

GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE, FIRE & CRIME PANEL

Date: 20th September 2022

Subject: GMFRS Annual Statement of Assurance 21-22

Report of: DCFO Ben Norman

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This paper presents the GMFRS Annual Statement of Assurance 21-22 setting out the arrangements in place covering the timeframe from 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Members of the Panel are asked to:

- Note the contents of the paper and the report provided in Appendix A, highlighting any comments.
- Support the publication of the report on the GMFRS website.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS:

GMFRS Annual Statement of Assurance 20-21

TRACKING/PROCESS		
Does this report relate to a major strategic decision, as set out in the GMCA Constitution		Yes/No
EXEMPTION FROM CALL IN		
Are there any aspects in this report which means it should be considered to be exempt from call in by the relevant Scrutiny Committee on the grounds of urgency?		Yes/No
TfGMC	Overview & Scrutiny Committee	
N/A	N/A	

BACKGROUND

1. The Fire and Rescue National Framework for England (2018) places a requirement on fire and rescue services (FRS) in England to provide annual assurance on financial, governance and operational matters, and show how they have due regard to the requirements included in the Framework.
2. To demonstrate this, the Framework requires that each Service must publish an annual Statement of Assurance.
3. One of the principal aims of the Statement of Assurance is to provide assurance to the Board, partners agencies, and the communities of Greater Manchester, that the Service is being run in accordance with appropriate governance, financial and operational standards.
4. In order to reduce duplication, the contents of existing documents have not been reproduced within the Statement of Assurance but have been signposted to the relevant document.

CONTENTS OF STATEMENT OF ASSURANCE

5. The content of the Service's Statement of Assurance found at Appendix A covers the following detail:
 - **Operational Assurance:** Details information regarding legislative structures, the development of our Community Risk Management Plan and consultation, operational preparedness, response and learning, resilience, cross-border, national resilience, and business continuity arrangements.
 - **Prevention and Protection Assurance:** Details risk-based approach to prevention and protection activity and compliance to legislative requirements.
 - **Financial Assurance:** Informs the assessment with regard to the Service's statement of accounts and associated structures, and the financial procedures adopted, collaborative working and NWFC.
 - **Governance:** Details including the current arrangements of the GMFRS and how we review the effectiveness of our governance framework, including the system of internal controls and the HMICFRS inspections.
 - **Workforce:** Information regarding operational training and fitness, safety, health, and wellbeing procedures and processes, and our environmental policy.

NEXT STEPS

6. Following approval, the document will be published on the GMFRS website under our publication scheme page.