



Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes Fire Authority

Meeting and date: Fire Authority, 16 June 2021

Report title: 2020-25 Corporate Plan: Year 1 Progress Review and Update

Lead Member: Fire Authority Chairman

Report sponsor: Graham Britten – Director of Legal and Governance

Author and contact: Stuart Gowanlock – Corporate Planning Manager

Action: Decision

Recommendations: That the 2020-25 Corporate Plan Progress Review and Update be approved by the Authority.

Executive summary:

The updated 2020-25 Corporate Plan sets out how we intend to equip and develop our organisation and its people to meet the challenges that we face over the next four years, in particular the need to:

- develop the Service to address the strategic context and priorities set out in our 2020-25 Public Safety Plan; and,
- address the 'Areas for Improvement' identified by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) in their report on the findings from their first inspection of the Service undertaken in 2019.

In the final quarter of the 2020/21 Financial Year, the Senior Management Team undertook a review of the programme of projects and tasks contained in the Corporate Plan, that was approved in June 2020, to ascertain progress and, in particular, any adverse impacts arising from the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic. The opportunity was also taken to identify opportunities to streamline the programme of projects and tasks and therefore reduce the associated management overhead. This resulted in a reduction in the number of projects and key tasks from 47 to 22. This was achieved by removing items that have been completed or embedded as part of normal operating processes and by consolidating thematically similar and / or interdependent projects and tasks. The updated plan is at Appendix 1. A review of progress against the original programme is shown at the Appendix 2, along with the outcomes of the Senior Management Team Review in relation to each project or task. The streamlined programme for the remaining four years of the Plan (2021/22 – 2024/25) is set out at section 6 (pages 8 – 12) of the plan (Appendix 1).

Financial implications:

Successful implementation of the plan is critical to the achievement of the Medium-Term Financial Plan.

Risk management:

Alongside the Public Safety Plan and Medium-Term Financial Plan, the Corporate Plan sets out how the strategic risks facing the Authority over the period to March 2025 will be managed.

Risks to achieving the plan together with mitigating actions are identified at page 13 of the updated plan.

Legal implications:

The Terms of Reference for the Authority require it to determine issues in respect of both the “Integrated Risk Management Plan and Action Plan” following recommendations from the Executive Committee.

Privacy and security implications:

No privacy issues have been identified as a direct consequence of the updating of 2020-25 Corporate Plan itself. However, it does include activities designed to address future requirements in relation to these areas.

Duty to collaborate:

The Policing and Crime Act 2017 introduced a statutory duty for emergency services to consider whether entering into a collaboration agreement with one or more other relevant emergency services in England could be in the interests of the efficiency or effectiveness of that Service and those other Services.

The new Corporate Plan has been aligned with the collaboration priorities agreed between the three Thames Valley Chief Fire Officers. It also identifies other areas in which collaboration opportunities with other blue light services and local resilience forum partners such as the NHS and local authorities are being pursued.

Health and safety implications:

Some elements of the programme of activities set out in the Corporate Plan may have health and safety implications e.g. Public Safety Plan reviews of emergency services provision. Detailed assessments of any health and safety implications will be conducted within the scope of the individual projects and work streams.

Environmental implications:

Environmental impact assessments of changes arising from implementation of changes specified in the Corporate Plan will be carried where required or

appropriate. The 2020-25 Public Safety Plan requires that the Service “Continue to identify and act on opportunities to reduce our own carbon footprint”.

Equality, diversity, and inclusion implications:

No equality, diversity or inclusion issues have been identified as a direct consequence of the updating of 2020-25 Corporate Plan itself. However, it does include activities designed to address future requirements in relation to these areas.

Consultation and communication:

Following workshops convened to obtain input from Service officers responsible for the delivery of the corporate plan, the updated plan has been reviewed by the following:

- the Business Transformation Board at its 29 April 2021 meeting;
- the Strategic Management Board at its 18 May 2021 meeting.

Following approval of the updated Plan by the Authority, it will be circulated to the Service Managers for cascading throughout the Service.

Background papers:

The 2020-25 Corporate Plan schedules the key work programmes arising out of the 2020-25 Public Safety Plan which was approved by the Fire Authority at its 12 February 2020 meeting. At that meeting, the Fire Authority determined that the Chief Fire Officer be granted discretion to determine the sequencing and timing of the work required to further progress the approved proposals.

The updated 2020-25 Corporate Plan reflects the sequencing and timing agreed by the Chief Fire Officer for the specific projects and workstreams required to deliver the proposals and priorities set out in the 2020-25 Public Safety Plan.

The updated 2020-25 Corporate Plan supersedes the first version which was approved by the Authority on the 10 June 2020:

[Corporate Plan - Buckinghamshire Fire & Rescue Service](#)

Appendix	Title	Protective Marking
1	Updated 2020–25 Corporate Plan	None
2	Year 1 Progress Review	None