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## **INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN 2006/07**

### **1. Reason for Report**

1.1 To advise Members on the outcomes of the consultation process carried out in relation to the Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) 2006/07.

1.2 To seek Member's support for the proposals contained within the Fire Authority's draft IRMP 2006/07.

### **2. Background**

At its meeting of the 14 October 2005, the Police and Fire Committee endorsed the Services proposed actions set out within its Draft 2006/07 IRMP and its stated intention to inform stakeholders of those proposals through a comprehensive consultation process.

The consultation process began on the 15 October 2005 and is due to finish on 31 January 2006, in line with the guidelines recommended by the Scottish Executive.

### **3. Key Issues**

1. Principal Officers of the Service have presented the IRMP 2006/07 proposals to all seven Area Committees.
2. The proposals have been presented to all staff through a series of presentations and each staff member received a personal copy of the draft IRMP.
3. Copies of the Draft document were circulated to other key stakeholders, in accordance with the Police and Fire Committee report dated 14 October.
4. A half page article was carried in all local papers explaining all the proposals contained within the draft IRMP and requesting feedback from the public.
5. The draft document has been posted on the Fire Services web site for the recommended 90 - day period.

### **4. Outcomes of the Consultation Process**

4.1 To date the Service has received only one written response from stakeholder partner agencies and members of the public which was supportive of the draft plan proposals. The formal presentations to each of the Council's Area Committees generated considerable interest and discussion and overall the proposals received the full support and endorsement of Area Committee Members, Officers and members of the public.

4.2 Considerable staff consultation has been undertaken and a series of formal consultation meetings and focus groups have been undertaken to ensure all proposals are understood and accepted within the overall modernisation change agenda.

4.3 In summary there have been no fundamental objections to any element of the

draft proposals and there have been many indications of support.

## **5. Draft Integrated Risk Management Plan 2006/07**

The improvement plan as contained within the Draft Integrated Risk Management Plan 2006/07 was presented to the meeting of the Police and Fire Committee on 14 October 2005 and is set out in **Appendix A**. As for 2005/06 the plan is set out under five broad headings, namely -:

1. Full development of risk modelling software and data management systems to support resource allocation and risk management decision making.
2. Actions to secure greater staff flexibility.
3. Actions to reduce unwanted operational activities.
4. Actions to improve operational response activities.
5. Actions to improve community safety activities.

## **6. Key Points**

### **6.1**

#### **Proposal 1 – Developing our Risk Model**

- FSEC will assist in determining optimum locations for Fire stations and Fire appliances and will support identification of high-risk areas, using historic and predictive data to allow our Community Safety teams to target those most in need.

### **6.2**

#### **Proposal 2 - Secure greater staff flexibility**

- A change in the working patterns of control staff will lead to more flexible working arrangements and ensure that control staff will be able to maximise their contribution to the modernisation agenda.
- Securing a top slice bid to allow alterations within four of our Fire Stations will allow us to establish four effective District bases in line with the Council's de-centralisation policy.
- A review of work routines in Dumfries fire station will maximise time available to interact with the community.
- Following the recently completed Rank to Role review for uniformed personnel there will now be a review of specialist functions roles and activities to ensure that non-uniformed staff can be utilised to secure best value.

### **6.3**

#### **Proposal 3 - Reduce unwanted Operational Activity**

- The outcomes of the pilot AFA scheme have been very positive and have resulted in reduced appliance movements, better utilisation and targeting of resources and efficiency savings being achieved. Savings have been reinvested into Community Fire Safety activities and in particular provision of fire smoke detectors to vulnerable individuals.
- It is anticipated that further benefits will be forthcoming by extending the policy across Dumfries and Galloway.

### **6.4**

#### **Proposal 4 - Operational Response**

- Carrying out a review of our attendances at flooding incidents will allow us to

produce an improvement plan to deal with water incidents.

- Collaboration with other Scottish Fire and Rescue Services will help us to develop our new duty for environmental protection.
- We will produce an improvement plan to provide better service to deal with persons who require to be rescued from collapsed structures.
- A number of the Area Committees were keen to see the First Responder pilot scheme extended and the plan committed us to a review of the current pilot scheme and if requested by the Scottish Ambulance Service, a widening of the scheme to other areas.
- Members will be aware that the 2005/06 IRMP reviewed the disposition of specialist appliances. In particular the review has identified that the Aerial appliance, due for replacement at a cost of around £425K, has been used infrequently over the past 3 years. The 2006/7 plan proposes to replace this appliance with a combined rescue appliance that will provide 'at reach' capability. This will reduce the total capital cost from £525K to £425K for 2006/07.
- Savings would also accrue in revenue costs as there would be one less vehicle in the fleet.
- The crewing levels required for the Combi Appliance will also enable crewing levels to be reviewed to ensure the Service continues to deliver its new duties and responsibilities.

