



AGENDA ITEM: 10

NORTH WALES FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

15 December 2014

APPOINTMENTS TO EXTERNAL BODIES

Report by Colin Everett, Clerk to the Authority

Purpose of Report

- 1 The purpose of this report is to:
 - (i) appoint an Authority member to the Ambulance Fire Service Resource Centre (AFSRC) Project Board;
 - (ii) confirm the appointment of an additional member to the Local Pension Board.

AFSRC Project Board

- 2 For several years, North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority and the Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust (WAST) have been in discussions about establishing a joint ambulance/fire station in Wrexham. Following an independent review of the project, NWFRA decided to continue with the project in September 2013. Thereafter, the Project Board reconsidered its terms of reference and invited NWFRA representation onto the Board to provide a degree of independence for project assurance.
- 3 The AFSRC Project Board provides written reports to the WAST Quality Delivery Committee and NWFRA and has powers specifically delegated in its terms of reference. The AFSRC Project Board forms parts of the Services' overall governance framework which serves to ensure that the Board gains the required assurances to be able to discharge its duties effectively and efficiently.

- 4 At its meeting on 28 October 2013, the Executive Panel nominated Cllr H McGuill to represent NWFRA. Members had been advised not to nominate a member from Wrexham for declarations of interests' issues around land transactions. Now that the project is underway and the land transaction resolved, Cllr McGuill wishes to stand down and feels that it would be prudent to have a member from Wrexham representing NWFRA.
- 5 An email was sent to all Wrexham members requesting expressions of interest and Cllr G Lowe and Cllr J R Skelland both put their names forward. However, due to Cllr Skelland's role as Chair of the Audit Committee it was considered that there may be a conflict of interest for him to be a member of the Project Board.

Local Pension Board

- 6 Members will recall that a Local Pension Board is being established from 1 April 2015 following the introduction of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013 in relation to the Firefighters' Pension Schemes. At the June 2014 annual meeting, NWFRA appointed Councillors B Dunn, W T Owen and J R Skelland to the Board. However, it has now been decided that having a fourth member would strengthen the Board and would ensure meetings are quorate. The Chair has approached Cllr D MacRae in her role as Deputy Chair of the Audit Committee and she has agreed to become a member of the pension board.

Recommendation

- 7 Members are asked to endorse the appointments of:
 - (i) Cllr G Lowe onto the Ambulance Fire Service Resource Centre (AFSRC) Project Board and thank Cllr McGuill for attending meetings since November 2013;
 - (ii) Cllr D MacRae onto the Local Pension Board.