

Fire Authority Corporate Plan 2010/11

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

For further information about this report please contact Paul Raymond, Chief Fire Officer, on 01743 260203 or Ged Edwards, Programme Manager, on 01743 260208.

1 Purpose of Report

To seek Member approval of the proposed contents of the Fire Authority's 2010/11 Corporate Plan. The Corporate Plan will be supplemented by an Annual Report 2009/10, which will be brought before Members in June 2010 for consideration and approval.

2 Recommendations

The Fire Authority is requested to:

- a) Consider and approve the contents of the Corporate Plan, set out at Appendix A to this report;
- b) Delegate authority to the Strategy and Resources Committee to consider and agree:
 - (i) Performance Targets for 2010/11; and
 - (ii) The final layout and publication of the Corporate Plan; and
- c) Receive, in June 2010, the proposed Annual Report 2009/10

3 Background

In 2008, following the enactment of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (and subsequent changes to Best Value legislation), the Fire Authority's statutory duty to produce an annual best value performance plan was removed.

However, in pursuance of delivering a community focused service, the Fire Authority at its July 2009 meeting endorsed, as part of its integrated strategic planning process, the continued preparation and publication of an annual Corporate Plan and supporting Annual Report.

4 Corporate Plan

Officers, at a strategic planning workshop held in October 2009, considered and reviewed the existing Corporate Plan and concluded that 2010/11 should be a consolidation year and, therefore, the existing core values, aims and high level improvement priorities, namely capacity, competence and communication are valid, fit for purpose and should remain unchanged (these are included within Appendix A).

However, a number of major projects have been identified, which need to be incorporated into the current plan (these are included within Appendix B).

The Corporate Plan for 2010/11 will include summary details regarding the Fire Authority's:

- Aims;
- 2010/11 Budget;
- High level Improvement Priorities; and
- Major projects for 2010/11.

These details are still the subject of further development and consideration. It is, therefore, recommended, that, where appropriate, these details are delegated to the Authority's Strategy and Resources Committee. Subject to the Committee's approval, the final Plan will be published and released on or around 1 April 2010.

It is proposed to continue with the single, wall-mounted poster format, branded in the corporate identity, which will be placed in prominent positions at all stations/departments. A web-based online version will also be available for external stakeholders.

5 Annual Report

Supplementing the Corporate Plan will be the backward-facing Annual Report, which will provide an account of the Authority's performance, both financial and operational, for the previous reporting period. The Annual Report 2009/10 will be presented to the June meeting of the Authority for approval prior to publication. Unlike the Corporate Plan, which acts primarily as an internal planning document, the Annual Report will be published as an outward-facing, external document, aimed at informing the community of the Authority's achievements.

6 Financial Implications

There is provision within the budget for production of the document proposed.

7 Legal Comment

The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 removed the requirement for best value authorities to compile and publish an annual Best Value Performance Plan (the Plan). However, the Department for Communities and Local Government (CLG) saw the Plan as the mechanism by which fire and rescue authorities publish, amongst other things, details of their outturn performance for the preceding year.

Fire and Rescue Authorities were also required to certify in their Plans that individual contracts entered into comply with best value requirements, including workforce requirements in the Code of Practice and the accompanying statutory guidance.

The CLG, in March 2008, stated¹ that it will be at the discretion of Fire and Rescue Authorities as to how to publish, or otherwise make available, the information set out above, advising that they should, however, ensure that it is available to relevant stakeholders, for instance employee representatives in the case of the compliance certification. Fire and Rescue Authorities should also continue to make available the performance data to their auditor.

No further guidance has been issued from CLG in respect of annual best value performance plans.

The above requirements were met by this Fire Authority during 2008 and 2009 and it is anticipated that these will be included within the 2009/10 Annual Report.

8 Equality Impact Assessment

An Initial Equality Impact Assessment has been completed and is attached to this report.

9 Appendices

Appendix A

Shropshire and Wrekin Fire Authority's Vision, Mission, Aims, Objectives and High Level Improvement Priorities

Appendix B

Major Projects for 2010/11

¹ CLG FRS Circular 09/2008. *Best Value Performance Plans for 2007/08*

10 Background Papers

Department for Communities and Local Government

Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, available from:
http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2007/ukpga_20070028_en_1

Creating Strong, Safe and Prosperous Communities, Statutory Guidance, available from:
<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/localgovernment/pdf/885397.pdf>

Implications of all of the following have been considered and, where they are significant (i.e. marked with an asterisk), the implications are detailed within the report itself.

Balanced Score Card		Integrated Risk Management Planning	*
Business Continuity Planning		Legal	
Capacity		Member Involvement	
Civil Contingencies Act		National Framework	
Comprehensive Performance Assessment	*	Operational Assurance	
Efficiency Savings		Retained	
Environmental		Risk and Insurance	
Financial		Staff	
Fire Control/Fire Link		Strategic Planning	*
Information Communications and Technology		West Midlands Regional Management Board	
Freedom of Information / Data Protection / Environmental Information		Equality Impact Assessment	*

Shropshire and Wrekin Fire Authority's Vision, Mission, Aims, Objectives and High Level Improvement Priorities

Our Vision

What we want to secure:

"A Safer Shropshire"

Our Mission

The Fire Authority's Mission ensures that SFRS are:

Saving life, protecting property and the environment and reducing risk within the community

The organisation's vision and mission is most readily identifiable through its corporate logo and motto



Core Values

Service to the Community

We value service to the community by:

