

**Status of Report:** Public

**Meeting:** Combined Fire Authority

**Date:** 19 June 2019

**Subject:** Integrated Risk Management Plan 2020-2024 - Proposals

**Report by:** The Chief Fire and Rescue Officer

**Author:** Chris Moir, Planning Manager

**For:** Decision

### **Purpose**

1. The purpose of this report is to seek the Combined Fire Authority's (CFA) approval for the proposals for the Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) 2020-2024 for public consultation which will run for 12 weeks between September and December 2019.

### **Recommendation**

2. It is recommended that the CFA approves the following proposals for public consultation to:
  - a. Use our fire engines flexibly, aiming to attend life threatening incidents in an average of 10 minutes;
  - b. Use our firefighters efficiently and flexibly to maximise our appliance availability;
  - c. Purchase a second high reach appliance to replace the older one of the two vehicles;
  - d. Continue to undertake our education and enforcement activities, targeting those most at risk;
  - e. Continue to collaborate with other blue light services and our partner agencies to support our purpose of safer people, safer places;
  - f. Enable our staff to do the right thing to help our communities;
  - g. Implement alternative crewing arrangements in the event of the Service moving away from the current Day Crewing Plus duty system.

### **Executive Summary**

3. The report details the proposals which Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service Senior Management Team (SMT) want to include within the scope of the 2020-2024 IRMP.

4. The CFA approved the 'scope and approach' for the 2020-2024 IRMP at its meeting on 6 February 2019.
5. Following the meeting significant work to identify the intended or possible consequences of the proposals, including the impact on the geographical coverage, individual establishments and the Service overall has been completed. The information analysed was presented to Members at an IRMP 2020-2024 Members Training Day on the 21 May 2019.
6. The data we have analysed supports our view that we should use our staff and fire engines efficiently and effectively in undertaking our prevention, protection and response activities. The 2020-2024 IRMP proposals will provide us with the flexibility to do this in a way that ensures we maximise the use of these resources.
7. The location of our stations meets the foreseeable demand and risk that the Service has to respond to. As such we will not be suggesting any changes to the locations or number of our stations during the 2020-2024 IRMP. We will need to refurbish or redesign elements of them for our staff, partners and community needs.
8. The proposals are not individually costed as they are designed to provide flexibility, allowing innovative use of our resources when required. Therefore, other than the estimated cost of an additional high reach appliance it is not possible to provide specific costs. The proposals will however be delivered within agreed medium term financial plans.

## **Background**

9. An IRMP must assess all foreseeable fire and rescue-related risks to our communities, and put in place arrangements to respond to and deal with them. It must cover at least a three-year time period, be regularly reviewed, reflect local risk, be developed through consultation and be accessible and cost-effective. The planning process should also have regard for cross border, multi-agency risks and national incidents.
10. When we develop an IRMP we engage with multiple partners and use a variety of sources to review existing risks and identify new ones. These sources include: historical incident data, demographic data, performance data, high risk location information and local development strategies. We also consider the impact of wider changes in society, including government policy, economic growth and technological progress.
11. For our emergency response capability, the key areas we look at are: availability of resources, response times to incidents and the individual station demand profiles. We also consider our prevention and protection activities in our future planning, reviewing the use and allocation of our available resources to mitigate the impact of identified risks.
12. All this data and information helps us understand the needs of our communities, identify locations of potential peak demand, and assess our

capacity to respond. It's also used to anticipate trends that may result in an increase in demand as well as opportunities to reduce the current levels.

13. Our current IRMP was consulted on in 2016 and is valid until 2020. We've completed all of the agreed changes, including: implementing the Day Crewing Plus (DCP) duty system in Wigston, the Day Crewing (DC) duty system at Market Harborough and Lutterworth and introducing the five Tactical Response Vehicles (TRVs) at various locations within the service.
14. Appendix A to this report provides the detail on how we have constructed the 2020-2024 IRMP and some of the high level data used to identify and support the proposals.

### **Consultation**

15. The proposals which are agreed by the CFA will then be subject to public consultation which will run for 12 weeks between September and December 2019.
16. A consultation communication plan is being developed and will include how we will undertake the consultation.
17. Consultation feedback will be presented to the CFA at its meeting on the 22 January 2020.
18. A formal consultation summary report will be presented to the CFA on the 5 February 2020 where they will be asked to agree which proposals should be progressed.

### **Report Implications/Impact**

19. Legal (including crime and disorder)

The Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 requires the CFA to have regard to the National Framework when carrying out its functions. The National Framework requires each Fire and Rescue Authority to produce an IRMP and sets out details of the content IRMP providing that each plan must:

- i. reflect up to date risk analyses including an assessment of all foreseeable fire and rescue related risks that could affect the area of the authority;
- ii. demonstrate how prevention, protection and response activities will best be used to prevent fires and other incidents and mitigate the impact of identified risks on its communities, through authorities working either individually or collectively, in a way that makes best use of available resources;
- iii. outline required service delivery outcomes including the allocation of resources for the mitigation of risks;
- iv. set out its management strategy and risk-based programme for enforcing the provisions of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 in accordance with the principles of better regulation set out in the Statutory Code of Compliance for Regulators, and the Enforcement Concordat;

- v. cover at least a three-year time span and be reviewed and revised as often as it is necessary to ensure that the authority is able to deliver the requirements set out in this Framework;
- vi. reflect effective consultation throughout its development and at all review stages with the community, its workforce and representative bodies and partners; and
- vii. be easily accessible and publicly available.

General public law principles and the Framework require there is a statutory duty placed on the CFA to consult widely on the IRMP. A lawful consultation process requires that

- viii. the consultation must be at a time when proposals are still at a formative stage;
- ix. the proposer must give sufficient reasons for any proposal to permit of intelligent consideration and response;
- x. those consulted should be aware of the criteria that will be applied when considering proposals and which factors will be considered decisive or of substantial importance;
- xi. adequate time must be given for consideration and response;
- xii. the product of consultation must be conscientiously taken into account in finalising any statutory proposals.

Subject to the approval of the proposals outlined in this report the public consultation will take place between September and December 2019.

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

We are content that we have a robust medium term financial plan (MTFP) in place to meet the needs of the service in 2019/2020. The proposals will be delivered within the current plan and as part of any future MTFPs.

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

The future of our Day Crewing Plus (DCP) duty system is at risk following a High Court ruling on a similar duty system in South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service. If we have to find an alternative duty system we may incur additional cost or require additional resource to respond to incidents

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

An Equality Impact Assessment will be undertaken on all approved proposals.

23. Environmental

None identified.

#### 24. Impact upon Our Plan Objective

The proposals, if approved will form an integral part of all future planning objectives between 2020 and 2024.

#### **Background Papers**

None.

#### **Appendices**

Appendix A – Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service IRMP Proposals Document 2020-2024.

#### **Officers to Contact**

Rick Taylor, Chief Fire and Rescue Officer

0116 2872241

[rick.taylor@lfrs.org](mailto:rick.taylor@lfrs.org)

Chris Moir, Planning Manager

0116 2872241

[christopher.moir@lfrs.org](mailto:christopher.moir@lfrs.org)