Shropshire and Wrekin Fire Authority Strategy and Resources Committee Meeting at Brigade Headquarters, Shrewsbury on Thursday, 21 September 2006 at 2.00 pm

AGENDA

1 Election of Chair

To elect a Chair for the ensuing year.

2 Appointment of Vice-Chair

To appoint a Vice-Chair for the ensuing year.

3 Apologies for Absence

4 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.

5 Minutes

To agree the minutes of the Strategy and Resources Committee meeting, held on 25 May 2006, and that they be signed as a correct record. **For decision**. Attached marked **5**.

6 **Public Questions**

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

7 Service and Budget Planning 2007/08 – 2009/10

This report informs Members of the progress so far in developing the financial plan, as approved by the Fire Authority in July. **For decision**. Attached marked **7**.

8 Revenue and Capital Monitoring 2006/07

This report informs Members of the budget monitoring position to July 2006. **For decision.** Attached marked **8**.

9 Annual Treasury Report 2005/06

This report informs Members of the treasury activities for 2005/06, as required by the Code of Practice on Treasury Management. **For information**. Attached marked **9**.

10 Asset Stewardship Report

This report advises of the current condition of assets owned by the Fire Authority and of changes, which have occurred in the financial year 2005/6. It gives a summary of information previously provided in the form of budget working papers, capital appraisals and capital budget reports, together with additional information. **For information**. Attached marked **10**.

11 Audit Commission Value for Money and Direction of Travel Profile Tools

This report is provided in response to a request by Members (at a Fire Authority meeting on 14 June 2006) that a detailed analysis should be conducted into areas where, using Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) statistics for 2005/06, the Fire Authority had previously been identified as spending above the average for Combined Fire Authorities. Although the updated statistics from CIPFA required for this work have not yet been received, this report instead uses 'value for money' and 'direction of travel' profile tools recently provided by the Audit Commission for the purpose of their forthcoming assessments of the Fire Authority. **For decision**. Attached marked **11**.

12 Efficiencies – Analysis of Notable Practice Guidance

This report provides information concerning an analysis of notable practice case studies from other Fire and Rescue Authorities, as compiled by the Department for Communities and Local Government, the Local Government Association and the Chief Fire Officers Association. The report also seeks Members' guidance on which of the case studies they feel warrant further examination in the interest of identifying additional efficiency savings to fund Service improvements. **For decision**. Attached marked **12**.

13 Corporate Risk Management Summary

This is the latest of the regular Risk Summary Reports to the Strategy and Resources Committee. As previously, these reports are intended to enable Members to meet the requirements of the Committee's Terms of Reference as they relate to the Fire Authority's management of corporate risk. **For information**. Attached marked **13**.

14 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 3 and 4.

15 Corporate Risk Management – Exempted Information (Paragraphs 3 and 4)

The Committee will have received an open session report (at item 13 on the agenda), which summarises the Fire Authority's current exposure to corporate risk. This report supplements Report 13 but will be considered in closed session, as it contains information, which is exempt from publication by virtue of paragraphs 3 and 4 of the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule A. **For information**. Attached marked **15**.

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

Part 1 Descriptions of Exempt Information: England

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.