

**WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY**

**13th February 2006**

**1. CLERK TO THE AUTHORITY**

Report of the Clerk

RECOMMENDED

- (1) THAT the Executive Committee receive a report on the options for the future arrangements for the clerking of the Authority and be authorised to make a decision thereon on behalf of the Authority.

**2. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report is submitted to inform the Authority that I shall be taking early retirement from my post as Chief Executive of Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council with effect from 19th March, 2006.

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 I shall be taking early retirement from my post as Chief Executive of Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council with effect from 19th March, 2006.
- 3.2 The job description for my successor at Sandwell Council will not include the role of Clerk to the Fire Authority and alternative arrangements will therefore have to be made.
- 3.3 The next meeting of the Authority does not take place until 24th April, 2006, and consideration needs to be given to alternative clerking arrangements as a matter of urgency. It is therefore proposed to report to the next meeting of the Executive Committee to be held on 6th March, 2006, setting out the options for the future arrangements for clerking the Authority, and that the Committee makes a decision on behalf of the Authority on the way forward.
- 3.4 The current arrangement whereby Lynda Bateman, Director of

Finance and Business Services with Sandwell Council, acts as Treasurer to the Authority is not affected by my departure.

4. **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY**

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

5. **CORPORATE AIMS SUPPORTED**

The principal corporate aim supported by the information in this report is as follows:

1. Meeting the Fire Authority's statutory duties, standards and expectations.

6. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 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**

- 7.1 The financial implications of any changes in the clerking arrangements for the Authority will be fully explored in the forthcoming report to the Executive Committee.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None.

F. N. SUMMERS  
CLERK