

FIVE YEAR INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN 2007/08 - 2011/12

Action Plan 2008/09



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IRMP Action Plan 2008/09

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यदि आप यह जानकारी हिन्दी में चाहते हैं तो कृपया हमारा संपर्क करें
જો તમને આ માહિતી ગુજરાતી માં જોઈતી હોય તો મહેરબानी કરી અમારો સંપર્ક કરો

Jeśli wymagasz tej informacji po POLSKU, proszę się z nami skontaktować

ਜੇਕਰ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿੱਚ ਲੈਣਾ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات اردو میں درکار ہوں، تو ہم سے رابطہ کیجئے

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service (RBFRS) has continued to build on the objectives and successes of the initial Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) that was implemented during 2004/05.

Work continues to concentrate on reducing risk in the local communities, the emphasis being on higher risk incidents where people are more likely to be injured or killed. The risk analysis shows this to be dwelling fires and Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs).

RBFRS proactively engages with local communities in various community safety initiatives to prevent incidents occurring. For example, RBFRS has carried out 5623 Home Fire Risk Assessments (HFRA's), prioritised for residents who may be more at risk from accidental dwelling fires. As part of this initiative, 10,028 smoke alarms have been fitted. The RBFRS prevention strategy has led to a good reduction in deliberate and secondary fires, which goes towards the overall IRMP efficiency savings.

The baseline data is presented and it is against this baseline that performance will be measured over the life of the Five Year IRMP. Reports are included here for progress on the first year of the Five Year IRMP (2007/08) and an action plan is presented for 2008/09 that continues the work.

FOREWORD BY COUNCILLOR DR. PAUL BRYANT CHAIRMAN OF ROYAL BERKSHIRE FIRE AUTHORITY

On behalf of the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority, I am pleased to introduce the 2008/09 Action Plan of our Five Year Integrated Risk Management Plan. Over the past three years, real progress has been made to reduce the number of fire and road traffic collision related deaths and injuries, through an extensive programme of prevention, protection and response strategies.

This progress has been reported in previous Integrated Risk Management Plans that also contained proposals on ways to improve the service to everyone living, working and travelling in Berkshire.



In all the changes and developments we are making our main aims are to save lives and reduce injuries. We also do our best to reduce the damage caused by incidents that can be so harmful to people and the economy. We are determined to use the money provided by you, the tax payer, to provide the best service we can.

We not only look forward to your comments on this document but on any of our activities and we are also happy to help you to reduce the risk to yourself and your property.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P Bryant'.

COUNCILLOR DR. PAUL BRYANT

PREVENTING PROTECTING RESPONDING

IRMP PERFORMANCE REPORT 2004/05 - 2006/07

Introduction

The first Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) was developed for 2004/05 and, since that time, there have been annual plans developed and delivered for a wide range of activities that, taken together, reduce risk to the people who live, work and travel through Berkshire.

Yearly performance monitoring reports, such as this one, have given updates for each of the IRMP projects as they have evolved and delivered benefits. All IRMP documents that have been published can be found at the Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service (RBFRS) web page at:

http://www.rbfrs.co.uk/irmp_options.asp

The IRMP projects undertaken prior to the Five Year IRMP 2007/08 - 2011/12, are tabulated below.

2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
Response to Automatic Fire Alarms (AFAs)	Dwelling Fires	Optimising Resource Against Risk
Expansion of Co-Responder Schemes	Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs)	Officers Operational Response
Response to Aerial Appliance Incidents	Deliberate and Secondary Fires	Developing Key Local Performance Indicators (KPIs)
Recruitment and Retention of Retained Duty System (RDS) Firefighters	Public Holiday and Night Shift Routines	Change to Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order RR(FS)O
Hoax Call Reduction	Sleeping Risk	Shift Patterns
Response to Motorway Incidents	Other Buildings	Turnout Times
Develop Data Collection Systems	Major Incidents	
Develop Consultation and Communication Strategies	Business Continuity Planning	

Some of these projects do not lend themselves to an obvious set of performance indicators as they are associated with setting up internal management structures and/or systems. This particularly applies to 2006/07 and there is a full report in a later section. For those projects where performance indicators are available, a performance overview is shown on the following pages. The intention here is to give an indication of performance since IRMP began and this will continue into future years. The ongoing work is detailed year by year and can also be seen at: http://www.rbfrs.co.uk/irmp_options.asp

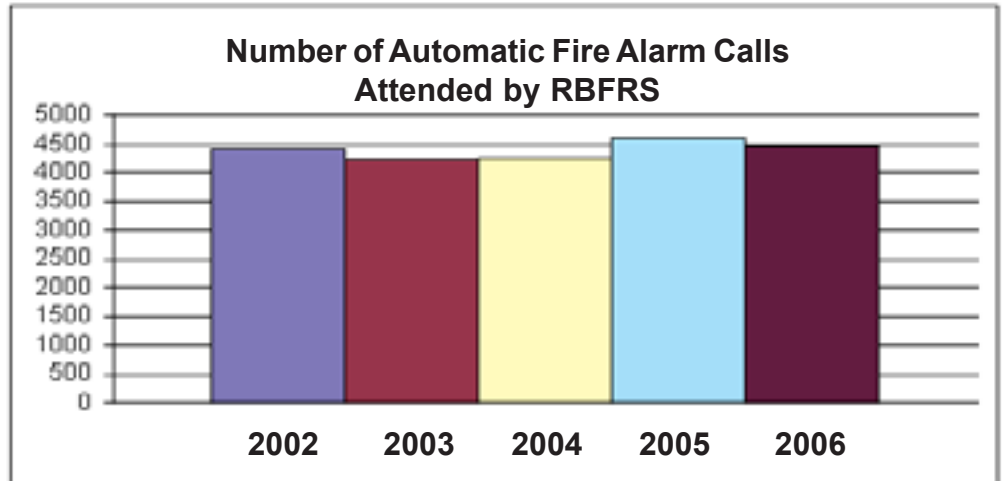
Additionally, links can be made to the Corporate Plan at: <http://www.rbfrs.co.uk/stats.asp> for example, turnout times.

Performance Charts

RBFRS is committed to being efficient and effective in its delivery of service and continual monitoring of performance continues. IRMP is no exception and the following information gives an indication of progress against a set of performance indicators that are regularly monitored and reviewed.

Response to Automatic Fire Alarms (AFAs)

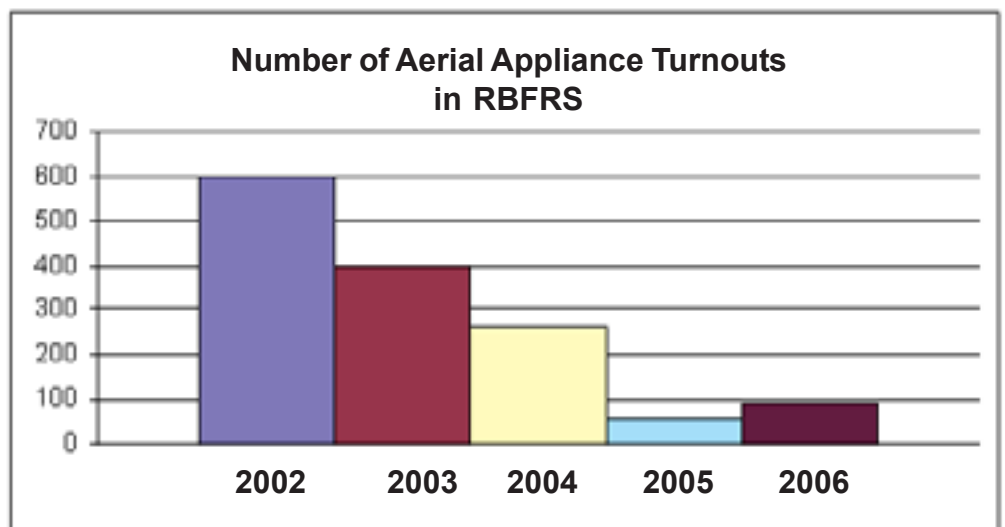
Although the number of calls to AFAs has increased, by approximately 5%, staff are now working to a revised policy that has led to a reduction in appliance movements (by some 6%). The reduction can be translated to efficiency savings (see efficiency section). Extra resources are therefore available for reinvestment in additional community safety activities. RBFRS continues to apply national guidelines to assist businesses to reduce the unwanted fire alarm call rate.



Context note: There are approximately 23,500 business premises in Berkshire. Therefore the rate of about, 4500 calls per year represents a small fraction.

Response to Aerial Appliance incidents

The number of aerial appliance turnouts has decreased over the years but a rapid decrease is noted from the year after the project, as the policy for turnouts changed. Although there is increased pressure on numbers due to Working at Height regulations, the decrease has been sustained.

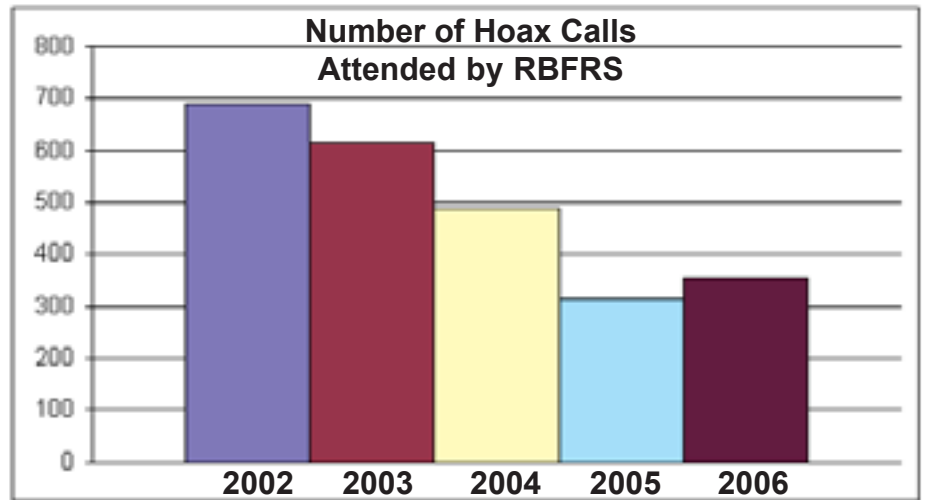


Context note: 100 aerial appliance turnouts represents 1.8% of actual operational incidents. The initial objective of IRMP was to increase community safety activity with the capacity released from unnecessary response activity. Noteworthy, is that the number of Home Fire Risk Assessments (HFRA's) has increased dramatically:

2004/05 = 0	2005/06 = 856
2006/07 = 2,194	2007/08 = 2,573 (to January 2008).

Hoax Call Reduction

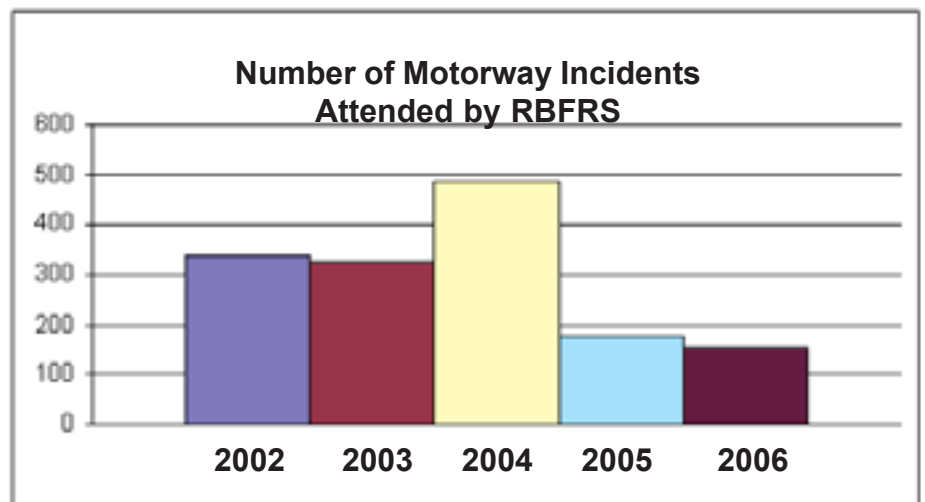
A revised policy, which includes a 'call challenge' and subsequent non-attendance in certain circumstances, is embedded into the service. This reduction enables further capacity to be released for community safety activity and avoids the risks associated with appliances attending hoax calls under emergency driving conditions. To the knowledge of RBFRS, no challenged call in RBFRS later transpired to be an actual incident.



Context note: The total number of calls to RBFRS was approximately 25,000 in 2002/03 and 19,800 in 2006/07. Therefore hoax call turnouts were at 2.76% in 2002/03, falling to 1.79% in 2006/07.

Response to Motorway incidents

The number of motorway incidents has dropped substantially, as shown in the graph. It should be noted that this reduction is against the general rising trend in the number of Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs) [see page 8]. The reason for the difference is, as yet, unclear but when fully understood will be reported. Collaboration with key stakeholders continues and a number of activities are helping in this area. For example, the 'Safe Drive Stay Alive' initiative.



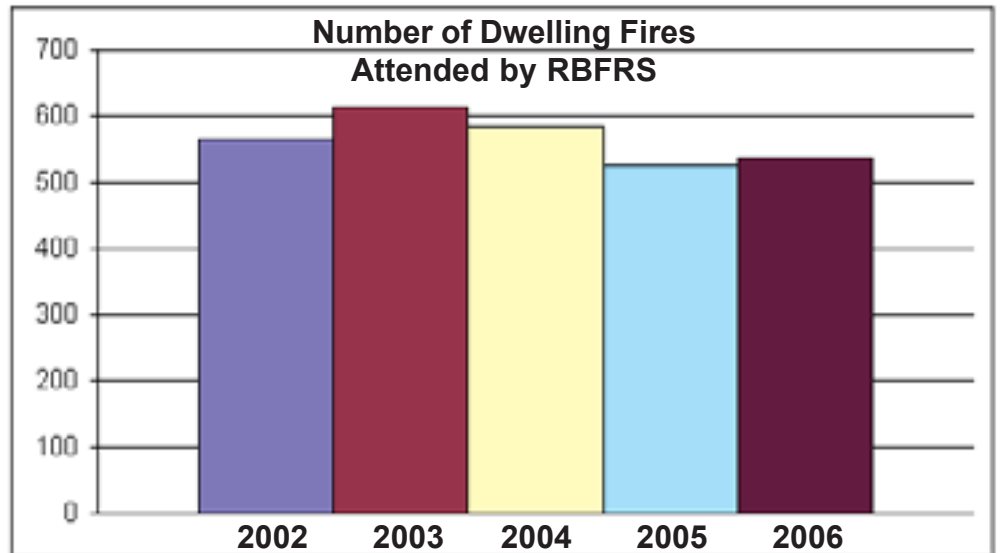
Context note: This will be a small percentage of the calls reported to the Police.

N.B. All graphs and charts in this document are for financial years (April-March) not calendar years. So 2002 on a graph refers to the financial year April 2002 - March 2003.

Performance Charts

Dwelling Fires

Dwelling fires are deemed the most critical incident type as, unfortunately, it is in the home that most fire deaths and injuries occur. Whilst there is a falling trend there has been a slight up-turn in 2006. As the total numbers are relatively small it is difficult to make substantial percentage improvements. However, work continues through education, youth schemes, home fire risk assessments and, new this year, the 'hot streets' campaign, which is a targeted home fire safety campaign aimed at reducing the risk of fire in areas or streets where there is statistically a higher risk of fire in the home.

