

## MERSEYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

<b>MEETING OF THE:</b>	<b>AUTHORITY</b>		
<b>DATE:</b>	<b>2 OCTOBER 2014</b>	<b>REPORT NO:</b>	<b>CFO/100/14</b>
<b>PRESENTING OFFICER</b>	<b>CLERK TO THE AUTHORITY</b>		
<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:</b>	<b>JANET HENSHAW, CLERK TO THE AUTHORITY</b>	<b>REPORT AUTHOR:</b>	<b>HELEN PEEK, DEMOCRATIC SERVICES MANAGER</b>
<b>OFFICERS CONSULTED:</b>			
<b>TITLE OF REPORT:</b>	<b>CHANGE OF APPOINTMENT TO THE AUTHORITY</b>		

<b>APPENDICES:</b>	<b>NONE</b>
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### Purpose of Report

1. To inform Members of the change of appointment by Knowsley Council to Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2014.

### Recommendation

2. That the Authority;
  - a. Note Councillor Tony Newman's resignation from and final date of appointment to, Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority as of midnight 30<sup>th</sup> September 2014.
  - b. Note the appointment of Councillor Ray Halpin (Labour), as Knowsley Council's representative to Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority, with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2014.
  - c. Nominates a Member appointed by Knowsley Council, to replace Councillor Newman, as the Member responsible for answering questions on the discharge of the functions of Merseyside Fire & Rescue Authority, within their own Council.
  - d. Nominate a Labour Member to Policy and Resources Committee.

### Introduction and Background

3. Councillor Tony Newman has been appointed to the Authority since May 1994, by Knowsley Council, where he represents Whiston South Ward. He is a Member of the Labour Group and to date has held responsibility within

Knowsley Council for answering questions on the discharge of functions of the Authority.

4. Councillor Newman has been a key Member for Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority, being the Leader of the Labour Group and appointed Chair of the Authority from 2004 to 2012.
5. Councillor Newman has taken the decision to resign from his appointment to Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority, and wrote to the Chair and the Clerk of the Authority to tender his resignation on 28<sup>th</sup> August 2014.
6. In compliance with the Local Government Act 1985
  - a. Councillor Newman has given a 28 day notice period, therefore his final day of service on this Authority will be 30<sup>th</sup> September 2014; and
  - b. Knowsley Council have written to confirm that Councillor Ray Halpin, Labour Party, who represents Shevington ward, will be the Member appointed to Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority to replace Councillor Newman, commencing 1<sup>st</sup> October 2014.
7. The resignation of Councillor Newman will leave a position on the Policy and Resources Committee to be filled by a Labour Member.
8. There is a requirement under Section 41 of the Local Government Act 1985 for the Authority to nominate Members of the Authority from each constituent Council to answer questions within their Council on the discharge of the functions of the Fire & Rescue Authority.
9. It is at the discretion of the Authority who it appoints in each case for this purpose and there is no requirement that the nominee should be from the main political group either on the Authority or within the constituent Council.
10. The Members nominated at the Annual Meeting 2014 under Section 41 were:-

Knowsley	-	Councillor Tony Newman
Liverpool	-	Councillor Dave Hanratty
Sefton	-	Councillor Les Byrom
St. Helens	-	Councillor Linda Maloney
Wirral	-	Councillor Denise Roberts
11. The Authority are now required to appoint a Knowsley Councillor to answer questions within their Council on the discharge of functions of Mersey Fire and Rescue Authority.

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### **Equality and Diversity Implications**

12. None arising directly out of this report.

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**Staff Implications**

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13. There are no staff implications arising from this report.

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**Legal Implications**

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14. Compliance with the Local Government Act 1985 section 32 regarding a Member's resignation from a Joint Authority to which they are appointed by their Council, has been met and appropriate notice period adhered to.
15. The Authority is required under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 to have a political balance and to allocate seats accordingly.
16. By appointing Authority Members from each district council to answer questions on the discharge of functions, the Authority will be meeting their duties under Section 41 of the Local Government Act 1985.

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**Financial Implications & Value for Money**

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17. None arising directly out of this report.

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**Risk Management, Health & Safety, and Environmental Implications**

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18. None arising directly out of this report.

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

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19. The Authority is constituted by Members appointed by Merseyside's five District Councils. The District Councils appoint Members to the Authority to reflect and represent the constituency of each district of Merseyside. Those appointed to the Authority consider business and make decisions in the best interest of the community which the Authority serves.

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**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

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**CFO/065/14 CHANGE OF APPOINTMENT TO THE AUTHORITY**  
**CFO/070/14 CHANGE OF APPOINTMENT TO THE AUTHORITY**

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**GLOSSARY OF TERMS**

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