



HUMBERSIDE FIRE AUTHORITY

PRODUCTIVITY AND EFFICIENCY PLAN 2024 - 2025



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Introduction: About the Plan

In 2023 the Minister of State for Crime, Policing and Fire required all Fire and Rescue Authorities to produce an Efficiency and Productivity Plan, aligned to Home Office guidance regarding content. This plan provides updated information for the 24/25 period. In simple terms, the Plan explains how Humberside Fire Authority (HFA) aims to deliver efficiencies and increased productivity, against national targets, set for 2021/22 – 2024/25 Spending Review period.

The National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) and the Local Government Association (LGA) have proposed that across FRs in England, the sector could create 2% of non-pay efficiencies and increase productivity by 3% in this period.

The HFA Productivity and Efficiency Plan 2024/25 provides detail of the efficiency and productivity progress of HFA against the national goals and with due consideration of efficiencies being made, alongside the council tax precept arrangements for the period. In line with our transparency in publishing other Strategic Plans and Financial Information, this Plan is published on the Humberside Fire and Rescue Service (HFRS) Website About Us | Humberside Fire.

HFA's strategy for the provision of fire and rescue services is driven by the approved Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP) and the Strategic Plan 2021 - 2025. The plans have been developed by Government guidance in these areas. These plans are available to view on the HFRS website Strategic Plan, Community Risk Management Plan.

These plans are also supported by the Service's Medium-Term Resource Strategy (MTRS), setting out how HFA will fund the Service. The MTRS is based on several assumptions, which are detailed within this Productivity and Efficiency Plan. The MTRS can also be viewed on the HFRS website MTRS.

Section 1: Primary information

1.1 Budgeted Expenditure and Income

Humberside Fire Authority (HFA) agreed a net budget of £58.082m for 2024/25. This is broken down into the following major headings:

	2024/25 £m
Employees	48.574
Premises	3.882
Transport	1.953
Supplies and Services	4.468
Other (Incl. Capital Financing Costs)	2.827
Income	(3.303)
Efficiency Savings Target	(0.285)
Use of Reserves	(0.034)
Net Budget Requirement	58.082

The budget will be met from:

	2024/25 £m
Central Government Grant Income	22.100
Funding Guarantee	0.597
Business Rates	6.609
Business Rates Collection Fund	0.176
Council Tax Precept	28.326
Council Tax Precept Collection Fund	0.274
Total Funding	58.082

1.2 Reserves

The Authority currently anticipates the following level of reserves:

Reserves Forecast	At 1 April 2024	At 1 April 2025	At 1 April 2026	At 1 April 2027	At 1 April 2028	At 1 April 2029
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Earmarked Reserves						
Insurance	0.500	0.500	0.500	0.500	0.500	0.500
National Flood Resilience Centre	1.000	1.000	-	-	-	-
Capital Programme Funding		3.660	3.510	3.360	3.210	3.060
Business Continuity	3.410	0.500	0.500	0.500	0.500	0.500
	0.500					
ESMCP	0.215	0.215	0.215	0.215	0.215	0.215
Strategic Transformation Fund	0.500	0.500	0.500	-	-	-

Service Improvement and Environment	0.030	0.030	0.030	0.030	0.030	0.030
Control Room	1.000	0.700	-	-	-	-
Pay and Prices	0.600	0.600	-	-	-	-
Total Earmarked Reserves	7.755	7.705	5.255	4.605	4.455	4.455
General Reserves	6.624	6.190	5.739	5.342	4.362	3.347
Total Reserves	14.379	13.895	10.994	9.947	8.817	7.652

The Authority plans to use reserves of £6.727m over the next 5 years reducing the overall level of reserves from £14.379m to £7.652m.

1.3 Council Tax Precept

HFA fully recognise the impact of a precept rise on our communities, particularly given the ongoing pressures on cost of living. Any such increase must be necessary and on the basis of further investment and improvement to the services. In 2024/25, the Authority has increased the service’s precept by 2.99%, setting a Band D council tax of £97.94.

This additional funding is necessary for us to protect front line services, invest in vital equipment and technology and absorb the inflationary pressures facing the service. The combination of inflationary pressures and the need to invest in key service delivery areas, means that without the increase in precept, further efficiencies of circa £0.9m per year would be required in addition to the circa £1m already identified. More detail can be found in the Medium Term Resource Strategy published on our website.

1.4 Non-Pay Efficiency Savings

The following table shows the estimated funding gap and the level of non-pay efficiency savings that need to be achieved within each financial year.

