

To: Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority

From: Head of Service Transformation – Tamsin Mirfin

Presenting officer: Head of Service Transformation – Tamsin Mirfin

Telephone: 07900 267944

Tamsin.mirfin@cambsfire.gov.uk

Date: 20 December 2023

Draft Community Risk Management Plan 2024 to 2029

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Fire Authority with the draft Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP) 2024 to 2029.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 The Authority is asked to approve the draft CRMP 2024 to 2029, attached at Appendix 1, for public consultation.

3. Risk Assessment

- 3.1 **Political** - the CRMP process, outlined in the Fire and Rescue National Framework for England, requires the Authority to look for opportunities to drive down risk by utilising resources in the most efficient and effective way. The CRMP has legal force and it is therefore incumbent on the Authority to demonstrate that its CRMP principles are applied within the organisation.
- 3.2 **Economic** - the management of risk through a proactive preventable agenda serves to not only reduce costs associated with reactive response services but also aids in the promotion of prosperous communities.
- 3.3 **Social** - the CRMP outlines how we will deliver the services to our community. It is important that we engage with our communities to shape our activities and help to inform our understanding of risks.
- 3.4 **Legal** - the Authority has a legal responsibility to act as the enforcement agency for the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005. As a result, ensuring both compliance with and support for business to achieve are core aspects of the fire and rescue service function to local communities.

4. Equality Impact Assessment

- 4.1 Due to the discriminative nature of fire, those with certain protected characteristics are more likely to suffer the effects. Prevention strategies aim to minimise the disadvantage suffered by people due to their protected characteristic, specifically, age and disability.

5. Background

- 5.1 Government has placed a legal requirement on each fire authority to produce an easily accessible and publicly available CRMP covering a three-to-five-year time span. The plan must;

- reflect up to date risk analysis of foreseeable fire and rescue related risks that could affect Cambridgeshire,
- show how the Fire Authority will balance prevention, protection and response activities to reduce the impact of risk on communities in a cost-effective way,
- outline service delivery outcomes and how resources are allocated to mitigate risks,
- show that the fire authority has a management strategy and a risk-based programme for enforcing fire safety legislation,
- show how the fire authority will meet the needs of the community through working with partners.

- 5.2 Our CRMP covers all the activity we are engaged in to reduce risk and exploit opportunities. The current Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) 2020 to 2024 is in its final year with an action plan in place for 2023/24. Planning work has been conducted to outline our approach to building a five-year CRMP spanning 2024 to 2029.

- 5.3 We are a data driven organisation and our data is continuously under review (quarterly) to enable us to target and evaluate our activities. This means that we have a good understanding of our communities' social demographics and risk profile. For the creation of our new CRMP we have taken a snapshot of the data to baseline our understanding and plan activities. Our new CRMP will maintain our quarterly data reviews to ensure appropriate targeting and evaluation of our activities.

- 5.4 Work is ongoing on the Operational Response Review project. This project has conducted in-depth data analysis using current modelling techniques. It has reviewed how and when our resources are used. In turn, this has enabled us to study in greater depth the capability of our response and to consider future changes to how we manage resources to deliver greater efficiency and effectiveness.

- 5.5 The 2021 census data has been reviewed along with our historic performance and incident data. We have considered planned developments within county including housing, road networks and rail works over the CRMP time span.

- 5.6 The data review helps to inform our risk and opportunity work not only in consideration of the risks to our communities but also national risks and our strategic organisational risks and opportunities. In line with our documented strategic risk appetite, we act on all risks and opportunities scored 'high' and 'very high'.
- 5.7 Using all the information and data gathered to consider our future risks and opportunities we were able to engage with our communities and our people to gather their views to inform the creation of our CRMP.
- 5.8 Our community engagement activities achieved over 1,000 responses with a diversity of demographics largely comparable to the 2021 census data. It has provided us with some useful information about people's perceptions of different risk, response times and accessibility of our services, as well as potential communication channels we can explore and groups we can work with to identify vulnerable people for safe and well visits. This has helped to inform the draft CRMP.
- 5.9 We asked our people to consider a selection of the risks and opportunities and provide us with their views on the actions we should take. This was completed across the organisation and a wide variety of ideas were provided. This activity has fed in to the CRMP; we found most of the feedback will assist us in the creation of the CRMP action plan, which is the annual detail of how we achieve our CRMP objectives.
- 5.10 His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services released our inspection report in summer 2023; we have reviewed the findings from this and incorporated the recommendations into our CRMP planning activities.
- 5.11 An equality impact assessment is an important part of our CRMP process. We have assessed our CRMP process including our engagement activities. It is important for us to understand the barriers that our process may present to those we are trying to engage with so that we may look at ways to overcome them. We will also assess our CRMP engagement responses as an evaluation measure of our approach to engagement with our diverse communities.
- 5.12 All of the above activities and associated work has culminated in the formulation of our draft CRMP for 2024 to 2029 and this is attached at Appendix 1.
- 5.13 Each project or work strand will be subject to an equality impact assessment once we initiate the delivery work as part of our standard practices and in line with our equality impact assessment processes.

6. Next Steps

- 6.1 We are now ready to move to formal consultation activities; subject to Authority approval we will commence these on 21 December 2023 and conclude on 31 January 2024. As detailed in Paragraph 5 above, we have already been out to engage with the community and our people over a period of 12 weeks so have reduced the formal consultation period accordingly.
- 6.2 The feedback from the consultation activities will be considered and a reviewed draft CRMP will be presented to Members for final approval at the Fire Authority meeting scheduled for 15 February 2024.
- 6.3 This timescale allows the CRMP to be published on 1 April 2024, replacing the current IRMP which expires on 31 March 2024.

Source Documents

CRMP Preparation document 2024/2029

CRMP Planning Framework

Equality Impact Assessment for CRMP 2024/2029

CRMP Engagement Exercise

CRMP Community engagement

Data Review 2024/2029

Location

Hinchingbrooke Cottage
Brampton Road
Huntingdon

Contact Officer

Tamsin Mirfin
07900 267944
tamsin.mirfin@cambsfire.gov.uk