

**REPORT OF THE HEREFORD & WORCESTER FIRE AND RESCUE
AUTHORITY TO THE CONSTITUENT AUTHORITIES**

AUTHORITY MEETING HELD ON 17 FEBRUARY 2010

1.	<p>APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF FIRE OFFICER/ CHIEF EXECUTIVE</p> <p>Mr. Paul Hayden, Chief Fire Officer/Chief Executive had notified the Authority of his intention to retire from the Service on 12 May 2010. The Appointments Committee recommended the appointment of Mr. Mark Yates,</p> <p>The Authority resolved to ratify the appointment of Mr. Mark Yates, currently Deputy Chief Fire Officer with Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service, as Chief Fire Officer/Chief Executive, subject to satisfactory medical reports, with effect from a date to be agreed with him.</p>
2.	<p>SERVICE REPORT</p> <p>The Meeting noted the increased number of incidents attended by the Service over the October – December 2009 quarter which was largely due to the bad weather.</p> <p>The Authority congratulated the Chief Fire Officer, Paul Hayden, who has been awarded the Queen’s Fire Service Medal in the New Years Honours List.</p> <p>The Chief Fire Officer updated Members on a recent incident at Evesham which was under investigation by the police. The Authority was satisfied that the Service had responded as well as possible in difficult circumstances.</p> <p>Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service is to receive just over £1m funding to help support rescue teams that can deal with major incidents such as extreme weather, building collapses or terrorism.</p> <p>The extra funding, amounting to £1,043,001, helps HWFRS to provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two Urban Search and Rescue teams based at Droitwich• A search dog and handler• Two mass decontamination units based at fire stations in Hereford and Droitwich• Enhanced command facilities incorporating advanced satellite communications within Herefordshire• High volume pumping vehicles based at Kidderminster (as proved so useful during the floods of 2007). <p>This will enable Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Authority to operate one of the largest fleets of its kind outside London.</p>

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3.	BUDGET & PRECEPT AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN The Authority approved: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the Capital Budget and Programme totalling £3,980,000;• the Revenue Budget of £31,123,000 (Net Budget Requirement £31,394,675);and• the consequential precept of £20,643,848, Band D equivalent £73.64.
4.	THE ANNUAL AUDIT LETTER 2008/09 The Authority noted the Annual Audit Letter from the Audit Commission which assessed the Authority as “ <i>performing well</i> ” in its arrangements for Managing Finance, Governing the Business and Managing Resources. The Audit Commission reported that the Authority maintained its track record as a high performing organisation and was among the best services in the country for promoting equality and diversity.

**PAUL HAYDEN
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER/CHIEF EXECUTIVE
HEREFORD & WORCESTER FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
1 March 2010**

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Agenda and papers of the meeting of the Fire and Rescue Authority held on 17 February 2010.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Any person wishing to seek further information on this report should contact: Corporate Support on 01905 368331. Further information on the Fire and Rescue Authority and the Fire and Rescue Service, including the background papers mentioned above, can also be found on the Internet at (www.hwfire.org.uk).