	2024/25 £m	2025/26 £m	2026/27 £m	2027/28 £m	2028/29 £m
Net Resource Expenditure (NRE)	58.401	60.162	61.051	62.213	63.361
Estimated Funding Gap	0.319	1.383	1.240	1.331	1.373
Gap as a % of NRE	0.55%	2.30%	2.03%	2.14%	2.17%
Efficiency Target	0.285	0.332	0.342	0.350	0.358
Additional Savings Required	-	-	-	-	-
Unidentified Gap as a % of NRE	0.06%	1.75%	1.47%	1.58%	1.60%

The unidentified funding gap will be met from the Authority’s General Reserve. Failure to realise this level of efficiencies will utilise reserves at a faster rate than previously assumed.

Efficiency - Good Practice 1

The Authority has achieved non-pay efficiency savings of 3.19% during 2023/24 which is more than our target of 2.42% that was published in our Productivity and Efficiency Plan for 23/24.

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Details of the savings achieved during 2023/24 are set out in the table below.

Efficiency	2023/24 £'000	Detail
Borrowing Costs	23	Revenue funding of capital items and a revised capital programme reduced our need to borrow from Public Works Loans Board (PWLb).
Business Rates	58	Property portfolio review resulted in lower rates.
Insurance Premiums	45	Efficient reporting and investigation of incidents, carrying out relevant security measures to drive premiums down and reduce the number of claims.
Fuel	75	Lower fuel usage and cost per litre
Flexible Working and Working Methods	21	Improved use of ICT to reduce travel, postage, printing and stationery costs.
Telecommunications and Technology	105	Review of technologies and contracts
Total Non-Pay Efficiencies	327	
Non-Pay Budget	10,235	
Efficiency Savings as a % of Non-Pay	3.19%	

In addition to the efficiency savings listed in the table above, the Authority also made procurement savings, which have been calculated in line with the Government Commercial Function Savings Methodology, within the year of £109k and expects to make further savings in 2024/25.

1.5 Productivity

The HFRS Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive is the sector lead for National Fire Chief Council (NFCC) Productivity and Efficiency workstreams. The national workstreams seek to provide a greater understanding of how to accurately measure productivity within the fire and rescue sector, in particular, those activities delivered by full-time firefighters.

The HFA is committed to pursuing a 3% increase in productivity in line with national targets, set for 2021/22 – 2024/25 Spending Review period. The Service sees productivity as a measure of how much work is being done per unit of time, money, or other resources. It focuses on the quantity of output relative to the amount of input that was required to deliver it.

All service delivery activities are data, risk and intelligence-led aligning delivery to the risks faced across the Humber area. Performance information is published via the HFRS website and includes (but is not limited to):

- Strategic Plan and Strategic Objective Outcome Measures 2021/25.
- CRMP 2021/25.
- Annual Performance Report 2023/24.
- Budget monitoring reports (revenue, capital, and treasury).
- Annual Statement of Accounts.
- Medium Term Resource Strategy (MTRS).
- Annual Governance Statement 2023/24.
- Annual Internal Audit Plan 2024/25.
- Annual Statement of Assurance 2023/24.

- Information required in compliance with the Local Government Transparency Code.
- HFA and Governance Audit and Scrutiny Committee meeting Agendas and Minutes.

Productivity expectations for Full-Time firefighter activities are aligned to the delivery of the Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP) and dynamically monitored through bespoke PowerBI.

Threshold/Outcome Performance Dashboards, accessible by senior and middle management teams and at a tactical fire station level. Performance is monitored dynamically by relevant managers; weekly performance outcome reports are presented to Strategic and Tactical briefings. As part of this work attention has been focused on defining baseline capacity. This has enabled surplus availability to be redirected to improving both the outputs and outcomes for the community.

1.6 Productivity of Full-Time Firefighters

Full-Time firefighter productivity is measured against the following:

- Prevention activity including physical risk-based domestic Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSVs).
- Protection activity including risk-based engagements and audits.
- Local risk identification, management and recording activity including Operational Risk visits aligned to the FRS Act 2004 7(ii)d.
- Learning and Development activities to maintain firefighter role competence.
- Recruitment activities in support of Positive Action.
- Dynamic monitoring of Full-Time and on-call crewing levels and the effective and efficient deployment of any Full-Time firefighter surplus crewing, above standard crewing thresholds. Including Prevention and Protection activities, supporting on-call crewing and other targeted activities. Application of functional tactical plans and heat maps to ensure efficient and productive work in accordance with the Strategic Plan objectives.

NB: Changes have been implemented on 1 January 2024, to the Full-Time duty system, including the associated work routines, with intended outcomes of this being increased productivity, further covered in section 2.5.

