

REPORT REFERENCE NO.	DSFRA/21/20
MEETING	DEVON & SOMERSET FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY
DATE OF MEETING	29 SEPTEMBER 2021
SUBJECT OF REPORT	DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITY RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN – PROPOSALS FOR MEMBER ENGAGEMENT
LEAD OFFICER	Chief Fire Officer
RECOMMENDATIONS	<p><i>(a). that the Authority approves the rescheduling of the meeting from the previously approved date of 15 December 2021 to 10 November 2021 to enable a draft Community Risk Management Plan to be approved for public consultation purposes;</i></p> <p><i>(b). that the remaining proposals for engagement on development of the Plan and public consultation, as set out in Section 2 of this report, be endorsed.</i></p>
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	This paper sets out the requirement for the Authority to have a Community Risk Management Plan together with the proposed stages for development and consultation on this Plan.
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	Resource implications will be contained from within existing, approved budgets.
EQUALITY RISKS AND BENEFITS ANALYSIS	Nil at present but full analysis will be undertaken of any proposals contained in the draft Community Risk Management Plan.
APPENDICES	Nil.
BACKGROUND PAPERS	Fire & Rescue National Framework

1. **BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTION**

Fire & Rescue Services Act 2004 and Fire & Rescue National Framework

- 1.1. Section 21 of the Fire & Rescue Services Act 2004 (“the Act”) requires the Secretary of State to prepare a Fire & Rescue National Framework (“the Framework”) which:
- (a). must set out priorities and objectives for fire and rescue authorities in connection with the discharge of their functions;
 - (b). may contain guidance to fire and rescue authorities in connection with the discharge of any of their functions; and
 - (c). may contain any other matter relating to fire and rescue authorities or their functions that the Secretary of State considers appropriate.
- 1.2. The latest version of the Framework was published in May 2018. Paragraph 4.6 of the Framework requires every fire and rescue authority to produce an Integrated Risk Management Plan (subsequently retitled a Community Risk Management Plan, in line with guidance issued by the National Fire Chiefs’ Council) which must:
- reflect up to date risk analyses including an assessment of all foreseeable fire and rescue related risks that could affect the area of the authority;
 - demonstrate how prevention, protection and response activities will best be used to prevent fires and other incidents and mitigate the impact of identified risks on its communities, through authorities working either individually or collectively, in a way that makes best use of available resources;
 - outline required service delivery outcomes including the allocation of resources for the mitigation of risks;
 - 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;
 - cover at least a three-year time span and be reviewed and revised as often as it is necessary to ensure that the authority is able to deliver the requirements set out in this Framework;
 - reflect effective consultation throughout its development and at all review stages with the community, its workforce and representative bodies and partners; and
 - be easily accessible and publicly available.

Devon & Somerset Integrated Risk Management Plan

- 1.3. The current Integrated Risk Management Plan for the Authority, spanning the period 2018-22, was approved by the Authority at its meeting on 16 February 2018, following an eight-week consultation period (Minute DSFRA/65 refers).

- 1.4. Subsequently, at an extraordinary meeting on 10 January 2020, the Authority approved a series of proposals to re-allocate resources to provide for a new Service Delivery Operating Model to give effect to the strategic intent expressed in the approved Integrated Risk Management Plan (Minute DSFRA/32 refers). These proposals had been subject to an extensive twelve week public consultation exercise.
2. **DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITY RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN (CRMP) 2022-27**
- 2.1. It is proposed that the successor to the current Integrated Risk Management Plan – the Community Risk Management Plan (“the Plan”) – should cover a five-year period. Unlike the previous Integrated Risk Management Plan, it is not envisaged that the new Community Risk Management Plan will result in significant changes in either Service structure or delivery.
- 2.2. The Authority has previously been informed, via Members’ Forum meetings, of pre-consultation undertaken by the Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service (the Service) to seek views of interested parties on areas the Plan should cover. As part of this pre-consultation, the opportunity was also taken to provide more information on the range of activities undertaken by the Service.
- 2.3. While effective consultation with communities, the Service workforce and representative bodies other partners on the proposed Plan is a National Framework requirement, the importance of securing full and meaningful engagement with the Authority in developing the Plan is also recognised.
- 2.4. In addition to previous Members’ Forum meetings, a workshop for Members of the Community Safety Committee was held on 17 September 2021 to discuss proposals for the Plan. The Terms of Reference for the Committee provide, amongst other things, for it to consider and recommend for approval by the Authority a Community Risk Management Plan.
- 2.5. To facilitate full and meaningful engagement on the Plan, the following additional stages are also proposed:
- (a). discussion at the forthcoming Members’ Forum meetings on 5 October and 1 November 2021;
 - (b). rescheduling of the Community Safety Committee meeting initially planned for 18 October 2021 to 10.00hours, Tuesday 2 November 2021 to consider a draft Plan for public consultation purposes, for recommendation to the Authority (**Note:** Standing Orders provide for dates of Committees previously agreed by the Authority to be varied – either by cancellation, re-arrangement or addition - by the Clerk following consultation with the Committee Chair. The Chair of the Community Safety Committee, Councillor Chesterton, has indicated his willingness for this rescheduling);

- (c). rescheduling of the Authority meeting initially planned for 15 December 2021 to 10.00hours, Wednesday 10 November 2021. This meeting is intended to consider any recommendations made by the Community Safety Committee and to approve the Plan for public consultation purposes;
- (d). a minimum of an eight-week public consultation period, with subsequent evaluation of the consultation responses;
- (e). consideration of consultation responses and a draft final Plan at the Community Safety Committee meeting on 25 January 2022;
- (f). submission of a final Plan, taking account of consultation responses as necessary and any recommendation made by the Community Safety Committee, to the Authority Budget meeting on 18 February 2022 for approval;
- (g). implementation of the Plan from 1 April 2022.

3. CONCLUSION

- 3.1. The stages and associated timescales as set out in Section 2 above are intended to provide for full and meaningful engagement with the Authority on development of the Community Risk Management Plan, together with an appropriate period for consultation with the public and other interested parties on the draft Plan once approved.
- 3.2. The Authority is asked to approve the rescheduling of the December meeting to 10 November 2021 and to endorse the remaining proposals for development of and consultation on the draft Community Risk Management Plan.

LEE HOWELL
Chief Fire Officer