

Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

15 January 2013

Agenda

A meeting of the Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be held at **Shire Hall, Warwick** on **15 January 2013** at **10:00am**.

1. General

(1) Apologies

(2) Members' Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests.

Members are required to register their disclosable pecuniary interests within 28 days of their election or appointment to the Council. A member attending a meeting where a matter arises in which s/he has a disclosable pecuniary interest must (unless s/he has a dispensation):

- Declare the interest if s/he has not already registered it
- Not participate in any discussion or vote
- Must leave the meeting room until the matter has been dealt with (Standing Order 42).
- Give written notice of any unregistered interest to the Monitoring Officer within 28 days of the meeting

Non-pecuniary interests must still be declared in accordance with the new Code of Conduct. These should be declared at the commencement of the meeting.

(3) Chair's Announcements

(4) Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising

2. Public Question Time

Up to 30 minutes of the meeting are available for members of the public to ask questions on any matters within the remit of the Committee. Questioners can speak for up to three minutes.

If you would like to ask a question at the meeting please contact Dave Abbott:

Tel: (01926) 412323

Email: daveabbott@warwickshire.gov.uk

3. **Questions to the Portfolio Holders**

Up to 30 minutes of the meeting are available for members of the Committee to put questions to the Portfolio Holders on any matters relevant to the remit of the Committee, and for the Portfolio Holders to update the Committee on relevant issues.

Members received the following briefing notes and can ask questions about these topics during the item:

- **Funding for Rugby Western Relief Road** - The financial impact on the transport & highways budget.
- **Youth Justice Service Inspection Outcomes Update** - Following up on the inspection of the Warwickshire YJS.
- **Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy Update and Impact of the Police and Crime Commissioner** – An update on the impact of the PCC on community safety and an update on the ASB strategy report received in June.

4. **Street Lighting - Question and Answer Session**

The Portfolio Holder for Transport and Highways will take questions from Councillors and members of the public on recent changes to street lighting. The session is open to all Councillors and members of the public. If you would like to submit a question in advance please email: daveabbott@warwickshire.gov.uk

5. **Devolved Funding for Major Transport Schemes**

This item gives members the opportunity to consider a briefing note on WCC's response to the DfT consultation regarding devolving funding to Local Transport Bodies for major transport infrastructure projects.

6. **Fire & Rescue: Strategic Commissioning and Strategic Alliance Update**

This report updates members on the outcomes of the strategic commissioning process and strategic alliance.

7. **Fire & Rescue: Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP)**

This report updates members on the IRMP consultation and gives the Committee the opportunity to agree a formal response.

8. **Work Programme 2013 (Standing Item)**

The latest version of the Communities Overview and Scrutiny work programme is attached at Appendix A for the Committee to amend and approve as appropriate.

9. **Any Urgent Items**

JIM GRAHAM
Chief Executive
Shire Hall
Warwick

Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee Membership

Councillors

Sarah Boad, Richard Chattaway, Michael Doody, Clare Hopkinson, Barry Lobbett, Chris Saint (Vice Chair), Ray Sweet, Claire Watson, John Whitehouse (Chair), and Chris Williams

Portfolio Holders relevant to the remit of the Committee

Councillor Peter Butlin – Transport and Highways

Councillor Alan Cockburn – Sustainable Communities

Councillor Colin Hayfield – Customers, Access and Physical Assets

Councillor Richard Hobbs – Community Safety

Minutes of the Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 14 November 2012

Present:

Members of the Committee

Councillors Richard Chattaway, Michael Doody, Robin Hazelton, David Johnston, Barry Lobbett, Chris Saint, John Whitehouse (Chair), and Chris Williams

Portfolio Holders

Councillor Peter Butlin, Portfolio Holder for Transport and Highways

Councillor Alan Cockburn, Portfolio Holder for Sustainable Communities

Councillor Colin Hayfield, Portfolio Holder for Customers, Access and Physical Assets

Councillor Richard Hobbs, Portfolio Holder for Community Safety

Officers

Kushal Birla, Head of Customer Services

Jo Cooper, Concessionary Travel Manager

Graeme Fitton, Head of Transport & Highways

Monica Fogarty, Strategic Director for Communities

Ayub Khan, Head of Libraries – Strategy

Kevin McGovern, Transport Operations Group Manager

Gary Phillips, Deputy Chief Fire Officer

Greg Pace, Fire & Rescue Area Commander

Andy Stokes, Passenger Transport Manager

Sian Stroud, Corporate & Employment Senior Solicitor

Louise Wall, Head of Sustainable Communities

Two members of the public attended the meeting.

