

**Meeting: Combined Fire Authority****Date: 7<sup>th</sup> February 2018****Subject: Consultation Return – Fire & Rescue National Framework for England****Report by: The Chief Fire and Rescue Officer****Author: Rick Taylor (Chief Fire and Rescue Officer)****For: Decision**

## **1. Purpose**

- 1.1 Section 21 of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 requires the Secretary of state to prepare a Fire and Rescue National Framework which sets priorities and objectives for Fire and Rescue Authorities (FRAs). The draft consultation was sent to FRA on 27 December 2017 with a close of 14 February 2018.
- 1.2 This report asks the Combined Fire Authority (CFA) to approve the response to the consultation.

## **2. Recommendations**

CFA is asked to approve the contents of Appendix 1 and authorise the CFO to make the return on behalf of the authority?

## **3. Executive Summary**

- 3.1. A draft National Framework for England was sent to FRA from the Home Office for consultation on 27 December 2017 closing 14 February 2018. Under Section 21 of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004, it requires the Secretary of State to prepare a Fire and Rescue National Framework which sets priorities and objectives for Fire and Rescue Authorities (FRAs).
- 3.2. Appendix 1 contains the response to the draft framework.

## **4. Report Detail**

- 4.1. Section 21 of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 requires the Secretary of state to prepare a Fire and Rescue National Framework which sets priorities and objectives for Fire and Rescue Authorities (FRAs). The draft consultation was sent to FRA on 27 December 2017 with a close of 14 February 2018.
- 4.2. The National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) will be responding to the draft Framework, this report considers the submission from the NFCC and does not conflict with that submission.
- 4.3. The current National Framework document was published in 2012.

4.4. The Appendix 1 is page 29 of the draft national Framework for England, the consultation return is structured to align with the sections of the main document, additional comments can be submitted at the end of the document.

4.5. The draft National Framework is unlikely to change significantly following the consultation. Any changes that may impact on our plans will be reported to the CFA.

## **5. Report Implications / Impact**

### **5.1. *Legal (including crime and disorder)***

By responding to the consultation the CFA will be able to demonstrate to the Home Office it is engaged and willing to work with central government. There is no legal duty for the FRA to respond to any consultation.

### **5.2. *Financial (including value for money, benefits and efficiencies)***

The proposed budget 2018/2021 has been developed to ensure the core functions within the draft Framework can be achieved.

### **5.3. *Risk (including corporate and operational, health and safety and any impact on the continuity of service delivery)***

None.

### **5.4. *Staff, Service Users and Stakeholders (including the Equality Impact Assessment)***

SMT have been consulted on the draft framework and comments are included.

### **5.5. *Environmental***

None.

### **5.6. *Impact upon Our Plan Objectives***

The National Framework will inform the CFA planning framework and organisational objectives and priorities.

## **6. Background Papers**

None.

## **7. Appendices**

Completed questionnaire (page 29 of the consultation document) – Appendix 1