

<b>MERSEYSIDE FIRE &amp; RESCUE AUTHORITY</b>			
<b>MEETING OF THE:</b>	<b>AUTHORITY</b>		
<b>DATE:</b>	<b>26 JUNE 2024</b>	<b>REPORT NO:</b>	<b>CFO/46/24</b>
<b>PRESENTING OFFICER</b>	<b>MONITORING OFFICER, RIA GROVES</b>		
<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:</b>	<b>RIA GROVES</b>	<b>REPORT AUTHOR:</b>	<b>RIA GROVES</b>
<b>OFFICERS CONSULTED:</b>	<b>STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP TEAM</b>		
<b>TITLE OF REPORT:</b>	<b>ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP OF THE LIVERPOOL CITY REGION COMBINED AUTHORITY</b>		
<b>APPENDICES:</b>	<b>NONE</b>		

### **Purpose of Report**

1. To inform Members of the invitation to become an Associate Member of the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority.

### **Recommendation**

2. It is recommended that Members approve the invitation to become an Associate Member of the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority.

### **Introduction and Background**

3. The Liverpool City Region Combined Authority (LCRCA) approved an amendment to its constitution on the 15<sup>th</sup> March 2024 which extended the circumstances in which organisations can become associate members of the LCRCA.
4. Subsequently, the LCRCA wrote to Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority ('the Authority') inviting it to become an Associate Member of the LCRCA.
5. As the Authority is not designated as a member of the LCRCA under the relevant legislation the Authority would have no voting rights as an associate member.
6. The proposal will allow the Authority to provide valuable input into regional strategic decisions with the LCRCA.
7. It will also allow both organisations to promote, wherever feasible, joint strategic working and better and more integrated public services including, but not limited to, the functions of transport, economic development and regeneration for the benefit of the LCRCA, the area the Authority serves and the area of the North West region as a whole.

8. Subject to Members approval, a Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) would be agreed setting out the understanding of the LCRCA and the Authority and the principles which underlie the proposal for joint strategic working. It is intended to foster genuine and mutually beneficial co-operation.

---

### **Equality and Diversity Implications**

---

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

---

### **Staff Implications**

---

10. There will be a requirement for a Member to be the designated representative on behalf of the Authority at any meetings attended.

---

### **Legal Implications**

---

11. Associate membership is an informal arrangement underpinned by an MOU. The MOU does not create any legal relationship between the two organisations and either party on providing one month’s written notice to the other party may withdraw from this informal arrangement whereupon the associate membership will cease.

---

### **Financial Implications & Value for Money**

---

12. There is no fee payable for becoming an associate member. Any costs proposed to be incurred as a result of joint strategic working or any other reason will be subject to separate agreement.

---

### **Risk Management and Health & Implications**

---

13. There are no implications arising directly from this report.

---

### **Environmental Implications**

---

14. There no implications arising directly from this report.

---

**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.*

---

15. The engagement with other public bodies ensures the Authority can continue to reach all aspects of its community and can be fully informed of strategic plans within the region to understand how this may impact the Authority, its staff and the community.

---

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

---

**NONE**

---

**GLOSSARY OF TERMS**

---

**LCRCA**      **Liverpool City Region Combined Authority**