

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the  
West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority**

**29 June 2015 at 11.00 am  
at Fire Service Headquarters, Vauxhall Road, Birmingham**

**Present:** Councillor Edwards (Chair)  
Councillor Idrees (Vice-Chair);  
Councillors Afzal, Aston, Singh Atwal,  
Barlow, Clinton, Craddock, Davis, Dehar,  
Douglas-Maul, Edwards, Eustace,  
Hogarth, Idrees, Miks, Mottram, Quinnen,  
Sealey, Shackleton, B Singh, P Singh,  
T Singh, Skinner, Ward and Young.

**Apologies:** Councillors Barrie, Spence and Tranter.

**Observer:** Mr Ager

39/15      **Election of the Chair of the Authority for the ensuing year**

**Resolved** that Councillor Edwards be elected Chair of the Authority for the period ending with the annual meeting in 2016.

40/15      **Election of the Vice Chair of the Authority for the ensuing year**

**Resolved** that Councillor Idrees be elected Vice Chair of the Authority for the period ending with the annual meeting in 2016.

41/15      **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Edwards declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute No. 52/15 below (Monitoring of Finances).

**Chair's Announcements**

The Chair requested that Members sign the Attendance Sheet for both the Authority meeting and a second Attendance Sheet if they were able to attend the Members Awareness Session that had been arranged for the 6 July 2016 at Fire Service Headquarters.

The Chair informed Members that the packages placed before them included badges and passes to enable access to Headquarters together with a form to be completed giving information to be placed on the Committee Management Information System (CMIS). Members were asked to include their Twitter handle if appropriate or to email [Julie.Connor@wmfs.net](mailto:Julie.Connor@wmfs.net) with this. An agenda for the Member's Awareness Session and Training and Development Plan had been included in the package.

The Chair reminded Members of the Schools Quiz Final which was to take place on Saturday 11 July 2015 at Safeside. In answer to a Member's question, one of the finalists was confirmed as Holy Trinity from Sandwell. Details of the other schools who had reached the finals would be circulated to Members.

The Chair paid tribute to Councillors Delaney, Finnegan, Lines, O'Boyle, Howells, Phillips, Collingswood and Yardley, who had now left the Authority, for their contribution during their terms of office, in some cases over many years.

Congratulations were also given to former Councillor Kevin Foster who had successfully been appointed as the Member of Parliament for Torbay.

The Chair welcomed Councillors Afzal, Barrie and Ward from Birmingham, Councillors B Singh and Miks from Coventry, Councillor Craddock from Walsall and Councillors P Singh and Dehar from Wolverhampton. He looked forward to working with them and to seeing them at the Members Awareness Session on Monday 6 July 2015.

The Chair stated that it would be difficult in the future and the recent past had been difficult, so far the Authority had lost 36% of its grant which amounted to £28m. The Authority has taken a huge hit on its stand-alone budget with very little other place to go for its finances as the Authority rely heavily on Government Grant. Prior to the Election, the Authority had been planning for a further

reduction of 24% over the next three years 2016/19, which equated to approximately another £14m cut and a total loss of 60% of grant between 2011 and 2019. This posed an enormous attack on effective firefighting.

During the General Election and the following weeks, the Chancellor would be looking to front load public spending cuts but more than initially indicated. The reduction could possibly double and if this happened the Authority would be unable to deliver the Fire and Rescue Service in the way the public would expect. An indication of the possible cuts would be announced in the Emergency Budget on 8 July 2015, however, only overall trends were likely to be announced with no specific reference to the Fire Service.

This budget announcement will be critical to the future of the Fire Service and the impact will be severe.

The Treasurer would gather intelligence but the Authority would not be aware of the three year settlement figure from the Government until December 2015.

The Authority plan to achieve some of the £14m expenditure reduction through the staffing options. Primarily through reducing the number of firefighters and bringing in additional shifts to keep the service delivery model we have. Negotiations were on going and a further report would be brought back to Members with an update on Monday 6 July 2015.

The Chair felt that enough was enough and they the Authority could do no more. 275 frontline staff had been lost in the last four years and any further changes would impact directly on firefighters with firefighters being lost, fire stations closing and the five minute response time would be unachievable. Serious consideration would be given to holding a referendum in 2017 to ask the public of the West Midlands if they were willing to pay more council tax rather than lose firefighters and see stations close.

