

Report to	North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority
Date	18/12/17
Lead Officer	Assistant Chief Officer (Corporate Policy and Planning)
Contact Officer	Shân Morris
Subject	Membership of the Authority's Planning Working Group to develop the Fire and Rescue Authority's plan for 2019/20



PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1 To agree the membership of the Authority's Planning Working Group.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2 The Authority's planning processes will need to commence early in 2018 to allow enough time for the Authority to draft, consult on and approve its plan for publication in early 2019. This paper seeks the Authority's decision as regards the membership of a working group to undertake the detailed work of drafting the plan for approval by the full Authority.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3 Members are asked to:
 - (i) agree that the full membership of the Executive Panel becomes the membership of the Planning Working Group;
 - (ii) note the dates of the Planning Working Group meetings as follows:
Monday 15 January 2018, 2pm;
Monday 5 February 2018, 2pm;
Monday 26 February 2018, 10am;
Monday 5 March 2018, 2pm.

OBSERVATIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE PANEL/AUDIT COMMITTEE

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

BACKGROUND

- 5 The Local Government Measure 2009 and the Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015 requires Welsh Fire and Rescue Authorities to set themselves objectives and to involve stakeholders in that process.
- 6 The Fire and Rescue Authorities (Improvement Plans) (Wales) Order 2012 requires those authorities to publish their agreed improvement objectives as soon as reasonably practicable after the 31 December prior to the financial year to which they relate.

- 7 Similarly, the Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015 requires those authorities to explain publicly the steps that they propose to take in the forthcoming financial year towards meeting their long term well-being objectives.
- 8 Since 2003 the Authority has nominated members to sit on working groups to develop plans in accordance with the planning requirements in existence at the time, and this has become an integral part of the budget setting and planning process for the Authority.

INFORMATION

- 9 The Planning Working Group deals with the detailed work associated with the Authority's planning and budget setting process, and submits its observations to the Executive Panel to enable it to formulate recommendations for improvement/risk reduction/well-being objectives to the Fire and Rescue Authority. The Working Group is not a formally constituted committee so meetings are not open to the public. Meetings are held on a regular basis in the run-up to publication of documents.
- 10 In the past there have been various configurations of membership on the working group. Due to the importance of the budget and planning process it is considered prudent to again invite all members of the Executive Panel to be members of the Planning Working Group.
- 11 It is proposed that the Planning Working Group will meet over the coming months to consider and develop the objectives, with a view to publishing a draft Improvement and Well-being Plan 2019-20 for public consultation during 2018 and final publication in March 2019.

IMPLICATIONS

Well-being Objectives	Direct implication for agreeing the steps towards the Authority's long-term well-being objectives.
Budget	Direct implication for developing the Authority's budget for 2019/20 and beyond.
Legal	Supports the Authority's compliance with relevant legislation for improvement planning and working towards meeting well-being objectives.
Staffing	No known impact on staffing levels during the drafting phase, but potential impact (as yet unknown) arising from the final adopted plan.
Equalities/Human Rights/Welsh Language	The impact on a range of aspects to be assessed during drafting and producing the plan.
Risks	Reduces the risks of legal non-compliance and of failing to budget and plan appropriately.