

**AWDURDOD TÂN GOGLEDD CYMRU**



**NORTH WALES FIRE AUTHORITY**

**The Annual Meeting of the NORTH WALES FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY will be held MONDAY 20 June 2022 via Zoom. The meeting will commence at 9.30am.**

Yours faithfully

Gareth Owens  
Clerk

**AGENDA**

- 1. Apologies**
  - 2. Appointment of Chair 2022/23**
  - 3. Appointment of Deputy Chair 2022/23**
  - 4. Appointments of Chair and Deputy Chair of Audit Committee 2022/23**
  - 5. Notice of Urgent Matters**
- Notice of items which, in the opinion of the Chair, should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency pursuant to Section 100B (4) of the Local Government Act, 1972.
- 6. Minutes of the annual meeting held on 21 June 2021**
  - 7. Matters arising**
  - 8. Membership of the Fire and Rescue Authority**
  - 9. Appointments to Committees and External Bodies**
  - 10. Appointments to Standards Committee**
  - 11. Appointments to Local Pension Board**
  - 12. Meeting Dates 2022/23**
  - 13. Members' Remuneration Scheme**
  - 14. Urgent Matters**

To consider any items which the Chair has decided are urgent (pursuant to Section 100B (4) of the Local Government Act, 1972) and of which substance has been declared under item 4 above.

**PART II**

**No items for discussion**

**NORTH WALES FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY**

Minutes of the annual meeting of North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority held on Monday 21 June 2021 virtually via Zoom. Meeting commenced at 09.30am.

**Councillor**

D Rees  
P R Lewis (Chair)  
S Lloyd-Williams  
R E Parry  
N Smith  
A Tansley  
B Blakeley  
A Davies  
M Ll Davies  
M Bateman  
A I Dunbar  
P Shotton  
D Wisinger  
S Glyn  
J B Hughes  
J W Parry  
G A Roberts  
B Apsley  
M Dixon  
G Lowe  
B Parry-Jones  
A Roberts

**Representing**

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

**Also present:**

S A Smith (Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive); C P Everett (Clerk and Monitoring Officer to the Authority); K W Finch (Treasurer to the Authority); R Fairhead, H MacArthur and S Millington (Assistant Chief Fire Officers); S Morris (Assistant Chief Officer); H Howard (Head of Finance); T Williams (Corporate Communications Manager); G Williams (Accountant, Treasurer's Department, Conwy County Borough Council); A Davies (Member Liaison Officer).

1 APOLOGIES

**Councillor**

P Evans  
V Gay  
W O Thomas  
G Williams

**Representing**

Denbighshire County Council  
Flintshire County Council  
Flintshire County Council  
Gwynedd Council

- 2 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR 2021/22
- 2.1 The Clerk requested nominations for the office of Authority Chair for the 2021/22 municipal year.
- 2.2 Cllr M LI Davies proposed Cllr P R Lewis and this was unanimously seconded by all Members. No other nominations were proposed.
- 2.3 **RESOLVED that Councillor Peter R Lewis be elected as Chair of North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority for the 2021/22 municipal year.**
- 3 APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY CHAIR 2021/22
- 3.1 The Chair proceeded to seek nominations for the office of Authority Deputy Chair for the 2021/22 municipal year.
- 3.2 Cllr M LI Davies proposed Cllr D Rees and this was unanimously seconded by all Members. No other nominations were proposed.
- 3.3 **RESOLVED that Cllr Dylan Rees be elected to serve as Deputy Chair of North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority for the 2021/22 municipal year.**
- 4 APPOINTMENTS OF CHAIR AND DEPUTY CHAIR OF AUDIT COMMITTEE
- 4.1 The Chair sought nominations for the offices of Chair and Deputy Chair of the Audit Committee for the 2021/22 municipal year.
- 4.2 For the post of Chair, Cllr G Lowe proposed Cllr B Apsley and this was seconded by all Members. No other nominations were proposed.
- 4.3 For the post of Deputy Chair, Cllr G Lowe proposed Cllr W O Thomas and this was seconded by all Members. No other nominations were proposed.
- 4.4 **RESOLVED that**
- (i) **Councillor Cllr Bryan Apsley be elected to serve as Chair of the Audit Committee for the 2021/22 municipal year;**
  - (ii) **Councillor W Owen Thomas be elected to serve as Deputy Chair of the Audit Committee for the 2021/22 municipal year.**
- 5 NOTICE OF URGENT MATTERS
- 5.1 The Chair advised that no items had been submitted to the Clerk for consideration.

