

NORTH WALES FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

Minutes of the **Annual General Meeting** of the **North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority** held on **Monday 21 July 2025** virtually via **Zoom**. Meeting commenced at **09:30**.

Councillor

Dylan Rees (Chair)
Mark Young (Deputy Chair)
Bryan Apsley
Tina Claydon
Paul Cunningham
Ann Davies
Sharon Doleman
Ian Hodge
Alan Hughes
John Brynmor Hughes
John Ifan Jones
Marc Jones
Gwynfor Owen
Arwyn Herald Roberts
Austin Roberts
Gareth A Roberts
Rondo Roberts
Gareth Sandilands
Dale Selvester
Antony Wren

Representing

Anglesey County Council
Denbighshire County Council
Wrexham County Borough Council
Flintshire County Council
Flintshire County Council
Denbighshire County Council
Conwy County Borough Council
Flintshire County Council
Denbighshire County Council
Gwynedd Council
Anglesey County Council
Wrexham County Borough Council
Gwynedd Council
Gwynedd Council
Conwy County Borough Council
Gwynedd Council
Wrexham County Borough Council
Denbighshire County Council
Flintshire County Council
Flintshire County Council

Also present:

Dawn Docx	Chief Fire Officer (CFO)
Helen MacArthur	Assistant Chief Fire Officer (ACFO)
Justin Evans	Assistant Chief Fire Officer (ACFO)
Anthony Jones	Assistant Chief Fire Officer (ACFO)
Dafydd Edwards	Treasurer
Gareth Owens	Clerk and Monitoring Officer
Steve Morris	Head of ICT
Llinos Evans	Head of Corporate Communications
Heledd Davies	Atebol Translation Services
Lisa Allington	Members' Services

1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR 2025/26

- 1.1 The Clerk to the Authority advised Members that one nomination had been received for the position of Chair to the North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority (the Authority) from Cllr Dylan Rees.
- 1.2 An online vote was held with 18 Members in favour and one abstention. Cllr Dylan Rees was therefore elected as Chair of the Authority with immediate effect.

1.3 RESOLVED that:

- i) Cllr Dylan Rees be appointed as Chair to the Authority for the year 2025-26.**

2 APOLOGIES

Councillor

Carol Beard
Jeff Evans
Chrissy Gee
Chris Hughes
Thomas Montgomery
Beverley Parry-Jones
Paul Rogers

Representing

Conwy County Borough Council
Anglesey County Council
Flintshire County Council
Conwy County Borough Council
Conwy County Borough Council
Wrexham County Borough Council
Wrexham County Borough Council

ABSENT

Councillor

Representing

The above apologies were offered and accepted. Cllrs Ian Hodge, Tom Montgomery and Chrissy Gee were welcomed to the North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority (the Authority).

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 3.1 The Clerk noted that all Members held a personal interest in the item around Member remuneration.

4 APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY CHAIR 2025/26

- 4.1 The Chair advised Members that one nomination had been received for the position of Deputy Chair to the Authority from Cllr Mark Young.
- 4.2 An online vote was held with 17 Members in favour and two abstentions. Cllr Mark Young was therefore elected as Deputy Chair to the Authority with immediate effect.
- 4.3 Thanks were given to Cllr Paul Cunningham for his dedication and commitment to the role of Deputy Chair to the Authority over the last three years.

