

WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

SCRUTINY REPORT

4 SEPTEMBER 2017

1. UPDATE ON PROGRESS OF OUTCOMES FROM THE DATA SHARING REVIEW

Report of the Chief Fire Officer.

RECOMMENDED

THAT members note the direction of travel in implementing the recommendations made following the review of data sharing.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report is submitted to update members on the actions to date to meet the outcomes of the Scrutiny Committee report on the review of data sharing. The full report was submitted to the Executive Committee on 12 June 2017.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 The review made recommendations in 5 strategic areas:-

- governance
- evaluation of data shared
- assurance that data is being managed as required by the 'Data Protection Act' and the 'Management of Information Policy'
- to review and simplify the data sharing agreements
- to determine the current ICT systems and arrangements to enable the appropriate sharing of data

3.2 The ACFO Service Delivery and the Strategic Enabler for Information, Communication and Technology have absorbed the findings of the review and established an understanding of possible improvements and a plan of action in meeting the

strategic recommendations.

3.3 The main actions to date are as follows:-

- establish an implementation team
- an audit to be carried out to determine the data being shared (to be undertaken by the Service's Data Management team)
- the launch of the 'Management of Information' standing order
- training videos produced and released to upskill employees on the 'Management of Information'
- an agreement made of where the responsibility for the governance of data sharing sits within the organisation
- the template for data sharing agreements has been updated and gone live across the organisation

3.4 In addressing the recommendations within the scrutiny report, consideration should be given to the key stakeholders of data sharing, these are members of the Community Safety team and the Data Management team. Additional key stakeholders are staff in Commands and Partners.

3.5 In carrying out the audit to determine the amount, type and purpose of the data that is being shared internally and externally, and in addition review the data sharing agreements that are currently in place.

3.6 The 'Summary of Proposals' is reviewed and updated on a regular basis and is attached as Appendix 1.

4. **EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

In preparing this report an initial Equality Impact Assessment is not required and has not been carried out. The matters contained in this report do not relate to a policy change.

5. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

The organisation needs to adhere to 'The Data Protection Act 1998' which defines the way in which information about living people may be legally used and handled. The main intent of the act is to protect individuals against misuse or abuse of

information about them.

6. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

7. **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Scrutiny Committee, Scoping Document, Scrutiny of Data Sharing
Scrutiny Committee, Agenda Item 4, 15 February 2016
Scrutiny Committee, Agenda Item 6, 5 September 2016
Scrutiny Committee, Agenda Item 4, 10 October 2016
Scrutiny Committee, Agenda Item 4, 27 March 2017
Executive Committee, Agenda Item 4, 12 June 2017

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