

CHESHIRE FIRE AUTHORITY

MEETING OF: CHESHIRE FIRE AUTHORITY
DATE: 28 SEPTEMBER 2022
REPORT OF: HEAD OF COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT
AUTHOR: SARAH DORNFORD-MAY

SUBJECT: ANNUAL REPORT 2021-22

Purpose of Report

1. This report seeks approval to publish the Annual Report for 2021-22, which incorporates statutory information on the annual Statement of Accounts together with summary information on key areas of Service performance during the last financial year.

Recommended: That

- [1] Subject to Members' comments, the draft Annual Report 2021-22 is approved for publication (once the Summary of accounts figures have been inserted).

Background

2. The Authority must publish certain information about its accounts and governance arrangements. Reference is made to this information in the Annual Report.
3. The Authority is also required to comply with the requirements of the Fire and Rescue National Framework concerned with the provision of information to communities about its performance.
4. The publication of the Annual Report helps the Authority to meet these obligations. It is also required to produce an Annual Statement of Assurance.

Information

5. The Fire Authority is committed to keeping its residents, businesses and key stakeholders informed about the development of its services and policies and its performance against its published plans.
6. The draft Annual Report is attached to this report as Appendix 1. This year's report design has been refreshed to more of a magazine format and will be, as in recent years, promoted digitally, available on the website (from which it can be printed). Printed copies will be available on request. Members will see that the Summary of accounts 2021-22 has been left blank. The figures will be inserted once the audit has been concluded.

7. It is hoped that the Annual Report can be published on the Service's website by 30 September – the statutory deadline for publication of the Statement of Accounts. We will announce publication through our social media channels and via mainstream media.

Financial Implications

8. There are no financial implications as the Annual Report is published online, as agreed by Members in 2018.

Legal Implications

9. The Service has a statutory requirement to publish its summary of accounts. There are no legal requirements to print and distribute an Annual Report.

Equality and Diversity Implications

10. The Annual Report will be made available in other formats on request.

Environmental Implications

11. There are no environmental implications associated with the publication of the Annual Report.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Fire Authority on 29th September 2021 – Item 5 – Annual Report 2020-21