Shropshire and Wrekin Fire and Rescue Authority Standards Audit and Performance Committee 27 April 2023

Member Development 2022/23 and 2023/24

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

For further information about this report please contact Rod Hammerton, Chief Fire Officer, on 01743 260204 or Simon Hardiman, Assistant Chief Fire Officer (Service Support), on 01743 260196.

1 Purpose of Report

This report updates the Committee on Member development activity over the past year and proposes training and development activity for the year April 2023 to March 2024.

2 Recommendations

The Committee is asked to

- a) note the backward-looking report for 2022/23; and
- b) agree the proposed training and development activity for 2023/24.

3 Background

In April 2022 the Committee agreed a Member Training and Development Programme for the year to March 2023 which covered technical competence and specific knowledge of the Fire and Rescue Service to assist Members in performing their role with the Fire Authority.

4 Progress against the Training Programme 2022/23

Provision of training and development activity to Members has started to return to face-to-face sessions following the restrictions that were necessary during the Covid-19 pandemic, however, where appropriate, and possible, training has been delivered via MS Teams sessions. The details of training provided during 2022/23 are as follows.

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Date	Who attended?	Details
22 June 2022	10 Fire Authority Members	Fire Authority Governance Training Delivered by Andy Fry, Chief Executive, Centre for Governance and Scrutiny (3 hours)
13 July 20221	8 Fire Authority Members	Member Development Day Held at Whitchurch Fire Station, sessions delivered included Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Refresher, HMICFRS Feedback, Core Code of Ethics, On Call Sustainability Review, road traffic collision demonstration and a tour of a new appliance. (Full day)

5 Training and Development Activity for 2023/24

Based on a recent survey of Members, it is proposed that the following training will be delivered, and / or offered, to Members during 2023/24

- Mental Health First Aid Awareness
- Suicide Prevention
- Suicide Safety Planning

These training sessions are run by external providers / agencies and spaces will be booked for Fire Authority Members who wish to attend.

- Menopause Awareness
- Domestic Abuse Awareness
- PREVENT

These are e-learning modules that are available via the Service's on-line learning environment (LEO). Members can access this facility and will be provided with the links to these courses.

Induction Session

An Induction Session will be held for any new Fire Authority Members that are appointed by the constituent authorities in May 2023. This session will introduce the Fire Authority and the role of its members.

Member Development Day

It is proposed that a Member Development Day be held in July 2023. It is anticipated that this will a face-to-face event which will be held at an On Call Station.

Officers will plan relevant sessions for the day based on feedback from previous Development Days and issues that are current or relevant to the Fire and Rescue Service at present. A practical demonstration will also be included as in previous years.

6 Financial Implications

A budget exists for Member development and any provision would be contained within the budget. There are, therefore, no additional financial implications arising from this report.

7 Legal Comment

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

8 Initial Impact Assessment

This report provides historical information regarding training delivered to Members and proposed areas for Member development for the coming financial year. Any activities will be targeted at identifying and meeting Members' needs. As such, an Initial Impact Assessment is not necessary.

9 Equality Impact Assessment

This report provides historical information regarding training delivered to Members and proposed areas for Member development for the coming year. Any activities will be targeted at identifying and meeting Members' needs. As such an Equality Impact Assessment is not necessary.

10 Appendices

There are no appendices attached to this report.

11 Background Papers

There are no background papers associated with this report.