4.4 RESOLVED that:

- i) Cllr Mark Young be appointed as Deputy Chair to the Authority for the year 2025-26; and**
- ii) Cllr Mark Young be transferred from the Audit Committee to the Executive Panel to satisfy the membership requirements of that Panel.**

5 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR OF AUDIT COMMITTEE 2025/26

- 5.1 The Chair advised Members that two nominations had been received for the position of Chair to the Audit Committee from Cllr Gwynfor Owen and Cllr Gareth Sandilands.
- 5.2 The nomination for Cllr Gwynfor Owen was proposed and seconded.
- 5.3 The nomination for Cllr Gareth Sandilands was proposed and seconded.
- 5.4 An online vote was held with six Members in favour of Cllr Owen, 10 in favour of Cllr Sandilands and three abstentions.
- 5.5 As Cllr Sandilands currently sat on the Executive Panel, it was proposed that he transfer across to the Audit Committee to fulfil his commitment as Chair of that Committee. This proposal was seconded with all in favour.
- 5.6 **RESOLVED that:**

- i) Cllr Gareth Sandilands be appointed as Chair of the Audit Committee 2025/26; and**
- ii) Cllr Gareth Sandilands be transferred from the Executive Panel to the Audit Committee to perform his duties as Chair of the Audit Committee.**

6 APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY CHAIR OF AUDIT COMMITTEE 2025/26

- 6.1 It was noted that no nominations had been received for the position of Deputy Chair of Audit Committee 2025/26 and Cllr Gwynfor Owen confirmed that he did not wish to be nominated for that role. It was agreed that this appointment be decided by Committee members at the first meeting of the Audit Committee.
- 6.2 **RESOLVED that:**
- i) The appointment of Deputy Chair of the Audit Committee be deferred to the first meeting of that Committee.**

7 NOTICE OF URGENT MATTERS

- 7.1 No notices of urgent matters had been received.

8 MEMBERSHIP OF THE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY INCORPORATING APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES AND EXTERNAL BODIES

- 8.1 The Clerk delivered the paper in relation to the membership of the Authority incorporating Appointments to Committees and External Bodies. This paper invited Members to note membership of the Authority and its committees which had changed from the previous year. It also noted the outside appointments such as the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) and the Local Government Association (LGA).

- 8.2 It was noted that there remained a Gwynedd vacancy on the Authority and that Gwynedd Council had confirmed this would be in appointed to by September. It had been requested that a female Member be appointed, if possible, to redress the gender imbalance.
- 8.3 Members were advised that the numbers between Audit Committee and Executive Panel were uneven, and it was noted that a Member would therefore be required to transfer from Audit Committee to Executive Panel, preferably a Conwy Councillor to maintain a balance of local authority representation. Cllr Sharon Doleman and Cllr Arwyn Herald Roberts volunteered to transfer, and it was agreed that this be discussed further outside of the meeting.
- 8.4 **RESOLVED to:**
- i) **Confirm membership of the Authority, appointments to committees and external appointments;**
 - ii) **Appoint Councillor Ian Hodge to the Standards Committee; and**
 - iii) **Agree the transfer of one Conwy County Borough Council Member from Audit Committee to Executive Panel outside of the meeting.**

9 MEETING DATES 25/26

- 9.1 The Clerk presented to Members the meeting dates for the year 2025-26. It was noted that where possible, local authorities had agreed to avoid clashes of council meetings with full Authority meetings.
- 9.2 **RESOLVED to:**
- i) **Agree the dates for meetings of the full Authority, Executive Panel and Audit Committee.**

10 MEMBERS' REMUNERATION SCHEME

- 10.1 The Clerk delivered the Members' Remuneration Scheme paper which informed them of the current rates of member remuneration and asked that they formally approve the schedule of payments made during the financial year 2024/25.

10.2 RESOLVED to:

- i) Note the IRPW's determinations in relation to members' allowances and remuneration with effect from 1 April 2025;**
- ii) Give delegated authority to the Clerk to update the schedule of member remuneration within the Authority's constitution and to make any necessary amendments to the 2025/26 schedule from time to time during the municipal year, to reflect any changes in membership of the Authority, or as a result of any supplementary reports issued by the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales; and**
- iii) To approve the schedule of payments made during 2024/25 as required by the IRPW.**

11 URGENT MATTERS

11.1 There were no urgent matters to consider.

Members and Officers were thanked for their participation.

Meeting closed: 09:52