

**LANCASHIRE COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY
PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Meeting to be held on Monday 30 January 2017

**DRAFT INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN 2017- 2022 CONSULTATION
OUTCOMES**

Appendices 1 - 8 refer (*note: for reasons of confidentiality and data protection, the un-redacted versions of appendices 3, 5 and 8 are for Member circulation only and should not be shared with third parties. A redacted version is available for wider distribution*)

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Executive Summary

At the Combined Fire Authority meeting on the 21st November 2016, Members endorsed the publication of the draft Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) 2017-22 for consultation over a six week period from 28th November 2016 to 8th January 2017.

During this time a consultation exercise was undertaken with staff, partners and service users, full details of which are contained in the body of this report. In addition, the report details the consultation process requirements and any resulting amendments that have been included in the proposed final version of the IRMP (attached as appendix 1).

Recommendation

The Planning Committee is requested to:

1. Endorse the consultation process surrounding the draft Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) 2017-22 as adequate in scale and scope; and
2. Agree the Climate Change and Environment Strategy and Community Safety Strategy are embedded within the IRMP 2017-22.
3. Refer final recommendations to the full Combined Fire Authority meeting of the 20th February 2017 for approval to publish.

Information and Background

Integrated Risk Management Planning brings with it a consultation requirement. The Fire and Rescue National Framework for England highlights the government's expectations that each fire and rescue authority's Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) must 'reflect effective consultation throughout its development and at all review stages with the community, its workforce and representative bodies, and partners' (Fire Authority Integrated Risk Management Plans – Guidance Note 2)

When deciding the extent of consultation the guiding principle is that any person or organisation that may have a legitimate interest in the proposals under consideration, or who may be affected by those proposals, should have the

opportunity to express their views. Government recommendations state that the scale and scope of the consultation should be proportionate to the nature and extent of any changes, whilst consultation from a public perspective is typically dependent on changes to Service provision and possible perceived changes to public safety.

Taking into consideration these principles the approach in using countywide forums for in-depth public consultation, which has been undertaken with previous IRMP documents, has not been adopted. Nor was there a detailed staff consultation approach in the form of working groups / presentations, this is because this IRMP is not linked to an Emergency Cover Review and there are no specific items as such for consultation.

In addition to this, the Combined Fire Authority's public consultation strategy has been in place since the new Integrated Risk Management Planning arrangements were introduced in 2003. This strategy, which is reviewed on an annual basis, is in place to ensure consultation activities meet statutory requirements; incorporate good practice and provide the public and stakeholders with timely opportunity to influence development of LFRS documents. The consultation exercise for the draft IRMP 2017-22 was duly conducted in accordance with this strategy.

The Consultation Process

DRAFT INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN (IRMP) 2017-22 – TIMETABLE	
Draft publication approved and proposed consultation process endorsed.	CFA Planning Committee 21st November 2016
Consultation with the community, staff and other interested parties.	28th November 2016 – 8th January 2017
Consultation report and final recommendations to Planning Committee.	CFA Planning Committee 30th January 2017
Publication presented for final approval and publication.	Full CFA meeting 20th February 2017
Feedback on final outcomes	March 2017

Consultation commenced on 28th November 2016 and ran for a six-week period ending on 8th January 2017. Opinion on the content and format of the draft IRMP 2017-22 was sought from a wide range of stakeholders. The following were consulted:

THE FOLLOWING GROUPS WERE INFORMED AND INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CONSULTATION	
All LFRS Staff	Office of the PCC
All County Councillors	NHS Trusts / Commissioning Groups
All Unitary/District Councillors	Lancashire Resilience Forum
CEO's of all District & Unitary Authorities	MP's and North West MEP's
CEO of Lancashire County Council	Parish Councils
Combined Fire Authority Members	Representative Bodies
Chief Fire Officers (NW Region)	North West Fire Control
Fire and Resilience Directorate	NW Ambulance Service
Lancashire Constabulary	Other Miscellaneous

During the consultation period on behalf of the Combined Fire Authority, over 2000 stakeholders were contacted and provided with the opportunity to consider the draft IRMP 2017-22 and to express an opinion on the content. The majority of communication was done via email with a hyperlink provided to facilitate ease of access to the document and to reduce publication and postal costs. (See appendix 2 for distribution details).

Links to the document were placed on the Service's Intranet site and external website (www.lancsfirerescue.org.uk) and participation in the consultation was also encouraged through the Service's social media platforms; Facebook and Twitter.

Further communication was undertaken via letter with communication going out to appropriate parties when no email address was available. Hard copies of the document were also provided upon request (only one request received).

Consultation with LFRS Staff

All Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service (LFRS) staff were invited to comment on the draft IRMP through various channels. Consultation with staff commenced on the 28th November via email (sent to all users appendix 3), this provided a link to the document and guidance stating the consultation period and the process to use for the submission of feedback, views or observations.

Further invitations to encourage staff to express their opinions on the document were issued via the routine bulletin each week during the consultation period and through the Service's internal intranet site. (Appendix 4).

Staff representative bodies were advised of the consultation exercise via email and were provided with a link to the document and the process to use for the submission of feedback, views or observations.

Public Consultation

The draft IRMP, LFRS's primary enabling document, is under-pinned by various other strategic Service publications and does not contain any detailed proposals for change. This draft IRMP enables the Service to remain in a progressive position as documents such as the Annual Service Plan and Strategic Assessment of Risk will be hyperlinked from the document, with annually amended and updated versions made available in a real-time manner. The public remain a valued stakeholder and any proposals that require future consultation during the lifespan of the IRMP i.e. the Emergency Cover Review, will be developed in line with policy, so views can be actively sought and considered.