Productivity - Good Practice 2

Through, and in support of the national workstreams led by the Chief Fire Officer, resources have been applied to the development of several intuitive dashboards that enable dynamic monitoring of Prevention and Protection activities, delivered by fulltime firefighters in support of dedicated Prevention and Protection teams, whilst also monitoring productivity against operational demand and other necessary daily activities and outputs. Whilst work continues to refine this approach there is a clear focus towards improved and measured productivity delivering improved outcomes for our communities. This adds value to national programmes of work with the Home Office and HMICFRS, to support the ongoing development of productivity and efficiency drivers.

1.7 Productivity Monitoring: Prevention Risk Activity

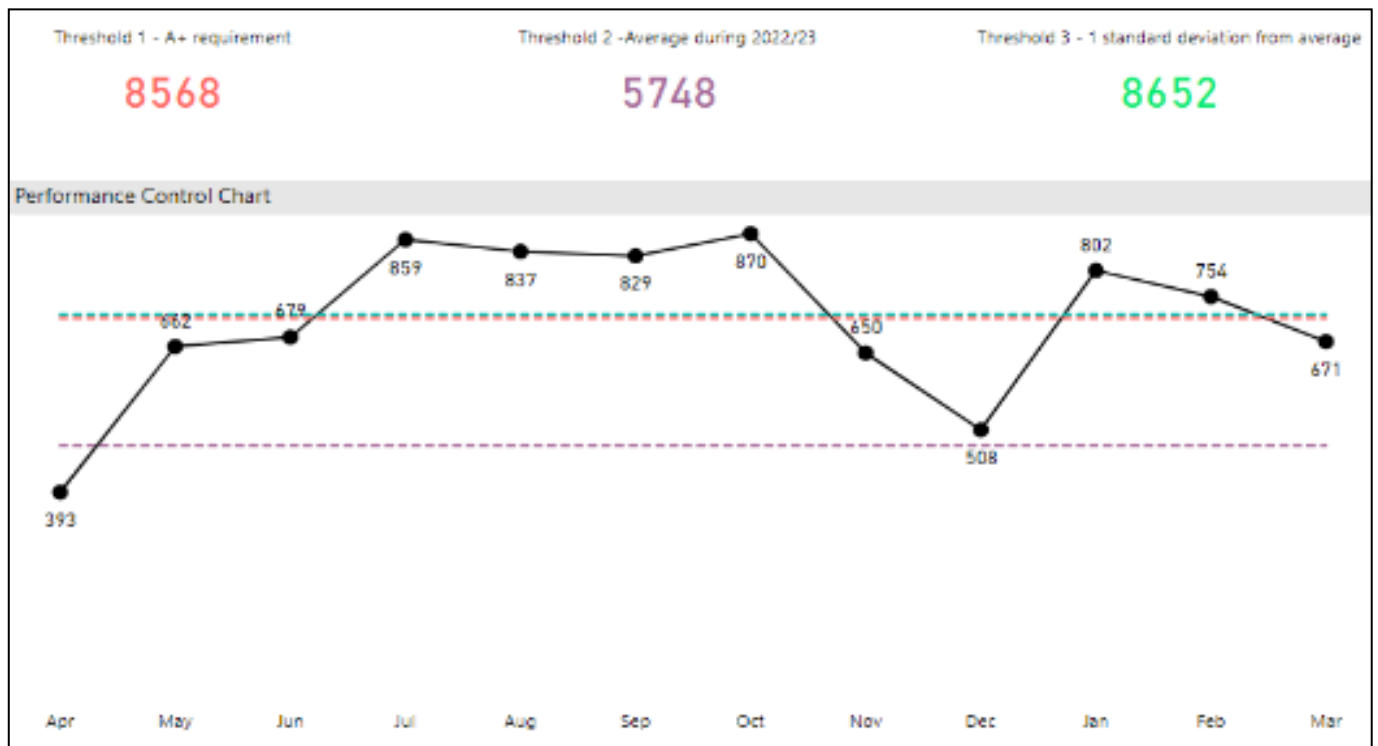
As well as reacting to partner and public referrals, our Fire Fatality Profile drives our home fire safety visits (HFSV). HFSV-related activities are recorded against threshold charts to provide a visual representation of productivity.

Threshold chart 1 shows home fire safety visit (HFSV) related activity by crews during 2023/24. The red line indicates the level of visits required to complete visits in the highest-risk households. The purple line is the average for the monthly number of activities conducted last year (2022/23). The green line is 1 standard deviation from the average (The reassurance of continuous improvement). Should we meet or surpass the green line target each month, the increase in productivity for the year would mean an additional 2904 HFSV

activities will have been carried out, an increase from last year of 51%. The point of threshold target monitoring is to allow our crews to meet their demand flexibly alongside other commitments, rather than expecting a set amount each month. During the past year, we have surpassed the standard deviation line 6 times.

