



Open Report on behalf of Mark Baxter, Chief Fire Officer

Report to:	Executive
Date:	06 February 2024
Subject:	Community Risk Management Plan 2024-2028
Decision Reference:	I031961
Key decision?	Yes

Summary:

The report presents the proposed Community Risk Management Plan, (CRMP, previously called the Integrated Risk Management Plan), covering the period from April 2024 to April 2028. We request approval of the CRMP and associated documents including the Community Risk Profile and Equality Impact Assessment.

Recommendation(s):

That the Executive:

1. Approves the Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP), to cover the period 2024 to 2028 in the form of the documents presented in this Report and;
2. Approves the publication of the CRMP, (and associated documents), with immediate effect.

Alternatives Considered:

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| 1. | Not to approve the CRMP. This would place the County Council in breach of its responsibilities under the Fire and Rescue National Framework for England 2018, and would have a detrimental impact on future inspections of the Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue by the His Majesty's Inspector of Constabularies and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS). |
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Reasons for Recommendation:

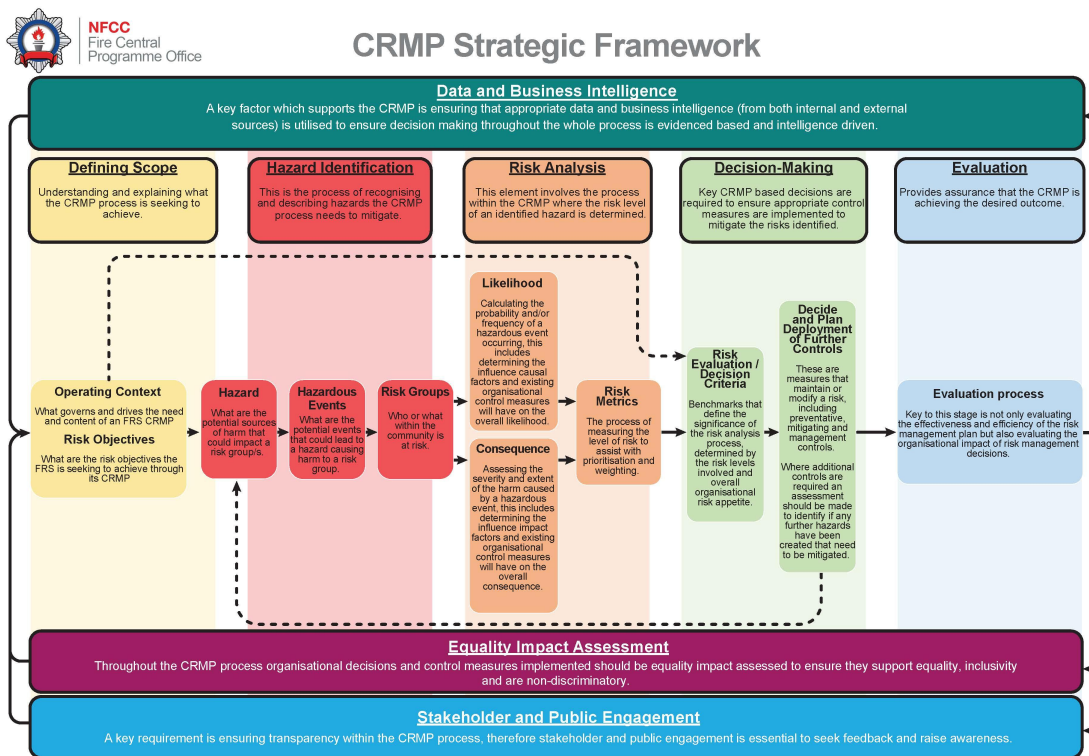
The adoption and publication of an CRMP is a requirement of the Fire and Rescue National Framework for England 2018 and allows the Service to focus its plans and resources on the basis of a thorough assessment of the risks facing its communities. This assessment, the Community Risk Profile, is produced following engagement with

those communities.

This proposal enables the Council to comply with the requirement that a CRMP must cover at least a three year period.

1. Background

- 1.1 Section 21 of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004, requires the Secretary of State to produce a Fire and Rescue National Framework and requires Fire and Rescue Authorities to have regard to the Framework in the exercise of their functions.
- 1.2 The Fire & Rescue National Framework for England 2018 requires Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Authority to produce a plan that identifies and assesses all foreseeable fire and rescue related risks that could affect the communities it serves.
- 1.3 The process to create the Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP) is how we identify and plan to mitigate risks through our prevention, protection and response services. Additionally, our plan reinforces how we will resource the service activities and evaluate our progress to ensure the most effective and efficient use of our



assets.

