
SUBJECT: MEMBERSHIP OF THE AUTHORITY

Author and contact: Nicky Upton, Democratic & Regulatory Services Supervisor
Democratic.services@bedsfire.gov.uk

Background Papers:

Appendix	Title	Protective Marking
	N/A	

Implications

This table provides a short statement of the impact of the recommendations in this report and/or a reference to the relevant paragraph/s in the report.

Will this report affect any of the following?

	Yes / No	Impact / Reference
Financial Implications	No	
Risk Management	No	
Legal Implications	No	Bedfordshire Fire Services (Combination Scheme) Order 1996 (amended by Variation Order 2012)
Privacy and Security Implications	No	
Duty to Collaborate	No	

Health and Safety Implications	No	
Equality, Diversity and Inclusion	No	
Environmental Sustainability	No	
Consultation and Communication	Yes	The Democratic and Regulatory Services Supervisor has sought the latest electorate figures from each Constituent authority and liaised with both the Business Support Manager and Monitoring Officer. The Constituent authorities have advised of their respective Members appointed to the Fire Authority at each of their Annual Meetings. Details of Fire Authority membership is publicly available on the website along with attendance records for each Member.

PURPOSE:

To note the Members appointed by the Constituent Authorities to serve on the Fire Authority for 2023/24.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that:

- The contents of the report be noted; and
- A Member from each Constituent Council be authorised to report to their respective Constituent Council on the meetings of the Fire and Rescue Authority for 2023/24.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 Under the Bedfordshire Fire Services (Combination Scheme) Order 1996 (amended by Variation Order 2012), Part III, paragraph 12, each constituent authority shall, so far as is practicable, appoint such number of representatives to be members of the Authority as is proportionate to the number of local government electors in its area in relation to the number of such electors in the other constituent authorities' areas.

- 1.2 The local government electorate for Central Bedfordshire Council is 221,559 as at 1 December 2022 (an email received from the Central Bedfordshire Council Democratic Services Manager, dated 16 February 2023, advised of the above figure) 44.57%
- 1.3 The local government electorate for Luton Borough Council is 141,748 as at 1 December 2022 (an email received from the Luton Borough Council Electoral Services Manager, 23 January 2023, advised of the above figure) 28.64%
- 1.4 The local government electorate for Bedford Borough Council is 133,838 as at 1 December 2022 (an email received from the Bedford Borough Council Team Leader (Electoral Registration), 23 February 2023, advised of the above figure) 27.04 %
- 1.5 Total number of Members: 12
- | | | | | |
|----------------------|---------|----------|---|---------|
| Central Bedfordshire | 221,559 | (44.57%) | 5 | Members |
| Luton Borough | 141,748 | (28.51%) | 4 | Members |
| Bedford Borough | 133,838 | (26.92%) | 3 | Members |

This equates to Authority Membership for Central Bedfordshire Council 5 Members, Luton Borough 4 Members and Bedford Borough 3 Members.

- 1.6 To note the Constituent Authorities have appointed the following Members to serve on the Fire Authority for 2023/24:

Central Bedfordshire Council (5)

Councillors Goodchild (Liberal Democrat), Mackey (Independent), Versallion (Conservative), Wenham (Conservative), plus one Independent to be confirmed.

Luton Borough Council (4)

Councillors Ali (Liberal Democrat), Burnett (Labour), M Hussain (Labour), S Hussain (Labour)

Bedford Borough Council (3)

Councillors Coombs (Conservative), Sultan (Labour) and Headley (Liberal Democrat)

2. Reporting arrangements to Constituent Authorities during 2023/24

2.1 Arrangements agreed between the Fire and Rescue Authority and the constituent councils have previously provided for a representative of the constituent council on the Fire and Rescue Authority (whether the Chair or another Member), to report on meetings of the Fire and Rescue Authority to the constituent council, and answer any questions relating to the discharge of the Fire and Rescue Authority's functions.

2.2 Members are requested to consider arrangements to report to constituent authorities during 2023/24.

GRAHAM BRITTEN
MONITORING OFFICER