**Public Consultation on….**

**Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service - Draft Integrated Risk Management Plan 2020-2025**

**About this consultation**

Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service is a County Council fire and rescue service, which means that it carries out fire and rescue functions on behalf of Warwickshire County Council - which is the Fire and Rescue Authority.

Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Authority has a statutory duty under Section 21 of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004, to comply with the [Fire and Rescue National Framework for England,](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/705060/National_Framework_-_final_for_web.pdf) which requires each fire and rescue service to produce an Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP), that must include effective consultation with the community. The framework recognises that fire and rescue services are best placed to identify, prepare for and address the risks within the communities they serve.

The IRMP 2020 - 2025, sets out the Fire and Rescue Authority’s vision and priorities for the next five years. It demonstrates how we assess and manage foreseeable risks within all our communities. It allows us to ensure that Warwickshire remains a safe place to live and work and describes what additional actions we intend to take in the years to come.

Our IRMP approach consists of a number of elements that are co-ordinated to form a continuous and interactive process. It will continue to evolve and adapt to address both national and local community risks.

**Background.**

Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service is seeking your views on the proposals (outlined in the ‘IRMP 2020 - 2025 Summary’ document), for delivering our services to ensure we support the Warwickshire County Council’s priority outcome ‘Warwickshire’s communities and individuals are supported, to be safe, healthy and independent’.

The ‘IRMP 2020 - 2025  Summary’ document explains who we are, what we do, our integrated risk management plan approach, the component documents of our plan (please see the supporting documents for more information), and the proposals that we believe will help us deliver our services over the next five years to lessen foreseeable community risk.

The Warwickshire Risk Profile 2020 is one of the key information integrated risk management plan documents which we consider. It is based on in-depth research and analysis of incidents attended over the last three years. It offers an insight into current community risks by looking at both short term and long-term trends and enables a better understanding of risk and how we target our resources to make sure we keep our communities safe.

The five key proposals, (shown below) have been developed by examining and assessing all the integrated risk management plan component documents:

* Ensure our workforce and ethos reflect the diverse communities we serve
* Assess our capabilities to improve our ways of working in response to any future pandemics
* Assess our overall resource capacity to ensure our personnel and physical assets are in the right place and at the right time to deliver our statutory duties
* Develop further opportunities to support the wider community health outcomes and help to protect Social Care and the NHS
* Implement digital solutions to enhance our service delivery.

These proposals, which support Warwickshire County Council outcomes and objectives as outlined in the Council Plan 2020/2025, will inform and influence our future annual action and business plans which will detail how our prevention, protection and response activities will be used to prevent fires and other incidents and mitigate community risk in a way that will make best use of available resources.

**What we are consulting about**

As part of our ongoing commitment to consult and engage with our communities, we are keen to ensure that residents and stakeholders have the opportunity to have their say on any action which may impact them.

With this in mind we are consulting residents and stakeholders to give their views on the following specific proposals as shown in the IRMP 2020 - 2020 Summary document:

**Ensure our workforce and ethos reflect the diverse communities we serve.**

What this means:

We will make sure that our recruitment and selection procedures promote our values of openness, transparency and fairness.

Why are we doing this?

We are a reputable local employer and it is important to us that we include everybody in what we do. This means we want our staff to represent the communities we serve because we believe that diversity brings in new ideas and perspective which enables us to continuously improve as we keep Warwickshire safe. It is also our duty to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between different groups.

Over the next five years further details of our developing activities to support this proposal will be communicated via annual action plans and we will consult on specific actions as appropriate.

**Assess our capabilities to improve our ways of working in response to any future pandemics.**

What this means:

Our community has been affected by the Covid 19 pandemic and we feel it is important to review the way we do things to see if we can improve our ways of working to support the County’s recovery from Covid 19 and to make sure we are prepared for any future health emergencies.

Why are we doing this?

The Covid 19 pandemic is a new and dangerous threat that has impacted on every country in the world. Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service has been a key partner in the County Council’s effort to fight the disease.  We have helped and supported our communities by providing additional services to our vulnerable residents. For example, we increased our hospital to home service, helped deliver food parcels and we kept in contact with our vulnerable residents to see how they were getting on.

Over the next five years further details of our developing activities to support this proposal will be communicated via annual action plans and we will consult on specific actions as appropriate.

**Assess our overall resource capacity to ensure our personnel and physical assets are in the right place and at the right time to deliver our statutory duties.**

What this means:

We will continue the work we started under the previous IRMP to look at the number and location of our staff, fire stations and fire engines to make sure we can deliver our prevention, protection and response services as quickly and efficiently as possible.

Why are we doing this?

Our staff and equipment need to be in the right place at the right time to ensure that

Warwickshire’s communities and individuals are supported, to be safe, healthy and independent. We will need to deliver our extensive prevention programme and we will strive to meet our emergency response target and where this is not possible, we will provide targeted prevention activity. We will also need to ensure that our businesses are safe by providing them with timely and accurate advice and guidance.

Over the next five years further details of our developing activities to support this proposal will be communicated via annual action plans and we will consult on specific actions as appropriate.

**Develop further opportunities to support the wider community health outcomes and help to protect Social Care and the NHS.**

What this means:

Building on our progress since our last IRMP was published we will look at other ways we can work with our partners to keep people safe and healthy. This means working with health professionals to identify areas where WFRS can contribute to improving health outcomes in our communities.

Why are we doing this?

The importance of working with our partners to support community health outcomes and help to protect the NHS and Social Care has been clearly demonstrated by the work we started in our previous IRMP, our response to the Covid 19 pandemic, and our key role in supporting the Covid 19 recovery.

Over the next five years further details of our developing activities to support this proposal will be communicated via annual action plans and we will consult on specific actions as appropriate.

**Implement digital solutions to enhance our service delivery.**

What this means:

WFRS needs to invest in the latest technology to make sure our staff are supported by having the right information at the right time to enable them to use their skills and knowledge to keep both the community and themselves safe.

Why are we doing this?

We know that the public’s priority is that we always respond to them as quickly as possible when they need us. This means that we need to be able to gather accurate and correct information as quickly as possible, send out our firefighters and their equipment to where they are needed, and maintain effective communication with the crews whilst they are attending the incident.

It is also important for us to ensure we have accurate and up to date risk information to assist our planning and preparation for the future delivery of all our services.

Over the next five years further details of our developing activities to support this proposal will be communicated via annual action plans and we will consult on specific actions as appropriate.

**Supporting Information**

The following information has been provided to assist you in understanding our considerations in making these proposals.

**Integrated Risk Management Plan Component Documents**

* IRMP 20-25 Summary Document
* Warwickshire Risk Profile 2020
* Annual Statement of Assurance
* Local Area Profiles
* Warwickshire Insights (Includes Our Performance, Demographic Profile and Warwickshire 2025)
* Our Annual Review

**Other Supporting Documents**

* Public Information Document
* Equalities Impact Assessment
* Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire& Rescue Services (HMICFRS) Inspection report 2018/19
* Overview of Methodology
* Population Estimates
* Index of Multiple Deprivation
* Performance Standards Explained
* Frequently Asked Questions

**How to take part**

You can give us your views by

* Completing the online survey – please click this link [Ask Warwickshire](https://ask.warwickshire.gov.uk/)

* Emailing us at [wfrsirmp@warwickshire.gov.uk](http://wfrsirmp@warwickshire.gov.uk/)
* Writing to us directly at the address below

You can request a paper copy of the survey or request to have the survey made available in an alternative format or language.

by email or telephone (01926 423231) or by writing to us at:

Continuous Improvement and Change

Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service

Service Headquarters

Warwick St, Leamington Spa

CV32 5LH

**Privacy statement.**

Following the end of the consultation we shall publish the results, and this may include quotes of comments which will be anonymous. If you reply to an anonymous survey then no personal details will be captured. Information you provide in any additional correspondence to our surveys and consultations, including personal information, may be disclosed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act and/or Environmental Information Regulations (EIR) and the Data Protection Act (DPA). If you want the information that you provide to be treated as confidential and not shared, including your contact details, please tell us why, but be aware that, under the Freedom of Information Act, we cannot always guarantee confidentiality. To see how we use your personal data and what your information rights are, please read our overall customer privacy notice at www.warwickshire.gov.uk/privacy or contact our Customer Service Centre on 01926 410410

**Closing date**

The consultation will close on 6th November 2020.

**What will happen after the consultation?**

The outcomes of the consultation and the resulting proposed draft IRMP will be considered by Cabinet in February 2021. The Cabinet will then make recommendations to full Council seeking approval of the new IRMP at the Council meeting on 16 March 2021.

It is intended that the IRMP would be implemented from April 2021.