

Meeting: Combined Fire Authority**Date: 24th September 2015****Subject: Towards 2020: Integrated Risk Management Proposals****Report by: Chief Fire and Rescue Officer****Author: Steve Lunn (Deputy Chief Fire and Rescue Officer)****For: Decision**

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to present the Combined Fire Authority (CFA) with detailed proposals for the Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) 2016-20 that the Chief Fire and Rescue Officer recommends be subject to public consultation. A full presentation outlining the rationale supporting the proposals will be provided as part of this report during the CFA meeting.

2. Recommendations

The CFA is requested to approve that the IRMP 2016-20 proposals be made subject to public consultation.

3. Executive Summary

3.1. The future funding of the CFA continues to be a very real challenge. During the last five years the budget has reduced significantly and following the Chancellor of the Exchequer's announcement during the emergency budget in July 2015, the CFA must ensure that robust plans are in place to account for further budget cuts between now and 2020.

3.2. In 2014, the CFA consulted on and then agreed a number of changes to the fire and rescue response arrangements that are now being implemented. These changes include:

- The removal of a fire engine from the Leicester City area.
- The removal of the second fire engine from Oakham fire station.
- The removal of the Resilience Team.
- The introduction of the new Day Crewing Plus Duty System at Wigston.
- The reduction of standard fire engine crewing levels from five to four.
- The introduction of new 'pooled' crewing arrangements for wholetime stations.

- 3.3. Although challenging, when fully implemented, these new arrangements will result in the CFA realising significant financial savings. However, despite this, it is estimated that the further planned budget cuts will mean that additional savings in the region of £1.3m will have to be made if a balanced budget is to be achieved every year until 2020.
- 3.4. The IRMP 2016-20 proposals that are being presented to the CFA will achieve the necessary financial savings required to bridge the forecast funding gap and at the same time, achieve a better balance of operational resources across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

4. Report Detail

- 4.1. The proposals presented represent the key operational response plans and priorities that are necessary to move the CFA forwards to 2020. They are focused on achieving a better balance of operational resources throughout the CFA's area and ensure that in the future these resources are better matched to risk and anticipated demand. As importantly, they are affordable.
- 4.2. The proposals that are being presented are:
- Remove one of the two wholetime crewed fire engines from Loughborough fire station.
 - Close Central fire station and sell the building.
 - Establish Market Harborough as a single fire engine wholetime crewed fire station.
 - Revise existing plans to introduce the Day Crewing Plus duty system at Wigston fire station by establishing a two wholetime crewed fire engine station.
 - As a consequence of establishing the revised crewing arrangements at Wigston and Market Harborough, close Kibworth fire station and sell the building.
 - Establish Lutterworth as a wholetime crewed single fire engine fire station. Wholetime fire engine to be crewed between 0700 hours and 1900 hours Monday to Friday. On-call cover will be maintained outside of these hours.
 - Replace the on-call fire engines at Melton and Coalville fire stations with Tactical Response Vehicles.
 - Replace the fire engine at Billesdon fire station with a Tactical Response Vehicle.
 - Remove the on-call fire engine from Hinckley fire station.
- 4.3. The proposals are based upon detailed analysis and examination of future response options and a comprehensive understanding of 'risk' in the CFA's communities including where that risk is i.e. where, what and how likely emergency incidents are to occur. The model that has been adopted accords with the independently scrutinised model that was developed in 2014.

4.4. In summary, the Chief Fire and Rescue Officer concludes that the proposals presented are:

- **Safe**

In so much that if implemented, the CFA will continue to be able to immediately respond to every single emergency incident that occurs.

- **Proportionate**

The proposals presented ensure that there is an appropriate level of overall allocation of operational resources throughout Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. If fully implemented, the revised distribution of resources will be better matched to the risks in the CFA's communities and as a consequence, improvements in operational response will be achieved.

- **Affordable**

The proposals will result in savings being realised that will amount to approximately £1.5m per year. This is an essential component of balancing budget estimates and delivering a fire and rescue service capability that is fit for purpose in 2020.

5. Report Implications / Impact

5.1. *Legal (including crime and disorder)*

- a) There is a statutory duty placed upon the CFA to consult widely if it proposes to make significant changes to its fire and emergency cover.
- b) The proposals set out in this report will require a complex human resource management plan to be developed and delivered to account for the legal responsibilities relating to redundancy and contractual changes.

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

The proposals set out in this report will yield savings in the region of £1.5m per year if fully implemented.

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

- a) The proposals are inter-dependent upon each other and as such, must be regarded as a 'package'
- b) The proposals have a potential for industrial action.
- c) The proposals are based upon current financial projections.

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

An Equality Impact Assessment will be undertaken on completion of consultation

prior to CFA decision.

5.5. ***Environmental***

None identified.

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

The proposals, if approved will form an integral part of all future planning objectives between 2016 and 2020.

6. **Background Papers**

None

7. **Appendices**

None