It was felt that a tipping point had been reached and Members were encouraged to speak to their local MPs, regarding the impact of real damage to frontline services following the budget announcements and the enormity of the task being faced by the Fire Authority.

43/15 **Minutes**

**Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 13 April 2015, be confirmed as a correct record.

44/15 **Membership of the Authority 2015/16**

The Clerk reported on the membership of the Authority for 2014/15.

45/15 **Questions on the Discharge of Functions**

**Resolved** that the following Councillors be nominated under Section 41 of the Local Government Act, 1985, to answer questions put in the course of proceedings of constituent councils on the discharge of the Authority's functions:-

	<u>Lead Councillor</u>	<u>Substitute Councillor</u>
Birmingham	Idrees	Clinton
Coventry	B Singh	Miks
Dudley	Aston	Mottram JP
Sandwell	Edwards	Tranter
Solihull	Davis	Hogarth
Walsall	Young	Douglas-Maul
Wolverhampton	T Singh	Dehar

46/15 **Governance of the Authority 2015/16**

The Authority considered a report on governance of the Authority for 2015/16. The report set out draft terms of reference for committees and panels; member role descriptions and a calendar of meetings for the year. A copy of the amended Constitution had been circulated with the Agenda, however, the intention would be to move towards a paperless approach in future.

In accordance with Article 1, The Constitution and Article 16, Review and Revision of the Constitution, a review had taken place to ensure clarity on how the Authority operates and makes its decisions in line

with the purpose set out in Article 1, section 1.12. The review had been undertaken in consultation with the Chair, Brigade Managers and Statutory Officers and proposed a number of changes and amendments, to add further clarity to the role of the Authority and to provide a more flexible and timely approach to decision making for budget and governance.

Amendments and additions were made to:

Article 4 Matters for Authority:

- Section 4.2.1 Governance,
- Section 4.2.2 Finance and Land Matters,
- Section 4.2.3 Human Resources
- Section 4.2.4 Service Delivery

Article 6 Executive Committee

Article 7 Scrutiny Committee

Article 8 Audit Committee

Article 10 Appointments Committee

Disestablishment of the Chair's Committee

Article 14 Decision Making

Part 3 – Scheme of Delegations

Members' Allowances

There had been minimal increases in local government pay, it was proposed to reaffirm the stance taken previously to defer any review of the members' allowances scheme for a further 12 months, and to refrain from increasing the level of members allowances, in the light of continuing financial stringency.

In answer to Members' questions concerning changes being proposed to Articles 4.2.2, the Clerk confirmed that the increase in the amount the Authority approves in relation to the procurement process where tenders are in excess of £100,000 to 'in excess of £250,000', was similar to other Metropolitan Fire Authorities. In the last financial year

27 of 48 contracts approved by the Authority were between £100,000 and £250,000, with the majority being for goods and services of a day to day nature or as part of planned works. The Monitoring Officer confirmed that EU Regulations do not apply. Members would be informed of contracts let in the usual way.

Consideration had been given to the Constitution being printed and posted to all Members. It was felt necessary to follow this course of action as a number of new Members had joined the Authority and it was felt unrealistic for Members to print the papers at home. However, it was acknowledged that this was an expensive way of circulating the information and would not be repeated in future and therefore further savings would be made to the printing and postage budget. By 2016, the intention would be for all Members to be able to access Authority documentation via the use of an electronic tablet.

In answer to a Members' question regarding postal addresses, the Chair recommended that if Members wished their papers to be posted to their home address they should let the Clerk know at the end of the meeting.

**Resolved:**

- (1) that the proposed revisions to the Constitution as referred to in the report and as set out in Book 2 to the Agenda, including the terms of reference of committees and panels, be approved;
- (2) that member role descriptions as set out in the Constitution, be approved;
- (3) that the calendar of meetings for 2015/16, with a slight amendment, as set out in Appendix 1, be approved;
- (4) that no percentage increase be made in members' allowances in 2015/16 by way of indexing or otherwise;
- (5) that the Members' Allowances Scheme for 2015/16 as set out in Part 6 of the Constitution, be approved;
- (6) that in the light of the current financial situation, no action be taken for the time being with regard to convening an independent remuneration panel to review the members' allowances scheme and that the situation be reviewed in 12 months' time;

- (7) that the Clerk be authorised to make any necessary consequential amendments to other constitutional documents in the light of decisions made with regard to governance arrangements for 2015/16;
- (8) that the Monitoring Officer and the Clerk undertake a further review of the Constitution and, if appropriate, submit a report to the Authority in September, 2015.

