

**Shropshire and Wrekin Fire and Rescue Authority Meeting
on Wednesday, 29 April 2009, 2.00 pm,
at AFC Telford Learning Centre, Telford**

Please note the venue for this meeting, a map for which is attached.

Prior to commencement of business on the agenda there will be a presentation to those Members, who will be leaving the Fire Authority prior to its next meeting.

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 room before any item, in which they have a prejudicial interest, is discussed.

3 Non-Exempt Minutes

Members are asked to agree the non-exempt minutes of the Fire Authority meeting, held on 11 February 2009, 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 Human Resources Committee

Members are asked to receive the non-exempt minutes of the Human Resources Committee meeting, held on 26 February 2009, and **agree the recommendations at items 4 and 7** (full financial details of the latter are provided in the Treasurer's Report 14). Attached marked **5. For decision**

6 Standards Committee

Members are asked to receive the minutes of the Standards Committee meeting, held on 2 March 2009, and **agree the recommendation at item 12b**. Attached marked **6. For decision**

7 Strategy and Resources Committee

Members are asked to receive the minutes of the Strategy and Resources Committee meeting, held on 5 March 2009. Attached marked **7 For information**

8 Audit and Performance Management Committee

Members are asked to receive the minutes of the Audit and Performance Management Committee meeting held on 12 March 2009, attached marked **8**, and **agree the recommendations at items 6 and 9**. A copy of the proposed terms of reference, which require agreement are attached marked **8a** (the current terms of reference are attached marked **8b**). **For decision**

8c Annual Audit and Inspection Letter

Members are asked to receive the Annual Audit and Inspection Letter as attached, marked **8c**. **For decision**

9 West Midlands Regional Management Board

Members are asked to receive the minutes of the West Midlands Regional Management Board (WMRMB) meeting, held on 30 January 2009, attached marked **9** and **agree the recommendations at items 4/09, 11/09 and 12/09**. **For decision**

Individual reports relating to the above recommendations can be found on the WMRMB website at:

<http://www.wmrmb.co.uk/about-wmrmb/meetings/public/2009-01-30-wmrmb.htm>

If you require a hard copy of any of these documents, please contact Lynn Ince, Management Support Officer, at Headquarters, on 01743 260225.

10 Fire Authority Work Plan 2009/10

This report seeks to establish a Work Plan for the Fire Authority for the year May 2009 to April 2010. Attached marked **10**. **For decision**

11 The Scheme for Payment of Members' Allowances 2009/10

This report asks the Fire Authority to agree its 2009/10 Scheme for the Payment of Members' Allowances and to note that the Independent Remuneration Panel will carry out a full review of the Scheme in autumn 2009. Attached marked **11**. **For decision**

12 Proposed Member Champion Reporting Dates

At its meeting on 11 February 2009 the Fire Authority asked officers to bring a revised timetable for Member Champion presentations to the April meeting of the Authority to reflect the changes made to 2009 meeting dates. Attached, marked **12**, is a proposed presentation timetable. **For decision**

13 Integrated Risk Management Planning Members' Working Group Update

This report presents the proposed strategic Integrated Risk Management Plan, which clearly sets out and identifies the key priorities for Integrated Risk Management Planning over the next three-year period. In addition the report also presents the findings and recommendations from the recent reviews carried out in respect of water safety and the provision of aerial appliances within Shropshire. Attached marked **13**. **For decision**

14 Outlook for 2008/09 Final Accounts and 2009/10 Budget

This report updates the Authority on prospects for closing the 2008/09 Accounts and on other events that are likely to impact on the 2009/10 Budget. It also seeks approval to virements recommended by its Committees. Attached marked **14**. **For decision**

- 15 Investment and Treasury Management Policy**
This report updates the Authority on Treasury Management issues as at 31 March 2009, and in the light of responses to the Icelandic banks crisis. Attached marked **15. For decision**
- 16 Analysis of Audit Commission National Report
Rising to the Challenge: Improving Fire Service Efficiency**
This report acts a supplement to the previous paper brought before Members on 11 February 2009 in respect of the Audit Commission publication 'Rising to the Challenge: Improving Fire Service Efficiency.' The previous report sought Member approval for officers to undertake further analysis of the Commission's report and the results of the analysis are set out herewith. Attached marked **16. For information**
- 17 Comprehensive Area Assessment 2009 – Overview**
This report informs Members of the recently launched Comprehensive Performance Assessment process introduced by the Audit Commission. The new assessment process for fire and rescue authorities replaces the Comprehensive Performance Assessment regime. Attached marked **17. For decision**
- 18 Equality and Diversity Update**
Following the achievement of Level 3 of the Equality Standard for Local Government in August 2008, the Service commenced work on a self-assessment against Level 4. An external consultant supported the self-assessment process and on 12 March 2009 confirmed that the Service satisfies the requirements of Level 4. The Steering Group has since tasked the Equality and Diversity Officer with collating the evidence used within the self-assessment into a single document, which will be endorsed by the consultant and presented to Policy Group. Officers are extremely pleased to have made such rapid progress and to have achieved Level 4 just six months after completing Level 3. **For information**
- 19 Member Champion Presentation**
Councillor Phil Box, Information, Communications and Technology Champion, will give a presentation to the meeting. **For information**
- 20 FiReControl and FireLink Update**
The FiReControl project is moving forward and Communities and Local Government (CLG) will complete the next financial analysis of the business case within a few months. The West Midlands Regional Control Centre is due to begin fit out of information and communications technology equipment in May. The Fire Authority's Officers are fully engaged with discussions around the recruitment of our current staff into the Regional Control Centre along with all relevant human resource management issues. The Local Authority Controlled Company Board has been presented with a new enlarged staffing model that will increase the costs set out in the CLG business case significantly. The proposals will come to the Fire Authority before any agreement is made to increase costs.

The FiReLink project locally is not running to schedule with further delays in switching over from the existing digital radio system to the new Government provided one. We do, however, maintain the full functionality of our current excellent system. **For information**

21 Telford and Wellington Fire Stations

This report enables the Authority to consider proposals for the redevelopment of Telford and Wellington Fire Stations, and to consider future funding requirements. Attached marked **21. For decision**

22 Summary of Outcomes from Brigade Managers' Employment Panel

This report summarises the outcomes of the recent meeting of the Brigade Managers' Employment Panel. Attached marked **22. For information**

23 Local Government Act 1972

Members are asked 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 12(A) to the Act, by virtue of Paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4.

24 Exempt Minutes (Paragraphs 1 and 2)

Members are asked to agree the exempt minutes of the Fire Authority meeting, held on 11 February 2009, and that they be signed by the Chair as a correct record. Attached marked **24. For decision**

25 Human Resources Committee (Paragraphs 1 and 2)

Members are asked to receive the exempt minutes of the Human Resources Committee meeting, held on 26 February 2009. Attached marked **25 For information**

26 Treasurer's Pay Award 2008 (Paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4)

This report details the recommendation of the Brigade Managers' Employment Panel made at its meeting on 20 March 2009 with regard to the pay award for the Treasurer with effect from 1 January 2008.

Attached marked **26. For decision**

Please note that details of complaints made about, and compliments received by, Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service are available at every meeting of the Fire Authority for Members to peruse. Please ask Lynn Ince, if you would like to look at them.

Compliments and thank you letters can also be viewed on the Service's website on the following link:

<http://www.shropshirefire.gov.uk/engine.php/managing-the-service/compliments-and-thanks.htm>