6 MINUTES OF THE LAST ANNUAL MEETING

6.1 The minutes of the Fire and Rescue Authority Annual Meeting held on 9 November 2020 were submitted for approval.

6.2 **RESOLVED to approve the minutes as a true and correct record of proceedings.**

7 MATTERS ARISING

7.1 There were no matters arising.

8 REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

8.1 The Clerk presented the report which recommended establishing a working group to review the Authority's Constitution.

8.2 Following the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 and as a result of changes made to the way in which the Authority operates due to the pandemic, it is considered appropriate to review the Constitution. The document sets out the rules for how the Authority is governed and some of those rules need to be changed to reflect the requirements of the Act. Further, its terminology is rooted in physical presence at meetings, which needs to be updated.

8.3 Members acknowledged that the recommendation was for the working group to include the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Authority, the Chairs of the Audit and Standards Committees plus one other Authority member; Cllr M LI Davies volunteered to be the fifth member on the working group.

8.4 **RESOLVED to agree that**

**(i) a working group be established to review the Constitution and report back to the Authority with proposed changes;**

**(ii) that Cllr Meirick LI Davies be appointed to join the working group as noted in paragraph 8.3 above.**

9 MEMBERSHIP OF THE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

9.1 The report was presented to confirm the appointment of members of the Authority and the composition of the full Authority membership for 2021/22.

9.2 **RESOLVED to note the Authority membership for 2021/22.**

## 10 APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES AND EXTERNAL BODIES

10.1 The purpose of the report was to invite the Authority to appoint membership of internal and various external committees including the Local Government Association (LGA) and the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA).

### 10.2 **RESOLVED:**

- (i) not to apply the principle of political balance to Committees;**
- (ii) to confirm membership of committees as set out in the report;**
- (iii) to appoint representatives to external bodies as set out below:**

Chairs and Chiefs Ministerial Fire and Rescue Liaison Group	The Chair
Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) Council	The Chair
WLGA Co-ordinating Committee	one representative on behalf of the three FRAs
WLGA Fire Services Panel	Chair and Deputy Chair
Local Government Association (LGA)	The Chair
LGA Fire Services Forum	one representative on behalf of the three FRAs
National Issues Committee	Chair and Deputy Chair

## 11 MEETING DATES 2021/22

11.1 The report was presented to inform Members of the dates for meetings for 2021/22.

11.2 Due to the Covid pandemic, Members noted that meetings will be held virtually via Zoom until at least the Autumn.

11.3 **RESOLVED to note the dates of all meetings as set out in the report.**

## 12 MEMBERS' REMUNERATION SCHEME

12.1 The report was presented to inform Members about the [Independent Remuneration Panel's Report 2021/22](#) which set out changes to members remuneration with effect from 1 April 2021.

**12.2 RESOLVED to**

- (i) note the IRPW's determinations in relation to members' allowances and remuneration as of 1 April 2021;**
  
- (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 2021/22 schedule from time to time during the municipal year, in order 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.**

Report to	<b>North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority Annual Meeting</b>
Date	<b>20 June 2022</b>
Lead Officer	<b>Clerk</b>
Contact Officer	<b>Gareth Owens (01745 535286)</b>
Subject	<b>Membership of the Fire and Rescue Authority</b>



## PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1 To note the appointment of members of the Authority as submitted by the constituent councils for the 2022/23 municipal year or for the full Authority term from 2022 to 2027.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2 To note the appointment of members of the Authority as submitted by the constituent councils for the 2022/23 municipal year or for the full Authority term from 2022 to 2027.

