Report of the Assistant Chief Officer: Prevention

Annual Service Review 2022-23

Purpose of report

1. This report seeks approval for the draft Annual Service Review 2022-23.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Fire Authority considers the draft Annual Service Review 2022-23 and approves it for publication on the Service website.

Introduction and Background

- 2. The Service produces a Fire Authority Annual Service Review and Annual Service Plan as part of its corporate planning process. The Annual Service Review provides a review of the previous year's activity and performance, and an overview of the Service organisation and budget. The Annual Service Plan is a look ahead to activities planned for the coming year: the Plan is reported elsewhere on the agenda.
- 3. The two report format was introduced in 2021-22 as a replacement to the Fire Authority Annual Report, reflecting a change to a more accessible, visual and engaging style suited to an increasingly online audience.

The Annual Service Review 2022-23

- 4. The Annual Service Review provides information on the Service's main activities throughout the year. In addition to a wealth of information about the Service's frontline activities and incident statistics, the report has a focus on some of the highlights of work behind the scenes. The Service attended 8,132 incidents during 2022-23, an increase of 9 per cent on the previous year. This was largely accounted for by a 22 per cent rise in the number of Fire incidents attended, particularly Outdoor Fires, which increased by 38 per cent largely due to the hot, dry summer of 2022.
- 5. The Review also includes articles on the Leadership work we have been investing in, how we have focussed on Driving Operational Excellence and how this has translated to providing an effective emergency response to our communities. It also includes a look at our achievements in developing our Protection and Prevention services, along with progress made in supporting our workforce and driving efficiency. The Review has also been expanded to highlight progress made in delivering the service objectives set out in the 2022-23 Annual Service Plan.

6. The draft Review is included as Appendix 1.

Conclusion/Summary

- 7. This report presents the Annual Service Review 2022-23, which is a look back at the range of work undertaken over the last year, including headline activities and incident statistics.
- 8. Subject to Fire Authority approval, the finalised report will be published on the Service website.

Corporate Considerations

The Annual Service Review provides
information on resources necessary to support the implementation of Fire Authority objectives and priorities.
The Review highlights key achievements and performance in delivering the Service's core purpose during 2022-23. The Review also highlights the Service's alignment to the Core Code of Ethics.
The Review reports on activity from the previous year.
Strategic Leadership Board consultation.
When preparing projects or other activities, departments are required to consider proposed actions against the Service's equality objectives as set out in the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Plan 2020-25.
No personal data is processed in the Review.

Supporting Information

Appendix 1 – Annual Service Review 2022-23 – separate enclosure