

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

**2 March, 2012, at 12 noon  
at Fire Service Headquarters, Vauxhall Road, Birmingham**

**Present:** Councillor Edwards (Chair);  
Councillor Eustace (Vice-Chair);  
Councillors Chambers, Douglas-Maul, Foster, Hogarth  
[substitute for Councillor S Davis], Idrees, O'Neill,  
Ryder and Singh.

**Observer:** Councillor Turner.

**Apologies:** Councillors Clinton and S Davis.  
Mr Ager.

### **5/12 Posts of Assistant Chief Fire Officers**

The Committee considered a report with regard to the recruitment and selection process to the vacant Assistant Chief Fire Officer posts. This matter had been brought to the Committee as a matter of urgency as provided for in its terms of reference in order to obtain authority to commence the recruitment process as soon as possible.

The Committee was reminded that the Deputy Chief Fire Officer had retired at the end of September 2011 and that the post had been advertised. The Principal Officer Staffing Committee had decided to suspend the selection process due to the limited number of applications. It had also been decided in 2011 not to appoint to two vacant positions of Assistant Chief Fire Officer and acting appointments had been made in the interim. The third post of Assistant Chief Fire Officer had been filled on a temporary basis by a secondment from another Fire Service.

The Chief Fire Officer had undertaken a review of the size and structure of the Principal Officer Team and indicated that two substantive appointments should be made as soon as possible to Assistant Chief Fire Officer posts. Job descriptions and person specifications for the two posts were submitted for consideration. The appointments would be made by

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the Principal Officer Staffing Committee. The costs of recruitment could be met from existing budgets.

A further report would be made to Authority in due course on the proposed structure for the remainder of the Principal Officer team.

**Resolved:**

- (1) that authority be given for the recruitment and selection process to two vacant posts of Assistant Chief Fire Officer to commence;
- (2) that the job descriptions and person specifications for the two posts, as set out in the report, be approved;
- (3) that the Chief Fire Officer submit a report to a future meeting of the Authority with regard to the remaining structure of the Principal Officer Team.

**6/12 Serious fire in Wolverhampton**

The Committee was informed that the Brigade had recently attended a serious fire in the centre of Wolverhampton which had involved 17 pumps at its height. It had been a complex incident requiring the involvement of a number of agencies.

The Brigade's new incident control unit had been used for the first time and had proved a success.

The Chair and Chief Fire Officer would be sending their thanks and appreciation to all staff concerned with the incident.

The Chief Fire Officer was requested to report to the Policy Planning Forum on high level incidents in the last nine months.

(Meeting ended at 10.56 am)

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Contact Officer: Georgina Wythes</i> <i>Democratic Services Unit</i> <i>Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council</i> <i>0121 569 3791</i></p>
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