

Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes Fire Authority



MEETING	Executive Committee
DATE OF MEETING	29 July 2015
OFFICER	Jason Thelwell, Chief Fire Officer
LEAD MEMBER	Councillor Phil Gomm
SUBJECT OF THE REPORT	Property Sharing and Co-Location of Police and Fire and Rescue Services in the Thames Valley
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	<p>The purpose of this report is to a) apprise members of the principles of property sharing and co-location which have been agreed by chief officers and b) obtain approval for the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in commitment to those principles.</p> <p>The principles of property sharing and co-location with the Thames Valley Police are set out in the MoU attached at Appendix 1.</p>
ACTION	Decision.
RECOMMENDATIONS	It is recommended that the principles within the <i>Property Sharing and Co-Location of Police and Fire and Rescue Services in the Thames Valley</i> MoU be approved for signature by the Chairman.
RISK MANAGEMENT	The purpose of the MoU is to commit each party to explore co-location opportunities across the Thames Valley Police area. The recommendation does not create risks to the Authority.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	No financial implications.
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	The Authority's Financial Regulations (E.2) provide that "The Executive is responsible for approving partnership arrangements/joint working initiatives with other local public, private, voluntary and community sector organisations to address local needs."
CONSISTENCY WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF COLLABORATION	The recommendation aligns with the principles of collaboration between the Thames Valley fire and rescue authorities.
HEALTH AND SAFETY	No implications.
EQUALITY AND	No relevant issues.

DIVERSITY	
USE OF RESOURCES	<p>The Chief Fire Officer has met his counterparts from the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority and Oxfordshire County Council, and Mr Francis Habgood - Chief Constable for the Thames Valley Police, between whom the principles underlying the MoU and the text of the MoU have been agreed with the office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for the Thames Valley.</p> <p>The Thames Valley Police Property Asset Manage Plan, 2014 to 2019 (<i>Property 2026- Helping to deliver a better Police service across the Thames Valley</i>, June 2014) explicitly links the Police’s estate disposal policy with the active pursuit of co-location options in partners’ premises.</p> <p>Part 20 of the Authority’s (draft) Property Strategy 2015–2018 [Agenda Item 11 Executive Committee, 29 July 2015], cites the existing example of facility sharing with Thames Valley Police (hosted at Broughton Fire Station) and hosting of South Central Ambulance Service on some of its sites. The Authority’s (draft) Property Strategy 2015 – 2018 provides that, <i>“It is proposed to continue to seek partnering opportunities during the life of this strategy and to include any feasible commercial organisations where relevant.”</i></p>
PROVENANCE SECTION & BACKGROUND PAPERS	<p>Background</p> <p>An identical copy of this MOU was signed by the Chairman of Royal Berkshire Fire Authority following the approval of recommendations from its Chief Fire Officer at its meeting on 24 June 2015.</p> <p>Report to Royal Berkshire Fire Authority AGM, 24 June 2015</p> <p>http://library.rbfrs.co.uk/Public_RBFA/hganvr00.pdf</p> <p>The Thames Valley Police Property Asset Manage Plan, 2014 to 2019 (<i>Property 2026- Helping to deliver a better Police service across the Thames Valley</i>, June 2014)</p> <p>http://www.thamesvalley-pcc.gov.uk/Document-Library/Property-Asset-Management-Plan-2014---2019.pdf</p> <p><i>The Knight Review of the Fire and Rescue authorities in England</i> found that <i>“greater collaboration with other blue-light services, including [...]co-location, would unlock further savings.”</i></p> <p><i>‘FACING THE FUTURE: Findings from the review of efficiencies and operations in fire and rescue authorities in England’</i> (May 2013) Sir Ken Knight CBE QFSM FIFireE</p>

	<p>https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/200092/FINAL_Facing_the_Future_3_md.pdf</p> <p>Financial Regulations, June 2014</p> <p>http://bucksfire.gov.uk/files/2914/1528/8562/08.FINANCIAL_REGULATIONS - CFA 24 June 2014.pdf</p>
APPENDICES	Appendix 1: Memorandum of Understanding.
TIME REQUIRED	10 minutes.
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