## RECOMMENDATION

- 3 To note the membership of the North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority as notified by the constituent councils for the terms listed above.

## BACKGROUND

- 4 Following the local authority elections in May 2022, constituent authorities were invited to submit their appointments to serve as representatives on the Fire and Rescue Authority for the full five year term until the next round of the local authority elections in 2027.

## INFORMATION

- 5 The following councils have appointed their representatives subject to any changes to the political balances during the term.

**Flintshire** (6 members)  
Marion Bateman (Independent)  
Paul Cunningham (Labour)  
Adele Davies-Cooke (Conservative)  
Chrissy Gee (Independent)  
Raymond Hughes (Labour)  
Dale Selvester (Independent)

**Gwynedd** (5 members)  
 John Brynmor Hughes (Independent)  
 Gwynfor Owen (Plaid Cymru)  
 Arwyn Herald Roberts (Plaid Cymru)  
 Gareth A Roberts (Plaid Cymru)  
 Rob Triggs (Independent)

**Wrexham** (5 members)  
 Bryan Apsley (Labour)  
 Marc Jones (Plaid Cymru)  
 Beverley Parry-Jones (Conservative)  
 Rondo Roberts (Independent)  
 Paul Rogers (Independent)

**Anglesey** (3 members)  
 Jeff M Evans (Annibynnwyr Môn)  
 Dylan Rees (Plaid Cymru)  
 Ken Taylor (Plaid Cymru)

**Conwy** (5 members)  
 Carol Beard (Conwy First Independent)  
 Neil Coverley (Welsh Conservatives)  
 Chris Hughes (Welsh Labour)  
 Austin Roberts (Plaid Cymru)  
 Nigel Smith (Conwy First Independent)

**Denbighshire** (4 members)

## IMPLICATIONS

Wellbeing Objectives	Not considered relevant
Budget	Attendance costs will be met from existing allocated budget
Legal	Members are expected to abide by their code of conduct at all times
Staffing	Not considered relevant
Equalities/Human Rights/ Welsh Language	All aspects considered as a matter of course
Risks	Not considered relevant

Report to	<b>North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority Annual Meeting</b>
Date	<b>20 June 2022</b>
Lead Officer	<b>Clerk</b>
Contact Officer	<b>Gareth Owens (01745 535286)</b>
Subject	<b>Appointments to Committees and External Bodies</b>



## PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1 The purpose of this report is to invite Members to appoint membership of internal and various external committees including the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) and the Local Government Association (LGA).

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2 Members are asked to appoint membership of internal and various external committees including the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) and the Local Government Association (LGA).

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3 The Authority is recommended to:
  - (i) consider whether to apply the principle of political balance to Committees;
  - (ii) make appointments to the Executive Panel, Audit Committee and Standards Committee as set out in the report; and
  - (iii) appoint representatives to outside bodies as listed in paragraph 6:

## BACKGROUND

- 4 The Authority has a series of committees to which appointments are made at the first or annual meeting. These are set out below.
- 5 The Authority in the past has determined not to apply political balance to the membership of its Committees under regulation 20 of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990. This issue was revisited during the constitutional review in mid 2008-09. There has been a prevailing consensus that political balance would not be beneficial as the current arrangements are both inclusive and avoid creating any 'political division' in the governance of an Authority.

