

**MINUTES** of the **STAFF APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE** meeting held at Endeavour House, Ipswich on Tuesday 22 November 2016 at 1.30 p.m.

Present: Councillors Peter Gardiner, Matthew Hicks, Bill Mountford, Richard Smith MVO and Jane Storey.

Supporting officers present: Claire Gieth, HR & OD Programmes Lead, Michelle Davies, HR Business Partner (Public Health and Protection) and Sue Morgan, Head of Democratic Services.

**114. Election of Chairman**

Councillor Richard Smith proposed and Councillor Jane Storey seconded the appointment of Councillor Matthew Hicks as Chairman for the meeting. There were no other nominations.

**Decision:** Councillor Matthew Hicks was elected as Chairman for the meeting.

**115. Apologies for absence and substitutions**

Councillor Peter Gardiner was present to represent the Labour Group and Councillor Bill Mountford was present to represent the UKIP Group for this meeting. There were no apologies.

**116. Declarations of interest and dispensations**

There were no declarations of interest made and no dispensations given.

**117. Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting on 28 October 2016 were approved as an accurate record and subsequently signed by the Chairman.

**118. Business Case for the Temporary Appointment of a Deputy Chief Fire Officer**

At Agenda Item 5, a report requested by the Chief Fire Officer sought the Committee's approval to the temporary appointment of a Deputy Chief Fire Officer for Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service and the terms of appointment.

Members considered the content of the report including the current unknown implications of the Policing and Crime Bill, including opportunities for Blue Light collaboration and the Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner's response to proposed powers. In response to a question it was confirmed that it was not possible to offer a lower salary to the Deputy County Fire Officer than that paid to

the existing postholder and that Suffolk Fire Service senior staff were paid the lower end of the scale when compared to other Fire Services.

Councillor Hicks, as Cabinet Member for Public Protection and Health asked to put on record his thanks to Mark Sanderson for the sterling service he had given to the Suffolk Fire Service and felt that as Dan Fearn had only been in Suffolk for a short time a 12 month temporary appointment as Deputy Chief Fire Officer would give him a great opportunity and is a logical approach for the service.

**Decision:** The Committee agreed unanimously to

- a) Approve the business case for the appointment of a temporary Deputy Chief Fire Officer.
- b) Approve the salary for this role.
- c) Agree that Dan Fearn, the current Assistant Chief Fire Officer, is appointed to the role of Deputy Chief Fire Officer on a 12-month basis.

**Reason for Decision:** Councillors present were happy with the recommendations in the report for the reasons given.

**Alternative Proposals:** None were considered.

**Declarations of interest:** None declared.

**Dispensations:** None reported.

The meeting closed at 1.36 p.m.

Chairman