

REPORT REFERENCE NO.	CSCPC/17/1
MEETING	COMMUNITY SAFETY & CORPORATE PLANNING COMMITTEE
DATE OF MEETING	13 FEBRUARY 2017
SUBJECT OF REPORT	CREATING AN INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN (IRMP)
LEAD OFFICER	ASSISTANT CHIEF FIRE OFFICER – SERVICE IMPROVEMENT
RECOMMENDATIONS	<i>That the report be noted.</i>
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	<p>There is a requirement for the Fire and Rescue Authority to maintain an up to date Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) which assesses all risks faced by the communities served and details how those risks will be mitigated by the prevention, protection and response arrangements of the Authority.</p> <p>The Service has established a working group to produce the next iteration of the IRMP which will need to take account not only of the legal responsibility of the FRA in attending fires and road traffic collisions but also the wider risks face by citizens and the need to support other agencies.</p> <p>This paper sets the scene for creating a new IRMP and further updates will be provided as the plan develops.</p>
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	The IRMP should assist the Authority in matching resources to risk appropriately.
EQUALITY RISKS AND BENEFITS ANALYSIS (ERBA)	N/a
APPENDICES	None
LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS	<p>“Our Plan: 2016 – 2021”</p> <p>National Framework for England (2012)</p> <p>IRMP Guidance Notes</p> <p>Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004</p>

1. **INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 (section 21) provides the statutory basis for the National Framework for England. This requires the Secretary of State to:

- to prepare a National Framework for fire and rescue authorities;
- to consult with representatives of fire and rescue authorities and their employees before making significant changes to the Framework;
- to bring the Framework, and any significant revisions to it, into effect by a statutory instrument subject to annulment in either of the Houses of Parliament;
- fire and rescue authorities to have regard to the Framework in carrying out their functions.

1.2 The role of the Framework is not to repeat all of the duties placed on fire and rescue authorities in connection with the discharge of their functions. The Framework has an open ended duration but it is possible that the Secretary of State may undertake a review later in 2017 as the current iteration of the Framework has been in place since 2012.

1.3 The priorities set out within this Framework are 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
- be accountable to communities for the service they provide

1.4 Fire and rescue authorities need to assess all foreseeable fire and rescue related risks that could affect their communities (from local fires to terrorist attacks) and put in place arrangements to mitigate these risks, either through adjusting existing provision, more effective collaboration and partnership working, or building new capability. They need to deliver effective and proportionate prevention and protection activities and be ready to respond to incidents within their areas and across the country to keep communities safe.

1.5 An Integrated Risk Management Plan is the means by which the Fire and Rescue Authority assesses and analyses the risks faced by the communities served. The Plan then presents an integrated approach to mitigating and reducing those risks through the Prevention, Protection and Response activities of the Service.

1.6 This report sets out the way in which Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Authority approaches and develops its Integrated Risk Management Plan.

2. **INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN (IRMP)**

2.1 In considering an Integrated Risk Management Plan, it is useful to define the individual components as:

- Integrated – use of all activity in a complimentary manner
- Risk – the potential to cause harm
- Management – organisation of activities to achieve outcomes
- Plan – a detailed proposal to achieve outcomes.

2.2 Therefore the IRMP can be seen to be of strategic significance to the Fire and Rescue Authority as it will be the document that provides the vision and means of ensuring the Service direction.

2.3 To support this, Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service (the Service) maintains a detailed understanding of the international, national, and local factors that impact upon the delivery of its services.

2.4 Each year, a comprehensive and forward looking analysis of these external factors is carried out; this highlights the more important Societal, Technological, Economic, Environmental, Political, Legislative and Ethical (STEEPLE) issues.

3. **AIMS OF AN IRMP**

3.1 The Integrated Risk Management Plan will aim to:

- Improve community safety and make a more effective use of fire and rescue service resources;
- Reduce the incidence of fires; reducing loss of life in fires and accidents; reducing the number and severity of injuries;
- Safeguard the environment and protect the National Heritage;
- Provide communities with value for money.

3.2 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. There is a need to support Community Resilience and the IRMP brings with it a personal responsibility on every member of society to make themselves safer.

4. **ANALYSING THE RISK**

4.1 In addition to the external analysis, the Service uses a range of sophisticated tools and computer programmes to actively monitor and assess the changing risk profile. This includes an analysis of population, mapping of incidents and activity and identifying vulnerable people and groups.

4.2 This, together with a number of other Partnership agreements through which further data is provided by key partners, provides an in-depth picture of the community and enables the Authority to match appropriate resources to risk.

- 4.3 The IRMP must identify the principal risks to life, property and the environment which require an emergency response by a fire service. This includes:
- Fires in homes, businesses, hospitals, schools etc.
 - Life threatening incidents in the community, including road traffic collisions and other incidents.
 - Major fires, floods, chemical risks and other incidents where the Service has a statutory responsibility under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004.
- 4.4 Further to this, the National Framework for England states “that FRA’s should take account of all risks faced by citizens”. In considering this, some of the emerging risks and pressures identified are:
- Lack of community resilience;
 - Threat of terrorism;
 - Worsening public health & wellbeing;
 - High demand on other public services;
 - Collaboration expectations; and
 - Reducing budgets.

5. **NEXT STEPS**

- 5.1 The Service’s Director of Service Improvement has the remit to focus on the IRMP and a working group has been established, chaired by the Area Manager leading on Strategy and Business Change.
- 5.2 The Government has recently made a clear commitment to provide central funding for the period of the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) to those authorities that chose to accept the offer and have published a four year Efficiency Plan. This, when coupled with the four year settlement (to 2019/20) provides a clear steer to the Authority on the level of funding that will be available over this period. This has resulted in an overall reduction in funding of 24.6% by 2019-20 for the Authority. There is an opportunity, therefore, for the Service to look at the holistic position with a view to matching the reduced resources available to the key risks now faced by the Service, which have continued to change year on year..
- 5.3 With this in mind, the IRMP working group will:
- Research actual risk faced by communities across Devon and Somerset;
 - Quantify data into a risk rating for measurement enabling improvement and understanding how our activities affect risk;
 - Re-evaluate the Service’s Protection, Prevention, and Response arrangements against actual risk; and
 - Produce options for consideration.
- 5.4 Further to the analysis requirements described above, the working group has already given early consideration to:
- Wider Community Safety Provision – to support collaboration and demand reduction;

- Help communities to help themselves – providing resilience through Flood Wardens, Use of the Authority’s properties, training etc;
- Options for response deployment - number of stations, build on tiered response, flexible crewing, medical skills/paramedic riding appliances;
- Demand led crewing options and locations; and
- Understanding the differences in geographic/localised risk e.g. hotel risks in Torbay are different to rural community risks on the Somerset Levels

6. **CONCLUSION**

- 6.1 The Fire and Rescue Authority must produce an Integrated Risk Management Plan that clearly assesses all risks faced by the community.
- 6.2 The Plan should be accessible to the public and clearly show how the Authority intends to mitigate those identified risks.
- 6.3 The Authority has always produced an IRMP as required, however, there is now a real opportunity to develop a plan that prepares the Service for the future and establishes the changes required to truly improve its performance.
- 6.4 The Authority is committed to ensuring that the Service’s resources support the priorities of Public Safety, Staff Safety, Effectiveness and Efficiency and the revised IRMP will reflect these.
- 6.5 Further briefings will be provided to this Committee as the IRMP develops.
- 6.6 The Committee is asked to note this report.

GLENN ASKEW
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