Appendix A

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2014/2015 – PRESENTATIONAL ADJUSTMENTS

The following presentational adjustments arising from the external audit have been reflected in the 2014/2015 Statement of Accounts, included with this Agenda:-

Annual Governance Statement

- Page 23 amended to remove reference to an independent review of Internal Audit as this is no longer relevant.

Property, Plant and Equipment

- Note 11 (page 56) capital commitments amended to only include projects that have a signed contract.

Amounts Reported for Resource Allocation

- Note 26 (page 64) amended to remove the 'Reconciliation of Departmental Income and Expenditure to cost of services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account'. This is not required as values in the reconciliation are nil.

External Audit Costs

- Note 30 (page 69) Audit fees payable has been amended as incorrect costs for 2014/2015 were shown.

Impairment Losses

- Note 36 (page 73) has been changed to remove the loss on revaluation of fixed assets included in the note.

Business Rates Appeal Provision

- The provision for business rates appeal has been reclassified to a short term provision in the accounts. Notes 17, 19 and 20 (pages 58 and 59) have been amended to reflect this and the balances changed in the balance sheet (page 29). This is a reclassification in the accounts and does not change the outturn position.

Mr Milne v Government Actuary's Department (GAD) Pension Ombudsman Case

- The Pension Ombudsman published his determination in the case of Mr Milne v the Government Actuary's Department (GAD) which concerns the lump sum paid to a firefighter on retirement. GAD should have updated the basis for the calculation of such lump sums for firefighters who retired between 1st December 2001 and 30th November 2006 and that, as a result, those affected are entitled to higher lump sum payments than what they received. The government has provided written confirmation that grant funding will be made available to meet the additional costs.

- The DCLG has provided a calculator to calculate the additional costs. Using this, a preliminary estimate has been made for the 221 firefighters affected.
- The National Audit Office provided advice that the costs should be reflected as an actuarial pension loss in prior years which means that a Prior Period Adjustment was also required in the accounts of the Authority.
- Note 5 - Post Balance Sheet Event - Adjusting (Page 49) sets out the issue and how it occurred along with Note 40 – Prior Period Adjustment (Pages 78 to 80) which shows in more detail the impact upon the Authority's accounts from 1st April 2013 to date.
- An amended Balance Sheet (Page 29) and the various associated Notes 15, 17, 22 and 38 to the accounts have all been amended, as required, in order to comply with the guidance received.