

## EAST SUSSEX FIRE AUTHORITY

**Meeting** Scrutiny & Audit Panel

**Date** 23 July 2020

**Title of Report** Member Attendance Annual Report 2019/20

**By** Ellie Simpkin, Democratic Services Officer

**Lead Officer** Abigail Blanshard, Senior Democratic Services Officer

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**Background Papers** Report to Fire Authority 13 June 2019: Member Attendance 2018/19

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**Appendices** Appendix 1 – Member Attendance 2019/20: Formal Meetings  
Appendix 2 – Member Attendance 2019/20: Briefings, Events & Development Opportunities

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### Implications

<b>CORPORATE RISK</b>		<b>LEGAL</b>	✓
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL</b>		<b>POLICY</b>	
<b>FINANCIAL</b>		<b>POLITICAL</b>	✓
<b>HEALTH &amp; SAFETY</b>		<b>OTHER (please specify)</b>	
<b>HUMAN RESOURCES</b>		<b>CORE BRIEF</b>	
<b>EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT</b>			

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**PURPOSE OF REPORT** To report Member attendance at formal Fire Authority meetings, community events and Member briefing/development events for 2019/20.

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY** Member attendance for all formal Fire Authority meetings was first reported at the Annual Fire Authority on 13 June 2019. At this meeting it was agreed that future reporting on Member attendance would be made to the Scrutiny & Audit Panel on an annual basis for monitoring purposes.

Feedback on the format of report has been considered and information on substitutions and a summary of attendance at community engagement events and Member briefing/development opportunities have now been included.

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**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Panel notes the Member attendance for 2019/20.

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## 1. **INTRODUCTION**

1.1 Member attendance information is now publicly available on the East Sussex Fire & Rescue website through the ModGov system at:

<https://esfrs.moderngov.co.uk/mgUserAttendanceSummary.aspx>

1.2 This report covers the period from 13 June 2019 to 10 June 2020. During this time the following formal meetings have been held:

Full Fire Authority	7
Policy & Resources Panel	3
Scrutiny & Audit Panel	4
Principal Officer Appointment Panel	1
Pensions Board	3

1.3 Following feedback from Members information on attendance at seminars, events and training/development opportunities has been provided at appendix 2. These figures are based on information received and recorded by Democratic Services. Members have been reminded weekly via the Members Information email to inform the team of their attendance at any such events for monitoring purposes. Dates of forthcoming events, invitations to briefings and development/training opportunities are also included in the weekly email.

1.4 During 2019/20 5 Member Seminars' have been held at locations across the East Sussex and Brighton with the seminar moving to an online event in May 2020. As well as the programmed seminars, Members have had the opportunity to attend community events such as Station Open days, a Rider Skills Day, Safe Drive Stay Alive, Pass Out Parades and staff award ceremonies. Members have also been provided with training and development opportunities through the LGA and the Service's Gender Inclusion Network.

1.5 It should be noted that since mid-March 2020 open days/community events have been suspended due to Covid-19.

## 2. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

2.1 The Localism Act 2011 introduced new arrangements to govern the Standards of Conduct for local authority members and co-optees which set out the seven guiding principles of conduct: selflessness; integrity; objectivity; accountability; openness; honesty and leadership. The information in this report supports these guiding principles and, in particular, enhancing openness and accountability.