47/15     **Political Balance and Membership of Committees and Panels 2015/16**

The Authority considered the constitution and political balance of committees and the assignment of members to committees and panels for 2015/16.

The Localism Act 2011 had implemented changes to the standards framework and independent members of the Standards Committee had now been replaced by an 'independent person' who must be consulted before any decision is taken on a complaint which had been investigated. The Authority had approved an arrangement whereby the independent persons appointed by Sandwell Council would also be used by the Authority. In 2013/14 these roles had been undertaken by Mr Frederick Bell and Mrs Yetunde Akande. Mrs Akande had not applied for re-appointment, but Mr Bell had been re-appointed as an independent person by Sandwell Council for the period expiring 30th June 2016. In view of the low level of complaints activity at the Authority, it was suggested that the appointment of one independent person would be sufficient.

It was noted that at the meeting of the Authority held on 24th June 2013, Mr M Ager had been appointed as an independent member of the Audit Committee for a term of office expiring with the Annual Meeting of the Authority in 2016.

The Leader of the Opposition Group would advise the Clerk of his appointments to the various Committees following the meeting.

**Resolved:**

- (a) that the political balance and membership of committees and panels for 2014/2015, as set out in Appendix 2, be approved;
- (b) that the appointment to the roles of Chairs and Vice-Chairs of committees and panels, as set out in Appendix 2, be approved;
- (c) that the appointment of Mr M Ager as an independent non-voting member on the Audit Committee be affirmed;
- (d) that the appointment of Mr F Bell to the role of independent person, appointed in pursuance of Section 28 of the Localism Act 2011, for the term of office expiring 30th June, 2016, be approved.

48/15 **Appointment of Representatives to Service on Other Bodies**

The Authority considered the appointment of representatives to serve on other bodies during 2014/15.

It was noted that Members were disappointed with the withdrawal of funding for road safety education in Metropolitan Borough Councils (MBC). Councillor Clinton would continue to lead the Road Safety Reduction Group on behalf of the Authority and the Fire Service would now take the lead in this work. Lead Members were requested to support the work of the Group by providing the name of a person from each MBC to [Juliet.Malone@wmfs.net](mailto:Juliet.Malone@wmfs.net). The Chair asked Members to support Councillor Clinton in this priority area of work.

It was noted that the West Midlands Fire Service Business Safety Limited was now dormant, but all party membership would be maintained to allow for future opportunities. The Monitoring Officer advised the appointed representatives of the company to declare an interest as Directors of the Company, to both the Fire and Rescue Authority and their constituent Authorities.

**Resolved:-**

- (1) that the appointments of representatives to serve on other bodies, as set out in Appendix 3, be approved;



- (2) that the Chair (Councillor Edwards), (or his nominee), be authorised to exercise the Authority's Corporate Vote at the Local Government Association General Assembly and that the Authority's General Assembly voted be allocated in accordance with proportionality of the Association.

49/15     **Member Attendance at Conferences, Seminars and Visits**

The Authority considered a report setting out the arrangements for authorising attendance at conferences, seminars and visits.

In response to a Member's question, the Monitoring Officer recommended that when travelling to events outside of the West Midlands boundary, Members should start to record their whole journey from their home address.

**Resolved** that the events for 2015/16, as set out in Appendix 4, be approved for the purpose of the payment of travel and subsistence allowances and conference fees (where appropriate) subject to the necessary budgetary provision being available.

50/15     **Governance Statement 2014/15**

The Authority considered a report seeking their comments and consideration of the Annual Governance Statement for 2014/15 attached as Appendix 1 to the report. The Audit Committee had received the draft Governance Statement for 2014/15 at their meeting held on 15 June 2015. Under the Local Government Act 1999 the Authority has responsibility for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards, and that public money is safeguarded. The Authority also has responsibility for proper arrangements for the governance of its affairs including arrangements for the management of Risk.

The Authority's Governance Statement together with its Statement of Accounts were signed by the Chair of the Authority and Chief Fire Officer and were available to view at the end of June 2015.

In answer to a Member's question, the Deputy Chief Fire Officer confirmed that the issues in respect of the Management of Fuel on Fire Stations had been addressed. The issues had related to a backlog

and discrepancies with the measuring equipment. The Auditors were now satisfied with the actions that had been taken to achieve improvements.

