

WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

AUDIT AND PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

26 MARCH 2012

1. **AUDIT AND PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE –
SKILLS AUDIT RESULTS**

Report of the Audit Services Manager [Sandwell MBC].

RECOMMENDED

THAT the Committee gives consideration to the results of the latest Audit and Performance Management Committee Skills Audit, and agrees priorities for its training programme.

2. **PURPOSE OF REPORT.**

- 2.1 To ask the Committee to give consideration to the results of its latest skills audit and to agree priorities for its training programme.

3. **BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The annual skills audit gives members the opportunity to record details of any relevant experience and knowledge and to identify areas where they feel they would benefit from additional training. The results of the skills audit will be assessed and a plan of action drawn up to address any training gaps.
- 3.2 Six skills audit forms have been completed, returned and are summarised below.

Knowledge/expertise in the following areas	Low	Moderate	High
General business management		4	2
Staff management		4	2
Understanding Financial Statements		4	2
Understanding Local Authority Accounting Standards and Regulations		6	
The role of Internal Audit	1	3	2
The role of External Audit	1	3	2
Fraud Management	2	3	1
Risk Management	1	3	2
The Assurance Framework	3	1	2
The Audit Committee terms of reference and legislative requirements		5	1
The cycle of the Committee's business	2	3	1
Financial Regulations	2	3	1
Contract Standing Orders	3	2	1
Understanding the Governance Statement		4	2
The role of the Treasurer		5	1
The role of the Monitoring Officer		5	1
The Fire Service's key priorities and strategic objectives as set out in 'The Plan'		4	2
Performance reporting framework in place to support the delivery of the key priorities and strategic objectives as set out in 'The Plan'		6	
<p>Are there any particular areas related to your membership of The Audit Committee on which you would like training:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue development of knowledge re: internal audit, strategic objectives and plans of WMFS and associated risk mitigation processes. • All related matters in finance and risk management. • At induction – input in role and activity of the Committee 			

3.3 The Committee is now requested to give consideration to the results of its skills audit and to agree priorities for its training programme.

4. **EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

In preparing this report an initial Equality Impact Assessment is not required and has not been carried out. The matters contained in this report will not lead to and/or do not relate to a policy change.

5. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

The Accounts and Audit Regulations Act states that a relevant body must “maintain an adequate and effective system of internal audit of its accounting records and of its system of internal control in accordance with the proper internal audit practices”.

6. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

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