
To: Police and Fire and Rescue Scrutiny Sub Committee

On: 10 March 2020

Report by: Director of Communities, Housing and Planning Services

Heading: Consultation - Scottish Fire and Rescue Local Plan for Renfrewshire

1. Summary

- 1.1 Scottish Fire and Rescue Service consulted on their Strategic Plan (2019 – 2022) in July 2019. Renfrewshire Council responded to this consultation and the Police and Fire & Rescue Scrutiny Board homologated the response at their meeting on 20 August 2019. The final Strategic Plan was approved in October 2019.
- 1.2 The Area Commander and Local Fire Officer for Renfrewshire wrote to the Chief Executive on 26 January 2020 to advise that following the publication of the Strategic Plan, that the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service were now consulting on a Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Renfrewshire.
- 1.3 At this stage, Scottish Fire and Rescue are looking for input to set questions to allow the local plan to be drafted. A draft Renfrewshire response is attached as Appendix 1. The consultation questions can be found at:
<https://firescotland.citizenspace.com/planning-and-performance/local-fire-and-rescue-plan-review-2020/>
- 1.4 Renfrewshire Council welcomes the opportunity to respond to the consultation on the Local Fire and Rescue Plan. As part of the Renfrewshire Community Safety Partnership, Renfrewshire Council and the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service have an excellent working relationship and aligned goals through strategic plans and Local Outcome Improvement Plans (LOIPs).

- 1.5 The final date for submission to the consultation is 18 March 2020. A response from the Council will be submitted within the timescales set by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service with a draft for approval attached as Appendix 1.
-

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Police and Fire & Rescue Scrutiny Sub Committee:
- (i) Notes the publication of a consultation on a Local Fire and Rescue Plan
 - (ii) Approves the Council's consultation response as detailed in Appendix 1 to this report.
-

3. Background

- 3.1 The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service is legally required to have a Strategic Plan in place that sets out its functions over a 3-year period. The current Strategic Plan was approved in October 2019.
- 3.2 The Plan is formed around 4 key outcomes:
- PREVENTION - Our collaborative and targeted prevention and protection activities improve community safety and wellbeing and support sustainable economic growth.
 - RESPONSE - Our flexible operational model provides an effective emergency response to meet diverse community risks across Scotland.
 - PEOPLE - We are a great place to work where our people are safe, supported and empowered to deliver high performing innovative services.
 - PUBLIC VALUE - We are fully accountable and maximise our public value by delivering a high quality, sustainable fire and rescue service for Scotland.
- 3.3 Sitting under each outcome are strategic objectives which go into further detail about what the SFRS hopes to achieve and how they link into the Fire and Rescue Framework priorities.

- 3.4 Many of these align with the Council's own strategic objectives and vision, both as a service provider and employer. We also share the view that the role and shape of Scotland's public services are changing, and transformation is vital in order to continue to provide existing services and to evolve to provide services fit for our future communities, responding to the changing demographics across our area, particularly an aging population. Renfrewshire Council previously responded to the Scottish Fire and Rescue Transformation change consultation with similar comments.
- 3.5 The last iteration of the local Fire and Rescue Plan was completed in 2018 and related to the previous Strategic Plan. The new plan will build on previous plans and link with Renfrewshire Council's plans and strategies.
- 3.6 The questions relating to this consultation focus around current performance of Scottish Fire and Rescue Service locally, their core functions, functions they would like to do more of, and seeks information on any improvements consultees would like to see within the local area.
-

Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** - None
2. **HR & Organisational Development** – None.
3. **Community/Council Planning** –
 - *Our Renfrewshire is safe* – By implementing a strong local fire and rescue plan, Renfrewshire will be a safer place to live, work and visit.
4. **Legal** - None
5. **Property/Assets** - None
6. **Information Technology** - None
7. **Equality & Human Rights**
 - (a) The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website.

8. **Health & Safety** – None.
 9. **Procurement** - None
 10. **Risk** - None
 11. **Privacy Impact** - None.
 12. **COSLA Policy Position** – Not Applicable
 13. **Climate Risk** – Not Applicable
-

List of Background Papers

- a) Background Paper 1. Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Plan 2019 – 2022.

The foregoing background papers will be retained within Communities, Housing and Planning Services for inspection by the public for the prescribed period of four years from the date of the meeting. The contact officer within the service is the Communities and Regulatory Manager.

Author: Oliver Reid, Head of Communities and Public Protection.

Email: oliver.reid@renfrewshire.gov.uk



Appendix 1

LOCAL FIRE AND RESCUE PLAN ENGAGEMENT FEEDBACK RECORD

Local Authority Area:

Renfrewshire Council

Name of organisation/representative:

Mary Crearie – Director of Communities, Housing and Planning Services

1. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you in how the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service is performing in your area?

Very satisfied ✓	Quite satisfied	Neither/ Nor	Quite dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
------------------	-----------------	--------------	--------------------	-------------------

2. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you at the way in which the SFRS understands and reflects local needs in their plans and activities?

Very satisfied ✓	Quite satisfied	Neither/ Nor	Quite dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
------------------	-----------------	--------------	--------------------	-------------------

3. Has there been any change in the quality of services delivered by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service over the last 3 years?

Much better	A little better ✓	No change	A little worse	Much worse
-------------	-------------------	-----------	----------------	------------

4. In the past 3 years are you aware of any change and innovations used to improve service provision and outcomes?

Much more	A little more ✓	No change	A little less	Much less
-----------	-----------------	-----------	---------------	-----------

5. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the level information you received on local fire and rescue activity or developments?

Very satisfied ✓	Quite Satisfied	Neither/ Nor	Quite dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
------------------	-----------------	--------------	--------------------	-------------------

6. Listed below are a number of core fire and rescue services, please rate these in terms of their importance to you:

	Very Important	Quite Important	Neither/ Nor	Not important
Being prepared for and responding to fires	✓			
Promoting fire safety in the home	✓			
Enforcing fire safety in non-domestic buildings	✓			
Being prepared for and responding to road traffic collisions or serious transport incidents	✓			
Being prepared for and responding to animal rescues	✓			
Being prepared for and responding to flooding incidents	✓			
Helping you be prepared for emergency situations	✓			

7. Listed below are other services we would like to do more of, please rate these in term of importance to you:

	Very Important	Quite Important	Neither/ Nor	Not important
Being prepared for and responding to acts of terrorism	✓			
Working with partners to identify and help people at risk of preventable accidents in their home	✓			
Working with partners to reduce crime and improve safety		✓		
Working with partners to support young people	✓			
Working with partners to support older people	✓			
Working with partners to improve the health and wellbeing of communities		✓		
Working with partners to support the local economy and those in poverty		✓		

8. Are there any other fire and rescue activities which are important to you that are not listed?

With regards to SFRS's activities– the response above relates to core functions. Whilst it was noted that some are “quite important” – this is due to these activities not being a core function for Scottish Fire and Rescue Service. As a key partner, it needs to feed into these and respond, however, others lead on these therefore it was felt they weren't “very important”.

One word that is missing from the above is vulnerability. All of the services feed into this e.g. young/old, however, this should be focused on the most vulnerable in the community. Focus could also be given to people with complex vulnerabilities, such as drug and alcohol issues, who are at increased risk of harm.

There should also be reference to the service being a front-line responder and reporting key issues to partners with regards to a “Notice/Check/Share” response. This could be for Counter Terrorism, Serious and Organised Crime, or Adult/Child referrals. All partners are increasingly required to undertake this work and it should be a key priority to raise issues identified. A good example of this is hoarding that may be identified during a routine fire home safety visit which could then be discussed with Housing provider etc.

Finally – Scottish Fire and Rescue Service lead on Water Safety locally and have undertaken some excellent work, particularly with schools. This should continue to be a focus for the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service to ensure risks are minimised across the area.

9. Are there any areas that we need to improve on in your locality?

Renfrewshire Council and the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service have a really strong relationship locally at all levels in the organisation from Senior Officers to the front line. As a key part of the Renfrewshire Community Safety Partnership, both agencies tackle vulnerabilities across Renfrewshire to ensure it is a safe place to live, work and visit.

Strong relationships exist as part of the both the Adult/Child Protection Committee process to allow issues to be tackled early and appropriately and effective participation at the Chief Officer Group for Public Protection ensures a key strategic involvement and focus is maintained.

Scottish Fire and Rescue also play a significant role in early intervention through Daily Tasking and present regular scrutiny reports locally to ensure that they are accountable for their work within Renfrewshire.

It is important these key partnerships continue to be supported and developed.

Thank you for completing this survey.