**Resolved** that the Authority Governance Statement 2014/15 be received.

51/15 **Pay Policy Statement 2015/16**

Further to minute 28/15 (13 April 2015), the Authority considered an amendment to the Pay Policy Statement for the financial year 2015/16. The Pay Policy Statement 2015/16 had been amended to reflect the Authority's agreement to implement a rate of pay for all employees at least in line with the 'Living Wage' and this approach would be revised annually.

In answer to a Member's question, it was confirmed that the wording "any settlement of £100,000 or more or any other payments will be subject to the approval of the Authority on a case by case basis" referred to pension implications.

A previous unusual case was discussed and the Clerk confirmed that the terms of reference of the Appointments Committee had been amended to allow the Committee to make decisions. The Chair confirmed that following a ruling from the Secretary of State, for reasons of transparency the Authority would be involved in leaving packages.

**Resolved** that an amendment to the Pay Policy Statement for the financial year 2015/16 be approved.

52/15 **Monitoring of Finances**

In answer to a Members' question, the Treasurer confirmed that a tendering exercise would be carried out in respect of the works required to Coventry Fire Station.

The Authority noted a report on the monitoring of finances to the end of June 2014.

53/15 **Annual Report of the Audit Committee 2015/16**

The Annual Report of the Audit Committee was received.

54/15 **Annual Report of the Scrutiny Committee 2015/16**

The Annual Report of the Scrutiny Committee was received.

55/15 **Minutes of the Audit Committee**

The minutes of the Audit Committee held on 15 June 2015 were received.

56/15 **Minutes of the Scrutiny Committee**

The minutes of the Scrutiny Committee held on 15 June 2015 were received.

57/15 **Notes of the Policy Planning Forum**

The notes of Policy Planning Forum held on 15 June 2015 were received.

58/15 **Notes of the Joint Consultative Panel**

The notes of the Joint Consultative Panel held on the 13 April 2015 were received. The Chair of the Panel stated that the panel would be receiving a report on the outcome of the request from the Trade Unions to re-introduce Elected Members in the Appeal Process for Grievance, Discipline and Dismissals at the meeting being held on 21 September 2015.

59/15 The Chief Fire Officer welcomed returning Members and new Members and invited Members, new and old, to attend the Members Awareness Session on 6 July 2015 where the Service Delivery Model and the latest financial position would be discussed in detail.

The proposed Staffing Trial was still subject to negotiation and a further update would be provided in due course.

Members were informed that a member of the Young Firefighters Association from Coventry had been injured in the recent terrorist attack in Tunisia, but had now returned home and had received treatment. Members were recommended to view the Foreign Office website [www.fco.gov.uk](http://www.fco.gov.uk) for daily updates.

The thoughts and sympathies of the Authority were conveyed to the Members and Officers from Sandwell MBC following the death of one of their employees who had lost their life in the terrorist attack in Tunisia.

60/15 **Exclusion of the Public and Press**

**Resolved** that the public and press be excluded from the rest of the meeting 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) and information relating to any action taken, or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution or crime).

61/15 **Purchase of ICT Licences**

Retrospective approval was sought to the decision made by the Strategic Enabler (Finance and Resources) to grant a Special Exemption of the Authority's Procurement Procedures to enable the Procurement of a Microsoft Enterprise Subscription Agreement.

The Authority received a report that provided the rationale for the procurement of the Microsoft Enterprise Subscription Agreement under Special Exemptions 2.17 (d) and (f) of the Authority's Procurement Procedures (Standing Order 1/8).

West Midlands Fire Service had utilised Microsoft Licences which had been bought under a "Select Agreement". The Licences (Microsoft 2002) were owned outright by WMFS and required no annual support costs and in order to save costs had not been upgraded.

In March 2015 Microsoft announced the discounted pricing agreement for Microsoft Licences, which had been negotiated between Microsoft and the government for Public Sector organisations since 2012 (PSA12) would come to an end in April 2015.

The procurement of the Microsoft Enterprise Subscription Agreement, bought under this outgoing PSA12 pricing agreement avoided significant future price increases if Orders were placed before 30<sup>th</sup> April 2015. The price for Microsoft products was due to increase dramatically following this period. (The price after 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015 rises by 158.34% to £223,263.96 per annum - see illustration below for scale of price increases after 30<sup>th</sup> April 2015.

