MERSEYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY				
MEETING OF THE:	COMMUNITY SAFETY AND PROTECTION COMMITTEE			
DATE:	23 OCTOBER 2014	REPORT NO:	CFO/108/14	
PRESENTING OFFICER	DEPUTY CHIEF FIRE OFFICER			
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	DEB APPLETON	REPORT AUTHOR:	JACKIE SUTTON	
OFFICERS CONSULTED:	STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT GROUP			
TITLE OF REPORT:	IRMP SUPPLEMENT 2015-17			

APPENDICES:	APPENDIX A:	IRMP SUPPLEMENT 2015-17
	APPENDIX B:	EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

## **Purpose of Report**

1. To request that Members approve the content of 2015/17 Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) Supplement subject to a period of 12 weeks consultation prior to implementation. (Appendix A).

#### Recommendation

2. That Members approve the content of the 2015/17 Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) Supplement subject to a period of 12 weeks' consultation prior to implementation.

#### Introduction and Background

- 3. The Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 via the National Framework contains the legal requirement to produce an IRMP. The primary objective for this process is to make each Fire & Rescue Authority (FRA) more responsive to locally identified risk and needs and better able to deliver safer communities.
- 4. Merseyside FRA'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 the Authority in order to deliver its Mission; Safer Stronger Communities; Safe, Effective Firefighters;
- 5. Members will be aware that the published IRMP 2013/16 is still current. However due to the Government having confirmed the extent of the cuts for 2015/16 it was considered more appropriate to publish a Supplement to the existing IRMP 2013/16 covering a 2 year period 2015/17. Members are therefore asked to approve a Supplement to the existing IRMP being published. The supplement is attached to this report at Appendix A.

- 6. The outcome of the 12 week consultation will be reported back to the Authority following the consultation period. The draft IRMP Supplement for 2015/17 addresses the difficult decisions required to meet budget challenges including station mergers and closures. It also builds on progress made over the last ten years and is very firmly focussed on maintaining the efficient and effective delivery of core services to Merseyside communities.
- 7. Following approval by Authority of the final IRMP Supplement the document will be sent for design and printing.

## **Equality and Diversity Implications**

8. The existing Equality Impact Assessment for IRMP 2013/16 has been reviewed and updated. There are no new actions considered to impact on any protected groups. The equality impact assessment is attached Appendix B and details the way in which the plan's objectives impact differently on the protected groups identified in the 2010 Equality Act.

# **Staff Implications**

9. The IRMP does have implications for staff in relation to the support service review, reducing the number of fire appliances and firefighters, changes to duty system, station mergers and closures. Any implications arising from the actions detailed in this report will be declared and dealt with as part of the delivery of these individual actions (as outlined in paragraph 9).

#### **Legal Implications**

10. This Report is the last stage of the process to fully discharge statutory duties placed upon the Authority to produce and publish an IRMP and Action Plan. Section 21 of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 imposes a statutory duty on the Authority to have regard to the National Framework 2012 in carrying out its functions. The National Framework requires the Authority to put in place an Integrated Risk Management Plan.

#### Financial Implications & Value for Money

11. The full financial implications were established during the development of the IRMP proposals which have been designed to meet the cuts in Government grant. No alternative proposals were suggested during the consultation period that would still allow the Authority to meet their obligation to set a balanced budget.

#### Risk Management, Health & Safety, and Environmental Implications

12. The IRMP details the strategic approach to risk management, encompassing what has been done to manage risk and what will be done in the coming three years.

Contribution to Our Mission: Safer Stronger Communities – Safe Effective Firefighters

13. The IRMP is the primary way in which the Authority sets out how it will prepare for and respond to risk within its communities.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

CFO/074/13

# **GLOSSARY OF TERMS**

MFRA Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority is the physical and legal entity.

When writing reports MFRA is the "object".

IRMP Integrated Risk Management Plan