

MEETING: 17 JANUARY 2022

**SUBJECT: LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION FIRE CONFERENCE AND
EXHIBITION 15 & 16 MARCH 2022**

**REPORT OF THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER /CHIEF EXECUTIVE (THE CLERK TO THE
AUTHORITY) THE FINANCE DIRECTOR 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 at The Hilton, Gateshead on 15 and 16 March 2022. This report proposes Authority representation at the conference.

2. LGA ANNUAL FIRE CONFERENCE 2022

- 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 themes of the conference are designed to address current issues and key challenges facing FRS' nationally. Although the full programme for the conference had not yet been released, we are aware that the white paper, climate change and workforce engagement will be topics for consideration and discussion 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 Members and officers of FRAs as well as key figures from central government will be in attendance, which will provide an opportunity to develop an understanding of emerging issues, and promote collaborative working.

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.
- 3.2 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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