1. General

(1) Apologies

Councillor Clare Hopkinson who was replaced by Councillor Robin Hazelton

Councillor Sarah Boad who was replaced by Councillor David Johnston

Councillor Ray Sweet

Councillor Claire Watson

(2) Members' Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

None.

(3) Chair's Announcements

The Chair made the following announcements:

- There will be a Special Meeting of the Committee on 11 December at 12.30pm to discuss the Long Term Waste Disposal report before Cabinet. The report is exempt and the meeting will be closed to the public.
- The next Chair and party spokespersons meeting was scheduled for 4 December at 2pm.

(4) Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 September 2012 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

2. Public Question Time

Portfolio Holder Decision Making Session Regarding Speed Limits

Alice Hardman, a local resident, addressed the Portfolio Holder about a Portfolio Holder Decision making session regarding changes to speed limits. Mrs Hardman attended the decision making session at Shire Hall, made representations, and believed that the Portfolio Holder was going to undertake a site visit with residents then make a final decision following further consultation with the public. The Portfolio Holder did go on a site visit but was accompanied only by officers of the County Council and the final decision was taken in private. Mrs Hardman felt that the process wasn't clear and asked that the Council considered working in partnership with the public in future.

Peter Butlin, Portfolio Holder for Transport and Highways, responded that he had invited the local member, Councillor Les Caborn, to attend the site visit and represent residents' views but he was unable to attend. The Portfolio Holder agreed with the officer recommendations and made the decision in accordance with the constitution of Warwickshire County Council (WCC). The Portfolio Holder reiterated that there is an opportunity for engagement with members of the public at the decision making session meeting.

3. Questions to the Portfolio Holders

Questions to Councillor Peter Butlin, Portfolio Holder for Transport and Highways

The Chair asked the Portfolio Holder if Community Forums would be informed of Traffic Regulation Orders at same time as Parish Councils. The Chair also asked the Portfolio Holder if he had considered holding public engagement meetings at Community Forums to allow easier access for local people. The Portfolio Holder responded that all Community Forum members could be informed about Traffic Order Regulations via email and said he would revisit the protocol regarding where the meetings would be held.

The Chair asked that informing Community Forum members via email be formalised in the engagement protocol. It was agreed that a revised protocol would be circulated to members prior to the Communities OSC Chair and party spokespersons meeting on 4 December 2012.

Questions to Councillor Richard Hobbs, Portfolio Holder for Community Safety

Councillor Richard Chattaway asked the Portfolio Holder what the timetable was for recruiting a new Fire and Rescue Service Chief Officer. The Portfolio Holder responded that Service will be recruiting a replacement in January 2013 to start in May 2013.

Councillor Richard Chattaway asked the Portfolio Holder to supply members with statistics showing how many times the appliance at Atherstone Fire Station (formerly at Bedworth Station) was called out and what the response times were in each case. The Portfolio Holder agreed to supply the requested information and said he was fully confident that the service had met its standard response times.

Councillor Richard Chattaway asked the Portfolio Holder where Warwickshire Fire Fighters would undertake 'hot fire training' after the current contract with the West Midlands Fire Service finished in March 2013. The Portfolio Holder responded that the service was planning to retender with the West Midlands in the short term; negotiations are on-going.

The Chair asked the Portfolio Holder for a reassurance that Warwickshire County Council was not considering switching off all fixed speed cameras, as was planning in the West Midlands. The Portfolio Holder responded that there were no plans to do so.

Questions to Councillor Peter Butlin, Portfolio Holder for Transport and Highways

Councillor Richard Chattaway asked the Portfolio Holder if WCC had consulted with the Police before taking the decision to implement part-night lighting in Warwickshire. The Police website recommends parking in a well-lit area to avoid car crime. The Portfolio Holder responded that WCC did consult the Police and they were not aware of that advice and said there was no evidence that part-night lighting leads to increased crime.

The Chair asked the Portfolio Holder if WCC took further advice from the Police and community safety partners on the decision to bring forward the switch-off. The Portfolio Holder responded that further advice was not taken.

Councillor Michael Doody asked the Portfolio Holder if the process of getting new yellow lines approved could be sped up. The Portfolio Holder responded that behind every yellow line and sign there were a lot of regulations. WCC are trying to make the process as streamlined as possible.

