

<p><b>Notes of the Policy Planning Forum</b></p>
--

**17<sup>th</sup> May, 2004 at 10.00 a.m.**  
**at the Fire Service Headquarters, Birmingham**

**Present:**        **Members of the Authority**

Councillors Birbeck, Harper, Hartley, Hinton,  
Hogarth, Howard, A Johnson, K Johnson, Kazi,  
King, Mulhall, Singh, Stone, Underhill and Wild.

**Officers**        **West Midlands Fire Service**

Chief Fire Officer – F Sheehan.  
Deputy Chief Fire Officer – V Randeniya.  
Assistant Chief Officers – A Brandon,  
J Brown and R Hulland.  
A Rotchell – Chief Fire Officer's staff officer.

**Clerk to the Authority**

S Griffiths.

**Treasurer to the Authority**

L Bateman and M Griffiths.

**Apologies:**    Councillors Betteridge, Idrees, Lawrence, Matchet  
and Ryder.

14/04    **Modernisation Update**

The Chief Fire Officer gave an overview and summary of the position in respect of the business planning objectives relating to a range of modernisation initiatives. The presentation also made reference to the regional dimension of projects being undertaken in relation to modernisation.

15/04    **Information Communication Technology**

The Forum received an update on the latest ICT developments affecting the Fire Service. Members received a practical demonstration of the range of facilities available on the Fire Service Network. Members noted that ICT developments played a central role in supporting various modernisation and service delivery issues within the Brigade.

## **Policy Planning Forum – 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2004**

### **16/04 Best Value Performance and Business Plan**

The Forum received a presentation on the production of the Authority's Best Value Performance and Business Plan. Members noted the key elements of the Plan that were statutorily required and the linkages to the business planning process and the Integrated Risk Management Plan.

The Best Value Performance and Business Plan would be submitted for approval at the Executive Committee.

### **17/04 Update on National Fire Service Pay and Conditions Agreement**

The Director (Human Resources) gave a presentation on the position with regard to the National Fire Service Pay and Conditions Agreement having regard to recent developments at national and local level.

The Forum was advised of the progress of the national negotiations and feedback from the meeting of the Local Government Association Fire Forum on 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2004.

(Meeting ended at 12.45 p.m.)

<p><i>Contact Officer: Steve Griffiths Democratic Services Unit 0121-569-3791</i></p>
---