Enterprise Subscription Agreement			
	PSA 12 - before 30 <sup>th</sup> April	In Transition Window - 1 <sup>st</sup> May - 30 <sup>th</sup> June	No framework – 1 <sup>st</sup> July onwards
	<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">1a</a>	<a href="#">1b</a>
Year 1	£ 86,423.02	£ 90,472.37	£ 223,263.96
Year 2	£ 86,423.02	£ 90,472.37	£ 223,263.96
Year 3	£ 86,423.02	£ 90,472.37	£ 223,263.96
<b>Years 1-3 Total</b>	<b>£ 259,269.05</b>	<b>£271,417.10</b>	<b>£ 669,791.88</b>
Year 4	£ 90,472.37	£223,263.96	£ 223,263.96
Year 5	£ 90,472.37	£223,263.96	£ 223,263.96
Year 6	£ 90,472.37	£223,263.96	£ 223,263.96
<b>Years 4-6 Total</b>	<b>£ 271,417.10</b>	<b>£669,791.88</b>	<b>£ 669,791.88</b>
<b>Six Year Total</b>	<b>£ 530,686.15</b>	<b>£941,208.98</b>	<b>£1,339,583.76</b>

Licences are based on a per-device metric of which 1400 were purchased. The framework allowed for a direct award and under the circumstances, to avoid having to pay significantly higher prices later in the year, an exemption was sought from the Strategic Enabler of Finance and Resources which was granted.

The new contract is for a 3 year term with a view to extending this for a further 3 years at preferential rates and had been awarded in April 2015.

The prices for years 4 – 6 were indicative only at this stage. It was the level of discount that had been secured with Microsoft under this PSA12 agreement. The exact price would depend on the Microsoft price list at the time of requesting the extension in Year 3.

The cost to the Authority for the whole of the contract is estimated at £258,000 or £86,000 per annum for the first three years and £270,000 or £90,000 per annum for year's four to six.

In answer the Member's questions, it was confirmed that the Strategic Enabler (Information and Communications Technology) would be reviewing the numbers of hardware assets, however, it was felt that the amount of appliances would only increase in the future due to the design of appliances.

The reason for the increase was due to Microsoft's decision to change licensing around the 365 software package and their desire to use enterprise agreements and to move towards cloud based computing.

**Resolved** that the procurement of the Microsoft Enterprise Subscription Agreement under Special Exemptions 2.17(d) and (f) of the Authority's Procurement Procedures (Standing Order 1/8) be endorsed and the award of a contract approved.

#### 62/15 **Planned Procurement Exercises for 2015/16**

Approval was sought to a number of planned tender exercises for goods and services during 2015/16, in accordance with Procurement Standing Orders.

**Resolved** that the following tender exercises for the provision of goods and services to West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority during 2015/16 be proceeded with:-

- (i) Cycle to Work Scheme
- (ii) Insurance Arrangements
- (iii) Time and Attendance Management System
- (iv) Classification of Information Assets
- (v) Replatforming ICT systems Development
- (vi) Boiler Replacements

In answer to a Member's question the Monitoring Officer recommended that any interests should be declared on the general Declarations of Interest form.

63/15     **Action of the Chief Fire Officer in Consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Authority**

The Chief Fire Officer reported on action which he had taken, in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair, to authorise the instigation of legal proceedings for failure to comply with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005.

64/15     The Chair looked forward to welcoming Members old and new to the Members' Awareness Session on the 6 July 2015 and wished everyone a good Summer.

(The meeting ended at 1158 hours)

Contact Officer: Julie Connor Strategic Hub West Midlands Fire Service 0121 380 6906
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**WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY  
CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2015/16**

Date	Time	Meeting
2015		
Monday 29 June	11.00 am	Authority [Annual Meeting] [political groups at 10 am]
Monday 17 August	10.30 am	Scrutiny Committee
Monday 7 September	9.00 am 10.00 am 10.30 am 12.30 pm	Chair's agenda meeting Executive Committee Policy Planning Forum Audit Committee
Monday 21 September	11.00 am to follow	Authority [political groups at 10 am] Joint Consultative Panel [pre meeting tbc]
Monday 12 October	10.00 am 10.30 am 12.30 pm 12.30 pm	Executive Committee Policy Planning Forum Audit Committee Scrutiny Committee
Monday 9 November	9.00 am 10.00 am 10.30 am 12.30 pm	Chair's agenda meeting Executive Committee Policy Planning Forum Joint Consultative Panel [pre meeting tbc]
Monday 16 November	10.30 am	Scrutiny Committee
Monday 23 November	11.00 am	Authority [political groups at 10 am]
Monday 14 December	10.00 am 10.30 am	Executive Committee Policy Planning Forum