Councillor Robin Hazelton asked the Portfolio Holder how quickly temporary seals on potholes are filled with permanent seals. Graeme Fitton responded that temporary seals were always followed up but the permanent repair has to be programmed so that the work is carried out in an efficient and cost effective manner meaning there will be a period of time between the temporary and permanent repair. The Portfolio Holder noted that the new highways contract had been highly successful and had led to the lowest level of insurance claims against the Local Authority for a decade.

4. Bus Services Task and Finish Group Report

Councillor David Johnston presented the report of the Task and Finish Group and informed the Committee that, as part of the 2011/12 budget, Warwickshire County Council reduced the Transport Operations budget by 45%. Following such a significant budget reduction, the level of financially supported services in the County was substantially affected.

Due to concerns from Councillors and representations from members of the public about changes to local bus services, a Task and Finish Group was set up to scrutinise the impact of the service changes on users and propose solutions that could be considered as part of the budget setting for 2013/14.

The Task and Finish Group identified three recommendations which aimed to maintain the current level of bus services across the County and reinstate a reduced level of evening bus subsidy to provide brand new rural and inter-urban bus routes on Friday and Saturday evenings.

Councillors believed the proposals for new bus services would increase access to services and amenities for thousands of people and help to improve the night time economy in Warwickshire.

Councillors asked the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Highways if there were plans to make further cuts to the transport budget and he responded that there were no plans to further reduce the budget.

Chair said that the recommendations of the task and finish group provided an opportunity to ameliorate the blanket decision to cut evening services and thanked officers from the Transport Operations team for their valuable input and hard work on the proposals.

Resolved

The Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed the recommendations in the report and referred it to Cabinet for executive approval.

5. Concessionary Travel Scheme 2013-14

Jo Cooper, Concessionary Travel Manager, presented the report which presented recommendations for the discretionary elements of the 2013 Concessionary Travel Scheme. The proposal was to retain the discretionary times of 9.00am to 9.30am and 11.00pm to midnight, for a period of five years then undertake a further review in 2017.

The Chair asked why companion passes were considered to be unsustainable in Warwickshire when a number of neighbouring authorities still provided them. Jo Cooper responded that introducing companion passes County-wide would cost around £160,000 of additional funding and wasn't sustainable. It was also noted that WCC was not the only authority to remove companion passes.

Councillor Michael Doody asked if there was any support available to people in small Communities without good transport links. Jo Cooper responded that North Warwickshire Borough Council and Warwick District Council offered travel tokens to pay for taxi journeys but WCC had not considered a County-wide scheme due to the significant additional cost.

Councillors commented that the scheme was highly popular and successful and endorsed the recommendations in the report.

Resolved

The Committee endorsed the recommendations in the report scheduled for Cabinet on 22 November 2012.

6. CWLEP – Constitution and Governance

Louise Wall, Head of Sustainable Communities, introduced the report and informed the Committee that the Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership (CWLEP) had formed a company limited by guarantee. This allows the LEP to hold its own funding and limits the liabilities of its Directors to one pound each. Any debts that the LEP incurs would be repaid from the company's balance sheet.

The Chair asked how the new governance arrangements change the relationship between WCC and the CWLEP. Louise Wall responded that the key change is that the CWLEP can now hold funding, hire its own staff, and rent property without relying on Coventry City Council and WCC.

Councillors asked what the legal difference between A Directors and B Directors was. Sian Shroud responded that all directors have the same voting rights but a distinction was made in the constitution between A private (A Directors) – (B Directors) public. Currently there are six private sector members and six public sector members. The quorum rules in the constitution state that there is no requirement for public sector members to attend meetings and vote.

Resolved

The Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee endorsed the decision on the constitution and governance arrangements of the CWLEP.

9. Communities OSC Work Programme

The Chair introduced work programme and requested the following addition:

Flood Risk Management (13 March 2012) - Officers were requested to provide background information for members that focussed on WCC's duties under the flood risk act and covered the relationship between the Local Authority and the Environment Agency. The Chair also requested that a representative from the Environment Agency attended the meeting.

Resolved

The Committee approved the draft work programme for 2012-13.

8. IRMP Consultation

Councillor Richard Hobbs, Portfolio Holder for Community Safety, presented the report and informed members that a cross-party working group had been set up to work on the IRMP and they recognised that performance was excellent.

Gary Phillips, Deputy Chief Fire Officer, informed members that the IRMP was a statutory document that sets out the priorities and challenges for the service for a three year period. Fire officers have provided technical advice and guidance.

