

REPORT TO COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 20 FEBRUARY 2020

CONSULTATION ON SCOTTISH FIRE & RESCUE LOCAL FIRE & RESCUE PLAN REVIEW 2020

1 Reason for Report / Summary

- 1.1 This report seeks input from Communities Committee which along with officers' contributions to the survey will collectively form an Aberdeenshire Council response to the consultation on the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service's (SFRS) Local Fire & Rescue Plan Review 2020.

2 Recommendations

The Committee is recommended to:

2.1 Provide views on the SFRS's Local Fire & Rescue Plan Review 2020 consultation; and

2.2 Instruct all services to input into the survey.

3 Purpose and Decision Making Route

- 3.1 Following publication of the [Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Plan 2019-22](#) in October 2019, SFRS will be reviewing their [Local Fire and Rescue Plans](#) over coming months, and as part of this review, SFRS has drafted a short survey which is open until 18 March 2020.

- 3.2 Views are being sought from Communities Committee, council officers and senior members of staff. Due to time constraints, once all responses have been collated, the final submission will be made via delegated powers prior to the deadline on 18 March and a further report will be brought to Communities Committee on 2 April 2020.

4 Discussion

- 4.1 The purpose of this consultation is to ensure SFRS's local priorities align to their new strategic ambitions as well as remain relevant to local risk. The formal consultation was opened on 8 January 2020 via SFRS's [consultation hub](#).

The survey is detailed within Appendix 1.

- 4.2 SFRS is a key partner of the Aberdeenshire Community Planning Partnership. As such, it was decided that Aberdeenshire Council would submit a response, led by the Corporate Policy and Strategic Community Planning Team. The survey was emailed to officers on 15 January 2020, with a closing date of 21 February 2020. Responses will be collated along with the views of

Communities Committee and senior members of staff prior to the submission closing date of 18 March 2020.

- 4.3 As specified by the Scheme of Governance, due to the timelines of Communities Committee meetings, the draft response will be sent to the Chair, Vice Chair, and main Opposition Spokesperson of Communities Committee for review and approval. Once approved it will be submitted prior to the consultation deadline. A further report will be brought to Communities Committee in April detailing the final submission for noting.

5 Council Priorities, Implications and Risk

- 5.1 This report helps the delivery of Aberdeenshire Community Planning Partnership's LOIP priorities.
- 5.2 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation is agreed.

| Subject | Yes | No | N/A |
|--|-----|----|-----|
| Financial | | x | |
| Staffing | | x | |
| Equalities | | x | |
| Fairer Scotland Duty | | x | |
| Town Centre First | | x | |
| Sustainability | | x | |
| Children and Young People's Rights and Wellbeing | | x | |

- 5.3 An equality impact assessment is not required because this is a response to a consultation and does not have a differential impact on any of the protected characteristics.
- 5.4 The following risks have been identified as relevant to this matter on a Corporate Level:
Changes in government policy, legislation and regulation - this is controlled through COSLA membership, SOLACE membership and membership of professional bodies at both corporate & individual level.

6 Scheme of Governance

- 6.1 The Head of Finance and Monitoring Officer within Business Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report and had no comments to make and are satisfied that the report complies with the Scheme of Governance and relevant legislation.

6.2 The Communities Committee is able to note this report in terms of Section D1.1f of Part 2 A - List of Committee Powers in the Scheme of Governance. Chief Officers can submit a Council response to an external consultation on any policy matter, according to Section A22 of the List of Officers Powers in Part 2B of the Scheme of Governance, where the timescale for responding does not permit an opportunity for approval by the appropriate policy committee.

Any response submitted under this delegated power shall be made following consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair and main Opposition Spokesperson of the appropriate policy committee, where possible, and must be reported to the next committee meeting.

Ritchie Johnson
Director of Business Services

Report prepared by: Moyra Stephen, Strategic Policy Lead
16 January, 2020.

List of Appendices

Appendix 1 – SFRS Survey

**Working together
for a safer Scotland**



**SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**
Working together for a safer Scotland

LOCAL FIRE AND RESCUE PLAN ENGAGEMENT

FEEDBACK RECORD

Local Authority Area:

Aberdeenshire Council

Name of organisation/representative:

Corporate Policy & Strategic Community Planning

1. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you in how the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service is performing in your area?

| | | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Very satisfied | Quite satisfied | Neither/ Nor | Quite dissatisfied | Very dissatisfied |
|----------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------------|-------------------|

2. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you at the way in which the SFRS understands and reflects local needs in their plans and activities?

| | | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Very satisfied | Quite satisfied | Neither/ Nor | Quite dissatisfied | Very dissatisfied |
|----------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------------|-------------------|

3. Has there been any change in the quality of services delivered by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service over the last 3 years?

| | | | | |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|----------------|------------|
| Much better | A little better | No change | A little worse | Much worse |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|----------------|------------|

4. In the past 3 years are you aware of any change and innovations used to improve service provision and outcomes?

| | | | | |
|-----------|---------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|
| Much more | A little more | No change | A little less | Much less |
|-----------|---------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|

5. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the level information you received on local fire and rescue activity or developments?

| | | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Very satisfied | Quite Satisfied | Neither/ Nor | Quite dissatisfied | Very dissatisfied |
|----------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------------|-------------------|

6. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the level of information you receive on national fire and rescue service activity or developments?

| | | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Very satisfied | Quite Satisfied | Neither/ Nor | Quite dissatisfied | Very dissatisfied |
|----------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------------|-------------------|

7. Listed below are a number of core fire and rescue services, please rate these in terms of their importance to you:

| | Very Important | Quite Important | Neither/ Nor | Not important |
|---|----------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------|
| Being prepared for and responding to fires | | | | |
| Promoting fire safety in the home | | | | |
| Enforcing fire safety in non-domestic buildings | | | | |
| Being prepared for and responding to road traffic collisions or serious transport incidents | | | | |
| Being prepared for and responding to animal rescues | | | | |
| Being prepared for and responding to flooding incidents | | | | |
| Helping you be prepared for emergency situations | | | | |

8. Listed below are other services we would like to do more of, please rate these in term of importance to you:

| | Very Important | Quite Important | Neither/ Nor | Not important |
|--|----------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------|
| Being prepared for and responding to acts of terrorism | | | | |
| Working with partners to identify and help people at risk of preventable accidents in their home | | | | |
| Working with partners to reduce crime and improve safety | | | | |
| Working with partners to support young people | | | | |
| Working with partners to support older people | | | | |
| Working with partners to improve the health and wellbeing of communities | | | | |
| Working with partners to support the local economy and those in poverty | | | | |

9. Are there are any other fire and rescue activities which are important to you that are not listed?

10. Are there any areas that we need to improve on in your locality?

Thank you for completing this survey.

