

Title of Report:	Proposed review – Fire Service Response Times
Report to be considered by:	Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission
Date of Meeting:	26 February 2013

Purpose of Report: To propose to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission a review into the failure of the Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service to achieve their target response times in 2011/12.

Recommended Action: Amend, if necessary, and approve the scope of this review.

Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission Chairman	
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Executive Report

1. Introduction

- 1.1 On 19 December 2012, the Newbury Weekly News published an article (Appendix A) stating that more than 40% of Berkshire fires were not being attended within the Fire Service's target time.
- 1.2 The Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service website states that its target is to reach dwelling fires with a first appliance within 10 minutes, and with a second appliance within 12 minutes, and confirms the information provided in the news article.
- 1.3 This issue represents an area of public concern.

2. Proposed Terms of Reference for the review

- 2.1 It is proposed that the Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission undertake a full in-meeting review to:
 - (1) Establish the reasons why the target for attending dwelling fires is not being met;
 - (2) Suggest recommendations for improvement as appropriate.
- 2.2 A representative from the Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service should be invited to provide the Commission with relevant information.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1 It is recommended that Members of the Commission amend, if necessary, and approve the scope of this review.

Appendices

Appendix A – Article from the Newbury Weekly News

Consultees

Local Stakeholders: None

Officers Consulted: None

Trade Union: N/A