

report

meeting	NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND CITY OF NOTTINGHAM FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY	
date	23 February 2007	agenda item number

REPORT OF THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN 2007-2010

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To present to Members the Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire & Rescue Authority Community Safety Plan 2007-2010 for formal adoption.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Since the issue of Fire & Rescue Service Circular 7/2003 there has been a duty on Fire & Rescue Services to produce a plan that states how it is to deliver its services locally. Issued under the term of Integrated Risk Management Planning (IRMP), this instruction is now embedded in legislation through the Fire & Rescue Services Act and its associated Fire & Rescue Service National Framework.
- 2.2 Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire & Rescue Authority issued its first IRMP in 2004/2005 as an annual plan and followed it up in 2005/2006 with a similar approach. Whilst both publications set some challenging targets, it was clear that some of the initiatives set were achievable in the medium to longer term. Therefore following extensive consultation exercises last year the first 3 year Community Safety Plan for 2006 – 2009 was published. This became the Integrated Risk Management Plan for the Authority.

3. REPORT

- 3.1 The Community Safety Plan for 2007/2010 represents the first annual update to the three year planning process, and captures the aspiration of the Authority over the next three years in pursuance of its long term vision. It ensures that it satisfies the intention of central government for the Service and highlights local initiatives, such as the rebuilding and relocation of fire stations. It also allows for prudent financial planning over a medium term.
- 3.2 Following the initial production of the Community Safety Plan, the Authority approved a period of consultation of twelve weeks which ran from September 2006– December 2006. The consultation that took place was of a lesser scale than that carried out last year. This is because although the format has changed the main plan will remain constant. The Service intends to carry out extensive consultation every three years to ensure it meets its obligation with regard to the public and stakeholders.

- 3.3 It is now intended that the 2007-2010 Community Safety Plan will form the basis of the Service's agenda for the next three years and will continue to be updated annually, taking account of new demands on the Service. These updates will see the Plan remain current and responsive to the needs of the community.
- 3.4 The Chair of the Authority and the Chief Fire Officer have consulted significantly and widely with regards to the Community Safety Plan. This has involved visiting all District and Borough Councils across the County in addition to presentations to the City and County Council Members.
- 3.5 Following formal adoption by Members, the Community Safety Plan will be published on the Service's web-site as usual. To supplement the plan a 'quick read' version has been developed along with a compact disc containing the full plan.
- 3.6 A full report on how the Service is progressing against the Plan will be produced in conjunction with the Best Value reporting process. This report will be presented to Members at the earliest meeting after 30 June each year.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

By committing to a three year Community Safety Plan the Service is able to take a long-term look at the financial implications affecting the Service. This has enabled the Authority to present a budget for the years 2007/2008, 2008/2009 and 2009/2010.

5. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

The delivery of the Plan will involve a number of implications relating to the employees of the Service. These will be addressed through the actions of those tasked with delivering the service.

6. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

With the Service now legally required to comply with new legislation such as the Disability Discrimination Act, the implementation of the Plan must address issues that arise.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The Authority has a legal duty to produce an IRMP under the provisions of the Fire & Rescue Service National Framework. The Community Safety Plan ensures the Service meets these obligations and reduces the risk of ministerial intervention.
- 7.2 Failure to have a laid out framework for the future service delivery to the community may see the Authority fail in its Community Safety agenda. The Community Safety Plan provides this framework.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 That Members approve the 2007-2010 Community Safety Plan as its business framework for the next three years thus meeting its IRMP obligations.
- 8.2 That Members approve an annual update to ensure the Community Safety Plan remains current, with an annual report on progress each year.

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 ;
- Fire and Rescue Services National Framework 2006/08 ;
- Draft report of Consultation with Public – ORS ;
- Draft report of Demand Led Resourcing – ORS ;
- 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.

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CHIEF FIRE OFFICER