

Notes of the Policy Planning Forum

10th November, 2008, at 9.30 a.m.
at Fire Service Headquarters, Birmingham

Present: **Members of the Authority**
Councillors Alden, Ali Khan, Chambers, Clinton,
Douglas-Maul, Delaney, Eustace, Gazey, Hinton,
Howard, Idrees, Jones, Mulhall, Robinson,
Ryder, S Davis, Skinner, Spence, Stevenson,
Tagger, Turner, Tweddle and Ward.
Messrs Bagley and Topliss.

Officers: **West Midlands Fire Service**
Chief Fire Officer – F Sheehan;
Assistant Chief Officers – A Brandon D Tweddle;
R Deeks, M Griffiths and D Johnson;
C Newton, S Vincent and R. Campbell.

Clerk to the Authority
N Sharma, S Phelps, G. Wythes, A. Cowley.

Treasurer to the Authority
L Bateman.

Apologies: Councillors G. Davies, O'Neill, Singh and Sutton;
Messrs Ager and Denny.

23/08 **Chief Fire Officer's Introduction**

The Chief Fire Officer welcomed Members of the Fire Authority and informed them that the transfer of the Brigade's fire control to the new Headquarters building had gone smoothly, including the upgrading of the response system. He explained that the system had improved capability to despatch and track machines and would provide an improved and more resilient service. A Member visit to fire control would be arranged shortly.

He reported that a major incident had recently occurred in Bilston, and fifteen pumps had been used to tackle the difficult fire, which had started in the roof of a copper manufacturer.

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24/08 Sedgley Fire Station – Outcome of Consultation Proposals

Members received an update on the outcome of the public consultation regarding the provision of fire cover from Sedgley fire station. It was reported that a large quantity of petitions, and also individual responses, had been received.

Members were reminded that the proposals were based on operational risk analysis and that other fire stations in the area were able to provide a quicker response in the event of an incident. Members discussed the points raised by the consultees and the proposed responses of the Authority.

A report on the proposals would be considered by the Executive Committee immediately following this meeting.

25/08 UK-ISAR

Officers from the United Kingdom International Search and Rescue Team gave a general overview of the service that the team provides, together with details of some specific incidents they had attended whilst deployed overseas.

Councillor Ward gave an update on the future planning for the 2012 Olympic Games.

(Meeting ended at 12 noon)

<p><i>Contact Officer: Andrea Cowley Democratic Services Unit Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council 0121 569 3171</i></p>
