

Report to	North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority	
Date	20 July 2026	
Lead Officer	Matt Powell, Deputy Clerk	
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Subject	Standards Committee Annual Report 2025/26	

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To present the Standards Committee's Annual Report (Annual Report) to the North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority (the Authority).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. The Annual Report includes a summary of the Standards Committee work during the financial year 2025/26.

OBSERVATIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE PANEL/AUDIT COMMITTEE

3. The Annual Report, being the Standards Committee's account of its own activities over the last 12 months, will not be considered by the Executive Panel or Audit Committee.

INFORMATION

4. The Standards Committee has produced an annual report since its inception and since 2021 it is now also a statutory duty to produce such a report. The annual report provides information about the work carried out by the Standards Committee during the past 12 months and identifies any issues that have arisen.
5. The Standards Committee met on the 14th of April 2026 where it considered and approve its twenty first annual report which includes a summary of the work undertaken by the Standards Committee during the financial year 2025/26 (1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026).
6. In summary, during 2025/26-
 - i) The Standards Committee continued to review the codes and protocols within the Constitution.
 - ii) The Standards Committee considered the findings of the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales ("PSOW"), as well the PSOW annual report and the annual report of the Adjudication Panel for Wales, to identify any trends or helpful messages that could be communicated through the clerk to members of the Fire Authority.

- iii) The Standards Committee monitored member attendance on behalf of the authority.
- 7. Welsh Government provides statutory guidance for Fire and Rescue Authorities in relation to standards of conduct which includes guidance on the matters to be contained in the annual report.
- 8. The Annual Report complies with Welsh Government guidance which among other things suggests that it is good practice for standards committees to share their annual reports with the PSOW.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- i) That the Authority receives and notes the Annual Report for 2025/26.**
- ii) That the Clerk or Deputy Clerk shall provide a copy of the Annual Report to the PSOW.**

APPENDIXES

- 1. The Annual Report for 2025/26.
- 2. Welsh Government guidance

IMPLICATIONS

Wellbeing Objectives	Considered not relevant
Budget for 2024/25	The annual report can be produced within budget. Any costs associated with meetings and events attended by members are reimbursed from the travel and subsistence budget.
Legal	The Standards Committee has a duty under section 63 Local Government Act 2021 to produce an annual report, which must be considered by the fire authority within 3 months of receipt.
Staffing	Considered not relevant
Equalities/ Human Rights/ Welsh Language	The Standards Committee annual report is produced in bilingual format
Risks	The work of the Standards Committee described within its annual report should help to reduce the risk of Authority members behaving in a manner that is inconsistent with the code and thus with best practice.