

Wellington Fire Station Co-location with TCAT

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

For further information about this report please contact Paul Raymond, Deputy Chief Fire Officer on 01743 260203 or Andrew Kelcey, Head of Resources, on 01743 260240.

1 Purpose of Report

This report is to update the Strategy and Resources Committee on progress with proposals to co-locate Wellington Fire Station in to the new college planned by Telford College of Arts and Technology (TCAT)

2 Recommendations

The Committee is asked to:

- a) Note the provisions of this report;
- b) Consider the service and financial implications the scheme; and
- c) Authorise Officers to continue work on the development of this scheme.

3 Background

A full report regarding this project was presented to the Fire Authority on 16 July 2008. The Fire Authority requested that this issue be further considered by the Strategy and Resources Committee.

Since this meeting developments with the project are:

A new architect has been appointed in accordance with Learning and Skills Council requirements. This Architect has fully reviewed the scheme and has proposed a revised design which will enable speedier construction in a single phase. This proposal does not affect the amount and type of accommodation available to the Service, but may negate the need for the Service to provide temporary accommodation, reducing cost and disruption to the Service.

Work will be undertaken by Officers to determine costs associated with moving in to a new building. Such costs may include:

- Purchase of new furniture in keeping with the new building
- Relocation of communications and IT server equipment
- Provision of a pager based mobilising system for wholetime crews

4 Staff Consultation

Officers have discussed the Service's requirements with the new Architect and stated the need for the architect to conduct a full and meaningful consultation process with Wellington station staff.

Wider staff consultation is being conducted through the Integrated Risk Management Planning (IRMP) consultation programme.

5 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

6 Legal Comment

The Fire Authority's legal advisors have been consulted regarding this proposal.

They advise that it will be necessary to ensure the documentation contains an obligation on TCAT to provide the Fire Authority with land suitable for a new Fire Station if the lease is not renewed.

The Authority is able to enter into such an agreement if it represents, and is able to demonstrate, value for money.

7 Equality Impact Assessment

An Initial Equality Impact Assessment has not been carried out on this proposal. If approved the design of the college and fire station buildings will be subject to a full equality assessment and construction to current accessibility standards.

8 Appendices

There are no appendices attached to this report.

9 Background Papers

Shropshire and Wrekin Fire Authority

16 July 2008, Report 19 - Wellington Fire Station Co-location with TCAT.

Implications of all of the following have been considered and, where they are significant (i.e. marked with an asterisk), the implications are detailed within the report itself.

Balanced Score Card		Integrated Risk Management Planning	*
Business Continuity Planning		Legal	*
Capacity		Member Involvement	*
Civil Contingencies Act		National Framework	
Comprehensive Performance Assessment		Operational Assurance	
Efficiency Savings	*	Retained	
Environmental		Risk and Insurance	
Financial	*	Staff	*
Fire Control/Fire Link		Strategic Planning	
Information Communications and Technology		West Midlands Regional Management Board	
Freedom of Information / Data Protection / Environmental Information		Equality Impact Assessment	*