2016		
Monday 18 January	10.00 am 10.30 am 12.30 pm	Executive Committee Policy Planning Forum Audit Committee
Monday 1 February	9.00 am 10.00 am  10.30 am To follow	Chair's agenda meeting Executive Committee [non domestic ratepayers consultation meeting] Policy Planning Forum Joint Consultative Panel [pre meeting tbc]
Monday 15 February	11.00 am  12.30 pm	Authority [budget and precept setting] [political groups at 10 am] Scrutiny Committee
Monday 21 March	9.00 am 10.00 am 10.30 am 12.30 pm 12.30 pm	Chair's agenda meeting Executive Committee Policy Planning Forum Audit Committee Scrutiny Committee
Monday 11 April	11.00 am  To follow	Authority [political groups at 10 am] Joint Consultative Panel [pre meeting tbc]
Monday 6 June	9.00 am 10.00 am 10.30 am 12.30 pm 12.30 pm	Chair's agenda meeting Executive Committee Policy Planning Forum Audit Committee Scrutiny Committee
NEW MUNICIPAL YEAR Monday 27 June	11.00 am	Authority [Annual Meeting] [political groups at 10 am]

**The Standards, Appointments and Appeals Committees will meet as and when required**

**West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority**  
**Appointments to Committees and Panels 2015/16**

Authority (27 elected members) (Lab 17; Con 8; Lib Dem; UKIP 1) All Members to attend.	Policy Planning Forum (27 elected members) (Lab 17; Con 8; Lib Dem 1; UKIP 1) All Members to attend.
<b>Appointments Committee</b> <b>9 elected members</b> <b>(Lab 6; Con 3)</b> <b>At least one Member from each Authority</b>	
<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Substitute</b>
Chair of the Authority (Chair) Cllr Edwards (Sandwell)	Cllr Tranter
Vice-Chair of the Authority (Vice-Chair) Cllr Idrees (Birmingham)	Cllr Afzal
Cllr Clinton (Birmingham)	Cllr Quinnen
Cllr T Singh (Wolverhampton)	Cllr Dehar
Cllr Spence (Birmingham)	Cllr Atwal
Cllr Young (Walsall)	Cllr Shackleton
Cllr Skinner (Coventry)	Cllr Sealey
Cllr Stuart Davis (Solihull)	Cllr Hogarth
Cllr Barlow (Dudley)	Cllr Barrie

<b>Executive Committee</b> <b>10 elected members</b> <b>(Lab 7; Con 3)</b> <b>Members of the Executive Committee shall not serve on the Scrutiny Committee</b>	
<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Substitute</b>
Chair of the Authority (Chair) Cllr Edwards	Cllr Clinton
Vice-Chair of the Authority (Vice-Chair) Cllr Idrees	Cllr T Singh
Cllr Aston	Cllr Mottram
Cllr Afzal	Cllr Dehar
Cllr Atwal	Cllr Miks
Cllr Quinnen	Cllr Mottram
Cllr Shackleton	Cllr Clinton
Cllr Davis	Cllr Hogarth
Cllr Sealey	Cllr Barrie
Cllr Douglas-Maul	Cllr Barlow

<b>Scrutiny Committee</b> <b>(8 elected members)</b> <b>(Lab 5; Con 3)</b> <b>Members of the Scrutiny Committee shall not serve on the Executive Committee</b>	
<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Substitute</b>
Cllr Tranter (Chair)	Cllr T Singh
Cllr Spence (Vice-Chair)	Cllr Mottram
Cllr B Singh	Cllr Miks
Cllr Ward	Cllr Clinton
Cllr Young	Cllr Dehar
Cllr Skinner	Cllr Barlow
Cllr Hogarth	Cllr P Singh
Cllr Barrie	Cllr

<b>Appeals Committee</b> <b>(6 elected members)</b> <b>(Lab 3; Con 2; Lib Dem 1)</b>	
<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Councillor</b>
Cllr Mottram (Chair)	Cllr Aston
Cllr Eustace (Vice-Chair)	Cllr Edwards
Cllr Clinton	Cllr Idrees
Cllr Spence	Cllr Quinnen
Cllr Barrie	Cllr Sealey
Cllr Hogarth	Cllr Davis

