



AGENDA ITEM: 11

NORTH WALES FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

21st March 2011

SUMMARY OF IMPROVEMENT AND RISK REDUCTION PLAN AND RESOURCE STRATEGY OBJECTIVES FOR 2011-12

Report by Dawn Docx, Deputy Chief Fire Officer

Purpose of Report

- 1 To summarise for members the objectives for 2011-12 that are contained in the Improvement and Risk Reduction Plan 2009-12 together with those contained in the Resource Strategy arising out of the budgetary decisions taken by the Authority.

Background

- 2 The Local Government Measure 2009 ('the Measure') expanded the definition of improvement and encourages Welsh Improvement Authorities to determine their own improvement objectives under any of seven defined elements of improvement.
- 3 Risk Reduction Planning guidance promotes the adoption of an annual process of determining the corporate and community risks facing the Authority, and developing action plans to manage these.
- 4 The Authority is required to set its budget annually by 15 February in the year preceding the year to which it relates.

Information

- 5 Following consideration of a broad range of information, the Authority developed and agreed a set of seven Improvement Objectives to work towards from April 2011. These are contained in Section 4 of the Authority's Combined Improvement and Risk Reduction Plan 2009-12 published at the end of October 2010.

- 6 A further three objectives were developed as a direct consequence of the Authority's decision at its December meeting to apply a 2.5% reduction to the budget each year for the next 3 years, effectively freezing the budget at £32million for that period.
- 7 Previously agreed objectives for the period before April 2011 continue to be pursued.
- 8 Quarterly internal meetings will provide a forum for routine monitoring of planned actions for achieving the objectives and external monitoring will form part of Wales Audit Office's Improvement Audit.

Recommendation

- 9 That Members:
 - (i) note the seven Improvement Objectives; and
 - (ii) approve the three Resources Strategy Objectives for the year 2011-12 as shown at Appendix 1.

APPENDIX 1

<u>2011-12 Improvement/Risk Reduction Plan Objectives</u>	
OBJ 1	To help to keep people and communities safe by preventing deaths and injuries from accidental fires in living accommodation.
OBJ 2	To help minimise the risk of fires starting accidentally in non-domestic properties, so that normal activities can continue and the lives of people visiting and working there are not put at risk.
OBJ 3	To help to minimise the danger and damage caused by non-fire emergencies, such as flooding, road traffic collisions, and chemical incidents.
OBJ 4	To help to tackle problems of deliberate fire setting so that people, communities, businesses, the environment and the area's heritage are not put at risk.
OBJ 5	To focus on improving the sustainable development of the Authority by finding the right balance between the environmental, economic and social impact of providing a fire and rescue service.
OBJ 6	To become better at identifying and engaging with people who could find themselves socially and/or economically disadvantaged, so that we can enhance their sense of wellbeing and reduce the level of risk to their personal safety.
OBJ 7	To ensure that the Service's Business Continuity Planning and Management arrangements are as comprehensive and secure as they can be.
<u>2011-12 Resource Strategy Objectives</u>	
OBJ A	To change aspects of the organisation's structure and ways of operating.
OBJ B	To review and improve internal business processes
OBJ C	To plan and prepare for the 2012-13 budget reduction.