

<p>Minutes of the Executive Committee</p>
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5th March 2007 at 12 noon
at Fire Service Headquarters,
Lancaster Circus Queensway, Birmingham

Present: Councillor Hinton (Chair);
Councillor Hogarth (Vice-Chair);
Councillors Bowen, Eustace, Howard, Idrees and Ward.

Observers: Councillors Birbeck, S Davis, Douglas-Maul, Jackson,
Jones, Rogers, Ryder; Singh and Tagger.
Mr Topliss.

11/07 **Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) Operational Assessment**

The Committee was informed that the Authority had been judged as 'Performing well' in terms of the recent assessment of its operational performance under the CPA process.

The Authority had originally received a 'Good' rating following the full CPA and this score had not changed. However, the Audit Commission had chosen to break down the current round of the process into a series of stages.

There were two parts to the operational assessment; the first involved a visit from the Department for Communities and Local Government. The second looked at data provided in response to performance against some of the Authority's best value performance indicators.

Officers would now be drawing up action plans to be incorporated into other departmental action plans dealing with specific issues and recommendations arising from the report. The Performance Improvement Department would subsequently be looking at the overall outcomes of the CPA process and assessing the steps required to move the brigade from a good performing authority to one judged as excellent.

A further report would be submitted to the Authority on 23rd April 2007 which would deal with the Direction of Travel stage of the CPA assessment.

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12/07 Exclusion of the Public and Press

Resolved that the public and press be excluded from the rest of the meeting to avoid the possible disclosure of exempt information under Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006 relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person, including the authority holding the information.

13/07 National Firecontrol Project – Transition Planning

With reference to Minute No. 78/06 (13th November, 2006) the Committee received an overview of the National Transition Plan in relation to the National Fire Control Project. The plan identified the high level activities which the National Project Team were addressing, those to be addressed at regional/Local Authority Controlled Company level and those which were the responsibility of the Fire and Rescue Services (FRS). It was proposed to set up a project management process to deliver those areas identified as FRS responsibility.

Transition funding of £425,821 (over two financial years) had been allocated from the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG). The West Midlands Region was currently the fourth region planned to change to an RCC in 2009/2010. If the region were requested to complete the works required by an earlier date, an application would need to be made to the DCLG for further funding.

Resolved:-

- (1) that approval be given to the project management approach proposed to carry out the responsibilities of West Midlands Fire Service in relation to the implementation of a Regional Control Centre as identified within the National Transition Plan;
- (2) that approval be given to the proposed allocation of transition funding to deliver the activities in preparation for the implementation of the Regional Control Centre.

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(Meeting ended at 12.20 pm)

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