

# CHESHIRE FIRE AUTHORITY

**MEETING OF:** CHESHIRE FIRE AUTHORITY  
**DATE:** 28<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2021  
**REPORT OF:** DIRECTOR OF GOVERNANCE AND COMMISSIONING  
**AUTHOR:** ANDREW LEADBETTER

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**SUBJECT:** REVIEW INTO THE WAY THAT SEATS ON  
CHESHIRE FIRE AUTHORITY ARE ALLOCATED  
TO THE CONSTITUENT AUTHORITIES

**RECOMMENDATIONS FROM GOVERNANCE  
AND CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE**

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## **Purpose of Report**

1. To allow Members to consider the recommendations from Governance and Constitution Committee concerned with the review into the way that seats on the Fire Authority are allocated to the constituent authorities.

## **Recommended:** That Members

- [1] Consider the recommendations from Governance and Constitution Committee.

## **Background**

2. A report was presented to Governance and Constitution Committee on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2021 (the G&C Report) concerned with the review into the way that seats on the Fire Authority are allocated to the constituent authorities. The G&C Report is attached to this report as Appendix 1.
3. The Committee agreed the following recommendations:
  - [1] the appointments for 2021-22 continue to be allocated in the same way that they have since local government reorganisation; and
  - [2] the Review be considered further once the White Paper has been published and considered.

## **Information**

4. The review was carried out by the Monitoring Officer from Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service. Her Review Report can be found annexed to the G&C Report.
5. The G&C Report also covers the recent Government statement about the Police and Crime Commissioner Review, which is expected to include proposals that could impact upon fire governance. A White Paper is due to be published later this year.

## **Financial Implications**

6. There will be a financial impact if there is a change in the number of members of the Fire Authority.

## **Legal Implications**

7. The Fire Authority's Combination Scheme describes the method for allocating seats on the Fire Authority. Paragraph 12 of the Scheme states:

*Each constituent authority shall, so far as is practicable, appoint such number of representatives to be members of the Authority as is proportionate to the number of local government electors in its area in relation to the number of such electors in each of the other constituent authorities' areas.*

8. The Scheme is the same as the schemes of other combined authorities. The Scheme could only be changed through secondary legislation.

## **Equality and Diversity Implications**

9. There are no equality and diversity implications associated with this report.

## **Environmental Implications**

10. There are no environmental implications associated with this report.

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### **BACKGROUND PAPERS:**

The Cheshire Fire Services (Combination Scheme) Order 1997 [as amended on Local Government Reorganisation]

Report to Governance and Constitution Committee 7<sup>th</sup> April 2021 (referred to as the G&C Report in this report)