The Chair noted that the documents contained clear recommendations about changes to response time standards and asked at what stage those recommendations would be turned into an actionable plan. Gary Phillips responded that it was likely to be considered as part of the budget setting process.

Councillor Richard Chattaway stated the importance of using appropriate benchmarks when measuring efficiency.

The Chair informed the Committee that members would have a further opportunity to give their formal comments about the IRMP at the meeting in December. The Chair also requested an update on the progress of the consultation for members for the December meeting.

7. Mobile Library Service Reconfiguration

Councillor Colin Hayfield, Portfolio Holder for Customers, Access and Governance, introduced the report and informed the Committee that the mobile library fleet was to be reduced from five vehicles to three. The number and length of stops they make being consulted on and reviewed. The consultation would include all Parish Councillors and County Councillors in the affected areas.

Kushal Birla, Head of Customer Services, said that stops where very low numbers of people are using the service could be removed. When the draft routes are proposed, impact assessments will be done on all of them.

Chris Williams asked if the service had considered weekend or evening stops to encourage greater use. People who work during the day currently can't access the service. The Portfolio Holder responded that opening hours would be considered as part of the consultation.

Councillor Richard Chattaway asked if the service should be delivered by another provider for a lower cost. Kushal Birla informed members that all options were being considered as part of the Strategic Commissioning process.

Councillors expressed concerns that the definition of 'deprivation' that was being used was obfuscating true deprivation. The deprivation indices contained a number of factors that don't apply to most library users (e.g. if there isn't a school in the local area it is considered to be more deprived – which gives high deprivation scores to otherwise affluent communities). Councillors asked that more weight be put on rural isolation and lack of access to services.

Councillors felt that they couldn't endorse the second recommendation in the Cabinet report. The outcome of the consultation could significantly affect the service proposals and it wouldn't be appropriate to allow a senior officer to take those decisions without the input of Executive members.

The Chair requested that Communities OSC members be sent the final consultation documents prior to their distribution.

Resolved

The Communities strongly endorsed the full consultation approach following its success with community libraries.

Recommendation to Cabinet

That recommendation 2 of the Cabinet report should not adopted. Cabinet should consider the outcome of the consultation and make a final decision on the proposals.

The Committee rose at 2:30pm

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Chair

Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee 15 January 2013

Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Commissioning and Strategic Alliance Update

Recommendation

That the Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee note the progress made to date with the Strategic Commissioning process in Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service (WFRS) and the Strategic Alliance with Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service (NFRS).

1.0 Strategic Commissioning

- 1.1 As part of the three year programme to review all services, WFRS is undertaking a Strategic Commissioning Review of its services. This is being led by the Deputy Chief Fire Officer and other officers from WFRS.
- 1.2 The review coincides with the development of the Service's key strategic plan, the Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP), and the development of the Business Case for a Strategic Alliance with NFRS.
- 1.3 The Service is using the Strategic Commissioning Review to inform both the production and delivery of its IRMP. In turn, this has helped to underpin discussions with NFRS regarding the Strategic Alliance.
- 1.4 To date, Corporate Board has agreed the following review stages:
 - The Initial Assessment which identified areas for improvement – completed 4th July 2012.
 - The Options Appraisal which starts to identify how improvements could be delivered – completed 24th October 2012.

The Options Appraisal describes:

- Progress towards a Business Case for a Strategic Alliance with NFRS;
- Options for ensuring that Whole-time Firefighters are deployed effectively to support fire cover arrangements;
- Options for delivering our prevention work including the opportunity for a shared service with NFRS; and
- Work undertaken to combine prevention and protection work with operational response. This will enable the better integration of areas that impact on public safety and also ensure that important risk information is shared between frontline/public facing departments.

1.5 Work is now underway to develop a Business Case for Strategic Commissioning. This will enable WFRS to explore options for delivering the high level proposals set out in the IRMP. The Business Case will include work to support the following areas:

- A review of response standards for Warwickshire and associated performance measures;
- A review of the use of Wholetime Firefighters, particularly in supporting RDS Firefighters;
- Development of a shared service prevention model;
- The costs and benefits associated with these models;
- The estimated delivery time for the changes;
- How risks will be managed; and
- How key stakeholders will be engaged in the next phase.

2.0 Strategic Alliance

2.1 On the 8th September 2011 Warwickshire County Council agreed to develop closer working arrangements between WFRS and NFRS. The following areas were proposed for initial consideration for joint working:

- Fire Control;
- Firefighter and Incident Commander training;
- Fire Safety Enforcement;
- Community Safety; and
- Technical Equipment.