6 The Authority is also represented on the following:

Chairs and Chiefs Ministerial Fire and Rescue Liaison Group	usually the Chair
Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) Council	usually the Chair
WLGA Co-ordinating Committee	one representative on behalf of the three FRAs
WLGA Fire Services Panel	Chair and Deputy Chair
Local Government Association (LGA)	usually the Chair
LGA Fire Services Forum	one representative on behalf of the three FRAs
National Issues Committee	Chair and Deputy Chair

## INFORMATION

7 Appointments are to be made to the following Committees:-

- Executive Panel (14 members)
- Audit Committee (14 members)
- Standards Committee (2 members) (not required to be politically balanced under the Standards Committee (Wales) Regulations 2001) (see separate report on the agenda).

8 The terms of reference of the above committees are included in the Constitution.

9 Given that the constituent authorities are required to apply the principle of political balance to their committees (other than in the case of cabinets), authorities are encouraged to nominate members to this Authority on the basis of political balance. The Authority itself should consider annually whether it wishes to apply political balance noting the comments in 3 above. Should the Authority apply this principle, appointments to committees should be made which ensure that the constituent authorities all have sufficient representation.

10 The membership of the Executive Panel consists of 14 members and comprises the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Authority and two members per constituent authority. This membership represents 50% of the Authority's membership. The role and membership of the Panel was expanded in the constitutional review in mid 2008-09.

- 11 The Authority agreed to introduce an Audit Committee to review, scrutinise and assure, independently of the Executive, the operational and financial performance of the organisation. The membership of the Committee is the remaining 50% of the membership who are not appointed to the Executive Panel.

## IMPLICATIONS

Wellbeing Objectives	Considered not relevant
Budget	Attendance costs will be met from existing allocated budget
Legal	Meetings are held in accordance with the agreed terms of reference. Members are expected to abide by their code of conduct at all times
Staffing	Considered not relevant
Equalities/Human Rights/ Welsh Language	Considered not relevant
Risks	Considered not relevant

**EXECUTIVE PANEL****Member**

Chair  
 Deputy Chair  
 Dylan Rees  
 Ken Taylor  
 Rondo Roberts  
 Paul Rogers  
 Carol Beard  
 Nigel Smith

**Constituent Authority**

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

**AUDIT COMMITTEE****Member**

Jeff M Evans  
 Bryan Apsley  
 Marc Jones  
 Beverley Parry-Jones  
 Neil Coverley  
 Chris Hughes  
 Austin Roberts

**Constituent Authority**

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

Report to	<b>North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority Annual Meeting</b>	
Date	<b>20 June 2022</b>	
Lead Officer	<b>Clerk</b>	
Contact Officer	<b>Gareth Owens (01745 535286)</b>	
Subject	<b>Appointment of Fire and Rescue Authority Members to serve on the Standards Committee</b>	

### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1 To appoint two Fire and Rescue Authority members to serve on the Standards Committee.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 2 To appoint two Fire and Rescue Authority members to serve on the Standards Committee.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

- 3 That Members appoints two members to serve on the Standards Committee until the next ordinary elections.

### **BACKGROUND**

- 4 Under the Local Government Act 2000, the Fire and Rescue Authority is required to have a Standards Committee. There are four independent members on the committee.
- 5 Any member of the Fire and Rescue Authority, apart from the Chair and Deputy Chair, can be appointed to serve on the Standards Committee.
- 6 Under the Standards Committee (Wales) Regulations 2001, the political balance requirements of Part I of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 do not apply to these appointments.

### **ADVICE**

- 7 Any members apart from the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Authority are eligible for appointment to the Committee.

8 Whichever members are selected should be appointed to serve until the next ordinary local elections in May 2027. The terms of office of members of the Standards Committee would then expire as follows:

- 2 independent members – second term expires in December 2025
- 2 independent members – first term expires August 2023
- 2 Fire Authority members – May 2027 (dependent on who is appointed, one or both could be eligible for reappointment for a further term).

