

Report to	North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority
Date	28 April 2025
Lead Officer	Anthony Jones, Assistant Chief Fire Officer
Contact Officer	Sandra Williams, Head of Corporate Planning, Performance and Transformation
Subject	Community Risk Management Implementation Plan 2025/26



PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1 The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the feedback received from the public consultation on the Community Risk Management Implementation Plan (CRMIP) 2025-2026 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 (FRS) 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 (the Measure) 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 second 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 were 25% higher (223 to 279) than the 2024-25 public consultation, although fewer respondents (7 down from 48) declared they were members of North Wales Fire and Rescue Service (the Service) staff.
- 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 99% and 96%.
- 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 2025-26.
- 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.

OBSERVATIONS FROM EXECUTIVE PANEL/AUDIT COMMITTEE

- 12 The papers were presented to the Executive Panel on 17 March 2025. No observations were made.

RECOMMENDATION

- 13 It is recommended that Members;
 - i) **Note the content of the feedback report; and**
 - ii) **endorse the attached CRMIP 2025-26 and associated EqIA for publication.**

BACKGROUND

- 14 The Authority will report upon its progress against the 2024-25 CRMP objectives in its Annual Performance Assessment in the Autumn of 2025.

INFORMATION

- 15 The public consultation on the Authority's Improvement and Well-being objectives for 2025-26 was open between 21 October and 16 December 2024.
- 16 The draft CRMIP 2025-26, and an easy-read version was published, in Welsh and English, on the Service website. An Equality Impact Assessment of the CRMIP was also published.

- 17 Respondents were invited to complete a questionnaire indicating whether 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.
- 18 The consultation was publicised online, internally on Hwb Tân, on social media and through paid adverts in the written press.
- 19 Bilingual 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.
- 20 A dedicated bilingual email 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 email.
- 21 Letters in the Chair's name were sent to everyone on the Stakeholder Register inviting them to participate.
- 22 The Equality and Diversity Officer arranged specific face to face engagement events with different equality interest groups.
- 23 The verbatim comments can be viewed in the appendices of the Consultation Report.

IMPLICATIONS

Well-being Objectives	The CRMIP 2025-26 contains a well-being statement as required by the Act.
Budget	Not applicable
Legal	The CRMIP 2025-26 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 CRMP supports the Authority's risk management arrangements.