

MERSEYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY			
MEETING OF THE:	SCRUTINY COMMITTEE		
DATE:	10TH MAY 2022	REPORT NO:	CFO/013/22
PRESENTING OFFICER	ACFO MOTTRAM		
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	AM GED SHERIDAN	REPORT AUTHOR:	AM GED SHERIDAN
OFFICERS CONSULTED:	SLT		
TITLE OF REPORT:	HOME SAFETY PLAN 2022-2023		

APPENDICES:	
--------------------	--

Purpose of Report

1. To inform members of the Home Safety Plan 2022.

Recommendation

2. It is recommended that Members note that the content of this report and the accompanying presentation.

Introduction and Background

3. The purpose of this Home Safety Plan is to provide a framework to direct the delivery of MFRS resources for the purpose of preventing accidental dwelling fires and associated fire fatalities or injuries in line with the Services Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) and the directorates' Functional Delivery Plan.
4. The Home Safety plan is underpinned by the following key principles, we will:
 - Ensure our Operational Crews and Prevention staff continue to deliver interventions by engaging with our communities to inform and educate people on how to reduce the risk of fire.
 - Ensure our prevention staff have the relevant skills, training, and equipment to deliver high quality, value for money interventions to the communities of Merseyside.
 - Work with partners and our communities to protect those most at risk from fire through targeted local risk reduction interventions, ensuring MFRS adheres to the Making Every Contact Count (MECC) and Person-Centred Assessment (PCA) principles in the interests of promoting health and well-being.
 - Understand and know our communities to help us to prioritise delivery to those most vulnerable to fire and in doing so meet the needs of the diverse communities across Merseyside.
5. The Home Safety Plan was introduced in 2015 in response to the rise in fire fatalities, serious injuries, and accidental dwelling fires across Merseyside.

6. Our updated plan 2022 adopts a more agile and flexible approach to respond to emerging issues because of our learning from the Covid-19 pandemic (2020/21).
7. We understand that every fatality and serious fire has its own tragic circumstances and that many of these incidents may be prevented through closer working with our partner agencies and other key stakeholders to identify those most at risk. Through sharing of this information, appropriate interventions can be offered to vulnerable people at the earliest opportunity.
8. Operational Crews utilise status reports that are populated using NHS Exeter Data which targets individuals who are over 65 years of age and have either never been visited by MFRS, or not received a visit in the last two years.
9. Our priority is to engage with over 60% of over 65's during our Home Fire Safety Check visits.
10. In respect of high-risk individuals, MFRS have a centralised referral system which is managed by our contact centre Fire Service Direct (FSD). This has introduced a consistent and effective process that has seen performance increase to over 10,000 high risk visits delivered annually by Prevention Advocates.
11. Our Plan for 2022 will build on the success we have achieved over the last three years and by using the analysis set out in the 'Historical Analysis of Fatalities in Accidental Dwelling Fires between 2006/07 – 2020/21', we will focus on the priority areas below:
 - **PRIORITY ONE – AN INTELLIGENCE LED AND TARGETED APPROACH TO INDIVIDUALS AT RISK OF FIRE IN THE HOME**
 - **PRIORITY TWO – ENGAGING RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS TO INFLUENCE DIRECT REFERRAL PATHWAYS**
 - **PRIORITY THREE – DELIVERING OUR HOME SAFETY PLAN TO ALIGN WITH NATIONAL PRIORITIES**
 - **PRIORITY FOUR – INFLUENCING THE USE OF ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY TO SUPPORT VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS**
 - **PRIORITY FIVE – ENGAGING WITH SPECIALISED HOUSING, REGISTERED PROVIDERS AND PRIVATE RENTED SECTOR**

Equality and Diversity Implications

12. By delivering our Home Safety activity under this plan will achieve a wider reach and will open a broader access to the Home Fire Safety Check process.

Staff Implications

13. Prevention saves lives and every day our Operational Crews and Prevention Teams work in the homes of others, improving their safety and helping them in their homes. The Home Safety Plan complements this activity and offers another tool to enable staff to continue this.

Legal Implications

14. The Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 places a duty upon all FRS to prevent fire and the Fire and Rescue National Framework for England 2018 outlines expectations upon FRS to target their prevention resources on those individuals or households who are at greatest risk from fire in the home.

Financial Implications & Value for Money

15. The delivery of the Home Safety plan will result in broader access to fire safety information which will develop better understanding of fire risk leading to fewer fires attended delivering efficiency providing a value for money Service

Risk Management, Health & Safety, and Environmental Implications

16. This Plan enables access to those in the community who are at higher risk of having a fire with the aim of reducing the risk to both them and our staff with early intervention. .

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.*

17. Home Fire Safety Checks raise awareness of fire safety in the Home. By ensuring that more are completed, whether by crews, prevention staff, or the householder themselves, this will naturally result in fewer mobilisations to incidents for our firefighters. A more efficient and effective approach to Service delivery.
18. Prevention have a clear Home Safety plan to target those persons who are more vulnerable through their age and who live in more deprived areas of Merseyside. By delivering the Home Safety Plan, we can expand our reach without compromising core business.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

19. NONE

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

MFRS	Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service
PCA	Person Centred Approach
NFCC	National Fire Chiefs Council
IMD	Index of Multiple Deprivation
IRMP	Integrated Risk Management Plan

