

REPORT TO: Safer Policy and Performance Board

DATE: 8 November 2016

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director –
Enterprise, Community and Resources

PORTFOLIO: Community Safety

SUBJECT: Cheshire Fire and Rescue Annual Report

WARDS: Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To consider the report from Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service presenting the Annual report for Halton 2016, and to receive an update on the Integrated Risk Management Plan 2017-18 (IRMP).

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That

- 1) the report be noted; and**
- 2) the Board consider the information presented and raise any questions of interest or points of clarification following the presentation.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 The Board have a scrutiny function to review Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service on an annual basis.
- 3.2 The consultation on the draft Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) for 2017/18 is now underway and will last until Tuesday 3rd January 2017. During this time the Service will consult with the public, key partners and stakeholders and members of staff.

The draft 2017/18 Plan outlines a second review of our emergency response functions to reflect risk and demand up to 2020. This follows on from the first programme of change that the Service began in 2013 and has seen the building of four new fire stations at Alsager, Penketh and Powey Lane near Chester, as well the fire station and safety centre at Lymm. There have also been several changes to the way in which the Service staffs its stations.

Proposals within the second emergency response review and the wider draft Plan include:

- Cheshire Fire Authority's proposal to increase its share of council tax by 1.99% in 2017/18.
- Proposals to review the duty systems at Birchwood, Macclesfield, Penketh and Wilmslow fire stations.
- Move from three hydraulic platforms to two across the Service.
- Introduce an additional fire engine at Crewe and Ellesmere Port fire stations, staffed during weekdays.
- Rolling out the pilot programme to respond to cardiac arrests alongside North West Ambulance Service.
- Delivering 'Safe and Well' visits to 40,000 households to provide health information as well as fire safety advice.
- Developing a new policy to reduce the number of attendances to false alarms caused by automatic fire alarm systems.
- Promoting the need to install sprinkler systems in new schools.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The policy implications of the review relate primarily to the Safer Halton priority. However this is a cross cutting work area which has wider implications on other areas of council business.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 **None**

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

The Community Safety Service as a universal service impacts on the health, safety and well-being of young people.

6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

None

6.3 A Healthy Halton

The Community Safety Service as a universal service impacts on the Health, safety and well-being of the residents of Halton.

6.4 A Safer Halton

The Community Safety Service as a universal service impacts on the Health, safety and well-being of the residents of Halton.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

None

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

None

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

None

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

9.1 There are no background papers under the meaning of the Act.