

# Shropshire and Wrekin Fire Authority

## Meeting at the Lord Hill Hotel, Shrewsbury on Wednesday, 25 April 2007

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

### 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 February 2007, 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 West Midlands Regional Management Board

To receive the minutes of the meeting of the West Midlands Regional Management Board (WMRMB), held on 25 January 2007, and **agree the recommendations at items 3/07, 4/07, 5/07 and 7/07**. Attached marked 5 **For decision**

Please note that the papers relating to this meeting are not attached but can be found on the WMRMB website via the following link:

<http://www.wmrmb.co.uk/about-wmrmb/meetings/public/2007-01-25-wmrmb.htm>

#### 6 Human Resources Committee

To receive the non- minutes of the Human Resources Committee meeting, held on 1 March 2007 **and agree the recommendations at items 4, 5, 6 and 7**. The minutes are attached marked 6 and the draft Promoting Gender Equality Scheme is attached marked 6a. **For decision**

#### 7 Strategy and Resources Committee

To receive the non-exempt minutes of the Strategy and Resources Committee meeting, held on 8 March 2007, and **agree the recommendation at item 5**. The minutes are attached marked 7 and the variations to be approved are attached marked 7a. **For decision**

#### 8 Audit and Performance Management Committee

To receive the non-confidential minutes of the Audit and Performance Management Committee meeting, held on 29 March 2007. Attached marked 8. **For information**



## **9 Annual Audit and Inspection Letter and Use of Resources Auditor Judgements 2006**

Mr Tony Corcoran from the Audit Commission will attend to present the Annual Audit and Inspection Letter and the Use of Resources Auditor Judgements 2006, which Members are required to accept formally. Attached marked **9a and 9b respectively. For decision**

## **10 Quorum for Committee Meetings**

This report sets out the current arrangements regarding the quorum for Fire Authority committees and asks Members to consider whether they wish to make any changes to these arrangements. Attached marked **10 For decision**

## **11 Member Champions**

### **11a Risk Management and Audit Champion**

Following the resignation from the Fire Authority of Councillor Tandy the Fire Authority is asked to appoint a new Risk Management and Audit Champion. **For decision**

### **11b Presentation from Information, Communications and Technology Champion**

The Member Champion for Information, Communications and Technology, Councillor Box, will give his second presentation to the Fire Authority. A copy of the presentation notes will be tabled at the meeting. **For information**

## **12 Retained Review Implementation**

This report informs Members of the progress of the Retained Review Implementation Project. Attached marked **12. For decision**

## **13 Regional Control Centre Update**

The Local Authority Controlled Company was formally established on 19 February 2007, when the Articles of Association were registered at Companies House. Members will, however, need to agree upon a number of important issues before the Company can hold an inaugural meeting, including the Member's Agreement and the correct method for cost apportionment across the Region. Once the Board meets officially it can begin to address the Company's business arrangements and to examine, and give direction on, important issues such as:

- Selection of the Regional Control Centre Director
- Human resource issues, such as staff numbers and shift patterns
- Ensuring that appropriate conditions are in place regarding a range of contracts, into which the company will need to enter

These decisions are vital and are required to ensure the overall project is able to progress effectively.

The tendering process for the infrastructure service contract has been completed with EADS Defence and Security Systems announced as the successful bidder. It is anticipated that a number of key documents will now be made available, namely the Full Business Case, Transitional Plans and information on the proposed national functions cost apportionment model.

**For information**



**14 Fire and Rescue Performance Framework 2006/07  
Overview and Outcomes**

This report provides Members with a summary overview of the Fire and Rescue Performance Framework 2006/07 (introduced by the Audit Commission in 2006), together with the recently published performance results in respect of this Fire Authority and other English Fire and Rescue Authorities. Attached marked **14. For information**

**15 Audit Commission Consultation Exercise  
Transition to Comprehensive Area Assessment**

In 2009 the current Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) arrangements for auditing of local public sectors services will superseded by Comprehensive Area Assessments (CAA). CAA will develop a shared view about the challenges facing an area, such as crime, community cohesion, a sustainable environment or public health issues and will also create a more joined-up and proportionate approach to public service regulation. This report advises of the Audit Commission's consultation proposals regarding the transition from CPA to CAA. Attached marked **15. For decision**

**16 Response to Consultation on a Unitary Authority for  
Shropshire**

This report outlines the possible impact upon the Fire Authority of the proposals for the move to unitary status of local government within Shropshire and recommends a response to the current consultation process. Attached marked **16. For decision**

**17 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 and 4 and of confidential information.

**18 Exempt Minutes (Paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4)**

To agree the exempt minutes of the Fire Authority meeting, held on 14 February 2007, and that they be signed by the Chair as a correct record. Attached marked **18. For decision**

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

To receive the exempt notes of the Principal Officers' Employment Panel meeting, held on 8 March 2007, and **agree the recommendations at item 11**. Attached marked **19. For decision**

**20 Audit and Performance Management Committee (Confidential)**

To receive the confidential minutes of the Audit and Performance Management Committee meeting, held on 29 March 2007. Attached marked **20. 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>

## **Definitions of Exempt Information Local Government Act 1972 – Schedule 12A**

### **Part 1 Descriptions of Exempt Information: England**

#### **Paragraph 1**

Information relating to any individual

#### **Paragraph 2**

Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual

#### **Paragraph 3**

Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding the information)

#### **Paragraph 4**

Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority

#### **Paragraph 5**

Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings

#### **Paragraph 6**

Information which reveals that the authority proposes:

- (a) to give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or
- (b) to make an order or direction under any enactment.

#### **Paragraph 7**

Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime

