

**SAFER & STRONGER COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE  
12 NOVEMBER 2012**

**DRAFT STRATEGIC INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN  
(IRMP) 2013-18 OXFORDSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY**

**Report by the Chief Fire Officer**

**Introduction**

1. This report presents the Fire Authority's next draft five-year Strategic Integrated Risk Management Action Plan (IRMP) - also known as its Community Risk Management Plan - based on the analysis of both the current and anticipated future fire and rescue-related risks facing Oxfordshire.

2. To meet the requirements of the IRMP process, the plan also includes options to further reduce, mitigate and respond to these identified risks - with the overall aim of improving both public and firefighter safety. In addition, the analysis recognises the potential impact of the prevailing economic conditions on both the organisation and its staff.

3. The risks are formulated into five main groupings that demonstrate their relevance to the people and communities of Oxfordshire:

Risk at home - risks at home from emergency situations and other risks in the community that are not covered elsewhere (such as Leisure).

Risk at work – risks at work from emergency situations and hazardous processes and materials.

Risk whilst travelling – risks while travelling by road rail, boats and aircraft.

Heritage risk – risks to the wealth of places with historical value in Oxfordshire.

Extreme events – extreme weather, environmental impacts and terrorist activities.

4. This strategic IRMP will then form the evidential basis of future annual action plans over the next five-year period (e.g. the 2013-14 action plan is presented under a separate paper), providing the Fire and Rescue Authority with the flexibility to manage the foreseeable risks within the wider context of the County Council's priorities and pressures.

5. Following scrutiny consideration of the plan there will be followed by a 12-week public and stakeholder consultation process (e.g. neighbouring Fire and Rescue Services and partner organisations such as the Highways Agency and the Environment Agency, the Fire Brigades Union and Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue staff – both uniformed and non-uniformed), before final approval is sought from the Cabinet in February 2013.
6. This Strategic IRMP has been written in line with the direction and requirements of the Fire and Rescue Service Act 2004, Civil Contingencies Act 2004, Regulatory Reform Order (Fire Safety) 2005 and the latest version of the Government's Fire and Rescue Service National Framework (2012).
7. The 2012 Fire and Rescue National Framework requires each Fire and Rescue Authority to produce a publicly available IRMP covering at least a three-year time span which:
  - Is regularly reviewed and revised and reflects up-to-date risk information and evaluation of service delivery outcomes
  - Has regard to the risk analyses completed by Local and Regional Resilience Forums including those reported in external Community Risk Registers (CRRs) and internal risk registers, to ensure that civil and terrorist contingencies are captured in their IRMP
  - Reflects effective consultation during its development and at all review stages with representatives of all sections of the community and stakeholders
  - Demonstrates how prevention, protection and response activities will be best used to mitigate the impact of risk on communities in a cost effective way
  - Provides details of how Fire and Rescue Authorities deliver their objectives and meet the needs of communities through working with partners
  - Has undergone an effective equality impact assessment process.
8. The Senior Management team from Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service will respond to the comments made during the consultation period and the responses will be made available to Cabinet in the final report in 2013 and published on the internet for public access.

## **Financial and Staff Implications**

11. Each project that uses this strategic risk profiling and analysis document will fully recognise the prevailing economic constraints, delivering efficiencies or allowing existing/additional services to be delivered more effectively.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

12. The Scrutiny Committee is asked whether it supports the strategic risk profiling methodology as set out within the 5-year IRMP – as well as the resulting risk analysis and future options for managing the risk.

**13.** The Committee is also asked to support full public consultation on the proposals.

Dave Etheridge  
Chief Fire Officer

Background papers: The Fire and Rescue Service National Framework 2012.

Contact Officer: Nathan Travis Tel. (01865) 855206

October 2012