

MERSEYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY			
MEETING OF THE:	POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE		
DATE:	27 JULY 2017	REPORT NO:	CFO/052/17
PRESENTING OFFICER	JANET HENSHAW		
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	JANET HENSHAW	REPORT AUTHOR:	JANET HENSHAW
OFFICERS CONSULTED:	CHIEF FIRE OFFICER, DEMOCRATIC SERVICES MANAGER		
TITLE OF REPORT:	REPRESENTATION OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR MERSEYSIDE ON MERSEYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY		

APPENDICES:	
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Purpose of Report

1. To request that Members approve the appointment of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Merseyside to Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority.

Recommendation

2. That Members;
 - a. Approve the appointment of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Merseyside (The PCC) to Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority (MFRA) and
 - b. Instruct the Monitoring Officer to amend the Constitution and make all other legal and practical arrangements to ensure that the appointment takes place without delay.

Introduction and Background

3. As Members are aware the Policing and Crime Act 2017 ("The Act") requires both the Police service and Fire and Rescue Authorities to keep opportunities for collaboration under review in the interests of efficiency and effectiveness.
4. The PCC currently sits on the joint Fire and Police Committee which was established well before the Act gained Royal Assent, in order to try to progress collaboration opportunities between the two organisations in advance of any statutory obligation to do so. However although this has been a successful endeavour, the Committee does not hold any decision making powers.
5. The Act provides for a PCC to become a full voting and speaking member of the Fire and Rescue Authority. This is known as the "Representation" model

and can be achieved by the PCC making a request to be appointed to the Authority.

6. As part of the considerations in relation to the proposed reform of MFRA, the Chair extended a formal invitation to the PCC to make such a request on 23rd June 2017 which would give more involvement in decision making. This can only enhance working relationships, improve collaboration and benefit the communities of Merseyside.
7. The PCC has now met this request by letter accepting the Chair's invitation subject to approval by the Authority. Members are therefore asked to approve the appointment of the PCC for Merseyside to MFRA and instruct the Monitoring Officer to amend the Constitution accordingly.
8. When the Appointment is made the Monitoring Officer will inform the PCC in writing and will discuss the arrangements directly with the PCC so that a warm welcome to MFRA is extended and all legal and practical issues are resolved.

Equality and Diversity Implications

9. There are no direct equality or diversity implications contained within this report

Staff Implications

10. There are no direct staff implications contained within this report

Legal Implications

11. The Policing and Crime Act 2017, section 7 provides for the Representation model for collaboration. The Local Government Act 1972, the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the Local Government Act 2000 and the Localism Act 2011 have been amended accordingly.

Financial Implications & Value for Money

12. The PCC would have access to the Members Allowance Scheme if she wishes and all other protocols will apply as to any other Member of the Authority.

Risk Management, Health & Safety, and Environmental Implications

13. There are no direct risk, health and safety or environmental implications contained within this report

Contribution to Our Mission: *Safer Stronger Communities – Safe Effective Firefighters*

14. The representation model can only benefit the communities of Merseyside as it will enable closer working between police and fire and rescue services.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

GLOSSARY OF TERMS
