



## **AGENDA ITEM: 15**

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

**18<sup>th</sup> June 2012**

#### **THE SAFER COMMUNITIES REGIONAL BOARD AND POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER**

**Report by Colin Everett, Clerk to the Authority**

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

- 1 To update members on the establishment of a Regional Safer Communities Board and the appointment of the Police and Crime Commissioner and Panels.

##### **Background**

###### **Regional Safer Communities Board**

- 2 A Regional Safety Communities Board and a Partnership Agreement for the Board has recently been approved by constituent authorities. The purpose of the Board is to provide strategic direction for the Community Safety, Youth Justice and Criminal Justice functions and services. The Board membership will be made up of the six local authorities, North Wales Police, North Wales Fire and Rescue Service, Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board and Wales Probation (and eventually the Police and Crime Commissioner).
- 3 The first meeting of this new Board will be held in June and the North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority will be represented by Gareth Griffiths, Senior Fire Safety Manager.

## **Police and Crime Commissioners and Panels**

- 4 Following the introduction of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act last year, Police Authorities will be abolished in November 2012 following the election of Police and Crime Commissioners. Police and Crime Panels, to be made up primarily of local authority elected members, are also to be established to support and scrutinise the work of Commissioners. The Commissioners will have important powers in directing community safety priorities and resources
- 5 In November 2012, all Force areas in England and Wales, except London, will be electing a "Police and Crime Commissioner", who will be responsible for working with a range of community safety and criminal justice partners in local areas to develop and deliver policing plans and priorities.

## **Information**

- 6 The NWFRA will be represented on the Regional Safer Communities Board which will advise the Police Commissioner on the priorities for Community Safety in the region. The Fire and Rescue Service is a major partner in Community Safety work at regional and county levels and will play its role in this new regional Board.

## **Recommendation**

- 7 Members are asked to note the contents of this report.