

**WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY**

**11th April, 2005**

1. **MAINTENANCE CONTRACT – COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEM**

Report of the Chief Fire Officer, Clerk and Treasurer.

RECOMMENDED

THAT the report be noted.

2. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report is submitted to inform the Authority of urgent action taken in February 2005 to discontinue the existing maintenance contract with Cap Gemini for maintenance of the Brigade's existing Command and Control system with effect from 31st March 2005, and to approve the establishment of two posts within the ICT Communications Team to ensure the continued maintenance of the system until the Regional Control Centres become operational.

3. **BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Urgent action was necessary in this case as notice of withdrawal from the contract had to be served on the contractor.
- 3.2 The detailed circumstances have been reported to the Chair and Vice-Chair. A copy of the report can be provided to any Member of the Authority on request.

4. **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

Any appointments made to the ICT Communications Team will be made in accordance with the Authority's recruitment and employment protocols.

5. **CORPORATE AIMS SUPPORTED**

The principal corporate aim supported by the information in this report is as follows:

1. To meet the Authority's statutory duties, standards and expectations.
2. To create a financial plan which operates within the budget, to ensure the most efficient use of resources.
3. To maximise the benefits from the latest technology.

6. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

The course of action recommended in this report does not raise issues which should be drawn to the attention of the Authority's Monitoring Officer.

7. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The proposals set out above are estimated to produce savings of £188,000 over three years.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Report of the Chief Fire Officer to the Chair and Vice Chair approved on 14th February 2005 (*exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person*).

F J E SHEEHAN  
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

F N SUMMERS  
CLERK

L BATEMAN  
TREASURER