

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**CABINET****DATE: 13 DECEMBER 2016****REPORT OF: MR RICHARD WALSH, CABINET MEMBER FOR LOCALITIES AND COMMUNITY WELLBEING****LEAD OFFICER: TREVOR PUGH, STRATEGIC DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE****SUBJECT: PUBLIC SAFETY PLAN 2016-2025****SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

Surrey Fire and Rescue Authority is required to produce an Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) which considers all the fire and rescue related risks that could affect our communities. This planning process helps us to identify longer term priorities, to make sure we have an up to date assessment of risk, and how to mitigate it effectively.

We set out our IRMP in our Public Safety Plan (PSP), which is currently valid until 2020. However within a constantly changing environment, new threats and opportunities have emerged. This new document provides a framework for how we will respond and adapt to these changes.

The PSP refresh document covers the period 2016-2025. The PSP was consulted on from 27 April – 7 June 2016 and the feedback was supportive of our proposals. The survey data and qualitative comments are found at Annexes D and E to this report.

The refreshed PSP 2016 – 2025 will remain as a 'draft' until final approval by Cabinet.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that Cabinet, as the Fire and Rescue Authority, approves the Public Safety Plan, setting a framework for 2016 – 2025, for publication.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION:

In acknowledging the public consultation feedback and finalised version of the Public Safety Plan, the Fire and Rescue Authority gives confirmation to the direction of Surrey Fire and Rescue Service and endorses its plans.

DETAILS:

Public Safety Plan

1. This refreshed PSP is our key planning document that describes how we will play our part in keeping Surrey residents, and those that work in or travel through the county, safe over the coming years. It outlines our understanding of the risks and challenges facing the county and how we will maintain, adapt and enhance our service accordingly.
2. The proposals in the plan are:
 - I. Undertaking an options appraisal on working more closely with other Fire and Rescue Services, and with Police and Ambulance Services, behaving as one, whilst maintaining our front-line provision.
 - II. Anticipating changes to the demographic profile across Surrey to identify and target residents and businesses most at risk of fire in our communities by using a broad range of data, including information shared with us by other agencies, to assist us with this work.
 - III. Increasing integration and meaningful collaboration with other emergency services to assist them to respond to an increasing demand for services, where we can improve community safety and add public value.
 - IV. Continuing to review mobilising arrangements with our emergency service partners (other Fire and Rescue Services, Police and Ambulance) to develop a next generation 999 call system to improve how we communicate, share information and respond to incidents to enhance public value.
 - V. Reviewing our training requirements and introducing more realistic training to offset the reduction in real-world experience created by a fall in demand for our traditional services.
 - VI. Examining our communities to see where we can better meet community needs.
 - VII. Exploring all options to maximise income and avoid, reduce or recover costs to enable us to invest in our workforce, facilities and community.
 - VIII. Review our Surrey Response Standard.
 - IX. Review the way we call handle and respond to Automatic Fire Alarms.
3. Greater collaboration is a key theme of our proposals. Surrey residents are already experiencing the benefits of our closer collaboration with Police and Ambulance services. Surrey firefighters provide assistance to other emergency services with defibrillator usage, missing person location, assisted entry and, if we are first to attend an incident, immediate emergency medical care. These are examples of how we can offer a safer, more coordinated community response, which focuses on the needs of residents and the changing nature of emergencies.
4. In addition, we believe that further meaningful collaboration with our emergency service partners offers greater benefits to our communities, because we can look to create efficiencies by eliminating duplication across services, which we cannot do if reviewing our own service in isolation.

5. The Public Safety Plan is a framework and will be underpinned by delivery plans setting out our objectives for the coming 2 years. These up to date plans will contain detailed information on our proposals for change and will be approved by Surrey County Council's Cabinet as the Fire and Rescue Authority.