<b>Audit Committee</b> <b>6 members</b> <b>(Lab 4; Con 2)</b>	
<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Substitute</b>
Cllr T Singh (Chair)	Cllr Dehar
Cllr Miks (Vice-Chair)	Cllr B Singh
Cllr Aston	Cllr Mottram
Cllr Quinnen	Cllr Spence
Cllr Sealey	Cllr Barlow
Cllr P Singh	Cllr Barrie
<b>Independent Member:</b> Mr M Ager	

<b>Joint Consultative Panel</b> <b>(6 elected members + 5 employee representatives)</b> <b>(Lab 4; Con 2)</b>	
<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Councillor</b>
Cllr Clinton (Chair)	Cllr Quinnen
Cllr Dehar (Vice-Chair)	Cllr T Singh
Cllr Afzal	Cllr Idrees
Cllr Shackleton	Cllr Edwards
Cllr Douglas-Maul	Cllr Davis
Cllr P Singh	Cllr Barrie

<b>Standards Committee</b> <b>(6 elected members + 1 observer)</b> <b>(Lab 4; Con 2)</b>
<b>Councillors</b>
Cllr Tranter (Chair)
Cllr Edwards
Cllr Miks
Cllr Young
Cllr Barlow
Cllr P Singh
<b>1 Independent Person (observer):-</b> Mr Bell

**West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority****Appointments to Other Bodies 2015/16**

Organisation	Representative/s 2015/16	Notes
<b>Local Government Association General Assembly*</b> (4 representatives)	Chair and Vice-Chair (Councillors Edwards and Idrees) and Councillors Davis and Eustace (or their nominees)  The Chair was authorised to exercise the Authority's Corporate Vote at the Local Government Association General Assembly. The Authority is entitled to 18 General Assembly votes which are allocated on the basis of proportionality of the General Assembly.	Proportionality applies.  The Association encourages Authorities entitled to three or four representatives on the General Assembly to allocate one of those positions to Minority Group Leaders on their Authorities.
<b>Local Government Association - Fire Service Commission</b> (3 representatives)	Chair (Councillor Edwards) and Councillors Davis and Idrees (or their nominees)	Proportionality applies. Formerly the Fire Services Forum.
<b>Local Government Association Urban Commission</b> (2 representatives)	Councillor Tranter and the Chief Fire Officer (or their nominees)	Only elected members may vote at meetings. Authorities may appoint two elected members or one member and one officer
<b>Black Country Consortium – Observer Member</b>	Councillor Tranter (or his nominee)	It is recommended that the appointed Member should be from one of the four Black Country boroughs.
<b>West Midlands Road Safety Partnership</b>	Councillor Clinton	

<b>Association of Metropolitan Fire and Rescue Authorities</b>	Chair and Vice-Chair of the Authority (Councillors Edwards and Idrees)	
<b>Fire Control Project Governance Board [joint board with Stoke on Trent and Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Authority]</b>	Chair and Vice Chair of the Authority (Councillors Edwards and Idrees) and Councillors Davis and Tranter	
<b>West Midlands Fire Service Business Safety Limited</b>	Chief Fire Officer, the Chair of the Authority (Councillor Edwards) and Vice-Chair of the Authority (Councillor Idrees), Councillors Davis and Eustace	Personal appointment which terminates with the appointment of a new member.

**Appendix 4**

<b>Event 2015/16</b>	<b>Attendance By</b>	<b>Financial Implications</b>
Local Government Association Annual Fire Conference	Chair and Vice-Chair (or their nominees) and the Leader of the main Opposition Group	Conference fees and travel and subsistence
Local Government Association Annual Conference	Chair and Vice-Chair (or their nominees)	Conference fees and travel and subsistence
Asian Fire Services Association Conference	Chair and Chair and Vice-Chair of the Scrutiny Committee	Travel and subsistence
Fire Service Briefing Meetings arranged by the Department for Communities and Local Government	Chair and Vice-Chair (or their nominee) OR all members of the Authority (as appropriate)	Travel and subsistence
Visits to the Houses of Parliament to meet West Midlands MPs and members	All Members	Travel and subsistence
Member training events/seminars organised by the Authority or approved by the Chair and Vice-Chair	All Members	Travel and subsistence
Monitoring visits to fire stations (up to two per quarter)	All Members	