Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg **Agenda Item 16**

Report to	**Fire and Rescue Authority**
Date	**20 October 2025**
Lead Officer	**Helen MacArthur, ACFO Finance and Resources**
Contact Officer	**Elgan Roberts, Head of Finance**
Subject	**Audited Statement of Accounts 2024/25**

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1 This report is to present to Members the audited Statement of Accounts for 2024/25. This report also presents the findings of the Auditor General for Wales which confirms an unqualified audit opinion.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2 The draft accounts were submitted for audit on 3rd June 2025. The audited position remains the same, although a technical adjustment to the valuation of fire stations has been made.

3 The report issued by Audit Wales on behalf of the Auditor General for Wales is set out in Appendix 2 and confirms an unqualified audit opinion.

4 The Accounts and Audit (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2010 require that the audited accounts are approved by Members by 31 July 2025. However, since the pandemic, these timescales have been extended by the Welsh Government to 30 October 2025.

CONSIDERATION BY OTHER COMMITTEES

5 The unaudited Statement of Accounts for 2024/25 were presented to the Fire and Rescue Authority on 21 July 2025.

RECOMMENDATION

6 Members are asked to:

(i) note the audited outturn position and performance as detailed within the 2024/25 Statement of Accounts (Appendix 1);
(ii) note the report of the Auditor General for Wales which confirms an unqualified audit opinion (Appendix 2);
(iii) note the proposed letter of representation; and
(iv) confirm the recommendation of approval of the final audited 2024/25 Statement of Accounts.

BACKGROUND

7 In compliance with the Accounts and Audit (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2010, the Authority produced draft statement of accounts by 3rd of June 2025. The draft statement of accounts were presented to the Fire and Rescue Authority at its meeting of 21 July 2025 with a covering narrative report. The draft statement of accounts have been subject to external audit and the appendices contain the final audited versions.

INFORMATION

AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

8 The Auditor General for Wales is responsible for providing an opinion on whether the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial performance and position of the Authority for the year ended 31 March 2025.

9 In performing the audit work, Audit Wales does not seek to provide absolute assurance but considers whether there are any material issues which may result in a reader of the accounts being misled. When an error or misstatement is identified Audit Wales will consider whether an amendment is required.

10 The Auditor General for Wales intends to issue an unqualified audit opinion, confirming that the financial statements present a true and fair view of the Authority's financial position and have been properly prepared in accordance with the relevant legislative and accounting standards. The full audit report is included at Appendix 2, and the following matters are highlighted.

11 During the audit of the 2024–25 Statement of Accounts, a number of corrections were identified and subsequently agreed with officers to ensure full compliance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting. These adjustments have been incorporated into the final accounts, and the material changes are summarised below.

- The closing book value of fire station assets was increased by £2.158 million to reflect updated replacement cost estimates to ensures the balance sheet more accurately reflects the value of building assets held at depreciated replacement cost.
- Capital commitments were also revised with an increase of £0.152 million to reflect payments made after the year-end that had previously been excluded. This correction ensures the outstanding commitment is accurately stated.
- Supplementary disclosures were added to the leases note and the cash flow statement to meet the CIPFA code requirements for IFRS 16.

12 No uncorrected misstatements were identified during the audit. Matters raised by the audit team were addressed and resolved in collaboration with officers, resulting in a set of financial statements that fully comply with the applicable accounting standards.

13 The Audit Report also contained the final letter of representation. This letter provides representation from the Chair and Treasurer to acknowledge their responsibilities and to confirm the arrangements for ensuring that the accounts provide a true and fair view.

IMPLICATIONS

Wellbeing Objectives	This report links to NWFRA's long-term well-being objectives. Funding for the Service benefits the communities of North Wales and ensures there is sufficient investment in infrastructure to enable the service to provide emergency responses and prevention work well in to the future.
Budget	Budget is set annually in accordance with the proposed service delivery which includes emergency response and prevention work.
Legal	It is a legal requirement that the Authority produces the Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement in accordance with the prescribed standards.
Staffing	None
Equalities/Human Rights/Welsh Language	None
Risks	Income and expenditure is closely monitored to ensure that deviations from the approved budget are properly identified and reported to Members.