

**Shropshire and Wrekin Fire Authority
Meeting at the Shirehall, Shrewsbury
at 2.00 pm on Wednesday, 8 February 2006**

AGENDA

1 Apologies for Absence

2 Declarations of Interest

Members are reminded that they should declare any personal and/or prejudicial interests at this point and that they should leave the meeting before any item, in which they have a prejudicial interest, is discussed.

3 Minutes

To agree the non-exempt minutes of the Fire Authority meeting, held on 14 December 2005, and that they be signed by the Chair as a correct record. Attached marked **3. For decision.**

4 Public Questions

To receive any questions, statements or petitions, of which notice has been received, from members of the public.

5 Performance Management Committee

To receive the minutes of the inaugural meeting of the Performance Management Committee meeting, held on 9 January 2006. Attached marked **5. For information.**

6 Strategy and Resources Committee

To receive the minutes of the Strategy and Resources Committee meeting, held on 19 January 2006. Attached marked **6. For information.**

Also attached, marked **6a**, is a copy of the Fire Authority's Consultation Response relating to the Revenue Support Grant for 2006/07 and 2007/08. **For information.**

7 Standards Committee

To receive the minutes of the Standards Committee meeting, held on 24 January 2006, and agree the recommendation at item 5. Attached marked **7. For decision.**

8 Constitutional Issues

The report of the Clerk proposes changes in the constitution of several committees to enable the business of the Fire Authority to be carried out more effectively and to take into account guidance issued by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy regarding audit committees. The report also asks the Fire Authority to nominate Members to participate in the Community Liaison Panel.

Attached marked **8. For decision.**

9a Annual Audit Letter

The Audit Commission will attend the meeting to present the Annual Audit Letter following the 2004/05 audit of the Fire Authority. A copy of the Annual Audit Letter is attached marked **9a**. The Fire Authority is required formally to accept or reject the Letter. **For decision.**



9b Auditor's Report on the Best Value Performance Plan 2005/06
The Audit Commission will also comment on the Auditor's Report on the Best Value Performance Plan audit 2004/05. Attached marked **9b. For information.**

10a Revenue Budget and Capital Programme – Budget Recommendations

The report of the Treasurer brings together the recommendations of the Strategy and Resources Committee of 19 January 2006, which have been incorporated into the report on the precept, later on this agenda. In addition, the outcome of the consultation process is reported and summarised. Attached marked **10a. For decision.**

10b Prudential Guidelines – Treasury Management Statement

The report of the Treasurer recommends that the Fire Authority approve the Prudential Guidelines, incorporating the Fire Authority's Annual Treasury Strategy and the Capital Programme for 2006/07, 2007/08 and 2008/09. Attached marked **10b. For decision.**

10c Revenue Budget and Capital Programme: 2006/07 Precept

The report of the Treasurer seeks Fire Authority approval to a budget for 2006/07; Council Tax levels for 2006/07; and precepts on billing authorities and related matters. Attached marked **10c. For decision.**

11 Annual Review of Charges - Special Services

The report of the Treasurer presents proposed increases in charges made for special services. Attached marked **11. For decision.**

12 Retained Review

The report of the Chief Fire Officer seeks Members' approval for the continuation of the Retained Review Team and for the Team's terms of reference to be changed from one of Review to Implementation of Recommendations. Attached marked **12. For decision.**

13 Update on Regional Fire Controls and Convergence Management for Firecontrol and Firelink Projects

The report of the Chief Fire Officer updates Members on the progress of both national projects and recommends methods of supporting these critical infrastructure initiatives. Attached marked **13. For decision.**

14 Performance Plan 2006/08

The report of the Chief Fire Officer advises Members of the 2006/08 Performance Plan requirements for single purpose fire and rescue authorities in England and Wales. Attached marked **14. For decision.**

15 Comprehensive Performance Assessment National Report January 2006

The Audit Commission published its Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA), Fire and Rescue National Report in January 2006, which considers the findings of the CPA assessments carried out in 2005. The report of the Chief Fire Officer summarises that document. Attached marked **15. For information.**



16 Working Partnership with Telford & Wrekin Safer and Stronger Communities Partnership

The report of the Chief Fire Officer updates Members on the community safety work being carried out with Borough of Telford & Wrekin. Attached marked **16**.
For decision.

17 Consultation on Reorganisation of Local Services

The report of the Chief Fire Officer requests guidance and direction from Members as to the position the Fire Authority should take in replying to a number of consultation documents concerning service reorganisation and reconfiguration in the region. Attached marked **17**. **For decision.**

18 Shropshire Partnership Equalities Forum

The report of the Chief Fire Officer requests that the Fire Authority agree to funding for the Equalities Forum and gives background information around this request for funding. Attached marked **18**. **For decision.**

19 The Scheme for Payment of Members' Allowances

The report of the Clerk outlines the current position regarding Members' allowances and asks the Fire Authority to agree its 2006/07 allowances, to consider making further provision for its non-elected, Independent Members and to instruct an independent remuneration panel to carry out a review in autumn 2006. Attached marked **19**. **For decision.**

20 Dates for Future Meetings

The report of the Clerk advises Members of the dates proposed for meetings of the Fire Authority and its Committees for 2006/2007. Attached marked **20**.
For decision.

21 Local Government Act 1972

To consider a resolution under section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 that the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined by the provisions of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Act, by virtue of paragraphs 1 and 11.

The following report is not available to the public by virtue of the above section of the Local Government Act 1972.

22 Exempt Minutes

To agree the exempt minutes of the Fire Authority meeting, held on 14 December 2005, and that they be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

