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Policy Note:

Pay Policy Principles and Statement 2014/15

To:	Document Type:	✓	Document Summary:
All employees of the Authority, including temporary staff	Policy	✓	This policy sets out the principles of accountability, transparency and fairness relating to pay. The policy lays down how pay is managed and set for all employees of the Authority including the Strategic Management Board.
	Assessment		
	Procedure		
	Guidance Note		
	Technical Note		
	Information		
	Safety Critical		
Keyword:			
Please note that as Documents are frequently updated, if you print a document, its accuracy cannot be guaranteed, always check for latest version.			

Document History**First issue:** 15 February 2012


Second issue: 13 February 2013. This is the Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Fire Authority Pay Policy Statement 2013/2014 for the purposes of the Localism Act 2011 and has been approved by resolution of the full Authority at the meeting of the Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes Fire Authority on 13th February 2013.

Third issue: 19 February 2014. A meeting of the full Authority is required to approve its Pay Policy Statement before the end of the 31 March immediately preceding the financial year to which it relates.

Adoption of the Pay Policy Statement ensures statutory compliance. Legislation permits in-year changes to revisit certain elements to reflect the needs of the service.

Version 3.1: Document revised and minor amendments made to terminology, 1 September 2014 Support Services Staff revised pay scales and 1 July 2014 NJC Circular 03/14 pay rates added.


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BMKFA Pay Policy Principles and Statement

This document applies to all employees of Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes Fire Authority (The Authority).

Principles

1. Accountability

Decisions on pay policies will be taken by elected members - those who are directly accountable to local communities. We will ensure that all democratically accountable members have a significant input into how decisions on pay are made, and that we are open about the policies that determine those decisions.

Our annual Pay Policy Statements, and any amendments to them, will be considered by a meeting of the Fire Authority and will not be delegated to any sub-committee. In scheduling such meetings, we will act in accordance with our responsibilities under part 5A of the Local Government Act 1972. However, we note that the Secretary of State does not consider that any of the grounds for exclusion of the public would be met for discussions of Pay Policy Statements. Such meetings should therefore be open to the public and should not exclude observers. All decisions on pay and reward for chief officers must comply with the current pay policy statement.

The Fire Authority will be offered the opportunity to vote before salary packages (£100,000 plus) are offered in respect of a new appointment. For this purpose, salary packages should include salary, any bonuses, fees or allowances routinely payable to the appointee and any benefits in kind to which the officer is entitled as a result of their employment.

2. Transparency

Our Pay Policy Statement, along with our approach to the publication of and access to information relating to remuneration, will be published on our website.

Although we are not required to use our Pay Policy Statement to publish specific numerical data on pay and reward, we will consider how the information within the Pay Policy Statement fits with that data on pay and reward that we publish separately.

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This includes that data required to be published under the Code of Recommended Practice for Local Authorities on Data Transparency and by the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011.

3. Fairness

We will ensure that decisions about senior pay are taken in the context of similar decisions on lower paid staff salaries, and that the relationship between those decisions is considered. We will consider our proposals for the pay relationship between the remuneration of chief officers and employees who are not chief officers.

We will publish our pay multiple – the ratio between the highest paid employee and the mean average earnings and the lowest paid across the Fire and Rescue Service.

We will set out our approach to the award of other elements of remuneration, including bonuses, performance related pay as well as severance payments.

Statement 1 April 2012

Part 1 Pay Policy (all staff excluding SMB)

1. All pay decisions will be fair, based on policy and reflecting the requirements of legislation.
2. Our systems will be transparent and well known amongst staff groups and we will discuss planned changes to our systems with the appropriate representative bodies.
3. We will where possible, avoid complex pay systems and in determining pay we will make reference to market rates in order to secure best value for the taxpayer.

Level and elements of remuneration

4. Staff are employed under contracts with either the terms and conditions of the NJC for Local Authority Fire and Rescue Services Scheme of Conditions of Service, 2004 "the Grey Book" incorporated; or with the provisions of the Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Fire Authority scheme of conditions of Service for Support Services staff. ~~April 1997 incorporated.~~

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5. For Grey Book staff, rates of pay are set out in circulars issued by the NJC and entitlements are governed by Part B of the Grey Book.
6. For other staff the pay structure takes the form of pay scales with spinal column incremental points. Incremental Progression is based on evidenced performance and would normally occur on 1st April if the required criteria are met; at least six months in post, subject to performance and the maximum grade for the post not being exceeded.

Incremental progression may be withheld if performance is not to the required standard.

