

INDIVIDUAL CABINET MEMBER DECISION REPORT
Published on 15 July 2020
Gloucestershire Fire & Rescue Service IRMP 2018 – 2021
One Year Extension

Dates between which decision will be taken	Earliest date: 16 July 2020 Latest date : 30 July 2020
Public Protection, Parking and Libraries	Cllr Dave Norman
Key Decision	No
Background Papers	Fire and Rescue National Framework for England published by the Home Office in May 2018.
Location/Contact for inspection of Background Documents	https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/705060/National_Framework_-_final_for_web.pdf
Main Consultees	<p>The existing GFRS IRMP 2018 – 2021 was subject to full public consultation. The proposed one year extension does not therefore require further public consultation and will be supported by an Action Plan for 2021 – 2022.</p> <p>The proposal of a one year extension to the existing IRMP has been discussed with HMICFRS. GFRS have been advised this approach is acceptable provided a strong rationale is presented, which demonstrate clear objectives and benefits associated with community risk that can be achieved with the extension.</p>
Planned Dates	April 2021
Divisional Councillor	All
Officer	<p>Any representations should be sent to: <i>Wayne Bowcock, Chief Fire Officer</i> wayne.bowcock@glosfire.gov.uk By 5pm on 22 July 2020</p>
Purpose of Report	To ensure that GFRS are compliant with the 'Fire and Rescue National Framework for England' published by the Home Office in May 2018 in respect of its obligations.

Recommendations	<p>To recommended that the <i>Cabinet Member for Public Protection and Libraries</i> authorises the extension of the current IRMP 2018 - 2021 for a further year, supported by a one year IRMP Action Plan for 2021 - 22. A three year IRMP from 2022 – 25 will then be produced to be concurrent with the GCC Council Strategy.</p>
Reasons for Recommendations	<p>The current IRMP expires in 2021. If a 1 year extension is not approved then the Service's IRMP will continue to be out of sequence with GCC's Council Strategy which runs from 2022 to 2025. In addition the Service will miss the opportunity to incorporate the NFCC work around the definition of risk that is being developed. The Service will also need to understand the emerging and changing risks presenting in the community following the current COVID-19 pandemic. The medium and long term effects of the virus are currently unknown and once understood they need to form part of the community risk assessment.</p>
Resource Implications	<p>This decision has no additional resource implications, it will be developed by the GFRS Business Planning and Transformation team with the support and input of GFRS lead officers.</p> <p>The production and verification of the IRMP Action Plan 2021 – 2022 will be resourced from existing budgets.</p>

MAIN REPORT CONTENTS

Background

1. Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service's (GFRS) IRMP is due to expire in April 2021. It is proposed that the current IRMP is extended for one year for the following reasons:
 - To enable GFRS a year to address specific actions raised in Improvement Outcomes from the HMICFRS report and Internal Audit reports via the Improvement Board.
 - To enable GFRS to understand the impact of COVID-19 on our communities. Risks within the community are likely to change following the pandemic and the outcomes need to be analysed and understood before resources can be appropriately allocated to risk.
 - To enable GFRS to incorporate work from the National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) and Central Programme Office (CPO) around Definition of Risk and IRMP standardisation.
 - To bring the IRMP cycle in line with GCC's Council Strategy cycle for 2022 – 2025.

This means that there will be an Action Plan for 2021 – 2022 but the existing IRMP and its Strategic Objectives will continue to be in place for a further year.

2. The IRMP Action Plan for 2021-2022 will detail exactly how GFRS will work towards each strategic objective in the existing IRMP. The recent HMICFRS report highlighted several areas of concern around the existing IRMP, Appendix 1 lists these concerns and explains how the one year IRMP Action Plan will address them.

Risk Assessment

3. The current IRMP expires in 2021. If a 1 year extension is not approved then the Service will have a gap in its planning cycle and continue to be out of sequence with GCC's Council Strategy. The Service could lose focus on the HMICFRS required improvements and the Internal Audit findings. Finally, the Service will have a better understanding of the effects and risks of COVID-19 to our communities and be able to allocate resources accordingly.

Officer Advice

4. The Chief Fire Officer must, in exercising their functions, have regard to the Fire and Rescue Authority's Integrated Risk Management Plan and any set objectives and priorities which may be outlined in it. The Fire and Rescue Authority should give due regard to the professional advice of the Chief Fire Officer while developing the Integrated Risk Management Plan and when making decisions affecting the Fire and Rescue Service.

Consultation arrangements/feedback

5. The existing GFRS IRMP 2018 – 2021 was subject to full public consultation. The one year extension to this does not therefore require further public consultation. The one year extension will be supported by an Action Plan for 2021 – 2022.

Performance Management/Follow-up

6. Throughout the year the performance of Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service is publicly reported to the Cabinet Member and Leader of the Council, and published in the Quarterly Strategic Performance Report to Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Report Title	Gloucestershire Fire & Rescue Service IRMP 2018 - 2021 One Year Extension
Statutory Authority	National Framework for England: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fire-and-rescue-national
Relevant County Council policy	Gloucestershire Fire & Rescue Service Integrated Risk Management Plan 2018 - 2021
Sustainability checklist:	
Partnerships	This report was not written in partnership with any other organisation, therefore this is not applicable.
Decision Making and Involvement	Decision made by SLT to approve and send to an individual Cabinet Member decision.
Economy and Employment	The IRMP and associated documents has no impact on Economy or Employment.
Caring for people Social Value	The action plan will be produced to ensure that the Fire and Rescue Service, on behalf of the Fire and Rescue Authority (Gloucestershire County Council), will meet and will continue to deliver on our mission.
Built Environment	The IRMP and associated documents has no impact on the built Environment
Natural Environment' including Ecology (Biodiversity) Education and Information	The IRMP and associated documents has no impact on the Natural Environment.
Tackling Climate Change	Carbon Emissions Implications? Neutral Vulnerable to climate change? No
Due Regard Statement	Has a Due Regard Statement been completed? Yes
Human rights Implications	None