2.2 In July 2012 a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for collaborative working between the two Services was agreed and signed. Further work has been undertaken and the Chief Executives from the two authorities met on 5th November 2012 to discuss progress. They agreed that work should proceed with an emphasis on areas that could generate the most collaborative advantage, namely:

- **Joint Management Team** – the development of a joint senior management team at Principal Officer and Area Commander level will enable greater sharing of learning and expertise across the two Services and efficiency savings in staffing;
- **Joint Fire Control** – the sharing of Fire Control functions, facilities and staffing between WFRS and NFRS will deliver effective, efficient and resilient mobilising; and
- **Joint Training** – a joint approach on training and development will enable a sharing of expertise and resources across the two Services and efficiency savings in staffing.

2.3 Progress made to date on the Strategic Alliance and the potential for savings were presented in a paper to Corporate Board on 5th December 2012. A Terms of Reference for governance of the Strategic Alliance is also being finalised for approval at the next partnership board meeting.

3.0 Next steps

3.1 The Strategic Commissioning Business Case is being developed for presentation to Corporate Board in March 2013. Detailed proposals for change will then be incorporated into a draft IRMP Action Plan, which will be subject to consultation with all key stakeholders.

3.2 A Business Case for the Strategic Alliance is also being prepared for presentation to Corporate Board in March 2013. This will fully detail the associated benefits and risks.

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Portfolio Holder	Richard Hobbs	cllrhobbs@warwickshire.gov.uk

Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Meeting Date 15th January 2013

Report Title Draft Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) Public Consultation Summary

Recommendation

That the Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee support the Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) 2013/17 Public Consultation exercise and make any comments that they wish to be considered by Cabinet in light of consultation responses received by the date of its meeting.

1.0 Key Issues

Background

- 1.1 Open and honest public consultation is a requirement placed on the Fire Authority when developing its IRMP, feedback from the community, our staff and other public bodies help the service to develop its plans to keep the public and our firefighters safe.
- 1.2 Since April 2003 every Fire and Rescue Authority has been subject to a statutory requirement to produce a local IRMP that sets out the Fire Authority's strategy, in collaboration with other agencies, for:
 - Reducing the number and severity of fires, road traffic accidents and other emergency incidents occurring in the area for which it is responsible;
 - Reducing the severity of injuries in fires, road traffic accidents and other emergency incidents;
 - Reducing the commercial, economic and social impact of fires and other emergency incidents;
 - Safeguarding the environment and heritage (both built and natural);
 - Providing value for money.
- 1.3 Responsibility for preparing the IRMP 2013/2017 rests with the Fire Authority. A cross party member working group, chaired by the Portfolio Holder for Community Safety, was set up to shape the proposals with professional advice provided by the Deputy Chief Fire Officer.

- 1.4 There is no legal standard definition of public consultation, but the Service bases its IRMP consultation exercise on the guidance provided by the Department for Communities and Local Government, the local voluntary sector Compact agreement and accepted good practice.
- 1.5 This IRMP consultation plan was informed by the 2009/10 Improvement Plan consultation exercise and has involved deliberative meetings with the public and business leaders, our attendance at community forums and one to one meetings with key stakeholders.
- 1.6 The consultation exercise began in May 2012 at the early “formative” stages of IRMP policy development with two meetings that involved the public, and a third that involved local businesses. These meetings were convened and managed by Opinion Research Services to ensure an impartial and unbiased beginning to the development of IRMP policy. A copy of the report is attached.
- 1.7 There were a total of 40 members of the public at the meetings that were held in Leamington Spa and Nuneaton, and included a broad range of attendees who reflected the diversity of the community.
- 1.8 The IRMP consultation was launched with a press release and publication of the IRMP on the Fire and Rescue Service section of the Warwickshire County Council (WCC) Website.
- 1.9 An introduction and link to the IRMP consultation web pages was sent to all Town and Parish Councils, our neighbouring Fire and Rescue Services and all WFRS personnel via email.
- 1.10 As of 14th December 2012 there had been a range of respondents to the IRMP consultation including members of the public, other Fire and Rescue Services and Parish Councils. There were no objections to the proposals contained within the IRMP and all comments were positive in nature. There were a few requests for further information.
- 1.11 In order to meet the internal O&S committee deadlines all consultation responses that have been received are included in Appendix 1. As agreed with the Chair of the O&S Committee, the Deputy Chief Fire Officer will provide a copy of any further response received between the 15th of December 2012 and 14th January 2012 at the O&S meeting.
- 1.12 The Deputy Chief Fire Officer held IRMP briefings with the Fire Brigades Union and the Retained Fire Brigades Union. Responses from both the FBU and RFU have been requested and will be presented at the O&S meeting in January
- 1.13 This IRMP has been developed jointly with Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service and includes a shared statement regarding the Strategic Alliance.