At the end of 2023/24 crews had completed 8558 home fire safety visits. This represents an actual increase in productivity of 41% compared to last year when the total was 6055. Other prevention activities such as youth and school engagement, water safety and arson reduction increased by 6% from 2362 in 2022/23 to 2495 in 2023/24.

Threshold chart 1 – Home Fire Safety Visits

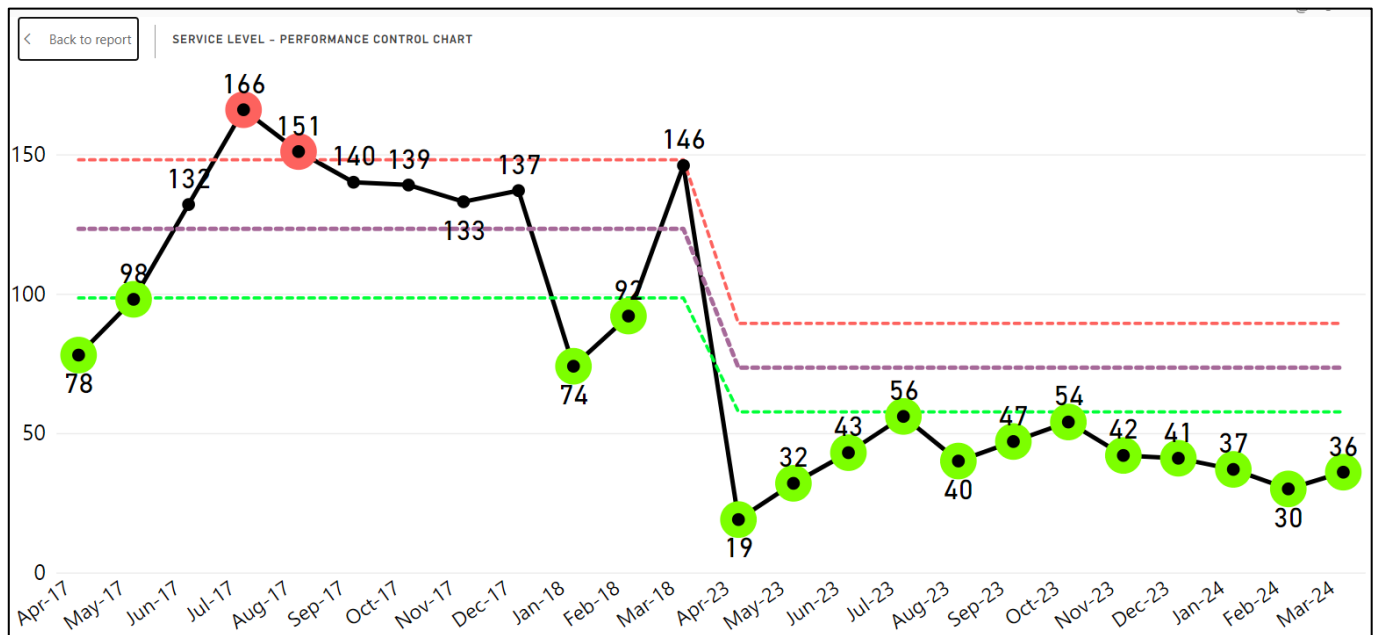


1.8 Productivity Monitoring: Protection Risk Activity

As well as reacting to partner and public referrals, our Risk Based Inspection Programme (RBIP) drives our audits by Inspectors and our engagement visits by crews. Crews engage with low complexity, non-sleeping risk businesses, referring any concerns to our inspectors. During 2023/24, crews carried out 1816 successful engagement visits which is 33% less than the previous year when they did 2702. This is informed by the annual refresh of protection risk profiles which during 2023/24 required crews to do fewer engagement visits and instead, as referenced in 1.7, conduct more HFSV which demonstrated an overall increase of 41% productivity in this area.

The Service in 2019 introduced and in 2023 amended, with the support from the Fire Authority its response arrangements to Unwanted Fire Signals. This recent amendment included the extension to the position statement for 24-hour periods for call challenging. The introduction of this strategy resulted in reductions to overall unwanted fire signals, the Service recognised a plateau and increase to this and in 2023, revised the position to ensure continued efficiencies from the strategy. This has resulted in the Service maintaining ongoing low numbers of incidents in this incident type, freeing up time to focus on CRMP related prevention and protection activity.

Threshold chart 2 – Unwanted Fire Signals



1.9 Site Specific Risk Information (SSRI) Activity

Our crews inspect premises to monitor operational risk. Service dashboards measure the rate of inspection and whether these are completed within our policy time frames. This inspection format includes the 29 Upper Tier ‘Control of Major Accident Hazards’ (COMAH) sites in the Humber area. Our visits are aligned to the national Provision of Operational Risk Information System (PORIS), from the Governments’ Fire and Rescue Service Operational Guidance.

