Lancashire Combined Fire Authority

Planning Committee

Meeting to be held on Monday 16 November 2026

Strategic Assessment of Risk 2026-2027

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Executive Summary

The Strategic Assessment of Risk (SAoR) has been refreshed and provides strategic direction for Service and district planning and enables Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service (LFRS) to direct resources effectively to minimise and respond to risk.

Recommendation(s)

The Planning Committee are asked to note and approve the SAoR for publication.

Information

Risk in Lancashire will always remain dynamic; it changes over time, differs by area and demographic, and needs different interventions to reduce the likelihood of the risk occurring or to lessen its consequences. We identify these risks in our Strategic Assessment of Risk which is refreshed annually and is also informed by the National Risk Register, Lancashire Resilience Forum Community Risk Register and our political, economic, social, technological, environmental, legal and organisational (PESTELO) analysis. Through our risk management framework, we continually assess changing risk and prioritise our response framework.

The Strategic Assessment of Risk reflects the knowledge and experience of a variety of specialist departments and utilises our Incident Recording System (IRS) data to derive a data driven methodology that highlights the incident types that pose the greatest risk to the county of Lancashire and the individuals who live and work within it. The SAoR drives both Service and district level response to risk and enables LFRS to tailor our prevention, protection and response activities to the identified risks.

The SAoR plays a central role in the development of the Community Risk Management Plan 2027–2032 (CRMP), providing the evidence base to identify, assess and prioritise the risks facing Lancashire over the lifetime of the plan. By drawing together local incident data, national and community risk information, demographic insight and professional judgement, the SAoR ensures that the CRMP is grounded in a robust and current understanding of risk. This will support the Service in setting clear strategic priorities, aligning prevention, protection and response activity, and demonstrating how resources are directed to the areas of greatest need and potential impact.

This year's document builds on previous iterations as we seek to continually improve our risk management processes. Revisions have been made to our local Risk Assessment, resulting in some movement in the ranking of our highest risk incident types. We have strengthened our PESTELO analysis and also sought to identify more clearly how LFRS responds to the strategic risks identified, examples being; our response to the emerging threat of climate change and advances in technology.

Business risk

The Strategic Assessment of Risk is an integral part of the Service's Risk Management Framework and captures the high-level risks that the Service must prepare for and respond to. It forms a key part of our planning process, development of our CRMP and culminating in the development of our Annual Service Plan.

Sustainability or Environmental Impact

None.

Equality and Diversity Implications

The Strategic Assessment of Risk has been produced in accordance with accessibility guidelines.

Data Protection (GDPR)

Will the proposal(s) involve the processing of personal data? N

HR implications

No implications, however, the SAoR should form part of the district planning process and will link through to individual appraisals.

Financial implications

The updated SAoR provides the latest data and intelligence, helping to direct the Service's focus over the next 12 months.

Legal implications

None.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

List of background papers

Paper:
Date:
Contact:

Reason for inclusion in Part 2 if appropriate: Insert Exemption Clause

Glossary

CRMP - Community Risk Management Plan
IRS - Incident Recording System

LFRS – Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service
PESTELO - Political, economic, social, technological, environmental, legal and organisational
SAoR – Strategic Assessment of Risk