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INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN 2005/06

1. Reason for Report

To advise Members on progress made against the Action Plan set out in the Fire Authority's Integrated Risk Management Plan 2005/06.

2. Background

On 1 April 2005 the Fire Authority commenced the implementation of its first formal Integrated Risk Management Plan. The plan sets out 25 actions under 5 key headings that collectively represent the Fire Authority's Modernisation Programme.

3. Progress

3.1 This report sets out areas of progress against the 5 key headings of change.

3.2 Fully Develop a Risk Model to be used to inform Planning and Resourcing Decision Making

Progress

The FSEC team has produced a development plan for 2005/06 with 4 strategic aims.

- To fully develop a risk model for Dumfries and Galloway Fire and Rescue Service.
- To develop the services resource allocation programme using the Risk Model and response plans to develop operational risk reduction strategies.
- Analyse the results to develop a specific risk database for each station in the region.
- Support the development of community fire safety activity, contributing to the community safety plan.

3.3 Provide more Staff Flexibility

Progress

- The service now provides necessary operational support to fire stations across the region through the use of
 - Overtime (when required)
 - Mixed Crewing of Appliances
 - Wholetime Retained
- The service has introduced Part-time working and flexible working arrangements across several departments.

- As approved at the Police and Fire Committee on 21 June 2005 the Service is implementing a phased Rank to Role process. This includes the setting up of 4 District Teams to support the Council's aim for decentralisation of services to local areas. This process is underway and should be completed by December 2005.
- On the 24 August 2005, Employers Circular 16/05 confirmed that the substantive move from Rank to Role had been agreed.

3.4 To Reduce Unwanted Operational Action Progress

Progress

- The Service has reviewed its policy on attendance to automatic fire alarm calls and a three month pilot began on 1 September 2005 to send only one appliance to non sleeping risk Automatic Fire Alarm calls in the Dumfries area.
- The Service has begun a review of its policy on pre-determined attendances (PDA's) and as a result of risk assessments has reduced the need for the attendance of the Ariel Ladder Platform by 75%.

3.5 To Improve Operational Response Options

Progress

- Co-Responder Scheme
A Pilot Co-Responder Scheme will be fully functional by October at Annan Fire Station with two other Stations to follow after feedback from the pilot.
- Using the FSEC model the Service is undertaking a review to establish the most cost effective location, availability and crewing arrangements of specialist vehicles.

3.6 To Provide More Resources to Community Safety

Progress

The introduction of the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 on August 2005 has given Fire Authorities new duties namely:

- A duty to investigate fires. The Service has drawn up a draft MOU with Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary to develop and implement a plan for joint fire investigation and arson reduction.
- A duty to make provision for promoting Community Safety. As part of the Modernisation Agenda, Phase III Rank to Role, the Service intends to transfer four staff to support Community Fire Safety activities across the new District Management Teams.
- Other actions and improvement plans for addressing new duties that have resulted from the act will form part of the 2006/07 IRMP.

4. Recommendations

To advise Members of progress made against the action plan set out in the Fire Authority's Integrated Risk Management Plan 2005/06.

Gerry Campbell
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