

LANCASHIRE COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY

Meeting to be held on 17 December 2018

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF ASSURANCE 2017-18

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Executive Summary

The Fire & Rescue National Framework for England (2018) sets out the Government's high level expectations, priorities and objectives for Fire and Rescue Authorities (FRA's) in England. Included within the framework is the requirement that all FRA's must provide assurance on financial, governance and operational matters.

The attached Annual Statement of Assurance aims to provide the required accountability and transparency to our communities and the Government that Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service (LFRS) continues to deliver efficient, effective, value for money services.

This statement sits alongside our IRMP, Statement of Accounts, the Annual Governance Statement, the Annual Service Plan and Annual Progress Report. It details what measures are in place to assure that the Combined Fire Authority's performance is efficient, economic and effective and provides further evidence that LFRS continues to deliver under the expectations detailed within both the National Framework and our own Integrated Risk Management Plan

Recommendation

The Authority is asked to approve the Annual Statement of Assurance 2017-18 as presented and approve the signing of this by the Chairman of the Authority and the Chief Fire Officer.

Information

The attached Annual Statement of Assurance 2017-18 provides assurance in three core areas:-

- Financial Assurance;
- Assurance on Governance;
- Operational Assurance.

The statement sets out how we demonstrate assurance in these areas, culminating in the following declaration: -

"The Chairman of Lancashire Combined Fire Authority and Chief Fire Officer of Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service are satisfied that the Authority's financial, governance and operational assurance arrangements are adequate and operating

effectively and meet the requirements detailed within the Fire and Rescue National Framework."

Business Risk

The requirement to produce this report is a legacy of the DCLG and it may transpire in time that the Home Office will utilise the HMICFRS to provide this assurance.

Environmental Impact

None arising from this report.

Equality and Diversity Implications

None arising from this report.

HR Implications

None arising from this report.

Financial Implications

None arising from this report.

**Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985
List of Background Papers**

Paper	Date	Contact
Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate:		