During 2023/24, crews carried out 321 SSRI visits 23% more than the 262 completed in 2022/23

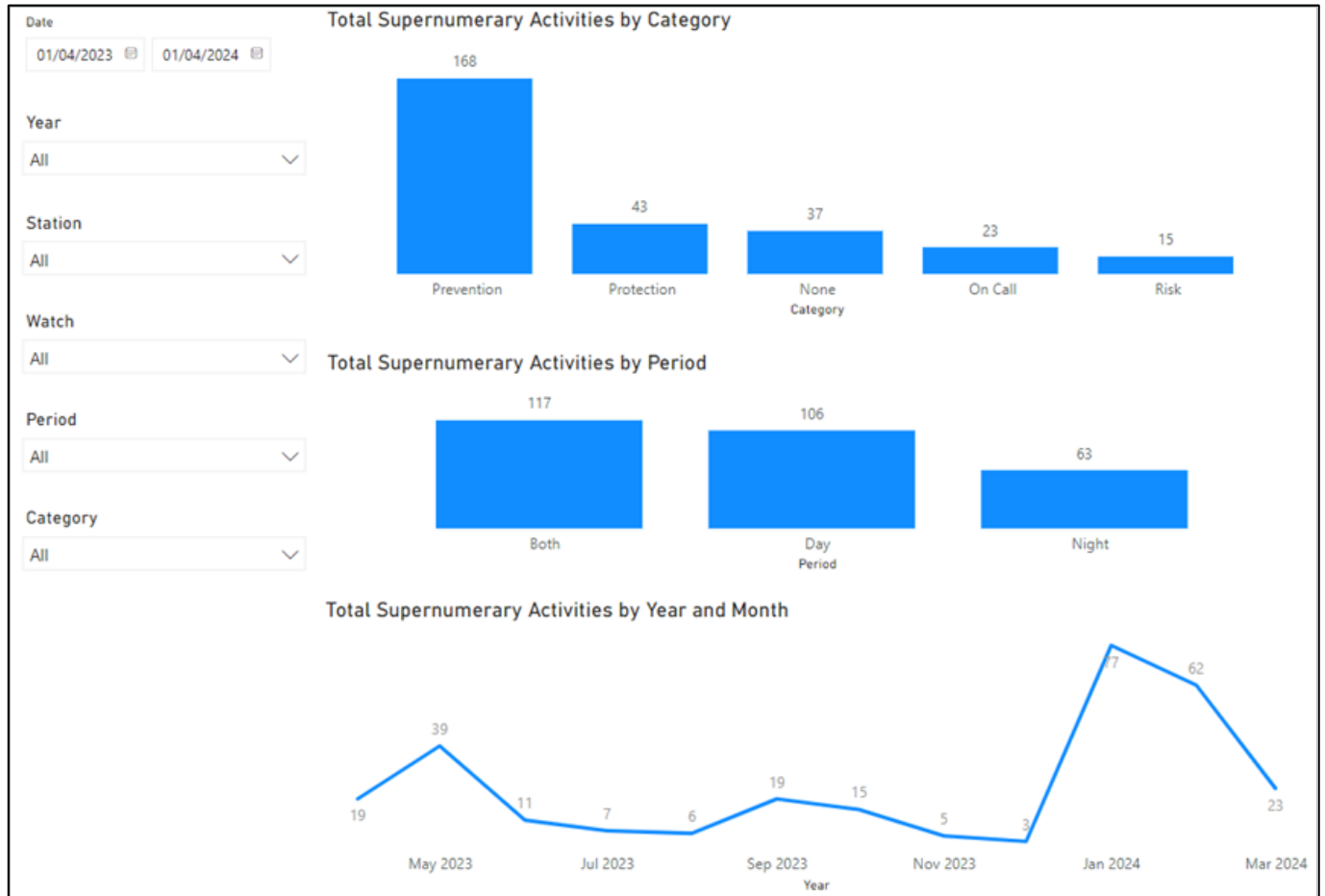
We are working towards aligning RBIP process and SSRI requirements within our upgraded CFRMIS system in 2024 to improve the efficiency of these visits.

1.10 Learning and Development Activity

We use a dashboards to measure how compliant our stations are with the competence they need to fulfil our CRMP requirements. We have set threshold levels for each theme and station. This helps us to monitor if the crews are up to date with their initial and revalidation training. We monitor learning and development such as the rate of compliance for mandatory e-learning packages covering topics including safeguarding, modern slavery, and data protection across all relevant staff groups.

