



**SCOTTISH**  
**FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**

Working together for a safer Scotland

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**Report to:                      Falkirk Council Scrutiny Committee**

**SUBJECT:                      Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Plan  
2013-2016**

**1.       INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1      This report provides members of the Falkirk Council Scrutiny Committee with an overview of Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) Strategic Plan 2013-2016.

**2.       BACKGROUND**

- 2.1      The SFRS is required to have in place a Strategic Plan that supports the Scottish Government Scottish Fire and Rescue Framework and outlines the priorities and outcomes that the SFRS will deliver against in the coming years.

**3.       CONSULTATION AND AGREEMENT**

- 3.1      During July and August 2013 the SFRS consulted with key stakeholders, which included Falkirk Council, on the draft Strategic Plan. This consultation period ended on 31<sup>st</sup> August and the SFRS Board approved the full Strategic Plan on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2013.

- 3.2 Roseanna Cunningham MSP, the Minister for Community Safety and Legal Affairs, approved the Strategic Plan on 1 October 2013 and it was then laid before the Scottish Parliament by SFRS under Section 41A(8)(b) of the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 as amended by the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012.

#### **4. STRATEGIC PLAN**

- 4.1 The Strategic Plan provides the SFRS with a direction of travel for the next three years and drives clear and effective national and local plans. It also assists with the development of an annual operating plan and organisational business plans.
- 4.2 The Strategic Plan sets out the Service's Purpose, Vision, Values, Strategic Aims and Targets (these are outlined in Appendix 1).
- 4.3 The full Strategic Plan can be viewed on the SFRS website at [http://www.firescotland.gov.uk/media/459709/strategic\\_plan.pdf](http://www.firescotland.gov.uk/media/459709/strategic_plan.pdf)

#### **5. LOCAL FIRE AND RESCUE PLAN FOR FALKIRK 2014-2017**

- 5.1 Following the publication of the SFRS Strategic Plan and identification of national priorities within this, the Local Senior Officer for Falkirk and West Lothian is currently drafting the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Falkirk 2014-17 (the Local Plan).
- 5.2 It is anticipated that consultation with key stakeholders on the draft Local Plan will commence mid December 2013 and last for a period of 12 weeks.
- 5.3 Through stakeholder analysis, Falkirk Council has been identified as a key stakeholder and as such will be invited to comment on the draft Local Plan.

5.4 Following consultation on the draft Local Plan, Falkirk Council will be invited to approve the full Local Plan.

**6. RECOMMENDATION**

6.1 Falkirk Council and the Scrutiny Committee are invited to:  
Consider and make any comment in relation to this report.

**Gary Laing**  
**Local Senior Officer**  
**Falkirk and West Lothian**  
**January 2013**

## **APPENDIX 1 - Extracts from SFRS Strategic Plan 2013-2016**

**SFRS Purpose** - The main purpose of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service is to work in partnership with communities and with others in the public, private and third sectors on prevention, protection and response to improve the safety and wellbeing of people throughout Scotland.

**SFRS Vision** - A world leading service

Our aim is to deliver the best service we can 24 hours a day, seven days a week and to keep challenging ourselves to continuously improve it. Our people are well trained to very high standards and we continually seek out new approaches to fire-fighter training so that we can adopt best practice to maintain those standards.

In addition to this, we will be innovative and creative in looking for better ways to do things, in challenging our own thinking and in challenging the thinking of our partners. We will work in partnership with our communities to develop services. By removing geographical boundaries and reducing organisational complexity, we will make sure we have the right resources, such as equipment and people, in the right places to manage risk effectively.

We will strive for excellence and explore new ways to help us develop a fire and rescue service that is recognised as a world leader. We will do this, for example, by exploring how we can best use the available technology to improve our service or develop specialist skills in our workforce.

**SFRS Values** - We will develop a values framework which fully aligns with our aspirations for the new service. We will work on this with our staff and our partners. Our values will reflect our role as a modern 21st century public service and, with our supporting behaviours, will define how we will work to achieve our vision. In our first strategic plan, we have identified what we believe to be important from the predecessor services' values statements. These are values that have been consistently demonstrated and constantly reinforced.

**Safety**

The safety of the communities we serve is at the core of our values. We will do our utmost to enhance and preserve it. In doing so, fire-fighters must often work in dangerous conditions. We also place a very high value on their safety.

### Dignity

We will respect the dignity and worth of every individual within both the communities we serve and in our workplaces. We will be sensitive to individuals' circumstances, particularly those who are most vulnerable in our society.

### Excellence

We will strive for quality in everything we do and will act reliably and responsibly at all times. We will behave professionally and take pride and ownership in everything we say and do. We will be a learning organisation, taking on board the lessons learned from our own experiences and comparable organisations.

### Diversity

We recognise and value the diversity of our workforce and Scotland's communities. We will implement working practices that will be attractive to and meet the needs of those diverse groups. We will take steps to ensure equality of access to our community safety and fire prevention services and equality of impact in the delivery of emergency response. We will encourage participation in public life by engaging with diverse community groups and their representatives.

### Fairness

We will treat people fairly and not prejudge any individual or situation. We will be consistent and considerate in the development and implementation of our policies and practices.

### Integrity

We will be open and honest in our dealings with colleagues and with the public. We will not compromise on our commitment to act professionally and deliver greater safety and security to the communities we serve.

### Equality

We will remove unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited in the Equality Act 2010. We will promote equality of opportunity through our employment practices, service delivery and engagement activities. We will ensure that our corporate decision-making processes are used to identify and remove barriers and bias that would prevent equitable access and quality of service.

### Respect

We will listen to and respect the communities we serve, as well as each other. We will deal with criticism constructively and respect and value each other's contributions. We will respect the views of partners and members of the public, endeavouring to understand their perspectives to improve our quality of service

**Strategic Aims** - To deliver our vision, the benefits of reform and meet the expectations set out within the Fire and Rescue Framework, we have developed the following four strategic aims.

1. Improved safety of communities and staff
2. More equitable access to fire and rescue services
3. Improved outcomes through partnership
4. Culture of continuous improvement

**Targets** - We have agreed targets in the following areas, to reflect the range of activities we provide:

- Reduce fire casualties, by 5% each year
- Reduce special services casualties, that is, from non-fire incidents
- Reduce accidental dwelling fires, by 10% each year
- Reduce the number of non-domestic fires
- Reduce fire-fighter injuries
- Improve staff attendance levels at work.