

AGENDA ITEM:

REPORT TO: Meeting of the	MERSEYSIDE FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY BUDGET AUTHORITY MEETING
DATE:	TUESDAY 26th FEBRUARY, 2013
REPORT NO.	CFO/023/13
REPORTING OFFICER:	DEPUTY CHIEF FIRE OFFICER
CONTACT OFFICER:	DIRECTOR OF STRATEGIC PLANNING, DEB APPLETON, EXT. 4402
OFFICERS CONSULTED:	IRMP OFFICER, JACKIE SUTTON, EXT. 4563
SUBJECT:	IRMP 2013/16 CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

ARE THERE ANY APPENDICES TO THIS REPORT? YES

APPENDIX	A	TITLE
		INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN 2013/16 – CONSULTATION DOCUMENT
	B + B1, B2, B3, B4, B5, B6	IRMP 2013/16 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT <u>INCLUDING</u> SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS APPENDIX B1- B6

ATTACHED

Purpose of Report

1. To request that Members consider the recommendations of this report relating to the Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) for 2013/16 (Appendix A).

Recommendation

1. That Members approve the 2013/16 IRMP for publication for a period of 12 weeks public consultation.

Executive Summary

Attached to this report is the statutorily required Integrated Risk Management Plan 2013/16. This document is the result of collaboration and contribution from all functions within Merseyside Fire & Rescue Authority.

The IRMP details the outcomes MFRA has achieved in relation to reducing risk in Merseyside and how we intend to continue progress toward our Mission; **Safer Stronger Communities - Safe Effective Firefighters**. The Government Grant cuts and other financial challenges faced by the Authority have resulted in the requirement to propose several significant changes to the way in which the Authority delivers its services. As a result, this consultation IRMP replaces the 2012/15 Plan approved in February 2012.

The Authority must also allow a period of consultation for the public to comment on the proposals contained within this document before the final version is agreed. Previously this has been a mandatory period of 12 weeks. Although that duration is no longer mandatory, it is considered that the changes proposed warrant the Authority continuing with a 12 week consultation period, particularly as the period includes several bank holidays.

Introduction & Background

1. The National Framework Document 2012 contains the legal requirement to produce an IRMP. The primary objectives for this process is to make each Fire & Rescue Authority more responsive to locally identified risk and needs and better able to deliver safer communities.
2. MFRA's IRMP is a medium term plan that evaluates progress made as a result of previous IRMPs and captures future aspirations and the strategic direction for Merseyside Fire & Rescue Authority in order to deliver its Mission; Safe, effective firefighters; safer stronger communities.
3. Members will be aware that the IRMP is usually produced for consultation in October and the final version is approved in February. This year, due to the Authority only receiving notification of grant cuts in December it was considered more appropriate for the consultation document to be approved in February as Members set the Authority's budget. The outcomes of consultation will be reported back to the Authority following the consultation period (at the Authority Meeting on 27th June). The draft IRMP for 2013/16 addresses the difficult decisions required to meet budget challenges but also builds on progress made over the last ten years and is very firmly focussed on the efficient and effective delivery of core services.

Equality & Diversity Implications

4. The proposed Integrated Risk Management Plan has undergone an assessment to establish any equality and diversity outcomes and actions. The equality impact assessment is attached Appendix B and it details the way in which the plan's objectives impact differently on the protected groups identified in the 2010 Equality Act.
5. An Equality Impact Assessment will also be completed for each of the planned actions in the plan prior to implementation.

Staff Implications

6. There are no staff implications arising directly from this report. Any staff implications resulting from proposals contained within the IRMP will be the subject of further reports.

Legal Implications

7. The National Framework Document 2012 contains the legal requirement to produce an IRMP under the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004.

Financial Implications & Value for Money

8. The proposals contained within the IRMP have been developed to assist the Authority to set a balanced budget. The specific details of the financial challenge contained within the Authority's Budget Resolution will be added to the IRMP when it has been agreed by the Authority.

Risk Management, Health & Safety, and Environmental Implications

9. Where appropriate, each action in the proposed Integrated Risk Management Plan Action Plan will be subject to an individual risk assessment prior to implementation.

Contribution to Our Mission – To Achieve; Safer Stronger Communities – Safe Effective Firefighters”

10. The Integrated Risk Management Plan is the key document which enables Merseyside Fire & Rescue Authority to manage its resources with full consideration of the impact on risk to life for the people of Merseyside. This document details the actions MFRA intends to take to achieve the Mission and meet the financial challenges.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

List any supporting documents/evidence here

***Glossary of Terms**

A full glossary is included within the IRMP document