

**LANCASHIRE COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY  
PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Meeting to be held on Monday 19 March 2018

**HER MAJESTY'S INSPECTORATE OF CONSTABULARY, FIRE AND RESCUE  
SERVICES (HMICFRS) – PROGRESS TOWARDS INSPECTION – UPDATE  
BRIEFING**

Contact for further information:

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**Executive Summary**

This report deals with the following:

**An update on HMICFRS work streams:**

1. HMICFRS staff briefings taking place across Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service
2. Self-assessment drafts written and will be considered at the Executive Board 16<sup>th</sup> March 2018
3. 12<sup>th</sup> March 2018 meeting between the Deputy Chief Justin Johnston, Area Manager Tony Crook and David Dryburgh (the HMICFRS Service Liaison Lead) took place. Organisational structure, Day Crewing Plus and future HMICFRS engagement visits were discussed
4. Reality testing will commence by the Audit Assurance Team in April / May to prepare LFRS for the inspection
5. The inspection week is still unknown at this time (Summer 2018)

**Recommendation**

The Planning Committee is asked to note the report. Further updates will be reported into the Planning Committee.

**Information**

A summary of the Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary, Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) progress towards inspection

**LFRS position regarding its preparation for the inspectorate**

An Audit Assurance Team (AAT) led by the Area Manager Tony Crook has been established. The team is enhanced by Station Managers Ian Armistead and Julian Williams and Watch Manager Alex Shaw. The AAT are based at Service Headquarters.

The team is responsible for the Service response to the new Home Office inspection regime, to be completed by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS).

The team will support HMICFRS in:

- the audit and assessment of performance against the inspection criteria;
- overseeing the coordination, analysis and presentation of information to HMICFRS, Service Management Team and the Combined Fire Authority;
- acting as a key point of contact for LFRS with the Inspectorate throughout the entire inspection process, for example producing data and information as required by the Inspectorate, facilitating Inspectorate requests during inspections and contributing to the accurate outcomes for LFRS;
- Preparing for inspection is a named project within LFRS;
- LFRS chair a North West HMICFRS group which aims to share best practice and consider any lessons learnt from the West Yorkshire FRS pilot.

The team ensure that all LFRS staff are kept informed of the HMICFRS inspection process.

#### Key dates:

- 10 October 2017 – CFO attended HMICFRS seminar in London
- 15 January 2018 – CFO hosted the initial visit of the HMICFRS liaison lead officer, meeting the Executive, AM Crook and the AAT
- 31 January 2018 - London HMICFRS Conference attended by the AAT;
- 19 February 2018 - proposed fire and rescue services inspection programme and framework 2018/19 consultation return by LFRS;
- March 2018 onwards - meetings with LFRS Service Liaison Lead (Dave Dryburgh);
- March 2018 onwards - drafting LFRS self-assessment;
- April/May 2018 - gap analysis and action plan;
- LFRS Inspection week summer 2018 (month TBC by HMICFRS);
- Inspection outcome/ HMICFRS report. TBC

#### **Summary**

An update on HMICFRS work streams:

1. HMICFRS staff briefings taking place across LFRS
2. Self-assessment drafts written and will be considered at the Executive Board 16th March 2018
3. 12th March 2018 meeting between the Deputy Chief Justin Johnston, Area Manager Crook and David Dryburgh (the HMICFRS Service Liaison Lead) took place. Organisational structure, Day Crewing Plus and future HMICFRS engagement visits were discussed
4. Reality testing will commence by the Audit Assurance Team in April / May to prepare LFRS for the inspection

5. The inspection week still unknown at this time (Summer 2018) with the best estimate being the first two weeks of July.

### **Recommendation**

The Planning Committee is asked to note the report. Further updates will be reported into the Planning Committee.

### **Business Risk**

High – Members need to be aware of the judgement score that can be given and how this could impact on LFRS reputation. Inadequate planning, resources and commitment could potentially result in LFRS not being able to provide adequate evidence to HMICFRS. This would leave the Service exposed to criticism both internally and externally. As highlighted in 2 above LFRS is preparing itself for the inspection.

### **Environmental Impact**

None

### **Equality and Diversity Implications**

Equality, diversity and inclusion together with culture and people will be a focus during the inspection. This area will be closely monitored.

### **HR Implications**

HR and workforce planning will be a focus of the inspection process and the finding will be closely monitored.

### **Financial Implications**

Minimal – Officers time.