

**Safer and Stronger Communities  
Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

**4 November 2021**

**Arson and Deliberate Firesetting**



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**Report of Paul Darby, Corporate Director of Resources**

**Electoral division(s) affected:**

Countywide

**Purpose of the Report**

- 1 To provide the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee with supporting information to a presentation to provide an overview on tackling arson within County Durham.

**Executive summary**

- 2 The presentation delivered by Keith Wanley, Area Manager, County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service (CDDFRS) will aim to provide Members with an overview on the approach and future actions to tackle arson within County Durham.

**Recommendation**

- 3 The Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to note the report and comment accordingly.

## **Background**

- 4 At its meeting in July 2021, the Committee agreed to include Deliberate Fires within its work programme. Information within the report is linked to the Safe Durham Partnership Plan (SDP) priority 'Promote being safe and feeling safe in your community' to which comments from the committee will be shared with the SDP board.
- 5 Attached in Appendix 2 is a presentation to provide an overview on the partnership approach to tackling arson. The presentation includes Countywide data for primary and secondary fires, national benchmarking information and the approach through the arson suppression group within the east Durham area.
- 6 Keith Wanley, Area Manager, CDDFRS will be in attendance at the Committee's meeting to deliver the presentation in Appendix 2 and respond to questions from the committee.

## **Main implications**

### *Crime and Disorder*

- 7 Information with this report aims to contribute to objectives within the Safe Durham Partnership plan.

## **Conclusion**

- 8 The attached presentation provides an opportunity for Members to comment on activity of CDDFRS and partners within the SDP to tackling deliberate fires within County Durham.

## **Background papers**

- None

## **Other useful documents**

- None

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## **Appendix 1: Implications**

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### **Legal Implications**

None.

### **Finance**

None.

### **Consultation**

None.

### **Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty**

None.

### **Human Rights**

None.

### **Climate Change**

None.

### **Crime and Disorder**

Information with this report aims to contribute to objectives within the Safe Durham Partnership plan to reducing crime and disorder.

### **Staffing**

None.

### **Accommodation**

None.

### **Risk**

None.

### **Procurement**

None.