CONSULTATION:

Public consultation

6. In summary, the feedback of the consultation has been positive. Annex D shows the data captured from each of the questions in our questionnaire. All written feedback was analysed in terms of making any amendments to the PSP document, at Annex A. The analysis is found in the consultation report at Annex B.
7. The refreshed PSP should be read alongside the draft Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) at Annex C which has been reviewed following the consultation period.

Fire Brigades Union

8. Throughout the development of the PSP, Surrey Fire and Rescue Service has worked closely with the Fire Brigades Union. It is important that they have the opportunity to comment on our proposals and our vision for the service. As part of this co-designing process, the Fire Brigades Union has authored Chapter Three of the PSP. In addition, representatives have met with Elected Members, and they are represented on the PSP Steering Group.

Staff engagement

9. It is important that our staff are fully aware of the plans we are proposing and we have engaged in a number of ways with them ahead of and during the consultation period. We have issued a joint communication with the Fire Brigades Union to highlight the key issues in the draft PSP, briefed leaders in the organisation to enable them to answer questions from staff and engaged with staff on Yammer. Group Commanders and Assistant Group Commanders have received briefings, as has the Staff Council.

Member Reference Group

10. A subgroup of the Resident Experience Board have met together as a cross-party Member Reference Group. This Group was set up to act as a sounding board and provide a Member steer as the project progresses and the refreshed PSP is developed. It has also questioned and challenged officers about the changes being considered and assisted in ensuring that the refresh is as comprehensive as possible. The Member Reference Group has met roughly once a month since its first meeting on 29 April 2014. Surrey Fire and Rescue Service and Democratic Services work together to facilitate the meetings.

RISK MANAGEMENT AND IMPLICATIONS:

11. The draft PSP provides mitigation against risks. We publish a Community Risk Profile for the county to provide a picture of the changing landscape of community risk in Surrey, highlighting areas of concern, identifying plans for reducing risk and exploring the impact of geography, demographics and lifestyle on community risk.

12. Community risk represents the likelihood of an emergency incident occurring in a given location and its expected impact on the community. Intelligence and an assessment of what, where and when emergencies may occur feeds into our risk modelling and helps us understand how our efforts can impact on the risks we identify. This provides an advantage when planning to protect the community and generates knowledge to inform critical decision making.

FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

13. Surrey Fire and Rescue Service achieved efficiency savings of £4.8m between 2010/11 and 2015/16. There are a further £5.9m of required savings for the service to achieve in the 2016/21 Medium Term Financial Plan.
14. The plan focuses on providing an efficient and effective service, matching resources to risk and predicted demand. By collaborating with other emergency service partners and other relevant agencies, we will be able to provide a more efficient and effective service without having to reduce frontline service delivery.

SECTION 151 OFFICER COMMENTARY

15. The PSP considers the period to 2025, a period in which the financial climate and risks will change, and therefore the plan needs to be flexible enough to ensure that the service can adapt as required.
16. The plan describes the framework the service will work within to meet future savings requirements, whilst still delivering an effective Fire and Rescue service. There is a particular emphasis on collaboration with other blue light services in order to achieve this.

Legal Implications – Monitoring Officer

17. The development of the PSP and subsequent consultation meets the requirement in the Fire and Rescue Service National Framework and associated guidance for the authority to produce an Integrated Risk Management Plan. As a fire and rescue authority, Surrey County Council has a statutory duty to have regard to this Framework in carrying out its functions.
18. The PSP describes how the authority will discharge its functions under the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004, and its role as a Category 1 responder under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004.
19. The PSP must reflect effective consultation. The results of this consultation have been taken into consideration, and the PSP has been revised as necessary. If any changes in service delivery are necessary to implement the PSP, then a further specific consultation will be carried out.

Equalities and Diversity

20. In considering the PSP, members must have due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity for people with protected characteristics, foster good relations between such groups, and eliminate any unlawful discrimination. These matters are dealt with in the equalities paragraphs of the report and in the attached equalities impact assessment. The assessment attached is based on the proposals being consulted on, and may need to be revised if there are any amendments to the PSP as a result of the consultation. If any changes in

service delivery are necessary to implement the PSP, a further, specific equalities impact assessment will be carried out.

