



**DORSET & WILTSHIRE
FIRE AND RESCUE
AUTHORITY**

Item 21/23

MEETING	Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority
DATE OF MEETING	16 June 2021
SUBJECT OF THE REPORT	Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority Appointments 2021-22
STATUS OF REPORT	Open publication
PURPOSE OF REPORT	For decision
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	<p>The Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority (Combination Scheme) Order 2015 sets out the entitlement of the original five constituent councils to places on the Authority.</p> <p>A variation order was made in 2018 reducing the number of Members appointed to the Authority from 30 to 18 Members. From 1 April 2019 local government reorganisation in Dorset reduced the number of constituent councils to four.</p> <p>This report provides confirmation of the 18 appointed Members and details of the committees, boards, groups and other bodies requiring appointments for the year 2021-22.</p> <p>Prior to the Authority meeting, political groups have been asked to confirm nominations for these appointments. A full list will be provided at the meeting for approval.</p>
RISK ASSESSMENT	Failure to appoint Members to the identified committees, groups, boards and other bodies will negatively impact upon the governance and decision-making arrangements of the Authority and Service.
COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT	None for the purposes of this report.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS	There are no new budget implications arising from the appointments in the report.
RECOMMENDATIONS	<p>Members are asked to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Appoint Members to serve on the Finance & Audit Committee for 2021-22 2. Elect from amongst those Members appointed to the Finance and Audit Committee a Chair and a Vice-Chair of the Finance & Audit Committee for 2021-22 3. Appoint Members to all boards, groups and other bodies for 2021-22, and any named substitutes as detailed within Table 2. 4. Note the change to formal arrangements currently in place for Member Champions and the Member Buddy scheme.
BACKGROUND PAPERS	Links are embedded in the report to relevant orders and regulations.
APPENDICES	None
REPORT ORIGINATOR AND CONTACT	<p>Name: Jonathan Mair, Clerk & Monitoring Officer</p> <p>Email: jonathan.mair@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</p> <p>Tel: 01305 224181</p>

1. Introduction

- 1.1 [The Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority \(Combination Scheme\) Order 2015](#) sets out the entitlement of the constituent councils to places on the Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority (the Authority).
- 1.2 Membership of the Authority was varied (with effect from 6 June 2018) by the [Fire and Rescue Authority \(Membership\) Order 2017](#) (Statutory Instrument 1165), where membership was reduced to 18 Authority Members.
- 1.3 Local government reorganisation in Dorset ([through the Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole \(Structural Changes Order 2018\)](#)) resulted in the abolition of Bournemouth Borough Council, Dorset County Council and the Borough of Poole and the creation of two new councils as constituent councils of the Authority:
 - Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council
 - Dorset Council
- 1.4 On 6 May 2021 Wiltshire Council held all out elections and Swindon Borough held elections for one third of the Council. During their Annual General Meetings, the four constituent councils have made the following appointments to the Authority:

Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council (five places):

Cllr Steve Baron

Cllr Malcolm Davies

Cllr Paul Hilliard

Cllr Toby Johnson

Cllr Ann Stribley

Dorset Council (four places):

Cllr Peter Barrow

Cllr Richard Biggs

Cllr Rebecca Knox

Cllr Byron Quayle

Swindon Borough Council (three places):

Cllr Russell Holland

Cllr Garry Perkins

Cllr Kevin Small

Wiltshire Council (six places):

Cllr Brian Dalton

Cllr Bob Jones

Cllr Kelvin Nash

Cllr Paul Oatway

Cllr Ashley O'Neill

Cllr Pip Ridout

2. Representation on the Authority

2.1 The rules on political proportionality, under the provisions of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, apply to committees of the Authority. If the political affiliations of Members of the constituent councils appointed to the Authority were to be replicated in group membership within the Authority, then the group memberships and percentage entitlement to places on committees would be as follows:

- Conservative – 56%
- Liberal Democrat – 28%

Total = 15 – there is in addition one Labour Member, one Independent Member and one Member with a non-political grouping.

2.2 The Authority has established the committees and membership requirements, detailed in Table 1 below:

Committee	Membership No.	Appointments
Finance & Audit	8	Appointed in accordance with political proportionality of the Authority.

Table 1

Committee	Membership No.	Appointments
Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Local Performance & Scrutiny	5	All local Members appointed to the Authority by the constituent council
Dorset Local Performance & Scrutiny	4	All local Members appointed to the Authority by the constituent council
Swindon Local Performance & Scrutiny	3	All local Members appointed to the Authority by the constituent council
Wiltshire Local Performance & Scrutiny	6	All local Members appointed to the Authority by the constituent council
Appointments & Disputes	5	Drawn from all Members of the Authority when required (appointed in accordance with political proportion)
Appeals Committee	5	Drawn from all Members of the Authority when required (appointed in accordance with political proportion)

Table 1 (continued)

2.3 The only standing committee to which political proportionality applies is the Finance & Audit Committee and the entitlement to places are:

- 5 Conservatives
- 2 Liberal Democrats
- 1 Ungrouped

2.4 The rules of political proportionality apply to both the Appeals and the Appointment & Disputes committees but as these are not standing committees. Members will be appointed as required.

3. Political Group Leaders

3.1 Any changes to Group Leaders will be confirmed at the meeting.

4. The Authority Committee Memberships

- 4.1 As is protocol, the political groups have been asked to agree nominations of Members for the Finance & Audit Committee. These nominations will be provided for approval at the meeting.

5. Finance & Audit Committee Chair and Vice Chair

- 5.1 Following appointment of Members to the Finance & Audit Committee, the Authority will elect the Committee Chair and Vice-Chair during the meeting from amongst those Members appointed to the Committee. Only those appointed to the Committee are eligible to be elected to the Chair or Vice-Chair.

6. Appointments to Committees, Groups and Additional Bodies

- 6.1 Members are asked to consider and appoint Members to serve on the Committees, groups and additional bodies, as detailed in Table 2, for the year 2021-22.
- 6.2 Group Leaders have been asked to agree nominations with Members for confirmation and approval during the meeting.

Other related groups and committees	
Local Pensions Board	2 Members, 1 Member Substitute and 2 Officers
Local Government Association (LGA)	3 Members
LGA Fire Commission	2 Members and 1 deputy
South West Councils	1 Member
South West Councils Employers' Panel	1 Member
Other related groups and committees	
Wiltshire Public Service Board	1 Member and CFO
Appointment to constituent authority Community Safety Partnerships	
Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	1 Member
Dorset	1 Member
Swindon	1 Member
Wiltshire	1 Member

Table 2

7. Member Champions and Member Buddy schemes

- 7.1 It is proposed that Member Champions will be nominated as required and the formal Member Buddy Scheme is replaced with a process whereby visits can be arranged upon request by any Member to any workplace, through the Democratic Services team. All Members are welcomed at any Service premises, and these may be virtual or physical, as required.

8. Summary and key points

- 8.1 The Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority (Combination Scheme) Order 2015, as since varied, sets out the proportions in which the constituent councils are each entitled to appoint councillors to serve as Members of the Authority.
- 8.2 The Authority must then appoint Members to serve on its Committees, to a range of other positions and to outside bodies. Some, but not all, appointments are made in accordance with political proportionality.
- 8.3 Members are asked to confirm the appointments to the Committees, boards, groups and other bodies detailed within this paper.

June 2021