

Report of Head of Legal Services

11. Appointment to Health and Safety Committee

Purpose of report

1. To agree the appointment of an Authority Member to the Health and Safety Committee.
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Recommendation

It is recommended that the Authority appoints a Member to the Health and Safety Committee.

Introduction and Background

2. One of Hereford & Worcester Fire Authority's aims is to ensure the safety and well-being of its employees and to reduce and prevent accidents and injuries at work. The Health and Safety Committee is established to provide effective arrangements for the review of health and safety matters and to act as a forum for liaison between key stakeholders and departments. Further details with regards to the terms of reference of the Committee can be found at Appendix 1.
3. As the employer and key stakeholder, the Authority has always been represented at Health and Safety Committee meetings to ensure that a direct link is maintained between employers and staff with regards to significant health and safety issues. The Health and Safety Committee meets quarterly and reports regularly to the Policy and Resources Committee.
4. The Authority was previously represented on the Health and Safety Committee by the late Councillor Peter Watts. There is now a vacancy on the Committee and Political Group Leaders have requested that the Authority appoint a new representative.

Conclusion/Summary

5. The Authority is requested to agree the appointment of an Authority Member to the Health and Safety Committee to retain a direct link between employers and staff with regards to significant health and safety issues.

Corporate Considerations

Resource Implications (identify any financial, legal, property or human resources issues)	Minor resource implications with regards to any travel claims submitted by the Authority representative.
Strategic Policy Links (identify how proposals link in with current priorities and policy framework and if they do not, identify any potential implications).	Firefighter safety is a key aim of the Authority and therefore the Authority as the employer, should be represented on the Health and Safety Committee.
Risk Management / Health & Safety (identify any risks, the proposed control measures and risk evaluation scores).	
Consultation (identify any public or other consultation that has been carried out on this matter)	
Equalities (has an Equalities Impact Assessment been completed? If not, why not?)	

Supporting Information

Appendix 1 – Health and Safety Committee Terms of Reference

Contact Officer

Nigel Snape, Head of Legal Services
(01905 368209)
Email: nsnape@hwfire.org.uk