

**WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY**

**27 JUNE 2011**

1. **TETTENHALL GARAGE REFURBISHMENT (YOUTH & COMMUNITY FACILITY)**

Report of the Chief Fire Officer.

RECOMMENDED

THAT the Authority approves the acceptance of £45,540 in order to refurbish the old garage at Tettenhall Fire Station creating a small youth and community facility.

2. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report is submitted to seek the Authority's approval to accept £45,540 from Wolverhampton City Council. This would enable the refurbishment of the garage building at the rear of Tettenhall Fire Station into a facility that can be used for activities for young people to include a Young Firefighters' Association (YFA).

3. **BACKGROUND**

3.1 Station personnel at Tettenhall Fire Station wish to create a Young Firefighters' Association group and also provide a broader range of activities for young people (utilising their boxing and climbing skills and knowledge).

3.2 Ongoing links and support were gained with local community groups to include community workers and local residents. It was established through a local audit that there was a lack of youth provision for children and young people in the Tettenhall area. The disused garage at Tettenhall Fire Station was identified as an ideal venue for this facility.

3.3 A capital funding bid was submitted to Wolverhampton City Council (through the Safer Wolverhampton Partnership).

3.4 Funding was approved in late March 2011 with the agreement that a Steering Group including local residents be created to help develop and manage the resource (ensuring community involvement) and that the facility be available for possible use by other outside groups in addition to the YFA.

3.5 The project supports:

- Safer Wolverhampton Partnership Plan – reducing serious acquisitive crime and anti-social behaviour in particularly building public reassurance.
- West Midlands Fire Service Plan – work with partners to improve the Safety, Health and Wellbeing of our local community.
- Wolverhampton level 3 plan – improve health and wellbeing of our communities.

3.6 The West Midlands Fire Service Local Area Liaison Officer has worked with Tettenhall District Community Council to set up a local Steering/Management Group including public sector workers, local residents and community representatives.

3.7 The time frame for the project starting from mid June 2011 would be 12-14 weeks in total. This takes into consideration tendering, planning and building processes. The garage activity building should be ready for use in October 2011.

#### 4. **EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

In preparing this report an initial Equality Impact Assessment is required and has been carried out. The initial Equality Impact Assessment did not raise issues which required a full Equality Impact Assessment to be completed.

#### 5. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 This initiative supports the Fire and Rescue Service National Framework 2008/11 – Chapter 4 – Governance and Improvement, especially the influencing of Local Strategic Partnership objectives.

5.2 There will be no formal agreement relating to this initiative and the management will be carried out via the Steering Group as detailed in

paragraph 3.4 above.

## 6. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The estimated £45,540 cost of the proposed capital project is made up of £25,090 for building adaptations and £20,450 for equipment (including climbing wall, boxing equipment and equipment for the Young Firefighters' Association). The total cost would be fully funded by the capital grant from the Safer Wolverhampton Partnership.
- 6.2 Estimated annual expenditure would be approximately £1,500 per annum and would be met through Wolverhampton Operations Command area budget (as with other existing YFA buildings).

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Bid Document & costings

Letters of support from Tettenhall Wood School and Tettenhall District Community Council

Tettenhall District Community Council Children & Young People's Task Group local audit of youth provision

VIJ RANDENIYA  
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER