



Isle of Man Government

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Department of Home Affairs

The Isle of Man Fire and Rescue Service Peer Challenge Feedback Report 2023 produced by the Local Government Association was published on Tuesday the 2nd of May 2023.

The peer challenge process took place between 23 and 26 January 2023. The final report was received by the Department on 31 March 2023.

The review scope included an assessment of:

- Local context and priority setting;
- The effectiveness of organisational and managerial leadership;
- Governance and culture;
- Organisational capacity;
- Financial planning and management; and
- Digitisation and corporate services.

Overall, the report makes 15 key recommendations to the Isle of Man Fire and Rescue Service.

The report describes officers and firefighters within the service as being “dedicated, enthusiastic and passionate about what they do” as well as “willing to go above and beyond to save lives and protect the Island’s communities”.

The report goes on to detail that the Isle of Man Fire and Rescue Service is “highly regarded and valued by statutory and non-statutory partners. These partners described working relationships as positive and officers as committed, knowledgeable, professional and helpful.”

In response to the recommendations made, the Fire and Rescue Service has published a “Peer Challenge Action Plan”. This plan contains actions and timescales setting out how the formal recommendations will be addressed. The Fire and Rescue Service have already begun work on many of the areas identified.

The Department is keen to support the Fire and Rescue Service in the most efficient and effective service provision, having recently completed recruitment for the substantive Chief Fire Officer and progressing the Blue Light Strategy.

The Department intends to monitor and ensure implementation of the recommendations made in the report against the action plan through quarterly performance updates and regular delivery meetings with the Fire and Rescue Service.

The Department is grateful to every single firefighter in the Isle of Man for the work they do to keep our Island safe. They make a huge personal commitment which should not be understated.

24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, there are firefighters ready to respond as well as actively working to prevent incidents and protect the community. This remarkable service is only possible because of their commitment to their community.

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