



## **AGENDA ITEM: 8**

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

**3<sup>rd</sup> February 2014**

#### **MEMBERSHIP OF IMPROVEMENT PLAN WORKING GROUP**

**Report by Dawn Docx, Deputy Chief Fire Officer**

#### **Purpose of Report**

- 1 To agree the membership of the Improvement Plan (IP) Working Group.

#### **Background**

- 2 The Local Government Measure 2009 requires Welsh improvement authorities to set themselves improvement objectives and consult widely with relevant stakeholders and people with an interest in the area on how to fulfil their improvement duties.
- 3 The Fire and Rescue Authorities (Improvement Plans) (Wales) Order 2012 requires those authorities to publish their agreed IP – incorporating their improvement objectives - as soon as reasonably practicable after 31 December prior to the financial year to which it relates.
- 4 Since 2003 the Authority has nominated members to sit on working groups to develop plans in accordance with the planning requirements in existence at the time, and this has become an integral part of the budget and planning process for the Authority.

## **Information**

- 5 The Working Group deals with the detailed work in connection with the Authority's planning and budget process before it submits its observations to the Executive Panel to enable it to formulate recommendations in relation to the Risk Reduction/Improvement Plan and budget to the Fire and Rescue Authority. The Working Group is not a formally constituted committee and therefore meetings are not open to the public. Meetings are held on a regular basis in the run-up to publication of documents.
- 6 In the past there have been various configurations of membership on the working group. Due to the importance of the budget and planning process and considering the high number of members that are still relatively new to the work of the Authority, it is considered prudent to again invite all members of the Executive Panel to be members of the IP Working Group.
- 7 It is recognised that early consultation with external partners would be beneficial in the planning/budget setting process next year therefore it is proposed that the IP Working Group will meet regularly over the coming months to develop a draft Improvement Plan 2015-16 for public consultation towards the end of 2014 and publication in March 2015.
- 8 It is anticipated that the Group will initially meet on a monthly basis to develop the draft Improvement Plan with regular updates being submitted to the Executive Panel.

## **Recommendations**

- 9 Members are asked to:
  - (i) agree that the full membership of the Executive Panel becomes the membership of the IP Working Group;
  - (ii) note the dates of the IP Working Group meetings as follows:
    - 24 February 2014 2pm;
    - 31 March 2014 2pm;
    - 12 May 2014 12pm (prior to the Executive Panel meeting).