

PROX ITEM 54

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Clerk to Rye Town Council
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23rd October 2006

please ask for
IRM Team - irm@esfrs.org

our ref
IRM/07/SJ/PAR1

your ref

Dear Mr Farhall

Consultation on the Fire Authority's 5 Year Risk Management Plan 2007/08 – 2011/12

A key requirement for all fire and rescue service authorities in the UK is that each one must use a risk-based approach to identifying local community safety risks, particularly those that relate to fire, along with the resources required to manage them and, in the long term, reduce such risks wherever possible within their respective local areas. Much of this work is done with local stakeholder partners as it requires a collective approach to improve such fundamental issues within our society.

Accordingly, East Sussex Fire Authority is making judgements about how best to further improve community safety bearing in mind the particular community safety risks prevailing within East Sussex and the City of Brighton & Hove and bearing in mind the excellent progress that has been achieved to date with our local partners.

In previous years, the predominant role of fire brigades was to put out fires and rescue people in emergencies, as well as the provision of fire safety education in schools and to other parts of the community. Within the last five years, these more restrictive roles have changed fundamentally.

All fire & rescue authorities are seeking to reinvest and redirect their resources towards prevention rather than cure, either as part of service efficiency reviews or additional investment, when it can be afforded.

There is still much to be done.

I am writing to you to ask for your opinion on the draft plan for the next 5 years (enclosed) and to encourage you and your organisation's involvement in the consultation process. You can give us feedback by contacting our offices (details above) or by completing the enclosed questionnaire. The closing date for consultation is Thursday 21st December 2006.



This is an opportunity for you to help us shape our vision - what services we will provide, how we will provide them and how we will work with others to achieve real improvements in community safety.

In one sense, we hope that we will surprise you - it is possible that you have not realised the full extent of our current and planned work. In another sense, we hope that you will be reassured that what we aim to achieve is exactly what you would want us to achieve.

If this consultation exercise highlights the fact that you think East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service can help your organisation with local community safety improvement initiatives, please let me know. Alternatively, if you want to discuss any issue, please contact the IRMP team whose number is highlighted above.

Yours sincerely

Councillor Mike Murphy
Chairman, East Sussex Fire Authority