

Minutes of the Executive Committee

16th March 2009, at 4.00 pm
at Fire Service Headquarters, Vauxhall Road, Birmingham

Present: Councillor Howard (Chairman);
Councillor Ward (Vice-Chairman);
Councillors S Davis, Eustace, Idrees, Ryder and
Stevenson.

Apology: Councillor Hinton.

Observers: Councillors Chambers, Clinton, G Davies, Gazey,
Skinner, Spence and Turner.

13/09 Urgent Item

The Chairman was of the opinion that the item referred to in Minute No. 19/09 below should be considered as an urgent item of business under Section 100B of the Local Government Act, 1972.

Minute No. 19/09 (Post of Chief Fire Officer) – This item was urgent as a decision was required in advance of the meeting of the Appointments Committee on 17th March, 2009.

14/09 Corporate Strategy 2009 – 2012 and Annual Service Plan 2009 – 2010

The Committee considered the proposed three-year Corporate Strategy for 2009/2012 and Annual Service Plan for 2009/2010. These documents had been drawn up following changes to the Authority's business planning arrangements whereby the Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) was incorporated into a three year corporate strategy. The IRMP Action Plan was an integral part of the Annual Service Plan.

Executive Committee
16th March 2009

The Corporate Strategy would be refreshed annually and outlined where the West Midlands Fire Service would focus its activities over the next three years. The Annual Service Plan highlighted activity in 2009/2010.

It was proposed that Performance Indicator Number 3 (the number of deaths from accidental fires in dwellings) for 2009/2010 in the Annual Service Plan should be based on the average of the actual figure for the previous three years, giving a target for 2009/2010 of twelve.

Resolved that the Corporate Strategy 2009/2012 and the Annual Service Plan 2009/2010, as now submitted, be approved, subject to the target for Performance Indicator Number 3 (the number of deaths from accidental fires in dwellings) for 2009/2010 in the Annual Service Plan being set at twelve and reviewed every six months.

15/09 **Analysis of Progress towards the Delivery of Action Plans – Third Quarterly Report for 2008/2009**

The Committee noted the progress made towards delivering the Departmental and Operations Command Areas 2008/09 Action Plans. Members also noted that a detailed review of progress was carried out at a meeting between officers and the Leader Member for Performance Management.

The Committee asked for these reports to be submitted closer to the end of the quarter in future.

16/09 **Performance against Operational Indicators - Data for 2008/2009 up to 31st January 2009**

The Committee noted the data against the performance indicators set out in the Authority's Annual Service Plan up to and including 31st January, 2009.

Executive Committee
16th March 2009

17/09 **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 Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006 for the following reasons:-

- (a) Minute No 18/09 – exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including any individual and the authority holding that information);
- (b) Minute No 19/09 – exempt information relating to any individual and information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

18/09 **Procurement of Two Aerial Appliance Hydraulic Platforms**

The Committee was informed that a mini tendering process for the procurement of two aerial appliance hydraulic platforms had been undertaken as stipulated in the FiReBuy National Framework Agreement.

FiReBuy had recommended two suppliers from their listing who were suitable to engage in the mini tendering process.

Following the evaluation of the two tenders received, which took into account the price, the technical specification, delivery, warranty and customer service support, it was recommended to award Angloco Limited with the contract for the procurement of two aerial appliance hydraulic platforms.

There was provision in the budget to meet the costs involved.

Resolved that Angloco Limited be awarded the contract for the procurement of two aerial appliance hydraulic platforms for the total sum of £1,032,375 (which includes a £5,000 contingency per appliance).

(At this point all officers of West Midlands Fire Service, except the Head of Human Resources, left the meeting)

Executive Committee

16th March 2009

19/09 Post of Chief Fire Officer

The Committee was informed that it was authorised to consider and make recommendations to the Authority on the conditions of service and salary of the posts of Chief Fire Officer, Deputy Chief Fire Officer and Assistant Chief Officers. The Committee was also authorised to deal with all matters of an urgent nature which could not be reasonably delayed to the next ordinary meeting of the Authority or appropriate Committee.

The Committee was informed of advice received from Tribal Resourcing, the Authority's consultant for recruitment to the Chief Fire Officer's post, that a competitive salary for the post was £160,000. This was in excess of the salary paid to the former Chief Fire Officer. The Committee was asked to indicate its view with regard to offering a competitive salary of up to £160,000 to the successful candidate.

The Committee was also informed that it was intended to remove the provision of a car for the use of the Chief Fire Officer.

Resolved that the Chairman of the Appointments Committee be authorised to offer the successful candidate a salary in the range of £150,000 to £160,000, with the removal of the provision of the use of a car.

(Meeting ended at 4.42 pm)

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