



## **AGENDA ITEM: 11**

### **NORTH WALES FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY EXECUTIVE PANEL**

**13th July 2009**

#### **Appointment of a Health and Safety Champion**

#### **Report by ACFO Ruth Simmons**

#### **Purpose of Report**

- 1 To request that consideration be given to the introduction of a Health and Safety Champion.

#### **Background**

- 2 The Service has recently reviewed its Health and Safety Policy and, as part of that process, believes that there would be a great benefit in having a Fire Authority Health and Safety Champion to provide political leadership to the management of Health and Safety.

#### **Information**

- 3 The NWFRS policy complies with the requirements of both HS(G)65 "Successful Health and Safety Management" and OHSAS 18001. In order to achieve this, the organisation is committed to:
  - 3.1 Providing a safe place of work / safe systems of work with effective control of the health, safety and environmental risks to staff, contractors and the general public.
  - 3.2 Making Health and Safety, Risk Management, and Loss Control an integral part of the management of the business performance of the organisation.

- 3.3 Complying with current and future applicable Health and Safety legislation, approved Codes of Practice and industry recognised guidelines.
- 3.4 Promoting joint consultation with employees, the Health and Safety Executive, Representative Bodies and any other relevant organisation.
- 3.5 Collaborating with stakeholders to reflect their Health and Safety concerns and requirements into existing practises.
- 4 Overall responsibility for compliance with these commitments is vested in the Chief Fire Officer, with the day to day responsibility held by an Assistant Chief Fire Officer. It is envisaged that the Champion would liaise with the ACFO to agree the extent of their involvement in Health and Safety and, along with the Chair and Vice Chair, would participate in external audits and inspections.

## **Recommendations**

- 5.1 That Members:
  - (i) note the information provided, and
  - (ii) consider nominating a Health and Safety Champion.