16 September 2017 on the same terms as currently apply (annual allowance £200 plus reasonable expenses).

In addition, members may recall that the Standards Committee was established when the new arrangements under the Localism Act 2011 were introduced, at which time there was some uncertainty as to how the new arrangements would operate. It is now proposed that this Committee be disestablished and the Authority revert to the previous arrangement under which matters relating to ethical standards were included within the remit of the Governance Committee. If the Authority approves this proposal, it is also recommended that it approves the amendment of the terms of reference of the Governance Committee to enable it to undertake those functions currently delegated to the Standards Committee and authorises the Clerk to the Authority, in consultation with the Chairman, to amend the Standing Orders / Terms of Reference accordingly.

Attached at Appendix 3 is the annotated list with appropriate Political balance requirements for 2014/2015 for consideration by Members.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Authority is recommended to:-

- (i) note the membership of the Authority for 2014/2015;
- (ii) consider the appointment of Members to the Authority's Committees and Sub-Committees;
- (iii) consider the appointment of Chairman and Vice Chairman to each of the Authority's Sub-Committees
- (iv) agree the retention of only one Independent Person, namely Sheba Joseph, whose appointment will be extended until midnight 16 September 2017 on the same terms as currently apply (annual allowance £200 plus reasonable expenses).
- (v) disestablish the Standards Committee and revert to the previous arrangement under which matters relating to ethical standards were included within the remit of the Governance Committee. If the Authority approves this proposal, it is also recommended that it approves the amendment of the terms of reference of the Governance Committee to enable it to undertake those functions currently delegated to the Standards Committee and authorises the Clerk to the Authority, in consultation with the Chairman, to amend the Standing Orders / Terms of Reference accordingly.
- (vi) appoint the Spokesmen for Constituent Councils for the purpose of answering questions from Members of those Councils on the discharge of its functions;
- (vii) appoint Lead and Support Member roles;
- (viii) appoint two Members as the Authority's representatives on the Local Government Association;
- (ix) appoint a Member to the Local Government Association Urban Commission;
- (x) appoint two Members and two Substitute Members to the Association of Metropolitan Fire and Rescue Authorities (AMFRA); and

BACKGROUND PAPERS

The undermentioned Background Papers refer to the subject matter of the above report:

- Notification received from the Constituent Authorities.

TYNE AND WEAR FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY										APPENDIX 1
Allocation of Committee Seats - June 2014										
								totals check		
		Labour		Liberal Dem		Conservative				
Authority Composition		12		2		2		16		
	total seats									
Committee/Sub-Committee		decimal	seats	decimal	seats	decimal	seats			
Governance Committee#	6	4.5000	4	0.7500	1	0.7500	1	6.0000	6	
Policy and Performance Committee	6	4.5000	5	0.7500	0	0.7500	1	6.0000	6	
Human Resources	8	6.0000	6	1.0000	1	1.0000	1	8.0000	8	
Appointments	7	5.2500	5	0.8750	1	0.8750	1	7.0000	7	
Disciplinary Appeals Committee	5	3.7500	4	0.6250	1	0.6250	0	5.0000	5	
Personnel Appeals*	6	4.5000	5	0.7500	0	0.7500	1	6.0000	6	
Emergency Sub	3	2.2500	2	0.3750	1	0.3750	0	3.0000	3	
Totals	41	30.750	31	5.125	5	5.125	5	41.00	41	
								41.00		
#Also has 3 Independent Members										
*Should not be Members of Human Resources Committee										

TYNE AND WEAR FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

COMMITTEE AND SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP 2013/2014

(A) Authority Committees and Sub Committees

(i) Governance Committee (6 seats – balance 4:1:1)

Independent Chairman	(Mr. G. Cook)
Independent Member	(Mr. Knowles)
Independent Member	(Ms. G. Goodwill)
Councillor Harrison	(Lab.)
Councillor Mole	(Lab.)
Councillor Padgett	(Lab.)
Councillor Price	(Lab.)
Councillor M. Forbes	(Cons)
Councillor Ord	(Lib. Dem.)

(i) Standards Committee (6 seats – balance 4:1:1)

Councillor Bell	(Lab.)
Councillor Haley	(Lab.)
Councillor Padgett	(Lab.)
Councillor Harrison	(Lab.)
Councillor Mortimer	(Cons.)
Councillor Renton	(Lib. Dem.)

(iii) Policy and Performance Committee (6 seats – balance 5:0:1)

Councillor N. Forbes	(Lab.)
Councillor Stockdale	(Lab.)
Councillor McAtominey	(Lab.)
Councillor Padgett	(Lab.)
Councillor Burdis	(Lab.)
Councillor M. Forbes	(Con.)

(iv) Human Resources Committee (8 seats – balance 6:1:1)

Councillor Bell	(Lab.)
Councillor Haley	(Lab.)
Councillor Stephenson	(Lab.)
Councillor Mole	(Lab.)
Councillor Price	(Lab.)
Councillor Wright	(Lab.)
Councillor Renton	(Lib.Dem.)
Councillor Mortimer	(Con.)

(v) Appointments Committee (7 seats – balance 5:1:1)

Councillor Wright	(Lab.)
Councillor N. Forbes	(Lab.)
Councillor Bell	(Lab.)
Councillor Haley	(Lab.)
Councillor Stephenson	(Lab.)
Councillor Ord	(Lib.Dem.)
Councillor Mortimer	(Con.)

