

<b>MERSEYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY</b>			
<b>MEETING OF THE:</b>	<b>AUTHORITY (ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING)</b>		
<b>DATE:</b>	<b>9<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2022</b>	<b>REPORT NO:</b>	<b>CFO/026/022</b>
<b>PRESENTING OFFICER</b>	<b>MONITORING OFFICER</b>		
<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:</b>	<b>RIA GROVES</b>	<b>REPORT AUTHOR:</b>	<b>SHAUNA HEALEY</b>
<b>OFFICERS CONSULTED:</b>	<b>STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP TEAM CHAIR OF THE AUTHORITY</b>		
<b>TITLE OF REPORT:</b>	<b>APPROVED CONFERENCE AND OUTSIDE MEETINGS</b>		
<b>APPENDICES:</b>	<b>NONE</b>		

### **Purpose of Report**

1. To request that Members consider the attendance at conferences and outside meetings by representatives of Merseyside Fire & Rescue Authority and confirm their approval for such attendance as determined by the Chair of the Authority.

### **Recommendation**

2. It is recommended that Members approve the attendance at conferences and outside meetings by representatives of Merseyside Fire & Rescue Authority are to be determined by the Chair of the Authority.

### **Introduction and Background**

3. Members' presence at conferences and outside meetings is vital to their role and development as Authority Members. It ensures that the Authority is included in; and informed by local and national issues, to enable Members to make the best decisions for the public of Merseyside.
4. In previous years it was agreed that attendance at conferences and outside meetings by representatives of the Authority be approved by the Chair of the Authority. Representation will be determined by the Monitoring Officer in consultation with the Chair, Vice-chair and Opposition Members.
5. Where a conference or meeting is directly linked to a specific Member role, the appropriate Member may be requested to attend to represent the Authority.
6. Members are therefore asked to confirm that they remain content with this arrangement for 2022/23.

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**Equality and Diversity Implications**

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7. There are no direct equality and diversity issues arising directly from this report.

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**Staff Implications**

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8. There are no direct staff implications arising directly from this report. However, Officers are required to accompany Members at events relating to their areas of expertise.

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**Legal Implications**

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9. There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

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**Financial Implications & Value for Money**

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10. A sum of £1900 has been allocated in the Democratic Representation Budget for the payment of Conference Fees for Members. It is anticipated that costs will be contained within the existing budgets.

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**Risk Management, Health & Safety, and Environmental Implications**

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11. Members use the most efficient method of travel when attending conferences and outside meetings.

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**Contribution to Our Vision:** *To be the best Fire & Rescue Service in the UK.*

Our Purpose: *Here to serve, Here to protect, Here to keep you safe.*

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12. Members attendance at conferences and outside meetings enables the Authority to be represented appropriately, providing an opportunity to put forward suggestions, share experience and gain further knowledge. This ensures that the Authority is best placed to make the most appropriate decisions; and provide the best service possible to the communities of Merseyside.

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**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

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**NONE**

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**GLOSSARY OF TERMS**

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**MFRA** Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority

**MFRS** Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service