

Statement of Accounts 2013/14

Report of the Treasurer

For further information about this report please contact James Walton, Treasurer, on 01743 255011 or Joanne Coadey, Head of Finance, on 01743 260215.

1 Purpose of Report

This report presents the completed Statement of Accounts to the Committee, for consideration and approval.

2 Recommendations

The Committee is asked to:

- a) Approve the Statement of Accounts 2013/14 (subject to final auditor amendment), subject to the incorporation of the Annual Governance Statement; and
- b) Delegate final amendments following completion of the audit to the Head of Finance, in consultation with the Chair of the Committee.

3 Background

At its meeting in February 2012, the Fire Authority delegated authority to the Audit and Performance Management Committee to consider and approve the annual Statement of Accounts. The Committee will also receive the Annual Governance Report and the opinion of the Auditor, and will sign the Letter of Representation as those charged with governance.

The Statement for 2013/14 has been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and is Appendix A to this report. As it is in excess of 80 pages, a hard copy has not been included with the meeting papers but can be accessed on the Fire Authority's website via the following link:

<https://www.shropshirefire.gov.uk/meeting/11-september-2014>

Appendix B to the report details notable movements between financial years 2012/13 and 2013/14.

4 General Fund

The Statement of Accounts has now been audited by external auditors Grant Thornton, and their conclusions are also reported on this agenda. Key messages from the Statement were reported to the Fire Authority in July 2014, and the proposed use of the General Fund balance will be taken to the meeting of the Strategy and Resources Committee to be held on 18 September, for consideration and recommendation to the Fire Authority.

	£'000
Expenditure that has slipped into 2014/15	153
Balance of General Fund, to be considered by Strategy and Resources Committee	870
Total	1,023

5 Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications other than those within the report.

6 Legal Comment

Under the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011, the Fire Authority is required formally to approve the Statement of Accounts 2013/14 by the end of September 2014.

7 Initial Impact Assessment

The Statement of Accounts is a set of financial statements, set out in response to the CIPFA Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom. An initial Impact Assessment is not, therefore, required.

8 Appendices

Appendix A

Statement of Accounts 2013/14

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Appendix B

Balance Sheet Movements

9 Background Papers

Shropshire and Wrekin Fire and Rescue Authority

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Process for Approval of the Statement of Accounts