

Fire Commission Update Paper

Purpose of Report

For information.

Is this report confidential? No

Summary

The report outlines issues of interest to the Fire Commission not covered under other items on the agenda.

LGA Plan Theme: Support for councillors

Recommendation

That Fire Commission note the report.

Contact details

Contact officer: Rebecca Johnson

Position: Adviser

Phone no: 07887 568807

Email: Rebecca.johnson@local.gov.uk

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Board updates

Joint Emergency Services Interoperability Principles (JESIP)

1. Cllrs Brackenridge and Chard attended the JESIP Ministerial Oversight Board at the end of April, which was attended by ministers from the Home Office, and the Departments of Health and Social Care and Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.
2. The focus of the meeting was the second report from the Manchester Arena Inquiry and the recommendations made by the Inquiry on how to improve emergency service interoperability at incidents.
3. The Board received updates on the work to embed the recommendations across the three emergency services. Two major themes emerged during the meeting: joint training and exercising by all three services; and how to provide assurance that JESIP principles and ways of working are properly embedded. As a result there are likely to be further discussions with His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services and the Care Quality Commission about establishing a baseline across the police, ambulance and fire and rescue services over the next year.

NFCC Strategic CPD Masterclass Corporate Governance

4. In March Cllr Frank Biederman presented at an NFCC Strategic Masterclass for senior Fire Officers on the theme of Corporate Governance outlining the role of FRA Members and the LGA. The event was facilitated by the NFCC Chief Operating Officer, Susannah Hancock.
5. Other speakers included Diana Mellville, Governance Advisor at the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) and Peter Murphy, Professor of Public Policy and Management at Nottingham Business School.

Home Office – Professionalism workstream

6. In April, FSMC Lead Members attended a session facilitated by the Home Office's Policy and Innovation Lab (CoLab) to help inform the design of the future of fire professionalism, a key part of government's reform programme as outlined in the [recent white paper](#).
7. Home Office shared progress on and findings from their work to better understand the future of professionalism for fire and rescue services and invited views and feedback on the ideas for activities that could be run centrally to support the sector in areas of research, data, leadership, ethics and achieving professional standards.

Events

Fire and Rescue Leadership Essentials

8. We held a Fire and Rescue (Leadership Essentials) course between Monday 13 and Tuesday 14 March at Warwick Conferences. Speakers included Home Office, HMICFRS, Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service and Cllr Keith Aspden.
9. The session was well attended and received good feedback from FRA Members who attended.

Fire Inclusion and Diversity Member Champions Network

10. Cllr Jane Hugo, EDI Champion for FSMC, chaired an EDI Champion network meeting on Friday 28 April. The meeting was well attended with speakers including HMICFRS who updated on their spotlight review and both Gloucestershire and Lancashire Fire and Rescue Services who shared experiences around driving change in culture and EDI.
11. We encourage all authorities to make sure that they have a representative on the Committee's Member Champions Network. Please get in touch with Rebecca Johnson for further information Rebecca.johnson@local.gov.uk.

Implications for Wales

12. None

Financial Implications

13. None

Equalities implications

14. HMICFRS's inspection reports highlighted a range of issues that impact on equality, diversity and inclusion within the fire and rescue sector. The LGA's Fire Diversity and Inclusion Champions Network has been specifically established to assist authorities in improving equality, diversity and inclusion in fire and rescue services.

Next steps

15. The Committee note the report.