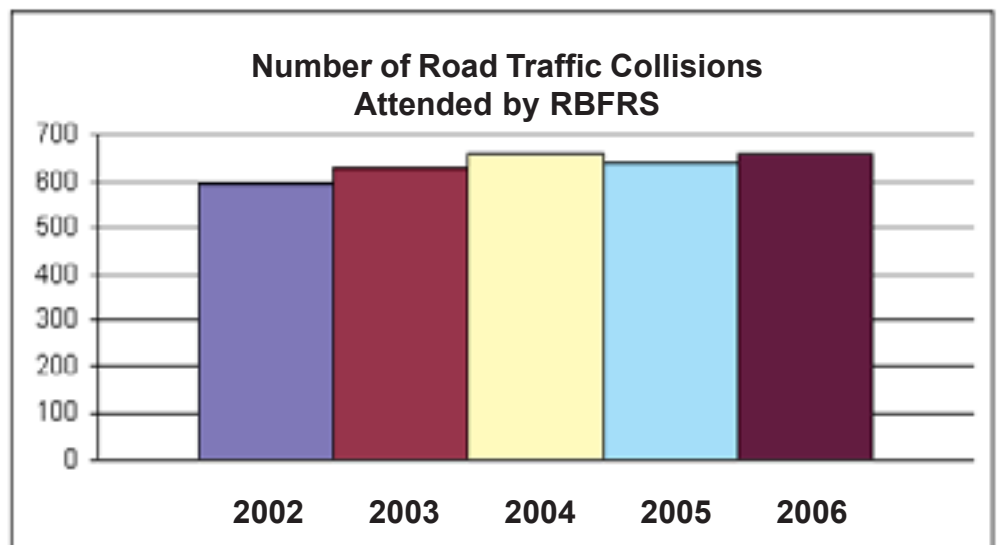


Context note: The 550 dwelling fires represent approximately 0.15% of the total dwellings in Berkshire (approx 380,000) indicating the risk from fire in the home.

Road Traffic Collisions

These are only the number of road traffic collision incidents attended by RBFRS and tend to be the more serious incidents. It is worth noting that Thames Valley Police (TVP) report approximately 7,200 incidents per year.

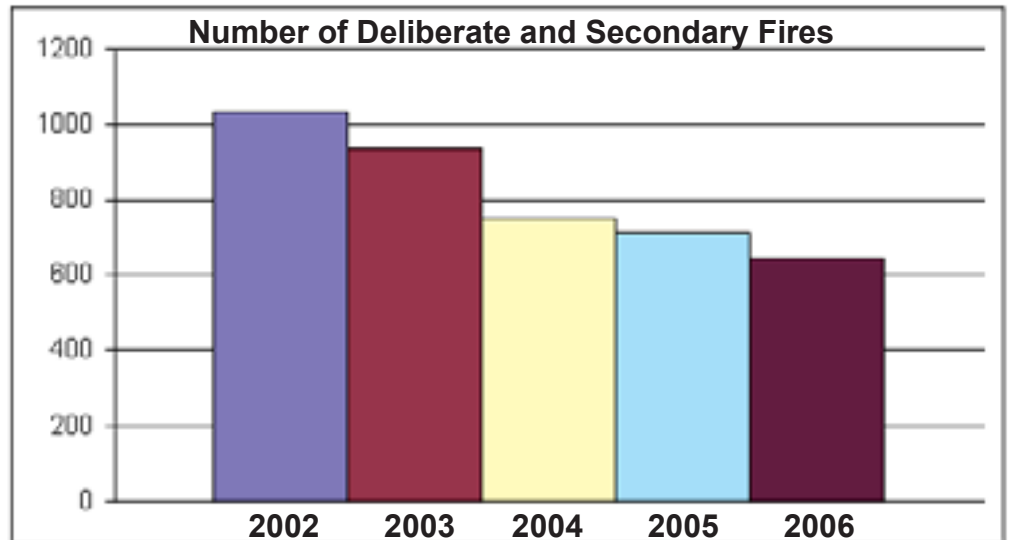
2006 showed a slight rise (approximately 4%) over 2005 to a level just below the high figure of 2004. The increasing traffic on the roads of Berkshire will have contributed to these figures but work continues in partnership with TVP and others to educate and inform the community about safe driving.



Context note: In any one day, tens of thousands of cars travel through Berkshire. The 600 calls to RBFRS represents a very small percentage of these journeys.

Deliberate and Secondary Fires

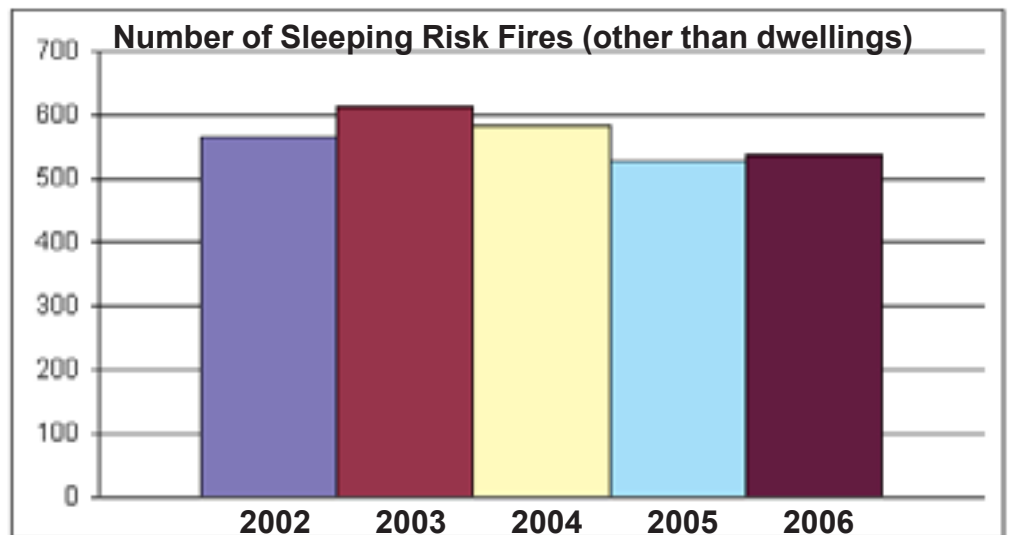
2006 sees a continuing and encouraging downward trend. Due to the relatively high incident numbers involved, this contributes significantly to the indirect efficiency savings (noted later). Continued efforts in community safety initiatives will be monitored to encourage further downward trends.



Context note: Secondary fires are those where a fire report (FDR1) is not required by Government - such as grass fires.

Sleeping Risk

A good initial fall in numbers has been reversed slightly in 2006. The differences in numbers are not significant but work will continue through both the community safety and fire safety departments of RBFRS to reinforce the importance in this area. This category includes a range of premises types including Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs), hotels, houses converted to flats and hostels.



Context note: Due to Fire Safety Legislation and enforcement, RBFRS has had no fatality in this premises type since before 1998.

