

## Fire Services Management Committee Update

### Purpose of Report

For information.

**Is this report confidential? No**

### Summary

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

**LGA Plan Theme:** Championing climate change and local environments

### Recommendation(s)

**That the Committee give direction to officers regarding next steps on the issue of fire and rescue service's involvement in planning.**

### Contact details

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## **Fire Services Management Committee Update**

### **Updated Climate Emergency Handbook**

1. We have received contributions from the NFCC on wildfires, emerging technology and sustainable procurement, from Professor Rowena Hill on climate change, the Environment Agency on incidence management and resilience, as well as relevant case studies from several fire and rescue services.
2. The updated handbook will be published online as this year's conference document.

### **Fire Performance Oversight Group**

3. Councillor Frank Biederman attended HMICFRS's Fire Performance Oversight Group (FPOG) on 7 February 2024. He highlighted the work the LGA has done to assist the services currently in FPOG. Councillor Biederman will also attend the next FPOG on 5 March.

### **Firefighters Pension Scheme Advisory Board**

4. Councillor Biederman attended the Firefighters Pension Scheme Advisory Board on 14 December 2023.

### **Fire Productivity and Efficiency Forum**

5. FSMC Lead Members attended the Fire Productivity and Efficiency Forum on 9 February 2024. The Home Office gave a presentation on the Police Productivity Review and considered whether a similar review in Fire would be appropriate.

### **HMICFRS External Reference Group**

6. FSMC Lead Members attended the HMICFRS External Reference Group on 14 February 2024 to discuss initial findings from the third round of inspection, State of Fire and emerging issues in the sector.

### **CoLab – Operational Independence**

7. FSMC Lead Members met with Home Office officials from the Policy and Innovation Lab (CoLab) to discuss their work on operational independence and a revised Fire Framework. CoLab is leading a project that aims to help explore how operational independence could work in practice. Their findings will help the Home Office's Fire Strategy & Reform Unit reflect on how to implement operational independence, likely through a standardised scheme of delegation and/or amendments to Fire and Rescue National Framework for England.

## Veterans Hubs and Clubs

8. Buckinghamshire Council has established a 'Veterans Hubs and Clubs' initiative, which utilises fire stations as a facility to regularly convene veterans. The initiative aims to improve the wellbeing of veterans by using existing networks and partnerships more efficiently, allowing more veterans to receive personalised and relevant support. This will topic return to the FSMC at the next meeting on 17 May 2024 as an agenda item. Please see **Appendix A** for more information.

## Events

### Leadership Essentials

9. The most recent Fire Leadership Essentials Programme was held in Warwick on 6 & 7 February 2024. The programme was hosted by David Weaver and had nine attendees. Sessions covered a range of topics including the Home Office's fire reform plans, the HMICFRS inspection regime, building safety, climate change, reflections of an FRA chair, good governance, EDI and leadership.

## Implications for Wales

10. None.

## Financial Implications

11. None.

## Equalities implications

12. None

## Next steps

13. Members to note the update.