

## **Report of the Head of Corporate Services**

### **Fire Authority Annual Report 2018-19**

#### **Purpose of report**

1. To adopt the Fire Authority Annual Report 2018-19 and approve for publication.
- 

#### **Recommendation**

***It is recommended that the Authority adopts the draft Fire Authority Annual Report 2018-19 and approves it for publication, subject to any final minor changes as agreed by the Chief Fire Officer in consultation with the Chairman.***

#### **Introduction and Background**

2. The Service produces a Fire Authority Annual Report as part of its corporate planning process. The Annual Report for 2018-19 presents an overview of the Service's activities in 2017-18, including a summary of overall performance and achievements, and outlines plans for 2018-19. The Report is a separate enclosure at Appendix 1.
3. The document is prepared in a style ready for publication on the Service website, so that it is easier to read and access. This is part of our aim to improve community engagement with, and understanding of, the work of the Service.
4. This year's annual report comes at a time when the West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner has been given approval by the Government to assume the governance of both Shropshire and Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Services. The formal handover from the current Fire Authority is due to take place in June 2018, followed by the establishment of a formal alliance between the two Fire and Rescue Services. Therefore, this will be the last Fire Authority Annual Report in the present format.
5. The handover will be closely followed by an independent inspection of the Service's effectiveness and efficiency by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services as part of the Government's wider Fire Reform agenda. As such, the Annual Report will be an important source of information about how the Service has been performing over the last year, its achievements and challenges, and its plans for the coming year.
6. The 'Saving More Lives' vision, introduced in last year's Annual Report, is becoming firmly embedded in the Service's overall philosophy and ways of

working. Therefore, this year's Annual Report continues to highlight some of the main areas of activity in 2017-18 under the vision's three main themes: Understanding Community Risk; Responding in the Time of Need; and Preventing Harm and Promoting Wellbeing.

## Conclusion/Summary

7. Subject to Authority approval, the finalised report will be published on the Service website.

## Corporate Considerations

<b>Resource Implications</b> (identify any financial, legal, property or human resources issues)	The whole document includes information on financial, property and human resource issues and changes which are necessary to support the implementation of Fire Authority objectives.
<b>Strategic Policy Links</b> (identify how proposals link in with current priorities and policy framework and if they do not, identify any potential implications).	The whole document highlights key achievements and performance in delivering the 'Saving More Lives' vision and strategy in 2017-18, and it highlights proposed actions in 2018-19 as part of the delivery of the CRMP 2014-2020.
<b>Risk Management / Health &amp; Safety</b> (identify any risks, the proposed control measures and risk evaluation scores).	The document provides an overview of activities and proposed actions. The details for each activity and proposed action include any risk implications.
<b>Consultation</b> (identify any public or other consultation that has been carried out on this matter)	Senior Management Board consultation.
<b>Equalities</b> (has an Equalities Impact Assessment been completed? If not, why not?)	Business Impact Assessment completed for the Annual Report process. Equality and diversity will be considered by each project or activity manager. Equality is a key commitment of the Service's People Strategy.

## Supporting Information

Appendix 1 – Fire Authority Annual Report 2018-19

### Contact Officer

Jean Cole, Head of Corporate Services  
(01905 368329)  
Email: jcole@hwfire.org.uk