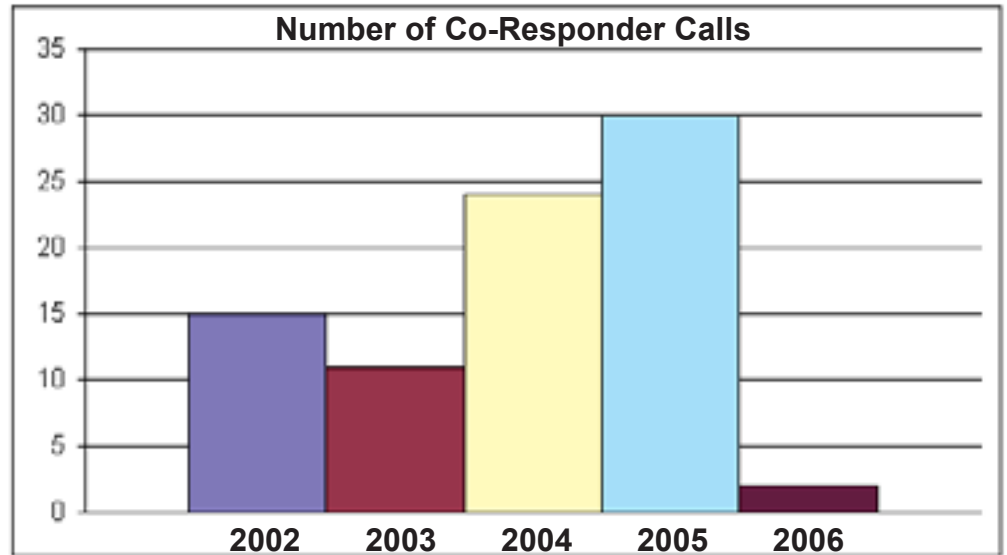
PREVENTING PROTECTING RESPONDING

Performance Charts

Expansion of Co-Responder Schemes

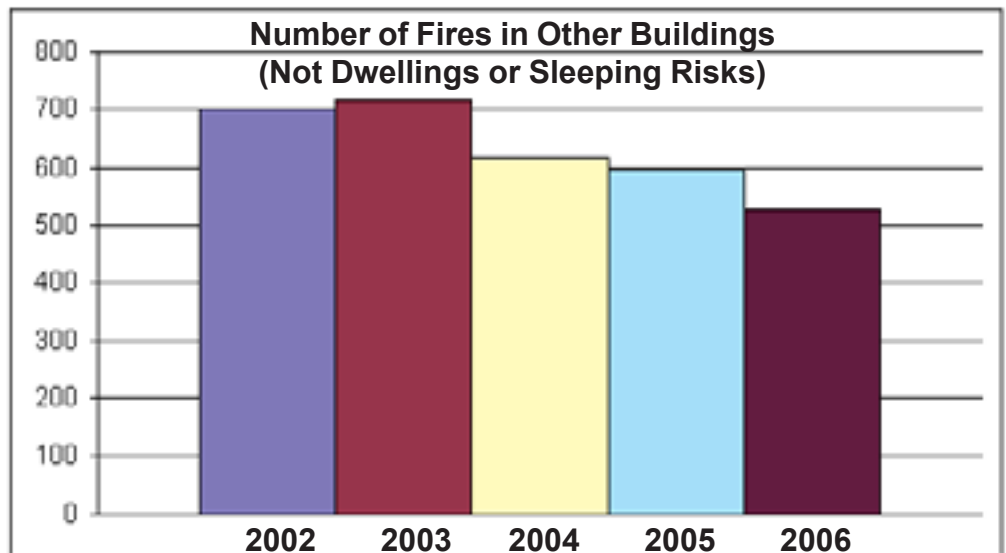
The number of calls recorded by RBFRS dropped to near zero for Mortimer Fire Station (where co-responding is enabled in RBFRS). A national campaign by the Fire Brigades Union to restrict the use of co-responding firefighters was taken to the High Court. Local negotiation led to a change in call handling and mobilising procedures so that South Central Ambulance Service (SCAS) places calls directly with the relevant staff at

Mortimer. Consequently, RBFRS does not capture this data and, therefore, this project will be removed from the IRMP performance review in future years. However, it can be reported here that communication with SCAS has given a number of 55 calls in 2006/07 and 60 calls in 2005/06, according to their records.



Other Buildings

The downward trend is maintained in 2006. This category is for building fires that are not dwellings or sleeping risks. For example shops, factories, schools etc.

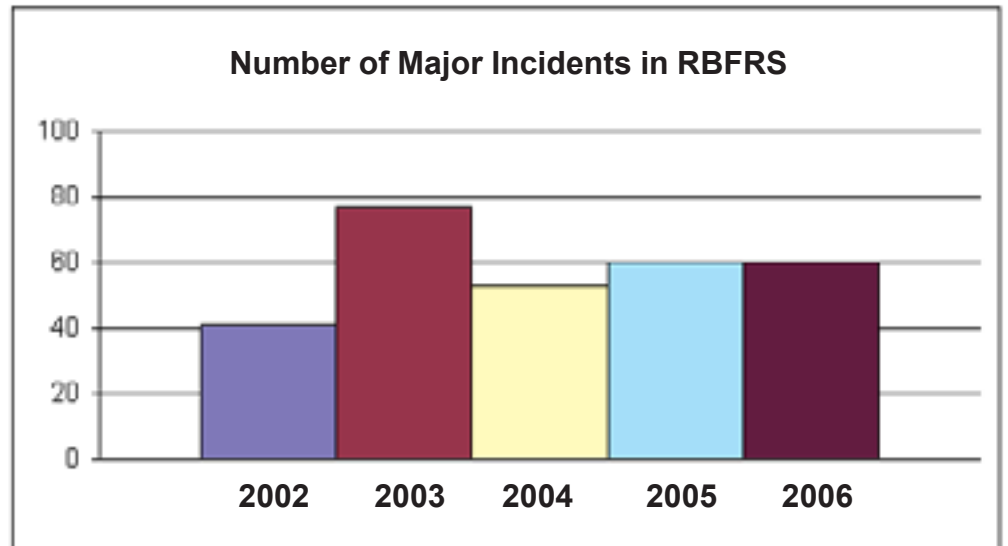


Context note: Most of the premises in this category will be protected by fire safety legislation and, again, there have been no fatalities to fire in these premises types for nine years.

Major Incidents

The usual definition of a major incident is where it attracts 10 or more pumping appliances. The number of these incidents is very low (approximately 10 per year). Therefore, to give a better indication of numbers, five pumping appliance, or more, incidents are used here for illustrative purposes.

Any reduction in these incidents is welcome as they absorb a high level of resources, sometimes over many days. The relatively small number means that it is difficult to make substantial improvements.

