



# Bedfordshire

## Fire & Rescue Authority

22 December 2023

Members of Audit and Standards Committee.

Bedford Borough Councillors: G Coombes

Central Bedfordshire Councillors: K Gurney, S Owen, M Versallion and R Wenham

Luton Borough Councillors: A Ali and M Hussain

Your attendance is requested at a meeting of the **Audit and Standards Committee** to be held at **Conference Room, Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Kempston, Bedford MK42 7NR** on **Thursday, 4 January 2024** starting at **10.00 am**, for the transaction of the following business:

Graham Britten  
Monitoring Officer

### A G E N D A

Item	Subject	Lead	Purpose of Discussion
1.	Apologies	Business Support Manager	

<b>Item</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Purpose of Discussion</b>
2.	Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary and Other Interests	Chair	Members are requested to disclose the existence and nature of any disclosable pecuniary interest and any other interests as required by the Fire Authority's Code of Conduct (see note below).
3.	Minutes	Chair	To confirm minutes of the meeting held on 17 October 2023 (Pages 5 - 16)
4.	Communications	Chair	(Pages 17 - 46)
5.	Public Participation		To receive any questions put to the Authority under the Public Participation Scheme
6.	Internal Audit Progress Report	RSM	To consider a report  (Pages 47 - 52)
7.	Internal Audit Actions Update	ACO	To consider a report  (Pages 53 - 70)
8.	Review of the Effectiveness of the Fire & Rescue Authority's Internal Auditors	ACO	To consider a report (Pages 71 - 76)
9.	Report on Registration of Interests and Gifts/Hospitality	Monitoring Officer	To consider a report (Pages 77 - 82)
10.	Work Programme	ACO	To consider a report (Pages 83 - 86)

**Local Government Act 1972: Schedule 12A (as amended) - Exclusions on the Public**

**Chair**

To consider whether to pass a resolution under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude the public from the remainder of the meeting on the grounds that consideration of the following items of business is likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of the Schedule 12A to the Act as amended.

<b>Item</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Purpose of Discussion</b>
-------------	----------------	-------------	------------------------------

Item	Subject	Lead	Purpose of Discussion
11.	Corporate Risk Register	HSSAM	To consider a report (Pages 87 - 102)
	Next Meeting	10.00 am on 4 March 2024 at Conference Room, Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Kempston, Bedford MK42 7NR	

### DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

From 1 July 2012 new regulations were introduced on Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPIs). The interests are set out in the Schedule to the Code of Conduct adopted by the Fire Authority on 28 June 2012. Members are statutorily required to notify the Monitoring Officer (MO) of any such interest which they, or a spouse or civil partner or a person they live with as such, have where they know of the interest.

A Member must make a verbal declaration of the existence and nature of any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest and any other interest as defined in paragraph 7 of the Fire Authority's Code of Conduct at any meeting of the Fire Authority, a Committee (or Sub-Committee) at which the Member is present and, in the case of a DPI, withdraw from participating in the meeting where an item of business which affects or relates to the subject matter of that interest is under consideration, at or before the consideration of the item of business or as soon as the interest becomes apparent.