



AGENDA ITEM: 8

NORTH WALES FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY EXECUTIVE PANEL

19th November 2012

IMPROVEMENT ASSESSMENT

Report by Lisa Williams, Wales Audit Office

Purpose of Report

- 1 To present the Improvement Assessment letter to Members.

Background

- 2 Following the introduction of the Local Government (Wales) Measure, the Auditor General is required to undertake an annual Improvement Assessment for each improvement authority in Wales.

Information

- 3 The letter attached from the Auditor General for Wales summarises:
 - the Authority's compliance with its statutory obligations to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement;
 - the Authority's progress on areas for improvement and recommendations identified previously;
 - a brief commentary on any relevant issues that may have emerged since the last report, including comments on how the Authority is addressing financial challenges; and
 - updates to the work plan and timetable for delivering the Improvement Assessment work.

- 4 The Wales Audit Office is satisfied that the Authority has discharged its improvement planning duties under the Measure and has acted in accordance with Welsh Government guidance.
- 5 Two further proposals for improvement have been listed in the letter, they are to: continue to develop corporate processes to promote public engagement and develop methods to use and evaluate the results of public engagement activities more widely, and inform the public how their input influenced what the Authority does.

Recommendation

- 6 That Members note the contents of the letter.