

WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

22ND - JUNE 2009

1. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE 2008/09

Report of the Chairman of the Audit Committee.

RECOMMENDED

- 1.1 That the Authority receives the Audit Committee's Annual Report for 2008/09.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report is submitted to bring to the attention of the Authority the Annual Report of the Audit Committee for 2008/2009.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 In January 2009 the Audit Committee undertook its first annual self-assessment, in accordance with Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy [CIPFA] recommendations.
- 3.2 One of the Committee's conclusions was that, in order for the Authority to be fully effective in comprehending and assessing the control environment within which West Midlands Fire Service operated then it was necessary for the Committee to present an annual report to the Authority.
- 3.3 I have prepared a report on behalf of the Audit Committee, which was approved by the Committee at its meeting on 8th June, 2009.
- 3.4 The Annual Report is attached as an Appendix for consideration by the Authority.

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 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**

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”.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Annual Internal Audit Report 2008/09.

Councillor Ken Turner
Chairman of the Audit Committee 2008/09