

Report to	North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority
Date	21 July 2025
Lead Officer	Anthony Jones, Assistant Chief Fire Officer
Contact Officer	Mike Plant, Head of Planning, Performance and Transformation
Subject	Annual Governance Statement 2024-2025



PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1 To present to North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority (the Authority) the draft Annual Governance Statement (AGS), as required by the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014. It was submitted to Audit Wales on 31 May 2025.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2 The Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014 requires the Authority to publish an AGS to demonstrate that;
 - Business is conducted in accordance with all relevant laws and regulations
 - Public money is safeguarded and properly accounted for;
 - Resources are used economically, efficiently and effectively to achieve agreed priorities which benefit local people
- 3 A draft version was submitted to Audit Wales by 31 May 2025 for their feedback, as required by the legislation.
- 4 This year's draft Statement is attached.

OBSERVATIONS FROM AUDIT COMMITTEE

- 5 The draft AGS was presented to the Audit Committee on 16 June 2025, where no observations were made.

RECOMMENDATION

- 6 It is recommended that Members:
 - i) **Approve the Draft Annual Governance Statement**

BACKGROUND

- 7 Since 2010/11 all local government bodies have been required, by the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014, to prepare an Annual Governance Statement which is published as part of the statutory accounts.
- 8 The purpose of the AGS is to assess and demonstrate that there is a sound system of corporate governance throughout the organisation.

INFORMATION

- 9 Unlike previous years, this year's AGS will have minimal design applied to it.

IMPLICATIONS

Well-being Objectives	This report links to the Authority's long-term well-being objectives and demonstrates the governance arrangements in place to enable North Wales Fire and Rescue Service (the Service) to provide emergency responses and prevention work well in to the future.
Budget	None
Legal	The AGS has been prepared in accordance with the prescribed standards.
Staffing	None
Equalities/Human Rights/ Welsh Language	None
Risks	A sound governance framework supports the Authority's risk management arrangements.