- 1.4 Our CRMP is a long-term plan which outlines Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue's assessment of key risks to both our communities and to the organisation itself.
- 1.5 The CRMP defines the strategies we adopt and enables the service to match our resources to risk. We use the CRMP to develop further detailed plans, such as our annual Service Plan and the individual department plans.

- 1.6 This CRMP continues our drive to simplify the communication of our strategic plans and follows LCC's policy of digital first communication. While it may look very different from the highly graphical format of the previous plan, it contains all the same information in a format which is more accessible to those with additional needs.

Engagement and Consultation

- 1.7 This CRMP has been produced following two periods of engagement and a final consultation on the draft document.
- 1.8 Phase 1 asked perception-based questions to test knowledge and awareness of what a CRMP is and what it contains. It also began the process of engaging with the public on the risks facing the community in Lincolnshire.
- 1.9 In phase 2 we presented our community risks/hazards to our stakeholders and captured their responses. The list offered was a combination of the risks from the last IRMP, and new risks identified through the phase 1 engagement. Seven risks were prioritised and taken into the draft CRMP.
- 1.10 Phase 3 was the public consultation on the proposed CRMP document alongside the Community Risk Profile and the Equality Impact Assessment.
- 1.11 In total, stakeholders had the opportunity to comment for 24 weeks, with 2,800 people viewing the engagement pages and 950 participating. A full summary is in the CRMP Engagement report in the appendix.

2. Legal Issues:

Equality Act 2010

Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act.
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

The relevant protected characteristics are age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation.

Having due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to:

- Remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic.

- Take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it.
- Encourage persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

The steps involved in meeting the needs of disabled persons that are different from the needs of persons who are not disabled include, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities.

Having due regard to the need to foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to tackle prejudice, and promote understanding.

Compliance with the duties in section 149 may involve treating some persons more favourably than others.

The duty cannot be delegated and must be discharged by the decision-maker. To discharge the statutory duty the decision-maker must analyse all the relevant material with the specific statutory obligations in mind. If a risk of adverse impact is identified consideration must be given to measures to avoid that impact as part of the decision-making process.

Equality Act considerations have been taken into account throughout the CRMP process and an Equality Impact Assessment has been created for the CRMP. This analyses the demographic make-up of the communities of Lincolnshire as compared against the protected characteristics from the Equality Act. The assessment also looks at other factors such as lifestyle and mental health and evaluates how much of an impact each of the Service areas may have.

Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA and the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS)

The Council must have regard to the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS) in coming to a decision.

The JSNA and JHWS were used as source data for the Equality Impact Assessment, for the “about Lincolnshire” section of the CRMP and during the risk analysis process that produced the Community Risk Profile.

Crime and Disorder

Under section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, the Council must exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in its area, (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment), the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in its area, and re-offending in its area.

The CRMP identifies both malicious attacks and deliberate fires (arson) as community risks which will be mitigated by activities within the Service Plan. Our community safety advocates work with partners in the Police to identify and reduce risks from arson in the county. We investigate the causes of fire and collaborate with crime scene investigation.

3. Conclusion

- 3.1. Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue has taken steps to simplify the Community Risk Profile and Community Risk Management Plan. The service has also used engagement feedback and internal review to provide a document that will drive our Service through into 2028.
- 3.2. We have focused on the risks that matter to the community which have been identified through risk analysis and engagement. This risk analysis will be revisited periodically throughout the life of the CRMP to ensure that our focus remains on the greatest risks.
- 3.3. The CRMP allows Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue to meet its statutory obligation to produce a strategic plan that covers a period of at least three years.

4. Legal Comments:

The Report seeks approval for the proposed Fire and Rescue Community Risk Management Plan for 2024 to 2028. The adoption of such a Plan is a requirement of the Fire and Rescue National Framework to which the Council as Fire and Rescue Authority is required to have regard, in accordance with the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004. The decision is consistent with the Policy Framework and within the remit of the Executive.

5. Resource Comments:

Resource requirements to deliver the proposed CRMP will be managed in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations and Procedures. The service's Medium Term Financial Plan, capital and revenue budgets are reviewed and subjected to scrutiny quarterly, and are approved on an annual basis as part of the Council's overall planning framework.

6. Consultation

a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?

n/a

b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?

Yes

c) Scrutiny Comments

This report will be considered by the Public Protection and Communities Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 30 January 2024. The comments of the Committee will be reported to the Executive.

d) Risks and Impact Analysis

Community risks are identified in the Community Risk Profile document. There is also an Equality Impact Assessment that accompanies the CRMP.

7. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Proposed CRMP
Appendix B	Community Risk Profile
Appendix C	Equality Impact Assessment
Appendix D	Engagement and Consultation Report

8. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

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