

KEY DECISION NOTICE (MAYOR OF GM)

Decision Maker:	Date of Decision:
Mayor	27 April 2018
Date Decision Published:	Date Decision will come into force:
1 May 2018	9 May 2018
Subject: GMCA Governance Review – Fire Committee	

Details of the Decision:

The decision is that:
<p>That the Mayor’s decision, following consultation with GMCA members is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To pursue the amendment of the GM PCC Order to provide for the Deputy Mayor PCC to exercise delegable Fire and Rescue functions. • To include advice and support on Fire and Rescue issues in so far as possible as matters for the Police and Crime Panel to consider. • To seek permission to rename the Police and Crime Panel as the Police, Crime and Fire Panel. • To disestablish the Fire Committee • To make the appropriate representation and appointments to the bodies set out below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Directorships (two) to North West Fire Control Limited – the local authority controlled company established by the four fire and rescue authorities for Cheshire, Cumbria, Lancashire and Greater Manchester to perform the statutory functions of emergency call handling and mobilisation of fire and rescue resources ○ The Local Government Association in relation to Fire and Rescue – the forum for national policy development in relation to fire and rescue ○ The North West Fire Forum – the aim of this advisory forum is to influence the effectiveness and efficiency of fire and rescue service activities to deliver value ○ The Association of Metropolitan Fire and Rescue Authorities – a lobbying organisation for metropolitan fire and rescue authorities

The reasons for the decision are:

The Mayor has announced a whole service review of fire and rescue including leadership and culture.

He has also considered the role of the Fire Committee, in consultation with the CA members, and whether an advisory body in the existing form of representatives from all Districts with this sole function is required, as in particular the scrutiny function now rests with the Corporate Scrutiny Committee, advice on community safety matters can be provided by the Police and Crime Panel and the Committee has no delegated functions. The Mayor is also cognisant of the issues identified in the Kerslake Report on co-ordination and communication between the emergency services.

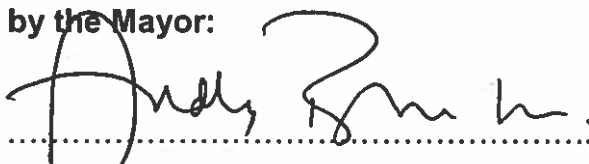
The Mayor has considered that, in the light of the principles of good governance set out in the report to GMCA of 27th April, and the recommendations of the Kerslake Review, it would provide clearer, more transparent and accountable leadership for the PCC and Fire functions of the Mayor for the advisory body functions to rest with the Deputy PCC, Police and Crime Panel and CA members as appropriate. The decision making would rest with the Mayor and he is accountable both to Scrutiny and directly to the public for the exercise of those functions.

The Mayor has also considered the longer term options that would enable him to delegate those decisions that can be delegated instead of continuing with an advisory Fire Committee. The most appropriate of these would be to request the Secretary of State to amend the Fire Order to enable the Mayor to delegate fire and rescue functions to the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, the Secretary of State may also provide for the Police and Crime Panel to have oversight of all of those functions. This would require an amendment to the existing Orders.

Prior to an order being made the Mayor will hold all the functions himself and take advice and support from officers, GMCA members and the Police and Crime Panel on matters of Community Safety. The Deputy Mayor (PCC) will continue to provide advice and support and Scrutiny will remain with the Corporate Issues Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

Agreed by the Mayor:

Signed:



Date: 1/5/2018

NOTE: Decisions made by the Mayor will also be reported to the GMCA at its next meeting (except where the decision concerned was taken openly by the Mayor while sitting within a formal meeting of the GMCA). Non Mayoral Decisions made by Officers will be available for public inspection at the GMCA's offices and on the GMCA's website.