## 6.5

### **Proposal 5 – More Resources to Community Safety**

- A Fire Investigation Protocol with Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary will improve the way we establish the causes of fire.
- Installing sprinkler systems within the houses of those in the community who are most at risk will offer extra protection to those least able to protect themselves.
- By engaging with youth and developing a Youth strategy this will help us support our partners on the Anti Social Behaviour teams.

## **7 Recommendations**

7.1 That Members note the outcomes of the consultation process carried out in relation to the Fire Authority's Draft Integrated Risk Management Plan for 2006/07.

7.2 That Members support the proposals set out in this report, to be presented to the Police and Fire Authority meeting of 21 February 2006 for final approval.

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Brigade Manager, Service Delivery	Title
Dumfries and Galloway Fire and Rescue Service	Postal Address

## **Appendices: Appendix A**

23 January 2006

<b>1. AIM – To continue to develop our risk model to target our resources</b>				
<b>PROPOSALS</b>	<b>BACKGROUND</b>	<b>ACTION</b>	<b>TIMESCALES</b>	<b>LEAD OFFICER</b>
1.1 Review resource distribution using all available data.	The Fire Service Emergency Response Model, and Active Response software now contains five years of operational data. Analysis of this data will allow us to target those most at risk within our communities.	1.1.1 We will use the risk modelling process to determine the correct location of our Fire Stations and Fire Appliances to meet our response needs.  1.1.2 We will use the available data to support the development of new Community Safety teams, contributing to the Community Safety Plan.	April 2006	Brigade Manager Service Delivery  Brigade Manager Service Delivery
<b>2. AIM - To provide more staff flexibility</b>				
<b>PROPOSALS</b>	<b>BACKGROUND</b>	<b>ACTION</b>	<b>TIMESCALE</b>	<b>LEAD OFFICER</b>
2.1 To appoint four District based teams	One of Dumfries and Galloway Councils Corporate objectives is to decentralise a wide range of services to support local communities.	2.1.1 We have appointed 4 Officers to each of the districts in the Region, namely in <b>Dumfries and Stranraer</b> , which can already provide us with suitable accommodation and in <b>Kirkcudbright and Annan</b> . This will require us to secure a top slice capital bid to establish cost effective office bases in these towns.	April 2006	Brigade Manager Service Support.
2.2 To utilise non-uniformed staff to support specialist functions and roles.	The use of uniformed personnel to carry out specialist functions can lead to continuity difficulties, and may not always provide the Best Value option.	2.2.1 We will undertake a review of specialist function roles and activities to identify areas where non-uniformed staff can be used to secure best value.	August 2006	Brigade Manager Service Support.
2.3 To review the working routines in Dumfries Fire Station.	The existing work routines have remained substantially unaltered for a considerable period of time.	2.3.1 We will undertake a review of work routines to make maximum use of personnel's time to provide a greater interaction with the community.	April 2006	Brigade Manager Service Delivery
<b>3. AIM – To reduce unwanted operational activity.</b>				
<b>PROPOSALS</b>	<b>BACKGROUND</b>	<b>ACTION</b>	<b>TIMESCALE</b>	<b>LEAD OFFICER</b>
3.1 Provide a measured response to Automatic Fire Alarms (AFA's)	The 2005 IRMP actions included a review of the high number of calls to the Service which were false alarms. Based on the results we implemented a pilot scheme to send only one appliance to non-sleeping risk Automatic Fire Alarm calls in the Dumfries area.	3.1.1 Following the successful outcome of the pilot we will extend the policy on the level of attendance to non-sleeping risks AFA calls throughout the Region.	April 2006	Brigade Manager Service Delivery
<b>4. AIM - To improve Operational Response Options</b>				
<b>PROPOSALS</b>	<b>BACKGROUND</b>	<b>ACTION</b>	<b>TIMESCALE</b>	<b>LEAD</b>

