2021/22 Action Plan Update

The current status of the Improvement Actions as set out in the Annual Governance Statement 2021/22.

Action Status

The Covid 19 Pandemic

Monitor the post-pandemic recovery and resilience to further COVID variants. Develop an approach to post-pandemic recovery considering wider partnership working and refreshing assessment of community needs. Ensure that lessons are learnt through a comprehensive debriefing process. (DCFO) (continuing action)

Complete – The Emergency Management Team has been formally stood down. An SLT report has been delivered identifying a series of recommendations. These are being actioned where appropriate to ensure the learning from COVID is taken forward, and the Service's preparedness against future COVID variants and will be strengthened

Review of Corporate Business Risk Policy and Implementation of Directorate Risk Registers

Continue to work to improve the identification and mitigation of corporate risks throughout the organisation. (ADR/T)

Continuing – no further progress has been made during 2022/23 due to capacity issues. We continue to work with other FRS/FRIC to explore the potential for shared risk and insurance resources and funding has been identified in the 2023/24 budget proposals

Improved Internal Audit and Health and Safety Action Tracking

Continue to work to improve the tracking of agreed actions in response to Internal Audit Reports and Health & Safety Investigations to ensure that lessons are learnt and improvements in risk management and control are implemented effectively. (ADR/T & ADPS) (continuing action)

Continuing – Progress continues with implementing internal audit actions and health & safety accident investigation recommendations. A temporary Station Manager is working in the H&S department focussing on supporting managers on the outstanding recommendations simplified and processes are being put in place to manage actions moving forward. Internal audit will review progress in action tracking as part of the 2022/23 Internal Audit Plan in Q4

Incident reporting for Insurance purposes

Continue to work to improve the reporting of incidents that may result in insurance claims in line with the requirements of the Authority's Insurers. (ADR/T) (continuing action)

Continuing – Limited progress has been made during 2022/23 due to capacity issues. We continue to work with other FRS/FRIC to explore the potential for shared risk and insurance resources and funding has been identified in the 2023/24 budget proposals.

Monitor issues relating to the Firefighter Pension Schemes

Continue to work on the national fall out of the McCloud/Sargent case by ensuring that the necessary resources and support are given to dealing with these. (ADPS) (continuing action)

Continuing – Work continues to support implementation of revised pensions arrangements. Additional resources have been allocated into the pensions department to deliver the necessary changes. Preparatory work continues ahead of the pensions remedy expected October 2023.

Improved Performance Monitoring

Improve the Authority's performance monitoring through the implementation of the Business Intelligence System. (ADP&I) (continuing action)

Complete – The Scrutiny & Audit Panel agreed a refresh of the performance measures. The Business Intelligence System is being developed to provide an improved performance report. This will be in place for the first quarter report 2023/24.

Review of Constitution – Financial Regulations

Review the financial regulations & scheme of delegations contained within the Authority's Constitution including budget limits. (ADR/T) (continuing action)

Continuing – The outstanding Financial Regulations work has been retained as an updated action on the 2022/23 Annual Governance Statement

Hackitt Review & Grenfell Tower Inquiry

ESFRS has established suitable and sufficient governance project management and processes to oversee progress against the plan including a prioritisation and tracking system. These processes will be transferred to the Grenfell Tower Phase 2 recommendations when they are released later in 2022. A Building Risk Review (BRR) was completed by the end of March 2022, we anticipate a further BRR may depending be required on the recommendations arising from the Inquiry. (**ACFO**) (continuing action)

Complete – The Grenfell Tower plan has been reviewed a number of times to take account of other national incidents and NFCC guidance, including a peer review from LFB. The very high (VH) risk and high (H) risk objectives have progressed significantly with one remaining that cannot be delivered until an IT upgrade is completed, this is due by the end of December 2023. The medium and low actions will become business as usual and progressed as resources allow. This project will therefore be closed down shortly, ensuring that the outstanding IT upgrade is included in the close down process to ensure it is monitored for delivery.

Health & Safety Management System

Implement the revised Health & Safety Management Framework (ADPS) (continuing action)

Continuing – Work continues on the completion of the H&S standards, and is due for completion in Spring .2023. Rollout of the new standards and training for staff will commence thereafter.

Fire Standards

Oversee the consultation and implementation of the National Fire Standards through the Assurance, Performance and Governance Group. (**DCFO**) (continuing action) **Complete** – A process is now established to assess the gap between a published standard and current Service practice. The quarterly APGG Group monitors progress against implementation of the standard.

Sustainability and Carbon Management

Complete the development of a Carbon Reduction Action Plan and a broader review of the Authority's community leadership role in relation to climate change for consideration by the Fire Authority. (DCFO & ADR/T) (New action)

Continuing – significant progress has been made with the development of a draft Carbon Reduction Action Plan which will be further refined through a workshop in Q4. We are working closely with the NFCC Environment & Sustainability Group and have agreed to sign up to the Emergency Services Environment and Sustainability Charter. A formal report will be brought to Fire Authority during 2023/24

Implement the findings of the HMICFRS Inspection

Assess and implement the findings resulting from the HMICFRS Inspection of both East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service and additionally those recommendations made to all FRS at a national level. (**DCFO**) (*New Action*)

Continuing – The findings from the 2019 inspection were delivered through departmental business plans. Progress against each of the Key Lines of Enquiry were recorded and provided to the Inspectorate along with the selfassessment document that was presented to the Fire Authority in December 2021. Monthly meetings were held to prepare the service for the 2022 inspection. A positive outcome was achieved in the 2022 Inspection report.