

TYNE AND WEAR FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

Item No. 4

MEETING: 18 NOVEMBER 2019

**SUBJECT: MERITORIOUS CONDUCT – FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY
AWARD**

**REPORT OF THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER/CHIEF EXECUTIVE (THE CLERK TO THE
AUTHORITY)**

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Bravery and Meritorious Conduct Awards Scheme provides for Members of the Authority to recognise individuals who perform commendable acts of bravery, gallantry or community actions.
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is for the Authority to recognise the brave and meritorious actions taken by Mr Paul Stainthorpe during a member of the public's attempt to take their own life.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At the commencement of today's meeting, the Chairman of the Authority, Councillor Tony Taylor, will present an Award for brave and meritorious conduct to Mr Stainthorpe in recognition of his actions in rescuing a member of the public from the River Tyne, Newcastle. If not for the actions of Mr Stainthorpe there could well have been a tragic end to the incident.
- 2.2 On 27 August 2019 a member of the public entered the River Tyne from the Tyne Bridge, Newcastle. Mr Stainthorpe having witnessed this whilst running along the quayside, without any due consideration for his own safety, entered the water and preformed a swimming rescue.
- 2.3 Mr Stainthorpe then assisted the casualty to swim to the riverside where he safely and securely held them both to the ladders on the quayside until the arrival of the emergency services.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no financial implications in respect of this report.

5 EQUALITY AND FAIRNESS IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no equality and fairness implications in respect of this report.

6 HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no health and safety implications in respect of this report.

7 RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 The Authority is recommended to:

- a) Endorse the Award for Meritorious Action; and
- b) Congratulate and thank Mr Stainthorpe for his actions.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

- Bravery and Meritorious Conduct Policy