

**WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY**

**29<sup>th</sup> November 2010**

**1. MEMBERSHIP OF THE AUTHORITY**

Report of the Clerk.

RECOMMENDED

THAT the Authority appoints Councillor Singh to serve on Committees and Panels, and amends substitute membership on the Executive and Standards Committees, as appropriate.

**2. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To notify the Authority of a change to its membership.

**3. BACKGROUND**

3.1 Notification was received from Wolverhampton City Council by a letter dated 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2010 that Councillor Tersaim Singh has replaced Councillor Richard Whitehouse on the Authority. Councillor Singh's term of office commenced, and Councillor Whitehouse's terminated, on 21<sup>st</sup> October, 2010.

3.2 The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 provides that where a joint authority is divided into different political groups, it shall review the representation of those groups. It also has a duty following such a review, to determine the allocation of committee seats to the different political groups into which the Authority is divided. Regulations provide for a political group to comprise two or more members.

Based on the information available to me, the political balance of the Authority, taking into account this change in membership, is as follows:

Labour	12
Conservative	11
Liberal Democrat	4

The change in membership is not sufficient to make a substantive difference to political balance on Committees and Panels.

3.3 Councillor Whitehouse served on the Appeals Committee and the Standards Committee. It is suggested that Councillor Singh replace Councillor Whitehouse on those bodies.

3.4 It will also be necessary for revised nominations to be made in respect of substitute members for Councillor Jackson on the Executive Committee and Councillor Hodgson on the Joint Consultative Panel.

4. **EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

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

5. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Section 31 of the Local Government Act 1985 provides that a constituent council may at any time terminate the appointment of a person appointed by it to a joint authority and appoint another member of the Council in their place.

6. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no additional financial implications arising from change in membership of the Authority.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Letter from Wolverhampton City Council dated 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2010.

SUSAN PHELPS  
CLERK