

MERSEYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY			
MEETING OF THE:	COMMUNITY SAFETY AND PROTECTION COMMITTEE		
DATE:	5 FEBRUARY 2026	REPORT NO:	CFO/38/2526
PRESENTING OFFICER	CHIEF FIRE OFFICER, NICK SEARLE		
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	AREA MANAGER, DAVID WATSON	REPORT AUTHOR:	GROUP MANAGER, MICHAEL DALE
OFFICERS CONSULTED:	HYWYN PRITCHARD, MARTIN ROBERTS, PAUL HITCHEN, HVP CAPABILITY TEAM, STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP TEAM (SLT)		
TITLE OF REPORT:	ND2 PROCUREMENT: HVP HOSE		

APPENDICES:	NONE
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Purpose of Report

1. To inform Members of the outcome of the procurement exercise and to seek authorisation to procure 39km of 150mm HVP hose, as part of the New Dimensions 2 (ND2) Programme that supports National Resilience.

Recommendation

2. It is recommended that Members;
 - a) note the contents of the report; and
 - b) approve the award of the contract to Mandals AS, at a total cost of £886,580.

Introduction and Background

3. ND2 is a national capability uplift programme that supports National Resilience (NR). The programme is authorised and funded by UK Government via the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), and Merseyside Fire & Rescue Authority (MFRA) are the Lead Authority for NR. Part of the national capability provides assets for High Volume Pumps (HVP) – Flood Response.
4. The original New Dimension programme identified and delivered national assets which enhanced the Fire & Rescue response to a range of catastrophic incidents, including natural and deliberate events, and specifically included response to wide area flooding following extreme weather events and other disasters.
5. The HVP Capability currently have 46 HVP first response assets, supported by a number of strategically located support assets. The assets are primarily used to meet the risks and threats from both wide-area flooding and major fires, recent

examples being Toddbrook Reservoir to prevent a catastrophic collapse of the dam after heavy rainfall, and in 2014 the Somerset Levels and Thames Valley area floods, where the assets were used extensively. Additionally, although not related to National Resilience, HVPs are often deployed to support local incidents to enhance the water strategy plan.

6. Following a strategic review of the capability, a major asset refresh is underway of some of the ageing assets, and the hose that supports the capability is in need of replacement. National Resilience currently have 138km of 150mm hose. 46km of hose was replaced approximately 5 years ago. The HVP strategic review will see a reduction in hose from 138 to 78km, therefore intends to procure 39km of 150mm hose to ensure the continued operational status of the capability and provide a small over capacity for spares and damages.
7. The procurement of the hose forms part of a range of solutions in the wider project of ND2 and will enhance the HVP response capability. The hose will be available via the primary asset, the High Volume Pump.
8. A mini competition was held under the YPO framework for Emergency Response and Rescue Equipment. Four suppliers responded to the Invitation to Tender, two were invited to equipment trials, following which the preferred bidder was selected.

Equality and Diversity Implications

9. There are no identified equality or diversity implications related to the procurement. The specification ensures it would meet all current operating requirements for the HVP assets and would effectively provide a replacement asset of an ageing piece of equipment
10. The selection ensures safe operation in HVP flood environments, ensuring safety across all personnel roles regardless of background, identity or physical characteristics.

Staff Implications

11. All staff are already trained in the use of the equipment, and no further training is necessary.

Legal Implications

12. Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service Procurement Department have identified the route to market as a further competition under Category 2 – Hoses, Pumps and Associated - Products/Services of Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation's DPS for Emergency Response and Rescue Equipment, Reference Number 1110.

Financial Implications & Value for Money

13. Funding for the hose is provided by MHCLG as part of the ND2 HVP project.

14. The procurement of HVP hose comes to a total cost of £886,580.

Risk Management and Health & Safety Implications

15. Risk management for the procurement and implementation is monitored and addressed by the ND2 Programme. Standard operating procedures will be developed and assured along with training, and risk assessments completed, prior to mobilisation and operational deployment.

Environmental Implications

16. The procurement aligns with environmental protection goals by enhancing the current capability. This will assist communities in restoration to normality following extreme weather events.

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. The recommendation supports the Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service's vision and purpose by allowing crews to respond faster, more effectively, and contribute to the saving of lives. It ensures responder and public safety during complex emergency operations, thereby reducing the impact on communities, and improves resilience and readiness for major incidents.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

NONE

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

MFRA Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority

MFRS Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service

MHCLG Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government

ND2 New Dimensions 2 Programme

NR National Resilience

HVP High Volume Pump