

WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

22 SEPTEMBER 2014

1. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2013/2014

Report of the Treasurer.

RECOMMENDED

- 1.1 THAT the Statement of Accounts for 2013/2014 be approved.
- 1.2 THAT the Statement of Accounts summary set out in Appendix A be noted.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report is submitted to seek the approval of Members for the Authority's Statement of Accounts for the financial year ended 31st March 2014.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2011 require that the accounts be submitted to Members for approval by the end of September.
- 3.2 It is a further requirement of the Regulations that Members are informed of any material changes required by the external auditors. Audit work on the Statement of Accounts has been substantially completed.
- 3.3 The Accounts show net cost of services in 2013/2014 of £119.8 million including an appropriation to earmarked reserves of £6.041 million. General balances have increased by £0.258 million to £9.215 million.
- 3.4 The total Provision of Services in 2013/2014 shows a deficit of £71.557 million, after allowing for the required accounting treatment of pensions governed by International Accounting Standard – Nineteen (IAS19). Within this deficit is £107.6 million on the provision of Fire Services, £82.4 million on Pensions and £0.2 million on Fire Service Emergency Planning and Civil Defence. Capital expenditure totalled £5.096 million.

3.5 A summarised Statement of Accounts is attached as Appendix A. The full Statement of Accounts is available on the Fire Service Internet and can be viewed at <http://www.wmfs.net/content/statement-accounts>.

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 2011. The Clerk and Monitoring Officer has been consulted in the preparation of this report.

6. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

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

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Accounts and Audit Regulations 2011
Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting 2013/2014
Final Accounts Files – Finance Office

The contact name for this report is Mike Griffiths, Strategic Enabler of Finance and Resources, 0121 380 6906.

STUART KELLAS
TREASURER