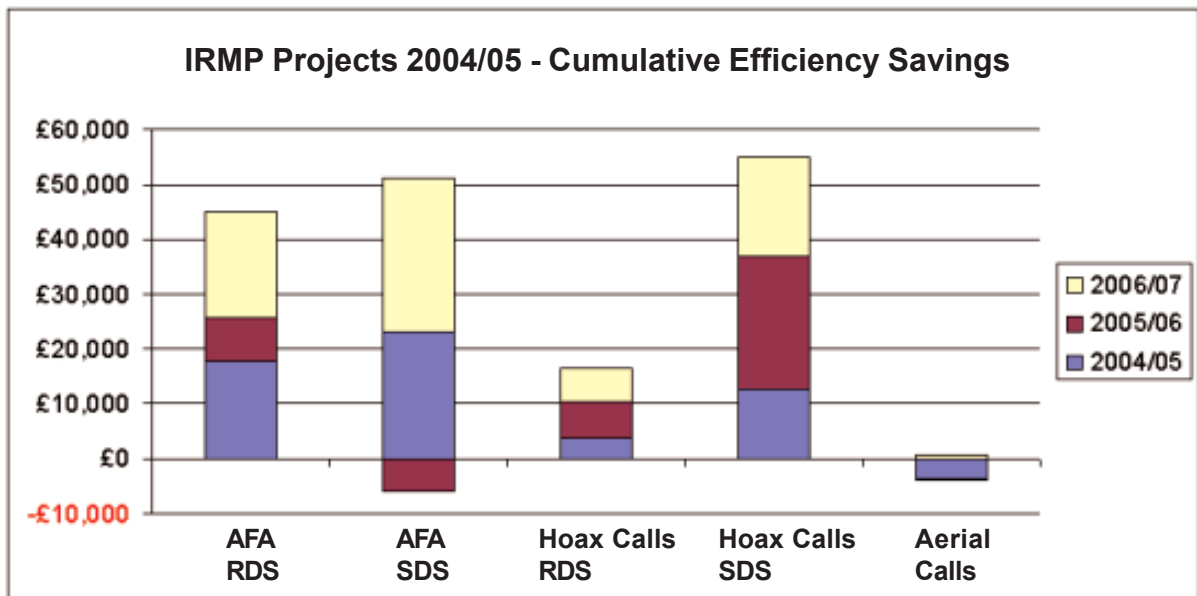


The High Volume Pumps (HVPs) in use during the recent heavy flooding

Efficiency

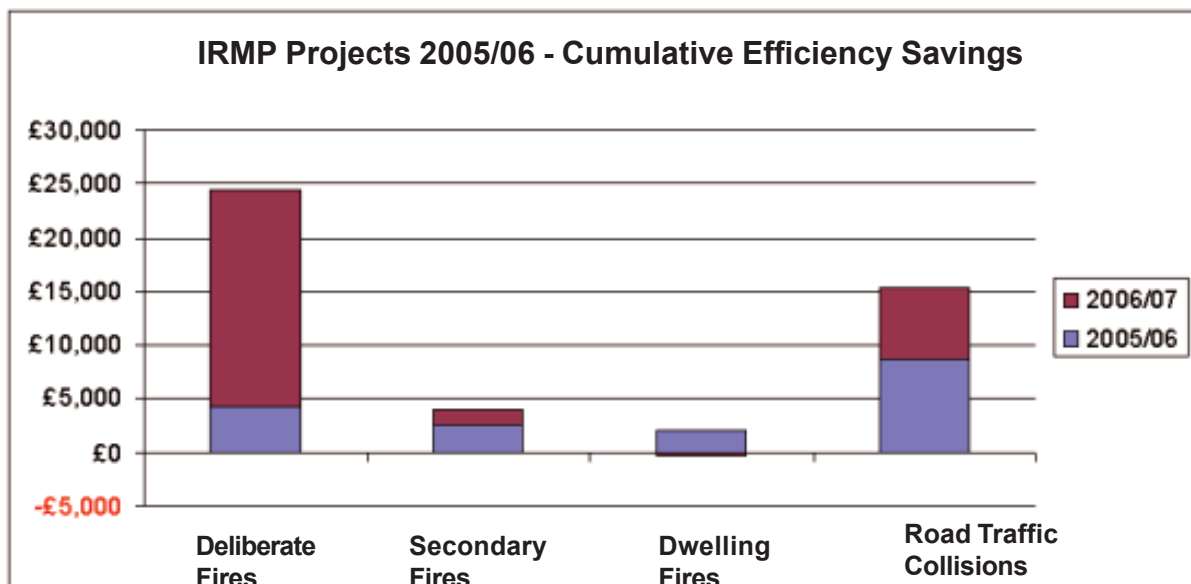
Whilst not the main driver, efficiency is a key aspect of the Best Value framework set up under the Local Government Act.

The graphs below give an indication of the efficiency savings realised over the years via IRMP. Some of these efficiency savings may be indirect, some may be direct. It should be noted that the Fire Authority supports the principle of 'Doing More With the Same' for IRMP, so any efficiency savings have been reinvested in order to improve the service.



AFA = Automatic Fire Alarm.
SDS = Shift Duty System.

RDS = Retained Duty System.
RTC = Road Traffic Collision.



Cumulatively, the total efficiency saving over the time since the start of IRMP, across those projects that can be measured in these financial terms, is in the order of £200,000.

The IRMP projects from 2006/07 (IRMP Year III), as endorsed by Fire Authority members, have all been agreed by the Senior Management Team (SMT) and, where appropriate, an implementation plan is in place for each project. Each of these implementation plans is embedded within the RBFRS strategic plan.

Optimising Resources Against Risk

This is a fundamental part of the RBFRS strategy to reduce risk to the community that lives, works and travels through Berkshire. Following the removal of nationally set standards, a new set of emergency response standards, for incidents presenting the highest risk to life, those of dwelling fires and Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs) was developed. Using these new standards and following collection and collation of evidence for RBFRS response to incidents across Berkshire over a number of years, officers of RBFRS proposed to the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority a set of fundamental station changes. After substantial consultation and some changes, these proposals were agreed by the Fire Authority on 25 July 2007. They are defined in the Five Year IRMP of 2007/08 - 2011/12 and are considered further on pages 15 to 17. The next step in this process is to consider response standards for lower risk incidents.

Shift Patterns

Following full staff consultation the Director of Human Resources is conducting final negotiations for shift changes. Current indications are that there will be a local agreement to work outside the nationally agreed conditions of service such that overtime payments will be paid on a quarter hour basis in the event of firefighters being at an incident beyond their normal shift change time. This varies from the national agreement (within the National Conditions of Service 6th edition) in that the agreement there expects payment for an hour, if work takes the firefighters 15 minutes beyond their normal work time. Alongside this shift time work it is important to reiterate that part of the project was also to consider productivity and the project team recommended a 'banding' of work patterns in four key areas:

1. Prevention activities
2. Protection activities
3. Learning and Development Activities
4. Maintenance of Resources

Implementation in this area is being led by Area Manager (Response) and is progressing according to the implementation plan.

Officers Operational Response

Following very detailed research, 25 recommendations were presented to the Directors Strategy Group. Directors, having considered these alongside the Rank to Role work that emanates from the Integrated Personal Development System (IPDS) initiative, directed that the work should guide a review of the organisational structure of RBFRS. This was undertaken throughout 2007 and a new organisational structure is in place. This structure conforms to at least one project recommendation, in that all uniformed officers should be available for operational response.

The Assistant Chief Fire Officer (Support Services) is leading on the final negotiations for officer cover, also considering officer shift systems.

The project has led to changes in officer mobilisation procedures (to reflect role rather than rank) at command levels 1, 2, 3 and 4. Additionally, Gold Command level is recognised. The minimum number of officers on duty at each command level is recommended by the project team and a steer has been given for the rota systems to be considered.

Turnout Times for Appliances

The turnout time is the time between a caller contacting RBFRS (as a 999 call) and the first fire appliance being mobilised. As Mobile Data Terminals (MDTs) will be the most accurate means to measure turnout times, the project team reported with an implementation plan that indicated RBFRS should wait for the new MDTs that will be part of the move towards Regional Control Centres (RCCs).



*Mobile data terminal
for appliances*

Following extensive research, the project team recommended a turnout time of 100 seconds, with a target of achieving this time on 90% of occasions. This will enable safe efficient turnout times that will not impact negatively upon response times (as response times are the key target for managing risk to life by response).

The relevant Local Performance Indicator (LPI) has been adjusted to this 100 seconds target and will be monitored by sampling and by exception. This LPI will be re-visited when the technological capability is in place.

Developing Key Local Performance Indicators

The implementation plan was agreed by the Senior Management Team (SMT) and work is ongoing to develop and use process mapping for key RBFRS processes. These internal processes are targeted at Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPIs) at RBFRS level and Local Performance Indicators (LPIs) at department level. Visualisation of all indicators is enabled through an enhanced performance management and measurement system ('Actuate Performancesoft Views' software) at all appropriate management tiers.

Change to Fire Safety Legislation

The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 (RR(FS)O), that came into force on 1 October 2006, was a fundamental change to fire safety legislation. It brought together many fragmented pieces of fire legislation and changed the legal duties of fire authorities and owners or occupiers of premises. The RR(FS)O extended fire safety legislation to virtually all premises, except single private dwellings. Under the RR(FS)O, Royal Berkshire Fire Authority (RBFA) is the enforcing authority and officers of RBFRS are empowered to investigate and prosecute breaches of the RR(FS)O. The project team reported to the Senior Management Team with 22 recommendations and work is ongoing to implement them. A key aspect of the plan included the creation of a new 'enforcement officer' post (funding for which was neutral, as it was an outcome of the change in the organisational structure referred to above, within officers operational response), to guide other officers in their responsibilities for enforcement action and to assist the process of any necessary prosecution activity. It is intended to review progress of this change to the law in 2009/10.

FIVE YEAR IRMP (2007/08 - 2011/12) UPDATE

Introduction

In early 2007 Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service (RBFRS) undertook an extensive consultation for its Five Year IRMP that included:

- Over 3,000 IRMP documents circulated throughout Berkshire.
- Over 4,000 questionnaires designed by Opinion Research Services (ORS) who were contracted to assist the consultation process.
- 515,000 council tax leaflets included an explanation and contact details for the Five Year IRMP.
- Officer visits to every RBFRS workplace, at least once, to explain the Five Year IRMP and ascertain views.
- Officer visits to a number of Local Strategic Partnership meetings and other groups, such as Parish Councils.
- Public consultation conducted by Opinion Research Services (ORS) contracted by RBFA to carry out this work across Berkshire.