2.0 Outstanding Issues from the IRMP 2010 - 13

- 2.1 Work has been progressing in order to relocate Leamington Fire Station, Service Headquarters, Fire Control and to provide a purpose built training centre.
- 2.2 Leamington Spa fire station site also houses the fire service command and control room which deals with emergency call handling and major incidents within the County. This facility could be located on any new fire station site.
- 2.3 The Fire and Rescue Service HQ function is also located at Leamington Spa which amounts to 65 staff carrying out roles to support fire and community safety, in addition accommodation within the HQ site provides for storage of kit and equipment essential for operational response. This facility could be relocated to existing County Council accommodation and in addition officers are exploring the potential of sharing HQ provision with Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service as part of the Strategic Alliance.
- 2.4 A number of options ensued from the original proposal and estimates suggested a total cost of up to £17m, which is 4 times the value anticipated for the sale of the current Leamington Fire Station site.
- 2.5 The 2010/13 IRMP also proposed a new purpose built training facility. In order to improve training facilities there is a requirement for facilities of some considerable technical capability in order to meet modern fire service standards. The training functions, which would serve the entire County, would not need to be located with any new fire station.
- 2.6 In early 2012 Resources Group agreed with Portfolio Holders to produce a thorough business case exploring the possible options. This business case would form the basis of a budget bid for the 2013/14 budget. This funding is crucial to deliver the new fire station. A bid of £4.2m was made to the DCLG for funding of the training facility, but was unsuccessful.

3.0 Proposals for the future

The IRMP member working group have shaped the following proposals.

- 3.1 Review our emergency response standards so that we can offer the best response across the whole county.
- 3.2 Increase training, support and leadership for Retained Duty System Firefighters so that they can respond effectively to operational incidents in rural areas.
- 3.3 Introduce a core spine of wholetime operational Incident Commanders, particularly across rural areas, to respond to emergencies immediately so that an enhanced level of supervision and specialist knowledge is available.

- 3.4 Deploy wholetime Firefighters to do jobs that make the best use of their skills and working time, whilst maintaining a quick and safe response to operational incidents across the county.
- 3.5 Develop the role of our Fire Control Operating teams to maximise their contribution and make best use of their skills and working time, so that they can provide vital information to operational crews.
- 3.6 Develop the partnership with Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service and others so that we can increase capacity and make efficiency savings where possible.
- 3.7 Increase our water rescue capability to flooding / fast flowing water incidents so that we can respond to a wider range of incidents with a well-equipped and better trained team.
- 3.8 Develop our specialist rescue capability so that we can provide a response to incidents with the right skills, knowledge and equipment.
- 3.9 Review our preventative work to reduce the number and impact of emergency incidents.

4.0 Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

- 4.1 Guidance has been produced to assist fire authorities in consulting and producing and publishing IRMP's and on that basis the proposed timescales are as follows:-
 - (i) The Fire and Rescue Authority to formally consider the outcome of consultation, commission any revisions and to formally adopt the IRMP by the end of March 2013.
 - (ii) Begin to develop the work plans associated with the delivery of the proposals outlined in the draft IRMP by the end of May 2013

Background papers

- 1. Draft IRMP 2013/17
- 2. ORS IRMP Consultation Report June 2012

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Portfolio Holder	Richard Hobbs	cllrhobbs@warwickshire.gov.uk

