



## **AGENDA ITEM: 6**

### **NORTH WALES FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY EXECUTIVE PANEL**

**6<sup>th</sup> February 2012**

#### **FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITIES IN WALES: STRATEGIC OUTLINE CASE AND DISCUSSION DOCUMENT**

**Report by Simon Smith, Chief Fire Officer**

##### **Purpose of Report**

- 1 To advise Members of developments since the Fire and Rescue Authority meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2011.

##### **Background**

- 2 At the last meeting of the Authority, the Chief Fire Officer presented the document "Fire and Rescue Authorities in Wales: Strategic Outline Case and Discussion Document" (the document). Following discussion, Members approved the recommendation to endorse the Chief Fire Officers' preferred option and mandated the Chair of the Authority to pursue the establishment of a "National Issues Committee" (NIC). Agenda item 18 of the 19<sup>th</sup> December 2011 meeting provides further detail for Members' information.

##### **Information**

- 3 Following Members' decision on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2011, the document was shared with WG officials, who indicated that the Minister for Local Government and Communities, Carl Sargeant AM wished to discuss it with Chairs and Chief Fire Officers at a scheduled meeting on 12 January 2012.

- 4 At that meeting, the Minister indicated that he had some questions of further detail that he would like the Fire and Rescue Authorities to respond to before he would be in a position to endorse the document or not. To that end it was agreed that officials would put those questions in writing and then have a discussion with the three Chief Fire Officers. That discussion took place on 24<sup>th</sup> January 2012.
- 5 Work has now started on the establishment of the NIC. Regular reports on progress will be brought to meetings of the Executive Panel and the Fire and Rescue Authority.

### **Recommendation**

- 6 That Members note the contents of this report.