

REPORT REFERENCE NO.	DSFRA/21/24
MEETING	DEVON & SOMERSET FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY
DATE OF MEETING	21 SEPTEMBER 2021
SUBJECT OF REPORT	RESOURCES COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE AND COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS
LEAD OFFICER	Director of Governance & Digital Services
RECOMMENDATIONS	<p><i>(a). that the proposed revisions to the Terms of Reference of the Resources Committee as set out in this report be approved;</i></p> <p><i>(b). That the Authority determines appointments to the vacancies on the Resources Committee and any consequential vacancies, the term of office to be until the Authority annual meeting in 2022.</i></p>
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	Nil.
EQUALITY RISKS AND BENEFITS ANALYSIS	Not applicable
APPENDICES	Nil.
BACKGROUND PAPERS	Report DSFRA/21/13 (Schedule of Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies) to the Authority annual meeting on 29 June 2021 (and the Minutes of that meeting).

1. **RESOURCES COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE – ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGY**

- 1.1. At its meeting on 23 October 2020, the Authority approved an Environmental Strategy for the Service (Minute DSFRA/53 refers. The Authority also resolved:
- “that the Audit & Performance Review Committee, in consultation with the Authority’s Climate Change and Sustainability Champions, be asked to develop appropriate targets and/or Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to facilitate monitoring by the Committee of progress in implementing the Service Environmental Strategy.”
- 1.2. At its annual meeting on 29 June 2021, however, the Authority approved a revised Committee structure with terms of reference more focussed in discharging a scrutiny role and holding officers to account for delivering against approved Service priorities and objectives. The revised terms of reference provide for individual committees to undertake performance monitoring in areas most aligned to the remit of the committee in question, rather than a single committee having oversight of all Service performance as used to be the case with the previous Audit & Performance Review Committee.
- 1.3. Responsibility for monitoring performance against the Environmental Strategy is currently unallocated. Amongst other things, the strategy will address the environmental impact of the resources the Service is using and how these are being used. Consequently, it is felt that responsibility for monitoring performance against the approved Environmental Strategy should rest with the Resources Committee.
- 1.4. Accordingly, the following additions to the Terms of Reference of the Resources Committee are proposed:
- Advisory only***
Acting as a Working Party, to consider with relevant officers the development of the Environmental Strategy and associated potential performance measures for forthcoming years for approval by the Authority;
- Matters with Delegated Powers to Act***
To scrutinise and monitor the effectiveness of the Service in meeting the Authority-approved Environmental Strategy objectives.
- 1.5. The Authority is recommended to approve these revisions.

2. **APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES**

- 2.1. In accordance with the Authority decision at its annual meeting on 29 June 2021, Councillors Radford and Shayer have been appointed as Authority Member non-executive directors on the Board of Red One Ltd. (“the Company”).
- 2.2. Although not part of the Authority’s written constitution, a convention has nonetheless operated (to prevent potential conflicts of interest) that Authority Member non-executive directors on the Board of the Company should not be serving Members on the Resources Committee which, amongst other things, has responsibility for monitoring the financial performance of the Company.

- 2.3. In light of this, the appointment of Councillors Radford and Shayer as Authority Member non-executive directors the Authority is now invited to consider changing the appointments to the Resources Committee together with any consequential changes to other committee places in the event of place swapping with other Members. Any such changes to be until the Authority's annual meeting in 2022. In accordance with provisions of Standing Order 30(2), ideally any changes to committee appointments should be from the same political party to preserve political balance.

MIKE PEARSON

Director of Governance & Digital Services