

WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

5TH DECEMBER 2005

1. ANNUAL EXTERNAL AUDIT LETTER 2004/2005

Joint report of the Chief Fire Officer and Treasurer

RECOMMENDED

THAT the report be noted.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report is submitted to inform Members of the content of the Annual Audit Letter submitted by the Authority's external auditors, KPMG, for 2004/2005.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 The Authority's external auditor, KPMG have completed their audit cycle for 2004/2005, and have summarised their findings on matters which have arisen during the audit in a letter. A copy of the letter is attached as the Appendix to this report.

3.2 It includes:

3.2.1 Executive summary.

3.2.2 Financial aspects of corporate governance.

3.2.3 Audit of accounts.

3.2.4 Performance management.

3.3 Representatives from KPMG will be present at the meeting to answer Members' questions in relation to this report.

4. **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

Equality and Diversity Policies will be complied with in actions and initiatives arising from the audit.

5. **CORPORATE AIMS SUPPORTED**

The principal corporate aims supported by the information in this report are as follows:-

2. Creating a financial plan, operating within the budget, ensuring the most efficient use of resources.

11. Modernising and improving the quality of service.

6. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

The course of action recommended in this report does not raise issues which should be drawn to the attention of the Authority's Monitoring Officer.

7. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct financial implications for the Authority arising from this report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

KPMG audit management letter 2004/2005

External audit files

Final Accounts 2004/2005 – Files located in Finance Office

F. J. E. SHEEHAN
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

L. BATEMAN
TREASURER