



FULKING PARISH COUNCIL

Public Meeting about West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service Draft proposals for 2015-2016 to be held on 10th July 2014 at 7.00pm in The Village Hall

Summary of DRAFT proposals for West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service 2015-2016

All the draft proposals for 2015-2016 support the future vision and reflect changes in community risk and demands on the service. The combined proposals if approved, will also achieve the budget reduction target of £1.6m. None of the eight proposals will result in the closure any fire stations or reduce the number of immediate response fire engines.

Proposal 1 Move one of the two immediate response fire engines at Horsham to Littlehampton, making it a 24 hour immediate response station.

Under the proposal, Horsham and Littlehampton would both have two fire engines; one crewed 24 hour immediate response and one crewed by retained firefighters.

Outcome: Improves Service performance by more effective use of resources.

Proposal 2 Introduce group-crewing model at immediate response stations.

The new crewing system would maintain 24-hour immediate response capability, but require three fewer firefighters at each station. This would be introduced at Bognor, Chichester, Crawley, Horsham, Littlehampton and Worthing.

Outcome: Increased efficiency and no reduction in performance.

Proposal 3 Remove the 2nd fire engine at Midhurst, Petworth and Storrington, leaving one fire engine and a 4x4 vehicle at each station.

The 2nd fire engines are crewed by retained firefighters are in rural areas with fewer property fires and low level operational demand. The number of firefighters at the stations would not be reduced under this proposal. If an incident required additional firefighters they could proceed in the 4x4 vehicle to support the first crew.

Outcome: Frees up resources with minimum impact on performance.

Proposal 4 Closure of retained unit and removal of 3rd fire engine at Crawley, leaving two fire engines, Heavy Rescue Tender and a 4x4 vehicle.

The third fire engine does not contribute significantly to the overall performance due to a reduction in the number of emergency incidents and the lack of available retained fire fighters. The ten retained firefighter posts at Crawley would be removed from the establishment under this proposal. In an emergency a fire engine would be brought in from the surrounding area to the station ensuring an immediate response fire engine is always available.

Outcome: Resources more proportionate to risk and performance.

Proposal 5 Implement revised day crewing model at Variable Crewed Stations.

This system would maintain immediate response capability during core day time hours. This would mean a combined/total reduction in 10 firefighters across

Shoreham, Burgess Hill, Haywards Heath and East Grinstead stations.

Outcome: Changes to delivery of community safety work, maintains response standards at a reduced cost.

Proposal 6 Increase operational capacity and support for communities in flooding and severe weather.

The proposal is to invest an initial £220,000 specialist equipment and training to improve the capability to support communities before, during and after flooding from weather related disruption.

Outcome: Improved capability for preparing for, responding to and supporting the recovery from flooding and severe weather related events.

Proposal 7 Reductions in management and administrative support.

Seek cost saving efficiencies by reviewing and rationalising of the organisational structure.

Outcome: Reduced costs in management and administrative functions.

Proposal 8 Utilise additional trained staff to improve operational resilience.

Non operational, qualified staff will be called upon to boost operational resilience in the event of major incidents, in times of severe weather with multiple calls, or protracted incidents..

Outcome: Improved operational resilience and more effective use of skills and resources.

For further information please use the following link

http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/living/emergency_services/fire_and_rescue_service/public_consultation_on_draft_p.aspx

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