



To the Parish Clerk

May 2016

Dear Sir or Madam

**SUFFOLK FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN 2015-18**

We wanted to take this opportunity to contact you again in addition to correspondence you have previously received either from us or SALC.

Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service began its Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) consultation on 16 November 2015 through to 22 February 2016. The plan was informed by a period of pre-consultation engagement that took place with the public and key partner organisations and groups in June and July 2015. The post consultation report was published on our website on 6 April 2016 and we have now fully considered the findings from the consultation and are bringing recommendations back to the County Council Cabinet on 17 May 2016.

As an important stakeholder in Suffolk I wanted to share these recommendations. These have now been published in the Cabinet report on the Council's website, if you want to read the full report this can be found on the following link

http://committeeminutes.suffolkcc.gov.uk/searchResult.aspx?qry=c_committee~~The_Cabinet

The original consultation proposals and post-consultation recommendations are as follows:

Sudbury Fire Station

IRMP Proposal – The original proposal was that the second fire engine is changed to a rapid response type fire engine and the number of on-call firefighters is reduced at the fire station.

Recommendation – The recommendation, informed by the consultation and the professional view of the Chief Fire Officer, is to remove the proposal to replace the second fire engine at Sudbury fire station with a smaller rapid response fire engine and, instead, to maintain the current two standard fire engines and on-call firefighter establishment.

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Wrentham Fire Station

IRMP Proposal – The original proposal was to remove the fire engine and 11 on-call firefighters and close the fire station.

Recommendation – The recommendation, informed by the consultation and the professional view of the Chief Fire Officer, is to adjust the proposal to close Wrentham fire station and, instead, to maintain the fire station, replace the existing fire engine with a smaller rapid response fire engine and reduce the establishment of on-call firefighters from 11 to 8.

Ipswich (Princes Street) Fire Station

IRMP Proposal – The original proposal was to remove the second fire engine and reduce the number of full time firefighters by 20.

Recommendation – The recommendation, informed by the consultation and the professional view of the Chief Fire Officer, is to remove the second full-time crewed fire engine from Ipswich (Princes Street) fire station and reduce the establishment of full-time firefighters by 16 instead of the originally proposed 20. The additional 4 full-time firefighters will be used to support on-call fire engine availability across the county during weekdays.

IRMP Proposal – The original proposal was to remove the third fire engine and the 11 on-call firefighters.

Recommendation – The recommendation, informed by the consultation and the professional view of the Chief Fire Officer, is to remove the proposal to withdraw the on-call fire engine from Ipswich (Princes Street) fire station and, instead, to maintain the standard fire engine and on-call firefighter establishment.

IRMP Proposal – The original proposal was to establish either a new ‘blue light’ fire station in the centre of Ipswich, or a refurbishment of the existing Ipswich (Princes Street) fire station.

Recommendation – The recommendation, informed by the consultation and the professional view of the Chief Fire Officer, is to support the establishment of either a new ‘blue light’ fire station in the centre of Ipswich, or a refurbishment of the existing Ipswich (Princes Street) fire station, as determined by a business case.

Ipswich (East) Fire Station

IRMP Proposal – The original proposal was to remove one of the three fire engines and reduce the number of on-call firefighters from 21 to 13.

Recommendation – The recommendation, informed by the consultation and the professional view of the Chief Fire Officer, is to remove the third fire engine from Ipswich (East) fire station and reduce the establishment of on-call firefighters at the station to 15, instead of 13, to improve the availability of the on-call fire engine and specialist appliances.

Bury St Edmunds Fire Station

IRMP Proposal – The original proposal was to remove one of the three fire engines and reduce the number of on-call firefighters from 21 to 13.

Recommendation – The recommendation, informed by the consultation and the professional view of the Chief Fire Officer, is to remove the third fire engine from Bury St Edmunds fire station and reduce the establishment of on-call firefighters at the station to 15, instead of 13, to improve the availability of the on-call fire engine and specialist appliances.

Lowestoft South Fire Station

IRMP Proposal – The original proposal was to remove one of the four fire engines in Lowestoft, this being one currently based at Lowestoft South fire station and reduce the number of on-call firefighters at Lowestoft South from 21 to 13.

Recommendation – The recommendation, informed by the consultation and the professional view of the Chief Fire Officer, is to remove the third fire engine from Lowestoft South fire station and reduce the establishment of on-call firefighters at the station to 15, instead of 13, to improve the availability of the on-call fire engine and specialist appliances.

Subject to Cabinet agreeing the recommendations, implementation will take place through 2016/17.

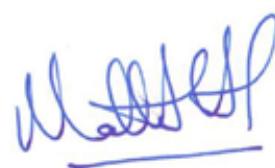
The Fire and Rescue Service in Suffolk continues to provide excellent Prevention, Protection and Emergency Response services '24/7' 365 days a year to communities across the county. The County Council provides these services against a backdrop of no council tax increases, continuing reductions in grant funding and more than a 30% reduction in the number of 999 calls in the last 10 years. We are confident that this quality of service will remain into the future.

If you would like any more information, or would like to arrange a meeting at your convenience, then please do not hesitate to contact us through our PA support on geraldine.manning@suffolk.gov.uk or 01473 260533.

Yours sincerely



Mark Hardingham
Chief Fire Officer
Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service



Matthew Hicks
County Councillor and
Cabinet Member for Environment
and Public Protection