

Shropshire and Wrekin Fire Authority

Meeting in the Severn Room,
Business Development Centre, Telford
at 2.00 pm on Wednesday, 14 February 2007

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 20 December 2006, 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 Strategy and Resources Committee

To receive the non-exempt minutes of the Strategy and Resources Committee meeting, held on 25 January 2007. Attached marked **5**. Reports 7, 8 and 9 from that meeting are attached (on green paper) as appendices to the minutes. **For information**

6 West Midlands Regional Management Board

To receive the minutes of the West Midlands Regional Management Board (WMRMB) Special Meeting, held on 1 December 2006, and **agree the recommendations at items 58/06** (a number of these recommendations were considered, and agreed, by the Fire Authority at its meeting on 20 December 2006). Attached marked **6. For decision**

Please note that the papers relating to the Special Meeting can be found on the WMRMB website via the following link:

<http://www.wmrmb.co.uk/about-wmrmb/meetings/closed/special-meetings/2006-12-01-wmrmb-special.htm>

7 Constitutional issues

7a Allocation of Seats on Committees to Political Groups and Increase of Membership of Standards Committee

This report advises the Fire Authority of the need to reallocate seats on its committees to political groups, following by-elections at Shropshire County Council. The report also asks the Fire Authority to agree the proposed increase in membership of its Standards Committee from 5 to 6 Members. Attached marked **7a. For decision**.



7b Consultation on Revised Model Code of Conduct

On 22 January the Department for Communities and Local Government published a consultation paper seeking views on a draft new Model Code of Conduct for Local Authority Members. This report summarises the more significant changes proposed and asks the Fire Authority to delegate authority to its Chair, the Chair of its Standards Committee and its Clerk and Monitoring Officer to respond to the consultation on its behalf. Attached marked **7b For decision**

8 Member Champion Presentations

8a Asset Management and Procurement Champion

The Member Champion for Asset Management and Procurement, Councillor Lt Col Allen, will give his first presentation to the Fire Authority, which includes **the Asset Management and Procurement Strategy for adoption by the Fire Authority**. Attached marked **8a. For decision**

8b Business Risk Management and Audit Champion

The Member Champion for Business Risk Management and Audit, Councillor Tandy, will give his first presentation to the Fire Authority. **For information**

8c Learning and Development Champion

The Member Champion for Learning and Development, Councillor Davies, will give his first presentation to the Fire Authority. **For information**

9 Monitoring of Revenue Budget and Capital Programme, including Prudential Indicators

This report is part of the regular monitoring process undertaken throughout the year. It details the latest position on revenue and capital budgets, recommending action where necessary, and also monitors the Fire Authority's Prudential Indicators. Attached marked **9. For decision**

Please note that reports 10, 11 and 12 need to be considered together.

10 Revenue Budget and Capital Programme – Budget Recommendations 2007/08

This report brings together the recommendations of the Strategy and Resources Committee of 25 January 2007, which have been incorporated into the report on the precept to be considered later on the agenda for this meeting. In addition, the outcome of the consultation process is reported and summarised. Attached marked **10. For decision**

11 Capital Programme 2007/08 to 2009/10 and Prudential Guidelines

This report presents the capital programme, as recommended by the Strategy and Resources Committee, in the context of Prudential Guidelines. Attached marked **11. For decision**

12 Revenue Budget and Capital Programme: 2007/08 Precept

This report seeks Fire Authority approval to: a budget for 2007/08; Council Tax levels for 2007/08; and Precepts on billing authorities and related matters. Attached marked **12. For decision**



- 13 Annual Review of Charges - Special Services**
This report presents proposed increases in charges made for special services. Attached marked **13. For decision**
- 14 Gold Command Cover within West Mercia Local Resilience Forum**
This report informs Members about the proposed agreement with Hereford and Worcester Fire and Rescue Authority to provide shared Gold Command cover across the West Mercia Local Resilience Forum area. Attached marked **14. For decision**
- 15 Retained Review Implementation**
This report informs Members of the progress of the Retained Review Implementation Project. Attached marked **15. For information**
- 16 Regional Fire Controls and Convergence Management for Firecontrol and Firelink Projects**
The papers relating to the setting up of the Local Authority Controlled Company are now with Companies House. Discussions are underway with the Fire Control Board concerning insurance, legal and management issues of the new company. Discussions have also taken place concerning the funding for convergence, which has been received recently (£84,568 for 2006/07 and £129,163 for 2007/08) and how to take the project forward within a regional or sub-regional context with this grant funding. Suggestions about the West Midlands Region moving forward in the 'roll out' order have been refuted by the National Project Team, although the Region will be employing its regional Control Centre Director along with the first wave regions. There are no firmer facts to report at present. Officers will keep Members updated as new information is made available. Agenda paragraph only. **For information**
- 17 Auditor's Report on the Best Value Performance Plan 2005/06**
The Audit Commission has produced the Auditor's Report on the Best Value Performance Plan audit 2006/07. Attached marked **17. For information**
- 18 Best Value Performance Plan 2007/08**
This report sets out the Fire Authority's statutory responsibilities to prepare and publish an annual best value performance plan. The report also identifies other related performance issues to be considered in the preparation of the performance plan. Most notably, this includes the necessity to identify by no later than 31 March 2007 improvement priorities resulting from the recent Performance Framework assessments. Attached marked **18. For decision**
- 19 Audit Commission Consultation Exercise: Performance Assessment Framework 2007/08 and Proposals for Re-Categorisation**
This report summarises key areas of the Audit Commission's proposals for the review of fire and rescue authorities during 2007/08, together with proposals for Comprehensive Performance Assessment re-categorisation. Attached marked **19. For information**



20 Falck – Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service Staff Exchange Programme 2006

This report, together the appended Executive Summary Report, provides a précis of the Falck - Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service Staff Exchange Programme 2006. 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, 2, 3, 4 and 7.

22 Exempt Minutes 9 (Paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4 and 7)

To agree the exempt minutes of the Fire Authority meeting, held on 20 December 2006, and that they be signed by the Chair as a correct record. Attached marked **22. For decision**

23 Principal Officers' Employment Panel (Paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4)

To receive the notes of the Principal Officers' Employment Panel meeting, held on 15 January 2007, and **agree the two sets of recommendations at item 13: recommendations a) to c) and a) to e)**. Attached marked **23. For decision**

24 Strategy and Resources Committee (Paragraphs 3 and 4)

To receive the exempt minutes of the Strategy and Resources Committee meeting, held on 25 January 2007. Attached marked **24. For information**

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 either Lynn Ince or Sharon Lloyd, if you would like to look at them.

Compliments can also be viewed on the Service's website on the following link:

<http://www.shropshirefire.gov.uk/Management/compliments.htm>

