

**WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND CIVIL DEFENCE AUTHORITY**

**27<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2004**

**1. PROVISION OF PERFORMANCE INDICATOR DATA TO  
AUTHORITY MEMBERS**

Report of the Chief Fire Officer.

RECOMMENDED

THAT the Authority approve a revised method of providing performance indicator data to Members.

**2. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report is submitted to seek Members' approval to a revised method of providing performance indicator data to the Authority.

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Members may recall that after the introduction of Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPIs), officers used to present the Authority's performance against these to Members at meetings of the Policy Planning Forum (PPF). However, this presentation consumed much of the time allocated for what originally was intended to be Member briefings on policy issues.
- 3.2 Therefore, it was decided that the presentation regarding performance against the indicators would be given to the Best Value Performance Review Committee (BVPRC). This had the advantage of allowing time for debate, but the disadvantage of the information only readily being available to the nine Members on the Committee.
- 3.3 At the Authority's Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 26 July 2004, it was agreed that in line with modernisation, the BVPRC would be replaced by the concept of a Lead Member responsible for Performance Management. At an initial meeting with officers the Lead Member, Councillor Lawrence, requested officers to undertake a number of initiatives. The first of these was to produce a report seeking Authority approval to a revised method of reporting data to Members that:-

- 3.3.1 Made it readily available to all Members.
  - 3.3.2 Could be easily understood.
  - 3.3.3 Was based on exception and general reporting.
  - 3.3.4 Was timely yet not time consuming.
  - 3.3.5 Allowed Members the opportunity to request specific analysis e.g. trends over time.
  - 3.3.6 Allow the Lead Member to use 'task and finish' groups to examine specific issues.
- 3.4 Officers believe that the most appropriate way to achieve the requirements set out in 3.3.1 to 3.3.6 is to:-
- 3.4.1 Produce bi-monthly reports to the Executive Committee using report Appendices as set out in the example Appendix to this report.
  - 3.4.2 Draw Members attention to the electronic provision of all these reports on the Authority's Internet site, by the end of October 2004, to enable any issues to be raised in respect of the reports referred to in 3.3.
  - 3.4.3 Provide a contact point of Alan Brandon, Director, Administration. [Alan.Brandon@wmfs.net](mailto:Alan.Brandon@wmfs.net), tel. no. 0121 380 6007, fax: 0121 380 7006 for Members requiring additional analysis and to co-ordinate the establishment of "task and finish" groups as directed by the Lead Member.
  - 3.4.4 Ensure that a review report is brought to the April 2005 Authority meeting, setting out the perceived success or otherwise of this revised method of indicator data reporting. This report to be based on issues raised by Members and officers.

#### 4. **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

A number of the indicators that would be reported to the Authority relate directly to the performance of the Authority in respect of equality and diversity issues.

5. **CORPORATE AIMS SUPPORTED**

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

1. To meet the Fire Authority's statutory duties, standards and expectations.
11. To continuously modernise and improve the quality of service.
12. To improve channels of communication.

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**

There may be some small increase in claims for Members' expenses arising from additional meetings of the Lead Members with officers and from task and finish groups. This can be met from within existing budgets.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Authority Meeting 26<sup>th</sup> July 2004 – Agenda Item 9  
Business and Best Value Performance Plan 2004/2005  
Statistical Files

F. J. E. SHEEHAN  
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

## **APPENDIX I**

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report includes data to the end of June 2004.

| <b>The following indicators are on target:</b> |   |
|--|---|
| •  | Accidental and arson dwelling fires           |
| •  | Arson fires in buildings other than dwellings |
| •  | Arson vehicle fires                           |
| •  | Dwelling fires confined to the room of origin |
| •  | Secondary fires                               |
| •  | Deaths  |
| •  | Special Service calls                         |
| •  | Smoke alarm ownership                         |

| <b>The following indicators are nearly on target:</b> |                                      |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| •   | Malicious false alarm calls received |
| •   | Working smoke alarms                 |
| •   | RIDDOR injuries to all employees     |

| <b>The following indicators require an improvement to meet the target:</b> |  |
|--|--|
| •  | Accidental fires in buildings other than dwellings |
| •  | Malicious false alarms attended                    |
| •  | Defective equipment false alarms                   |
| •  | Injuries at accidental dwelling fires              |
| •  | RIDDOR injuries to firefighters at incidents       |

#### **Example of Indicator Data**

LI 11 The number of accidental fires in dwellings

| 2001/2 | 2002/3 | Target<br>2003/4 | 2003/4 |
|--------|--------|------------------|--------|
| 2,939  | 2,720  | 2,700            | 2,647  |