

Scotland Excel

To: Executive Sub Committee

On: 27 March 2020

Report by Director Scotland Excel

Request for Associate Membership of Scotland Excel by Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

1. Summary

- 1.1 In addition to the 32 local authorities which are full members of Scotland Excel, applications can be made for Associate Membership by organisations such as council arm's length organisations, community groups, charities, housing associations and voluntary organisations which are a public body or a body that engages in activities of a public nature.

Organisations apply to Scotland Excel for Associate Membership to allow them to access the frameworks for goods and services which we have in place for our full members. Associates do not have the opportunity to influence the future contract delivery schedule which is reserved for the full local authority members.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended to committee that Scottish Fire and Rescue Service application to join Scotland Excel as an associate member be approved, with an annual fee of £5,000, subject to the agreement document.

- 2.2 Scotland Excel monitors all requests from arm's length and other organisations to become associate members to ensure that any legal requirements are met. In this case, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service qualifies for membership in accordance with the Local Authorities (Goods and Services) Act 1970 section 1 (1B)(b) namely as a public authority or body.

3. **Background**

- 3.1 The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, established in accordance with the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 as amended by the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012.
- 3.2 Scottish Fire and Rescue Service is an accredited Real Living Wage employer.
- 3.3 To ensure the efficient and cost-effective delivery of these services The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service has approached Scotland Excel and requested approval to become an associate member with access to our contracts.
- 3.4 Before any application is submitted for approval, a number of validation checks on the organisation are carried out. These include a review of the Memorandum & Articles of Association, the financial position and the type of contracts that the organisation is likely to access.