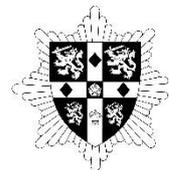


Safest People, Safest Places

County Durham and Darlington
Fire and Rescue Authority



COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY

22 NOVEMBER 2017

STATEMENT OF ASSURANCE 2016/17

REPORT OF AREA MANAGER, ASSURANCE & ASSETS

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to present Members with the 2016/17 Statement of Assurance (SoA), that was approved for publication by the Audit & Risk Committee on 28 September 2017.

Background

2. Guidance was issued via the Fire and Rescue National Framework for England (2012) on the content of the Statement of Assurance.
3. The publication of a SoA is a National Framework requirement.

The Statement of Assurance (SoA)

4. This year, the format and content of the SoA was revised to reflect the CFOA Circular 2013/10 guidance which has been adopted by a number of services nationally.
5. The SoA forms part of the Authority's Assurance Framework and complements the Annual Governance Statement (AGS).
6. To avoid duplication, where assurances are provided by the AGS or other published governance documentation, a hyperlink reference has been made within the SoA as opposed to repeating information.
7. The 2016/17 SoA, approved for publication by the Audit & Risk Committee on 28 September 2017, is attached at Appendix A.

Recommendations

8. Members are recommended:
 - a. **Note** and **comment** upon the revised format and content of the 2016/17 Statement of Assurance.

Andrew Hopkinson, Area Manager, Assurance & Assets, 0191 375 5586