

## Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service

### Standards and Governance Committee

Item 10

14 June 2016

### Health and safety 'Statement of Intent'

### Report by the Chief Officer

Contact: David Lack, contact: 0791 888 7578

## 1 Summary

- 1.1 The Health and Safety (H&S) 'Statement of intent' is reviewed on an annual basis. The current Statement, dated January 2015, has been subject to a full review and now illustrates more fully our commitment to health and safety and includes a personal statement from the Chairman of Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority (HFRA) and the Chief Fire Officer.
- 1.2 The Statement was reported to the Standards and Governance Committee on 7 April 2016 and is being presented again having received Members' comment and feedback.

## 2 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Standards and Governance Committee approves the reviewed Statement of Intent
- 2.2 That the Standards and Governance Committee **RECOMMEND** to the Full Authority that the Statement of Intent (Appendix 1 to the report) be approved and is signed by the Chairman on behalf of the Fire Authority.

## 3 Introduction and background

- 3.1 It is HFRA and Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service's (HFRS) intent to demonstrate an ongoing and determined commitment to improving health and safety at work.
- 3.2 We strive to provide and implement a process of continuous improvement to ensure a safe and healthy working environment.
- 3.3 The Statement of Intent makes clear our full commitment to health and safety. We will achieve this through the development and implementation of a strong and robust safety management system. This is designed to meet legal requirements and reduce the risk exposure of all those affected by our activities as far as reasonably practicable.
- 3.4 The Authority has overall corporate responsibility for health and safety and the Chief Fire Officer has operational responsibility. The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 requires an annual review of the Health and Safety Statement of Intent. For governance purposes, the Health and Safety Statement of Intent is presented

annually to the Service Management Team and the Standards and Governance committee for approval.

#### **4 Supporting our corporate aims and objectives**

- 4.1 Robust health and safety arrangements support our aim of being the best fire and rescue service in the country.

#### **5 People Impact Assessment**

- 5.1 The proposals in this report are considered compatible with the provisions of the equality and human rights legislation.

#### **6 Risk Analysis**

- 6.1 It is legally incumbent on HFRA and HFRS to ensure the health, safety and welfare of its staff and that it complies with all of the applicable health and safety legislation and regulations. The maintenance of a positive health and safety culture throughout the Service must be key in all activities and supported at all levels.
- 6.2 Responsibility for health and safety lies both with the HFRS and with the HFRA. It is crucial that Members have a full understanding of our arrangements and are satisfied that they are both suitable and sufficient to meet our statutory obligations as an employer.

#### **7 Resource implications**

- 7.1 There are no additional human resources, information and communications technology, physical resources or financial implications arising from this report.

#### **8 Conclusion**

- 8.1 Our Health and Safety Policy is provided to ensure that all staff are committed to health and safety and are fully engaged with our core health and safety values:
- Health and Safety is everyone's responsibility
  - Personal safety is our highest priority
  - Health and Safety can and will be effectively managed
  - Every work related injury or illness could, and should, have been prevented

#### **Background papers**

The following documents disclose the facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and has been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of the report:

None

Note: The list excludes: (1) published works; and (2) documents that disclose exempt or confidential information defined in the Act.