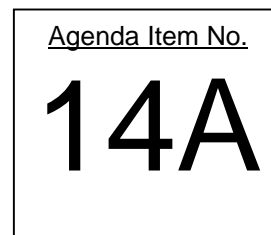


# HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**CABINET**  
**MONDAY 15 MARCH 2004 AT 2.00 P.M.**



## **REGIONAL FIRE MANAGEMENT BOARD - MEMBER REPRESENTATION AND DELEGATION ARRANGEMENTS**

### Report of the Chief Fire Officer

Report author: Steve Seaber Tel:01992 507500

Executive Member: Iris Tarry

### **1. Purpose of Report**

Further to the decisions of Cabinet in January 2004, to seek approval to; revise the level of representation for each Authority in the Eastern Region on the Regional Fire Management Board (RMB), and to agree the delegation of certain functions to the RMB.

### **2. Summary**

At its meeting of 26 January 2004 Cabinet approved arrangements for the establishment of the RMB. This included setting a level of representation at one Elected Member per authority.

The Chairman or Executive Member of each authority met to discuss the views of individual authorities and to finalise an agreement. During the meeting it became apparent that some authorities were unable to agree to the proposed level of representation due to local political structures. In order to facilitate agreement and to allow the establishment of the RMB within the timescale set by Government, members agreed to recommend that each authority should have two representatives on the RMB with provision for a substitute.

In order to enable the RMB to discharge its role the authorities need to delegate the following functions, otherwise exercised by them, to the RMB:

- (i) ensuring resilience to emergencies, especially potential chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear attack,
- (ii) specialist common services, where appropriate, such as fire investigation,
- (iii) establishing regional control rooms,

- (iv) introducing regional-based procurement or procurement to national standards,
- (v) developing regional training strategies and delivery,
- (vi) introducing regional personnel management and human resources management functions.

### **3. Conclusion**

Cabinet is invited to consider the authorisations, delegations and recommendations referred to above and make an appropriate recommendation to Council to amend the Constitution.