21. Valuing and promoting equality and diversity are central to the work of the Surrey Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS). The ability to protect the public through fire safety advice, fire prevention, fire protection and emergency response depends on understanding the differing needs of the diverse communities and responding appropriately to those needs.
22. The refreshed PSP has no negative impact on service delivery compared to the current level of service received by any particular protected group. All future proposed policy changes will require separate EIAs looking into the potential impacts on service delivery and any consultation and engagement activities will enable us to inform and further develop these EIAs.
23. The draft Equality Impact Assessment can be viewed by following the link under Consultation Documents towards the end of this document.

Other Implications:

24. The potential implications for the following council priorities and policy areas have been considered. Where the impact is potentially significant a summary of the issues is set out in detail below.

Area assessed:	Direct Implications:
Corporate Parenting/Looked After Children	No significant implications arising from this report
Safeguarding responsibilities for vulnerable children and adults	Surrey experiences relatively low numbers of fatalities and injuries from fires. Our challenge is to continue to reduce these small numbers and this means the accurate targeting of those who are most vulnerable. We must also maintain our contribution to the reduction of casualties associated with road traffic collisions and will continue to focus on young drivers. We recognise that we also have an important part to play in improving the life chances for young people, so we deliver a number of other effective prevention activities.
Public Health	Increase integration and meaningful collaboration with other emergency services to assist them to respond to an increasing demand for services, where we can improve community safety and public health, and add value. We continue to educate the public through community safety campaigns and the Safe and Well Visit. Our Safe and Well Visit is designed to cover fire safety, road safety, environment safety and by using the One Stop Surrey referral process, cover a range of health and social issues that support independent living. We also supply a range of equipment, like smoke alarms, hard of hearing alarms, fire retardant bedding and advise on

	TeleCare alarms and sprinklers. We are continuing to work with the Surrey Health and Wellbeing Board members, such as Adult Social Care, the NHS, public health and Age UK Surrey, to develop the content of our Safe and Well Visits to reduce risk to the elderly.
Climate change	The Civil Contingencies Act 2004 places a legal duty on all emergency services to carry out risk assessments in their area. Significant risks are recorded on the Surrey Community Risk Register. We have to assess the risk of major emergency incidents such as flooding, derailments, major spillages, fires, chemical incidents, civil unrest, terrorist attacks and flu pandemics.
Carbon emissions	No significant implications arising from this report.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

25. Subject to approval of the recommendations by Cabinet, Surrey Fire and Rescue Service will put into place the actions arising from the PSP proposals and continue to engage with scrutiny and decision makers on the direction it is taking.
26. As referenced above, the service will produce a delivery plan setting out objectives over a 2 year period to support work required under the Public Safety Plan framework. The first delivery plan will be presented early in the next financial year 2017/18.

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Consulted:

Surrey public, district and borough councils in Surrey, Surrey County Council Members, PSP 2025 Member Reference Group, Resident Experience Board, Cabinet Member and Cabinet Associate, Strategic Director Environment and Infrastructure, Legal Services, Finance, Surrey Fire Brigades Union, PSP Steering Board.

Annexes:

- A: [Draft Public Safety Plan 2016-2025](#)
- B: Consultation Report
- C: Draft Equalities Impact Assessment
- D: Survey results – quantitative
- E: Survey results – qualitative comments

Sources/background papers:

[Fire and Rescue National Framework for England](#)

[Public Safety Plan 2011-2020](#)
[Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004](#)
[Fire and Rescue Policy move to Home Office](#)
[Enabling Closer Working Between The Emergency Services](#)
[Public Service Transformation Network](#)
[Civil Contingencies Act 2004](#)
[Community Risk Profile](#)
[Policing and Crime Bill 2015-16](#)
[Medium Term Financial Plan](#)
[Resident Experience Board](#)

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