



Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes Fire Authority

Meeting and date: Fire Authority, 6 December 2023

Report title: Input to the annual assessment of fire and rescue authorities in England 2023

Lead Member: Cllr Simon Rouse

Report sponsor: Mick Osborne, Interim Chief Fire Officer

Author and contact: Mark Hemming, Interim Chief Operating Officer

Action: Noting

Recommendations:

That the Authority note the response provided to His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Fire and Rescue Services.

Executive summary:

On 15 November 2023 the Chairman and (Interim) Chief Fire Officer (CFO) both received a letter asking for their advice and assistance in connection with the preparation of the annual assessment of the efficiency and effectiveness of fire and rescue authorities in England (attached as Appendix 1). This is the report which His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Fire and Rescue Services is required by section 28 of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 to submit to the Home Secretary and lay before Parliament. On this occasion, the questions asked of the Chairman and CFO are identical, so one response covering both letters has been submitted.

The plan is to publish the annual assessment in spring 2024. Responses to the letter were requested no later than 1 December 2023. To meet this timescale the proposed response was approved by the Lead Members and Group Leaders and is being presented to the Fire Authority for noting (Appendix 2).

Financial implications: No direct impact.

Risk management: No direct impact.

Legal implications: No direct impact.

Privacy and security implications: No direct impact.

Duty to collaborate: No direct impact.

Health and safety implications: No direct impact.

Environmental implications: No direct impact.

Equality, diversity, and inclusion implications: No direct impact.

Consultation and communication: No direct impact.

Background papers: None

Appendix	Title	Protective Marking
1	Letter from Andy Cooke QPM DL, His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Fire and Rescue Services, to Chairs of Fire and Rescue Authorities	None
2	Response to the letter from His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Fire and Rescue Services	Item to follow.