

**THE HIGHLAND AND ISLANDS FIRE BOARD
25 AUGUST 2006**

CFS Risk Reduction Analysis Project

Agenda Item	
Report No	

Summary

The community fire safety risk reduction analysis project is the first of its kind in the UK. It will seek to inform the IRMP process and strategic planning in making our communities safer. It will enable the development of a more targeted and effective use of the Service's resources.

Introduction and background

Throughout the United Kingdom, fire and rescue services are focusing resources on delivering Community Fire Safety (CFS) initiatives as a means of reducing risk and making our communities safer. These initiatives are wide ranging and seek to specifically reach out to those most vulnerable to the risks from fire and other emergencies.

As members are aware, the Highlands and Islands Fire and Rescue Service has realigned aspects of the Service to facilitate the development and delivery of CFS intervention measures.

To ensure effective reduction of risk within our communities the Service must ensure that the most appropriate and effective CFS interventions are those being delivered. For this reason the Service is the first in the UK to have embarked on a ground breaking approach to develop a method to measure and evaluate the effectiveness of those CFS initiatives. The outcomes of this analysis project will be fed back into the system to inform and further enhance the IRMP process and strategic planning. This will enable the development of a more targeted and effective use of the Service's resources.

Greater detail on the methodology and benefits of this initiative will be reported to the IRMP Working Group as the project develops.

Recommendation

That the Board note the progress of this initiative.

CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

Date: 11 August 2006