

Report to	<b>Audit Committee</b>
Date	<b>16 June 2025</b>
Lead Officer	<b>Anthony Jones – Assistant Chief Fire Officer</b>
Contact Officer	<b>Mike Plant – Head of Planning, Performance and Transformation</b>
Subject	<b>Annual Governance Statement 2024-2025</b>



## PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1 To present to Members of the Audit Committee a draft Annual Governance Statement (AGS), as required by The Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014, prior to submission to Audit Wales by the deadline of 31 May 2025.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2 The Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014 requires the North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority (the Authority) to publish an Annual Governance Statement (AGS) to demonstrate that:
  - Business is conducted in accordance with all relevant laws and regulations;
  - Public money is safeguarded and properly accounted for; and
  - Resources are used economically, efficiently and effectively to achieve agreed priorities which benefit local people
- 3 A draft version is required to be submitted to Audit Wales by no later than 31 May 2025 for their feedback.
- 4 This year's AGS is attached.

## RECOMMENDATION

- 5 It is recommended that Members:
  - i) **Agree the proposed actions for 2024/25; and**
  - ii) **authorise submission to Audit Wales prior to 31 May 2025**

## BACKGROUND

- 6 Since 2010/11 all local government bodies have been required, by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, to prepare an AGS which is published as part of the Statutory Accounts.
- 7 The purpose of the AGS is to assess and demonstrate that there is a sound system of corporate governance throughout the organisation.

## INFORMATION

- 8 Unlike previous years, the AGS will have minimal design applied to it.

## IMPLICATIONS

Well-being Objectives	This report links to NWFRA's long-term well-being objectives and demonstrates the governance arrangements in place to enable the Service to provide emergency responses and prevention work well in to the future.
Budget	Na
Legal	The Annual Governance Statement has been prepared in accordance with the prescribed standards.
Staffing	None
Equalities/Human Rights/ Welsh Language	None
Risks	A sound governance framework supports the Authority's risk management arrangements.