



DRAFT - Corporate Governance Policy Statement

The Authority will aim to ensure that the Service:

1. Conducts the business of the Authority and the Service in accordance with the law and proper standards and that public money is safeguarded, properly accounted for, and used economically, efficiently and effectively. To support this, it will adopt the principles of 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government' Framework 2016 produced by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) and the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE).
2. Maintains a strong link between effective strategic planning and governance and appropriate Member development.
3. Has good information governance arrangements to support the priorities and comply with its statutory obligations including data protection legislation, the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.
4. Has an information security management framework in place that adequately protects the information it holds and mitigates any cyber security threats and other risk exposures.
5. Proactively identifies and manages organisational risks effectively.
6. Has robust, best practice business continuity arrangements in place to comply with the Civil Contingencies Act 2004.
7. Drives continuous improvement and risk mitigation measures through sound management and engagement of independent external and internal audit regimes.
8. Provides a process so that possible malpractice can be confidently reported and objectively investigated.
9. Engages in coordinated and targeted internal and external communications and complies with its responsibilities under equality, diversity and inclusion legislation.

Compliance and assurance:

The Authority delegates these policy objectives to the Chief Fire Officer, who will be responsible for ensuring compliance with this policy through maintaining practices and procedures and ensuring adequate resources are allocated. The Chief Fire Officer will monitor and undertake an annual assurance of this policy to support the Statement of Assurance and the Annual Governance Statement, which will be approved by the Authority.

The Service will also assure through reports received and judgements made by its internal and external auditors and His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services.

Document Management:

Responsible Person	Chief Fire Officer
Review Date	April 2026
Next Review Date	February 2028