7. Pay scales are inserted in the annexes:

Annexe A "Grey Book" Pay rates from 1 July ~~2013~~2014

Annexe B "Support Services staff" ~~Green Book~~" Pay scales from 1 September 2014~~July 2013~~

8. Some members of staff participate in lease car and private healthcare insurance arrangements.
9. The Authority reimburses mileage, travel expenses, subsistence and other expenses (e.g. overnight stays, meals and professional fees) when appropriate and in accordance with the Authority's policy and procedures relating to expenses.


Remuneration on Recruitment

10. Remuneration will be based on the evaluated rate for the job, either nationally or locally.

Increases and additions to remuneration

11. Additional Responsibility Allowance (ARA) payments for "Grey Book" staff and occasional Honoraria for "Support Services" staff on local ~~Green Book~~' terms and conditions, are used to reward increased responsibilities, and duties beyond the normal remit of the role for specific periods, for existing staff to cover managed vacancies for short to medium term periods, enabling successful change management with minimal risk.
12. Any such payments require the signature of two Directors in accordance with the current procedures.

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Use of Performance related pay

13. Performance related pay is not in operation although certain posts attract performance increments based on skill development.

Use of bonuses

14. One off bonus payments may be considered linked to evidenced and scrutinised delivery of performance management objectives and is outlined in Annex C.

Approach on ceasing to hold office or be employed by the Authority

15. The Authority's current policies in respect of discretionary payments are in line with the recommendations to be found in the minutes of the Fire Authority on 24 June 2014~~Human Resources Sub Committee held on 12 December 2012~~ titled Local Government Pension Scheme 2014 – Employer Discretions and entitled Statement of Policy on the Adoption of Certain Employer Discretions and the minutes of the Executive Committee held on 17 July 2013.

Publication of and access to information relating to remuneration

16. We will publish information in accordance with the "Local Government Transparency Code 2014 – The Code of Recommended Practice for Local Authorities on the Data Transparency".

Pay Multiple

17. Our definition of lowest paid staff are those staff we employ who are paid at rates that are maintained in line with the National Minimum Wage at age 21 or over. We opt not to use lower pay rates permitted under the National Minimum Wage for 16 to 20 year olds or apprentices.

The current BMKFA pay multiples are;

Highest pay: lowest pay is 11.5
Highest pay: median pay is 4.87

18. It is our intention that salary multiples do not reach the 1:20 ratio referred to in the Hutton Report.

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Part 2 Pay Policy – Strategic Management Board (SMB)

SMB members pay arrangements are covered by the National Joint Council for Brigade Managers of Fire and Rescue Services known as the “Gold Book”.

Level and elements of remuneration

- 19 Senior management remuneration comprises salary, car provision and private medical insurance.
20. Gold Book Pay is based on a twin track approach of an annual nationally agreed pay deal and a local pay agreement. SMB Pay Policy includes proposals to consider the implementation of Earn Back Arrangements and addresses the requirements of the Localism Act in relation to the SMB.

Remuneration on Recruitment

21. Remuneration will be based on the evaluated rate for the job.

Increases and additions to remuneration

22. Increases and additions for senior management posts will require approval of the appropriate committee of the Authority.

Use of Performance related pay

23. Performance related pay will be used in the context of the relevant policy, based on “Earn back” principles and will need approval by the appropriate committee.


Use of Bonuses

24. One off bonus payments may be considered linked to evidenced and scrutinised delivery of performance management objectives.

Approach on ceasing to hold office or be employed by the Authority

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| 25. Summary dismissal | dismissal without notice payments |
| Dismissal with notice | salary payment in line with contract |
| Redundancy | in accordance with service policy |
| Resignation or leave date | normal salary payment until end of notice period |
| Redeployment | in accordance with prevailing service policy |

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26. This Authority does not make payments to senior staff members who leave other than to those who are leaving for the purposes of improved efficiency
27. Re-employment/re-engagement will not normally occur following retirement, however there may be exceptional circumstances where specialist knowledge and expertise are required for a defined period of time in the event of which re-employment/re-engagement may be considered.
28. The Fire Authority will be given the opportunity to vote as to the terms of appointment or dismissal of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive, and deputy to the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive, or equivalent.

Publication of and access to information relating to remuneration

29. We will publish information in accordance with the "Local Government Transparency Code 2014". ~~"The Code of Recommended Practice for Local Authorities on the Data Transparency"~~.

