



Northumberland

County Council

COMMITTEE: CABINET

DATE: 12 APRIL 2022

Northumberland Fire and Rescue Service (NFRS): Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP) 2022-26

Report of Chief Fire Officer Paul Hedley

Cabinet Member: Councillor Colin Horncastle, Cabinet Member for Community Services and Fire Authority Chair

Purpose of report

Following consultation on Northumberland Fire and Rescue Service Community Risk Management Plan 2022-26, this report presents the final plan prior to publication.

Recommendations

It is recommended that Cabinet approve the final version of NFRS Community Risk Management Plan 2022-26 prior to publication.

It is acknowledged that Cabinet members have participated in the consultation of the CRMP, and the plan has been amended following feedback.

Link to Corporate Plan

Living – ‘we want you to feel safe, healthy and cared for’.

Key issues

1. Under the [Fire and Rescue National Framework for England](#) (2018) all fire and rescue authorities have a statutory duty to produce an Integrated Risk Management Plan. This is now called a Community Risk Management Plan.
2. The Framework requires fire authorities to consult on their plan.
3. NFRS has consulted on its CRMP and amended its plan following feedback.
4. This report presents the final version of NFRS CRMP prior to publication on NFRS website.
5. The CRMP is a four-year plan, refreshed annually.
6. The CRMP is supported by a suite of strategies, a Performance and Assurance Framework, and a Continuous Improvement Plan.

Background

1. Northumberland Fire and Rescue Service has consulted on its Community Risk Management Plan 2022-26, supporting the Fire Authority to meet its responsibilities under the Fire and Rescue National Framework for England (2018).
2. This plan was previously known as the Fire and Rescue (or Integrated Risk Management) Plan.
3. Consultation opened on 5 January 2022 and closed on 16 February 2022.
4. A consultation survey was established using Citizen Space.
5. The consultation survey received 42 responses, with feedback largely positive and comments constructive.
6. Feedback was received independently from three neighbouring fire and rescue services: county Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service, Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service and Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service.
7. A formal response was received from the Fire Brigades Union (FBU).
8. Additional presentations were delivered to all five Local Area Councils, Communities and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and Cabinet. Member feedback has been overwhelming positive, with comments including that the plan is easy to read and understand, and is accessible. Member feedback has specifically informed amendments to the climate section of the final CRMP. Amendments were provided by climate specialists working across NCC.
9. A peer review was undertaken by the Group Manager of Corporate Support, Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service.
10. NFRS senior officers have engaged at each stage in the development and consultation of the plan.
11. Staff engagement has included weekly VLOGS circulated via the Routine Notice, and Station Manager engagement sessions.
12. Additional sessions have been delivered with teams and individuals as requested.
13. All feedback has been captured and the CRMP amended to reflect those considerations.
14. The CRMP will be published on NFRS website, and a communication plan delivered to ensure robust internal and external communication.
15. The CRMP will be reviewed annually to ensure that it remains fit for purpose, can respond to new and emerging risk and is flexible and able to react appropriately to unforeseen events and impacts. Where the annual review results in new priorities or actions there may be a requirement to undertake additional consultation.

16. [Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services \(HMICFRS\) report Fire & Rescue Service 2021/22 Effectiveness, efficiency and people: An inspection of Northumberland Fire and Rescue Service](#) states that '*the service budget is now funded at a level that allows it to meet local risks*' (P27). As such, the Community Risk Management Plan 2022-26 is a plan of improvement, aspiration and collaboration.
17. Service Delivery of the six priorities for 2022-23 may require further consultation, and we will develop specific consultation plans for engagement as required.

Implications

Policy	The Community Risk Management Plan 2022-26 (and the annual updates) will inform all key policies for Northumberland Fire and Rescue Service.
Finance and value for money	The Community Risk Management Plan 2022-26 includes information on finance and how prevention, protection and community risk and response resources are utilised to remove or to mitigate key risks across the county of Northumberland.
Legal	Northumberland Fire Authority has a legal responsibility to produce a Community Risk Management Plan, and to consult on it.
Procurement	N/A
Human Resources	N/A
Property	N/A
Equalities (Impact Assessment attached) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	An Equality Impact Assessment has been produced and was circulated during consultation.
Risk Assessment	The Community Risk Management Plan 2022-26 is a risk-based document, capturing key fire and rescue related risks across Northumberland, and how the Service will mitigate those risks.
Crime & Disorder	Details on crime and disorder are captured within the plan.
Customer Consideration	The plan is customer focused, written to capture key risks to residents across the county, and providing details on how the Service will mitigate those risks.
Carbon reduction	A carbon impact assessment has been completed.
Health and Wellbeing	Details on health and wellbeing are captured within the plan.
Wards	All

Background papers:

Northumberland Fire and Rescue Service Community Risk Management Plan 2022-26.

Report sign off.

Authors must ensure that officers and members have agreed the content of the report:

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