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MEETING	Shadow Authority
DATE OF MEETING	23 October 2015
SUBJECT OF THE REPORT	Statement of Assurance from DFA and W&S CFA
STATUS OF REPORT	For open publication
PURPOSE OF REPORT	For note
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	Under the Fire and Rescue Services Act and the associated National Framework, all Fire & Rescue Authorities are required to provide an annual assurance statement on financial, governance and operational matters. As external auditors for both Authorities, KPMG have been asked to comment upon the robustness of these statements. We have reviewed these documents and are content that they reflect an accurate position and have no significant issues to raise.
RISK ASSESSMENT	No significant weakness identified through review of each report.
COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT	No separate impact assessment has been carried out in bringing forward this report.
BUDGET IMPLICATIONS	None.
RECOMMENDATIONS	Members are asked to note the contents of the report.
BACKGROUND PAPERS	None
APPENDICES	Statement of Assurance for each of DFA and WSFA.
REPORT ORIGINATOR AND CONTACT	Name: Alex McCabe KPMG, Tel: 02380 202026, Email: alexander.mccabe@kpmg.co.uk

1. Introduction

- 1.1 All Fire & Rescue Authorities are required to provide an annual assurance statement on financial, governance and operational matters and to demonstrate how they have had due regard to the expectations set out in the Integrated Risk Management Plan.
- 1.2 The Statement of Assurance is the responsibility of the Authority and is not subject to the audit requirement. Our statutory audit responsibilities only extend to consideration of the Annual Governance Statement, but on request we have read the additional documents and have no issues or comments to make.

2. Conclusions

KPMG has reviewed each Statement of Assurance and note them to be consistent with our understanding and complete with regards to information included.