

**SUBJECT: DISTRICT PLANS 2009/10**

**REPORT OF THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER**

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**1 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Committee of the process undertaken to complete the District Plans 2009/10 together with the proposed date of publication of the plans.

**2 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 District Plans are intended to be a key part of the Authority's performance management framework, representing that element of the "golden thread" which connects corporate strategy with practical delivery of work on the ground.
- 2.2 Furthermore, a key element of the District Plan is its ability to reflect the issues of the local area it covers, within the overall direction set by the Authority, in recognition of the differences that exist between specific localities and community priorities within Tyne and Wear.
- 2.3 This is only the second year that District Plans have been published and it is the first year they will be using validated, rather than provisional, data. This validated data reflects the data contained within the Strategic Community Safety Plan (SCSP). The 2009/10 District Plans have also been designed to bring together station level performance with that of the district and, as a result, there are no separate Station Plans in 2009/10.
- 2.4 The District Plans 2009/10 have also been developed to take into account the introduction of Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) and the associated National Indicator set. Accordingly, each of the District Plans is based on the priorities established at district level, and supports the priorities of their Local Strategic Partnership as set out in their Sustainable Community Strategies and Local Area Agreements.
- 2.5 Whilst the District Plans are working documents designed to drive the work of district teams during the year, they are also a useful statement of local priorities which can be used by partner organisations as appropriate.

**3 SETTING THE PRIORITIES**

- 3.1 This is the first year that the setting of priorities has been devolved to district level, with the aim of balancing corporate requirements with an understanding of local risk and associated priorities. This has been achieved following extensive analysis of data and subsequent discussions and consultation on the findings.

## **PREVENTING PROTECTING RESPONDING**

- 3.2 In addition, it is important to note that the two fire related National Indicators have been set as service level priorities and where appropriate the associated Local Indicators (LI's) have been set as priorities at district level.
- 3.3 Each district has also highlighted other National Indicators which they are able to contribute towards through their work. These are based on discussions carried out at LSP level and each of the districts has taken account of their Local Area Agreement priorities.
- 3.4 As a result of this process each District Plan contains a set of unique priorities based on previous incident data, corporate direction, local knowledge and the priorities of their Local Authority and partners.
- 3.5 Through this decision making process the districts have been given a greater level of autonomy and accountability in relation to the delivery of initiatives and the district's subsequent performance.

### **4 CONTENT OF THE DISTRICT PLANS 2009/10**

- 4.1 The District Plans set out that delivery of the two fire related NI's (deliberate fires and primary fires, deaths and injuries) is the core business of every District. The focus of attention in each District is determined by understanding of local risk and current performance. Taken together, the targets set for each District will ensure that the service as a whole meets its NI targets.
- 4.2 The District Plans also contain actions which will assist in delivering partnership objectives which align with our own priorities. These have emerged through engagement in LSP's Crime and Disorder partnerships.
- 4.3 A range of initiatives are set out in the plan and these have been clearly linked to the priorities that are highlighted within the District Plan. This will enable the success and evaluation of the initiatives to be linked with the performance of the related performance indicator.
- 4.4 The District Plans have been designed in this way to enable each district to understand its priorities and those of the other districts and to encourage the sharing of ideas and best practice as it emerges.
- 4.5 An example of the District Plans 2009/10 has been attached as Appendix A. This District Plan clearly highlights the National Indicators upon which the District proposes to focus as a priority for the next 12 months and also contains a high level action plan showing how the priorities issues will be addressed.

### **5 DESIGN AND DISTRIBUTION OF DISTRICT PLANS 2009/10**

- 5.1 The District Plans 2009/10 will be published on the internet on the 28<sup>th</sup> July 2009, following discussion with the Committee.
- 5.2 Each District will be supplied with 150 copies of their District Plan to distribute between their partner agencies, Local Authority and Councillors.

5.3 The District Plans have been designed to reflect the same colour scheme and format as the SCSP and the IRMP.

## **6. LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 No additional implications are envisaged.

## **7. LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 No additional implications are envisaged.

## **8 ICT IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 No additional implications are envisaged.

## **9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 The District Plans have an estimated production cost of £3500.

## **10. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 The risk management implications associated with the implementation of the District Plans have been assessed as low risk.

## **11. STRATEGIC COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN LINK**

11.1 The production of the District Plans relate directly to the SCSP. The National Indicators identified as a priority within the District Plans are referred to within the SCSP.

## **12. EQUALITY AND FAIRNESS IMPLICATIONS**

12.1 Equality and Diversity issues have been considered as part of the Equality Impact Assessment process for the District Plans.

12.2 The Plan is available in alternative formats and languages upon request.

## **13 HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

13.1 No additional implications are envisaged.

## **14. RECOMMENDATIONS**

14.1 The Committee is requested to:

- a. Consider the content of this report.
- b. note the publication date of the District Plans 2009/10

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## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

The following background papers refer to the subject matter of the above:

***Creating the Safest Community***

## ***PREVENTING PROTECTING RESPONDING***

- Newcastle District Plan
- National Indicator Set