

**LANCASHIRE COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY  
PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Meeting to be held on Monday 7 February 2022

**ANNUAL SERVICE PLAN AND STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT OF RISK  
(Appendix 1 refers)**

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*Executive summary and recommendations*

**Executive Summary**

This year's Annual Service Plan (ASP) continues to provide LFRS with the platform to highlight the priority activities and projects the Service intends to deliver over the coming year. We are leading improvements and innovation in our sector with some of the best firefighting equipment and training facilities in the country and a highly skilled and motivated workforce.

The year ahead will see us build on our achievements by staying focused on continuous improvement that makes the people of Lancashire safer, particularly the most vulnerable members of our communities. Many of our priorities are initiatives that will transform the way we work and bring lasting benefits.

This year's Annual Service Plan provides the direction and deliverables that have been identified to deliver against the strategic aims of our Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP).

The Strategic Assessment of Risk (SAoR) will be refreshed prior to April 2022 and will provide strategic direction for Service and district planning and enable LFRS to direct resources effectively to minimise and respond to risk.

**Recommendation(s)**

The Planning Committee is asked to note and endorse the ASP for publication and acknowledge the continuation of the data driven approach taken to produce the production of the SAoR.

**Information**

**Part 1: Annual Service Plan**

The Annual Service Plan is a core part of our planning framework which sets out the activities we intend to deliver during the next 12 months and is built around the Service's four corporate priorities that are detailed in the Community Risk Management Plan. These are:

1. **Valuing** our people so they can focus on making Lancashire safer
2. **Preventing** fire and other emergencies from happening and **Protecting** people and property when fires happen
3. **Responding** to fire and other emergencies quickly and competently
4. **Delivering** value for money in how we use our resources

### Role in the planning framework

The Annual Service Plan sits at the heart of our framework and informs activity that will be led across the Service, as well as locally within district plans. Activities that we plan to deliver also inform our staff performance appraisal process, so all staff understand our plans and are involved in helping to deliver our key activities.

As in previous years, detailed under each corporate priority is a series of activities and projects with a brief description of each item to give further clarity and context. This ensures that all staff and the public are informed of the changes and activities the Service aims to progress and how these items fit within our priorities. This provides the opportunity for the Service to ensure that we continue to provide transparency and visibility of our plans in a clear and concise format. The governance arrangements for delivery of the Annual Service Plan items will continue to be monitored through the Service's Corporate Programme Board and Service Management Team.

As always, we aim to continually improve and refine our planning processes and this year's Plan aims to add focus on achievable objectives to be delivered within the year, acknowledging that a proportion of items are continued from the 2020/21 Plan, reflecting our commitment to a number of long-term projects. It is presented in a style to remain consistent with that of the CRMP 2022-27.

## **Background**

### **Part 2: Strategic Assessment of Risk**

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 Lancashire Resilience Forum Community Risk Register. Through our risk management framework, we continually assess changing risk and prioritise our response framework. A wider consultation has also taken place, involving Unitary Authorities, District Councils, Lancashire County Council and Lancashire Constabulary, to gain a more complete collaborative picture of the perceived risk from the viewpoint of all organisations.

This year's Assessment builds on previous iterations as we seek to continually improve our risk management processes. We have sought to identify more clearly how LFRS responds to the strategic risks identified, examples being; our response to the emerging threat of climate change which will be delivered through our new Climate Change Response Plan.

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.

Finally, our refreshed SAoR will be used to help inform service delivery change proposals that will be considered as part of the forthcoming Emergency Cover Review (ECR).

### **Business risk**

The Annual Service Plan forms an integral part of the Service's corporate planning process. It sets and communicates a clear strategic direction of travel for the next 12 months. The provision of such a Plan ensures that robust business planning takes place.

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 culminating in the development of our Annual Service Plan and is used to inform reviews of emergency cover, prevention and protection activity across the county.

### **Environmental impact**

Delivery of the Annual Service Plan will support the Service's response to climate change, ultimately having a positive impact on our environment.

### **Equality and diversity implications**

The Annual Service Plan and Strategic Assessment of Risk have been produced in accordance with accessibility guidelines. The overarching strategic documents have also had equality impact assessments carried out.

### **HR implications**

No direct implications, however, the ASP and SAoR should form part of the district planning process and will link through to individual appraisals. In addition, some of the changes arising from reviews contained in the ASP will have HR implication which will be managed through relevant process.

### **Financial implications**

The Annual Service Plan will be made available online in a digitised format. However, hard copies will also be made available to staff as part of our ongoing commitment to engagement, and to further develop our leadership capacity, and to assist with district planning and individual appraisals. Therefore, there will be a cost incurred under the Corporate Communications budget.

The SAoR will not be printed and will be a wholly digitised offering and will therefore incur no cost.

## **Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**

### **List of background papers**

Paper:

Date:

Contact:

Reason for inclusion in Part 2 if appropriate: