



Report

Report number/reference: GW	Date issued: 17th July 2008
Agenda Item: 7	Date of Meeting: 24th July 2008
This report is: For Decision	Meeting Venue: Sandwell Council House
This report is: To ask the Board to agree governance arrangements for 2008/09.	
Report Status: This report sets out proposed governance arrangements for the Regional Management Board.	




Report Title:

Governance Arrangements 2008/09

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• WMRMB	

Summary:
This report sets out the existing governance arrangements for the West Midlands Regional Management Board and highlights areas that need review or confirmation by the Board.

- Recommendation(s):
1. **That the governance arrangements approved by the Board on 5th June, 2006 [Minute No 22/06] be confirmed;**
 2. **That the Programme Board be reconstituted for 2008/09 with the same membership and terms of reference as in 2007/08.**

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1. Background Details:

General

- 1.1 Members will recall that the five constituent Fire Authorities made an agreement relating to the Constitution and Standing Orders of the West Midlands Regional Management Board which came into effect on 1st April 2004.
- 1.2 The Regional Management Board [RMB] at its meeting on 5th June, 2006 [Minute No 22/06] approved a document setting out its governance and organisation arrangements. No substantive changes are proposed to the governance arrangements in 2008/09 apart from a reduction in the number of meetings which has already been agreed [Min No 8/08]. The Board is reminded that its acts, proceedings and recommendations have to be endorsed by each constituent Fire Authority. Each Fire Authority has an emergency decision making process that is utilised where RMB decisions need to be implemented as a matter of urgency.

Programme Board

- 1.3 The RMB at its Annual Meeting in May 2004 established a Programme Board to provide senior level sponsorship of the regional modernisation programme in relation to investment decisions and the rationale and objectives for the Programme. The Programme Board was established as a member/officer working group comprising the Chairs of the constituent Fire Authorities, advised by the five Chief Fire Officers and supported by the Programme Office. The Programme Board has no delegated powers and works within the parameters set out in the approved Programme Plan. As a working group, meetings of the Programme Board are not subject to the requirements of the Local Government Act 1972 in relation to access to information or admission of the public and press.

It is recommended that the Programme Board be reconstituted for 2008/09 with the same membership and terms of reference as in 2007/08.

2. Legal Implications:

- 2.1 The RMB is a joint committee under Sections 101 and 102 of the Local Government Act 1972. The obligations of the constituent fire authorities and various other provisions are set out in a formal Agreement and Standing Orders.

3. Financial Implications:

- 3.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

4. Background Papers:

'WMRMB Governance and Organisation Arrangements' March 2006

5. Attachments:

None
