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| REPORT TO: Meeting of the | MERSEYSIDE FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY POLICY & RESOURCES |
| DATE: | 30TH JULY 2013 |
| REPORT NO. | CFO/097/13 |
| REPORTING OFFICER: | DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE |
| CONTACT OFFICER: | KIERAN TIMMINS - DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE |
| OFFICERS CONSULTED: | |
| SUBJECT: | EXTERNAL REPORTS ON THE FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE |

| APPENDICES (Electronic copies only) | A | TITLE | Facing the Future, Sir Ken Knight Report: Improving Efficiency, |
|--|----------|--------------|--|
| | B | | Interoperability and Resilience of our Blue Light Services, Tobias Ellwood MP |
| | C | | “Doing it justice” - Reform |

LINKS TO APPENDICES:

Appendix A: <http://goo.gl/5bjGC>

Appendix B: http://henryjacksonsociety.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/Blue-light-Report_LR.pdf

Appendix C : <http://www.reform.co.uk/resources/0000/0498/DoingItJustice.pdf>

Purpose of Report

1. To formally present recent formal reports on the Fire and Rescue Service to the Authority.

Recommendation

2. Members are asked to consider their response to the reviews.

Introduction & Background

3. Members will be aware that the Fire Minister commissioned a review of the Fire and Rescue Service from the Chief Fire and Rescue Advisor.
4. Sir Ken Knight published his review “Facing the Future” (Appendix A)

5. Members have already received copies of the report and considered in more detail some of the Merseyside specific issues at the Strategy day held on the 10th July 2013 and have received several briefing papers.
6. Since that report was issued, Members may be further aware that there have been two subsequent pieces of review work.
 - a. The All Party Parliamentary Group on Homeland Security prepared report "Improving Efficiency, Interoperability and Resilience of our Blue Light Services" (Appendix B).
 - b. A report by the Reform organisation on the role of Police & Crime Commissioners "Doing it Justice" (Appendix C)
7. Members will, of course, recognise that it already has a number of actions in place to tackle some of the challenges and opportunities identified within these reports. For example,
 - a. Through the budget and IRMP, it is making significant cuts in service as a result of funding cuts;
 - b. As a result of the cuts it recognises it needs to be more efficient and is, therefore, consultation is underway around improving efficiency in shift patterns and work routines;
 - c. Significant joint working with police and ambulance colleagues through most notably, the Joint Control Centre (JCC), the Hazards Area Response Team at Croxteth and sharing fire stations with the ambulance service.
8. Members are asked to consider what actions and responses they wish to initiate in light of the various reviews.

Equality & Diversity Implications

9. None immediately arising

Staff Implications

10. None immediately arising

Legal Implications

11. None of the reports have any legal status. The Fire Minister is to respond to the Sir Ken Knight review in late summer.

Financial Implications & Value for Money

12. None

Risk Management, Health & Safety, and Environmental Implications

13. None

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

14. It is important to continually review how we work in light of emerging ideas and initiatives.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

***Glossary of Terms**