

**The Highland Council**  
**Community and Partnerships Committee**  
**9 February 2017**

Agenda Item	<b>17</b>
Report No	<b>CP 10/17</b>

**Review of Local Fire Plan 2014-2017 and Development of New Local Fire Plan 2017-2020**

**Report by Local Senior Officer for Highland Area Manager John MacDonald**

**Summary**

This Report sets out the proposals for review of the current Local Fire Plan for Highland 2014-2017 as well as the timeline for development of the new Local Fire Plan for Highland 2017-2020

The Report also provides a link to the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service consultation hub 'Citizen Space' where Members views on the success and appropriateness of the current Local Fire Plan can be presented in an online survey.

**1. Background**

1.1 The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service is required under the Fire (Scotland) Act 2015 as amended by Police and Fire (Scotland) Reform Act 2012 to prepare a Local Fire and Rescue Plan for each Local Authority Area in Scotland. The Act states that the Local Fire Plan is required to set out the following:

- Priorities and objectives for SFRS in connection with the carrying out in the local authority's area of SFRS's functions
- The reasons for selecting each of those priorities and objectives
- How SFRS proposes to deliver those priorities and objectives
- In so far as is reasonably practicable, outcomes by reference to which delivery of those priorities and objectives can be measured
- How those priorities and objectives are expected to contribute to the delivery of any other relevant local outcomes which are identified by community planning
- Such other matters relating to the carrying out of SFRS's functions in the local authority's area as SFRS thinks fit

1.2 In April 2014, the current Local Fire Plan for Highland was published covering the period of 2014-2017 and this plan set the priorities for local service delivery, the rationale for those priorities, the method in which those priorities would be delivered and provided a framework against which local performance would be measured and scrutinised.

- 1.3 In October 2016, the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service published its new Strategic Plan for 2016-2019. The publication of this document has now triggered a formal review of the current Local Fire Plan and the subsequent development of a new Local Fire Plan for 2017-2020.

## **2. Methodology**

- 2.1 The Local Senior Officer will be responsible for the formal review of the current Local Fire Plan 2014-2017. This review will consider the priorities and objectives set and consider how well the service has performed as well as seeking to highlight areas for improvement and opportunities to change to meet the needs of our communities. The review will be informed by the following:

- operational incident and community safety statistics that have been recorded over the life of the plan
- views and opinions gathered from local staff who have been involved in the delivery of the priorities and objectives detailed within the plan
- views and opinions of partner agencies gathered via an online survey
- views and opinions of the members of the Highland Council Communities and Partnerships Committee which is the formal scrutiny board for local Fire and Rescue Service performance
- views and opinions of the communities we serve through information and responses provided via the service's consultation hub 'Citizen Space'

- 2.2 Following the review of the existing Local Fire Plan 2014-2017 taking account of all feedback received, the new Local Fire Plan 2017-2020 will be developed which will take account of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Plan 2016-2019 but importantly will have a focus on local needs and will support the objectives set within the Highland Local Outcome Improvement Plan and where appropriate the locality plans developed by the nine Community Partnerships across Highland. The new plan will be developed through consultation, questionnaires, staff participation, targeted email, local meetings and engagements with stakeholders and communities.

### 3. Timelines

3.1 The list below identifies the proposed timelines to which the plan review and plan development will be working:

- Complete formal review of current Local Fire Plan – by 31 March 2017
- Engagements/meetings/information gathering from 1 April 2017 through to 30 June 2017
- Develop new Local Fire Plan for 2017-2020 – by 31 July 2017
- Consultation on Draft new Local Fire Plan from August 2017 to October 2017
- Proposed publication of new Local Fire Plan 2017-2020 – by 31 October 2017

#### **Recommendation**

Committee Members are invited to **note** and **comment** on the proposals for the current Local Fire Plan review and development of the new Local Fire Plan and are **invited** to participate in the online survey via:

<https://firescotland.citizenspace.com/planning-and-performance/local-plan-review>

**Area Manager John MacDonald**  
**31 January 2017**