

Report

meeting	NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND CITY OF NOTTINGHAM FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY	
date	8 December 2006	agenda item number

REPORT OF THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

DRAFT COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN 2007/10 (YEAR 4 L (I) RMP) CONSULTATION UPDATE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To report to the Fire & Rescue Authority the outcomes of the consultation on the Draft Community Safety Plan (Year 3 Local Integrated Risk Management Plan).

2. BACKGROUND

It is a statutory requirement within the Fire and Rescue Services National Framework that Fire and Rescue Authorities produce an L(I)RMP Action Plan each year. Part of this process is to consult the public regarding the proposals for a period of 12 weeks. The Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire and Rescue Authority approved the draft document on 13 September 2006. Public consultation commenced on 18th September 2005 and close on 1st December 2006.

3. REPORT

- 3.1 The final Community Safety Plan will reflect the wider partnership agendas within the performance management section where clear links can be made between our strategies and other agencies in terms of any formal agreements (LAA's etc). The Authority's stance on the wider Safety Agenda sets the organisation well in terms of the Stronger Safer Communities theme and allows for the Service to meet both local and national expectations. By setting out what it intends to achieve within the next three years the Authority is clearly stating how it intends to achieve its vision of "A safer Nottinghamshire by putting Safety at the heart of the Community".
- 3.2 Last year the Authority approved its plan for the years 06/09. Consultation for the aforementioned plan involved Opinion Research Services who undertook a number of different consultation methods including focus groups and questionnaires. Following the consultation process and ratification by the Authority the plan became live on 1st April this year.
- 3.3 To ensure the Authority is able to respond to the changing nature of the community of Nottinghamshire and respond to any other drivers for change such as new government directives it was agreed that the 3 year plan should be updated annually in a rolling programme. This will also ensure that the Authority is able to conduct timely consultation with regard to its aspirations and match these aspirations with the relevant funding in its medium term financial strategy.

- 3.4 It was also agreed that a lighter touch to consultation will be utilised where in years where no significant changes are made in the planning programme. Following approval from the Fire Authority the consultation with regard to the 2007/10 Community Safety Plan was conducted by:
- Placing the document on the Fire and Rescue website with a high profile link from the homepage; further links were made on the Intranet. Nottinghamshire County Council website also included links on their 'consultation' page.
 - Several events including briefings to District Councils by the Chief Fire Officer and the Chair of the Authority have been completed.
- 3.5 To date the only responses to the consultation have been at the formal events with no written feedback given. At the events the feedback was positive with the audience welcoming the work of the service and complementing it on its approach to partnership working and the wider public safety agenda. No formal response has been received from employee representatives regarding the proposals contained within the plan.
- 3.6 The responses to the consultation, as well as other audits, reviews and Government initiatives will be formulated into the final Community Safety Plan, which will be presented, to Fire Authority in February 2007 for final approval.
- 3.7 A short overview of the Authority's' 3-year plan will also be published covering the main aspects allowing the reader to reference the full document as necessary. This will be presented to Members at the same meeting. It is intended that this will be used to inform both internal and external stakeholders.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The cost of the public consultation exercise was within the approved budget allocated to the Community Safety Plan for the year 2006/07.

5. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

Staffing for the consultation process comes from within the existing staffing of the Information Services department at Service Headquarters.

6. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

As part of the consultation arrangements the forums held were accessible to all areas of our community with regard to certain focus groups the opinion of minority groups were specifically sought.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

The need to produce a Local Risk Management Plan is laid down in the Fire and Rescue Services National Framework which is enacted by the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004. Failure to produce and deliver such a plan could result in ministerial intervention.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Fire & Rescue Authority note the response given to the Community Safety Plan and that any response to the consultation is factored into the final document publication and adoption in 2007.

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR INSPECTION

- Fire and Rescue Services Circular 7/2003 ;
- Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 ;
- Fire and Rescue Services National Framework 2004/05 ;
- Fire and Rescue Services National Framework 2005/06 ;
- Draft Fire and Rescue Services National Framework 2006/08 ;
- Draft report of Consultation with Public – ORS ;
- Draft report of Demand Led Resourcing – ORS ;
- Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire and Rescue Authority reports – July, August 2005 ;
- Responses to questionnaires in CSP – ORS ;
- NFRS Best Value review of Road Traffic Collisions ;
- NFRS Best Value review of Special Service Calls ;
- NFRS Best Value review of Partnerships.

Paul Woods
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER