

## Appendix 4

# Scrutiny Management Board Briefing from Chair of Communities and Place Scrutiny Advisory Board

### 1.0 Purpose of update

- 1.1 This report updates Scrutiny Management Board (SMB) on the activity of the Communities and Place Scrutiny Advisory Board and any issues and developments that have occurred since the last meeting of SMB.

### 2.0 Board meeting update

- 2.1 The Communities and Place Scrutiny Advisory Board last met on 10 March 2022, and considered:

- 2.2 **Strategic update from CFRS:** The Board noted the impact local government reorganisation and future governance models is currently having. The Communities and Place Board members put views forward on the Police and Crime Commissioner's consultation on future governance models launched on 18 February including:

- The Business Case has not explored all the options available
- CFRS will cost more to run under both options considered in the Business Case than the current model and this needs to be more transparent for the residents of Cumbria
- As a result, the precept may not be high enough to ensure that the Service is financially sustainable for the future
- The timing of the consultation and submission of the Business Case does not allow for the two new unitary authorities to provide their views or to present alternative options
- There was some support for the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner (PFCC) model recognising that of the two options considered, based on the economic case, it was the more efficient model
- The Combined Fire Authority model provided wider representation with a number of Members from across the county forming the Fire and Rescue Authority
- The possible impact on public attitude towards the Fire Service if there is a perception that the Service is becoming part of the Police due to the different roles and relationships with communities

- Recognition of the additional pressure on officers of working both the LGR and PCC processes simultaneously
- 2.3 It was requested that a future item be brought to the Board to explore in more depth resilience and emergency planning. This is being taken to the 10 June 2022 Board.
- 2.4 **Coastal Strategy Report:** The Board received a presentation on the coastal strategy which covered background to the strategy, responsibilities and the Shoreline Management Plan. Members enquired if dredged materials were used for beach replenishments. The Executive Director for Economy and Infrastructure confirmed requirements and provided assurances that the Port Manager works with the Flood Development Management Team.
- 2.5 **Independent planning review:** This item reported on progress against actions from the 'Independent Planning Review Outcome Report: Energy from Waste Facility, Kingmoor Park, Carlisle'. The Board welcomed the update and noted significant progress that has been made against the actions. Members are assured that all identified areas for improvement are being addressed.
- 3.0 Conclusion**
- 3.1 The Scrutiny Advisory Board has scrutinised key areas of focus for the board.
- 3.2 The next Communities and Place Scrutiny Advisory Board is scheduled to take place on 10 June 2022. The agenda includes items on:
- Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service – lessons learned from major incidents
  - Highways information management system – following a referral from the Scrutiny Performance Working Group
  - Draft local flood risk management strategy.

**Chair: Cllr Stan Collins**  
**May 2022**