Appendix 1

Proposers Details	Date Received	Page Number Paragraph	Current Text / Comment (<u>please note this column contains verbatim quotes from the respondent</u>)	Suggested Text / Answer
Andy Parker QPM Chief Constable Warwickshire Police	12/11/2012	N/A	Thanks for the sight of your IRMP which looks very comprehensive. I have asked Martin McNevin to have a detailed look and provide any feedback to the IRMP team.	Confirmation of approval and support of Plan.
Member of the public "Support from other Fire and Rescue Services"	09/11/2012	Page 17	Telephone Conversation – A good document, easy to read. One Question regarding the partnership with Northamptonshire FRS, does WFRS have the same sort of support arrangements in place with Leicestershire FRS	Yes, we have mutual aid agreements in place with Leicestershire whereby we provide support to each other if requested.
Member of the public "Consultation Questions"	08/11/12	Page 26	<p>Consultation Indicate which groups represented the public please?</p> <p>I am particularly interested to know the locations of such groups.</p> <p>Was this random selection that took place across Warwickshire inclusive of remote rural areas, how can I be assured that rural areas were consulted?</p> <p>Although I would not expect individual names of respondents, do you hold the locations, not address specific?</p> <p>What was the take up rate of the random telephone calls? How many residents</p>	<p>A random sample of members of the public was selected to help with the formulation of the IRMP proposals.</p> <p>Two meetings for the public were held one was in Leamington Spa and the other was in Nuneaton.</p> <p>This consultation was at the formative stages of the development of the proposals. The groups included a broad representation of the public. The current public consultation exercise is open to every member of the public to respond.</p> <p>No we do not have address details of the attendees. All respondents were given the option of attending either of the meetings.</p> <p>We do not know what the take up rate was. There were approximately 20 attendees at</p>

			<p>attended these sessions? Was the ratio of male and female equal? What questions were asked?</p>	<p>each meeting and there was an equal share of male and female people at each meeting. The sessions began with background information regarding the fire service including what we do, how we do it and how we manage risk to the community and our staff.</p> <p>Questions included; what should we prioritise: prevention, protection or response? How many people are killed and injured in fire related incidents? What is an appropriate response time?</p>
Member of the public "budget/finance questions"	08/11/12	Page 22	Can you also indicate what the likely budget for WF&RS is to be for this year please?	£22.3 million
	09/11/12	Page 22	Thanks for the details re the budget, is this less, more, or at the same level as you currently have? Was this figure decided upon by the county or what WF&RS have calculated as your requirements? Eleven pence a day was the figure that was quoted way back when the consultation took place to close the fire stations, in real terms why has this not increased or is it because there are more people in Warwickshire?	The Fire and Rescue budget for 2012/13 is the same as 2011/12. The Governments Comprehensive Spending review is due for publication in December 2012 when further information about our future budget will be known.
	09/11/12	Page 22	Is it true that funding for WF&RS is based on per head of population? How then are visitors or motorists passing through taken into the equation?	Funding is based on Grants made to the County Council for the provision of a Fire and Rescue Service and through local taxation. The WCC Cabinet makes the decision on the level of funding for the Fire Service.
Member of the public "governance question"	08/11/12	N/A	Has the new government suggested that F&RS should be treated the same as the police and set their own budget, rather than be tied to the County Council yet?	No the Government has not suggested that Fire and Rescue Services should be governed in the same way as the Police.

<p>Member of the public "response time question"</p>	<p>09/11/12</p>	<p>Page 10</p>	<p>As this would seem an ideal opportunity to improve response times, what is your proposed revised target?</p>	<p>We are proposing to review our current response times and standards as part of the IRMP 2013 – 17. We do not have a revised response target.</p>
<p>Member of the public "RDS availability question"</p>	<p>09/11/12</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>I note that the retained are to supply you with duty availability in advance, how will this work in real terms?</p> <p>For example if you have indicated that you will be available for a shift on return from work, reasonably 5.30pm and then they are delayed either by having to stay late or traffic, what happens if they can't make it?</p> <p>Would you not agree that this is too restrictive?</p> <p>How far in advance are they expected to predict their availability?</p> <p>Given the large and useful range of retained personnel, I can envisage problems with this proposal, what do the retained feel about this and have they been canvassed for their opinion? If so how has this been received and how many were asked?</p>	<p>We need to be able to plan for availability and have the right number of firefighters available to respond to the public needs us most. If RDS firefighters can let us know when they are available and when they are not we will be in a better position to plan. RDS firefighters will be asked to provide details of their availability in advanced.</p> <p>This would be managed locally and we would aim to have enough flexibility in the system to make it work for both our firefighters and the service, this would include having enough firefighters available to deal with crewing deficiencies.</p> <p>The key is getting the right balance to have enough information available to be able to plan to have the right number of Firefighters available to respond when we are needed.</p> <p>Probably 3 months?</p> <p>All proposals are discussed with the relevant representative bodies.</p>

