

WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

27 SEPTEMBER 2021

1. **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PENSION BOARD 2020/21**

Report of the Chair of the Pension Board.

RECOMMENDED

That the Committee approves the Annual Report of the Pension Board 2020/21.

2. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report is submitted to Members to seek approval to the Annual Report of the Pension Board 2020/21.

3. **BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Enabling the Audit and Risk Committee in its role as Scheme Manager, to be fully effective in comprehending and assessing compliance of regulation relating to the governance of the Pension Schemes; the Pension Board present an annual report of its activities.
- 3.2 The Pension Board maintained its functioning throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. It met virtually to ensure business continuity of its role and reporting to the Audit and Risk Committee as a Standing Committee of 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

Minutes of Pension Board submitted to the Audit and Risk Committee within the period covered by the Annual Report 2020/21

Chair of the Pension Board