

**West Midlands Combined Authority – Decisions taken by the Audit, Risk & Assurance Committee on Monday 12 November 2018**

<b>Agenda Item No</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Decision</b>
1.	Apologies for Absence	Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Adam Aston (Dudley), Councillor Stephen Craddock (Walsall) and Councillor John O'Shea (Birmingham).
2.	Chair's Remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair welcomed Hannah Begum from West Midlands Fire Service.</li> <li>• Sean Pearce, Director of Finance will be leaving WMCA towards the end of December 2018. Process of recruitment to this post is currently being reviewed.</li> </ul>
3.	Minutes of the meeting held on 21 September 2018	The minutes of the meeting held on 21 September 2018 confirmed as a correct record subject to amendments minute No. 95. whereby the minutes should reference 'Unfortunately, there had been one recent death at a bus station, and an inquest had recorded this as accidental death'.
5.	Forward Plan	<p>A forward plan of items to be reported to future meetings of the Committee were noted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chief Executive of West Midlands Combined Authority to be invited to the Committee to answer questions on the effects on resources for the Combined Authority's plan / objectives in relation to the work undertake for the Police &amp; Crime Commissioner merger and other resourcing pressures.</li> <li>• Update of the Governance of subsidiaries; with a particular focus upon 5G.</li> <li>• Proposal on Governance for the absorption of Fire and Rescue to be presented to the Committee in January 2019 for approval.</li> <li>• An update from Health and Safety to address as to whether or not the commitments had been achieved by the 31 December 2018 deadline.</li> </ul>
7.	Internal Audit Update	It was recommended to the WMCA Board that the report be noted with no further action being required.

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8.	WMCA Assurance Overview November 2018	<p>It was recommended to the WMCA Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) That the report provided to the Committee be noted.</li> <li>(2) That the Committee were satisfied with the assurance activity undertaken between April 2018 – October 2018 with the caveat that Assurance requirements will have a step change rise over the next 12 – 24 months.</li> <li>(3) That regular updates on major programme slippage be reported at Committee.</li> </ul>
10.	WMCA Strategic Risk Register Report - November 2018	<p>It was recommended to the WMCA Board that the contents of the Strategic Risk Register be noted with concerns over optimum bias being referenced.</p>
11.	Conflict of Interest Policy for Non-Elected Participants in Combined Authority Governance	<p>It was recommended to the WMCA Board that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) The Conflict of Interest Policy for non-elected participants in WMCA governance processes was agreed.</li> <li>(2) Solihull Independent Person Panel to be appointed as the Designated Independent Person for dealing with any complains under the Code of Conduct for Elected Members.</li> <li>(3) The Monitoring Officer consults with the Chair on behalf of the Committee around the arrangement of appointing Solihull Independent Person Panel and the Terms of Reference.</li> <li>(4) The Committee to be provided with a regularly updated list of those individuals that the policy applies to.</li> </ul>
12.	Transfer of Fire Service Governance - General Update and Outline of Proposed Audit Arrangements	<p>It was recommended to the WMCA Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) That the update of progress towards the transfer of governance from West Midlands Fire Authority to the WMCA be noted.</li> </ul>

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		<p>(2) The Chair to be consulted upon the proposed Governance Arrangements.</p> <p>(3) That the emerging proposals with regard to the handling of Audit, Risk &amp; Assurance arrangements be noted and to be reported back to the Committee in January 2019.</p>