

Report to	Audit Committee
Date	16 December 2024
Lead Officer	Dafydd Edwards, Treasurer
Contact Officer	Helen MacArthur, Assistant Chief Fire Officer, Finance and Resources
Subject	Approval of Bank Mandate



PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval from the Audit Committee in relation to the delegation of the banking arrangements.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2 North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority (the Authority) is required to put proper arrangements in place to safeguard the assets under its control, including the management of bank accounts and transactions.
- 3 The report confirms the proposal to seek authority for the activities set out in this report to be delegated to three authorised persons; the Chief Fire Officer (CFO), the Authority's Treasurer, and the Assistant Chief Fire Officer (ACFO), Finance and Resources. In all cases, two signatures would be required.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4 It is recommended that Members:
 - i) Approve the proposed delegation of the activities set out within this report to any two signatories from the following; the Chief Fire Officer, the Authority's Treasurer or the Assistant Chief Fire Officer, Finance and Resources.

BACKGROUND

- 5 The Authority is required to put proper arrangements in place to safeguard and control its assets including the operation of its bank accounts.
- 6 Each bank account is subject to a bank mandate which provides confirmation of the person(s) authorised to act on behalf of the Authority. To enable the bank account to function on a day to day basis it is necessary to put arrangements in place to delegate functions of the Authority to officers of North Wales Fire and Rescue Service.

INFORMATION

- 7 Approval is sought from the Audit Committee to delegate the following actions to the Chief Fire Officer, the Authority's Treasurer or the Assistant Chief Fire Officer, Finance and Resources:
- Opening of bank accounts;
 - Signatory amendments to bank accounts;
 - To deal with related banking matters including signing any agreement in relation to cash management services provided by the bank which shall include, but is not limited to, account conditions, bank products and services, cash pooling arrangements, agreements relating to payment and receivable services or other agreements relating to financial banking transactions; and
 - To sign documents in relation to electronic banking channels and to delegate to the specified individuals the power to decide matters dealt with for electronic banking channels and to allow those individuals to sub-delegate the power to other individuals to make payments and give other instructions in respect of those electronic banking channels.
- 8 To ensure that proper controls are in place, the actions above would require the signature of two persons from the list of three approved signatories.

Wellbeing Objectives	The operation of the Authority's bank accounts is critical to the ongoing function of the Service.
Budget	No budgetary impact.
Legal	The delegation supports the effective internal control environment.
Staffing	No impact.
Equalities/ Human Rights/ Welsh Language	Not applicable.
Risks	Delegated activities are subject to control with two signatories required .