

EAST SUSSEX FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Meeting Policy & Resources Panel

Date 27 April 2023

Title of Report Productivity & Efficiency Plan 2023/24

By Assistant Director Resources / Treasurer

Lead Officer Alison Avery, Finance Manager

Background Papers Letter from Director Fire, Events & Central Management Directorate, Public Safety Group, Home Office 21 February 2023

Appendices 1. Productivity & Efficiency Plan 2023/24

Implications (please tick ✓ and attach to report)

Any implications affecting this report should be noted within the final paragraphs of the report

CORPORATE RISK		LEGAL	
ENVIRONMENTAL		POLICY	
FINANCIAL	✓	POLITICAL	
HEALTH & SAFETY		OTHER (please specify)	
HUMAN RESOURCES		CORE BRIEF	
EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT			

PURPOSE OF REPORT To set formally report to the Panel the Authority's Productivity & Efficiency Plan which was published and submitted to the Home Office by the deadline of 31 March 2023.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY The [National Framework](#) sets a requirement that Fire and Rescue Authorities (FRAs) produce and publish annual efficiency plans. There is a specific request from the Minister of State for Crime, Policing and Fire that in 2023/24, FRAs produce plans that not only cover planned efficiencies, but also their plans for increasing productivity.

As part of the 2021/22 Spending Review, the National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) and the Local Government Association (LGA) proposed that across Fire and Rescue Services (FRSs) in England, the fire and rescue sector could create 2% of non-pay efficiencies and to increase productivity by 3% by 2024/25. The 2023/24 FRA Productivity and Efficiency Plans will help the

NFCC, LGA and Home Office to collate evidence and to assess likely progress at national level against the agreed Spending Review Goals.

It is a requirement that the Productivity and Efficiency plans are signed off by the relevant Section 151 Officer.

Because the detailed requirements for the Plan were only circulated on 21 February and the deadline was 31 March there was no opportunity to submit the Plan for prior approval by the Fire Authority.

A draft Productivity & Efficiency Plan was presented to the Senior Leadership Team on 22 March and a final version published on the Authority's website by the deadline of 31 March.

[Financial information | East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service \(esfrs.org\)](http://esfrs.org)

A copy is attached at Appendix 1. It follows the format and requirements set out in a letter from the Home Office dated 21 February 2023. It is understood that the Home Office will carry out further analysis of the Plans once they are received.

RECOMMENDATION

The Panel is recommended to:

- a) note and comment upon the Productivity & Efficiency Plan 2023/24 as published and submitted to the Home Office
 - b) identify any further information that is required from Officers
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