

# CUMBRIA OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

6 May 2022

## Summary of Fire Governance Consultation

The public consultation relating to the two options available in Cumbria for the transference of Cumbria Fire and Rescue's governance closed on 21 March 2022 after eight weeks.

The development of the business plan and subsequent consultation followed the Government announcement that Cumbria would be divided in to two unitary authorities from April 2023, replacing the current arrangement of the six district councils and the overarching County Council. An outcome of this change is that the governance responsibility of Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service (CFRS) needs to change, as it currently sits with Cumbria County Council which will no longer exist as of 1 April 2023.

As part of the consultation the public and stakeholders were asked to rank their preferred option on a scale of 1 to 5: A Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner led Fire and Rescue Authority or a Combined Fire and Rescue Authority.

In total, 363 responses were received. The overall weighted value of the consultation showed that 46% of respondents preferred the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (PFCC) and 54% preferred the option of Combined Fire and Rescue Authority (CFRA) to take over the future governance of Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service.

Most of the responses were received by employees of Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service, Cumbria County Council and Cumbria Constabulary. There were a significant number of opportunities for members of the public to take part in the consultation survey with only a small choosing to do so, demonstrating that the most members of the public are not interested or do not have strong views either way.

The consultation results were submitted to the Home Secretary as part of the overall business case on 31 March 2022.

Thank you to everyone that took part in the consultation.