

Report of the Head of Corporate Services

Community Risk Management Plan 2021-25 – Proposed Amendments to Text following Consultation

Purpose of report

1. To gain consent from the Authority to make a number of minor textual amendments to the draft Community Risk Management Plan 2021-25 (the CRMP) and to finalise the document for publication, following a review of consultation feedback and subsequent decision not to make any substantive changes to the nature or detail of the document.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Members approve the proposed amendments to the draft CRMP document, as set out in Paragraphs 3 and 4 below, and authorise the publication of the finalised CRMP.

Introduction and Background

2. On 16 December 2020, Members received a report of public consultation feedback on the draft CRMP 2021-25. Members were also informed that the document would be finalised in the light of the feedback, with proposed amendments noted for approval prior to publication. The following section lists the proposed amendments.

Proposed Amendments

3. For ease of presentation, proposed amendments are listed in separate boxes. Page numbers refer to the amended document attached at Appendix 1. Revised and additional text below is noted in red.

Page 3 – Foreword

Change: Update to reflect Brexit deal.

Delete original sentence: This planning may still need to be revisited in 2020, if Brexit happens with or without a deal.

Replace with: This planning may still need to be revisited **post-Brexit**.

Page 3 – Foreword – footnote 1

Change: Factual correction

Delete original sentence: The 31 fire engines are on-call 24/7 and the other 10 are on-call at night.

Replace with: The 31 fire engines are on-call 24/7, with a further 5 fire engines being staffed in a similar way at night.

Page 7 – Introduction

Change: Update on PCC business case

Delete original sentence: However, the Government's approval of this plan, which was given in 2019, is currently subject to a legal challenge by the two fire authorities.

Replace with: While the Government approved the plan, it was subject to a legal challenge by the two fire authorities. A judicial review hearing was held in June 2019 and it upheld the Home Secretary's decision. Over the following months, in the light of changing circumstances, the legal proceedings have concluded. As a result, the Home Office announced that it would not consider any business case until after the PCC elections in 2021.

Page 10 – About Us, Hereford & Worcester Fire Authority

Change: Update on PCC business case

Delete original sentence: This has been approved by government, but following a judicial review of that decision, both Hereford & Worcester and Shropshire & Wrekin Fire Authorities have lodged a legal challenge.

Replace with: While the Government has said it would not consider any business case until after the PCC elections in 2021, if it subsequently approves a change of governance, appropriate changes to the constitution and scrutiny arrangements of the Service will be required at the appropriate time.

Page 27 – Environment (Natural, Built and Historic) and Climate Change Impacts

Change: Revision to text for clarity

Delete original sentence: Tackling these fires can take considerable resources and time, and can have a considerable effect on firefighters.

Replace with: Tackling these fires can take considerable resources and time, and can have a **fatiguing impact** on firefighters.

Page 34 – Prevention, What we will do to achieve our aims

Change: Additional emphasis on analysing risk

Revise bullet point: improve our understanding **and analysis** of risk to improve our ability to target people and areas most vulnerable to fire and other emergencies

Page 35 – Prevention, Our aims

Change: Revision to text for clarity

Revise bullet point: **assist partners to** reduce the risks associated with our roads to ensure fewer people are killed or injured in road traffic collisions

Page 37 – Protection, What we will do to achieve our aims

Change: Revision to text to include reference to Representative Bodies as key stakeholders

Revise bullet point: continue to work with local and national partners, including the National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) **and Representative Bodies**, to address the key findings and recommendations of the Grenfell Tower Inquiry, including adapting processes and procedures in line with new guidance and legislation

Page 39– Response, Our aims

Change: Revision to text to include reference to equipment and training requirements arising from the outcomes of the Grenfell Tower Inquiry

Revise bullet point: ensure firefighters are well trained, well equipped and well led, **including in the light of the outcomes of the Grenfell Tower Inquiry**

Page 43 – Delivering Value for Money

Change: Revision to include a paragraph on the Fire Alliance and wider collaboration with partners to help deliver value for money.

New paragraph: **As noted in the Introduction, we are working with Shropshire FRS in a new Fire Alliance to give us more collective capacity and resilience. Our work in the Alliance also aims to deliver greater value for money, for example through joint procurement and alignment of processes. Where appropriate, we will also seek further collaborative opportunities with other emergency services and local partners to help to achieve more value for money.**

Page 48 – Measuring and Demonstrating Impact, Monitoring and Evaluation

Change: Revision to include reference to lives saved and economic benefit

Revision to sentence: The overall impact of the activity will be an assessment of how it has made a positive difference over the long term, **including in relation to lives saved and economic benefit.**

4. Further minor amendments not detailed in this report include the removal of the consultation references and text relating to the draft aspect of the CRMP document. There were also a number of specific comments and observations, which are more appropriate to be considered by Service departments rather than the CRMP. These will be referred directly to the relevant departments.

Conclusion/Summary

5. This report outlines the main text amendments to the CRMP 2021-25 following public consultation feedback. Members are requested to approve the amendments and authorise the CRMP document to be finalised and formatted for publication on 1 April 2021.

Corporate Considerations

Resource Implications (identify any financial, legal, property or human resources issues)	Sustainable funding will be required in order to maintain the delivery of high quality services over the four-year term of the CRMP. Over this period, there may be public sector funding pressures that could impact on the delivery levels of services.
Strategic Policy Links (identify how proposals link in with current priorities and policy framework and if they do not, identify any potential implications).	The CRMP represents the Authority's overall strategic plan for delivering priorities and policies between 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2025, and will guide all Service functions.
Risk Management / Health & Safety (identify any risks, the proposed control measures and risk evaluation scores).	The CRMP sets out the Authority's overall approach to risk management. Proposed activities to manage risks identified in the CRMP will be assessed and managed through normal departmental planning processes.

<p>Consultation (identify any public or other consultation that has been carried out on this matter)</p>	<p>Preparation of the draft CRMP involved joint workshops with colleagues at Shropshire FRS to ensure a common approach to risk identification and management. An extensive programme of local risk workshops was also conducted with staff in all Service departments prior to publishing the draft CRMP for public consultation. Full public consultation was carried out between 6 July 2020 and 25 September 2020.</p>
<p>Equalities (has an Equalities Impact Assessment been completed? If not, why not?)</p>	<p>An Equality Impact Assessment was presented to the Fire Authority at their meeting on 16 December 2020.</p>

Supporting Information

Appendix 1 – Community Risk Management Plan 2021-2025 – post consultation
(separate enclosure)