

WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

26 JUNE 2023

1. MEMBER ATTENDANCE AT CONFERENCES, SEMINARS AND VISITS

Report of the Clerk.

RECOMMENDED

- 1.1 THAT the events for 2023/2024 set out in the attached Appendix be approved for the purpose of the payment of travel and subsistence allowances and conference fees (where appropriate).

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 To seek approval for attendance of members at conferences and seminars for 2023/2024.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The schedule of Approved Duties within the Members' Allowances Scheme allows for 'attendance as an appointed representative of the Authority, or of a Committee or Sub-Committee, at a conference, seminar or authorised meeting or visit at any other meeting authorised by the Authority'. A schedule of conferences, seminars and visits for the forthcoming year is submitted annually to the Authority for approval. The attached appendix provides for attendance by nominated members at relevant conferences and makes provision for the approval of attendance by members at other ad hoc events, subject to the necessary budgetary provision being available.

4. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 In preparing this report an initial Equality Impact Assessment is not required and has therefore not been carried out. The matters contained in this report do not relate to a policy change.

5. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 In accordance with the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 the Authority is required to make and publish a scheme setting out provisions for the payment of allowances to Members of the Authority.
- 5.2 Regulation 8 of the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 states that such a scheme may provide for the payment of allowances in respect of travelling and subsistence undertaken in connection with or relating to such duties specified within the scheme (the scheme of approved duties).

6. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 Provision is included in the Authority's budget for costs associated with attendance at conferences and seminars and for members' travel and subsistence costs.

7. **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Members' Allowances Scheme.

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Karen Gowreesunker
Clerk to the Authority