Formal Responses

A total of 11 responses were received from the following:

- 5 from LFRS Staff;
- 2 from the Fire Brigades Union (FBU);
- 4 from members of the public, elected representatives and/or other organisations.

Two further responses were received after the closing date of the official consultation period. These responses have been included as part of the outcomes of this report, this is to ensure that a comprehensive range of opinion is captured and presented.

A table highlighting response totals is included within appendix 5 with a summary of views detailed below. The response from the FBU is provided in full within appendix 6.

Summary of Responses

In practical terms the majority of responses only required a standard acknowledgement as they contained standard comments without question. Some respondents queried the length and timing of consultation and expressed concern due to constraints with the Christmas and New Year holiday period falling during the consultation period. Nevertheless, no extensions were sought, as it was recognised that no specific proposals that would require a comprehensive evaluation were included within the document.

Many respondents expressed they felt the draft IRMP 2017-22 provided a clear summary and overview of the organisation and were supportive of ambitions detailed within the document. In particular, the Chief Constable of Lancashire Constabulary highlighted that the document complements his organisation's mission and communicated their commitment to future partnership opportunities (Appendix 7).

Some suggestions were made to improve or add to the content and where appropriate these have been encompassed within the document. Minor changes were requested to strengthen the link to climate change and the environment so that the IRMP 2017-22 and the Safety, Health and Environment Policy are integrated. These changes evidence the Service's ongoing commitment to adapt to and mitigate the changing climate and minimise the impact on the environment.

The Climate Change and Environment Strategy was agreed by members in 2009 to ensure that Climate Change and Environmental responsibilities were fully embedded across the Service and integrated at all levels. The improvement objectives outlined in the strategy have been completed and Climate Change and Environmental considerations are now embedded into Service planning, policies and procedures, it is therefore proposed that the Climate Change and Environment Strategy is embedded within this IRMP.

The Community Safety Strategy was agreed by members in 2014 to ensure that a clear framework for delivering services that contribute to making our communities safer was in place. The strategy formed an integral part of the IRMP 2013-2017. The draft IRMP 2017-2022 fully integrates the Community Safety Strategy and embeds its message. The need to have a separate strategy document is negated once the IRMP 2017-2022 is in place.

A response was received expressing concerns that fracking was not prevalent within the document. Fracking is a new emerging industry within Lancashire that is new to both the county and country alike. This industry and any potential associated risks that may transpire will be thoroughly monitored and reviewed by LFRS by our Response and Emergency Planning team and Site Specific risk information will be collated in the usual manner as required. All of the Service's risks are documented

and assessed within the Strategic Assessment of Risk document which is updated on an annual basis to evidence evolving risk requirements and thus will include going forward risks identified surrounding fracking. The Service will also continue to work closely with our multiagency partners through the Lancashire Resilience Forum (LRF) and create a coordinated multi agency response plan for strategic risks as identified. This will ensure that detailed risk plans are developed through appropriate channels in line with any potential risks that fracking may present. We will write to those who raised concerns to give a full response to the specific area of concern and provide an overview of how LFRS will manage any emergent strategic risk in line with our existing arrangements.

The FBU's response welcomed the opportunity to comment on the draft IRMP, the main points raised are summarised below.

- Supportive of the format and presentation of the draft IRMP.
- Felt it was premature to state, "Delivery of integrated public services will see us continue to build on our co-responding partnerships".
- Highlighted that nationally the FBU remains opposed to Police and Crime Commissioners taking on responsibility for the delivery of Fire and Rescue Service's.
- Welcome the commitment to transform workforce diversity.
- Supportive of the four themes of helping people to start safe, live safe, age safe and be safe on our roads.
- Welcome the commitment to "identify key lessons through effective debriefing to ensure future operational response continues to evolve".
- Reserve comment for the separate consultation currently taking place on the capital and revenue budgets.

All submissions are reproduced in full at appendix 8, but as the originators and their respective contact details are clearly evident, circulation in this format is restricted to CFA and LFRS Executive Board members only. A redacted version is included in electronic format with the agenda paper on the LFRS website.

Next Steps

Subject to Planning Committee sanction, a final version of the IRMP 2017-22 will be presented to the full CFA at its meeting on the 20th February 2017 for Member approval.

With CFA approval the IRMP will be published in early April 2017 and will be communicated to all consultees via letter or email. An electronic version for access/download will be available on LFRS website along with more detailed information. The IRMP 2017-22 will be refreshed on an annual basis to ensure that all links within the document are up to date and relevant.

Benefits

Approval of the draft IRMP 2017-2022 will allow us to meet the statutory requirements as outlined within the National Framework document

Financials

Production of the IRMP falls within existing budgets and no abnormal spends are anticipated. As with the publication of the last IRMP, the move to publishing the IRMP in a fully digital format reduces costs compared to previous printed versions.

Business Risk

Production of the IRMP is a business critical planning function. LFRS must produce an IRMP in line with National Framework guidance issued by central government.

Environmental Impact

Inevitably there will be a requirement for a printed version of the IRMP (on request) however the approach taken will be 'digital by default' and therefore the environmental impact will be minimal with no sustainability issues identified.

Equality and Diversity Implications

An initial Equality Impact Assessment was undertaken for the IRMP 2017-22. Usual distribution media will be employed to assist persons with access to information. The IRMP will be available in a variety of languages and/or a format suitable for impaired consultees.

HR Implications

None.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact Justin Johnston Tel. 01772 866801
Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate:		