

LANCASHIRE COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY

Meeting to be held on Monday 19 December 2016

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF ASSURANCE 2015-16

(Appendix 1 refers)

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Executive Summary

The Fire and Rescue National Framework for England (2012) provides overall strategic direction to English Fire and Rescue Authorities (FRA). It sets out the Government's priorities and objectives and places a requirement on all FRA's to provide assurance to their communities and to Government on financial, governance and operational matters.

The attached Statement of Assurance (appendix 1) aims to provide the necessary accountability and transparency to the people of Lancashire and evidence that their Fire and Rescue Service continues to deliver under the expectations detailed within both the National Framework and our own Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP).

This statement sits alongside our IRMP, Statement of Accounts, the Annual Governance Statement and recently re-designed 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.

Recommendation

The Authority is asked to approve the Annual Statement of Assurance 2015-16 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 2015-16 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

None arising from this report.

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: | | |