

MEETING: 16 DECEMBER 2019

**SUBJECT: LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION FIRE CONFERENCE AND
EXHIBITION 10 & 11 MARCH 2020**

**REPORT OF THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER /CHIEF EXECUTIVE (THE CLERK TO THE
AUTHORITY) THE STRATEGIC FINANCE OFFICER AND THE PERSONNEL ADVISOR
TO THE AUTHORITY**

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Annual Fire Conference of the Local Government Association (LGA) is scheduled to be held in Blackpool on 10 and 11 March 2020. This report proposes Authority representation at the conference.

2. LGA ANNUAL FIRE CONFERENCE 2020

- 2.1 The LGA Annual Fire Conference is the key conference for Fire and Rescue Authorities (FRAs) as it deals with issues of direct concern to the Fire and Rescue Service (FRS) as a whole.
- 2.2 The conference themes are designed to address current issues and key challenges facing FRS'. The full programme for the conference had not yet been released however, we are aware that the results of Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) first two tranches of inspection, the Grenfell Inquiry's first report (November 2019) and the Spending Review will be topics for consideration at this conference.
- 2.3 Speakers will be drawn from FRS', FRA's, central government and other key stakeholder organisations. In addition, there will also be a number of breakout and plenary sessions available, with opportunities to question speakers on the issues put forward at the conference.
- 2.4 There will be a strong national attendance from members and officers of FRAs as well as key figures from central government, which will provide an ideal opportunity to further develop an understanding of emerging issues.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The cost to attend the conference for LGA member authorities, which covers the main conference and workshop sessions is £395 + VAT per person plus the additional travel and accommodation.

- 3.2 Under normal practice the Chairman and one other Authority Member would be nominated to attend when the conference is not local. Members may wish to discuss attendance at the conference and advise the Chief Fire Officer accordingly.

4. EQUALITY AND FAIRNESS IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no equality and fairness implications in respect of this report.

5. HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no health and safety implications in respect of this report.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 The Authority is recommended to discuss the numbers attending this year and advise the Chief Fire Officer to proceed with booking the LGA Annual Fire Conference.
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