HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELLBEING AWARDS

REPORT OF CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

For Information

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To advise Members of our success in being awarded North East Better Health at Work Ambassador Status and the outcome of our Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (IOSH) Audit which graded Cleveland Fire Brigade as Outstanding.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 Members are asked to note the report.

3. THE BETTER HEALTH AT WORK AWARD

3.1 The Better Health at Work Award recognises the efforts of employers in the North East and Cumbria in addressing health issues within the workplace.

3.2 There are four levels to the award – Bronze (achieved by Cleveland Fire Brigade in January 2011), Silver (achieved by Cleveland Fire Brigade in January 2012), Gold (achieved by Cleveland Fire Brigade in January 2016) and Continuing Excellence which Cleveland Fire Brigade have been awarded each year from January 2017 to January 2019.

3.3 Each year North East Better Health at Work select organisations who have reached the Continuing Excellence Level to receive the North East Better Health at Work Ambassador Status Award. Cleveland Fire Brigade have just received notification that we have received Ambassador Status. Ambassador status was awarded due to our ongoing commitment and outstanding practice around workplace health and wellbeing and not only achieving but going above and beyond at every stage or the process.

3.4 The Award of Ambassador Status will be received at the North East Better Health at Work Dinner which will be held on 28 March 2019.

4. INSTITUTE OF OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH (IOSH) AUDIT

4.1 Cleveland Fire Brigade has a long standing partnership with the Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (IOSH). The Institution is the world's largest health and safety membership body. With 44,000 members in 99 countries, IOSH is committed to ensuring that global work practices are safe, healthy and sustainable. IOSH is based in the UK and is a not-for-profit organisation. It is also the Chartered body for health and safety professionals; aiming to raise standards and regulate the profession.

4.2 In 2012 Cleveland Fire Brigade achieved accredited status from IOSH to deliver recognised health and safety qualifications from our Learning and Development Centre. To date we have trained over 600 internal and external candidates.

4.3 During week commencing 25 February 2019, IOSH undertook a quality assurance audit of our health and safety training programmes and delivery and have awarded Cleveland Fire Brigade a grade of 'Outstanding'.

4.4 This award demonstrates to underline the emphasis and commitment the Authority places on the safety of its employees who regularly risk their own lives to keep our local communities safe.

IAN HAYTON
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

KAREN WINTER
DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES