

**WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY**

**9<sup>th</sup> February 2009**

**1. INSTITUTION OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

Report of the A/Chief Fire Officer and Clerk

RECOMMENDED

THAT the report to be noted.

**2. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report is submitted to inform the Authority of the institution of legal proceedings for failure to comply with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order, 2005, as indicated below.

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 It has been decided, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, to instigate legal proceedings against the owner of the following premises and following named persons, for failure to comply with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order, 2005.

The Connaught Hotel (West Midlands) Limited

Mr John Lancaster

Mr John Leslie Thorne

Mr Christopher Timothy Platt

- 3.2 The detailed circumstances surrounding the breaches of the legislation have been reported to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman. A copy can be provided to any Member of the Authority on request.

**4. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

In preparing this report, an initial Equality Impact Assessment is not required and has not been carried out as the matters referred to do not represent a change in the policies or functions of the Authority.

5. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 introduces for the first time a general duty of fire safety care for those responsible for non-domestic premises. The Order complements the change in emphasis of the role of the Fire and Rescue Authorities to one of prevention. The Authority is responsible for ensuring public safety by monitoring compliance with the law, and where necessary, enforcing the requirements of the legislation.

6. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Any costs involved would be met from existing budgets.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Reports of the Chief Fire Officer to the Chairman and Vice Chairman approved on 10<sup>th</sup> November and 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2008.

V RANDENIYA  
A/CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

SUSAN PHELPS  
CLERK