

Report of West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service

Report to Inner East Area Committee

Date: 20th October 2011

Subject: West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service (WYFRS) – Fire Cover Proposals

Are specific electoral Wards affected? Burmantofts & Richmond Hill, Killingbeck & Seacroft, Gipton & Harehills	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service are currently undertaking consultation on a series of seven proposals to deliver significant efficiencies over the next few years. The proposal of significance to the Inner East Area Committee is to construction of a new fire station at Killingbeck to replace Gipton and Stanks fire stations.

Station Commander Tony Head will attend the Area Committee to present the case and answer any questions.

Recommendations

That the Area Committee note the report.

Purpose of this report

1. The purpose of this report is to introduce Station Commander Tony Head who will present the business case for the construction of a new fire station to replace Gipton and Stanks fire stations. The business case is attached as Appendix A to this report.

Background information

2. West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority faces some difficult challenges in meeting its objectives and at the same time delivering significant efficiencies over the next few years.
3. On 9 September 2011 the Fire Authority agreed that the recommendations from the Chief Fire Officer be published for a 12-week period of public consultation.
4. These recommendations include a draft Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) for 2012-13 with a supporting business case for each of the seven proposals.
5. A further report will then be considered by the authority in December 2011. If the proposals are approved they will be implemented between 2012 and 2017.

Main issues

6. The proposal of significance to the Inner East Area Committee is the construction of a new fire station to replace Gipton and Stanks fire stations and removal of 24 fulltime posts from the establishment by way of planned retirements.
7. Independent research has assisted WYFRS to determine the potential impact that the implementation of the proposal would have on fire appliance attendance times to operational incidents. The outcome of this research is that the optimum area for a fire station between Gipton and Stanks has been identified as being situated on the A64 in the vicinity of Killingbeck police station.
8. A copy of the Gipton/Stanks business case is attached as Appendix A to this report.

Corporate Considerations

Consultation and Engagement

9. WYFRS consult regularly on proposals for improving fire cover. Full consultation on these proposals is open until 9 December 2011, and formal representations must be made in writing/email to Stephen Hardy, Consultation Co-ordinator, West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority, Oakroyd Hall, Bradford Road, Birkenshaw, BD11 2DY or stephen.hardy@westyorksfire.gov.uk

Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

10. WYFRS perform at the excellent level of the Fire and Rescue Service Equality Framework and are the first fire and rescue service to achieve this level. They also have a continued presence in the Stonewall top 100 Workplace Equality Index.

Council Policies and City Priorities

11. WYFRS are a member of the Safer Leeds Partnership.

Resources and Value for Money

12. There are no resource implications.

Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

13. There are no implications to Council Policy and Governance. This report does not require a major or key decision therefore is not eligible for call in.

Risk Management

14. A Community Risk Management Strategy is contained within the 2011 – 2015 Service Plan.

Conclusions

15. WYFRS works closely with the communities it serves to improve its understanding of local needs and prioritise resources where they are most needed and deliver services in the most cost effective ways.

Recommendations

16. It is recommended that the Area Committee note the report.

Background Papers

Website - <http://www.westyorksfire.gov.uk/news/Fire+Cover+Proposals>. This includes details of the consultation plus a copy of the Integrated Risk Management Plan, and a business case for each proposal.