

**Meeting:** Fire Services Management Committee

**Date:** 6 March 2023



## **Fire Services Management Committee Update Paper**

### **Purpose of report**

For information

### **Summary**

The report outlines issues of interest to the Fire Services Management Committee not covered under other items on the agenda.

**Is this report confidential?** No

### **Recommendation**

That the Committee note the report.

### **Contact details**

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# Fire Services Management Committee Update Paper



## Fire and Rescue Leadership Essentials

1. Our next Fire and Rescue (Leadership Essentials) course will take place between **Monday 13 and Tuesday 14 March** at [Warwick Conferences, University of Warwick, Scarman Road, Coventry CV4 7SH](#).
2. This fully subsidised course is aimed at chairs and members of fire and rescue authorities and aims to provide an induction to the fire sector. It will be a great opportunity to network with other fire authority members; so, both new and existing members are encouraged to attend. For more information or to book, contact Grace Collins on 020 7664 3054 or at [grace.collins@local.gov.uk](mailto:grace.collins@local.gov.uk)

## Fire Inclusion and Diversity Member Champions Network

3. The next EDI Champion network meeting is on Wednesday 22 March between 10am-12pm and will be held on Teams.
4. We encourage all authorities to make sure that they have a representative on the Committee's Member Champions Network. Please get in touch with Rebecca Johnson for further information [Rebecca.johnson@local.gov.uk](mailto:Rebecca.johnson@local.gov.uk)

## State of Fire and Rescue 2022

5. His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) has released the following publications:
  - [State of Fire and Rescue – the Annual Assessment of Fire and Rescue Services in England 2022](#)
  - [results of fire and rescue service inspections 2021/22](#) – tranche 3 as well as 'cause of concern' revisit letters
  - [fire and rescue services inspection programme and framework commencing January 2023](#) for 'round 3' inspections of all 44 fire and rescue authorities in England.
6. HMICFRS has also announced its intention to produce a spotlight report on values and culture in all 44 fire and rescue services in England, based on existing evidence collected from its second full round of inspections, which took place in 2021 and 2022. The report will look at:
  - values and culture

- bullying, [harassment](#) and [discrimination](#)
- examples of promising and innovative practices established in respect of values and culture.

## Statistics

7. In February, Home Office published [Fire and rescue incident statistics for England for the year ending September 2022](#). Figures show there was a significant increase in incidents in the year ending September 2022 with FRSs attending 620,758 incidents, a 16% increase compared with the previous year (537,423).
8. Of these incidents, there were 185,437 fires which was a 28% increase compared with the previous year (145,313). These increases can be attributed to the 44% increase in secondary fires and 63% increase in outdoor primary fires following the hot, dry summer in 2022. Also contributing were large increases in the non-fire incident categories collaborating incidents and road traffic collisions, as well as the fire false alarm category due to apparatus.

## Leadership

9. '[Pathways and barriers to leadership in fire and rescue services](#)' is a new research report commissioned by the Home Office which highlights lived experiences and perceptions from fire and rescue professionals relating to support, and barriers to promotion, within the workforce.

## Implications for Wales

10. None.

## Financial Implications

11. None.

## Equalities implications

12. HMICFRS's inspection reports highlighted a range of issues that impact on equality, diversity and inclusion within the fire and rescue sector. The LGA's Fire Diversity and Inclusion Champions Network has been specifically established to assist authorities in improving equality, diversity and inclusion in fire and rescue services.