



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

Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham  
Fire and Rescue Authority

# **NOTTINGHAMSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE PLAN 2010- 2013**

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

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**Agenda Item No:**

**Date:**

**Purpose of Report:**

To present to Members the draft text of the Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service Plan 2010 – 2013.

## **CONTACT OFFICER**

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## **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 The Fire and Rescue Services National Framework 2008–2011 requires Fire Authorities to produce a publicly available Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) covering at least a three year time span. This builds on the principles of IRMP planning which was introduced by the Government through the release of Fire Service Circular 7/2003.
- 1.2 Throughout 2009, Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service (NFRS) have been building towards the publication of its plan through a series of consultation events and reports to the Fire Authority (FA). These have been presented to the Authority, along with outcomes on 20 February, 26 June and 4 September 2009.
- 1.3 Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire Authority moved to a three year planning cycle with the introduction of its 2006–2009 Community Safety Plan, which was updated for the period 2007–2010 a year later. The proposed plan seeks to build on this platform and set the vision for the Service over the next three years, commencing April 2010.

## **2. REPORT**

- 2.1 The proposed plan is presented to Fire Authority in a text only format at this stage for approval of content. The proposal is that if the Authority are supportive of its proposals, then the final version will be presented for adoption at the meeting of 19 February 2010.
- 2.2 The plan details what the Service will propose to do in each of the areas of prevention, protection, response, resilience, diversity and workforce and governance and improvement. Supporting these ambitions are the reasons why the Service will undertake this work and how it will achieve its ambitions.
- 2.3 In addition the Service for the first time presents its revised core objectives. These have been consulted on comprehensively throughout 2009 with the public and stakeholders. It is proposed that these objectives will form the focus of the Services agenda over the forthcoming three years and become the fulcrum of the Service delivery plan.
- 2.4 In September 2009, a report was presented to the Fire Authority on the consultation process that had taken place during 2009. Although there are some specific learning outcomes in respect of wider engagement that were discussed at that meeting, the final outcomes are also contained within the plan to underpin where the objectives and ambitions have been derived from.
- 2.5 Key headlines within the next three years for the Service and its ambitions are as follows.

## **Prevention**

- We will work with the Nottinghamshire Road Safety Partnership to reduce road deaths and injuries on our roads.
- We will widen the impact of the Risk Watch education programme to include children who may have special needs such as visual and hearing impairment, autism and/or further learning difficulties.
- We will look at the work of our Arson Task force and focus on identifying those most vulnerable and most at risk from fire. We will also introduce a service wide policy for dealing with void and derelict properties.
- We will further develop the skills of our fire investigators so we can continue to get to both the cause and the underlying reasons for fire deaths within our community.
- We will further support young people at risk by developing targeted youth programmes within the "Every Child Matters" framework.

## **Protection**

- We will continue to robustly enforce the legislative requirements of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005.
- We will gather a comprehensive data base of high quality risk information about premises, and prioritise our inspections based upon the risk.
- We will work with our partners through a formalised structure and data exchange to ensure that all premises within Nottinghamshire are safer for people to work and visit.
- All of our operational staff will receive training and awareness on modern building design to ensure they remain alert to the risks they face in pursuance of their duties.
- We will reduce unwanted automated fire signals by implementation of a robust policy. Our target is 25% by 2012.

## **Response**

- We will review our operational cover to ensure that we continue to meet the needs of our community.
- We will review our approach to High Rise Buildings in light of the fatal fire in Camberwell, London on 3 July 2009. This will involve identifying and inspecting all of the buildings at risk and producing operational plans for them.
- We will continue to implement the findings of the Retained Review.

- Following the implementation of the 19 new fire appliances we will devise a longer term strategy, with appropriate contracts for the maintenance of our fleet. We will also review our High Rise provision in light of the work regarding high rise premises.

### **Resilience**

- We will continue to work towards the implementation of the Fire Control project.
- We will ensure our equipment for major incidents remains available and operational should it be required.
- We will monitor the impact of the new Firelink radio system.

### **Diversity and Workforce**

- We will attain Level 3 of the Fire and Rescue Service Equality Framework.
- We will strive to meet our targets under the National Equality & Diversity Strategy.
- We will continue to deliver high quality training and support to our staff.

### **Governance & Improvement**

- We will review our Corporate Governance arrangements each autumn to enquire that we comply with the Code issued and adopted in 2005.
- We will develop our own integrated 'assurance' audit system across the Service so that we can demonstrate to external auditors and assessors how we comply with their requirements.
- We will implement a new finance system with our partners from the East Midlands.
- We will implement the requirements of the new International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).
- We will integrate environment and sustainability into our work to ensure that we do not have a negative impact on our environment.
- We will work with the Fire Authority and its members to develop the concept of Risk Management and its impact in our communities.
- We will introduce new Management Information Systems to support the work that we do.
- To support these objectives the plan also contains information about our region, our county and our district. This ensures that the reader can follow

how our proposals fit between what we consulted on, the issues we face and our current position.

### **3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The contents and proposals within this three year plan will inform and influence our budget proposals and provision for the next three years. By consulting comprehensively throughout the year, the Service can demonstrate the basis on which it has formed its budget.

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

The Human Resources and Learning and Development implications are contained within the report and will inform our proposals for the next three years.

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

Equalities will form a key part of our proposals. An impact assessment of the plan will be conducted and its outcomes implemented.

### **6. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

Our proposed work with young people and skills will ensure we continue to support our local partners within the LAA family to meet the requirements of Crime and Disorder legislation.

### **7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Our duties to prepare a three year integrated plan come from the Fire and Rescue Service Framework 2008–2011. This framework is issued by the Secretary of State under the provisions of Part 3, Section 21 of the Fire Services Act 2004.

### **8. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1. Any Fire and Rescue Service who the Secretary of State deems may be failing under the provisions of the National Framework, may be subject to intervention by the Secretary of State. The production of the plan is therefore an integral part of the Authority's obligations under the Fire Service Act 2004.
- 8.2 Failure to produce a longer term plan which lays out the authority's intentions could leave the Service open to criticism both through formal means and through the wider stakeholder engagement. It also shows how the Service is allocating its budgetary provision from local taxpayers and Central Government.

**9. RECOMMENDATIONS**

That Members note the draft text of the next three year plan with the final document to be presented at the Fire Authority meeting on 19 February 2010 for formal adoption.

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

None.

Frank Swann  
**CHIEF FIRE OFFICER**