- Working with all groups to reduce risk
- Treating everyone fairly and with respect
- Being answerable to those we serve
- Striving for excellence in all we do

People

We value all of our employees by practicing and promoting:

- Fairness and respect
- Recognition of merit
- Honesty, integrity and mutual trust
- Personal development
- Co-operative and inclusive working

Diversity

We value diversity in the service and the community by:

- Treating everyone fairly and with respect
- Providing varying solutions for different needs and expectations
- Promoting equal opportunities in employment and progression within the Service
- Challenging prejudice and discrimination

Improvement

We value improvement at all levels of the Service by:

- Accepting responsibility for our performance
- Being open-minded
- Considering criticism thoughtfully
- Learning from our experience
- Consulting others

Aims of the Fire Authority

Aim 1

Reduce the risk to life and material loss from fires, road traffic collisions and other emergencies in the community

Aim 2

Protect life, property and the environment from fire and other emergencies

Aim 3

Secure the highest level of safety and welfare/wellbeing for all staff and Authority Members

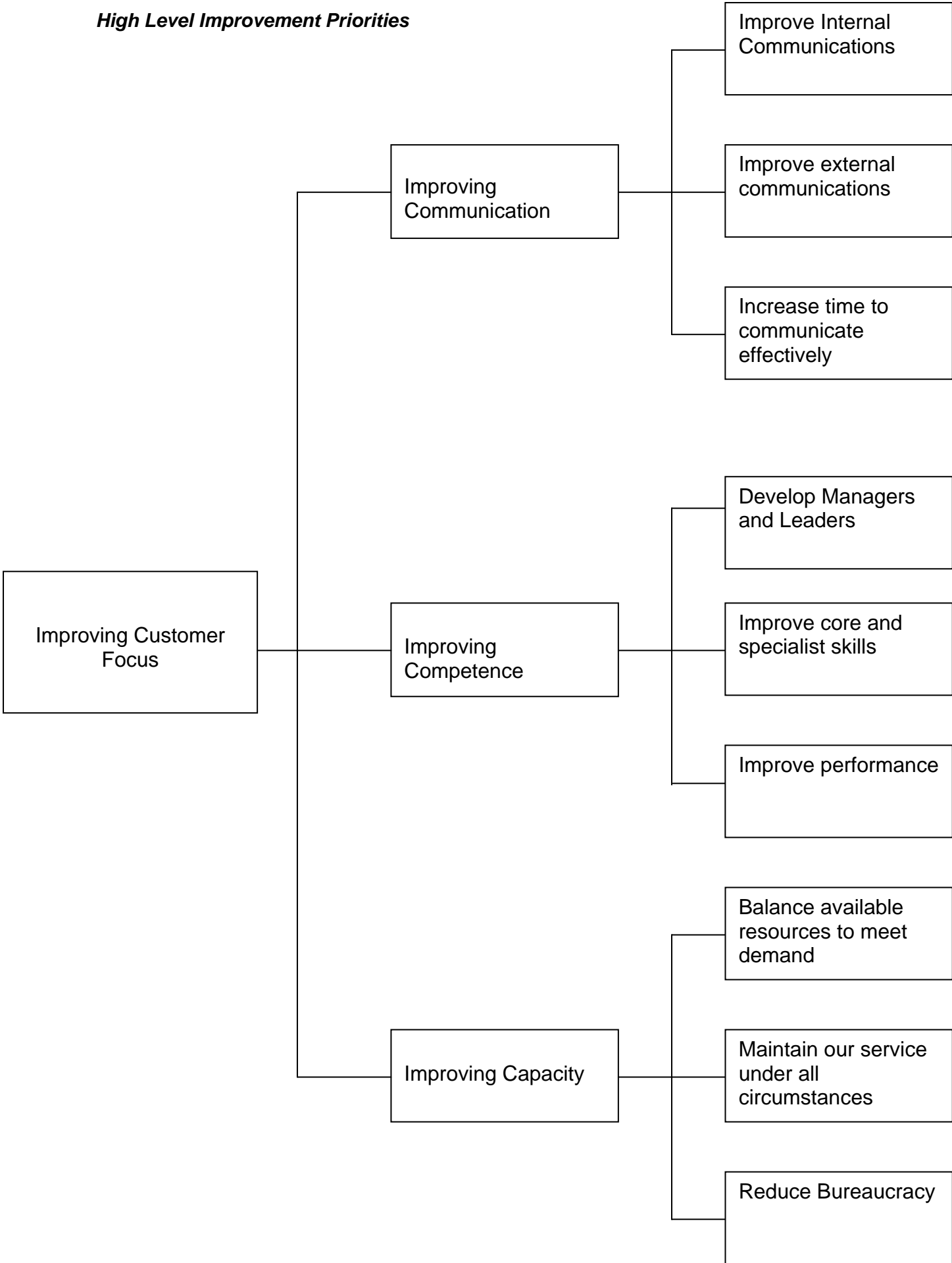
Aim 4

Provide a sustainable service that demonstrates quality and best value in service provision

Aim 5

Provide a service committed to the highest levels of equality and diversity

High Level Improvement Priorities



Major Projects for 2010/11

- Regional Control Centre
- Interim Mobilising System
- Installation of New Radios and Mobile Data Terminals
- New Station End Equipment
- New Headquarters
- New Vehicle Workshops
- Temporary Fire Station
- Recruitment of District Support Teams
- New Fire Kit / Personal Protective Equipment
- Implementation of Integrated Risk Management Planning