Respondents were able to give their views by:

- The questionnaire contained in the IRMP booklet
- Writing to RBFRS Freepost address
- Email
- On-line questionnaire at RBFRS Website
- Telephone
- Fax

The consultation was reported to the Fire Authority on 25 July 2007 and the Fire Authority gave approval for the Five Year Plan at that meeting by a majority vote. The extensive nature of the consultation for the Five Year Plan has necessitated some delay in the implementation of the plan.

Since Fire Authority approval for the plan was given, the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead has challenged the process and, at the time of writing, a Judicial Review is in process. However, the Five Year Plan outlined an action plan for 2007/08 that has been progressed in the time available such that:

Sonning

The lease for the premises of Sonning Fire Station will be terminated by April 2008. A small closing ceremony has taken place and a plaque is to be handed to the Sonning Fire Brigade Trust in appreciation of the many years of support shown to Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service and its predecessors. The staff affected have been offered alternative opportunities and five staff have transferred to the 'full-time' Shift Duty System whilst four have been made redundant. Any identified savings will be used to provide additional staff at the Wokingham fire station.

Cookham

A project team has been established to oversee the necessary work. It is expected that this team will report (with an implementation plan) by April 2008. The potential for a lightweight pump has been researched and early indications are that further risk assessment will be required. As part of this plan and an earlier project (major incident IRMP project from 2005/06) the Incident Command Unit (ICU) is due to be placed at Maidenhead in early 2008. The intention is that Cookham firefighters will serve as extra resilience to support the ICU.

Crowthorne

A project team has been set up to consult with Surrey Fire and Rescue Service and others as appropriate in order to conduct a trial of Camberley fire appliances coming over the border into Berkshire, for two years - with ongoing analysis of the impact. The specific areas to be covered are Sandhurst, Yorktown and College town. Initial work suggests that, on average, this will be for approximately 80 calls per year.

Supplementary Projects:

Environmental and Chemical Incident Response

This work has been given extra emphasis by the flooding of 2007. A full review of RBFRS response to the flooding is being undertaken and the IRMP team will consider this report in their work.

A project team has been established to oversee the necessary work according to the Terms of Reference. It is expected that this team will report with an implementation plan by April 2008 and, therefore, this project will be rolled forward into the 2008/09 action plan.

Regional Control Centre

This project is long term and part of Central Government's Resilience agenda. There are three aspects to the resilience agenda pertinent to Fire and Rescue Services:

1. Fire Control - The establishment of nine Regional Control Centres across England that will have the capability to support one another with consistent systems, including IT systems, processes and protocols.
2. FireLink – The setting up of a resilient national radio communications network that enables robust, common communication systems with all emergency services.
3. New Dimension – The provision of facilities and resources to enable a co-ordinated approach to major incidents such as terrorism and major flooding.

In RBFRS, Fire Control and FireLink have been amalgamated under the umbrella of IRMP as a single project. It is anticipated that FireLink will be in place by the end of 2008 and a new Regional Control Centre by the end of 2010. Therefore this project will also roll forward.

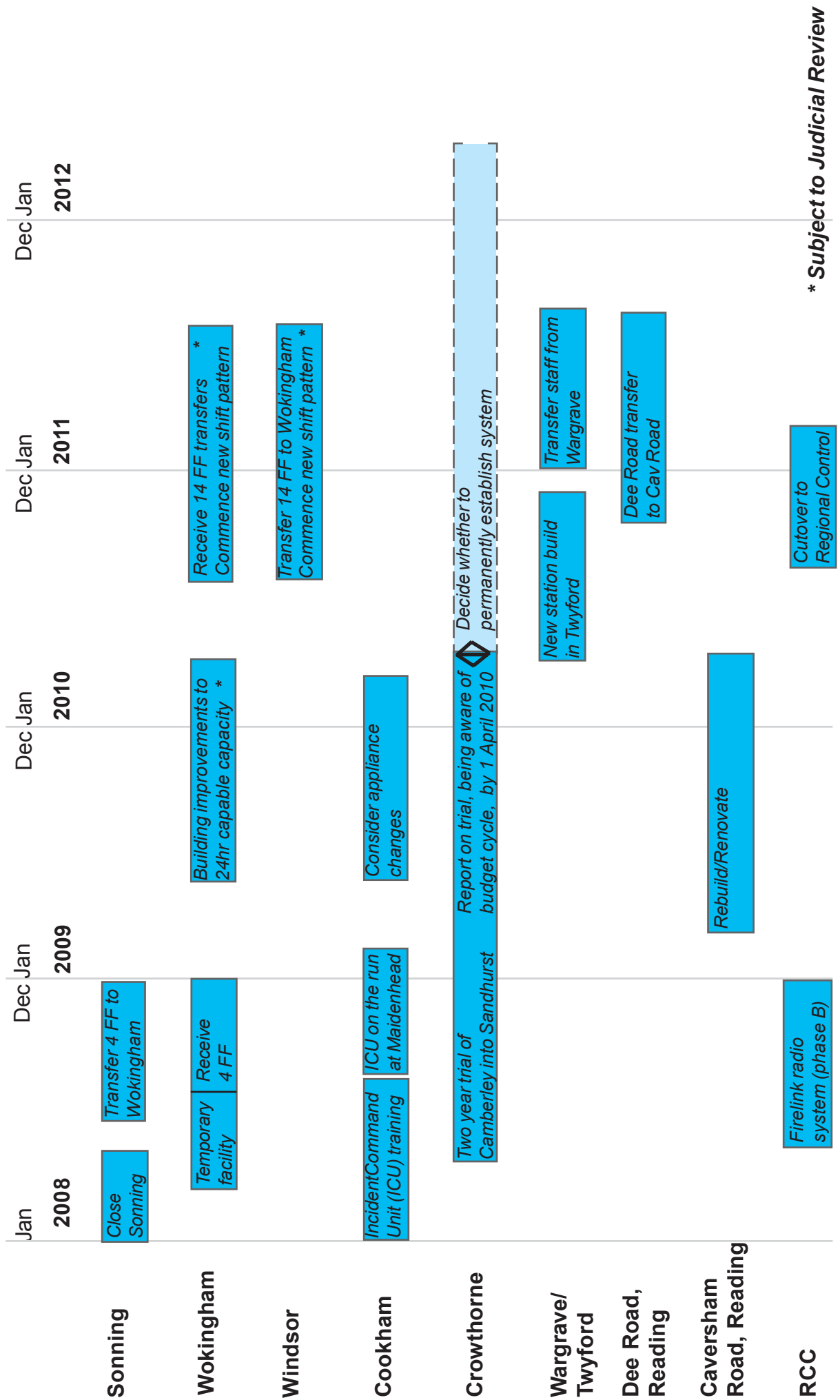
Updated Five Year Plan Timeline

The Five Year Integrated Risk Management Plan, published in 2006/07, was significant in that it introduced a long-term plan. This was agreed by the Fire Authority at the meeting of 25 July 2007. In that document an initial timeline was presented. It must be realised that work will be affected by an evolving premises strategy. The Property and Property Resources Committee of RBFA is dealing with the premises work associated with the Five Year IRMP. This is a discrete project being delivered through the Procurement and Facilities department.

The initial time line for the Five Year Plan was published last year but, as indicated then, there will be an ongoing review and a number of factors, including those covered above, have led to an updated and more detailed plan for this year.

The timing and phasing on the timeline on the next page is only an indication of the intended programme of change and further adjustments can be expected.

