



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
Fire & Rescue Service
Creating Safer Communities

Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham
Fire and Rescue Authority
Community Safety Committee

ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ELECTED MEMBER INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN WORKING GROUP

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

Agenda Item No:

Date: 19 October 2012

Purpose of Report:

To propose to Community Safety Committee the establishment of an ad-hoc working group to formulate the basis of the forthcoming integrated risk management plan.

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1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The National Framework for Fire and Rescue Services in England provides an overall strategic direction for Fire and Rescue Authorities. The current edition published in June 2012 identifies the following priorities for Fire and Rescue Authorities:
- To identify and assess the full range of foreseeable fire and rescue related risks their areas face, make provision for prevention and protection activities and respond to incidents appropriately;
 - Work in partnership with their communities and a wide range of partners locally and nationally to deliver their service; and
 - Be accountable to communities for the service they provide.
- 1.2 To comply with these priorities, the Framework identifies that each Fire and Rescue Authority's integrated risk management plan (IRMP) provides an opportunity to demonstrate how it will discharge its responsibilities in a way that is open and transparent to its community and others with an interest.
- 1.3 Specifically, it requires ... "each Fire and Rescue Authority must produce an IRMP that identifies and assesses all foreseeable fire and rescue related risks that could affect its community, including those of a cross-border, multi-authority and/or national nature. The plan must have regard to the community risk registers produced by Local Resilience Forums (LRFs) and any other local risks analyses as appropriate."

2. REPORT

- 2.1 Integrated risk management planning as a concept was introduced into the Fire Service via Fire Service Circular 7/2003, and has been reinforced as a concept in every published Framework since that date. The outcome of the previous IRMP process in Nottinghamshire resulted in the current plan which concludes in 2013. This was a three year plan which ran from 2010 – 2013.
- 2.2 To ensure that the Service meets the expectations of the Framework with regard to IRMP (see Annex taken from the Framework as Appendix A to this report), the Service will need to commence its planning for the next plan at the earliest opportunity. This will enable an effective period of consultation to take place and time for the Fire Authority to consider the outcomes.
- 2.3 The Strategic Management Team has looked at an outline timeframe as part of their planning cycle and this is attached to this report at Appendix B for information.

- 2.4 In previous years the draft IRMP has been produced by Officers in isolation and presented to the Fire Authority for adoption for consultation. However, given the current economic uncertainties affecting the Service, and given the emphasis in the Framework in relation to the Fire Authority's responsibility, it is proposed that a small Member working group is established to help formulate outline proposals. This group would be supported by Officers from the Service's planning team led by the Assistant Chief Fire Officer.
- 2.5 The group's terms of reference would predominantly be defined by the Framework guidance, but would also include:
- Establishing the timeframe for the plan;
 - Agreeing its content for consultation;
 - Liaising with other agencies and partners over proposals;
 - Ensuring all legal duties and responsibilities are met.
- 2.6 This working group will not have to concern themselves with the consultation process itself, as a separate report to Policy and Strategy Committee on Friday 2 November 2012 will seek to establish a Member working group to look at this aspect of the process.
- 2.7 It is proposed that the Member working group has cross party representation.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no specific financial implications arising from this report. The costs relating to consultation will be considered and proposed by the Member group looking at that aspect of the process. The outline proposals formed by the proposed group will help set the Fire Authority budget from 2015 onwards.

4. HUMAN RESOURCES AND LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS

Working closely with a Member working group will provide an excellent development opportunity for staff involved in the IRMP process. The plan will also help set the human resources and learning and development requirements over the forthcoming years.

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

The draft IRMP which goes out to consultation will require an equality impact assessment to ensure none of the proposals specifically discriminate against any section of society.

6. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

Under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, Fire and Rescue Authorities have a duty to exercise their functions in a way that prevents crime and disorder in their area.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Section 21 of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 requires the Secretary of State to prepare a Framework for Fire and Rescue Authorities. It is this Framework that places a duty of Fire and Rescue Authorities to complete an IRMP.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

The risk management implications arising from this report will primarily be the risk of not complying with the expectations of the Framework. By putting in place a robust process for the development of the IRMP, these risks will be reduced.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Members:

- 9.1 Approve the establishment of an IRMP working group;
- 9.2 Agree the constitution of the IRMP working group; and
- 9.3 Agree the chair of the IRMP working group.

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

None.

Frank Swann
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

Complete integrated risk management plan requirement

For completeness, each integrated risk management plan requirement is repeated below. Integrated risk management planning plays a key role in identifying, assessing and mitigating fire and rescue related risks.

Paragraph 1.3

Each fire and rescue authority must produce an integrated risk management plan that identifies and assesses all foreseeable fire and rescue related risks that could affect its community, including those of a cross-border, multi-authority and/or national nature. The plan must have regard to the community risk registers produced by Local Resilience Forums and any other local risk analyses as appropriate.

Paragraph 1.10

Each fire and rescue authority integrated risk management plan must:

- **demonstrate how prevention, protection and response activities will best be used to mitigate the impact of risk on communities, through authorities working either individually or collectively, in a cost effective way**
- **set out its management strategy and risk based programme for enforcing the provisions of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 in accordance with the principles of better regulation set out in the Statutory Code of Compliance for Regulators, and the Enforcement Concordat**

Paragraph 1.11

Fire and rescue authorities must make provision to respond to incidents such as fires, road traffic accidents and emergencies within their area and in other areas in line with their mutual aid agreements and reflect this in their integrated risk management plans.

Paragraph 2.3

Each fire and rescue authority integrated risk management plan must:

- **be easily accessible and publicly available**
- **reflect effective consultation throughout its development and at all review stages with the community, its workforce and representative bodies, and partners**
- **cover at least a three year time span and be reviewed and revised as often as it is necessary to ensure that fire and rescue authorities are able to deliver the requirements set out in this Framework**
- **reflect up to date risk analyses and the evaluation of service delivery outcomes**

Paragraph 3.2

Fire and rescue authorities must provide assurance on financial, governance and operational matters and show how they have had due regard to the expectations set out in their integrated risk management plan and the requirements included in this Framework. To provide assurance, fire and rescue authorities must publish an annual statement of assurance.

The Government does not plan to issue additional integrated risk management plan related guidance. The Department values the multi-partner Integrated Risk Management Plan Steering Group, put in place to take this work forward.

IRMP Process Timeline

