



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
Fire & Rescue Service
Creating Safer Communities

Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham
Fire and Rescue Authority

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY POLICY STATEMENT

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

Date: 24 September 2021

Purpose of Report:

To advise Members that the NFRS Written Environment and Sustainability Policy Statement has been reviewed to ensure that it remains current.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that Members:

- Endorse the Policy Statement to reaffirm commitment to the Environment and Sustainability Policy.
- Support a further in-year review to ensure that the Policy Statement aligns with the environmental and sustainability aspirations in the Community Risk Management Plan due for publication April 2022.

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1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service (NFRS) produced an Environment and Sustainability Policy Statement following the 2014-2019 service Priorities.
- 1.2 The 2019 – 2021 Strategic Plan continues to build on previous achievements and continues to support Environment and Sustainability considerations within the Service, which requires the Environment and Sustainability Policy Statement to be reviewed at periodically.
- 1.3 Improvement in environmental sustainability continues to be a priority and will continue to be a focus of the new Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP) which will be launched in April 2022.
- 1.3 The Environmental and Sustainability Policy Statement indicates the continuous commitment within the Service providing an overview of Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Services' aims with regards to its impact on the environment.
- 1.4 NFRS's current Environment and Sustainability Policy Statement was last considered and endorsed by CFA on 27 November 2021.

2. REPORT

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to gain endorsement from the Fire Authority for the review of the NFRS Environment and Sustainability Policy Statement, attached as Appendix to this report. The policy statement is reviewed each year by the Service lead for environment and sustainability matters who will ensure the statement reflects current legislation, best practice and advise as to the priorities and approach to be adopted by Service.
- 2.2 The content of the current Environment and Sustainability Policy Statement communicates the commitment of both the Service and the Authority and reflects NFRSs approach to discharging its duty of care to minimise its impact on the environment. It has been revised to ensure the legislation is the most up to date, and appropriate terminology used.
- 2.3 The document is underpinned by further details within NFRS's Written Safety Policy; together the two elements form an auditable approach to achieving and maintaining safe systems of work.
- 2.4 Endorsement signatures of the Chief Fire Officer and the Chair of the Fire Authority will continue to provide continued confirmation of the Services high level commitment to the management of environmental risk.
- 2.5 Given the interdependencies between this statement and the environment and sustainability aspirations which will be outlined in the CRMP, Members

are asked to agree to a mid-year review of this statement to ensure it accurately reflects the objectives laid out in the CRMP.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 Although not directly related to the endorsement of the Policy Statement, there may be financial implications arising from environmental risk management initiatives in the future.
- 3.2 It is anticipated that improved environmental risk management can be used to achieve efficiency savings, for example reduced spending on vehicle fuel and energy bills. Any implications that arise will be reported to the Fire Authority as appropriate.

4. HUMAN RESOURCES AND LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS

One of the aims of the Policy Statement is to raise the awareness of employees to environmental issues. Training currently includes elements of environmental risk management for all operational employees and enhanced training for a core group of Officers who are available as environmental advisors during incidents.

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

An Equality Impact Assessment has not been undertaken because the Policy Statement does not introduce new policy or services.

6. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

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

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

NFRS must comply with applicable environmental legislation. Non-compliance can result in criminal sanction. By following available good practice, the Authority can be assured of meeting its legal responsibilities.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

The policy statement provides a basis for Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service's commitment to identifying hazards, quantifying risk, and applying proportionate risk controls as a means of reducing loss.

9. COLLABORATION IMPLICATIONS

There are no collaboration implications arising from this report.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Members:

- 10.1 Endorse the Policy Statement to reaffirm commitment to the Environment and Sustainability Policy.
- 10.2 Support a further in-year review to ensure that the Policy Statement aligns with the environmental and sustainability aspirations in the Community Risk Management Plan due for publication April 2022.

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

None.

John Buckley
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER



Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service [NFRS] is fully committed to minimising the impact that the organisational activities have on the environment. The Service is aware that factors such as changing climate, resource, scarcity, and the generation of waste will all have an effect on our local communities and that NFRS has a duty to reduce our impact on the environment where possible to do so.

Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service aims to minimise its impact on the environment by:

- Setting targets on key aspects of our environmental performance and reviewing them periodically
- Reducing carbon emissions from our buildings by investing in energy efficient design and technology during construction and refurbishment projects, better managing energy consumption and influencing colleagues' behaviour
- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions from vehicles by managing business travel, reducing the need to travel by the use of video conferencing and other technology, encouraging the use of public transport and other less polluting forms of transportation
- Raising employee's awareness of environmental issues, encouraging environmentally responsible behaviour, and providing appropriate training to enable them in playing a full role in implementing environmental objectives
- Reducing the volume of waste which is produced at our sites with an ultimate aim of sending zero waste to landfill
- Applying industry best practice when considering the environmental impact of our work at fires and other incidents to reduce the risk of contamination of air, land, and water courses.

NFRS's duty extends beyond merely reducing environmental impacts to ensuring we fulfil our responsibility for 'creating safer communities' by responding to flooding and other events associated with a changing climate.

The Service will continue to:

Work with the Environmental Agency and other local organisations to review the areas of flood risk with Nottinghamshire and ensure appropriate equipment, resources and trained firefighters are available to respond to flooding when they are needed

Endorsed by the Combined Fire Authority at its meeting of

Signed _____ Chief Fire Officer

Signed _____ Chair of CFA