

**WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**24<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2014**

1. **PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN WEST  
MIDLANDS FIRE SERVICE (WMFS) AND WEST MIDLANDS  
AMBULANCE SERVICE (WMAS)**

Joint report of the Chief Fire Officer (CFO) and Clerk and  
Monitoring Officer

RECOMMENDED

THAT the Executive Committee approve the appointment of  
Councillor Adam Aston as West Midlands Fire and Rescue  
Authority (WMFRA) Member liaison for CFO and WMFS officers in  
matters relating to the partnership with WMAS.

2. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report is submitted for approval to appoint Councillor Aston  
as WMFRA Member liaison for the CFO and WMFS officers  
respect of matters relating to the collaborative partnership  
between the WMFS and WMAS.

3. **BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The Service sets out in its corporate strategy, The Plan, how it  
will achieve its vision of 'Making West Midlands safer' through  
working in partnership to target and deliver services to those who  
are at risk. In support of this WMFS has in place established  
partnership arrangements with WMAS. To date, the partnership  
work has focused on the following areas:

- Co-location – an agreement is in place to enable WMAS  
response vehicles to work directly out of, or use as standby  
points, the majority of WMFS premises.

- The identification of a joint prevention strategy between the WMFS and WMAS.
  - Exploratory investigation into whether WMFS can support WMAS with regard to attending their critical incidents.
- 3.3 The partnership would benefit from ongoing Member involvement to inform its direction of travel. Specifically it is proposed that Councillor Aston becomes the Member liaison for the CFO and WMFS officers in matters relating to the partnership.
- 3.4 As well as being a WMFRA Member, Councillor Aston is a WMAS paramedic and Staff Governor on the WMAS foundation trust, so is ideally suited to undertake this role.
- 3.5 Councillor Aston has contributed to this partnership before through informing the relocation of WMAS hub at Henrietta Street to Aston Community Fire Station and the future development of a shared facility. WMFS recognises the value of this contribution and in making this recommendation seeks to maximise the benefits of the partnership and further improve outcomes for the West Midlands community.
- 3.6 Any matters that require substantive decisions will continue to be undertaken in accordance with the existing decision making framework as set out in the Constitution.

#### 4. **EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

In preparing this report an initial Equality Impact Assessment is not required and has not been carried out. The matters contained in this report do not relate to policy change.

#### 5. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Fire and Rescue Authorities have a general power of competence when in pursuance of their statutory duties.

#### 6. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Any expenses incurred in the discharge of this duty would be met from existing budgets.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

The contact name for this report is ACFO Gary Taylor, 0121 380 6006.

PHIL LOACH  
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

NEERAJ SHARMA  
CLERK & MONITORING  
OFFICER