

Communities, Environment and Highways Select Committee

Item under consideration: Surrey Fire and Rescue Service Transformation

Date Considered: 19 September 2019

The Committee agreed:

That Cabinet approve the 'Making Surrey Safer – Our Plan' 2020-23 subject to the following recommendations of the Fire Transformation Working Group:

- i. By 1 April 2020, the Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Fire and Resilience to ensure that the new proposed crew and vehicle placement model as detailed within the 'Making Surrey Safer-Our Community Safety Plan' is resourced at full establishment firefighter (including on-call) staffing levels and for staffing levels to be closely monitored by the service to ensure these do not fall below establishment levels.
- ii. Emergency response times are closely monitored and scrutinised by the Communities, Environment and Highways Select Committee on a quarterly basis to ensure that response times which do not meet current and future Surrey response standards can be addressed by further appropriate scrutiny.
- iii. If the 'Making Surrey Safer-Our Community Safety Plan' is approved by Cabinet, that Senior Managers continue to engage with staff to discuss the impact of the changes on working patterns and give staff the opportunity to comment and shape the design of the service.
- iv. The service must aim to recover costs from incidents which do not fall within the services statutory obligations. By 1 April 2020, a detailed schedule of charging for incident attendances is drafted to recover costs from incidents which do not meet the services statutory obligations especially in cases of persistent false fire alarms.
- v. The Surrey Fire and Rescue Service statement of assurance is scrutinised by the Communities, Environment and Highways Select Committee in 2020 so the Committee can be confident that the service has the appropriate arrangements in place to deliver services safely and effectively.
- vi. All future public consultations and any associated documents are made accessible in a variety of formats to a wide range of people with differing needs including those with mental health support needs, learning difficulties and physical, sensory or cognitive impairments. It is recommended that the council works closely with organisations and groups that represent disabled people to pilot the accessibility of documents before any future public consultations are launched.

Cllr Saj Hussain, Vice Chairman of the Communities, Environment and Highways Select Committee and Chairman of the Fire Transformation Working Group

Cllr John O'Reilly, Chairman of the Communities, Environment and Highways Select Committee

The Cabinet thanks the Chairman and the Communities Highways and Environment Select Committee for this thorough and detailed report. The Cabinet are in agreement with the recommendations subject to the following:

Recommendation a. states that the 'new proposed crew and vehicle placement model as detailed within the 'Making Surrey Safer - Our Community Plan' is resourced at full establishment firefighter (including on-call) staffing levels and for staffing levels to be closely monitored.'

The Cabinet's expectation is that the Service will recruit to full establishment by April 2020 but that is subject to workforce planning.

Close monitoring of staffing levels alongside robust workforce planning will ensure that this is addressed.

**Reply from Ms Denise Turner-Stewart,
Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Fire & Resilience
24 September 2019**
