

## report

meeting	<b>NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND CITY OF NOTTINGHAM FIRE &amp; RESCUE AUTHORITY</b>		
date	<b>9 September 2005</b>	agenda item number	<b>6</b>

### REPORT OF THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

#### COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN (IRMP) 2006-2009

#### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to formally present to the Fire & Rescue Authority the consultation document for the 2006-2009 Community Safety Plan L(I)RMP.

#### 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The requirement for a Fire and Rescue Service to produce a Local Plan of how it is to deliver its services was first specified in Fire Service Circular 7/2003 under the title of Integrated Risk Management Planning. The process became embedded in legislation through the Fire Services Act 2004 and the associated National Framework.
- 2.2 In response to Fire Service Circular 7/2003, Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire & Rescue Authority produced its first plan during 2003. It was adopted for implementation in March 2004. The second plan was produced during 2004 and began its implementation in April 2005.
- 2.3 As part of the local planning process the Authority has a statutory duty to consult the public and stakeholders on its proposals. This follows Cabinet Office guidelines and runs for a period of twelve weeks.
- 2.4 The enclosed plan is part of a continual process building on former plans, and with Members determining the strategic objectives to be contained in this, the latest version.

#### 3. REPORT

- 3.1 The principles and rationale behind the Authority's previous plans, and the proposals contained within the consultation document, are about targeting the organisation's resources on the redirection of accidents and injuries throughout the community. This theme has been a key focus of the Authority since 2003 and each plan has built on these principles.
- 3.2 The Community Safety Plan sets out, for the first time, a three-year proposal allowing for the Fire & Rescue Authority to take long-term decisions on how it is intending to use its resources and meet its vision of "a Safer Nottinghamshire by putting Safety at the Heart of the Community".
- 3.3 This plan is as much about consolidation of the first two plans as it is about setting the agenda for the forthcoming years. It takes into account both internal and

external drivers for change and builds on work both completed and still in progress, from the first two year's proposals.

3.4 In summary the plan is presented in the following format.

3.4.1 Who are we ?

This gives a breakdown of how the Authority is structured, its governance and management arrangements and a focus on the demands placed upon it in terms of the profile of the incidents to which it responds. The information is presented to help set the picture of what issues the Authority faces in terms of their agenda to reduce the number of accidents and injuries its communities are exposed to.

3.4.2 What are we trying to achieve ?

In following on from scene setting, the plan deals with underpinning the Authority's vision, aims and goals by linking them to the PSA targets set by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM). It also details how the Authority intends to deliver its service and focuses on some of the successes to date.

3.4.3 Progress we have made

The Consultation Document outlines the progress made, in particular focusing on the work implemented as part of the current plan which commenced implementation in April 2005. A traffic light system is used to help the community relate to the progress being made.

3.4.4 What are we going to do ?

This is the key area of the document where the proposals for the forthcoming three years are presented to the community and stakeholders. Key areas of focus for the Fire & Rescue Authority to note are :

Education

- Integration of RiskWatch into County-wide schools ;
- Extension of the Firesetters programme into all areas of need with development of a new scheme called "Fire Safe" ;
- A target of 25,000 Home Safety Checks by the end of 2009 ;
- An avoidable injuries target as part of the new Local Area Agreement (LAA) that will improve the well-being and quality of life of the community ;
- A Best Value Review of Partnerships to ensure that the Service is using its, and other agencies' resources, to best effect.

Prevention

- The full implementation of the Regulatory Reform Order on Fire Safety, and new procedures to deal with revisions to the Licensing Act.

Response

- Implementation of the outcomes of current Best Value Reviews into our responses to Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs) and Special Service Calls

(non-fire incidents). These reviews are due to conclude in January 2006 and will begin implementation from April 2006 ;

- The implementation of greater cross-border working around the M1 corridor, and with other Fire & Rescue Services within the East Midlands Region ;
- The full implementation of Automatic Vehicle Location within all of our appliances to target the nearest resources in emergencies ;

#### Location and Accommodation

- The merger of the two current stations at Dunkirk and Beeston into a new modern facility to be built at a suitable location to meet current and future demands ;
- A proposal to relocate our existing facility within the City Centre to a new location that serves the community ;
- A review of all of our existing station locations to ensure that they are in optimum locations in terms of risk and demand.

#### Human Resources

- A full IPDS compliant workforce by 2008/2009 ;
- A new HR system to meet the demands of IPDS, flexible working, variable shift rotas and personnel management ;
- The introduction of new working patterns for all wholetime operational staff ;
- A reduction of absenteeism through a partnership between personnel, occupational health, Senior Managers and partner organisations ;
- New policies and procedures to achieve compliance with new legislation relating to Equality & Fairness such as the Disability Discrimination Act.

#### Regional Issues

- Integration into the workforce and resources of Government supplied resources to support a National and Regional response ;
- Business Community Plans that will ensure that the Fire & Rescue Authority is best prepared to meet its duties under the Civil Contingencies Act ;
- Continuing work towards making Nottinghamshire into a Regional Control Centre with its East Midlands partners as part of the National project.

#### Strategic Direction

- In response to the outcomes of CPA a new Governance Framework for Members to become more involved in the day to day issues facing the Service ;

- The implementation and installation of a new IT platform that will see compliance with a range of legislation and ensure alignment with the Government's e-strategy ;
- The implementation of a new Performance Management Framework.

3.5 All responses to the plan that are received during the consultation process will be collated and a summary presented to Members following the closure of the consultation. Members will be kept informed throughout consultation on themes related to responses received. Following a detailed analysis, the final document will be presented to the Fire & Rescue Authority early in 2006 for final adopting from April 2006.

#### **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 Some of the issues contained within the consultation document will demonstrate savings and some will use financial resources. The proposals are expected to balance with the Fire & Rescue Authority being able to demonstrate its contribution to the efficiency savings of £105 million as set by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM).

4.2 The Community Safety Plan will form the basis of assisting the Fire & Rescue Authority with the preparation of its 2006/2007 budget as well as presenting the opportunity to give a longer-term view on the financial demands of the Fire & Rescue Authority.

#### **5. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

The Community Safety Plan outlines how the Authority is to use personnel at its disposal in the delivery of its services to the public.

#### **6. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

An initial impact assessment has been carried out on the consultation and revealed no specific equalities issues. Each individual action arising from the Plan will also result in an assessment to ensure compliance with the Fire & Rescue Authority's Race Equality Scheme.

#### **7. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

The requirement to produce an Action Plan associated with the IRMP process is laid down within the Fire and Rescue Services National Framework. Failure to produce a plan would see the Authority failing to meet its statutory duty under the Fire & Rescue Services Act 2004.

#### **8. RECOMMENDATIONS**

That Members approve the attached Community Safety Plan Consultation Document for public and stakeholder consultation for a period of twelve weeks commencing Monday 13 September 2005.

#### **9. BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR INSPECTION**

- Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire & Rescue Authority Agenda Item 12, Outline Proposals for the 2006/2007 – 2008/2009 Community Safety Plan (IRMP) ;

- Fire Service Circular 7/2003 ;
- Government White Paper “Our Fire & Rescue Service” ;
- Fire & Rescue Services Act 2004 ;
- Fire & Rescue Services National Framework 2004/2005 ;
- Fire & Rescue Services National Framework 2005/2006 ;
- Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire & Rescue Authority IRMP 2004/2005 ;
- Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire & Rescue Authority IRMP 2005/2006 .

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