



**Safest People, Safest Places**

## **Combined Fire Authority**

**12 November 2021**

## **Community Risk Management Plan 2022-2025**

---

### **Report of the Deputy Chief Fire Officer**

---

#### **Purpose of the report**

1. To update members with details of the 2022-2025 Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP), the proposals contained within the plan and the public consultation on it.

#### **BACKGROUND**

2. The Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 requires the Secretary of State to prepare a Fire and Rescue National Framework. The Framework sets out priorities and objectives for fire and rescue authorities who must have regard to the Framework in carrying out their duties.
3. Members will note that the old name of Integrated Risk Management Plan, which is still referenced in the legislation, has been replaced with the title Community Risk Management Plan to align with the National Fire Chiefs Council's Community Risk Management Planning (CRMP) Fire Standard.
4. The Fire and Rescue Service National Framework document places a responsibility on all fire and rescue authorities to produce and consult on their CRMP. These documents direct fire and rescue authorities to:
  - be accountable to communities for the service they provide;
  - identify and assess the full range of foreseeable fire and rescue related risks their areas face;
  - make appropriate provision for fire prevention and protection activities and the response to fire and rescue related incidents;

- develop and maintain a workforce that is professional, resilient, skilled, flexible and diverse;
  - collaborate with emergency services and other local and national partners to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the service they provide.
5. Specifically, the National Framework states that we have a **statutory responsibility** to include a number of areas within the CRMP. These duties are summarised below:
- Reflect up-to-date risk analyses 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;
  - 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 (RRO) 2005;
  - Cover at least a three-year time span and be reviewed and revised as often as is necessary;
  - 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.
6. The Service's CRMP is a three-year strategic plan. This is reviewed annually to assess the effectiveness of existing arrangements. Following this review an annual CRMP Action Plan is developed.

## **CRMP CONTENT**

7. The CRMP contains profile information regarding the Service area, performance, data governance arrangements and how the Service identifies, manages and responds to risk in County Durham and Darlington.
8. Linking directly to the Community Risk Profile and Station Plans, the CRMP sets out the key risks found and what proactive and reactive measures will be in place relating to each identified risk.
9. Each of the main Strategies (Community Safety; Business Fire Safety and Fire Investigation; Emergency Response; Workforce Development; Collaboration, Estates and ICT) and the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) is directly referenced with regard to how they are affected by risk.
10. We have included an overview of what we introduced following last year's consultation together with the proposed options for Year 1, 2 and 3 of the 2022-2025 CRMP period.
11. In 2021-2022 we consulted on and delivered the following:

We asked	You said	We did
<p>Should we continue to invest and prioritise Fire Safety activities to ensure the built environment within County Durham and Darlington remains safe for occupants and visitors?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Due to our targeted risk based inspection programme, fires in non-domestic premises have reduced by 36% in 2020/21 compared to the previous year.</p> <p>We have increased the number of our staff who hold formal fire safety qualification which has increased our ability and competency to conduct fire safety audits.</p> <p>We have begun a tall buildings project to assess how we respond to incidents which involve buildings which contain four floors over more.</p> <p>We have offered an apprenticeship role in BFS and are training all of our firefighter apprentices in BFS.</p> <p>We have increased staffing in protection and have introduced an out of hours rota to ensure we can take enforcement action at any time 24/7 if required to maintain public safety.</p>
<p>Should we continue to trial the use and various crewing arrangements of Tactical Response Vehicles (TRVs)?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Covid-19 meant that trialling the use of our new TRVs was delayed. We have now been able to introduce them and start gathering data about their use.</p>
<p>Should we identify opportunities for collaboration with local Fire and Rescue Services and key partners?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>We have access to the Cleveland Fire Brigade command vehicle which has been used at incidents.</p> <p>The Police and Fire Collaboration Board has been re-established.</p> <p>We are key attendees of the North East Regional JESIP meeting.</p> <p>We share service premises at Darlington Fire Station with North East Ambulance Service (NEAS). Following the modernisation of Sedgfield station we will also have some shared facilities with NEAS on site.</p>

		<p>We have explored opportunities to share administrative support for maintenance of duties associated with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) and this is being done in collaboration with Cleveland Fire Brigade.</p> <p>In support of the Fire Service Act 2004 we have several section13 and section16 agreements in place with neighbouring Fire and Rescue Services to support mutual aid.</p> <p>We are working with colleagues in neighbouring Fire and Rescue Services, the Local Authority, Police and Academics to reduce the opportunity and consequences of deliberate fires and antisocial behaviour.</p>
--	--	---

12. The Service has a series of proposals to consider over the next three years:

**In 2022/23, the following options will be considered:**

- Implement and evaluate the way we deliver Safe and Well-being visits.
- Implement the outcome following the review of the services attendance standards.
- Evaluate the benefits of our continued investment in Fire Safety within the built environment.
- Implement the outcomes of the review of the crewing arrangements of TRVs if the trials proves successful.
- Implement any changes suggested through collaboration projects undertaken with local Fire and Rescue Service and key partners.

**In 2023/24 the following options will be considered:**

- Monitor and review the services attendance standards.
- Continue to review the approach to Fire Safety within the built environment.
- Evaluate the staffing arrangements and application of TRV's.
- Evaluate the changes through collaboration projects with local Fire and Rescue Service and key partners.

**In 2024/25 the following options will be considered:**

- Monitor our approach to Fire Safety within the built environment.
- Monitor the staffing arrangements and application of TRVs.
- Continue to explore opportunities and monitor the changes we have introduced through collaboration projects with local Fire and Rescue Service and key partners.

**CONSULTATION**

13. The consultation on the 2022/23 proposals will begin on 15 November 2021 and will run for 12 weeks. In order to ensure that a wide range of views can be gathered the Governance and Communications Teams will lead on disseminating a consultation document containing the specific questions regarding the future plans of the Service. The consultation questions are set out at paragraph 15 of this report.
14. This will include making the CRMP available on the CDDFRS website; organising community events to discuss the plan with the public; liaising with politicians and other local community leaders to disseminate the consultation document and using social media to promote it. We will attend public meetings organised through the Local Authorities. There will be an online survey that people can complete and a paper booklet to support this.

**Consultation Questions**

15. At the Strategic Planning Day the Combined Fire Authority (CFA) considered the range of options which could be put to the public. Based on the feedback from this day and the Service analysis it is suggested the following questions be put to the public:

Question 1

Do you agree with our proposal to introduce the following new response standards?

- Attend Accidental Dwelling Fires within 8 minutes on 70% of occasions
- Attend Non Domestic Fires within 9 minutes on 70% of occasions
- Attend Road Traffic Collisions within 10 minutes on 70% of occasions

Question 2

Do you have any overall comments about our Community Risk Management Plan and approach to allocating our resources?

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are requested to:

- a) **Note** the 2022-2025 CRMP summary provided.
- b) **Approve** the questions to put to the public in the Consultation Document as shown at paragraph 15 of this report.