				OFFICER
4.1 To improve capacity to deal with Inland Waterborne and Flooding incidents.	The Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 has placed a new duty on Fire Authorities to respond to incidents such as serious flooding.	4.1.1 We will carry out a service review, with a view to producing an improvement plan to deal with water incidents with partners, to enable the Fire Authority to fully discharge this new duty.	December 2006	Brigade Manager Service Delivery
4.2. To extend the pilot of the Co-responder Scheme currently underway at two Fire Stations.	As part of the Fire Authority's IRMP Action Plan for 2005 the Service in partnership with the SAS agreed to pilot a co-responder scheme in three Fire Stations. This is currently underway in two of those stations.	4.2.1 We will review the outcomes of the pilot scheme and where appropriate we will, with SAS support, establish the scheme in other station areas.	May 2006	Brigade Manager Service Delivery
4.3 Special Appliances Review	As part of the Fire Authority's IRMP for 2005/06 the service undertook a review of the special appliances across the Region to determine the most cost effective location, availability and crewing arrangements.	4.3.1 The first element of the review is complete and it is proposed that the 2006/07 capital programme will make provision for two appliances based at Dumfries to be combined to secure Best Value whilst maintaining special appliance functionality.	April 2006	Brigade Manager Service Support
<b>4. AIM - To improve Operational Response Options</b>				
PROPOSALS	BACKGROUND	ACTION	TIMESCALE	LEAD OFFICER
4.4 To introduce a new duty for Environmental Protection.	The Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 places a new duty upon the Fire Authority to deal with the effects of chemical, biological and radiological contaminants upon people, property and the environment.	4.4.1 We will work in collaboration with other Scottish Fire and Rescue Services to develop an improvement plan that will enable the Fire Authority to fully discharge this duty.	July 2006	Brigade Manager Service Delivery
4.5 To introduce a new duty for search and rescue.	The Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 places a new duty to provide services to deal with persons who require to be rescued from collapsed structures, tunnels and trenches.	4.5.1 We will establish an improvement plan to identify all risk categories and resourcing plans for search and rescue incidents to enable the Fire Authority to fully discharge this duty.	August 2006	Brigade Manager Service Delivery
4.6 To review the role of Fire Control in Dumfries and Galloway.	The Fire Authority proposed that the service carry out a Best Value review of Fire Control by July 2005. This was suspended pending a ministerial announcement.	4.6.1 We will review the impact and implications of any ministerial announcement on Fire Controls in Scotland, to ensure the best interests of Dumfries and Galloway stakeholders can be maintained, and where appropriate, enhanced.	April 2006	Brigade Manager Service Support
<b>5. AIM - To provide more resources to Community Safety.</b>				
PROPOSALS	BACKGROUND	ACTION	TIMESCALE	LEAD

				OFFICER
5.1 To develop a plan to discharge new Fire Investigation duties.	The Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 provides the Fire Authority with a new power to investigate fires. The service has already well established protocols with Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary.	5.1.1 We will develop the existing Fire Investigation protocols and establish an Improvement Plan in partnership with Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary, Scientific Forensic Services and other FRS's in Scotland.	May 2006	Brigade Manager Service Delivery
<b>5. AIM - To provide more resources to Community Safety.</b>				
PROPOSALS	BACKGROUND	ACTION	TIMESCALE	LEAD OFFICER
5.2 We propose to establish a series of sprinkler installation schemes in key premises across Dumfries and Galloway.	Whilst the large majority of domestic premises have a working smoke alarm, the rate of fire fatalities remains relatively high in Scotland. It has been proven that the installation of domestic sprinklers in homes of certain 'at risk' groups has dramatically reduced the number of fatalities/injuries and damage to the properties.	5.2.1 We will work with housing partners to seek to install domestic sprinklers in the houses of known 'at risk' groups within our Region.	March 2007	Brigade Manager Service Delivery
5.3 To review the Fire Authority's role in discharging new Fire Safety Legislation, due in July 2006.	Her Majesty's Fire Service inspection report highlighted the need to ensure this revised Fire Safety Duty can be effectively discharged.	5.3.1 We will identify an effective delivery structure with continuity planning arrangements (succession planning) to ensure the Fire Authority can fully discharge this duty in the short, medium and long term.	September 2006	Brigade Manager Service Delivery
5.4 Develop and establish a Youth Strategy	The service has already established Fire Service support for Dumfries and Galloway's Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy, and as part of Community Fire Safety work we are engaged in a range of initiatives with young persons.	5.4.1 We will develop a youth strategy that will seek to maximise the Services contribution to citizenship, learning and development and behavioural programmes across Dumfries and Galloway.	October 2006 and ongoing	Brigade Manager Service Delivery