

WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY
COLLABORATION AND TRANSFORMATION COMMITTEE

12 DECEMBER 2022

1. COLLABORATION AND TRANSFORMATION COMMITTEE
CRMP UPDATE

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

RECOMMENDED

- 1.1 THAT the detail of this report is noted.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 To update the Collaboration and Transformation Committee on relevant updates in relation to the relevant Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP) projects.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The National Framework for Fire and Rescue Services (FRS) in England 2018 sets the requirement for the development and implementation of a Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP) which identifies and assesses risk within the FRS area. This report will provide an update on the relevant CRMP projects.

3.2 Risk Based Crewing

- 3.2.1 Following a review of our CRMP and public consultation undertaken throughout 2020 the Fire Authority approved the development of a number of CRMP proposals in February 2021. One of these proposals was Risk Based Crewing (RBC), which involves a flexible staffing approach, enabling a number of different people to be mobilised on a number of resources, to enable a more proportionate response to risk. RBC aims to empower Fire Control and operational officers to make risk-based decisions regarding the right level of resources to mobilise based on

knowledge, experience and professional judgement which builds on the successful dynamic mobilising principles.

- 3.2.2 Risk Based Crewing has been rolled out across all 11 core BRV stations and has transitioned into business as usual, supporting a more proportionate response to incidents. Evaluation of the project has seen a 60% increase in BRV availability. A BRV has been mobilised with two personnel 32% of times and 84% of all secondary incidents have been attended by a BRV enabling a more proportionate response to low-risk incidents, aligned to risk.
- 3.2.3 During the extreme heat experienced this summer, RBC enabled us to flexibly use our resources and effectively manage the significant increase in demand and spate conditions. As an example, during a peak period of spate conditions, the Dynamic Cover Tool which displays live resources across the West Midlands, showed 13 PRL and four BRV available due to all other resources being committed at incidents. If we consider how this may have looked pre-RBC, it is likely there would have been an additional six BRV pre-stated off the run as part of our flexible resource planning. This therefore demonstrates the value RBC is adding through increased fleet availability as well as more proportionate resource to risk mobilisation.
- 3.2.4 There is ongoing consideration and engagement with further locations regarding the RBC concept. There will be continued monitoring and evaluation of the RBC project to understand where future transformation and benefit may be realised.

3.3 **Prevent Duty**

- 3.3.1 The Prevent strategy was first published by the Government in 2011 and is part of the overall counter-terrorism strategy. The prevent strategy aims to reduce the threat to the UK from terrorism, by stopping people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorists. As part of the West Midlands Fire Service (WMFS) CRMP Emerging Risks project, a focus area includes the Prevent Strategy which involves upskilling WMFS staff to identify radicalisation of vulnerable people in our community and how to signpost.

- 3.3.2 Prevent work depends on effective partnership. To demonstrate effective compliance with the duty, specified authorities must demonstrate evidence of productive co-operation, in particular with local Prevent co-ordinators, the police and local authorities, and co-ordination through existing multi-agency forums, for example Community Safety Partnerships.
- 3.3.3 West Midlands Police Counter Terrorism Unit (WMP CTU) and the West Midlands Fire Service (WMFS) Prevent representative have been developing training sessions for WMFS staff that will enable uniformed and non-uniformed staff to recognise and refer concerns related to extremism - under the remit of safeguarding.
- 3.3.4 This training will be localised in order to highlight current trends and ensure the training is relevant and appropriate for all staff. The training will take place via Teams and is scheduled between January to February 2023.
- 3.3.5 Alongside West Midlands Police, WMFS also attend the local Prevent Delivery Group and Prevent Regional meetings to promote our training proposal, seek best practice and to work with local authorities around the Prevent theme.

4. **EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

In preparing this report, an Equality Impact Assessment is not required and has not been carried out. The updates contained within this report will not lead to policy change but will provide an update on relevant CRMP projects.

5. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

As set out in section 3.1, The National Framework for Fire and Rescue Services (FRS) in England 2018, sets the requirement for the development and implementation of a Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP). The government has a duty under the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 to produce the framework and keep it current. Fire and rescue authorities must have regard to the framework in carrying out their duties.

6. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Risk Based Crewing is anticipated to achieve annual savings of approximately £2.2 million, which contributes towards the agreed £3.8 million of in-year budget savings, previously managed through the flexible fleet management approach through the Chief Fire Officer pre-stating appliances off the run.

7. **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

In preparing this report, an Environmental Impact Assessment is not required and has not been carried out.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- [Fire and Rescue National Framework for England \(2018\)](#)
- [Fire Authority Report, February 2021](#)
- [Revised Prevent duty guidance: for England and Wales](#)

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