

# West Yorkshire Fire Authority

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The way West Yorkshire Fire Authority is run and the delivery of its services is **good** (on the scale: excellent/good/fair/weak/poor).

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## What are West Yorkshire Fire Authority's main strengths?

- Members and senior managers are committed to a balanced approach that prioritises prevention and protection initiatives. The Fire Authority is achieving good-quality outcomes that are increasing public safety and reducing risk to the communities.
- Strong leadership is driving change at every level of the service. It has firm, realistic plans and is innovative in its approach to service delivery.
- Financial and human resources have been shifted to support the delivery of new community safety work.
- Partnership working is both proactive and strong. This is enabling the Fire Authority to deliver real benefits to local communities.

## What are West Yorkshire Fire Authority's areas for improvement?

- It does not have an effective performance management framework in place throughout the organisation.
- Performance in relation to some local indicators is not improving.

## What is the Audit Commission's role in CPA?

- *The Audit Commission is an independent body working to check that public money is being spent well on local government, housing, health, community safety and fire and rescue services.*
- *Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) is about helping fire authorities to deliver better services to local people.*
- *Fire CPA is an assessment, at the corporate level, of how well the authority is being run. It does not give an opinion on how well the fire service responds to emergency incidents.*
- *All fire authorities in England were inspected from January to May 2005 and results published in July 2005.*

## What do fire authorities do?

- *All fire authorities have the responsibility to control and administer the business of the fire brigade in their area. They ensure that the duties such as putting out fires, community fire safety, dealing with road accidents and flooding, and responding to major emergencies are correctly discharged.*
  - *The day-to-day management of brigades is delegated to the Chief Fire Officer. Fire authorities oversee and direct the work of the fire brigade.*
  - *The money for these services comes mainly from precepts on council tax, government grants, fees, and charges.*
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## ***What happens next?***

*West Yorkshire Fire Authority will use our report to help it improve the services that it provides to local people. It will be supported in this work by the [Office of the Deputy Prime Minister](#). You can get more information from the Authority's website on [www.westyorksfire.gov.uk](http://www.westyorksfire.gov.uk) or by telephoning 01274 682311.*

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