

WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

18 SEPTEMBER 2017

1. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2016/17

Report of the Chief Fire Officer and the Treasurer.

RECOMMENDED

- 1.1 THAT the Statement of Accounts for 2016/17 set out in Appendix A be noted.
- 1.2 THAT the Statement of Accounts summary for 2016/17 set out in Appendix B be noted.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report is submitted for Members to note the Authority's Statement of Accounts for the financial year ended 31 March 2017.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 require that the accounts be submitted to Members for approval by the end of September. The Audit Committee at its meeting on 24th July 2017 approved the Statement of Accounts for 2016/17.
- 3.2 It is a further requirement of the Regulations that Members are informed of any material changes required by the external auditors. The Audit Findings Report was presented to the Audit Committee on 24th July 2017 outlining the findings of the audit work undertaken. Following the Audit Committee meeting, the auditor issued an unqualified opinion on the Authority's 2016/17 financial statements included in the Authority's Statement of Accounts.
- 3.3 The Accounts show net cost of services in 2016/17 of £107.2 million including an appropriation to earmarked reserves of £3.569 million. General balances have increased by £0.003 million to £9.236 million.

- 3.4 The total Provision of Services in 2016/17 shows a deficit of £58.881 million, after allowing for the required accounting treatment of pensions governed by International Accounting Standard – Nineteen (IAS19). Capital expenditure totalled £3.677.
- 3.5 A Statement of Accounts is attached as Appendix A and a summary of accounts is attached as Appendix B, both are available on the Fire Service Internet and can be viewed at <https://www.net/your-fire-service/openness/documents>.
- 3.6 A hard copy of the full Statement of Accounts can be supplied to individual Members on request and will be available to view at the Authority meeting.

4. **EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

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**

The course of action recommended in this report will enable the Authority to meet its statutory obligations under the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.

6. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

These are contained in the report and the Statement of Accounts.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015
Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting 2016/17
Final Accounts Files – Finance Office.

The contact officer for this report is Deputy Chief Fire Officer Philip Hales, telephone number 0121 380 6907.

PHIL LOACH
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

MIKE GRIFFITHS
TREASURER