

**Open Report on behalf of Dave Ramscar, Chief Fire Officer**

Report to:	<b>Community and Public Safety Scrutiny Committee</b>
Date:	<b>14 October 2015</b>
Subject:	<b>Enabling Closer Working Between the Emergency Services – Consultation Document</b>

**Summary:**

The Government has published a consultation on measures to transform the delivery of local fire and police services and drive greater collaboration between the three emergency services (Police, Fire and Ambulance). A copy of the consultation document is attached to this report. Work is currently on-going to formulate a response on behalf of the Authority. An update will be provided to Committee members at the meeting. The closing date for response to the consultation is 23 October 2015.

**Action Required:**

The Committee is invited to note and comment on the content of the consultation document.

## **1. Background**

The Government is consulting on a series of measures to transform the delivery of local fire and police services, and drive greater collaboration between the police, fire and rescue and NHS ambulance services. The measures being consulted upon are:

- introducing a new duty on all three emergency services to actively consider collaboration opportunities with one another to improve efficiency and effectiveness;
- enabling Police and Crime Commissioners to take on the duties and responsibilities of fire and rescue authorities, where a local case is made;
- where a Police and Crime Commissioner takes on the responsibilities of a fire and rescue authority, enabling him or her to create a single employer for police and fire staff, facilitating the sharing of back office functions and streamlining management;
- in areas where a Police and Crime Commissioner has not become responsible for fire and rescue services, enabling them to have representation on their local fire and rescue authority; and

- abolishing the London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority and giving the Mayor of London direct responsibility for the fire and rescue service in London, as will be the case in Greater Manchester.

## 2. Conclusion

A response to the consultation on behalf of the Authority is currently being formulated to meet the consultation deadline of 23 October 2015.

## 3. Consultation

### a) Policy Proofing Actions Required

n/a

## 4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Enabling closer working between the Emergency Services Consultation Document

## 5. Background Papers

The following background papers as defined in the Local Government Act 1972 were relied upon in the writing of this report.

Document title	Where the document can be viewed
Enabling closer working between the Emergency Services	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/enabling-closer-working-between-the-emergency-services">https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/enabling-closer-working-between-the-emergency-services</a>

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