



Shropshire and Wrekin Fire and Rescue Authority Chair's Report of the Annual Meeting held on 22 June 2022

Election of Chair and Appointment of Vice-Chair

The Fire Authority has elected Councillor Eric Carter as its Chair and appointed Councillor David Minnery as its Vice-Chair until June 2023.

Vote of Thanks and Welcome

The Fire Authority welcomed Councillor Amrik Jhawar from Telford & Wrekin Council.

Code of Corporate Governance 2021/22

Shropshire and Wrekin Fire and Rescue Authority is committed to the principles of effective corporate governance and has, therefore, adopted a Code of Corporate Governance, which is based on guidance issued by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) and the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives and Senior Managers (SOLACE).

The Fire Authority has conducted its annual review of the Code of Corporate Governance and agreed the recommendation of its Standards, Audit and Performance Committee that the Code be formally adopted.

Committee Composition and Allocation of Seats to Political Groups

The Fire Authority has agreed the number of seats on its Committees and the allocations of those seats to political groups.

Committee Membership and Appointments

The Fire Authority has confirmed appointments to its committees and appointed its Chair, Councillor Eric Carter, to the Local Government Association Fire Services Commission.

Councillor Kevin Pardy has been appointed as the Fire Authority's Equality and Diversity Member Champion and Councillor Roger Evans as its Risk Management and Audit Member Champion.

Fire Authority Terms of reference and Committee Constitutions

The Fire Authority agreed its Terms of Reference and agreed the constitutions of its Committees.

Review of Member Role Descriptions

The Fire Authority has agreed the Member Role Descriptions listed below:

- Member
- Chair of the Authority
- Vice-Chair of the Authority
- Leaders of the Main Opposition Groups
- Chair of Strategic Advisory Group
- Equality and Diversity Champion

Review of Standing Orders and Scheme of Delegation to Officers

The Fire Authority has reviewed and agreed its Standing Orders for the Regulation of Proceedings and Business, Standing Orders relating to Contracts, Financial Regulations and the Scheme of Delegation to Officers.

Statement of Accounts 2021/22

The Fire Authority has received a report, setting out the key revenue issues, which have arisen from work on the Statement of Accounts 2021/22 and has approved the use of the General Fund balance in 2022/23.

Further Amendments to the Pay Policy Statement 2022/23

The Fire Authority has approved further changes to its Pay Policy Statement to reflect the revised pay award that was made to Brigade Managers Pay by the Brigade Managers' Employment Panel in February 2022.

The revised Pay Policy Statement will be published by 30 June 2022 and will be reviewed annually, following notification of national pay decisions determined in respect of Gold, Grey and Green Book staff each year.

Annual Report on Collaborative and Partnership Working

Partnership working is a key element in the Fire Authority's strategy to meet its vision of "Putting Shropshire's Safety First". It is also a key theme of the Fire Service National Framework. The Fire Authority and the Service are actively involved in a number of partnerships, which are risk assessed for liability and reputation and scrutinised by the Service's Risk Management Group. This Group maintains a partnership register and monitors the outcome and productivity of each of the partnerships.

The Fire Authority received the annual report on collaborative and partnership working which gave an overview of the partnership working that the Service is currently engaged in together with a summary of collaborative work that has been undertaken in the past 12 months.

Corporate Risk Management Annual Report 2021/22

The Fire Authority has received an annual report on corporate risk management work during the last 12 months.

Ongoing monitoring of the Service's corporate risk management work is a responsibility of the Service Management Team and the Risk Management Group (RMG) with the Audit and Performance Management Committee receiving regular corporate risk management reports.

The RMG's primary function is to ensure that the Authority has an effective and efficient risk management process in place. The Group does this through reviewing the Corporate Risk Register, Departmental Statements of Assurance, Departmental Risk Registers and Internal Audit findings, highlighting, where necessary, issues or areas of concern through to the Service Management Team and/or the appropriate committee.

There are currently eleven open risks on the Service's Corporate Risk Register, including two new risks which have been added during this reporting year.



Eric Carter
Chair, Shropshire and Wrekin Fire and Rescue Authority
June 2022

Background Papers

Agenda and Papers for the Annual Meeting of Shropshire and Wrekin Fire and Rescue Authority held on 22 June 2022

The agendas and reports (apart from exempt or confidential items) for all Fire Authority and Committee meetings are on the Service's website:

<http://www.shropshirefire.gov.uk>

To access reports go to the Fire Service's website and follow the steps below.

- Click on 'About Us' in the red bar at the top of the page
- Click on 'Fire and Rescue Authority'
- Click on 'Meetings' in the list on the right hand side of the screen
- Click on '22 June 2022' and the various reports and appendices will be listed

If you have any difficulty with the website, please contact Lynn Ince, Executive Support Officer, on 01743 260225.