

WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

19 FEBRUARY 2018

1. **THE PLAN 2018 - 2021**

Report of the Chief Fire Officer.

RECOMMENDED

THAT the Authority approve the amendments to the Outcomes in The Plan for 2018 - 2021 as set out in Appendix 1.

2. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report is submitted to set out the revised Outcomes, which support the Vision statement and Priorities of The Plan for 2018-2021, which derive from our Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP). They are designed to enable West Midlands Fire Service to be sufficiently responsive to react to the increasingly changing environment of the public sector.

3. **BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 In accordance with its strategic planning framework, the Service has reviewed its rolling three-year corporate strategy – The Plan. As part of this approach the Service has reviewed its Vision Statement, Annual Priorities and Outcomes which are enablers to achieving our vision of Making West Midlands Safer, Stronger and Healthier. Our Community Safety Strategy sets out in detail the risk based analysis that has informed the recommendation above. Following a review of the risk analysis, there has not been any significant change to risk in the West Midlands and as such our priorities and outcomes remain appropriate to achieve our vision, as does the Service Delivery Model that is currently in place.

- 3.2 The Vision statement and the Priorities continue to appropriately reflect our ongoing ambition to support wider improved outcomes in other areas, in particular health and well-being, in addition to providing clarity to employees, partners and the community alike, as to the core services that we deliver to our communities. As part of the review of The Plan, the Outcomes have been refreshed and refined, reflecting the continued evolution of the Priorities. These are shown in Appendix 1 (those approved for 2017 – 20 are shown at Appendix 2).
- 3.3 The Vision statement remains “*Making the West Midlands Safer, Stronger and Healthier*”, which reflects how our prevention and protection agenda has and is continuing to widen through the services we provide and the influence we have, as part of our approach to an integrated Service Delivery Model. It also continues to provide clarity as we progress relationship alignment to the devolved West Midlands Combined Authority; and to continue to support through effective partnerships and our commissioning model, wider and improved health and well-being outcomes for our community.
- 3.4 The Service remains committed to its Priority statements that focus on our core services and their delivery through the Service Delivery Model - Prevention, Protection and Response, along with its commitment to ‘Effective delivery through collaboration’, (the section introduced in the 2016 refresh of The Plan), which includes outcome statements on Value for Money, People, and ICT.
- 3.5 The Outcome statements aligned to these priorities have been refreshed and refined to ensure they are reflective of the direction of the Service over the rolling three years. Key considerations in their refresh have focused on:
- Operational excellence leading to assertive, effective and safe response
 - Health, social care as a key connector to vulnerability and fire risk
 - Ensuring public safety focusing on the outcomes of Grenfell
 - Improving resilience within communities
 - Increasing partnerships and collaboration in delivery of public safety

They provide clarity in what the Service is seeking to achieve, with an increased focus on the collaborative delivery of services, maximising outcomes for our communities and in particular, vulnerability.

3.6 The recommendation in this report have considered the following factors:

- Risk analysis
- The budget 2018-19
- The external environment (political and financial)

3.6.1 Risk analysis provides the evidence base and informs the Service as to what its priorities and outcomes should be and whether any changes are required to these or our Service Delivery Model, to enable the optimum achievement of improved outcomes for our community.

3.6.2 In determining its priorities and outcomes the Service has considered and understands the challenges presented by and the scale of continued central Government grant reductions during the period of The Plan. In December 2016, the Service received its provisional finance settlement, broadly this indicated that central funding will be reduced by £10M between 2016/17 and 2019/20. The Authority's Efficiency Plan, aligned to the proposed budget as set out in the 'Budget and Precept' Authority report, will support the delivery of the vision, priorities, and outcomes set out in The Plan.

3.6.3 The Service carried out a public consultation on its IRMP during the period 1 December 2016 to 10 January 2017. The responses to the consultation strongly support the Services approach to Prevention, Protection and Response. In particular, the consultation strongly supported the category 1, average risk based, five-minute attendance standard for incidents posing a high risk to life or property. This category 1 risk based attendance standard is currently being achieved on an average of 4.40 minutes. This has been integral in the development and refresh of The Plan 2018/2021 and the review of the Priorities and Outcomes.

Further information on the public consultation, including the outcomes, is available within the report 'Public Consultation (IRMP) Outcomes', submitted to the Authority on 20 February 2017.

- 3.6.4 The ever evolving external financial and political environment has been considered as part of the review of The Plan, reflecting the potentially significant changes locally and nationally. These include greater emphasis on collaboration, the embedding of Fire Reform programme and the development national fire policy to the Home Office. The outcomes of the revision of the National Fire and Rescue Framework for England and the first Inspection of the Service by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services.
- 3.6.5 The progression of devolution across the West Midlands, facilitated by the West Midlands Combined Authority, continues to provide progress in the Services contribution to the wider health and Public Service Reform agenda and significantly, in enabling proposed changes to the governance arrangements of the Service for 2019 onwards.
- 3.6.6 Subject to Member approval of the recommendation, Officers are currently considering the corporate performance indicators that will be put in place, to enable the effective management and performance monitoring of The Plan. The Chair of the Scrutiny Committee will meet with Officers to discuss corporate performance indicators in February 2018. A report on the proposed indicators will be presented to Executive Committee at its meeting on 26 March 2018. It is intended that The Plan 2018-2021 will go live on 3rd April 2018.
- 3.6.7 The Plan is a rolling three-year document. It is supported by a robust programme, project and performance reporting framework (3PT) that provides the intelligence for change as and when it is required. The Plan is responsive to change as and when it is required.

3.6.8 Members should be assured that should any change to The Plan be required, the Service has the intelligence systems and performance reporting framework to respond accordingly.

4. **EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

In preparing this report an initial Equality Impact Assessment is required and has been carried out. The initial Equality Impact Assessment did not raise issues which required a full Equality Impact Assessment to be completed.

5. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

The National Fire and Rescue Framework for England 2012 requires the production of an Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP). The Authority's IRMP is known as the Community Safety Strategy. The Framework is given statutory power by reference to it in the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004.

6. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct implications arising from this report. The Authority's approved budget for 2018/19 will support the delivery of the priorities, strategic objectives and outcomes.

7. **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no environmental implications as an outcome of the proposals in this report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

PPF presentation 05 February 2018 – The Plan Priorities & Outcomes

Authority report 20 February 2017: Agenda item No.7 The Plan 2017-2020

Authority Report 20 February 2017: Agenda item No. 15 Public Consultation (IRMP) Outcomes

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