			Whereby I can see this suggestion would have obvious benefits for management, I don't feel that the same could be said for the retained duty.	The key is getting the right balance to have enough information available to be able to plan to have the right number of Firefighters available to respond when they are needed.
Member of the public "RDS recruitment question"	09/11/12	N/A	Recruitment for retained stations still seems patchy; can you not incorporate a rolling programme of recruitment so that more people can be encouraged to come forward? How will you be seeking to improve this aspect?	Recruitment of RDS firefighters is limited by the fact that the need to live or work within 5 minutes of their station. This means that we have a small number of people to recruit from in the first place. We are looking at extending the travel time to increase the "pool" of people that could be included. We are also looking at changing elements of the recruitment and selection process to provide additional support to potential RDS firefighters.
Group Manager West Mids Fire Service IRMP Manager.	07/12/2012		<p>With reference to the WFRS draft IRMP for the forthcoming period, on behalf of WMFS, I would thank you for including us in your consultation process and comment as follows:</p> <p>Overall, WMFS does not see any significant impacts on our service, arising from the issues outlined in the draft IRMP</p> <p>More specifically, only the following point would appear to have the potential to impact on the West Midlands service, or communities:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review our emergency response standards so that we can offer the best response across the whole county. <p>WMFS would request to be kept informed of the details relating to any proposed changes to emergency response cover across Warwickshire and in particular, any changes that could impact upon our</p>	Agreed to share proposals regarding the outcomes of the review of response standards as soon as it is practicable to do so.

			common border areas and the working relations that we currently experience in those areas	
Budbrooke Parish Council	14/12/12		<p>The Parish Council would like to congratulate Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service on the achievements and improvements made so far, as detailed in the plan.</p> <p>Councillors have the following questions:</p> <p>What is the proposed response time for outlying areas, such as Budbrooke?</p> <p>Is the Head Quarters to be relocated and, if so, will the engines be moved and what will the effect be on response times?</p>	<p>There are no proposed response standards, a review of operational response standards will be completed as per IRMP option one.</p> <p>A decision regarding the location of Head Quarters has not been made and the impact on response standards will not be known until the location of the fire engines is available.</p>

**Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee
15 January 2013**

Work Programme 2013

Recommendation

That the Committee considers the draft work programme, amends as appropriate, and puts forwards any recommendations for Task & Finish Groups.

1.0 Draft Work Programme

- 1.1 The Committee's work programme is attached as Appendix A. The work programme will be reviewed and prioritised throughout the year so that the Committee can adopt a flexible approach and respond to issues as they emerge.

Appendices

Appendix A - Work Programme 2013

CLLR WHITEHOUSE
Chair of the Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Shire Hall
Warwick

**Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Work Programme 2012/13**

Date of meeting	Item	Date of last report	Date of next report
13 March 2013	Reports		
	1. Library Service Transformation Update (Kushal Birla, Ayub Khan) Update on Community Libraries and the WCC library network.	14 November 2012	
	2. New Flood Risk Management Strategy (Mark Ryder, Michael Green) Scrutiny of the new statutory Flood Risk Strategy. Note: Include background briefing note for members before meeting to give context that covers: WCCs responsibilities under the act and WCC's relationship with the Environment Agency. EA to be invited to attend.		
	3. EXEMPT - Long Term Waste Disposal Treatment (Louise Wall, Glenn Fleet) This report is exempt because it contains commercially sensitive information.	31 August 2012	Deferred
	Briefing Notes		
	1. Highways Maintenance Contract (Graeme Fitton, Andrew Savage) Update on the new KPIs and the Board's decision to rebase a number of statistics. 6 months position with a review in 1 year.	19 September 2012	
	2. Update on Part-Night Lighting (Graeme Fitton, Simon Moseley) Update on the impact of part night lighting. Experience to date.	19 September 2012	
	To be scheduled		
	1. Review of Part-Night Street Lighting (Graeme Fitton) 1 year review from the date of implementation.	19 September 2012	November 2013
	2. Rugby Western Relief Road – Lessons Learned (Phil Evans) The lessons learned from RWRR and how WCC has implemented the recommendations from scrutiny.	28 April 2011 15 March 2011	
	3. Rugby Western Relief Road – Financial Outcome (Graeme Fitton) The financial outcome of land value claims. (note: 6 year window for claims)	28 April 2011 15 March 2011	Autumn 2013

**Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Work Programme 2012/13**

Date of meeting	Item	Date of last report	Date of next report
4.	Economic Development – Update on WCC’s contribution to the Growth Agenda.		