



Meeting	Strategic Board	Agenda Item	9
Meeting Date	15 June 2021		
Report Author:	Director of Innovation, Risk & Future Development		
Presented By:	Director of Innovation, Risk & Future Development		
Subject:	Annual review of the Strategic Assessment of Risk and Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP)		
Type of Report:	Decision		

RECOMMENDATIONS

Members of the Strategic Board are asked to; -

- approve the new Strategic Assessment of Risk (SAoR) set out within Appendix A and agree the recommendation of not making any amendments to the Service current Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) 2020-24;
- note the content of National Fire Chief's Council's work on a standard for the Community Risk Programme.

BACKGROUND

Each year the Service reviews the IRMP, highlighting the need for any updates following a full review of the Service's SAoR. The SAoR has been significantly changed, being shorter in format with emphasis placed on up-to-date referencing and summaries provided at the end of each section, with significant additions being COVID-19 and EU Exit. The summary includes a list of potential impacts for the Service, risk mitigations currently in place and, where appropriate identification of gaps which need further work as set out within the Fire and Rescue National Framework¹ (2018;p9) which states; -

'fire and rescue authorities are expected to assess their existing capacity and identify any gaps as part of the Integrated risk management planning process'

The gaps identified which the SAoR are then considered within the context of the IRMP, with a recommendation where necessary, for a change or addition to the Service's current IRMP.

¹https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/705060/National_Framework_-_final_for_web.pdf

OPTIONS AND ANALYSIS

There are a number of key Strategy documents which have been approved by the Commissioner that were identified within the Service's IRMP which now provide key controls to potential risks identified. **The Service reviewed SAoR is included in Appendix A for approval of the Board.**

Subject to approval of the SAoR, **it is a recommendation of this report that the Service's current IRMP 2020-24 is not amended and the Service continues delivery of its IRMP.** Delivery of the current IRMP will continue to be reported on via its Annual Plan, through other key plans (i.e. Workforce Plan) and current change programme.

On the issue of IRMP's, nationally the National Fire Chiefs Council has a Community Risk Programme² in place which has a vision to;

"To be the evidence-based digital toolkit for assessing UK fire and rescue service related risk and vulnerability to improve the safety, health, well-being and economic prosperity of communities"

As part of this work a Fire Standard for Community Risk Management Planning³ was consulted on towards the end of 2020. The Service engaged within the consultation, with the standard generally aligning with the Service's current approach. A key aspect to the standard is having a risk focused approach to decision making which can be evidenced and is consistently applied across the organisation in balancing the use of resources. The Service will continue to engage with the Programme and will continually review the outcoming products to identify any gaps or amendments required as it keeps its SAoR and IRMP under review.

BENEFITS AND RISK IMPLICATIONS

The IRMP, supported by the SAoR, provides a risk assessed model which drives the Service's core strategy documents in order to ensure that resources are used in the most effective areas to mitigate the risk to the public of Essex and deliver the priorities of the Fire and Rescue Plan.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Delivery of the IRMP is aligned to the Service's Medium Term Financial Plan, with additional funding requirements subject to normal business case processes.

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

None directly with this paper. Activities resulting from the IRMP will be subject to a People Impact Assessment as required under the Equality Act 2010:

<i>Race</i>	<i>X</i>	<i>Religion or belief</i>	<i>X</i>
<i>Sex</i>	<i>X</i>	<i>Gender reassignment</i>	<i>X</i>
<i>Age</i>	<i>X</i>	<i>Pregnancy & maternity</i>	<i>X</i>

² <https://www.nationalfirechiefs.org.uk/CRP>

³ <https://www.firestandards.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/CRMPFSNov20.pdf>

<i>Disability</i>	<i>X</i>	<i>Marriage and Civil Partnership</i>	<i>X</i>
<i>Sexual orientation</i>	<i>x</i>		

WORKFORCE ENGAGEMENT

The SAoR is a live document, the most recent version shared with representative bodies, and the latest version will be widely available to all staff. The IRMP was subject to a full consultation process in 2019-20.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The IRMP is a document which is required to be produced as part of the National Framework, an IRMP must (2018;p12); -

- *reflect up to date risk analyses including an assessment of all foreseeable fire and rescue related risks that could affect the area of the authority;*
- *demonstrate how prevention, protection and response activities will best be used to prevent fires and other incidents and mitigate the impact of identified risks on its communities, through authorities working either individually or collectively, in a way that makes best use of available resources;*
- *outline required service delivery outcomes including the allocation of resources for the mitigation of risks;*
- *set out its management strategy and risk-based programme for enforcing the provisions of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 in accordance with the principles of better regulation set out in the Statutory Code of Compliance for Regulators, and the Enforcement Concordat;*
- *cover at least a three-year time span and be reviewed and revised as often as it is necessary to ensure that the authority is able to deliver the requirements set out in this Framework;*
- *reflect effective consultation throughout its development and at all review stages with the community, its workforce and representative bodies and partners; and*
- *be easily accessible and publicly available.*

This paper sets out how the Service meets these requirements.

HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

None specific to this report.