

WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND CIVIL DEFENCE AUTHORITY

26TH JULY 2004

1. **REVISED BRIGADE STANDING ORDER -
PARTNERSHIP WORKING, FUNDING AND/OR GOODS, WORKS OR
SERVICES PROVIDED FREELY FROM EXTERNAL SOURCES**

Joint Report of the Chief Fire Officer and Treasurer.

RECOMMENDED

THAT the Authority approve the revised draft Brigade Standing Order in respect of the above (attached as Appendix I to this report).

2. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report is submitted to seek the Authority's approval of revised Brigade Standing Order 22/2.

3. **BACKGROUND**

3.1 Members may recall previously approving a Brigade Standing Order entitled "Sponsorship". Since that time a variety of partnership, funding and other opportunities have presented themselves to the Authority. This has led to the need to address two particular issues:-

- To clarify the ownership and procedures relating to the maintenance of a database to record partnership working, funding and/or goods, works or services provided freely from external sources.
- To speed up to the whole process of accepting the above opportunities so that instigating and agreeing such opportunities could be processed rapidly.

3.2 In terms of preparing the revised order the following officers were consulted:-

Director (Performance and Planning)
Senior Divisional Officer (Performance and Planning)
External Partnerships Officer
Station Commander, Wolverhampton
Divisional Officer (Strategic Reserve Project)
Administration Manager
Internal Audit Manager
Finance Officer.

3.3 Replies were received from almost all consultees at the preparation stage and after approval by Corporate Board the draft order was sent for wider consultation including with the Trade Unions.

4. **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

Fire discriminates against those who may be classed as living in areas of high social deprivation. Many partnerships and sources of partnership working, funding and/or goods, works or services provided freely lead to protection measures which can be targeted to help those in the community who are most at risk.

5. **CORPORATE AIMS SUPPORTED**

The principal corporate aims supported by the information in this report are as follows:-

2. To create a financial plan which operates within the budget, to ensure the most efficient use of resources.
4. To work in partnership with communities, other agencies and the Government.
15. To be an influential Fire Authority.

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. **TRADE UNION CONSULTATION**

The Trade Unions have been specific consultees regarding this Brigade Standing Order, as part of the usual process.

8. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Brigade Standing Order 22/2

F.J.E. SHEEHAN
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

L. BATEMAN
TREASURER