

<p>Notes of the Policy Planning Forum</p>
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12th June, 2006 at 10.00 a.m.
at the Fire Service Headquarters, Birmingham

Present: **Members of the Authority**

Councillors Birbeck, Bowen, S Davis,
Douglas-Maul, Eustace, Hinton, Hogarth,
Howard, Hussain, Idrees, Jones, Pitt, Rogers,
Ryder, Singh, Stevenson and Tagger;
Mr Topliss.

Officers: **West Midlands Fire Service**

Chief Fire Officer – F Sheehan;
Deputy Chief Officer – V. Randeniya;
Assistant Chief Officers – A Brandon, J Brown,
R Hulland and D Twedde;
M Griffiths and A Rotchell.

Clerk to the Authority

N Sharma, S Hancock and G Wythes.

Treasurer to the Authority

L Bateman.

Apologies: Councillors G Davies, Jackson, Mulhall, Ross and
Ward;

Observers: Councillor Alden, Coughlan, Gazey and Spence.

13/06 **Duty Systems and Shift Patterns - Update**

Members received an update on the current position with regard to the introduction of revised duty systems and shift patterns following the approval of the Authority's latest Integrated Risk Management Plan Action Plan.

Negotiations with appropriate representative bodies were ongoing, although there were still some issues to resolve.

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The Chief Fire Officer also outlined for Members the latest position with regard to national negotiation on modernisation matters.

14/06 Home Fire Safety Checks

Members heard a presentation on progress and proposals for increasing the number of Home Fire Safety Checks to be provided within the communities of the West Midlands. There was a number of 'at risk' groups that it was important to target, and it was hoped to carry out 40,000 Home Fire Safety Checks overall in 2006/07.

An important element of this work was to raise awareness of the availability of domestic sprinkler systems. There were plans to fit up to 10 such systems in 2006/07.

Reference was made to the current campaign to increase the number of sprinkler systems installed in new build public buildings such as schools.

(Meeting ended at 11.55 a.m.)

<p><i>Contact Officer: Georgina Wythes Democratic Services Unit Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council 0121 569 3791</i></p>
