# ESSEX POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY

# **Essex County Fire & Rescue Service**



Meeting	Performance & Resources	Board	Agenda ı	10.	9
Meeting Date	30 May 2024				
Report Authors	Kay Shelley, Head of Learning and Development				
Presented By	Jac Thorold, Assistant Director – Human Resources				
Subject	Leadership, Resource & Succession (LRS) Update				
Type of Report	Information				
Action Point No.	n/a	For Publica	tion	Yes	

### RECOMMENDATIONS

This paper is for information only.

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Leadership, Resource and Succession (LRS) process is designed to support the succession and workforce plans set out by Service Leads to ensure we identify, train and develop our future Managers and Leaders. People across the Service can access development and support their promotion aspirations should they wish to build their career path.

LRS follows the principles from NFCC leadership framework and promotes service values and the Core Code of Ethics as the following infographic represents:

# **Personal Impact** Ensuring we value, respect, and promote equality and diversity; have a positive presence on others, personal integrity and an ability to self-manage. The focus is on self and how a manager uses leadership to create a positive, open-working environment focusing on ethics and wellbeing. Organisational Effectiveness Everything we do is linked to organisational plans and values, driving the mission and ensuring decisions and actions are beneficial to the customer.

The focus is on the organisation and how a manager uses leadership to continuously improve, innovate and change.



#### **Outstanding Leadership**

Building high-performing teams and developing people to their full potential; communicating with integrity, being open and honest to foster trust and building collaborative working partnership. An ambassador and role model for the fire and rescue service. The focus is on others and how a manager uses leadership to create high performance teams.

## Service Delivery

Delivering high quality services now and into the future; intelligent problem solving with an outcome focussed approach, continuous improvement, and value for money to our customers. The focus is on task and how a manager uses leadership to produce outcome-focussed results which meet customer needs.

The LRS programme is being further enhanced with a new product which is being promoted; Practice to Progress (P2P). P2P is a national assessment supported product formed in collaboration with Women in the Fire Service (WFS) and the Asian Fire Services Association (AFSA). The collaboration has built a team of fire sector specialists including former female Chief Fire Officers and serving managers from all levels and diverse backgrounds. P2P provides support to prepare candidates for selection and promotion. Eight people have shown interest to date.

#### **BACKGROUND**

LRS was launched early 2021 and is open to everyone in the Service up to those aspiring to be a Group Manager or equivalent.

LRS sits under the umbrella of Learning and Development (L&D) and runs alongside the recruitment process. LRS is designed to support people and help them to be the best they can be. People access resources and 1-2-1 support, and encouragement to own their development and ultimate success in gaining the next promotion. LRS is not a mandatory process but through sponsorship, demonstration, and the level of support available along with receiving priority in gaining temporary positions, the LRS is fast becoming the process of choice.

Working closely with a network of support, (line managers, coaches, mentors, the LRS team, peer groups and forums) and resources (intranet, L&D, Operational Training and self- directed learning) people can build their portfolio and create a bespoke personal development plan to clearly define their objectives to meet their career goals.

Latest LRS performance statistics at April 30th 2024.

	TOTAL	Wholetime	On Call	Control	Support
Number accessing LRS to date	301	240	26	17	18
Number currently active in LRS	143	115	14	2	12
Awaiting Portfolio	85	68	5	2	10
Awaiting Review	0	0	0	0	0
Awaiting Assessment	0	0	0	0	0
Number in Development Pool	6	5	0	0	1
Number in Resource Pool	9	9	0	0	0
Completed	46	42	2	2	0
Completed - fast track	18	15	1	2	0
Recruited	48	33	5	9	1
Withdrawn	48	37	4	2	5

### **OPTIONS AND ANALYSIS**



LRS has delivered on some of the key objectives outlined in the previous LRS update paper. These are detailed below for ease of reference with their current position.

Key developments in the last 6 months included:

- Continue to increase awareness of the programme by:
  - Guidance sessions for all colleagues interested in joining the LRS process. To date 137 have attended a session and 35 have attended a Line Manager's guidance session.
  - Regular station visits and meetings with individuals on a 1-2-1 basis supporting their personal development plans.
  - New intranet page with direct links to LRS and L&D courses.
- Data audit, collaboration, and transparency.
  - o Data is included in monthly performance reports.
  - o Collaboration with recruitment enables the best candidate experience.
- Development Pathways Remains work in progress, but some clear headway made. People management requirements will form part of the career pathway. Will be completed for launch in Q2 2024/25.

The plan for the next six months is to continue to build on the successes, and prioritising the following:

- Understand, report and promote the data,
  - o Why are people withdrawing from the programme?
  - Comparative figures between Recruitment process vs LRS, particularly scoring in stage 2 assessments, what are the figures telling us.
  - o Continuous improvement
  - Participant and hiring manager feedback
- Create a 'what does good look like' induction piece for LRS, working with colleagues across the Service to mentor people through the process.
- Working with OCAT, H&S, Media and recruitment to arrange for people to complete their stage two assessments during the time in the development pool.

## **RISKS AND MITIGATIONS**

This programme is a mitigation for risk SRR150019.

#### LINKS TO FIRE AND RESCUE PLAN

The process is linked to the Fire and Rescue plan and the people strategy plan.

#### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

All LRS actions are within existing budget.

#### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

None

### STAFFING IMPLICATIONS

The LRS has two dedicated team and is managed by the Head of Learning and Development. All staff have the potential to access LRS.

## **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

The actions being taken will not have a disproportionate impact on individuals with protected characteristics (as defined within the Equality Act 2010), when compared to all other individuals and will not disadvantage people with protected characteristics.

Race	N	Religion or belief	N
Sex	N	Gender reassignment	N
Age	N	Pregnancy & maternity	N
Disability	N	Marriage and Civil Partnership	N
Sexual orientation	N		

The opportunity to join LRS is open to all of course. There are development offers those in our workforce who are underrepresented. An example of this is P2P. Roadshows and guidance sessions enable accessibility.

The Core Code of Ethics Fire Standard has been fully considered and incorporated into the proposals outlined in this paper.

### **HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

None.

#### CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Ongoing engagement with staff through communication to gather feedback and continue to adapt and improve.

## **FUTURE PLANS**

As detailed above.