

WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

Standards Committee

17th May 2010

1. EMPLOYEES' DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Report of the Monitoring Officer.

RECOMMENDED

THAT Members note the contents of the report and receive a verbal explanation from a senior officer of the Authority about how the procedure and practice of declarations is implemented within the Authority.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 The purpose of the report is to inform Members about the arrangement the Authority has in place regarding avoiding or managing conflicts of interest.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Employees of the Authority are required to promote and demonstrate the values of good governance through upholding high standards of conduct and behaviour. This includes ensuring that employees of the Authority are not influenced by prejudice, bias or conflicts of interests.
- 3.2 Official Conduct Standing Order No. 2/12 (attached as Appendix 1) has several references to avoiding conflicts. The Authority has registers in relation to gifts and hospitality, secondary employment and politically restricted posts and these would help in identifying and managing conflicts. The Authority does not currently have a comprehensive employees' register of interests as proposed by the government consultation of some time ago on a model code of conduct for employees.

4. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 4.1 In preparing this report an initial Equality Impact Assessment is not required and has not been carried out.

5. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 It is important for the Authority's ethical governance framework (based on law and good practice) to be kept under review and to be revised as appropriate.

6. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 There are no resource implications arising from this report.

N SHARMA
MONITORING OFFICER