

Shropshire and Wrekin Fire and Rescue Authority Chair's Report of the Annual Meeting held on 24 June 2026

Election of Chair and Appointment of Vice-Chair

The Fire Authority elected Councillor Richard Overton as its Chair and appointed Councillor Susan Coleman as its Vice-Chair until June 2027.

The new Chair formally recognised and thanked Cllr David Minnery for his role as a Chair of Fire Authority for the previous 3 years.

Vote of Thanks and Welcome

A vote of thanks was given to Councillor Raj Mehta from Telford & Wrekin Council, who left the Fire Authority in May 2026.

Members also welcomed Councillor Eileen Callear from Telford & Wrekin Council to her first meeting of the Fire Authority

Committee Composition and Allocation of Seats to Political Groups

The Fire Authority agreed the number of seats on its Committees and the allocation of those seats to political groups for the 2026/27 municipal year.

Fire Authority Terms of Reference and Committee Constitutions

The Fire Authority has agreed Terms of Reference for both the Fire Authority and its Committees.

Committee Membership and Appointments

The Fire Authority confirmed appointments to its Committees, appointed its representative to the Local Government Association Fire Services Commission and confirmed its Member Champion appointments for the forthcoming year.

Election of Committee Chairs and Vice-Chairs

The Fire Authority completed the annual appointment of Committee Chairs and Vice-Chairs following nominations from the respective Committees.

Councillor Roger Evans was elected Chair of the Strategy and Resources Committee, and Councillor Adam Fejfer was elected Vice Chair of that Committee.

Councillor Stephen Handley was elected Chair of the Audit and Standards Committee, and Councillor Thomas Clayton was elected Vice Chair of that Committee.

Councillor Beverley Waite was elected Chair of the Performance and Scrutiny Committee, and Councillor Alan Mosley was elected Vice Chair of that Committee.

Meeting Dates 2026/27

The Fire Authority approved the programme of Fire Authority and Committee meeting dates for the 2026/27 municipal year.

Review of Standing Orders and Scheme of Delegation to Officers

The Fire Authority reviewed and approved amendments to its governance framework, including Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, Contract Standing Orders and the Scheme of Delegation to Officers.

Code of Corporate Governance 2026/27

The Fire Authority approved and formally adopted the Authority's Code of Corporate Governance 2026/27 following consideration by the Audit and Standards Committee.

Performance and Scrutiny Committee Chair's Report

The Fire Authority received the report of the Chair of the Performance and Scrutiny Committee, providing an overview of Committee activity undertaken during April and June 2026, including scrutiny of Service performance and improvement activity.

Financial Performance to March 2026

The Fire Authority considered the Service's financial performance for the year ended 31 March 2026 and approved the recommendations contained within the report.

Statement of Accounts 2025/26

The Fire Authority considered the key revenue matters arising from preparation of the Statement of Accounts 2025/26 and approved the use of the General Fund balance during 2026/27 as set out within the report.

Productivity and Efficiency Plan

The Fire Authority received the Service's Productivity and Efficiency Plan and noted the work being undertaken to improve efficiency, productivity and value for money across the organisation.

Community Risk Management Plan

The Fire Authority received an update on delivery of the Community Risk Management Plan 2025–2028 and approved the proposal to extend the current Plan for a further 24 months following its annual review of risk.

Corporate Risk Management Annual Report 2025/26

The Fire Authority received the annual report on corporate risk management activity undertaken during the previous twelve months and reviewed progress made in strengthening the Service's approach to the identification, management and monitoring of corporate risk.

Memorandum of Understanding for Special Observer Role

The Fire Authority approved and adopted a Memorandum of Understanding between the Authority and the recognised Employee Representative Bodies, namely the Fire Brigades Union (FBU), Fire and Rescue Services Association (FRSA), Fire Leaders Association (FLA) and UNISON, formalising arrangements for the Special Observer role.

Monitoring Officer Service Level Agreement

Following consideration in private session, the Fire Authority reviewed and evaluated the revised Monitoring Officer Service Level Agreement and approved the recommendations contained within the report.

Chair's Announcements

The Chair formally thanked Richard Phillips, Deputy Clerk and Monitoring Officer, on the occasion of his final Fire Authority meeting before taking up a new role with Shropshire Council. The Authority also recorded its appreciation to Joanne Coadey, Head of Finance, for more than twenty-five years of dedicated service ahead of her retirement on 30 June 2026.



Richard Overton
Chair, Shropshire and Wrekin Fire and Rescue Authority
June 2026

Background Papers

Agenda and Papers for the Annual Meeting of Shropshire and Wrekin Fire and Rescue Authority held on 24 June 2026

The agendas and reports (apart from exempt or confidential items) for all Fire Authority and Committee meetings are on the Service's website:

<http://www.shropshirefire.gov.uk>

To access reports, go to the Fire Service's website and follow the steps below.

- Click on 'About' in the blue bar at the top of the page
- Hoover mouse over on 'Fire and Rescue Authority'
- Click on 'Meetings' in the list
- Click on the appropriate meeting date and the various reports and appendices will be listed

If you have any difficulty with the website, please contact Lynn Ince, Executive Support Supervisor, on 01743 260225.