

WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

21 JULY 2014

1. **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE 2013/14**

Report of the Chair of the Audit Committee.

RECOMMENDED

That the Authority receives the Audit Committee's Annual Report 2013/14.

2. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report is submitted to bring to the attention of the Authority the Annual Report of the Audit Committee for 2013/14.

3. **BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 In January 2009 the Audit Committee undertook its first annual self-assessment, in accordance with CIPFA recommendations. 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.
- 3.2 The Annual Report for 2013/14 is attached as an Appendix for consideration by the Authority. The report was approved by the Audit Committee on 9 June 2014.

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 2013/14.

Tersaim Singh
Chair of the Audit Committee