

**AGENDA ITEM 2: MINUTES**

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ROYAL BERKSHIRE FIRE AUTHORITY'S PERSONNEL COMMITTEE HELD AT BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS ON MONDAY 17 JANUARY 2000 COMMENCING AT 6.45PM AND CONCLUDED AT 7.32PM**

**Present: J C G Brooks (Chairman), Mrs C Bateson, B J S Patman**

**Also Present: D Ball**

**Apologies: A B V P Hickley, Ms K Peak**

**1.01/00 MEMBERSHIP OF THE PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

It was reported that Councillor Ms K Peak (Reading Borough Council) had been appointed to the Personnel Committee in place of Councillor D A Veakins who had resigned as a Member of the Fire Authority.

**NOTED**

**1.02/00 PART I MINUTES: 9 NOVEMBER 1999**

The Part I Minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 9 November 1999, having been previously circulated, were taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**1.03/00 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION (LGA) RESPONSE TO EQUALITY AND FAIRNESS THEMATIC REVIEW**

The Committee's approval was sought (Agenda item 3 - not reproduced) to the Fire Authority's response to the LGA's request for comments on their proposed response on the recommendations of Her Majesty's Fire Service Inspectorate Thematic Review into Equality and Fairness in the Fire Service.

Members were advised that although the deadline for responses was today the LGA had agreed that, following Members' approval, the Fire Authority could Fax its response.

Consideration was therefore given to the LGA's preliminary comments set out in Appendix 1 (not reproduced) and Members were invited to endorse the response which supported the LGA's proposed comments subject to the additional comments set out in paragraph 3 of the report (not reproduced) relating to the production of new



advisory material and training, Recommendations 17.20 and 18.2 and/or other comments that Members wished to make.

It was therefore agreed that the LGA's comments be endorsed subject to the Brigade's additional comments as set out in paragraph 3 of the report and the following additional comment in respect of Recommendation 18.11:

- "Whilst endorsing the LGA's reservations about a focus on "achievement of targets" as an end, the Authority does see the value of targets as one method of measuring progress towards the achievement of equality and fairness. In addition the collection and sharing of information about successful or otherwise initiatives to recruit under-represented groups is seen as an important step in enabling the Fire Service as a whole to move forward in relation to equality and fairness."

**RESOLVED:** That the Fire Authority's response to the LGA consultation exercise as set out in the report (as amended) be approved.

#### **1.04/00          DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**RESOLVED:** That a further meeting of the Fire Authority's Personnel Committee be arranged for Monday 3 April 2000 commencing at 6.45pm.

#### **1.05/00          EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED:** That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs of Part I of Schedule 12A of the said Act indicated:

	<b>Agenda item</b>	<b>Paragraph</b>
5	Part II Minutes - Tuesday 9 November 1999	1 & 11
6	Review of Statistics Function	1

*Note: The following is a summary of the Agenda items dealt with in Part II of the Personnel Committee meeting held on Monday 17 January 2000*



**1.05/00          PART II MINUTES:          9 NOVEMBER 1999**

The Part II Minutes of the last meeting were received and approved as a correct record.

**1.06/00          REVIEW OF STATISTICS FUNCTION**

The Committee agreed to declare the Statistician post redundant subject to formal consultation with the recognised Trade Union.

Signed:  Date: 3 April 2000  
Chairman