FIVE YEAR IRMP TIMELINE



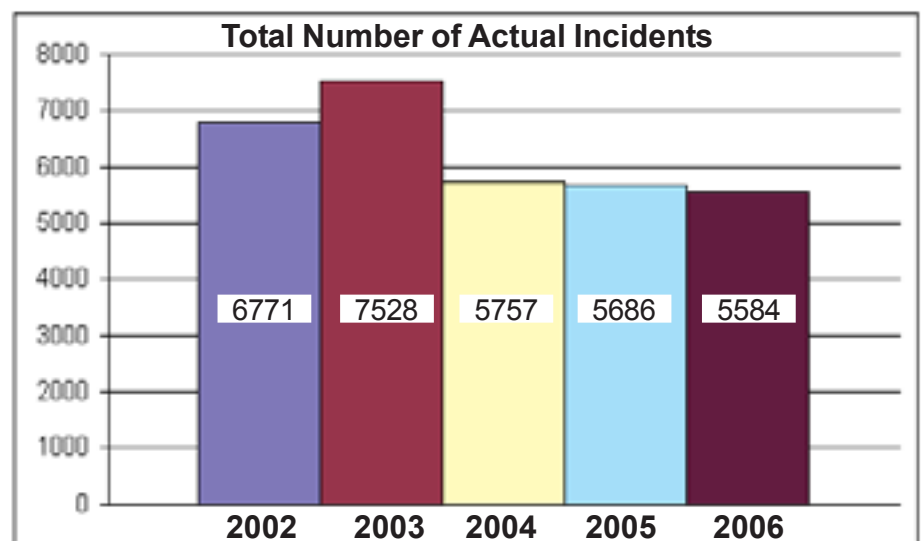
FIVE YEAR IRMP BASELINE PERFORMANCE DATA

RBFRS is committed to reducing risk across Berkshire. To measure any improvements in performance standards from the implementation of the Five Year IRMP, it is necessary to have in place clear baseline data for comparison in future years. The necessary data is embedded within the RBFRS performance measurement software. The key indicators from the data source are reported here for the five years of data captured prior to the commencement of the Five Year IRMP.

Total Number of Calls (Actual Incidents)

The total number of calls is defined here as the number of actual incidents. That is, the number of calls where operational activity was required and, therefore, does not include AFAs (where no, or very limited, operational activity was required), hoax calls, standbys etc.

The graph shows that the total numbers within RBFRS has steadily dropped from a high in 2003/04. This drop is generated for a number of reasons, not least of which will be the community safety activity completed by RBFRS staff improving the general safety standards across Berkshire. Also assisting will be changes to procedures and systems along with the work the fire safety department is involved with in the business community.



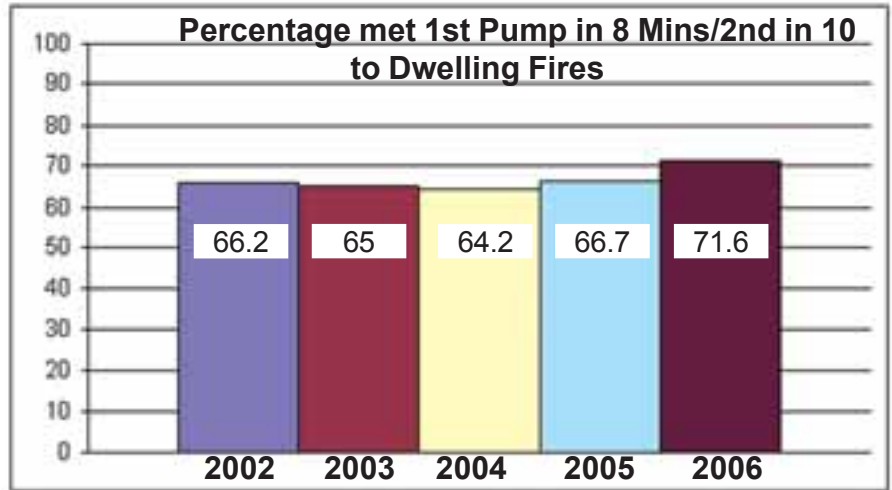
Dwelling Fire Response Standards

The Five Year IRMP is designed to improve the response times of RBFRS to dwelling fires across Berkshire. In June 2006, following the demise of the National 'Standards of Fire Cover', the Fire Authority committed to achieving response standards to all dwelling fires of:

- An optimum response standard of 8 minutes for the first appliance and 10 minutes for the second appliance for dwelling fires.
- A standard response of 10 minutes for the first appliance and 12 minutes for the second appliance for dwelling fires.
- The higher risk localities where it is predicted that appliances will not reach dwelling fires within the standard response will be prioritised for community safety initiatives to drive down the risk.

Percentage met 1st appliance in 8 minutes and 2nd appliance in 10 minutes.

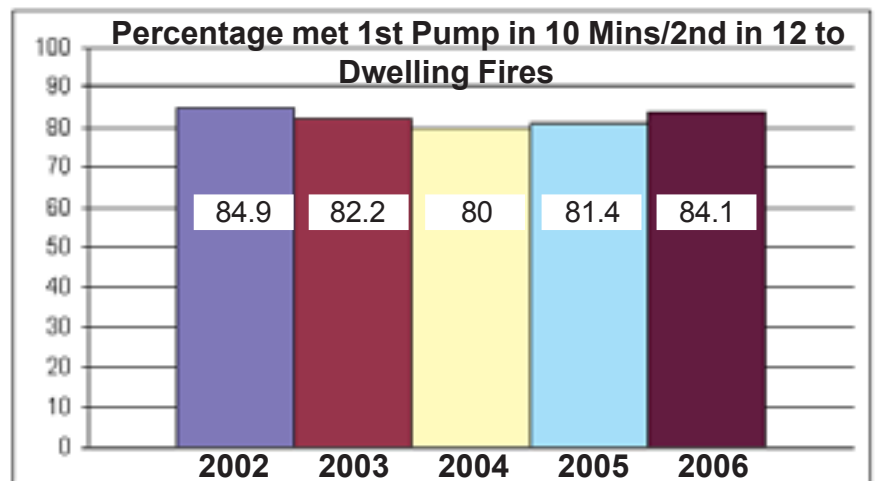
The data shows a reasonably steady state with approximately 65% achieved. It should be understood that the number of dwelling fires are relatively small (from a peak of 614 dwelling fires in 2003/04 down to 538 in 2006/07) and changes may take a number of years to show any trends.



Percentage met 1st appliance in 10 minutes and 2nd appliance in 12 minutes.

Again, the data is fairly steady for small numbers at approximately 82%. Those areas identified as being outside the response standard are targeted for community safety work.

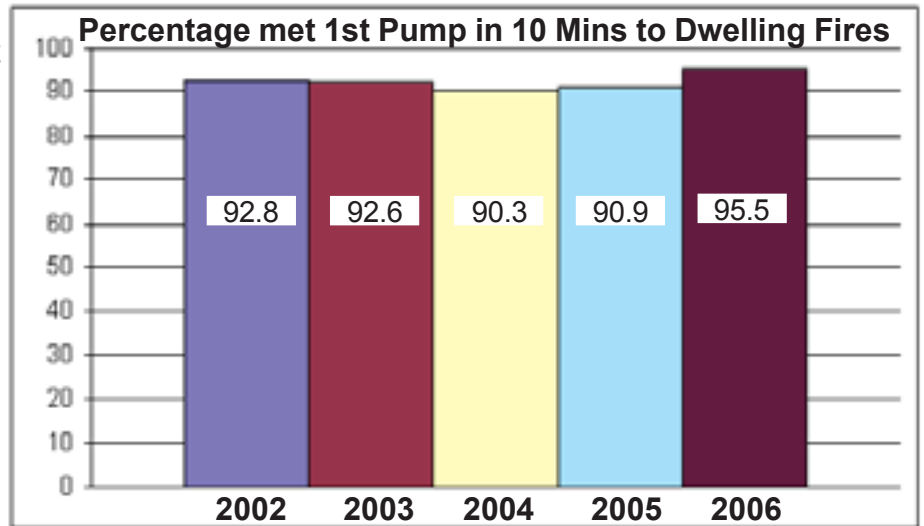
Over the past year community safety activity has increased in those areas where it is known the community tends to have higher risk and this includes those areas outside the response standard times. As this evolves, more detailed data will become available.



