



**URGENT BUSINESS TO BE DETERMINED BETWEEN FIRE AUTHORITY MEETINGS
PROCEDURAL MATTERS (PARAGRAPHS 4.87 TO 4.89 OF CONSTITUTION)**

Contact Officer: Andrew Leadbetter, Director of Governance and Commissioning
07824 529534

Date: 16th June 2020

MATTER REQUIRING SUPPORT

**ADOPTION OF REMOTE MEETING RULES TO ALLOW THE FIRE AUTHORITY AND ITS
COMMITTEES TO MEET**

COUNCILLORS WHOSE SUPPORT IS SOUGHT

Councillor Bob Rudd, Councillor Stuart Parker and Councillor Mike Biggin

COUNCILLORS COPIED IN FOR INFORMATION

Councillor Stef Nelson

SUPPORT IS SOUGHT BY

The Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive, the Monitoring Officer and the Treasurer

INFORMATION

The Coronavirus pandemic has had a significant impact on the way that local authorities are able to carry out their activities, including meetings. Legislation introduced by the Government enables local authorities (which includes the Fire Authority) to hold meetings remotely including by (but not limited to) telephone conferencing, video conferencing, live webcast, and live interactive streaming. The legislation applies automatically to the arrangements that are adopted by the Fire Authority for remote meetings and applies notwithstanding any other legislation or pre-existing rules that govern the meeting arrangements of the Fire Authority.

In order to facilitate remote meetings of the Fire Authority and its committees etc. it has been necessary to consider the technology, procedures and rules that would be required. The attached Remote Meeting Rules supplement the existing rules in the Constitution as well as replacing, amending or suspending some of the existing rules. The Remote Meeting Rules have been framed to take account of the legislation. Where there is a conflict between the Remote Meeting Rules and pre-existing rules the Remote Meeting Rules will take precedence.

The Remote Meeting Rules are intended to have effect until such time as the Fire Authority determines, or until the law changes, whichever is the earliest. The Remote Meeting Rules provide that the Director of Governance and Commissioning can make changes, as necessary.

REASON FOR URGENCY

The Fire Authority's Constitution does not envisage remote meetings and it is important that the Fire Authority has appropriate rules in place to enable those meetings to take place.

SUPPORT

I support the proposal to adopt the Remote Meeting Rules appended to this document to take effect on 19th June 2020.

Confirmed	Cllr Bob Rudd.....	Dated16 th June 2020.....
Confirmed	Cllr Mike Biggin.....	Dated19 th June 2020.....
Confirmed	Cllr Stuart Parker.....	Dated17 th June 2020.....

Notes:

If you do not support the proposal, please amend this form and return it to the Andrew Leadbetter.

In the current situation, an email response will suffice whether you are in support, or not.