1.11 Surplus Crewing

Humberside Fire and Rescue Service require 67 firefighters to crew all Full-Time frontline fire engines. On days when more than 67 firefighters are available, those additional firefighters are redirected to maximise productivity in delivering other targeted activities in support of the strategic plan and our CRMP.



Section 2: Secondary Information

2.1 Collaboration

HFRS has worked closely with Humberside Police across several areas to identify and assess opportunities to deliver services through collaborative or shared approaches. This includes collaboration across the management of Humberside Police and Humberside Fire and Rescue Service Vehicles, the management of Health and Safety and buildings across the Humber area. Opportunities are being explored to expand this collaborative relationship to improve the environmental sustainability and impacts of both organisations.

HFRS Environmental Sustainability (ES) themes are due to be refreshed in 2024. Through the Joint Health & Safety Service (JHSS), HFRS have taken the opportunity to collaborate with Humberside Police (HP). HP employed the services of NET Positive Futures (NPF) to undertake research, consultation, and create an outline ES strategy. The new strategy will be launched by the third quarter of 2024. The agreed position is to combine ES strategies with HP to produce one document that looks and feels the same for both organisations. The strategy will take account of both organisations current positions and produce a strategy that starts with collaborative outcomes before branching off for specific elements whilst maintaining the same corporate structure. This will provide uniformity in the approaches of HFRS and HP whilst maintaining the individual requirements of both organisations.

An application for a Knowledge Transfer Partnership (KTP) with The University of Hull is underway to support this work. The outcome of the partnership would be an academic, employed through the JHSS, to progress the ES work for HFRS and HP.

HFRS intend to explore a number of further efficiency gains, alongside the review of fleet vehicles reducing the total number of vehicles and increasing the use of alternative fuelled vehicles, from a joint environmental strategy and report on these in future productivity and efficiency plans.

Collaboration – Good Practice 3

In 2015, Humberside Fire and Rescue Service and Humberside Police collaborated to form the Emergency Services Fleet Management (ESFM) company. ESFM manage a shared vehicle and maintenance facility which provides a total solution for the management of vehicles across both organisations, including blue light response and other fleet vehicles. The collaboration has created cashable efficiencies of circa £800k since its introduction and provided opportunities for shared learning in the management of fleets across both organisations.

Collaboration – Good Practice 4

Joint Health and Safety Service (JHSS). Humberside Fire and Rescue Service (HFRS) and Humberside Police (HP) entered into a section 21 agreement in 2019. The JHSS agreement provides HP with Health & Safety advice and guidance through the highly qualified and diverse JHSS team. This service costs HP over £150k a year for providing sector specific advice, staff, and guidance that has seen an improved safety culture within HP. This is evidenced through increased Risk Assessments, increased near miss reporting and a reduction in injuries. The JHSS allows both HFRS and HP to work collaboratively on a range of issues for the betterment of the overall service provided.

Collaboration – Good Practice 5

Through a cost recovery contracted model, Humberside Fire and Rescue Service provide a Falls Intervention Response Team within Hull to assist vulnerable people that fall in their home and respond when other partner resources are not immediately available. Resources are assigned to this with a one-hour response time and when not responding the team is utilised to deliver prevention activities including physical home safety visits, improving outcomes for vulnerable people across Hull and contributing to community outcomes. This service has been recognised as good practice by the Department for Health.

2.2 Transformation Plans

Transformational Plans – Good Practice 6

During 2024/25, HFRS are delivering a project to consolidate the HR and availability systems. This will bring together systems utilised across several Service areas to identify opportunities for consolidation where that consolidation can improve efficiency and productivity (cashable and non-cashable) and maintain accuracy. These systematic improvements are intended to realise efficiencies, through further process automation, across the management of areas such as on-call pay, availability, leave and sickness, as well as resulting productivity gains from freeing up administrative time currently needed to maintain the existing approach to these areas.

HFRS launched a Control 25 project to replace the mobilising system in our Service Control function. This project intends to maximise use of new technologies to create efficiency and productivity gains in administrative tasks and the use of operational resources across the Service area for example the stand-by movements of operational assets. An example of improved productivity is through the introduction of the Multi Agency Information Transfer (MAIT) system, which enables the transfer of emergency incidents between agencies digitally and instantly. Previously managed either via phone or radio while needing to be typed to be recorded within the system.

Transformational Plans – Good Practice 7

Salary Sacrifice Scheme for Electric Vehicles (EV) introduced in 2023, through NHS Fleet Solutions, to enable affordable access to EVs for staff, on a private ownership basis, funded through salary sacrifice. This will lead to efficiencies in the employer's national insurance contributions (cashable) as well as contributing towards our commitment to deliver targets within our Environmental Sustainability Plan and in support of a greener environment across the Humber area (non-cashable)

Broader transformation activity is aligned with the development and delivery of the CRMP, including annual public consultation regarding arising risks and opportunities and practical options for the mitigation of risk.

