

## FRSA CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S STATEMENT

**DATED 30<sup>th</sup> May, 2023**

The following Statement is given by the Fire and Rescue Services Association (FRSA) to Members to ensure all who cannot attend the FRSA's Executive Officer's Meetings (when this information has been provided), will still be fully aware of the audited strength of the FRSA in financial terms and what the Auditors' comments were. The Statement also gives advice to any Member who is concerned about any possible irregularity in the conduct of the financial affairs of your association.

Every year the Chief Executive Officer is required under the terms of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 as amended, to provide full details of all income and expenditure and membership as at 31<sup>st</sup> December to the FRSA's Chartered Accountants, Messrs. Azets Audit Services Ltd of Carlton House, Grammar School Street, Bradford, BD1 4NS. The Chartered Accountants then conduct a detailed audit of this information and agree the association's final accounts, which our National Finance Officer has prepared. I am also required by law to send to the Certification Office for Trade Unions and Employers' Associations an 'Annual Return for a Trade Union' known as Form AR21, again in accordance with the TULR(C) Act 1992. The details of the accounts contained in this Form AR21 were audited by our Chartered Accountants and sent to the Certification Office by the due date.

Copies of the full financial accounts of the FRSA for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 are distributed to Delegates at FRSA Meetings, but for those Members who will be unable to attend, the essential details of our Association's financial affairs for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 are as follows:

Total income was £163,257 of which £161,641 consisted of membership fees. Total expenditure was £167,633 and there was no income to or expenditure from a political fund. My salary for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022, was £45,542 and an employer's pension contribution of £3960. The president took up an additional paid role of Branch Recruitment and Development Officer as of 1<sup>st</sup> October 2021 and remained in both posts until 5<sup>th</sup> April 2022, when he stepped down from his presidential role. The Presidents salary he received only for this additional role up to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 was £28,821 and an employer's pension contribution of £1020. No other member of the National Executive Council or Vice-Presidents, or other FRSA officials receives any remuneration or benefits. It is obvious that most of our resources were and always will be spent on legal and other services for the benefit of our members.

The Chartered Accountants reported on the FRSA's Accounts for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 is attached.

We have satisfied ourselves that there were 1656 names of the Association's current paid-up Membership Register as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022, each one of which was accompanied by an address which was the member's address for the purpose of the TURER(C) Act 1992 as amended.

The FRSA had enshrined in its Constitution since its foundation on the 15<sup>th</sup> September 1976 democratic principles of inspection of accounting records and the register of members, consultation and ballot of the membership, comprehensive appeals and complaints procedures, and clear confirmation that the association is non-political.

Nevertheless, I am required to draw to members' attention the following statement:

A member who is concerned that some irregularity may be occurring, or have occurred, in the conduct of the financial affairs of the association may take steps with a view to investigating further, obtaining clarification and, if necessary, securing regularisation of that conduct.

The member may raise any such concern with one or more of the following as it seems appropriate to raise it with: the officials of the association, the trustees of the property of the association, the auditor or auditors of the association, the Certification Officer (who is an independent officer appointed by the Secretary of State) and the police.

Where a member believes that the financial affairs of the association have been or are being conducted in breach of the law or in breach of rules of the association and contemplates bringing civil proceedings against the association or responsible officials or trustees, he should consider obtaining independent legal advice.

*Tristan Ashby Chief Executive Officer*