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## **Horsham Fire Station Task and Finish Group**

**28 August 2020**

### **Horsham Fire Station and West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service Training Centre**

#### **Report by Director of Law and Assurance**

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#### **1. Summary**

- 1.1 The Task and Finish Group (TFG) is asked to consider the draft decision report (Appendix A) which sets out a proposal to deliver a new live fire training centre to improve and extend training provision for the firefighter workforce and a new Horsham fire station which will replace the one at Hurst Road.
- 1.2 The project has changed significantly from the original plans for a joint project with other emergency services, for a commercial training offering and for income from an energy plant on the site. For various reasons those aspects of the proposal have had to be removed. The TFG will wish to examine whether the proposal continues to make sense in its revised scope and to be satisfied that the financial consequences for the delivery of the project have been fully tested.
- 1.3 In terms of Fire and Rescue Service outcomes for the project the report explains the risks identified in the Fire and Rescue Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) 2018-2022 and the improvement needs identified in the Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) report which are to be addressed by the project. It provides the case to release capital investment of £20.85m to construct the new facility and the additional revenue costs which result and why it is being considered a priority in the capital programme.
- 1.4 Following this meeting, any comments and recommendations will be presented to Cabinet for consideration ahead of its meeting on 15 September 2020.

#### **2. Focus for scrutiny**

- 2.1 Members of the TFG are asked to provide their comments to Cabinet ahead of its decision on 15 September 2020. Areas to consider are:
    - a. Whether the TFG endorses the service rationale for the Horsham Fire Station and Fire & Rescue Service (FRS) Training Centre in relation to the FRS Improvement Plan;
    - b. Whether the financial implications of the revised proposal are clear and accounted for - the allocation of £20.85m capital (with £461,415 additional design fees) and an additional £830,000 ongoing revenue costs;
    - c. Whether the project should be given priority in the capital programme.
  - 2.2 The Chairman will summarise the debate to inform the feedback to the Cabinet.
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### **3. Details**

3.1 The background and context to this item for scrutiny are set out in the attached report including resource and risk implications and all factors taken into account.

#### **Tony Kershaw**

Director of Law and Assurance

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#### **Appendices**

**Appendix A:** Draft Decision Report

**Appendix B:** Additional Information on Response Times

#### **Background papers**

None