

 <p>WMFRA West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority</p>	<p><u>WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY</u></p> <p><u>24 NOVEMBER 2025</u></p>
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APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES/PANELS

For DECISION

Report of the Interim Clerk to the Authority Authored by the Democratic Services Officer

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1. To advise of the change in political proportionality and appoint members to the relevant committees.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1. That's members **approve** the appointments to the relevant committees outlined within Appendix A.

3. OBJECTIVES & EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- 3.1. To ensure the Authority membership of committees and panels are aligned with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1. Appointments are made by the local authorities in line with the Local Government Act 1985, Local Government Act 86 and Fire and Rescue Authority (Membership) Order 2017. The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 provides that where a Joint Authority is divided into different political groups, it shall ensure seats are allocated on ordinary committees of the authority proportionally.
- 4.2. Cllr Idrees whilst being in post on the authority, has stepped down from the Labour Group, becoming an Independent. This in affect changes the authority's proportionality to the following:

- 4.3. As an independent member, Cllr Idrees is entitled to 1/15 of committee posts (rounded to the nearest whole number). With a total of 19 committee positions available between Scrutiny, Audit and Risk and ASA Committees, this means he is entitled to one committee post. The Conservative group are entitled to 5 posts, and the Labour group to 13.
- 4.4. Currently, Councillor Idrees is a member of both the Audit and Risk Committee and Scrutiny Committee. It is proposed that Councillor Idrees be removed from the Audit and Risk Committee.
- 4.5. Changes to committee roles and substitute roles as a result are outlined within **Appendix A**.

5. **STRATEGY ALIGNMENT**

- 5.1. Political balance upon committees allows for effective, balanced governance of the Authority and Service, including delivery, oversight and scrutiny of the Authority's agreed Strategy.

6. **IMPACT ASSESSMENTS**

- 6.1. No initial equality impact assessment has been undertaken.

7. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1. Fire and Rescue Authorities were first established by Section 26 of the Local Government Act 1985, which provides that such authorities shall consist of members appointed by the metropolitan districts comprised in the relevant county. The number of members to be appointed by each district council is set out in the Fire and Rescue Authority (Membership) Order 2017.
- 7.2. The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 provides that where a Joint Authority is divided into different political groups, it shall review the representation of those groups. It also has a duty following such a review, to determine the allocation of committee seats to the different political groups into which the Members of the Authority are divided.

7.3. Non-compliance with the provisions of the 1989 Act would render the Authority's decisions vulnerable to judicial review.

8. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

8.1. All members will receive a basic allowance of £3500 (+any additional SRA where appropriate).

9. **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

9.1. There are no environmental implications arising from the content of this report.

10. **BACKGROUND PAPERS & APPENDICES**

- **Appendix A** – Membership of Committees and Panels
- [Local Government and Housing Act 1989](#)

Relevant Statutory Officer	Tom Embury	Interim Clerk
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