



DRAFT MINUTES – FOR APPROVAL AT 2018 AGM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL AUTHORITY CHIEF EXECUTIVES AND SENIOR MANAGERS (ALACE)

Held at The Hyatt Regency Hotel, Birmingham at 12.30pm on Wednesday 5 July 2017

Present:

Simon Baker, Staffordshire Moorlands DC & High Peak BC (to paragraph 6)	Dawn French, Uttlesford BC
Mike Jackson, North Somerset	David Kennedy, Northampton BC
Tracey Lee, Plymouth City Council	Bala Mahendran, Basildon BC
Fiona Marshall, Maldon DC	Ian Miller, Wyre Forest DC
Charlie Parker, Westminster (from paragraph 7)	Pav Ramewal, Sevenoaks DC
Michel Saminaden, Retired Member	Karen Satterford, Wycombe DC
John Sellgren, Newcastle BC	Duncan Sharkey, Milton Keynes
Rachael Shimmin, Buckinghamshire CC	Alistair Stewart, Shepway DC
Rob Tinlin, Retired Member	
<u>Consultants</u>	
Peter Bounds	Cheryl Miller
Roger Morris	Richard Penn
John Schultz	
<u>Also in attendance</u>	
Stephen J Pinder, Legal consultant	Maureen Saminaden

1 The Acting Chairman, Tracey Lee, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies had been received from the following members:

Norma Atlay, Nick Batchelar, Liz Bruce, Ada Burns, Jane Burns, Margaret Carney, Denise Edghill, Chris Elliott, David Hughes, Jerry Hutchinson, Sharon Kemp, Charlie Lant, Laura McGillivray, Darren Mephram, Bronwen Morgan, John O'Brien, Jane Parfremment, Mary Pitcaithly, Wallace Sampson, Jim Savege, Louise Taylor, Alison Ward, Rachael Wardell, Kim Webber, Joyce White

and Pete Morris (consultant)

2 The Acting Chairman paid tribute to Rob Tinlin, who had retired recently, and thanked him for his work as Chairman. She said that there was continuing controversy around chief executive and senior roles. ALACE is here to support

members generally and on issues that affect specific members. Many policy issues had been addressed in the past year, including a new edition of the chief executives' handbook: she extended thanks to colleagues for the work that had been done. The next 12 months might see the issue of exit payments and the £95k cap resurrected.

Elections of Chairman and Hon. Secretary for 2017/18

3 There being no other nominations, Tracey Lee (Plymouth) was elected as Chairman and Ian Miller (Wyre Forest) was elected as Hon. Secretary.

Address by Mr Steve Pinder, EAD Solicitors

4 Steve's company was employment law firm of the year for North West England and he had provided advice and support on legal agreements for upwards of 100 ALACE members over many years. Four were in progress at the time of the meeting. He dealt with settlement agreements and other advice, mainly by email or telephone and therefore did not often have the chance to meet ALACE members. His objective was to get the best deal that is enforceable, and dealing with reputation not just the financial angle. The Government had not consulted on the £95k cap regulations before the election and he was not sure when the new Government would do so. However there would be changes to the £30k limit of the tax free termination payment.

5 The employment law principles for local government are the same as for other sectors. Things would not change immediately as a result of Brexit as EU provisions in respect of employment matters form part of domestic legislation. However some provisions of UK law are more generous than EU law.

6 In respect of terminations, "private discussions" about termination were now provided for in legislation. However employer funding for legal advice on agreements was modest or inadequate. Steve confirmed that he kindly acts for the fee even if his time commitment is greater. He suggested that a more realistic budget would be £750 and could be raised with Local Government Employers. Tracey Lee thanked Steve for his interesting presentation and for all the work that he does on behalf of ALACE members.

Adoption of revised constitution for ALACE

7 The Hon Secretary introduced his report on the proposals to amend the constitution, which were recommended by the Council. The AGM resolved to approve and adopt the revised constitution. The Chairman thanked the Hon Secretary for his work on this topic.

Election of other officers and Council members for 2017/18

8 The AGM elected the following Officers and Council members for 2017/18:

Vice-Chairman Simon Baker (Staffordshire Moorlands & High Peak)

Hon Treasurer	Michel Saminaden (Retired Member)
Counties	Rachael Shimmin (Buckinghamshire)
Districts	David Hughes (Gravesham)
	Mark Williams (East Devon)
	Alistair Stewart (Shepway)
	Jerry Hutchinson (North Warwickshire)
	Karen Satterford (Wycombe)
	John Sellgren (Newcastle under Lyme)
Unitary authorities	Charlie Parker (Westminster)
	Merran McRae (Wakefield)
	Liz Bruce (Richmond & Wandsworth)
	Duncan Sharkey (Milton Keynes)
Scotland	Alistair Buchan (Orkney)
	Mary Pitcaithly (Falkirk)
Wales	Alison Ward (Torfaen)
Northern Ireland	1 vacancy
Other local	1 vacancy

government authorities etc

Annual accounts for the year ending 31 December 2016

9 The Honorary Treasurer introduced his report. There had been a deficit of £50k in the year. An increase in subscriptions was needed. The following proposals were agreed: to approve the annual accounts for 2016; to set the subscription at £370 a year with effect from 1 January 2018; and to establish a small working group consisting of the Hon Officers, John Sellgren, Duncan Sharkey and Karen Satterford to look at measures to control expenditure and increase income.

Annual report of the consultants for 2016-17

10 John Schultz introduced the consultants' annual report. Over 40% of ALACE members had sought support during that period. There was a consultation in Scotland about exit payments. In respect of pensions, Cheryl Miller said that there had been fewer cases overall but that the impact of taxation changes was now being

felt by directors and above. There could be a flow of new cases in respect of breaches of the annual allowance in 2016-17. The importance of members understanding their pension position and addressing any taxation issue was stressed.

11 A question was asked about ALACE securing representation on the JNC for chief officers. This was being pursued by the Hon Secretary. Thanks were extended to the consultants for their work, and one member commented on the "brilliance" of support, and how this helps people in a lonely position.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, 2016

12 The minutes of the AGM held on 6 July 2016 were agreed. Thanks were extended to the Hon Officers for their work. The meeting closed at 1.50pm.

Ian Miller
Honorary Secretary, ALACE
April 2018