

LANCASHIRE COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY

Meeting to be held on 24 April 2017

STATUS OF COUNCILLORS AND URGENT DECISION ARRANGEMENTS AT ELECTION TIME

Contact for further information:

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Executive Summary

The Authority is advised that the Clerk has received formal notification from Lancashire County Council (LCC) that its County Councillors cease to be Members of the Combined Fire Authority (CFA) during an election year at the point when they retire from their term of office as governed by section 7(1) of the Local government Act 1972. This applies irrespective of whether they are re-elected and covers the period up to the County Council's Annual General Meeting (AGM) which for this year is from 9 May 2017 - 25 May 2017.

In line with the Members' Allowance Scheme, the payment of basic and special responsibility allowances shall be paid pro rata. Allowances for County Councillors will therefore cease with effect from 9 May 2017. County Councillors who are appointed to serve on the CFA at LCCs AGM will receive their basic allowance from 25 May 2017 onwards with special responsibility allowances payable from the Authority's AGM as appropriate.

The Clerk has considered the implications of this on the status of councillors representing the unitary authorities and has determined that these arrangements shall apply to all constituent authorities during election years.

In addition, the Authority needs to ensure there are adequate arrangements to enable any urgent decisions to be taken between the date of the County Council Elections (Thursday 4 May 2017) and the CFA Annual Meeting (Monday 19 June 2017) in the event of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman not being re-elected.

Recommendations

The Authority is asked to:

- (i) Note the status of Lancashire County Councillors during the period following an election and the date of the County Council's Annual General Meeting including the impact on the payment of Members' Allowances; and
- (ii) Authorise the Chief Fire Officer and the Clerk to the Authority to take any urgent decisions upon any matters arising between the date of the Lancashire County Council elections and the CFA Annual Meeting, in the event of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman not being re-elected.

Information

As set out in the Executive Summary.

Business Risk

The Authority needs to make arrangements for the delegation of urgent decisions for business continuity purposes.

Environmental Impact

None

Equality and Diversity Implications

None

HR Implications

None

Financial Implications

As determined by the Members' Allowance Scheme.

**Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985
List of Background Papers**

Paper	Date	Contact
Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate:		