

ESSEX FIRE AUTHORITY

Essex County Fire & Rescue Service



MEETING

AGENDA ITEM

Essex Fire Authority

5

MEETING DATE

28 June 2017

REPORT NUMBER

EFA/076/17

SUBJECT

Change in Membership of Essex Fire Authority

REPORT BY

The Clerk and Monitoring Officer

PRESENTED BY

The Clerk and Monitoring Officer

SUMMARY

Members are asked to note a change in Southend Borough Council's representation on the Authority in the light of a change to that Council's political balance following a recent by-election and Group membership changes. This report details the effect of the change on the political balance of the Authority, and therefore also on the membership of committees.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Members of Essex Fire Authority are asked to:

1. Note the decision by Southend Borough Council to appoint Councillor Ron Woodley, Independent, to membership of Essex Fire Authority in place of Councillor Julian Ware-Lane, Labour.
2. Note that Councillor Ron Woodley has joined the Non-aligned Group.
3. Note the updated political make-up of the Authority.
4. Note the impact of the change on the membership of committees, including the withdrawal of a place on the Audit, Governance and Review Committee currently allocated to the Labour Group (held by Councillor Julian Ware-Lane), and the allocation to Councillor Woodley of a place on the Audit, Governance and Review Committee.
5. Note any other associated changes to committee etc memberships as confirmed at the meeting.
6. Note that Councillor Martin Terry (Independent) has replaced Councillor David Norman MBE (Labour) as a named substitute.

7. Note that the changes will be incorporated into the Authority's Constitution as required.

SOUTHEND BOROUGH COUNCIL REPRESENTATION ON THE AUTHORITY

Southend Borough Council has carried out a review of its political proportionality in the light of the outcome of a by-election held on 25 May 2017, along with some Group membership changes. This has resulted in a reallocation of the Council's 3 places on Essex Fire Authority, such that a place has been withdrawn from the Labour Group, in favour of an Independent Member. The Council has therefore appointed Councillor Ron Woodley (Independent) to membership of the Authority in place of Councillor Julian Ware-Lane (Labour). Confirmation has been received that Councillor Woodley will be joining the Non-aligned Group on the Authority.

The political make-up of the Authority is now as set out below:

Conservative	18
Labour	2
Liberal Democrat	2
Non-aligned	3
Total	25

IMPACT ON COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

The change in the Authority's political composition has impacted on the membership of Committees as set out below:

Audit, Governance and Review Committee

The Non-aligned Group is entitled to an additional place on the Audit, Governance and Review Committee, from the Labour Group (previously held by Councillor Julian Ware-Lane).

The future composition of the Committee will be:

15 Members – 11 Conservative Members, 1 Labour Member, 1 Liberal Democrat Member, 2 Non-aligned Members

The Authority is therefore asked to appoint Councillor Woodley to the Audit, Governance and Review Committee and to confirm any further changes to Committee etc memberships which may be announced at the meeting.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk management issues identified in this particular report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications associated with this particular report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The allocation of places on committees has been undertaken with due regard to the law relating to political proportionality.

USE OF RESOURCES

There are no use of resource implications associated with this particular report.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct environmental implications associated with this particular report.

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct equality implications associated with this particular report.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985	
List of appendices attached to this paper:	
List of background documents (not attached):	
Proper Officer:	The Clerk and Monitoring Officer, Shirley Jarlett
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