

**WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY**

**27 JUNE 2022**

1. **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE  
2021/22**

Report of the Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee.

**RECOMMENDED**

- 1.1 THAT the Authority receives the Annual Report 2021/22 of the Audit and Risk Committee.

2. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report is submitted to bring to the attention of the Authority the Annual Report of the Audit and Risk Committee 2021/22.

3. **BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Enabling the Authority to be fully effective in comprehending and assessing the control environment within which West Midlands Fire Service operates, the Audit and Risk Committee present an annual report of its activities to the Authority.
- 3.2 The Annual Report for 2021/22 is attached as an Appendix for consideration by the Authority. The report was approved by the Audit and Risk Committee on the 6 June 2022.
- 3.3 The Committee maintained its functioning throughout the Service business continuity and recovery phases of the COVID-19 pandemic. It met in a hybrid format, Members in the room enabling decision making supported by discussion from Members joining virtually online.

#### **4. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 4.1 In preparing this report an initial Equality Impact Assessment is not required and has not been carried out because the matters contained in this report do not relate to a policy change.

#### **5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 The Authority has a duty under the Local Government Act 1999 to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

#### **6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 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”.

#### **7. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

#### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Annual Report of the Audit and Risk Committee 2021/22, Audit and Risk Committee, 6 June 2022.

Chair of the Audit Committee