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Pay Policy Principles and Statement 2014/15**ANNEXE A****FIREFIGHTING ROLES - PAY RATES FROM 1st JULY 2014**

	Basic annual £	Basic hourly rate £	Overtime rate £
Firefighter			
Trainee	21,799	9.95	14.93
Development	22,706	10.37	15.56
Competent	29,054	13.27	19.91
Crew Manager			
Development	30,880	14.10	21.15
Competent	32,211	14.71	22.07
Watch Manager			
Development	32,908	15.03	22.55
Competent A	33,822	15.44	23.16
Competent B	36,021	16.45	24.68
Station Manager			
Development	37,467	17.11	25.67
Competent A	38,591	17.62	26.43
Competent B	41,324	18.87	28.31
Group Manager			
Development	43,150	19.70	Not Applicable
Competent A	44,445	20.29	"
Competent B	47,835	21.84	"
Area Manager			
Development	50,658	23.13	Not applicable
Competent A	52,177	23.83	"
Competent B	55,568	25.37	"

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**FIREFIGHTING ROLES – PAY RATES FROM 1st JULY 2014
(RETAINED DUTY SYSTEM)**

	(1) £ per annum	(2) £ per annum	(3) £ per Hour	(4) £ per occasion
Firefighter				
Trainee	2,180	1,090	9.95	3.82
Development	2,271	1,135	10.37	3.82
Competent	2,905	1,453	13.27	3.82
Crew Manager				
Development	3,088	1,544	14.10	3.82
Competent	3,221	1,611	14.71	3.82
Watch Manager				
Development	3,291	1,645	15.03	3.82
Competent A	3,382	1,691	15.44	3.82
Competent B	3,602	1,801	16.45	3.82
Station Manager				3.82
Development	3,747	1,873	17.11	3.82
Competent A	3,859	1,930	17.62	3.82
Competent B	4,132	2,066	18.87	3.82
Group Manager				3.82
Development	4,315	2,158	19.70	3.82
Competent A	4,445	2,222	20.29	3.82
Competent B	4,784	2,392	21.84	3.82
Area Manager				
Development	5,066	2,533	23.13	3.82
Competent A	5,218	2,609	23.83	3.82
Competent B	5,557	2,778	25.37	3.82

Column 1 shows the full annual retainer
 Column 2 shows the retainer for employees on the day crewing duty system
 Column 3 shows the hourly rate for work undertaken

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Column 4 shows the disturbance payment per call-out

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Pay Policy Principles and Statement 2014/15**CONTROL SPECIFIC ROLES - PAY RATES FROM 1st JULY 2014**

	Basic annual £	Basic hourly rate £	Overtime rate £
Firefighter (Control)			
Trainee	20,709	9.46	14.19
Development	21,571	9.85	14.78
Competent	27,601	12.60	18.90
Crew Manager (Control)			
Development	29,336	13.40	20.10
Competent	30,600	13.97	20.96
Watch Manager (Control)			
Development	31,263	14.28	21.42
Competent A	32,131	14.67	22.01
Competent B	34,220	15.63	23.45
Station Manager (Control)			
Development	35,594	16.25	24.38
Competent A	36,661	16.74	25.11
Competent B	39,258	17.93	26.90
Group Manager (Control)			
Development	40,993	18.72	Not applicable
Competent A	42,223	19.28	"
Competent B	45,443	20.75	"

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	£ per annum
Fire Control Operator equivalent	
During first six months	18,565
After six months and during 2 nd year	19,387
During 3 rd year	20,309
During 4 th year	21,308
During 5 th year	23,207
Leading Fire Control Operator equivalent	24,852
Senior Fire Control Operator equivalent	
During 1 st year in rank	25,490
During 2 nd year in rank	26,456

