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Item 8

Towards a Dorset & Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Authority

MEETING	Shadow Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority
DATE OF MEETING	23 June 2015
SUBJECT OF THE REPORT	Terms of Reference for a Shadow Policy and Resources Committee
STATUS OF REPORT	For open publication
PURPOSE OF REPORT	To recommend the adoption of the terms of reference for a Shadow Policy and Resources Committee to operate during the Authority's shadow year.
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	<p>Members have received on this agenda the Combination Order establishing the new Combined Fire and Rescue Authority. The new Authority takes on its responsibility for the delivery of services in Dorset and Wiltshire on 1 April 2016. From 1 April 2015 the combination scheme came into force for the purposes of constituting the new Authority:</p> <p>“solely for the performance by that Authority of any functions necessary for bringing the scheme into full operation on 1 April 2016 ...”</p> <p>The timing of local elections and the need for the constituent Councils to appoint members to the Shadow Authority have prevented an earlier first meeting. Until now the combination process has been overseen on behalf of the Dorset and the Wiltshire and Swindon Fire Authorities first of all by a Combination Oversight Board and more recently by a Joint Committee of the two Authorities.</p> <p>Now that the Shadow Authority is in place it takes the place of the two Fire Authorities for the purposes of bringing the combination scheme into full operation, though not any aspect of on-going service delivery the responsibility for which will remain with the Dorset and the Wiltshire Fire Authorities until 1 April 2016. It is suggested therefore that the functions of the Joint Committee should be taken on instead by a Committee of the Shadow Authority, drawn from the membership of and with terms of reference set by the Shadow Authority.</p>

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	Consistent with the Joint Committee arrangements, which have worked well, it is suggested that a Shadow Policy and Resources Committee should have a membership of 12 and that the Chairmanship should be as set out on the agenda sheet. Suggested terms of reference are appended to this report.
RISK ASSESSMENT	None
COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT	No separate impact assessment has been carried out in bringing forward this report.
BUDGET IMPLICATIONS	No separate budget implications have been identified.
RECOMMENDATIONS	That members approve the terms of reference and membership of a Shadow Policy and Resources Committee.
BACKGROUND PAPERS	None
APPENDICES	1. Terms of reference for a Shadow Policy and Resources Committee.
REPORT ORIGINATOR AND CONTACT	Jonathan Mair, Monitoring Officer