### **CHESHIRE FIRE AUTHORITY**

MEETING OF: PERFORMANCE AND OVERVIEW COMMITTEE

DATE: 20<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023

REPORT OF: HEAD OF SERVICE IMPROVEMENT

AUTHOR: HAZEL MARSH

SUBJECT: NATIONAL FIRE CHIEF'S COUNCIL

FIRE STANDARDS COMPLIANCE

## **Purpose of Report**

1. To provide members with an update on the Service's current compliance and progress in implementing the National Fire Chief's Council (NFCC) Fire Standards.

### Recommended: That

[1] the report be noted.

## **Background**

- 2. Fire Standards are an NFCC product that were introduced in February 2021 by the Fire Standards Board. The Board works to oversee the identification, organisation, development, and maintenance of professional standards for Fire and Rescue Services in England.
- 3. There are sixteen fire standards that have been published to date, each with individual desired outcomes. These are: Code of Ethics; Communication and Engagement; Community Risk Management Planning; Data Management; Emergency Preparedness and Resilience; Emergency Response Driving; Fire Control; Fire Investigation; Leading the Service; Leading and Developing People; Operational Competence; Operational Learning; Operational Preparedness; Prevention; Protection; and Safeguarding.
- 4. The NFCC has released an implementation tool alongside the publication of each standard. Each implementation tool has a set of criteria with tasks to action and/or measure compliance against.

#### Information

5. Relevant departments have used the implementation tools to conduct gap analyses and provide information to the Service Improvement Department relating to compliance, evidence of work achieved, and work yet to be completed.

- 6. Appendix 1 contains a series of charts to highlight CFRS's current compliance with each of the published fire standards. It should be noted that if a single task is marked as non-compliant or partially compliant then the whole criteria is marked as non or partially compliant. Many criteria within the standards reported below therefore have multiple tasks at different stages of progress. The number of tasks allocated within each criteria is subjective and determined by each individual fire and rescue service.
- 7. There are three standards for which a gap analysis has not yet been completed which are Code of Ethics, Fire Control and Leading the Service.
- 8. North West Fire Control are aware of the requirement to complete this work and have assigned resource to undertake the gap analysis.
- 9. The Leading the Service and Code of Ethics Standards include a complex and broad set of criteria which require central co-ordination and evidence gathering by the Service Improvement Department. These will be both be commenced in Autumn 2023.
- 10. A further report will be presented to members at the March 2024 meeting of this committee providing an update on progress.

## **Financial Implications**

11. N/A

# **Legal Implications**

12. N/A

# **Equality and Diversity Implications**

13. N/A

# **Environmental Implications**

14. N/A

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**BACKGROUND PAPERS: NONE** 

### **APPENDIX 1: CURRENT COMPLIANCE WITH FIRE STANDARDS**

Fully compliant
Partially compliant
Non-compliant

























