

WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND CIVIL DEFENCE AUTHORITY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

4TH APRIL 2005

1. **COMPREHENSIVE PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT (CPA) SELF-ASSESSMENT DOCUMENT**

Report of the Chief Fire Officer.

RECOMMENDED

- 1.1 THAT the Committee note the Authority's CPA self-assessment document (attached as Appendix 1).

2. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report is submitted to inform Members of the content of the CPA self-assessment document prior to the Corporate Assessment of the Authority between 21st and 27th April 2005.

3. **BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Following extensive work involving staff and Members over the last two months, a CPA self-assessment has been prepared for submission to the Audit Commission. This document gives background information about the Authority and provides summarised responses to the "Key Lines of Enquiry" (KLOEs) that form the basis of CPA.
- 3.2 A draft self-assessment was circulated to Members at the meeting of the Authority on 14th February 2005. The Authority was subject to peer challenge by a team from the West Midlands Regional Fire Authorities on 22nd and 23rd February 2005. The constructive feedback from this review has been taken into account in modifying the self-assessment. The peer challenge team also helped with the development of an improvement plan and this has been included in the final document.

- 3.3 The final submission was required to be with the Audit Commission by 21st March 2005. Modification work was being completed against very tight timescales and the final version of the CPA document has been brought to the earliest Committee after the Audit Commission deadline for Members to note.
- 3.4 The self-assessment will be a key document during the Corporate Assessment by the Audit Commission taking place between the 21st and 27th April 2005. Members are asked to familiarise themselves with the document. Any queries may be directed to the Director of Performance and Planning. A Members workshop is scheduled for 6th April 2005. The contents of the self-assessment and the CPA process will be further discussed at that time.

4. **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

CPA supports continuous improvement of the service we provide to the community based on need, irrespective of race, gender, religion and disability.

5. **CORPORATE AIMS SUPPORTED**

The principal corporate aims supported by the information in this report are as follows:

1. To meet the Fire Authority's statutory duties, standards and expectations.

11. To continuously modernise and improve the quality of service.

6. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

The course of action recommended in this report does not raise issues which should be drawn to the attention of the Authority's Monitoring Officer.

7. **TRADE UNION CONSULTATION**

The Trade Unions have been involved in the process of preparation of the self-assessment, attending a workshop for that purpose. They have been sent drafts and the final version of the document and have been interviewed as part of peer challenge and have also been invited to participate in the CPA Corporate Assessment in April 2005.

8. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Audit Commission guidance on CPA including specific guidance for Fire Authorities.

F. J. E. SHEEHAN
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER