



AGENDA ITEM: 9

NORTH WALES FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY EXECUTIVE PANEL

15 July 2013

ANNUAL IMPROVEMENT REPORT

Report by Ron Price, Wales Audit Office

PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1 The purpose of this report is to present to Members the Annual Improvement Report attached at appendix 1.

BACKGROUND

- 2 Under the Local Government Measure 2009, the Auditor General for Wales (AGW) is required to report on how well public authorities are planning for improvement and delivering their services.

INFORMATION

- 3 The report covers the Authority's delivery and evaluation of services for 2011-12 and its planning of improvement for 2012-13. The annual improvement report is essentially a summary of last year's work which looked at the planning arrangements for 2012-13 as part of the forward looking assessment (reported in improvement assessment letter 1). The 2011-12 actual performance is a 'backward' look as part of the second stage assessment (reported improvement assessment letter 2) together with more analysis of the statistics for 2011-12 in four key areas of work.

- 4 The AGW has concluded, overall, that the Authority is managing its improvement programme well. Other findings about the Authority's work include that:
- it is making progress in delivering improvement in its core functions,
 - its evaluation and reporting of its performance is balanced, but it does not do enough to compare its performance to other similar bodies, and
 - it is likely to comply with the requirement to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in 2012-13.
- 5 Although no formal recommendations have been made, the Authority will be expected to incorporate the report's findings in its planning process in the next financial year.

RECOMMENDATION

- 6 Members are asked to note the annual improvement report.