

To: Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority

From: Deputy Chief Executive Officer - Matthew Warren

Presenting officer(s): Deputy Chief Executive Officer - Matthew Warren
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Date: 10 February 2023

Draft Pay Policy Statement 2023-24

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the Fire Authority with a Pay Policy Statement for 2023/24 for approval.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 The Authority is asked to approve the draft Pay Policy Statement attached at Appendix 1.

3. Risk Assessment

- 3.1 Political – in recent years remuneration has increasingly come under the spotlight. In approving this policy, the Authority will have to be mindful of future changes to ensure flexibility of their approach toward remuneration levels.
- 3.2 Legislative – the Authority is now required to produce a Pay Policy Statement in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

4. Background

- 4.1 Since financial year 2013/14 the Localism Act 2011 (s38) has required a relevant local authority to produce an annual pay policy statement. This follows Will Hutton's 2011 Review of Fair Pay in the Public Sector which has been a key driver for the Government's aim for greater transparency and value for money in terms of senior public sector pay.
- 4.2 Having been reviewed and strengthened in line with recommendations made following a Member-Led Review of Pay Policy in January 2014, the attached policy meets the legal requirements and clearly sets out the Authority's position in terms not only of its remuneration for Principal Officers but also other employees, including the lowest paid.

- 4.3 The Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties and Public Authorities) Regulations 2017 require the Service to publish information relating to any gender pay gaps. Whilst compliant with this requirement, based on recommendations arising from an independent 2019 equal pay audit and subsequent approval from the Authority, the Service implemented a new management band pay structure for professional support service roles in 2020. This action further demonstrates our commitment to best practice, equality and transparency.
- 4.4 Members are aware that the Service is facing a number of significant financial planning challenges not least of which is unresolved national pay negotiations. At the time of writing national negotiations to determine the 2022/23 pay award for Grey Book employees was ongoing although it is likely to be at least 5%.
- 4.5 Members will further be aware that as uncertainty over government cuts and funding streams beyond 2023/24 prevails, the Service has developed a Financial Business Continuity Plan to ensure it can respond to significant changes in the financial climate. This dynamic document was presented to the Authority in November 2022 and will continue to be updated as the Treasurer (and wider senior management team) proactively monitor and report on the national landscape.

Source Document

Localism Act 2011

Location:

Fire Service HQ, Hinchbrooke Cottage, Brampton Road, Huntingdon

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