

WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

5TH DECEMBER 2005

1. LETTER TO THE AUTHORITY FROM UNISON

Report of the Chief Fire Officer.

RECOMMENDED

THAT the Authority notes the contents of the letter from Unison.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report is submitted to inform the Authority that a letter has been received from Unison providing an update on its activities since it was provided with the facility of a full time official in 2003.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 At the meeting of the Authority's Chair's Committee on 7th May 2003, it was agreed that the level of trade union support for Unison be increased to one full time funded Brigade post. Since then, Unison has been active in developing its branch within West Midlands Fire Service.

3.2 On 2nd November 2005, a letter was received from Unison providing both an update on the Union's activities and offering its thanks to the Authority for the support it has received. A copy of the letter is attached for information.

3.3 The Authority is recommended to note the contents of the letter from Unison.

4. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

The provision of a fully funded post for Unison, who represent the Authority's support staff, provides a degree of parity with the level of support offered to uniformed firefighters.

5. **CORPORATE AIM SUPPORTED**

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

12. Improving channels of communication.

6. **TRADE UNION CONSULTATION**

It was not necessary to consult with the trade unions over this report as it relates to an update to the Authority from one of the recognised representative bodies over its activities.

7. **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.

8. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications associated with the recommendations in this report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Chairs' Committee Meeting on 7th May 2003.
Human Resources Department Files.

F. J. E. SHEEHAN
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER