

MERSEYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

MEETING OF THE:	COMMUNITY SAFETY AND PROTECTION COMMITTEE		
DATE:	12 APRIL 2022	REPORT NO:	CFO/012/22
PRESENTING OFFICER:	CHIEF FIRE OFFICER		
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	NICK MERNOCK	REPORT AUTHOR:	JOHN PRICE
OFFICERS CONSULTED:	STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP TEAM		
TITLE OF REPORT:	TRAUMA TRAINING CONTRACT		

APPENDICES:	NONE
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Purpose of Report

1. To seek members approval to extend the current contract with Frontier Risks Group Ltd, for the provision of First Response Emergency Care (FREC) training for one year.

Recommendation

2. It is recommended that members approve the utilisation of the one-year extension to the current contract with Frontier Risks Group Ltd, and that the expenditure during the proposed extension and value of the contract would exceed £250,000.

Introduction and Background

3. Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority ('the Authority') has contract with the training provider for the provision of FREC Training. The contract has a term of three years with the option to extend for up to a further two years. It is intended that the Authority will go back to market late 2022
4. Within this contract, the Authority has undertaken both FREC Initial and Refresher training for all staff as part of its core training methodology in order to ensure competency of operational staff in this area.
5. While the contract allows the provision of a contract extension of a further one-year, the proposed, extension period will mean the value of the contract will now exceed £250,000.
6. Officers will utilise the one-year extension to go back to market and complete an extensive procurement process to tender for the award of a new contract.

7. This interim arrangement is recommended for the purpose of organisational continuity, enabling the Authority to continue to deliver on its IRMP commitment of delivering comprehensive training and exercising against all foreseeable risk. This includes the provision of emergency medical response.

Equality and Diversity Implications

8. The training programme itself is accessible to all employees that are required to undertake emergency care as part of their role. The selection for participation is based on the Authority agreed Recruitment and Development Policies.

Staff Implications

9. There is a requirement for all operational staff with initial attendance for those new into the Service through recruitment or transfer processes and refresher training required within a two-year period following this.

Legal Implications

10. The contract permits the extension period of one year and the recommendation including the expected expenditure remains compliant with the Procurement Regulations 2015.

Financial Implications & Value for Money

11. Based on known and predicted training requirements it is expected the Authority spending during this next year to March 2023 will be £105,000 for the courses provided within the contract and the amount of employees who would undertake them.
12. The costs can be contained within the organisational training budget.
13. The value of the contract over the original three-year plus the proposed extended year will exceed the contract value threshold for MFRS officers to approve, £250,000, and therefore the option to take up the further one year extension requires Members approval.

Risk Management, Health & Safety, and Environmental Implications

14. Given the influence of COVID19 on team availability the time period to engage in a new contract for the services of specialist team building would impact on the current new recruit timeframe and workforce strategy and those employees seeking further leadership development in their career development. This can create a risk to the organisation in having recruits receiving different levels of training and the work undertaking during this

service embeds the values of the organisations within the employees prior to them starting their new careers within the organisation.

Contribution to Our Vision: *To be the best Fire & Rescue Service in the UK.*

Our Purpose: *Here to serve, Here to protect, Here to keep you safe.*

15. The training directly contributes to ensuring Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service achieves its Purpose. Protecting our communities through highly training, safe and capable staff.

16. The provision of FREC training ensures our staff are provided with high quality training and assessment, enhancing their skillset and contributing to our Vision to be the best FRS in the UK.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

CFO/111/11 If this report follows on from another, list the previous report(s)

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

MFRA Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority is the physical and legal entity. When writing reports MFRA is the “object”.

MFRS Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service is the service provided by MFRA. When writing reports MFRS is the “action”

E.G. You are employed by the Authority (MFRA). The job you do forms part of the Service (MFRS) provided by the Authority (MFRA).
If in doubt use MFRA.