

Women in the Fire Service  
National Executive Committee  
held via Zoom  
on 21 September 2020

**Attending:**

Jules King	Chair
Caroline Anderson	Vice Chair
Alex Johnson	Liaison & Partnerships
Amy Webb	Treasurer
Divine Zake	Executive member
Sara Hall	Executive member
Hannah Lodder	Wales RR
Serena Benassi	London RR
Joanne Henry	North East RR
Kim McNeil	Devon & Somerset LR
Nicole Smy	Essex County LR
Lisa Howden	Cleveland LR
Janette Morris	LR Gloucestershire
Peggy Male	LR West Midlands
Sharon Lewin	LR County Durham & Darlington
Sue Mallinson	LR Greater Manchester
Karen Smith	WFS Administration Manager
Nathalie Holden	WFS Marketing and Communications Officer

HMICFRS – For first part of meeting  
Karen Lancaster  
Zoe Billingham

Apologies received from Dany Cotton, Cheryl Rolph, Carley-Jo Rackley, Gina Gray, Hannah Singleton, Julie Jowett, Nicola Bottomley, Jenny Hill.

The first part of the meeting was an opportunity for the HMICFRS to hear WFS views and get feedback on equality and diversity issues in preparation for the next round of inspections.

**Minutes of the previous meeting held on 27 February 2020**

Agreed

**WFS Gifts and Hospitality declarations** - none

**Chairs report**

JK focussed on the last few months and how it was necessary to work differently in these circumstances. Honorary Officers meet via zoom every month to discuss future proofing for WFS. Karen and Nathalie still on furlough but able to work legally 1 day a week. Cheryl Rolph working behind the scenes to keep WFS going and thanks to Cheryl for all her hard work.

All the award had now been sent to the appropriate Chief Fire Officers and some presentations already held.

**Risk Register V4** presented and approved.

### **Treasurer's report**

Brief update given by Amy Webb.

WFS were considering changing the bank account – options were being looked into.

**Action CR**

Fiona May the WFS Bookkeeper has given notice to finish, date to be confirmed. Honorary Officers were looking at various options and AW has already received one expression of interest.

AJ has offered the support of SYFRS to take over the payroll in the interim. This would be discussed with Honorary Officers.

**Action HOs**

AJ suggested a drive on individual membership

**Action NH/KS**

SB said LFB were wanting to know what corporate/individual members get for the membership fee. Corporate membership benefit sheet available. An individual membership information sheet should be considered.

NH suggested membership fee be tiered with a supper supporter possible at £25 and consider increasing the usual fee from £10 up to £12. WFS need to consider an easier way for people to join, simpler process.

**Action JK/CA/KS/NH**

Other suggestions by committee to consider:

- Ask for testimonials, 'Why I'm an individual member?'
- Senior grades could pay more for membership
- Pin badges for members/also suggested pin badges for WFS
- For corporate membership – consider outside of the fire service

DZ asked for clarification for Facebook members – must be working in the FRS

### **Regional updates were given**

**Training and Development Event** – CA contacted the Fire Service College regarding a date for 2021 but they are not taking any bookings at present. WFS should consider later in 2021 and possible regional events.