



**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**  
**Fire & Rescue Service**  
*Creating Safer Communities*

Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham  
Fire and Rescue Authority

# **COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN 2010-2013 AND THE INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT PLANNING PROCESS**

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

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**Agenda No:**

**Date:** 19 December 2008

**Purpose of Report:**

To seek Members' approval and engagement in an Integrated Risk Management Planning process, to help inform the next Community Safety Plan due to start in April 2010.

## **CONTACT OFFICER**

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## 1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The principle of Integrated Risk Management Planning (IRMP) was introduced by Government through the release of the Fire Service Circular 7/2003. This was later reinforced by Government in legislation via the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 and its associated Fire and Rescue Services National Framework.
- 1.2 Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service produced its inaugural IRMP for consultation in October 2003 and this was formally adopted on 26 March 2004. This plan focused on targeting the principles and resources of the Service into community safety and fire and injuries prevention.
- 1.3 In 2006 the Authority agreed to move to a three year IRMP with the introduction of the 2006-2009 Community Safety Plan. This built on the foundations of the first two IRMP processes, but allowed the Service to move to a longer term view. This plan was updated to 2007-2010 a year later and has received an annual update to ensure it remains relevant.

## 2. REPORT

- 2.1 Integrated risk management planning provides the foundation for Fire and Rescue Services to deliver Government's expectations for public services to meet the needs of local communities, consider the impact of the services they deliver on the environment and for Fire and Rescue Services to respond effectively to regional, local and national emergencies.
- 2.2 The current Fire and Rescue Services National Framework 2008-11 states that Fire and Rescue Services **must** produce a publicly available IRMP covering at least a three year span which:
  - Is regularly reviewed and revised and reflects up to date risk information and evaluation of service delivery outcomes;
  - Has regard to the risk analyses completed by Local and Regional Resilience Forums, including those reported in external Community Risk Registers (CRRs) and internal risk registers, to ensure that civil and terrorist contingencies are captured in their IRMP;
  - Reflects effective consultation during its development and at all review stages with representatives of all sections of the community and stakeholders;
  - Demonstrates how prevention, protection and response activities will be best used to mitigate the impact of risk on communities in a cost effective way;

- Provides details of how Fire and Rescue Authorities deliver their objectives and meet the needs of communities through working with partners; and
- Has undergone an effective equality impact assessment process.

2.3 Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service (NFRS) has been ahead of this process by moving to a three year planning programme in 2006, however, with the introduction of Local Area Agreements, changes to the risk profile of the county and recent experiences following extremes relating to weather, it is essential that the Authority undertakes an IRMP prior to the next three year plan.

2.4 By undertaking this process, the Authority will be able to demonstrate robustly that it has considered all of the issues affecting it, and will be able to demonstrate that the relationship between prevention, protection and response is balanced.

2.5 The process of conducting an IRMP is intensive and involves the collection of data, consultation, planning, research and engagement and it is therefore important that the process begins at the earliest opportunity. An outline timetable is presented below.

January 2009 – May 2009	Conduct IRMP process
May 2009 – August 2009	Formulate IRMP outcomes into Community Safety
August 2009 – November 2009	Consult widely on plan
November 2009 – January 2010	Respond to consultation and make any amendments as necessary
January 2010 – March 2010	Present 3 year plan
April 2010	Formal adoption by Fire and Rescue Authority of 2010-2013 Community Safety Plan

2.6 Inherent within the planning process will be the involvement of the finance department to ensure that the proposals meet expectations with regard to the organisation's financial position and the Government's efficiency targets for the Service.

2.7 It is intended that the period of consultation will involve a number of stakeholder events, including public and employee forums, minority representative groups both within the city and county. The outcomes of the consultation will help to influence the plan.

### **3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The production of a three year plan will ensure that the Service is able to take a long term look at the financial implications for the Service. This is in line with the National Framework, and will ensure that the Service continues to meet the expectations of tax payers and the Government.

### **4. HUMAN RESOURCES AND LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS**

The production of the Community Safety Plan 2010-2013 through a comprehensive IRMP process will determine how the Service will use and engage with its employees over the next three years. The National Framework outlines specific expectations with regard to equality and diversity, workforce planning, recruitment and retention, industrial relations and performance management. All of these aspects will be addressed through a comprehensive approach.

### **5. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

The Fire and Rescue Services National Framework is explicit that a full IRMP must have undergone an effective equality impact assessment process. This will be undertaken through the production of the Community Safety Plan to ensure it meets the expectations of all of NFRS's communities.

### **6. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

NFRS has a duty to produce an IRMP under the provisions of the Fire and Rescue Service National Framework and the Fire and Rescue Service Act 2004. Failure to comply with such a duty may lead to ministerial intervention and a failure to meet the changing demands of the community.

### **7. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

There are no crime and disorder implications arising from this report.

### **8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

### **9. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that Members:

- 9.1 Approve the process of an IRMP to take place within the time frames proposed in Paragraph 2.5.

- 9.2 Support the principle of a 2010-2013 Community Safety Plan in response to the requirements of the Fire and Rescue Service National Framework 2008-2011.

**10. BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR INSPECTION (OTHER THAN PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS)**

- Fire & Rescue Services Circular - 7/2003;
- Fire & Rescue Services Act – 2004;
- Fire & Rescue Services National Framework - 2008-2011;
- Nottinghamshire & Nottingham City Fire & Rescue Authority Report IRMP - 26.3.2004;
- Nottinghamshire & Nottingham City Fire & Rescue Authority IRMP Implementation Report - 15.4.2005;
- Nottinghamshire & Nottingham City Fire & Rescue Authority Community Safety Plan 2006-2009 - 24.3.2006;
- Nottinghamshire & Nottingham City Fire & Rescue Authority Community Safety Plan 2007-2010 - 28.2.2007;
- Fire & Rescue Services Equality & Diversity Strategy - 2008-2018.

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**CHIEF FIRE OFFICER**