

Report to	Executive Panel
Date	16 March 2026
Lead Officer	Anthony Jones, Assistant Chief Fire Officer
Contact Officer	Mike Plant - Head of Planning, Performance and Transformation
Subject	Community Risk Management Implementation Plan 2026/27



PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1 To provide an overview of the feedback received from the public consultation on the Community Risk Management Implementation Plan 2026-2027 and the associated Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA), and to seek approval of the final version of the aforementioned documents.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2 Under the Welsh Government Fire and Rescue National Framework 2016, one of the key objectives for fire and rescue services in Wales is to continually and sustainably reduce risk and enhance the safety of citizens and communities.
- 3 The North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority (the Authority) is required by The Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 to make arrangements for continuous improvement in the exercise of its functions, by setting itself improvement objectives in each financial year against at least one of seven functions. The public must be consulted on these objectives.
- 4 It is a statutory requirement of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 for Public Bodies to publish annual well-being objectives and to report annually on their progress towards meeting their well-being objectives.
- 5 Welsh Government Fire and Rescue Circular W-FRSC(2024)06 confirms that the duties under the 2009 Measure and the Wellbeing of Future Generation Act (Wales) 2015 can be discharged through the publication of a single report.
- 6 This is the third Community Risk Management Implementation Plan (CRMIP), which has been developed to support the delivery of the Authority's Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP) 2024-2029. The CRMP aims to identify risks facing the community and describes how the Authority will manage those risks and continue to prevent and respond to fires and other emergencies. The objectives have been written to take account of the requirements of both aforementioned pieces of legislation.

- 7 The response levels showed a 42% increase (397 this year from 279) from the 2025-26 public consultation, although responses reported as being from staff members remained low.
- 8 Support for the proposed improvement and well-being objectives was consistently high across each of the five principles for keeping communities safe, ranging between 93% to 97%.
- 9 Verbatim comments from consultation respondents were shared with the relevant Heads of Department, or subject matter expert, for review and consideration as to what impact, if any, the feedback has upon their proposed objectives for 2026-27.
- 10 There are no proposed changes to any of the objectives as a consequence of the public consultation.
- 11 Trade unions have been engaged in the development of the well-being objectives as part of the Social Partnership Duty and at the Joint Consultation and Negotiation Committee in February 2025 the Trade Union representatives present agreed that consensus on the objectives had been reached.

RECOMMENDATION

12 It is recommended that Members:

- i) **Note the content of the feedback report; and**
- ii) **Approve the attached CRMIP 2025-26 and associated EqIA for publication.**

BACKGROUND

13 The Authority will report upon its progress against the 2026-27 Community Risk Management Plan objectives in its Annual Performance Assessment in the Autumn of 2026.

INFORMATION

14 The consultation was opened for responses between the 23 October and 16 December 2025. The Service undertook a data quality assurance exercise on the available Equality and Diversity Inclusion data to ensure figures quoted were correct. This delayed the planned release of the consultation by two days.

- 15 The draft Community Risk Management Implementation Plan 2026-27, and an Easy-Read version was published, in Welsh and English, on the Fire and Rescue Service website. An Equality Impact Assessment of the Plan was also published.
- 16 Respondents were invited to complete a questionnaire indicating whether or not they agreed that the proposed objectives would deliver against 'Our Five Principles for keeping communities safe'. Respondents were invited to add comments in support of their opinion.
- 17 The consultation was publicised online, internally on Hwb Tân, on social media and through paid adverts in the written press.
- 18 Bi-lingual leaflets bearing a QR Code, facilitating immediate and easy access to the online survey questionnaire, were printed and distributed during Safe and Well Check visits and made available during engagement events.
- 19 A dedicated bilingual e-mail address was set up to facilitate requests for additional information or hard copy questionnaires. A dedicated mobile telephone number was established to respond to any queries that could not be submitted by e-mail.
- 20 Letters, in the Chair's name, were sent to everyone on the Stakeholder Register inviting them to participate.
- 21 The Equality and Diversity Officer arranged specific face to face engagement events with different equality interest groups.
- 22 The verbatim comments can be viewed in the appendices of the Consultation Report.

IMPLICATIONS

Well-being Objectives	The Community Risk Management Implementation Plan 2026-27 contains a Well-being statement as required by the Act
Budget	Not applicable
Legal	The Community Risk Management Implementation Plan 2026-27 has been prepared in accordance with the relevant legislation.
Staffing	None
Equalities/Human Rights/ Welsh Language	An Equality Impact Assessment has been prepared and updated following the public consultation.
Risks	The Community Risk Management Plan supports the Authority's risk management arrangements.