

**WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY**

**Standards Committee**

**31<sup>st</sup> March 2008**

1. **LOCAL ASSESSMENT – TRAINING EXERCISE FOR STANDARDS COMMITTEES**

Report of the Monitoring Officer.

**RECOMMENDED**

THAT Standards Committee participate in the training exercise and consider any learning points from the exercise with the view to adopting effective procedures and processes in preparation for the additional legislative duties in relation to the local assessment of allegations.

2. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

The purpose of this report is to facilitate a training exercise developed by the Standards Board to equip members with the necessary skills to receive complaints about members and decide whether any action needs to be taken.

3. **BACKGROUND**

The full training exercise contains 12 cases. At this meeting Cases A, B, C and D are included as part of this report for consideration. The training exercise can be continued at future meetings if members agree to do this. Attached to this report is a covering document from the Standards Board providing guidance on the exercise to be undertaken, the bundle of documents in relation to each of the four cases and for reference the Authority's Code of Conduct for Members. The Monitoring Officer will be available to advise but the exercise is primarily for members to gain experience.

4. **EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

In preparing this report an initial Equality Impact Assessment is not required and has not been carried out.

5. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

The participation in this training exercise developed by the Standards Board will lead to some timely learning and more effective local procedures, processes and decision making that will subsequently be monitored and audited by the Standards Board and other regulators.

It is anticipated that the local assessment duties will be implemented from May 2008.

6. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

N SHARMA  
MONITORING OFFICER