



Essex Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Fire and Rescue Authority

Decision Report

Report reference number: 010/21

Government security classification: Official

Title of report: PFCC Environment Strategy 2021-31

Area of county / stakeholders affected: Countywide

Report by: Rick Hylton- Deputy Chief Fire Officer

Date of report: 4 February 2021 (received 15 March 2021)

Enquiries to: Rick Hylton- Deputy Chief Fire Officer

1. Purpose of the report

The purpose of this report is to present the Environment Strategy to the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for approval. This strategy has been created in collaboration with Essex Police.

2. Recommendations

That the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner notes and approves the Environment Strategy.

3. Benefits of the proposal

Following the collaboration of Essex Police and Essex County Fire and Rescue Service, this Environment Strategy will ensure that both organisations are aligned with other blue light services to reduce their carbon footprint and expenditure on associated budgets. This will enable the PFCC to achieve two of the targets set around greenhouse gas emissions and carbon footprint reduction.

The strategy also enables Essex Police and the Essex County Fire and Rescue Service to continue to share research, knowledge and technologies alongside sharing the benefits of their wider service networks.

4. Background and proposal

The PFCC must comply with the Government's target of reducing greenhouse gases to net zero by 2050. This is a challenging target and requires collaborative working and sharing of knowledge and resources between services.

The attached Environment Strategy outlines our sustainable development goals, which align with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals adopted in 2015 by all UN Member States, including the UK, and how we will work to achieve them.

5. Alternative options considered and rejected

This strategy has been produced in collaboration with Essex Police and therefore no other independent options have been produced. Work has been done to ensure that the strategy works in synergy while highlighting the individual pressures of the different services.

6. Strategic priorities

This strategy underpins priorities identified in both the Fire and Rescue Plan and our Annual Plan of working in collaboration with Essex Police and making best use of our resources. This strategy has been developed alongside the updated Vehicle and Equipment Asset Management Strategy and will be considered when the Estates Strategy is updated this year, ensuring that the strategies align.

7. Operational implications

This will have no adverse operational impact on the delivery of the services we provide to the communities of Essex, however how the services are delivered may change to accommodate the reductions we aim to achieve.

8. Financial implications

The targets and aims of this Strategy were considered during the setting and agreement of the Medium-Term Financial Plan and the 2021-22 Budget.

9. Legal implications

There are no legal implications attached to this document. The Climate Change Act 2008, as amended in 2019, set a target of reducing all greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050. As a milestone towards this, the Act also commits the PFCC to achieving a 46% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, against the 2008/09 baseline, by 2030/31.

10. Staffing implications

There are no direct staffing implications however reductions in greenhouse gas emissions will create a better environment for all.

11. Equality and Diversity implications

None.

12. Risks

There are possible financial and staffing risks attached to what are challenging targets in this Strategy, but work will continue to be done to mitigate risks by the Service and teams involved, within the changing environment. All associated risks - both direct and indirect – will continue to be monitored.

13. Governance Boards

This Strategy has been approved in principle by the ECFRS Service Leadership Team prior to being submitted to the Strategic Board for recommendation to the Commissioner.

14. Background papers

Appendix 1 – Environment Strategy

Decision Process

Step 1A - Chief Fire Officer Comments

(The Chief Fire Officer is asked in their capacity as the Head of Paid Service to comment on the proposal.)

I support this recommendation.

Sign:



Date: 15/03/21

Step 1B – Consultation with representative bodies

(The Chief Fire Officer is to set out the consultation that has been undertaken with the representative bodies)

Work has been ongoing on consultation for all new Strategies and policies.

Step 2 - Statutory Officer Review

The report will be reviewed by the Essex Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Fire and Rescue Authority's ("the Commissioner's") Monitoring Officer and Chief Finance Officer prior to review and sign off by the Commissioner or their Deputy.

Monitoring Officer

Sign:



Print: P. Brent-Isherwood

Date: 17 March 2021

Chief Finance Officer

Sign:



Print: Neil Cross

Date: 15/03/21

Step 3 - Publication

Is the report for publication? **YES**

If 'NO', please give reasons for non-publication (Where relevant, cite the security classification of the document(s). State 'none' if applicable)

None

If the report is not for publication, the Monitoring Officer will decide if and how the public can be informed of the decision.

Step 4 - Redaction

If the report is for publication, is redaction required:

- 1 Of Decision Sheet NO
- 2 Of Appendix NO

If 'YES', please provide details of required redaction:

.....N/A.....

Date redaction carried out:

If redaction is required, the Chief Finance Officer or the Monitoring Officer are to sign off that redaction has been completed.

Sign:

Print:

Date signed:

Step 5 - Decision by the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner or Deputy Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner

I agree the recommendations to this report:

Sign:  (PFCC)

Print: Roger Hirst

Date signed: 18 March 2021

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because:

.....
.....

Sign: (PFCC / DPFCC)

Print:

Date signed: