

# CHESHIRE FIRE AUTHORITY

**MEETING OF:** CHESHIRE FIRE AUTHORITY  
**DATE:** 28<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022  
**REPORT OF:** HEAD OF PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTS  
**AUTHOR:** ANITA GIBBS

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**SUBJECT:** MODERN SLAVERY STATEMENT

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## Purpose of Report

1. To seek Member approval for the publication of a Modern Slavery Statement on the Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service website.

## Recommended: That

- [1] the Modern Slavery Statement for Cheshire Fire and Rescue be approved for publication on the website.

## Background

2. Following the Transparency in Supply Chains Consultation, the Government has announced its commitment to extend Section 54 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 to public bodies in England and Wales with a budget of £36 million or more. This applies to the Fire Authority.
3. Since the Act came into force, many public bodies have published modern slavery statements voluntarily. The Government is encouraging those organisations that have yet to produce a statement to submit one covering the 21/22 financial year by 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022.
4. The publication of a Modern Slavery Statement by Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service is in response to this request by Government.

## Information

5. It is hoped that the Modern Slavery Statement attached to this report as Appendix 1 is self-explanatory. Officers will attend the meeting to answer questions from Members.

## **Financial Implications**

6. It is not clear at this time whether there will be any financial implications from the requirement to publish a Modern Slavery Statement.

## **Legal Implications**

7. Cheshire Fire Authority will be required to comply with the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

## **Equality and Diversity Implications**

8. Equality and diversity implications are covered within the parameters of the Modern Slavery Statement.

## **Environmental Implications**

9. There are no immediate environmental impacts.

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**BACKGROUND PAPERS: NONE**