

# CHESHIRE FIRE AUTHORITY

**MEETING OF:** CHESHIRE FIRE AUTHORITY  
**DATE:** 15 FEBRUARY 2023  
**REPORT OF:** CHIEF FIRE OFFICER AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
**AUTHOR:** MARK SHONE

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**SUBJECT:** 2023-2024 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

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## Purpose of Report

1. To seek approval of the 2022-2023 Annual Action Plan.

## Recommended: That

- [1] Members note the contents of the report and appendix;
- [2] Approve the 2023-2024 Annual Action Plan (attached as Appendix 1); and;
- [3] Authorise the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive to make any final changes to the 2023-2024 Annual Action Plan prior to publication.

## Background

2. Each February Members consider and approve a draft Annual Action Plan, which provides a progress update on the implementation of the Authority's four-year Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) and sets out IRMP priorities for the year ahead. The Annual Action Plan is then published in April.
3. If the Annual Action Plan proposes significant changes to previously approved IRMP projects or additional service developments, these would be subject to public consultation during the preceding autumn and Members would consider feedback prior to publication.

## Information

4. The Authority's Annual Action Plan 2023-24 covers the last year of the 2020-24 IRMP. It therefore provides an update on work completed over the last three years and summarises the remaining IRMP projects to be undertaken in the next 12 months. There has been no requirement to undertake a public consultation this year as none of the outstanding original projects deviate significantly from their previously approved scope. Additionally, none of the new

and revised plans for 2023/24 have been judged to have a significant impact on local service delivery to the community.

5. IRMP projects that have been completed as planned are detailed in the section entitled 'Our Progress', on pages 6-12 of the draft Plan.

6. New and emerging risks are considered on pages 13-17. These include the increased likelihood of industrial action; the increase in the cost of living; new research into contaminants; the outcomes of the Grenfell Tower Inquiry and the impacts of climate change.

7. Plans for 2023/24 are laid out on pages 18-20. Original IRMP 2020-24 projects due for completion include:

- Implementing a Day Crewing duty system at Wilmslow Fire Station

This plan relates to the ongoing project to change the crewing arrangement at Wilmslow Fire Station from a Nucleus Crewing to a Day Crewing duty system.

- Review of the Prevention Department

This plan concerns the service improvement review of the Prevention Department and the implementation of any associated outcomes.

- Introducing a Cardiac Response Pilot

This objective reaffirms the Authority's intention to engage with staff and partners with the aim of introducing a Cardiac Response Pilot scheme across Cheshire.

- Developing a new Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP)

This objective relates to the work being undertaken to develop the 2024-2028 CRMP.

8. New and revised plans to be undertaken in 2023/24 include:

- Reviewing the Optimum Crewing Duty Agreement

This objective relates to the duty agreement for staff working in the Authority's wholetime fire stations. A review will ensure that the agreement remains fit for purpose. Staff and representative bodies will be involved and where necessary, there will be consultation, or negotiation if amendments to the agreement are proposed.

- Developing major incident support and welfare facilities

This objective will improve the Authority's incident command support facilities for major incidents and provide enhanced welfare facilities for firefighters to use when dealing with protracted emergencies.

- Adapting to new fire safety legislation

This objective relates to the Authority working with relevant partners and responsible persons to assist, and where necessary enforce, compliance with the recently introduced Fire Safety Act 2021 and Fire Safety Regulations 2022.

## **Financial Implications**

9. Pages 25-26 of the draft Plan provide information on the Authority's Medium Term Financial Plan and other financial matters. The production of the draft Plan has been met from existing budgets.

## **Legal Implications**

10. There are no legal implications associated with the approval of the Annual Action Plan. There are activities that may require legal input, e.g. any potential enforcement action under new fire safety legislation.

## **Equality and Diversity Implications**

11. The draft Plan references the Authority's 2021-2024 EDI Strategy and the Authority's work around inclusion. Equality Impact Assessments are developed for individual projects within the draft Plan as required as part of established project management framework.

## **Environmental Implications**

12. Some proposals within the Plan concern environmental matters. The Plan will be published primarily as an online document in order to reduce the use of paper.

**CONTACT: DONNA LINTON, GOVERNANCE AND CORPORATE PLANNING  
MANAGER  
TEL [01606] 868804**

**BACKGROUND PAPERS:**

**2022-23 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN APPROVED BY THE FIRE AUTHORITY ON 9<sup>TH</sup>  
FEBRUARY 2022**