

Minutes of the Executive Committee

9th June 2008, at 10.30 am
at Fire Service Headquarters,
Lancaster Circus Queensway, Birmingham

Present: Councillor Howard (Chairman);
Councillor Ward (Vice-Chairman);
Councillors S Davis, Foster, Hinton, Idrees and Jackson.

25/08 Northfield Blue Watch – Presentation of a Trophy for the Road Traffic Collision Competition

The CFO reported that a crew from Northfield Blue Watch had won the Brigade Final of the Road Traffic Collision Extrication Challenge Competition. Members of the crew had also won the runners up trophy for the Brigade First Aid and Trauma Management Competition. Finally, the crew had also won the North East Regional Road Traffic Collision Extrication Challenge Competition as invited guests of West Yorkshire Fire Service, beating teams from 15 other Brigades.

The Committee congratulated the officers and the Chairman presented them with trophies and a bronze figure of a firefighter holding extrication equipment.

26/08 West Midlands Fire Service Annual Report 2007/2008

The Committee considered a draft version of the Annual Report for the 2007/2008 financial year, which set out the Authority's progress and achievements in the areas of prevention, protection (advice and enforcement), emergency response and organisation. The Authority's external auditors had been consulted on the plan and they had confirmed that the report addressed the ongoing requirements of the Local Government Act 1999 in relation to Best Value.

The Committee congratulated officers on their hard work in achieving the targets.

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It was noted that as of 1st April 2008 there was no longer a requirement to publish the data relating to performance indicators in the format shown in the Plan.

Resolved that the draft Annual Report for 2007/2008 be approved.

27/08 Audit and Inspection Plan 2008/2009

The Committee noted the proposed audit and inspection work being carried out by the Audit Commission in the 2008/2009 financial year.

The Audit Commission would be undertaking a range of audit and inspection work including Direction of Travel; Use of Resources, Value for Money; Data Quality, Financial Statements, Accounts and Service Assessments. The fee to the Authority for the work for 2008/2009 was £86,373. This represented an increase on previous years to the inclusion of the Use of Resources assessment and Data Quality Work.

The Plan took into account the requirements of moving from Comprehensive Performance Assessment to Comprehensive Area Assessment.

28/08 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 that information).

29/08 Procurement of Twelve Pump Rescue Ladders: Vehicles Replacement Plan 2008/2010

Approval was sought to procure twelve pump rescue ladder appliances in accordance with the agreed vehicle replacement plan for the financial years 2008/2009 and 2009/2010.

A mini-tendering process had been undertaken, as stipulated by the FiReBuy National Framework Agreement, and two companies had

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returned completed tender responses. Following an evaluation process, John Dennis Coachbuilders Ltd was recommended as the preferred supplier due to their higher score, particularly in respect of delivery dates and warranties offered.

The cost of the appliances over a two year contract period was £2,338,196, which would be met from capital funding identified as part of the vehicle replacement programme.

Resolved that approval be given to the procurement of twelve pump rescue ladders from John Dennis Coachbuilders Ltd at a cost of £2,338,196 over a two year contract period.

30/08 **Award of Furniture Contracts for New Fire Service Headquarters**

Approval was sought to award contracts for the supply of furniture and storage for the new Fire Service Headquarters.

Tenders had been invited through an Office of Government Commerce Procurement Framework. Following an evaluation process of the tenders received, which considered cost, technical quality and service delivery, it was recommended that the contracts be awarded to OEP Furniture Group.

The total cost of the two contracts was £198,489 and would be met from within the overall budget approved for the new headquarters capital scheme.

Resolved that approval be given to the procurement of furniture for the new Fire Service Headquarters from OEP Furniture Group at a cost of £198,489.

31/08 **Thanks**

The Committee noted that Councillors Foster and Jackson would not been returning to the Authority in 2008/2009. The Chair thanked them for their

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(Meeting ended at 11.03 am)

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