

BOROUGH OF KETTERING

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Report Originator	Martin Hammond	<i>Fwd Plan Ref No:</i> A17/006	
Wards Affected	ALL	26 th July 2017	
Title	FIRE SERVICE GOVERNANCE		

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Ian Jelley

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek the Committee's views in responding to a consultation on changes to fire governance in the county.

2. INFORMATION

- 2.1 The County Council is the Fire Authority for the County and the Fire and Rescue Service is currently, in governance terms, a department within NCC. In recent years however, the Fire and Rescue Service and the Police have been working more closely together, sharing back office resources, developing common estate and carrying out functions for each other.
- 2.2 Following the passage of legislation in the last Parliament, the option exists for fire and police functions to be combined in one of several ways, and the Police and Crime Commissioner for Northamptonshire is consulting on utilising one of those options. The proposal is that fire and rescue services would transfer from the County Council to the PCC, who would become the Police, Crime and Fire Commissioner for the County.
- 2.3 A video explaining these changes will be shown at the meeting.
- 2.4 The consultation period ends on 1st August. The Kettering Local Strategic Partnership has already been consulted and expressed support for the transfer of functions, on the basis not only that it would improve the efficiency and effectiveness of both police and fire services, but that it would contribute to a more financially sustainable platform for funding the fire and rescue service, which would be able to raise its own precept in future.

3. CONSULTATION AND CUSTOMER IMPACT

- 3.1 The Council is a consultee. Separately, through the Forums, town and parish councils have been encouraged to respond as well.

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4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 None directly for the Borough Council but there would be benefits in being able to work with both services in a more joined up way in future.

5. FINANCIAL RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

5.1 None for KBC.

6. RECOMMENDATION

The Executive Committee is asked to form a view on the proposed transfer of function from the County Council to the Police and Crime Commissioner

Background Papers:

Title

Date

Contact Officer

Previous Minutes/Reports:

Ref:

Date: