



**REPORT TITLE: Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service Community Risk Management Plan 2022-2026**

<b>Cabinet Date</b>	30 <sup>th</sup> March 2022
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Cllr. Dave Norman, Cabinet Member for Public Protection, Parking and Libraries
<b>Key Decision</b>	Yes
<b>Purpose of Report</b>	To seek Cabinet approval for the objectives relating to the Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP) 2022-2026.
<b>Recommendations</b>	<p>It is recommended that Cabinet:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Approves the adoption of the GFRS Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP) 2022 - 2026.</li><li>2. Delegates authority to the Chief Fire Officer to undertake such actions as are necessary to implement the adopted CRMP 2022-26.</li></ol>
<b>Reasons for recommendations</b>	<p>The primary duties of the Fire and Rescue Authority are contained in the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004. This requires the provision, training and equipping of the Service to provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Firefighting;</li><li>• Protection of people and property from fire;</li><li>• Fire safety promotion;</li><li>• Road traffic collision rescues;</li><li>• Other emergency responses to civil emergencies.</li></ul> <p>In addition to these statutory obligations, the Authority is required to have due regard to the Fire and Rescue National Framework for England (2018). The framework places a legal obligation on all Fire Authorities to develop, produce and publish a Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP) at least once every 3 years.</p>
<b>Resource Implications</b>	<p>Resources required to achieve delivery of the plan:</p> <p>These will be identified by the service's Portfolio Management Board and where required, the relevant business case will be submitted for additional funding.</p>

<b>Background Documents</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Fire and Rescue National Framework for England (2018)</a></li> <li>• HMICFRS State of Fire <a href="#">2019</a>, <a href="#">2020</a> and <a href="#">2021</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">HMICFRS Effectiveness, Efficiency and People 2018/19 – An inspection of Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service</a></li> <li>• Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Community Risk Profiles 2022-2025</li> <li>• <a href="#">Policing and Crime Act 2017</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Fire Standards Board - Community Risk Management Planning (FSS-RMP01)</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">NFCC CRMP Strategic Framework</a></li> <li>• Cabinet Member Decision (25/07/2020): Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service (GFRS) Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) 2018 – 2021 One Year Extension</li> <li>• <a href="#">Cabinet Member Decision (22/09/2021) Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service Draft Community Risk Management Plan 2022-2025</a></li> <li>• Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service Community Risk Management Plan Consultation Report.</li> </ul>
<b>Statutory Authority</b>	Paragraph 4.6 of The Fire and Rescue National Framework for England (2018).
<b>Divisional Councillor(s)</b>	All
<b>Officer</b>	Name: Mark Preece Tel. no: 01452 888787 Email: <a href="mailto:mark.preece@glosfire.gov.uk">mark.preece@glosfire.gov.uk</a>
<b>Timeline</b>	The objectives set in the CRMP will be achieved between April 2022 and March 2026.

## Background

1. The Fire and Rescue National Framework sets out the Government's priorities and objectives for Fire and Rescue authorities in England; a key priority is for the Fire and Rescue Authority (FRA) to develop a Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP). When developing the CRMP, the FRA should give due regard to the professional advice of the Chief Fire Officer.
  
2. In order to achieve the National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) Fire Standard, a standard expected of all Fire and Rescue Services in the creation of their CRMP's, GFRS must:
  - Utilise and share accurate data and business intelligence (from both internal and external sources) to support key activities such as evidenced-based decision making, horizon scanning, cross border risk identification and organisational learning;
  - Ensure transparency in the community risk management planning process through either implementing and/or supporting ongoing engagement and formal consultation processes, ensuring these are accessible and publicly available;
  - Ensure that organisational decisions and the measures implemented support equality, diversity, inclusivity, are non-discriminatory and are people impact assessed;
  - Meet its legislative, framework and governance requirements linked to Community Risk Management;
  - Be able to evidence its external and internal operating environment and the strategic objectives the community risk management plan is seeking to achieve;
  - Identify and describe the existing and emerging local, regional and national hazards it faces, the hazardous events that could arise and the risk groups (People, Place, Environment and Economy) that could be harmed;
  - Analyse risk, consider its risk appetite, determine the risk levels and prioritise risk accordingly;
  - Make decisions about the deployment of resources based on the prioritised risk levels and planning assumptions involved. This should be carried out with consideration to internal and external resource availability (people, financial and physical) including collaborative, cross-border and national resilience assistance. Consideration should also be given to other strategic influences such as consultation feedback, stakeholder engagement and political objectives;
  - Continually evaluate the effectiveness, efficiency and delivery of the community risk management plan and the organisational impact of risk management decisions;
  - Be able to clearly define who has overall accountability for the community risk management plan and responsibility for the various components contained within it; and
  - Provide training and/or support (where required) to all who are involved in the development, management and implementation of the community risk management plan.
  
3. Prior to the Fire Authority going out for consultation in October 2021, the following work had been completed in the development of the CRMP:

- An evidence based Risk Profile methodology for Prevention, Protection and Response.
  - Creation of Community Risk Profiles for Prevention, Protection and Response, that included the review and collection of evidence from internal and external data sources.
  - CRMP workshops with the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and Senior Managers, each helping to inform different elements of the CRMP (alignment to Council plans and strategies, document structure, risk profiles, objective setting, consultation and engagement).
  - A pre-engagement consultation with the public, staff and businesses before the first draft.
  - Finalising of the objective setting with the Department Heads and Senior Managers.
  - Production of an Equality Impact Assessment which supplements this paper.
4. On 22 September 2021, GCC Cabinet were asked as part of due process to consider the draft CRMP that was put forward by the Service.
  5. Cabinet gave approval for the draft CRMP to be taken forward for public consultation, before being finalised and returned to Cabinet for further consideration.
  6. The draft CRMP outlined 8 key objectives, which had been agreed by GFRS Senior Leadership Team and endorsed by GCC Cabinet. These were:

**Objective 1 – Prevention**

Deliver intelligence informed person-centred and impactful prevention activities that effectively and efficiently improve the safety, health and wellbeing of the diverse people who live, work in or visit Gloucestershire.

**Objective 2 – Protection**

Deliver intelligence informed and impactful protection activities, to include inspections, audits, education and enforcement, which continue to reduce the likelihood and impact of fire in commercial buildings across Gloucestershire and reduce the risk to both the public and firefighters.

**Objective 3 - Response Standards**

Implement National Operational Guidance and approved National Fire Standards to assure and support operational competence, learning and preparedness.

**Objective 4 - Response Arrangements**

Review our existing arrangements to ensure that we have the required number of resources, with the right people and equipment, at the right time, in the right location.

**Objective 5 - People and Social Responsibility**

Further improve our inclusive culture to ensure that we attract, retain, support and develop a diverse workforce, which is truly representative of our communities.

### **Objective 6 – Collaboration**

Collaboration is important in every organisation. We will collaborate by communicating with partners and building on ideas to innovate or do something differently in the public's interest.

### **Objective 7 - Digital, Data and Technology**

Increase the use of data and business intelligence tools to ensure that we understand our risks and maximise the use of technology to respond appropriately to those risks.

### **Objective 8 - Asset Management**

Continue to provide the best facilities, vehicles, equipment and personal protective equipment (PPE) we can afford, enabling us to deliver a professional service to our communities.

## **Public Consultation**

7. In line with GCC policy and the requirements of the Fire and Rescue National Framework for England (2018), the Service carried out public consultation on the draft CRMP between 1 October 2021 and the 26 November 2021. The consultation was carried out in accordance with the Gunning Principles:
  1. proposals are still at a formative stage
  2. there is sufficient information to give 'intelligent consideration'
  3. there is adequate time for consideration and response
  4. 'conscientious consideration' must be given to the consultation responses before a decision is made
  
8. Gloucestershire County Council (GCC), as the Fire Authority hosted the survey and supported GFRS with the engagement both internally and externally. A detailed communications plan was developed, and consisted of the following:
  - GCC and GFRS social media;
  - Paid social media and digital advertising
  - Video and animation
  - Media releases and other media opportunities
  - E-mail marketing via GovDelivery
  - Internal promotion to staff
  - Council's Connected

- During our Safe and Well Visits
- At online events and meetings
- Individual letters to Unions, other agencies and Local Constituency Members of Parliament
- All county councillors.
- District councils and GFirst LEP with requests for them to share with their business networks.

## **Outcome and feedback**

9. In total, there was 247 responses to the survey, with 1,300 visitors to the consultation page online. There were over 1,000 clicks on the facebook ad, which also had a reach of 143,786. In addition to this, there was also a reach of 135.6K on twitter.
10. As part of the consultation, we asked two questions for each proposal. The first question was 'to what extent do you agree with the proposal?' and the second question was 'how important is this priority for you'. When analysing the feedback of the consultation, overall, the responses received showed strong support for each of the proposals.
11. All comments provided in the consultation have been reviewed and this has seen two changes to the overall objectives. The consultation highlighted that there was not enough emphasis on learning and development and also that some of the wording in the objectives was unclear. As a consequence, amendments have been made to the People and Social Responsibility objective, with some slight changes to the wording of some of the objectives.
12. Further details of the consultation, can be located in the consultation section of this document.

## **HMICFRS Inspection**

13. In October and November 2021, HMICFRS carried out its second round inspection of GFRS. The inspection considers effectiveness, efficiency, people, and the report will be released in the spring of 2022.
14. It is proposed that we extend the CRMP by an additional year in order to take into account the findings of this inspection, along with any additional learning and development work arising from them. This will mean that the CRMP is now a four-year plan instead of three year plan which, as a consequence, has the benefit of remaining in step with GCC's strategic plan

## **Options**

15. Cabinet's options are:

- To accept and implement the Community Risk Management Plan as is a mandatory requirement set within current legislation;
- To request further revisions to the Community Risk Management Plan.

16. The Chief Fire Officer's professional opinion based on all of the available evidence and subsequent analysis is that the Cabinet adopt the revised CRMP 2022-26 as fit for purpose and authorise the Chief Fire Officer to take the necessary actions to implement the adopted Plan.

## **Risks**

17. Failure to produce a Community Risk Management Plan will result in the Service and Fire Authority not complying with Fire and Rescue National Framework for England (2018). The framework places a legal obligation on all Fire Authorities to develop, produce and publish a Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP) at least once every 3 years.

18. Failure to act in accordance with the Framework could lead to statutory intervention under section 22 of the Fire and Rescue Service Act 2004.

## **Financial implications**

19. All objectives will be managed as projects through the GFRS Portfolio Management Office. Progress and will be tracked, monitored and supported through the Portfolio Management Board comprising a selection of GCC Directors and GFRS Heads of Service.

20. The GFRS Portfolio Management Board governance process will undertake due diligence to ensure that projects have sufficient funding available before they are allowed to proceed and to ensure effective financial control is exercised during their implementation.

## **Climate change implications**

21. All objectives and their outcomes will be cognisant of the need to satisfy GCC and central government carbon neutral policies.

## **Equality implications**

22. An Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) has been completed for the GFRS CRMP 2022 – 2026 and supplements this report. Further EIA's may be required following the progression of the objectives.

## **Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) implications**

23. There are no Data Protection Impact Assessments implications associated with the production of the CRMP 2022 – 2026.

### **Social value implications**

24. In order to achieve the NFCC Fire Standard, a standard expected of all Fire and Rescue Services in the creation of their CRMP's, GFRS must ensure they demonstrate that they have delivered on the key points in section 2 of this document.

25. As a consequence of the national standard the social value implications are not adversely affected, indeed, the sole intention of the CRMP is to ensure they are not and that we target our resources towards areas of social deprivation and to have a positive impact on social value.

### **Consultation feedback**

26. In total, 247 responses to the public consultation survey were received, with 74% coming from local residents and the rest from GFRS staff, GCC staff, Councillors, local businesses and community/voluntary groups.

27. The full Consultation Report is provided as an Appendix to this Report.

### **Officer recommendations**

28. That the Cabinet approves the Community Risk Management Plan 2022-2026.

### **Performance Management/Follow-up**

29. Progress will be tracked, monitored and supported through the Portfolio Management Board comprising a selection of County Council Directors and GFRS Heads of Service.

30. The Chief Fire Officer will provide updates to the Cabinet Member for Public Protection, Parking and Libraries through regular one to one meetings.

31. The newly formed Fire and Rescue Scrutiny Committee will scrutinise progress through its regular meetings.

32. Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary's and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) will scrutinise progress during their inspections of the Service.