(vi) Disciplinary Appeals Committee (5 seats – balance 4:0:1)

Chair of the Authority	(Councillor Wright)
Vice-Chair of the Authority	(Councillor N. Forbes)
Chair of Personnel Committee	(Councillor Bell)
Labour Member	(Councillor Harrison)
Conservative Member	(Councillor Mortimer)

(vii) Personnel Appeals Sub-Committee (6 seats – balance 4:1:1)
(N.B. Should not be Members of Personnel Committee)

Councillor Stockdale	(Lab.)
Councillor Padgett	(Lab.)
Councillor N. Forbes	(Lab.)
Councillor McAtominey	(Lab.)
Councillor Ord	(Lib.Dem.)
Councillor M. Forbes	(Con.)

(viii) Emergency Sub-Committee (3 seats – balance 2:1:0)

Chairman of the Authority	(Councillor Wright)
Vice-Chairman	(Councillor N. Forbes)
Liberal Democrat Member	(Councillor Ord)

(B) Appointment Of Spokesmen

Nominations for spokesmen are required for the purpose of answering questions from Members of the Constituent Councils on the discharge of the Authority's functions:-

Gateshead	-	Councillor Mole
Newcastle	-	Councillor N. Forbes
North Tyneside	-	Councillor Burdis
South Tyneside	-	Councillor Bell
Sunderland	-	Councillor Wright

(C) Lead Member Roles

Nominations are required for Lead Members and Support Members:

(i) Community Engagement and Partnerships

Lead Member	-	Councillor Bell
Support Member	-	Councillor Haley

(ii) Diversity and Equality

Lead Member	-	Councillor N. Forbes
Support Member	-	Councillor Stockdale

(iii) Performance Management

Lead Member	-	Councillor Wright
Support Member	-	Councillor N. Forbes

(D) Local Government Association

Councillor Wright
Councillor Haley



Substitute – Councillor Burdis

(E) Local Government Association Urban Commission

Councillor Wright

(F) Association of Metropolitan Fire and Rescue Authorities (AMFRA)

Councillor Wright

Councillor Padgett

Substitute Member – Councillors N. Forbes and Haley

APPENDIX 3

TYNE AND WEAR FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

COMMITTEE AND SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP 2014/2015

(A) Authority Committees and Sub Committees

(i) Governance Committee (6 seats – balance 4:1:1)

Independent Chairman	(Mr. G. Cook)
Independent Member	(Mr. M. Knowles)
Independent Member	(Ms. G. Goodwill)
Councillor	(Lab.)
Councillor	(Lab.)
Councillor	(Lab.)
Councillor	(Lab.)
Councillor	(Cons)
Councillor	(Lib. Dem.)

(ii) Policy and Performance Committee (6 seats – balance 5:0:1)

Councillor	(Lab.)
Councillor	(Lab.)
Councillor	(Lab.)
Councillor	(Lab.)
Councillor	(Lab.)
Councillor	(Con.)

Chairman –
Vice Chairman –

(iii) Human Resources Committee (8 seats – balance 6:1:1)

Councillor	(Lab.)
Councillor	(Lab.)
Councillor	(Lab.)
Councillor	(Lab.)
Councillor	(Lab.)
Councillor	(Lab.)
Councillor	(Lib.Dem.)
Councillor	(Con.)

Chairman –
Vice Chairman –

(iv) Appointments Committee (7 seats – balance 5:1:1)

Councillor	(Lab.)
Councillor	(Lab.)
Councillor	(Lab.)
Councillor	(Lab.)
Councillor	(Lab.)
Councillor	(Lib.Dem.)
Councillor	(Con.)

Chairman –
Vice Chairman –

(v) Disciplinary Appeals Committee (5 seats – balance 4:1:0)

Chair of the Authority	(Councillor)
Vice-Chair of the Authority	(Councillor)
Chair of Personnel Committee	(Councillor)
Labour Member	(Councillor)
Liberal Democrat Member	(Councillor)

Chairman –
Vice Chairman –

(vi) Personnel Appeals Sub-Committee (6 seats – balance 5:0:1)
(N.B. Should not be Members of Personnel Committee)

Councillor	(Lab.)
Councillor	(Lab.)
Councillor	(Lab.)
Councillor	(Lab.)
Councillor	(Lab.)
Councillor	(Con.)

Chairman –
Vice Chairman –

(vii) Emergency Sub-Committee (3 seats – balance 2:1:0)

Chairman of the Authority	(Councillor)
Vice-Chairman	(Councillor)
Liberal Democrat Member	(Councillor)

Chairman –
Vice Chairman –

(B) Appointment Of Spokesmen

Nominations for spokesmen are required for the purpose of answering questions from Members of the Constituent Councils on the discharge of the Authority's functions:-

Gateshead	-	Councillor
Newcastle	-	Councillor
North Tyneside	-	Councillor
South Tyneside	-	Councillor
Sunderland	-	Councillor

(C) Lead Member Roles

Nominations are required for Lead Members and Support Members:

(i) Community Engagement and Partnerships

Lead Member	-	Councillor
Support Member	-	Councillor

(ii) Diversity and Equality

Lead Member	-	Councillor
Support Member	-	Councillor

(iii) Performance Management

Lead Member	-	Councillor
Support Member	-	Councillor

(D) Local Government Association

Councillor
Councillor



(E) Local Government Association Urban Commission

Councillor

(F) Association of Metropolitan Fire and Rescue Authorities (AMFRA)

Councillor

Councillor

Substitute Member - Councillor