A strategic project Programme Register is in place to record the governance and progression of project activity.

A strategic focus on continuous improvement is embedded within strategic and corporate leadership activity. A Service Improvement Directorate led by the Assistant Chief Fire Officer ensures service activities remain focused. Improvement workstreams are documented and evidenced within a Service Improvement Plan, including HMICFRS inspection outcomes and other workstreams. Independent scrutiny is provided via an annual, commissioned and HFA approved, internal independent Audit Plan focused on improvement areas.

Further assurance is provided to HFA through an independent Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee, made up of co-opted lay members. The purpose of the Committee is to provide independent advice and recommendations to the HFA on the adequacy of the governance and risk management frameworks, internal controls and financial reporting, and internal and external audits, thereby helping to ensure efficient and effective assurance arrangements are in place.

The Committee sets its scrutiny programme annually, looking at a variety of aspects of Humberside Fire and Rescue Service's work and policy implementation from the point of view of the communities it serves; to provide constructive feedback and recommendations to improve the Service.

2.3 Charging Policies

Special Service charges, including those associated with reducing the burden of Unwanted Fire Signals (False Alarms), are increased in line with inflation each year and applied appropriately. Any income generated through this approach is reinvested into prevention and protection competence. This approach has also increased the capacity for operational crews to be redirected in support of our CRMP.

The Service also generates rental income, recharging for secondments and through collaborations with Health partners.

2.4 Asset Management and Investment in Technology

Through investment, Humberside Fire and Rescue Service have maximised capacity and efficiency in the delivery of services to the community.

- Extensions to the life of vehicles, now based on a 10-year replacement schedule instead of a previous 7 year on our 79 light vehicles (cars and vans), will realise average savings of £74k/year in the vehicle replacement strategy. This alongside our environmental and sustainability plan to invest in hybrid and electric vehicles across our vehicles.
- Improvements to fire engine equipment checks software to further reduce the time needed to check equipment and further increase capacity to deliver other activities.
- Planned investments in software for the delivery of prevention, protection, and risk activities, will lead to a cashable saving of over £100k in replacing existing old and expensive tablet hardware currently being used for these activities, with newer and cheaper electronic devices. This led to further cashable savings in connection software of £17k/year for contractual maintenance.
- Operational risk information including operational pre-plans, are now readily available in a Power Application, made available to us by working collaboratively with Greater Manchester FRS. This app approach will lead to more reliability in access to the information, with a more efficient approach to maintaining this internally owned system, eventually leading to the current third party provided operational risk software ending and creating a cashable saving which will be reported on next year.
- Use of existing technologies to mobilise officers to incidents led to £48k savings in not needing to replace current hardware used for this purpose.
- Reducing the number of direct dial telephone lines in use across the service is to be investigated. This is with the hope that cost savings can be realised by reducing the number currently available but not being used and making use of innovative technologies, for making telephone calls.

Asset Management – Good Practice 8

The Community Fire Risk Management Information System (CFRMIS) is being re-developed to enable the more efficient recording of prevention, protection and operational risk data. The aim of this project is to allow the data to be recorded on mobile devices at the time of the activity, to reduce data errors and to make it simpler for the end user. Another is to reduce the administrative burden, thereby creating efficiencies.

2.5 Resourcing Models

HFRS employ three resourcing models to resource emergency response and delivery of services by operational firefighters: Full-Time, On-Call and Contingency Fire Crew.

Full-Time firefighters align to a 24hr duty shift, increasing capacity for other activities by reducing the time taken to conduct shift commencement activities (such as vehicle and equipment checks) to once per day. Humberside Fire and Rescue Service require 67 firefighters to crew all fulltime frontline fire engines. On days when more than 67 firefighters are available, those additional firefighters are redirected to maximise productivity in delivering other targeted activities including prevention and protection.

Resourcing - Good Practice 9

On 1 January 2024 further productivity changes to the shift system, including bringing forward start times from 09:00 to 07:30, alongside the re-organisation of activities throughout the shift were introduced. This included transitioning non-community activities such as e-learning, some physical training (drills) and fitness training into the late evening period (20:00 onwards) allowing crews to be more actively engaged with communities during the daytime across a wide range of activities informed in delivery of our CRMP. These changes as to how shifts and activities are constructed will result in thousands of hours of additional productivity. An evaluation of the effectiveness of these changes is currently underway using the NFCC evaluation guidance.

