

Report of Assistant Director of Prevention

Community Risk Management Plan – Area-Wide Risk Review

Purpose of report

1. To provide an update on the Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP) and seek approval from the Fire Authority on the proposed methodology for undertaking a Risk Review Project.
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Recommendation

It is recommended that a detailed risk assessment of each of the 4,199 1km grid squares across the Authority's area be undertaken to help inform the future review of the CRMP.

Introduction and Background

2. Since the Authority published its CRMP 2021-25, the CRMP has been subject to a number of developments, with learning and improvement identified. These processes include a review of the three Core Strategies, the HMICFRS Inspection in 2021 and the publication of a CRMP Fire Standard.
3. In the last HMICFRS Inspection Report (2021/22) it was identified that HWFRS did not provide a clear rationale for how we allocate our Prevention, Protection and Response resources against risk.
4. We have completed a gap analysis against the CRMP Fire Standard that has been published which identified additional areas of improvement when preparing for the next CRMP.
5. To support delivery of the CRMP three core strategies were created and promoted across the Service in July 2021. These have now been reviewed and refreshed and are available on the Service [website](#).
6. Work is now underway to plan for the next CRMP (2025-2030). There is a desire to use the learning identified from the CRMP Fire Standard and by HMICFRS.
7. To ensure the Service better understands risk across the two counties, it is proposed that a Risk Review Project is undertaken that will provide a detailed risk analysis of Herefordshire and Worcestershire in relation to FRS activities.
8. The Project aims will be to risk assess all 4,199 1km grid squares across the two counties. Using historical incident data, Prevention and Protection activity

and other data sources such as household classification datasets, a picture of risk will be built up for each grid square.

9. Following completion of this Project, the Service will have a more detailed database of risk assessed information that can be regularly reviewed, and can form the basis from which to prepare for the next Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP).
10. The Authority will then have a clear understanding of the risk our communities face, what our mitigating actions need to be to reduce that risk and create a strategic plan to achieve those actions providing a better service to our local communities.
11. This project will meet the CRMP Fire Standard, use standardised terminology and follow the risk assessment process that has been developed by the National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) Community Risk Programme.
12. The projected completion for the Risk Review Project is 12 months so that a detailed understanding of strategic risk will be available to inform the next CRMP planning phase which is due to commence in Quarters 3 and 4 of 2023.

Benefits

13. The outcome of this will provide the Authority with a more detailed set of information that will assist in making strategic resource decisions about where our high, medium and low risk areas are. This information will be used to inform the next CRMP, future Core Strategies and the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP).
14. The project will also produce a visual representation of the data through our existing mapping software so that we can easily understand the risk within our communities and use this information to inform decision making and target prevention and protection work.

Resources

15. To complete this work, a project team will be established so that it will be completed within the proposed timescales, in preparation for work to start on the next CRMP. The Service already has access to suitable software for the database and mapping requirements.

Conclusion/Summary

16. It is important that the Service uses all the available tools to reasonably understand and quantify the risks in our communities. This risk assessment methodology provides the basis to inform decisions made about the deployment of resources in the next CRMP, achieving one of the Areas for Improvement in the last HMICFRS Inspection Report.

Corporate Considerations

Resource Implications (identify any financial, legal, property or human resources issues)	The Service already has the software to complete the task so no additional resources will be required to provide a suitable system.
Strategic Policy Links (identify how proposals link in with current priorities and policy framework and if they do not, identify any potential implications).	Completion of this project will achieve one of the Areas for Improvement from the last HMICFRS inspection report and will address the need to have a detailed understanding of risk to inform the next CRMP, MTFP and Core Strategies.
Risk Management / Health & Safety (identify any risks, the proposed control measures and risk evaluation scores).	None as this is a proposal for to endorse a methodology.
Consultation (identify any public or other consultation that has been carried out on this matter)	Endorsed by Strategic Leadership Board
Equalities (has an Equalities Impact Assessment been completed? If not, why not?)	No, this is a proposal to endorse a methodology for risk assessment. This will be completed as part of the Project Initiation Document
Data Protection Impact Assessment (where personal data is processed a DPIA must be completed to ensure compliant handling)	This will be completed as part of the Project Initiation Document.

Supporting Information

None