

Report to	Fire and Rescue Authority
Date	17/06/2019
Lead Officer	Helen MacArthur, Assistant Chief Officer (Finance and Resources)
Contact Officer	Helen Howard, Head of Finance 01745 535282
Subject	Annual Governance Statement



PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1 To present the draft Annual Governance Statement to Members and seek delegation of the approval of the final audited version to the Executive Panel at its meeting on 29 July 2019.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2 The North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority (the Authority) is required to comply with the Code of Corporate Governance and produce an Annual Governance Statement. The document explains the governance processes and procedures of the Authority which enable it to carry out its functions effectively.
- 3 The draft Annual Governance Statement has been prepared using the CIPFA/Solace *Delivering Good Governance in Local Government Framework* (2016).
- 4 The draft Annual Governance Statement will be subject to external review by the Wales Audit Office in accordance with the timescales for the audit of the Financial Statements.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5 That Members:
 - i note the content of the Authority's draft Annual Governance Statement for 2018/19; and
 - ii delegate approval of the final audited Annual Governance Statement for 2018/19 to the Executive Panel at its meeting on 29 July 2019.

OBSERVATIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE PANEL/AUDIT COMMITTEE

- 6 This report has not previously been considered by Members.

BACKGROUND

- 7 From 2010/11 all local government bodies have been required to prepare an Annual Governance Statement which is to be published as part of the Statutory Accounts.
- 8 The purpose of the Annual Governance Statement is to provide a public annual report providing assurance that the Authority complies with the Code of Corporate Governance. It includes an explanation as to how the Authority has monitored the effectiveness of its governance arrangements in that year and on any planned changes in the coming period.

INFORMATION

- 9 The Annual Government Statement has been prepared in accordance with the principles set out in the guidance document *Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: Framework (CIPFA/Solace 2016)*.
- 10 The format of the Annual Governance Statement has been revised to clearly align the governance arrangements to each of the seven core principles of the CIPFA/Solace framework.

IMPLICATIONS

Wellbeing Objectives	Good governance is essential to the achievement of the Authority's overall objectives..
Budget	No additional cost pressures. The AGS ensures value for money considerations are made to projects undertaken within the Service.
Legal	The AGS complies with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 which require all relevant bodies to prepare an AGS. The content does not have any other legal implications.
Staffing	Improved working conditions for staff
Equalities/Human Rights/ Welsh Language	No implications have been identified.
Risks	Risks are highlighted and control measures put in place within the plan.