

REPORT REFERENCE NO.	DSFRA/17/4
MEETING	DEVON & SOMERSET FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY (Budget Meeting)
DATE OF MEETING	17 FEBRUARY 2017
SUBJECT OF REPORT	“CREATING SAFER COMMUNITIES – OUR PLAN 2017 – 2022”
LEAD OFFICER	Chief Fire Officer
RECOMMENDATIONS	<p><i>(a) That the draft “Creating Safer Communities – Our Plan 2017 – 22” as appended to this report be approved;</i></p> <p><i>(b) that the intention, during 2017, to produce a separate Integrated Risk Management Plan be noted.</i></p>
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	<p>This report presents the draft of the next Corporate Plan, covering a five year time period 2017 to 2022. The contents of this iteration of the Plan represent an evolution of “<i>Creating Safer Communities - Our Plan 2016 to 2021</i>” approved by the Authority at its budget meeting last year (Minute DSFRA/49 of the meeting held on 19 February 2016 refers). This flexible approach allows the Service to review strategy as part of the annual planning cycle and accommodate changes as necessary.</p> <p>At this stage, this is a light-touch refresh of the plan and key changes are highlighted at Section 2 of this report, for clarification.</p> <p>This style of document embeds the Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) with the Corporate Plan. As reported to the Community Services and Corporate Planning Committee on 13 February 2017, moving forwards it is intended to separate out these aspects and produce a stand-alone Integrated Risk Management Plan during 2017. This will change the style and content of the Corporate Plan from 2018.</p>
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	The Corporate Plan is designed with sufficient flexibility to enable it to be delivered from within resources approved by the Authority. Approval of the four-year finance settlement will add additional certainty to this process.
EQUALITY RISKS AND BENEFITS ANALYSIS (ERBA)	The contents of this report are compatible with existing equality and human rights legislation. Additionally, this iteration of the Corporate Plan now includes, at page 8, specific reference to the Service priorities to promote equality, diversity and inclusion.
APPENDICES	A. “Creating Safer Communities - Our Plan 2017 – 2021” DRAFT
LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS	Nil.

1. **BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 The draft Corporate Plan '*Creating Safer Communities: Our Plan 2017 to 2022*', attached at Appendix A, sets the direction that the Service is striving to achieve through implementing improvements and fulfilling its business as usual activities.
- 1.2 At present, the Corporate Plan encompasses the Integrated Risk Management Plan which the Authority is required to produce and publish in accordance with Fire and Rescue National Framework England 2012. This Framework in turn sets out that an Integrated Risk Management Plan must:
- demonstrate how prevention, protection and response activities will be used to mitigate the impact of risk on communities;
 - set out the 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;
 - reflect the provision to respond to incidents such as fires, road traffic accidents and emergencies both within the authority's particular area and in other areas in line with mutual aid agreements;
 - be easily and publically available;
 - have been subject to effective consultation with the community, partners, the workforce and representative bodies both throughout its development and at all review stages;
 - cover a minimum three year time span and be reviewed and revised as often as necessary to ensure delivery against the requirements of the National Framework; and
 - reflect up to date risk analyses and the evaluation of service delivery outcomes.

2. **KEY CHANGES**

- 2.1. '*Creating Safer Communities: Our Plan 2017 – 2022*', the next iteration of the Corporate Plan which is now appended to this report in draft, represents a "light-touch" refresh of the previous plan approved by the Authority at its budget meeting on 19 February 2016 (Minute DSFRA/49 refers), thereby facilitating consistency in delivery over a longer period of time and flexibility to incorporate any changes as necessary. This process is, in turn, assisted by the recently-approved four-year financial settlement.
- 2.2. The key changes in this current iteration of the Plan are:
- Page 6 - updated graph on 10 year service demand;
 - Page 7 – Service Core Values have been included;
 - Page 8 - equality, diversity and inclusion priorities have been included; and
 - Pages 19 and 20 - updated financial information
- 2.3 It should be noted, however, that the updated financial information as set out in the draft plan is based on the Fire Authority approving, at this meeting, a 1.99% increase in Council Tax precept for 2017-18. As such, should the Authority make a different decision then it will be necessary to amend the financial information contained in the draft Plan accordingly.

3. MOVING FORWARDS

- 3.1. The Service has previously adopted the approach of embedding its Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) within its Corporate Plan. Although the latest iteration of the Corporate Plan as attached continues this approach, moving forwards the Integrated Risk Management Plan and Corporate Plan will be separated out to facilitate greater transparency and clarity for both, to better serve the implementation of change and improvement within the Service and support the objectives of the 4 year efficiency plan.
- 3.2. As reported to the meeting of the Community Safety and Corporate Planning Committee on 13 February 2017, a full review process has been initiated to propose a new planning framework for the Service and support the introduction of a separate Corporate Plan and IRMP. It is intended that the process for production of the documents should feature, amongst other things, a series of staff workshops together with engagement by the Community Services and Corporate Planning Committee.
- 3.3. In the meantime, however, the Authority is asked to consider with a view to approving the current iteration of the Corporate Plan as attached in draft form at Appendix A.

LEE HOWELL
Chief Fire Officer