JUNIOR FIREFIGHTERS - PAY RATES FROM 1st JULY 2014

	£ per annum
Aged 16	10,084
Aged 17	10,836
Aged 18	21,799

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ANNEXE B

Support Services Staff Pay Scales effective 1 September 2014					
REVISED PAY SCALES	MONEY VALUE	EXISTING SCALES	Spinal Column Point	Pay point descriptor	RESPONSIBILITY LEVELS
A (NMW)	£12,173	NMW	1	National Minimum Wage	6
B	£15,898	New	2	Developing	7
	£16,295	New	3	Competent	
C	£17,110	Scale 1	4	Developing	8
	£17,851	Scale 1	5	Competent	
	£18,625	Scale 1	6		
D	£18,922	New	7	Developing	9
	£19,395	New	8	Competent	
E	£20,210	Scale 2	9	Developing	10
	£20,581	Scale 2	10	Competent	
	£20,954	Scale 2	11		
F	£22,075	Scale 3	12	Developing	11
	£22,571	Scale 3	13	Competent	
	£23,067	Scale 3	14		
G	£24,210	Scale 4	15	Developing	12
	£24,559	Scale 4	16	Competent	
	£25,047	Scale 4	17		
H	£26,448	Scale 5	18	Developing	13
	£26,924	Scale 5	19	Competent	
	£27,560	Scale 5	20		
I	£30,131	Scale 6	21	Developing	14
	£30,953	Scale 6	22	Competent	
	£31,786	Scale 6	23		
J	£32,810	New	24	Developing	15
	£33,630	New	25	Competent	
K	£37,278	Scale 7	26	Developing	16
	£38,222	Scale 7	27	Competent	
	£39,314	Scale 7	28		
L	£40,515	New	29	Developing	17
	£41,528	New	30	Competent	

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M	£43,946	Scale 8	31	Developing	18
	£45,155	Scale 8	32	Competent	
	£46,357	Scale 8	33		
N	£53,895	Scale 9	34	Developing	19
	£55,238	Scale 9	35	Competent	
	£56,730	Scale 9	36		
O	£58,552	New	37	Developing	20
	£60,016	New	38	Competent	

NB: With effect from 1 September 2014 Support Services Staff pay scales have been reclassified to letters and five additional scales have been added. From 1 September 2014 existing staff will retain the existing three point scales, however new employees (as defined) will transfer to the two pay points system.

Key: Developing (blue) Competent (green) 3rd pay point for existing staff only (red)

Fleet Management

	£27,931.00	£28,211.00	FM Point 10
	£28,570.00	£28,856.00	FM Point 11
	£29,204.00	£29,497.00	FM Point 12
	£29,833.00	£30,132.00	FM Point 13
	£30,646.00	£30,953.00	FM Point 14
	£31,471.00	£31,786.00	FM Point 15


Fleet Management - Supervisors

	£26,185.00	£26,447.00	SU Point 7
	£26,661.00	£26,928.00	SU Point 8
	£27,292.00	£27,565.00	SU Point 9

Fleet Management - Vehicle Technicians

	£23,329.00	£23,563.00	VT Point 1
	£23,828.00	£24,067.00	VT Point 2
	£24,320.00	£24,564.00	VT Point 3
	£24,800.00	£25,048.00	VT Point 4
	£25,260.00	£25,513.00	VT Point 5
	£25,718.00	£25,976.00	VT Point 6
	£12,000.00	£12,120.00	VT Point 7

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ANNEXE C

EMPLOYEE BONUS PAYMENT SETTING SCHEME AND PROCESS

Introduction

The purpose of this document is to set out in outline the principles and process for determining whether or not employees will receive bonus payments, and if so sets out the process to determine the allocation of such payments. Bonus payments will be one-off and paid only to reflect excellent performance; that is performance, which exceeds the standards and targets agreed with the employee during their annual appraisal process, and prior to the start of the financial year, for which any performance scheme is introduced.

Eligibility

Eligibility would be specified as part of any scheme rules, on an annual basis.

Key Principles

The following key principles underpin any bonus and/or performance related reward schemes:

- The Scheme is entirely discretionary and forms no part of the contract of employment
- The Scheme sits in the context of the authority's overall strategic and performance management processes, therefore targets and objectives included in any scheme will align with the Corporate and Public Safety Plan objectives, via the "golden thread" process
- Payments will only be made where the employee's contribution not only reflects excellence but also clearly assists with achieving the Authority's strategic objectives
- It is intended to reward those who can demonstrate sustained, outstanding achievement or excellence in their role

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- It is intended to recognise and reward, not only the exceeding of targets and standards, but also the acquisition of the necessary competencies and deployment of behaviours that reinforce the authority's values and norms
- The amount of money available to be paid in bonus payments to employees under the scheme, will be determined as part of the annual budgeting process, and any scheme will be self-funding
- All eligible candidates invited to participate in any scheme must have an agreed appraisal, including core and stretching objectives in advance of the bonus scheme year
- Recommendations for payments under the scheme will be made by the employees line manager, following the annual appraisal round, to the appropriate Director
- Recommendations will be reviewed by a Moderating Panel consisting of:
 - The Chief Operating Officer
 - The Director of People and Organisation Development
 - The Director of Finance and Assets
 - The Director of Legal and Governance

The Moderating Panel may choose to appoint an independent advisor, to assist with the process of ensuring that proposed awards are based on the exercise of consistent judgement, in both the setting of targets and standards and the assessment of achievement against these