On-Call firefighters serve our more rural communities and provide availability through a locally managed self-rostering system to maximise the availability of on call resources in line with our bi-annually published performance plan. In 2024 HFRS introduced an incentivised process to increase the availability of On-Call engines. This is intended to further improve the availability of On-Call resources reducing the need to mobilise engines from other areas of the Service to activities and incidents.

Contingency Fire Crew are an innovative approach to providing additional call-off resilience resources for spate calls during extreme weather conditions and Industrial Action, introduced as part of our CRMP consultation. Contingency firefighters are paid a retainer and attend regular training sessions. Essentially a reservist model whereby the Service recruits, trains and equips additional personnel to call in at times of extreme demand rather than have them permanently available at a designated station. This is an efficient way to manage increasing extreme demands because of climate change, identified within our CRMP. This model provides additional resilience for high impact but low frequency events and is deployed in support of and alongside steady state resources.

Resourcing - Good Practice 10

During 2024/25, Humberside Fire and Rescue Service will alter the flexible duty system cover for Group Managers (GMs) across the Service. This is to ensure that, the two on duty GMs available at all times throughout the year, are supplemented by a further two GMs through recall to Service approach, informed by organisational need, improving productivity by providing available resourcing when it is needed most. This change also increases available days for GMs to increase productivity in other activities, one being engagement visits to teams across the service.

2.6 Workforce Planning

Our operational and non-operational workforce is managed through workforce planning arrangements. This identifies existing and future vacancies and considers the role requirements and recruitment needs against current priorities, to utilise vacancies more effectively in deciding whether the role be immediately filled or considered for reallocation and re-evaluation into other parts of the Service in line with Service needs. This

includes the management of vacancies and therefore wage underspend to be dynamically utilised in other priority pieces of work across the Service.

2.7 Procurement - Collaboration Initiatives with External Partners

HFRS evaluates its procurement activity and pursues collaborative opportunities where there are benefits identified. These include financial, resources, experience, combined working, and contract convergence. Where a collaboration has been identified, a project team is set up to explore the opportunity and develop and agree to terms of reference, the specification of requirements and undertake risk assessments and analysis including for equality.

Once an agreement has been reached then the procurement teams take this to market, having assessed the most suitable route, and carry out the sourcing exercise in partnership to identify a preferred product and report to their respective Services the outcome.

Procurement - Good Practice 11

HFRS is currently undertaking a joint procurement project with North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service to replace both services Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA). This is being run as a joint further competition through the NFCC approved framework agreement DS314-20. By sharing the workload in running the tender jointly both Services will make more efficient use of resource, achieve better outcomes and aim to realise cost savings against the supplier pricing catalogues.

The replacement SCBA project presents a valuable opportunity to explore technological advancements that could potentially elevate the health, safety, and well-being of firefighters, especially when they are tasked to operate in high-risk environments. Internal feedback and evaluation, national research, national operational learning and technological advances have all been considered to identify three key areas for prioritising in the procurement of HFRS SCBA sets.

The integration of telematics, enhanced communication systems, and SCBA sets conducive to advanced cleaning technologies, given the increasing awareness of firefighter contaminants and insights from our contaminants group, there was a pressing need for SCBA sets to be amenable to efficient cleaning with the latest SCBA washing technologies.

By sharing the workload in running the tender jointly both Services will make more efficient use of resource, achieve better outcomes and aim to realise cost savings against the supplier pricing catalogues.

2.8 Procurement - National Frameworks

HFRS may establish a Framework Agreement or seek access to Framework Agreements held by another public authority. Where a framework is to be utilised then HFRS must comply with all terms and conditions of the existing framework. The Service's professionally qualified Procurement team will assist officers in the identification of a suitable framework that may be available during the assessment of the route to market and will ensure compliance with the requirements of the framework. HFRS uses a range of Framework Agreements provided by professional buying organisations for a range of goods and services.

HFRS uses, amongst others, frameworks hosted by the following organisations:




- YPO – Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation.
- ESPO – Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation.
- NFCC – National Fire Chiefs Council.
- CCS – Crown Commercial Services.
- HTE – Health Trust Europe.
- ERYC – East Riding of Yorkshire Council

2.9 Procurement - Cost Savings

The Service has recorded cashable, non-cashable and cost avoidance savings of £569k through the efficient and effective implementation of good procurement practices since April 2022 and will continue to use the most appropriate procurement route to meet the needs of the Authority.

2.10 Progress of the Productivity and Efficiency Plan

Humberside Fire Authority will review, revise and report progress against the plan biannually through its recognised reporting process.

		
Cllr Tracey Neil	Phil Shillito	Martyn Ransom
Acting Chair Humberside Fire Authority	Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive Humberside Fire and Rescue Service	Executive Director of Finance/S.151 Officer, Humberside Fire and Rescue Service