## **IMPLICATIONS**

Wellbeing Objectives	Considered not relevant
Budget	Attendance costs will be met from existing allocated budget
Legal	Meetings are held in accordance with the agreed terms of reference. Members are expected to abide by their code of conduct at all times
Staffing	Considered not relevant
Equalities/Human Rights/ Welsh Language	Considered not relevant
Risks	Considered not relevant

Report to	<b>North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority Annual Meeting</b>	
Date	<b>20 June 2022</b>	
Lead Officer	<b>Clerk</b>	
Contact Officer	<b>Gareth Owens (01745 535286)</b>	
Subject	<b>Appointment of Fire and Rescue Authority Members to serve on the Local Pension Board</b>	

### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1 To appoint four Fire and Rescue Authority members to serve on the Firefighters' Pension Scheme Local Pension Board.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 2 To appoint four Fire and Rescue Authority members to serve on the Firefighters' Pension Scheme Local Pension Board.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

- 3 Members are asked to:
  - (i) note the information in the report;
  - (ii) nominate four representatives on the local pension board.

### **BACKGROUND**

- 4 The Local Pension Board was established in 2015 following the introduction of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013 in relation to the Firefighters' Pension Schemes. The board has to include employer and employee representatives in equal numbers. As a consequence North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority will be required to nominate four members to sit on this board.

### **INFORMATION**

- 5 The Public Service Pension Act 2013 provides for clearer governance arrangements with specific defined roles, the publication of more information on a consistent basis, and administration practices in line with those in the private sector.

- 6 Local Pension Boards are charged with helping the scheme manager (Fire and Rescue Authority) to ensure that the scheme is operated to an appropriate standard and, in particular, will:
- ensure that pension schemes are administered in accordance with all relevant legislation and any directions given to the scheme by the Pensions Regulator
  - assist the scheme manager (Fire and Rescue Authority) in securing the effective and efficient administration of the pension scheme
  - have appropriate knowledge about the scheme they are helping to run
  - ensure that information is available to scheme members and other interested parties so that they can easily see and understand who is a pension board member, how pension scheme members are represented on the pension board and the responsibilities of the pension board
  - prevent a person from being a member of a pension board where they have another interest that could prejudice them carrying out the role.
- 7 The scheme manager (Fire and Rescue Authority) is responsible for appointing members of the pension board. The scheme manager must ensure that no conflict of interest exists at the time of a member's appointment, and while the member continues to serve. Conflict of interest is defined as a financial or other interest which is likely to prejudice a person's exercise of functions as a member of a pension board.
- 8 The Firefighters' Pension Schemes are accounted for in the NWFRA accounts as it is ultimately funded by Welsh Government (WG) in accordance with the relevant legislation. The Treasurer is responsible for certifying the claims to WG and they are audited each year by the external auditors. It would also be appropriate that the Monitoring Officer and Treasurer should have the right to attend or be represented at the local pension board meetings.

### **Member Requirements**

- 9 A member of a public service pension board must be conversant with the rules of the scheme and any document recording policy about the administration of the scheme. As this is a board (rather than a committee) the Authority can appoint officers as well as councillors as the employer representative. Historically the clerk and treasurer have served as employer representatives.

- 10 A member must have knowledge and understanding of the law relating to pensions and any other matters which are prescribed in regulation.
- 11 An e-learning programme is provided by the Regulator to meet the needs of all pension board members.

## IMPLICATIONS

Wellbeing Objectives	Considered not relevant
Budget	Attendance costs will be met from existing allocated budget
Legal	Meetings are held in accordance with the agreed terms of reference. Members are expected to abide by their code of conduct at all times
Staffing	Considered not relevant
Equalities/Human Rights/ Welsh Language	Considered not relevant
Risks	Considered not relevant

Report to	<b>North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority Annual meeting</b>
Date	<b>20 June 2022</b>
Lead Officer	<b>Clerk</b>
Contact Officer	<b>Gareth Owens (01745 535286)</b>
Subject	<b>Meeting Dates 2022-24</b>



## PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To inform Members of the dates for meetings of the full Fire and Rescue Authority, Executive Panel and Audit Committee for 2022-24.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. Dates for meetings of the full Fire and Rescue Authority, Executive Panel and Audit Committee are as shown in paragraphs 7-11 of this report.

