

For Publication

Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Authority  
Audit and Standards Committee  
2 December 2021

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**REPORT AUTHOR:** MONITORING OFFICER

**SUBJECT:** ANNUAL REPORT ON REGISTRATION OF INTERESTS AND GIFTS/HOSPITALITY

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Background Papers: None

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Implications (tick ✓):

LEGAL	✓	FINANCIAL	✓
HUMAN RESOURCES		EQUALITY IMPACT	
ENVIRONMENTAL		POLICY	
CORPORATE RISK	Known	OTHER (please specify)	
	New		

*Ay implications affecting this report are noted at the end of the report*

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**PURPOSE:**

To report on the registration of interests and gifts/hospitality by Members and Officers during the past year.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That Members consider the contents of the report and comment as appropriate.

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## 1. Interests

- 1.1 The Localism Act 2011 replaced personal and prejudicial interests with disclosable pecuniary interests (DPI), and the Fire and Rescue Authority's (FRA) Code of Conduct requires Members to declare other non-statutory interests, as specified. If present when an item arises in which s/he has disclosable pecuniary interest, a Member must declare the interest and may not participate in the discussion or vote on that matter. The FRA has also agreed that the Member should leave the room during the consideration of this item and this must be recorded in the minutes. Non-statutory interests under the Code are also required to be declared at a meeting.
- 1.2 The FRA's Code of Conduct requires all Members to submit to the Monitoring Officer a list of their DPIs within 28 days of their appointment to the FRA. I can report that all Members have completed and submitted registration of interest forms which have been published on the Service Website and these have been reviewed and re-submitted since June 2021.

## 2. Gifts/Hospitality

- 2.1 Under the FRA's Code of Conduct a Member is required to give written notice to the Monitoring Officer of any gift, benefit or hospitality in excess of £50 in value (within 28 days of acceptance) received by them as a Member of the FRA from any other person/body. These notifications are then placed in the public register.
- 2.2 BFRS personnel are also required to register any gifts and hospitality they receive in excess of £50 in value. These declarations are also included in the FRAs public register.
- 2.3 One entry has been made in the register during the past year:
  - Attendance at the British APCO conference (Public Safety Communications). Evening reception/meal as guests of Motorola, following two Beds Fire & Rescue officers presenting as part of their seminar at the conference. The attendees of the evening were Chief Fire Officer, ACO Chambers, Paul Hughes, Dave Dawe and Dave Smith.

**JOHN ATKINSON**  
**MONITORING OFFICER**