

AGENDA ITEM:

REPORT TO:	MERSEYSIDE FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY BUDGET MEETING
DATE:	17TH FEBRUARY 2011
REPORT NO.	CFO/017/11
REPORTING OFFICER:	ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE & TREASURER
CONTACT OFFICER:	DEB APPLETON, DIRECTOR OF STRATEGY & MEMBER DEVELOPMENT, EXTN. 4402
OFFICERS CONSULTED:	WATCH MANAGER, JOHN KELLAWAY, IRMP OFFICER
SUBJECT:	POST CONSULTATION REPORT IRMP 2011/14 AND SERVICE PLAN EXTRACT; IRMP ACTION PLAN 2011/12

- APPENDIX (A) TITLE: Integrated Risk Management Plan 2011/14 & Service Plan Extract; Integrated Risk Management Plan Action Plan 2011/12.**
- APPENDIX (B) TITLE: ORS Report IRMP Public Consultation Forum.**
- APPENDIX (C) TITLE: List of Proposed Changes to the IRMP as a Result of Consultation.**
- APPENDIX (D) TITLE: Summary of Consultation Responses.**
- APPENDIX (E) TITLE: Details of Responses to On Line Questionnaire.**
- APPENDIX (F) TITLE: Fire Brigades Union Response to IRMP 2011/14 Consultation.**
- APPENDIX (G) TITLE: Chief Fire Officer's Commentary to the Fire Brigades Union IRMP Consultation Response.**

Members have been supplied with Appendices in CD format

***A Glossary of Terms has been listed at the end of this report for your information**

Purpose of Report

1. To report the outcomes of public consultation on the IRMP to the Authority.
To seek approval for the publication of the final post consultation version of the Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) 2011/14 and Service Plan extract ;
Integrated Risk Management Plan Action Plan 2011/12.

Recommendation

2. That the Members:
 - (a) approve for publication, the Integrated Risk Management Plan 2011/14 and associated Action Plan for 2011/12 which is to be included in the Service Plan which is to be published separately on 1st April 2011.
 - (b) approve, that responses to consultation are adequately reflected within the Integrated Risk Management Plan 2011/14 and associated Action Plan for 2011/12.

Executive Summary

Attached to this report are the statutorily required Integrated Risk Management Plan and the annual strategic action plan (Appendix A). These documents are the result of collaboration and contribution from all directorates within Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service and have been amended to reflect the outcomes of the public consultation.

The Service Plan is the single source for capturing and reporting progress of planned development activity within Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service for the coming year.

After Authority approval the Integrated Risk Management Plan actions will be added to the full Service Plan for release prior to the start of the financial year 2011/12.

Also within the Appendices is the report from the forum facilitated by Opinion Research Services (Appendix B), Summary of Proposed Changes to IRMP 2011/14 Post Consultation (Appendix C), Summary of Other responses to Consultation (Appendix D). Details of Responses to On Line Questionnaire (Appendix E). FBU Response to IRMP 2011/14 Consultation (Appendix F). CFO Commentary to FBU IRMP Consultation Response (Appendix G).

Introduction & Background

3. The Government White Paper "Our Fire & Rescue Service" published in June 2003 outlined a massive agenda for reform of the Fire Service. One of the key elements of the White Paper was the introduction of a modern approach to risk that required each Fire & Rescue Authority in the country to produce an Integrated Risk Management Plan and associated Action Plan. The primary objective for this was to make each Fire & Rescue Service more responsive to locally identified needs and better able to deliver safer communities.

4. It is a current statutory requirement of the Fire & Rescue Service National Framework 2008/11 to produce an IRMP and Action Plan. At the time of writing, no Framework document is published or being consulted upon which goes beyond 2011.
5. The consultation process was completed and is reported within the IRMP document pages 51 to 55.

Consultation

6. The public consultation ran for 12 weeks, from 26th October to 18th January 2011.
7. The Final IRMP is presented with all changes tracked so members can see in context where amendments are proposed to the Consultation draft of the document. After approval this tracking will be removed prior to publication. In addition a further Appendix (C) is available, showing a list of proposed amendments with reasons for the changes.
8. Whilst we take action to listen to and consider all of the views of the people of Merseyside, the responses to the on line consultation pilot seemed to be submitted by a small minority of staff and public who appear not to understand the complexity of the document, most crucially the relationship between preventing fires and other emergencies and the ability to respond effectively when they do occur. However those people who attended the focus group discussed the document in more detail and had a wholly different view. Only minor amendments were made to the document (Appendix E). Consideration will be given in future years to making the complex issues within the IRMP readily understandable. We also intend to review the on line pilot in light of such differing results.
9. Extensive consultation was undertaken with all representative bodies, with meetings being held, correspondence exchanged and amendments proposed to the final document. A full record of all consultation correspondence with representative bodies is available on line at:
http://www.merseyfire.gov.uk/asp/pages/consultation/mfrs_Consultations.aspx
After the consultation period concluded a final position statement was received from the FBU. That statement is attached to this report as Appendix F, The FBU response was received too late to form part of this report but the Chief Fire Officer has commented on the FBUs response and those comments are attached at Appendix G.

Equality & Diversity Implications

10. Each action in the final approved IRMP Action Plan will be subject to an individual equality impact assessment prior to commencement of any implementation.

Financial Implications & Value for Money

11. Financial implications are contained within the Action Plan and have been considered fully as part the budget setting process for 2011/2012.

Contribution to Achieving the Vision:

“To Make Merseyside a Safer, Stronger, Healthier Community”

12. The Integrated Risk Management Plan is the key document which enables Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service to manage our resources with full consideration of the impact on the risk to life for the people of Merseyside. This document details the actions we intend to take to achieve our Purpose.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

A full Bibliography is included at the back of the Integrated Risk Management Plan (Appendix A) pg 65.

***Glossary of Terms**

IRMP – Integrated Risk Management Plan