



AGENDA ITEM: 18

NORTH WALES FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

18th June 2007

STATUTORY APPOINTMENTS AND SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS

**Report by Simon Smith,
Chief Fire Officer**

Purpose of Report

- 1.** To seek members' permission to commission a review of the statutory appointments of treasurer and monitoring officer and other service level agreements that come to an end in March 2008.

Background

- 2.** The Authority has made the following statutory appointments and arranges for certain services to be provided under service level agreements with constituent councils:
 - Treasurer of the combined fire service fund and officer with responsibility for the administration of the financial affairs of the authority: Treasurer, Conwy County Borough Council (article 7 of the combination scheme; section 151, Local Government Act 1972; Part VIII, Local Government Finance Act 1988) and preparation of accounts and financial advice (financial management/accountancy; internal audit; payroll; creditor payments and collection of income – debtors and cash): Conwy County Borough Council



Background *(continued)*

- Monitoring Officer and general constitutional advice: Chief Executive, Denbighshire County Council (section 5, Local Government and Housing Act 1989)
 - legal advice: Denbighshire County Council
 - provision of advice; payment; maintenance; compliance with Inland Revenue rules etc on the Firefighters' Pension Scheme: Flintshire County Council.
- 3.** The existing appointments and arrangements come to an end on 31 March 2008.

Advice

- 4.** It is appropriate to review the existing appointments and service level agreements. Consideration should be given to inviting expressions of interest from constituent councils to undertake these functions as well as to the Authority making alternative arrangements (either itself or with other service providers). The Authority should reach final decisions on the arrangements that are to apply from April 2008 at its meeting in December 2007, in order to allow for a smooth transition in the event of any changes.
- 5.** The Executive Panel should be invited to undertake a review and make recommendations.



Recommendations

- 6. 6.1** That the Authority asks the Executive Panel to undertake a review of the statutory appointments and service level agreements, and to
- 6.2** Submit recommendations in relation to the statutory appointments and arrangements for finance, legal and pensions services to take effect from April 2008, including the terms and duration of such appointments and arrangements, to the Authority at its meeting in December 2007.