

REPORT OF THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

CONSULTATION ON REORGANISATION OF LOCAL SERVICES

1 Purpose of Report

To gain 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.

2 Recommendations

The Fire Authority is asked to endorse the recommendation to bring consultations on issues wider than operational matters, to either the full Fire Authority or the Strategy and Resources Committee.

3 Background

A large number of public sector organisations are moving towards regional management structures that match the boundaries of the Government Office for the West Midlands.

Most recently officers have received consultation requests either directly or indirectly from:

- West Mercia Constabulary
- The Department for Health for Regionalisation of Ambulance Service
- The National Offender Management Service (previously known as the Probation Service).
- The Strategic Health Authority for 'reconfiguration' of the Authority in Shropshire

To enable Members to comment on the strategic aspects of these consultations it is, therefore, recommended that in addition to the full Fire Authority, the Strategy and Resources Committee are also empowered to formulate such responses. This will ensure that during any 12 week consultation, officers will be able to present reports to Members in good time.



4 Legal Comment

There are no legal comments arising directly out of this report.

5 Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

6 Equality and Diversity Implications

There are no direct equality or diversity implications arising from this report

7 Appendices

There are no appendices attached to this report.

8 Background Papers

There are no background papers associated with this report.

For further information about this report please contact Alan Taylor, Chief Fire Officer, on 01743 260201 or Paul Raymond, Deputy Chief Fire Officer, on 01743 260201.

