

<b>Minutes of the Executive Committee</b>
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**23 July, 2012, at 10.00am**  
**at Fire Service Headquarters, Vauxhall Road, Birmingham**

**Present:** Councillor Edwards (Chair);  
Councillor Idrees (Vice-Chair);  
Councillors Clinton, Davies, Davis, Douglas-Maul,  
Finnegan, Foster and O'Neill.

**Observers:** Councillors Atwal, Chambers Delaney, Hogarth,  
Quinnen, Singh, Spence, Tranter, and Walsh, Ward,  
Wright, and Young.

**Apology:** Councillor Eustace.

14/12 **Local Government Pension Scheme 2014 Proposals – Employer Consultation**

Approval was sought to the Authority's response to the Local Government Association employer consultation on the proposed revisions to the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) 2014.

The consultation sought views on a number of proposed changes and the Committee noted the following proposed changes in particular:-

- Career Average - Shift to a career average basis for calculating benefits with a 1/49<sup>th</sup> accrual rate.
- New Scheme Contribution Rates – the average membership contribution would remain at 6.5 % as present but there would be some changes to bands and some rates. The lowest paid would pay the same or less.
- Protection of Current Benefits - The new LGPS would commence in 2014. Only membership after that point would be in the new scheme, under the new LGPS 2014 rules.

**Resolved** that approval be given to the response to the employer consultation on the proposed revisions for the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) 2014.

15/12 **Exclusion of the Public and Press**

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**Resolved** that the public and press be excluded from the rest of the meeting. This is to avoid the possible disclosure of exempt information under Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006 relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

16/12 **Planned Procurement Exercises for 2012/2013**

Approval was sought to proceed with tendering exercises for the following pieces of work:-

- Provision of a high rise training facility.
- Professional services regarding the design of a new fire station for Cradley Heath and Halesowen.
- Building of a new fire station for Cradley Heath and Halesowen.

The Committee noted the detail and estimated costs of the proposed contracts.

Approval was also sought to delegate authority for expenditure on the new fire station project for Cradley Heath and Halesowen to the Chief Fire Officer, in consultation with the Chair, subject to compliance with the Authority's Financial Regulations.

**Resolved:-**

- (1) that approval be given to proceed with tendering exercises in respect of the following pieces of work:-

- Provision of a high rise training facility.
- Professional services regarding the design of a new fire station for Cradley Heath and Halesowen.
- Building of a new fire station for Cradley Heath and Halesowen.

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- (2) that authority for expenditure on the new fire station project for Cradley Heath and Halesowen be delegated to the Chief Fire Officer, in consultation with the Chair, subject to compliance with the Authority's Financial Regulations.

**17/12 West Midlands Fire Service Business Safety Limited – Training Services**

Approval was sought for West Midlands Fire Service (WMFS) Business Safety Limited to trade in commercial training activities. Resources for delivering the training would be drawn from WMFS' personnel and specialist equipment and the Authority would recover its full costs from the company.

Consideration was also given to setting a financial limit on the value of the Company's contracts to enable them to be approved by the Company's Board of Directors. This would reduce delay by removing the need to refer matters to the Authority.

**Resolved:-**

- (1) that approval be given for West Midlands Fire Service Business Safety Limited to trade in commercial training activities;
- (2) that approval be given for West Midlands Fire Service Business Safety Limited's Board of Directors to approve contracts up to the value of £100k.

(Meeting ended at 10.31 am)

*Contact Officer: Stephnie Hancock  
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