## RECOMMENDATION

3. That Members agree the dates for meetings of the Fire and Rescue Authority, Executive Panel and Audit Committee.

## INFORMATION

### Fire and Rescue Authority

4. The Standing Order 4(2) of the Authority's Standing Orders says  
  
"Meetings of the Authority shall take place a minimum of four times per year and the annual meeting shall take place no later than June. These meetings will take place in accordance with a schedule of meetings published by the Authority unless otherwise determined by the Chair in consultation with the Clerk and Chief Fire Officer."
5. The Authority has agreed a multi-location meeting which explain its approach to the holding of meetings of its members, and how the public may view and/or participate in them.

6. Dates for the NWFRA meetings are scheduled as follows:

Monday 17 October 2022  
Monday 16 January 2023  
Monday 17 April 2023  
Monday 17 July 2023 (annual meeting)  
Monday 16 October 2023  
Monday 22 January 2024  
Monday 15 April 2024

### **Executive Panel and Audit Committee meetings**

7. Audit Committee will be held at 9.30am and the Executive Panel at 2pm on the same day

Friday 29 July 2022  
Monday 19 September 2022  
Monday 12 December 2022  
Monday 20 March 2023  
Monday 19 June 2023  
Monday 18 September 2023  
Monday 18 December 2023  
Monday 18 March 2024

### **IMPLICATIONS**

Wellbeing Objectives	Not considered relevant
Budget	Not considered relevant
Legal	Meetings are held in accordance with the NWFRA's Standing Orders and relevant terms of reference Members are expected to abide by their code of conduct at all times
Staffing	Not considered relevant
Equalities/Human Rights/ Welsh Language	All meetings of the Fire and Rescue Authority are equalities compliant
Risks	Not considered relevant

Report to	<b>North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority – Annual Meeting</b>
Date	<b>20 June 2022</b>
Lead Officer	<b>Gareth Owens, Clerk and Dafydd Edwards, Treasurer</b>
Contact Officer	<b>Gareth Owens (01745 535286)</b>
Subject	<b>Members' Remuneration Scheme</b>



## PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1 To inform Members about the [Independent Remuneration Panel's Report 2022/23](#) which sets out changes to members remuneration with effect from 20 June 2022.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2 The annual report of the Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) sets out changes to members remuneration and this report contains information on those changes that affect members of fire and rescue authorities.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3 Members are asked to:
  - (i) note the IRPW's determinations in relation to members' allowances and remuneration as of 20 June 2022;
  - (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 2022/23 schedule from time to time during the municipal year, in order 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.

## OBSERVATIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE PANEL/AUDIT COMMITTEE

- 4 This report has not previously been considered by Members.

## BACKGROUND

- 5 The remit of the Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) was extended through the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011. Under the powers provided by the Measure, the IRP has produced a new set of Regulations which came into effect on 1 April 2012. The Regulations apply to payments made to members and co-opted members of local authorities, national park authorities and Welsh fire and rescue authorities.

## INFORMATION

- 6 For 2022/23 the Panel has decided to make a modest increase in the basic salary for elected members of principal councils, with consequential increases for members of national park and fire and rescue authorities.
- 7 For fire and rescue authorities the Panel's determinations are as follows:

	<b>2022/23 salary with effect from 1 April 2022</b>	2021/22 salary
Basic salary for FRA ordinary member	<b>£2,369</b>	£2,026
Senior salary for the Chair of an FRA	<b>£11,162</b>	£10,818
Senior salary for the Deputy Chair of an FRA and the Chair of Audit Committee*	<b>£6,109</b>	£5,765

\* FRA senior salary can be paid to the deputy chair and up to two chairs of committees where there is significant and sustained responsibility.