- Payments under the Scheme will be authorised by the Chief Fire Officer/Chief Executive on recommendation of the Moderation Panel
- Employees will only be informed of approved awards and not as to whether or not a recommendation was made
- There will be no appeal against recommendations or final decisions
- The Human Resources Sub Committee will receive an annual report summarising the awards, if any, that have been made
- Eligibility criteria will be approved by SMB on an annual basis. This may include decisions not to run a bonus scheme or to extend to other workgroups
- Decisions will comply with the requirements of the authority's pay policy, which is reviewed and approved annually
- If and when an annual bonus scheme is agreed, specific detailed rules will be developed in advance of the scheme year; for example, new staff who become eligible in year, long term absence etc.
- Any payments will be subject to statutory deductions.

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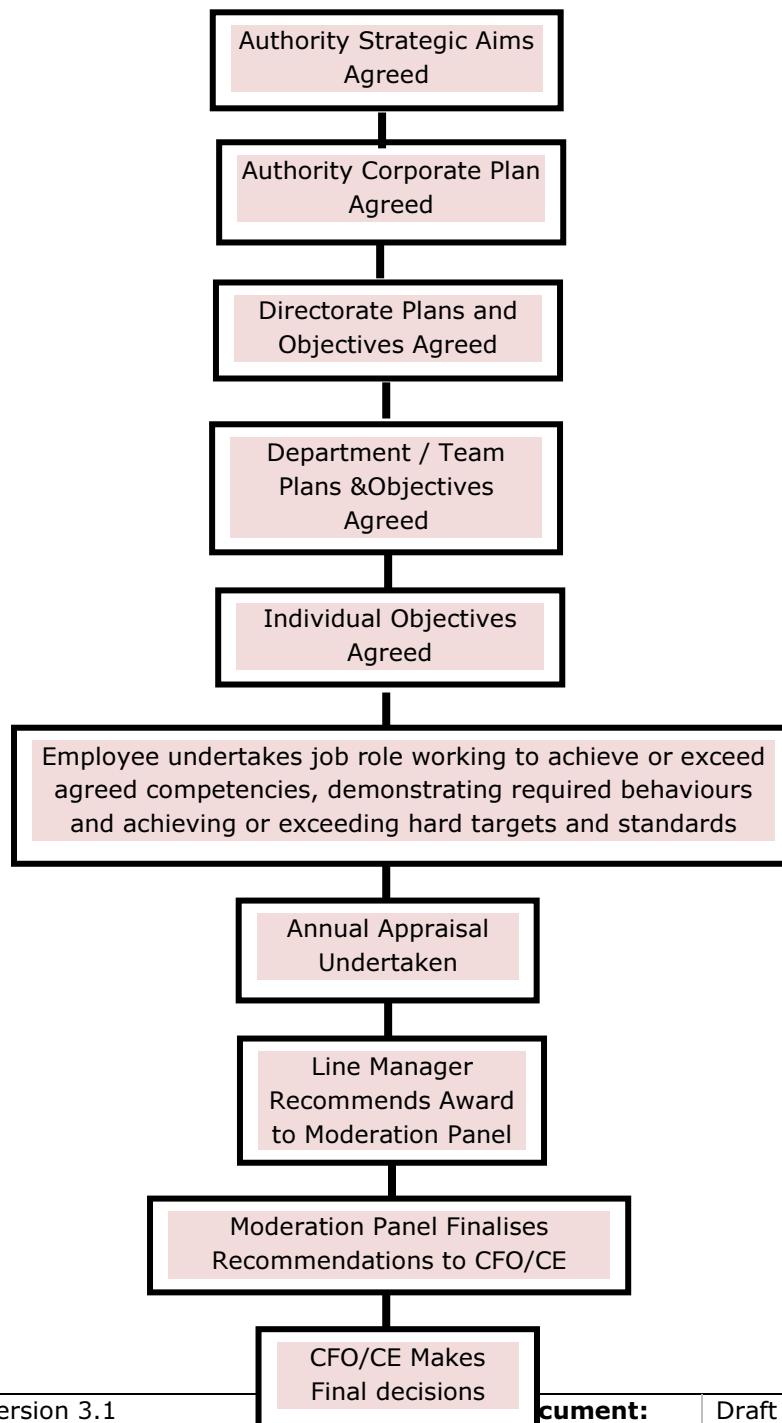
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BUCKINGHAMSHIRE & MILTON KEYNES FIRE AUTHORITY

Bonus Setting Scheme Process Flow Chart



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