



Safest People, Safest Places

Combined Fire Authority

12 November 2021

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services Update

Report of the Area Manager Assets and Assurance

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to provide members with an update on the current position of the Action Plan resulting from County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service (CDDFRS) inspection by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) and provide details of the next HMICFRS inspection.

Background

2. The HMICFRS inspection of CDDFRS was completed on 19 July 2019 with the final report published on 17 December 2019.
3. The inspection assessed how effectively and efficiently CDDFRS prevents, protects the public against and responds to fires and other emergencies. It also assessed how well it looks after the people who work for the Service.
4. An action plan to address all improvement areas identified in the report was developed. The action plan highlights all the areas formally highlighted in the report as needing improvement and also any text in the report which identifies where the Service is not as good as it could be.
5. In total there were 57 actions across the three pillars of Effectiveness, Efficiency and People.

Progress against the Action Plan

6. Progress against the plan is reported monthly to the Performance and Programme Board and quarterly to the Service Leadership Team.
7. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the identified solution being more involved than originally expected, several actions had their dates adjusted since the production of the original action plan. Appendix A is the full action plan with updates recorded against all actions. To date 56 actions have been completed, with one action ongoing.

Next Inspection

8. CDDFRS are part of tranche 3 of HMICFRS's inspection schedule. Dates for the inspection were finalised on 26 October 2021 and are as detailed in the table below.

Document and self-assessment request	w/c 24 Jan 2022 – w/c 21 Feb 2022
Inspection activity starts	w/c 30 May 2022
Publication of report	Winter 2022

Recommendations

9. Members are requested to:
 - a. **note** the contents of this report;
 - b. **receive** further reports as appropriate.