

FALKIRK COUNCIL

Subject: SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE LOCAL PLAN 2014-2017
Meeting: FALKIRK COUNCIL
Date: 14 MAY 2014
Author: CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 This report will:

- Present the final draft of the local plan for the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, covering the period 2014-2017
- Outline some of the key points raised by the recent consultation exercise, on the draft plan and how these have been reflected in the final draft; and
- Remind Members of the scrutiny arrangements we have in place to hold the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service to account, for the delivery and performance on the local plan.

1.2 The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service became operational on 1 April 2014, under the terms of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012. The general and specialist functions set out in the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 transferred to the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service on 1 April 2013. This places an emphasis on:

- Prevention;
- Protection; and
- Flexible response.

1.3 The local senior officer for both the Falkirk and West Lothian Council areas is Gary Laing.

2. THE LOCAL FIRE AND RESCUE PLAN 2014 - 2017

2.1 The local fire and rescue plan has been developed within a common national framework. A copy of the final draft plan is attached at Appendix 1. Information has been sourced from the refreshment of the Community Safety Strategic Assessment to help develop the final draft. The proposed priorities are therefore as follows:

- Managing risk and local preparedness;
- Reducing accidental dwelling fires;
- Reducing fire casualties and fatalities;
- Tackling deliberate fire setting;
- Reducing fires in non domestic properties;
- Casualties from non fire emergencies; and
- Tackling unwanted fire alarm signals.

2.2 Each section of priorities also sets out the following:

- Alignment with local priorities and outcomes;
- Alignment with national outcomes and the strategic aims of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service nationally;
- How priorities will be achieved; and
- How value will be added.

2.3 Appendix 2 sets out:

- The local consultation process undertaken on the draft plan, to which 103 responses have been provided, 92% of which came from individuals; and
- A breakdown of the key issues arising from the consultation, including, the clarity of the document, comments on risks, priorities and outcomes.

3. SCRUTINISING THE SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

3.1 The local Fire and Rescue plan sets out:

- Priorities and objectives for the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service for the carrying out of its functions within a local authority area;
- The reason for selection priorities and objectives and how they will be delivered;
- Outcomes against which priorities and objectives can be measured, as well as how these will contribute to relevant local outcomes; and
- Any other relevant matters.

3.2 The local senior officer submits a performance report to the Council's Scrutiny Committee every quarter, which sets out the following:

- Performance and progress on the local plan; and
- Any additional information requested by the Committee.

4. CONCLUSIONS

4.1 This report sets out the medium term priorities and outcomes for the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service for the next three years and how they relate to our local outcomes. The Service will continue to be monitored through the Council's Scrutiny Committee on a regular basis. The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service continue to be a key partner of the Council and we recognise the contribution it can make to achieving our 20 year vision.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Council:

- 5.1 Approves the local fire and rescue plan for the Falkirk Council area, as attached at Appendix 1; and**
- 5.2 Notes the feedback on key issues outlined at Appendix 2, following the consultation exercise on the draft plan.**

.....
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Date: 10 April 2014

Ref: ABD0514AW – SFRS Local Plan 2014-17

Contact Name: Andrew Wilson

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 1. None**

Any person wishing to inspect the background papers listed above should telephone Falkirk 01324 506046 and ask for Andrew Wilson.