- 8 In addition to the above:
- the Panel has determined to include a provision for FRAs to apply for specific or additional senior salaries that do not fall within the current remuneration framework
  - members must not receive more than one FRA senior salary
  - an FRA senior salary is paid inclusive of the FRA basic salary and must reflect significant and sustained responsibility
  - members of a principal council in receipt of a band 1 or band 2 senior salary cannot receive a salary from any FRA to which they have been nominated. Where this situation applies, it is the responsibility of the individual member to comply.

- 9 The Chair of the North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority is also the Chair of the Executive Panel and can only claim one salary. In order to differentiate between 'main committee' and 'other committee', it is recommended that it is based on the number of meetings held per year. The Executive Panel meets five times per year and the Audit Committee meets 3 times per year. Therefore, it is recommended that the Authority continues with its previous decision that the Chair of the Audit Committee will be paid under the category "other committee chair".

### Independent Members

- 10 The fee paid to independent members of the Standards Committee has remained the same. The daily fee is capped at a maximum of 4 full days per year on the following rates:

	<b>2022/23 salary with effect from 1 April 2022</b>
Standards Committee Chair	<b>£268 daily fee (£134 for half day)</b>
Independent Member	<b>£210 daily fee (£105 for half day)</b>

### Travel, Subsistence and Care Allowance

- 11 There have been no changes to travel, subsistence and care allowances which are in line with Welsh Government rates. Members are reminded that it was agreed at the NWFRA meeting in June 2018 that subsistence can be claimed when members are away from home for five hours or more, this is in line with the HMRC rules.

- **Subsistence**

£28 per day                      Day allowance for meals, including breakfast, where not provided in the overnight charge. Must be away for five hours or more to claim subsistence.

- **Accommodation**

£200 per night                  London  
£95 per night                    Elsewhere  
£30 per night                    Staying with friends and/or family

- **Mileage** rate remains at 45p per mile.

12 Members are also reminded that to support current members and to encourage diversity, the IRPW has urged authorities to promote and encourage greater take-up of the reimbursement of costs of care. All authorities must provide for the reimbursement of necessary costs for the care of dependent children and adults (provided by informal or formal carers) and for personal assistance needs up to a maximum of £403 per month. Reimbursement must be for the additional costs incurred by members in order for them to carry out their approved duties. Reimbursement shall only be made on production of receipts from the carer.

13 The Panel's determination in relation to care and personal assistance states:

"All relevant authorities must provide a payment towards necessary costs for the care of dependent children and adults (provided by informal or formal carers) and for personal assistance needs as follows:

Formal (registered with Care Inspectorate Wales) care costs to be paid as evidenced.

Informal (unregistered) care costs to be paid up to a maximum rate equivalent to the Real UK Living Wage at the time the costs are incurred.

This must be for the additional costs incurred by members to enable them to carry out official business or approved duties. Each authority must ensure that any payments made are appropriately linked to official business or approved duty. Payment shall only be made on production of receipts from the care provider."

## IMPLICATIONS

Wellbeing Objectives	Considered not relevant
Budget for 2021/22	These increases have been included in the budget for 2022/23.
Legal	Part 8 and schedules 2 and 3 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 set out the arrangements for the payments of Members of relevant authorities and the functions and responsibilities of the IRPW. In accordance with the IRPW Regulations and guidance set out in the draft IRPW Annual Report for 2017/18, the Authority must produce and maintain an annual Schedule of Member Remuneration which sets out details of the specific payments that it intends to make to Members and Co-opted Members in

	<p>accordance with the levels of remuneration and allowances determined by the IRPW in its final Annual or Supplementary Reports.</p> <p>Any amendments to the Schedule made during the municipal year must be conveyed to the IRPW as soon as practicable after the amendments are made.</p>
Staffing	Considered not relevant
Equalities/Human Rights/ Welsh Language	It is not considered that there are any issues that need addressing as the recommendations apply equally to all Members regardless of protected characteristics under the Single Equality Act.
Risks	Considered not relevant