

WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

22ND MAY 2006

1. BEST VALUE REVIEW (BVR) OF COMMUNITY PROTECTION

Joint report of the Chief Fire Officer and Treasurer.

RECOMMENDED

THAT the Committee approves the recommendations and targets set out in the attached Action Plan reports.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The reports attached are submitted to seek the Committee's approval of the recommendations and targets arising from the Best Value Review of 'Community Protection'.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 On 1st April 2000, the Local Government Act 1999 came into force. The Act stipulated that "a Best Value Authority must make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness" (Local Government Act 1999.) The Authority approved the Best Value Performance Plan in June 2004. One of the reviews originally identified for Year 4 (2004/2005) was 'Community Protection'. Due to the size and complexity of this Directorate the Authority also approved that the Best Value Review be carried forward to Year 5 (2005/2006).

3.2 The Lead Members for performance management were involved in agreeing the objectives both prior to and at the end of the consultation process.

4. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

There are no equality and diversity implications arising from this report.

5. **CORPORATE AIMS SUPPORTED**

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

2. Creating a financial plan, operating within the budget, ensuring the most efficient use of resources.
9. Developing and supporting sustainable outcomes.
10. Ensuring all our people are competent, enabled and achieving their full potential.

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. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

These are contained within the attached reports and can be found within the individual Action Plans.

8. **TRADE UNION CONSULTATION**

All the trade unions recognised by the Authority have been consulted as part of the BVR process.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Guidance from ODPM
Best Value Performance Plan
Best Value Review Methodology
Integrated Risk Management Plan
Risk Based Inspection Programme
Regulatory Reform Order
Community Protection Implementation Project 2001
Comprehensive Performance Assessment 2005
Interim Corporate Board Report – 15th March 2005

F. J. E. SHEEHAN
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

L. BATEMAN
TREASURER