

**Minutes of the Executive Committee  
(Special Meeting)**

**8 May, 2012, at 10.00am  
at Fire Service Headquarters, Vauxhall Road, Birmingham**

**Present:** Councillor Edwards (Chair);  
Councillors Chambers, Clinton, Davis, Douglas-Maul,  
Foster, Idrees, O'Neill and Turner (substitute member).

**Observers:** Councillors Hogarth and Spence.

**Apologies:** Councillor Singh.

**7/12 Exclusion of the Public and Press**

**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).

**8/12 Office Accommodation Leasing Options**

The Committee was asked to consider leasing office space at headquarters to external organisations. Due to austerity measures there had been a reduction on the number of staff occupying the building which had resulted in vacant workspace. Leasing the vacant space would provide an income for the Authority and improve the overall efficiency of the building.

Advice from a number of letting agents had indicated approximate rental rates and suggested terms; however, they had also advised that current market conditions would make it difficult to let the space. The option would however continue to be explored.

**Executive Committee**  
**8 May, 2012**

A direct approach had been made however from a private sector organisation interested in letting the space and approval was sought to enter into negotiations with the organisation.

The Committee noted that the Chief Fire Officer had declared a prejudicial interest in the matter and would therefore not be involved with the negotiations.

**Resolved** that officers be authorised to enter into negotiations with regards to the letting of vacant office space at Fire Service Headquarters.

(Meeting ended at 10.27 am)

*Contact Officer: Stephnie Hancock  
Democratic Services Unit  
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council  
0121 569 3189*