

**WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY**

**AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE**

**6 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 Committee considers the content and format of its Annual Report 2021/22 for submission to the next meeting of the Authority.

2. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 2.1 This report is submitted to Members to seek approval to the Annual Report of the Audit and Risk Committee 2021/2022.

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 A draft Annual Report for 2021/22 has been prepared by the Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee and is attached for comments by the Committee in preparation for submission of the report to the next meeting of the Authority.
- 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 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”.

### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Annual Report of the Audit and Risk Committee 2021/22.

Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee