

Performance Indicators

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

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1 Purpose of Report

To advise Members of the mandatory and historical requirements for the reporting of performance, and proposals to review current arrangements.

2 Recommendations

Members are recommended to instruct officers to review the current performance reporting arrangements, as an integral element of this year's integrated strategic planning process, leading to proposals for a more refined and meaningful suite of performance measures.

3 Background

The Fire Authority currently receives a myriad of performance indicators gathered through an ever increasing data gathering and reporting regime. Some of the data gathered stems from historical statutory reporting requirements (e.g. Best Value legislation) and others from Fire Authority/Committee requests.

The current statutory requirements introduced the new set of national indicators in April 2008, replacing approximately 1,200 Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPIs) with just under 200 indicators, of which only two are directly of relevance to the fire and rescue services, namely:

- **NI 33:** Number of deliberate primary and secondary fires, and
- **NI 49:** Number of primary fires and related fatalities and non-fatal casualties excluding precautionary checks.

In addition to the legislative changes, as of 1st April 2009 all English fire and rescue services are now required to complete electronically and submit online to the department for Communities and Local Government (CLG) data regarding all incidents attended through the national Incident Recording System (IRS).

As a consequence, the Service is now, more than ever before, gathering data and reporting against redundant national indicators, local indicators, new national indicators and also completing the IRS, all of which is now becoming resource intensive.

Furthermore, the Chief Fire Officers Association (CFOA) have recently issued for consultation proposed 'Fire and Rescue Service Performance Measures,' measures that have received mixed reviews. A copy of the CFOA measures is appended.

Now is perhaps a prudent period for Members to give careful consideration to what data is gathered and reported, and the value it adds to support a performance management culture within both the Fire Authority and Service. To this end, it is recommended that Members instruct officers to review the current performance reporting arrangements, as an integral element of this year's integrated strategic planning process, leading to proposals for a more refined and meaningful suite of measures. The developed proposals would result in changes taking effect from 1st April 2010.

4 Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

5 Legal Implications

There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

6 Equality Impact Assessment

There no equality and diversity monitoring issues arising from the recommendation set out in this report. Full consideration would be given to equality and diversity performance indicators within the proposed review.

7 Appendix

Chief Fire Officers Association - Fire and Rescue Service Performance Measures.

8 Background Papers

There are no background papers associated with this report.

Implications of all of the following have been considered and, where they are significant (i.e. marked with an asterisk); the implications are detailed within the report itself.

Balance Score Card		Integrated Risk Management Planning	
Business Continuity Planning		Legal	
Capacity		Member Involvement	
Civil Contingencies Act		National Framework	
Comprehensive Performance Assessment	*	Operational Assurance	
Efficiency Savings		Retained	
Environmental		Risk and Insurance	
Financial		Staff	
Fire Control/Fire Link		Strategic Planning	*
Information Communications and Technology		West Midlands Regional Management Board	
Freedom of Information / Data Protection / Environmental Information	*	Equality Impact Assessment	