MAKING BERKSHIRE SAFER

Percentage met 1st appliance in 10 minutes

Although not part of the RBFRS response standards it is realised that the first pump to arrive is most important to the public, hence its inclusion here. The data shows RBFRS achieves the first pump to dwelling fires within 10 minutes on over 90% of occasions.

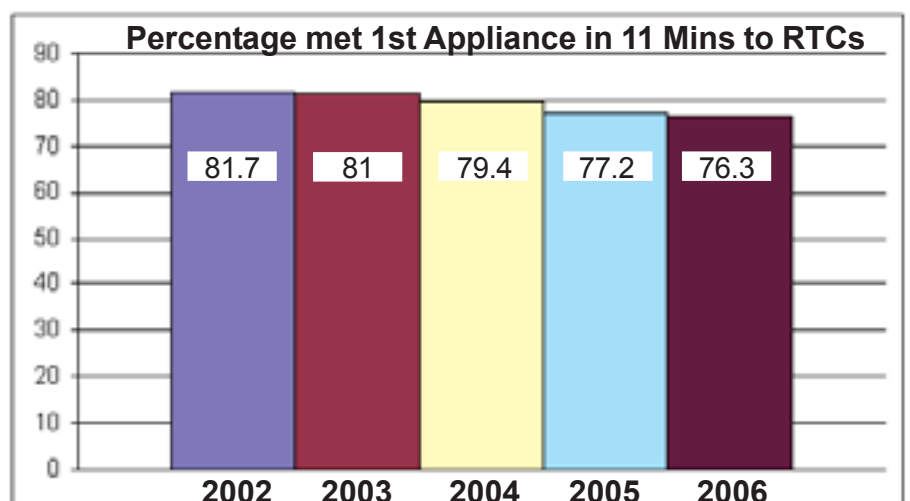


Road Traffic Collision Response Standard

Similarly to dwelling fires, the Fire Authority set a response standard for Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs) in June 2006 namely:

- To make an initial attendance to road traffic collisions, with the necessary resources to commence extrication of casualties, within 11 minutes.

The standard is achieved on approximately 75% of occasions, but the graph shows a slight downward trend. This will be investigated further and, if necessary, a separate IRMP project will be established and reported in future years.



SUPPLEMENTARY IRMP PROJECTS

It will also be the case that other influences will impact upon the annual IRMP process. To give examples, other required projects (in addition to the changes required under the Five Year IRMP) have been identified for the annual IRMP action plan 2008/09:

- **Regional Control Centre Project:**
The Regional Control Centre (RCC) project was formally placed into the IRMP project management process, in RBFRS, for the 2007/08 action plan. As noted in the update section earlier, this is part of the Central Government Resilience Agenda and it is expected that the Five Year IRMP timeframe is appropriate. The project team manages the process and there have been several updates communicated to the staff and Authority Members. This project continues to be assessed as high risk to the Fire Authority.
- **Review RBFRS Chemical and Environmental Operational Response:**
The Year II IRMP project for 'Major Incidents' looked at special appliances across RBFRS. However, the suggested movement of the Chemical Incident Unit (CIU) to Station 19, Maidenhead, was postponed as, at about that time, the Incident Response Unit (IRU) and other New Dimension vehicles (that may have an impact) were coming into RBFRS and the early indications from the Five Year IRMP were that Windsor crewing may be affected. In addition, it is becoming increasingly clear that environmental incident response needs to be moved up the agenda and there will be synergies between RBFRS response for chemical and environmental incidents. Therefore, it was agreed to wait until later to consider the CIU. It is now time to consider RBFRS chemical and environmental incident response, especially in light of the flooding incidents of 2007.
- **Lower Risk Incident Response Standards:**
At the early stages of IRMP in RBFRS, a strategic risk assessment was conducted that analysed the relative risks of different incident types. It was clear from this that Dwelling Fires and Road Traffic Collisions were the most life risk critical incident types and it is for these risk critical incidents that response standards have been derived. A risk register of incident types was provided and this showed the following risks in descending order:
 - Dwelling fires
 - RTCs
 - Deliberate and secondary fires
 - Sleeping risks
 - Other buildings
 - Major incidentsPrevious projects dealt with lower risk incident types on a generic basis and these are monitored (as seen in the performance section). It is now possible to consider response standards to these lower risk incident types.

Project	Objective(s)	Team
Regional Control Centre (National Initiative)	<p>To maintain progress towards safe and robust transfer of control functions to the Regional Control Centre (RCC).</p> <p>To ensure the FireLink radio communication phases are safely and robustly completed in 2008/09, and as directed by the Regional and National strategy.</p> <p>To ensure all relevant members of staff are consulted and kept fully informed.</p>	<p>Area Manager (Support Services) is identified as the senior user.</p> <p>Area Manager (Support Services) and the Information Systems Manager (ISM) are the joint project co-ordinators.</p> <p>A cross functional project team has been established to oversee this project and, under this team, are three sub-groups for: Fire Control, Fire Link, and Human Resources</p>
Review RBFRS Chemical and Environmental Operational Response	<p>To review all relevant, existing special appliances for current environmental and chemical incident response, including New Dimension (ND) vehicles, equipment and arrangements.</p> <p>To propose arrangements to ensure RBFRS incident response to environmental and chemical incidents.</p> <p>To recommend appropriate vehicle, equipment and procedural changes to meet environmental and chemical incident risk.</p> <p>To recommend appropriate vehicle locations to meet environmental and chemical incident risk.</p>	<p>Group Manager (Support Services) and cross functional team.</p> <p>(Project rolled over from 2007/08 and due to report to Senior Management Team (SMT) by April 2008).</p>
Initiate Windsor/Wokingham Project	<p>Any work here will be subject to the Judicial Review outcome. However, the initial research work to investigate can commence, along with the required work to absorb the changes generated by the Sonning IRMP project. Also, the premises strategy will have a major impact on the project.</p> <p>Initial outcomes, to report to SMT by September 2008 are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide temporary facilities at Wokingham for four transferee firefighters, resourced by closure of Sonning. • To consider long term premises issues at Wokingham. • To research possible shift systems required at Wokingham and Windsor. 	<p>Brigade Manager (Support Services) and Procurement and Facilities department, in association with a cross functional team.</p>

Project	Objective(s)	Team
Initiate Twyford/Wargrave Project	<p>Prior to closing Wargrave, the possible Twyford Fire Station must be researched. Outcomes here are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To research and finalise possible sites. • To have building plans and contracts in place (That conform to all appropriate standards, including environmental). • To have budget plans in place. • To report, alongside any evolving premises strategy to SMT by September 2008. 	Brigade Manager (Support Services) and Procurement and Facilities department, in association with a cross functional team.
Initiate Caversham Road Project	<p>Major building works will be required at the Caversham Road, Reading site. Objectives for 2008/09 are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To have building plans and contracts in place (That conform to all appropriate standards, including environmental). • To have budget plans in place. • To report, alongside any evolving premises strategy to SMT by September 2008. 	Brigade Manager (Support Services) and Procurement and Facilities department, in association with a cross functional team.
Lower Risk Incident Response Standards	<p>The team will review and confirm the risk assessments for incident types and then research and report on recommended response standards to other, lower risk, incident types:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliberate and Secondary Fires • Sleeping Risks • Other Buildings • Major Incidents <p>The team will report by October 2008.</p>	Brigade Manager (Support Services) and IRMP team.

CONTACT US

RBFRS welcomes your comments on the Action Plan 2008/09 any time during the consultation period **3 March to 2 June 2008**.

Please take this opportunity to make your views known, as it will help to develop strategies and policies to meet local needs.

How To Reply

You are invited to comment on our plans using any of the following methods:

- In writing, using the following **FREEPOST** address :
IRMP Consultation
Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service
FREEPOST (RG2 669)
103 Dee Road
Reading
RG30 1BR
(Remember, no stamp is required)
- Email to: irmp@rbfrs.co.uk
- Visit our Website at: www.rbfrs.co.uk
- Telephone our help line on: 0118 932 2122
- Fax us on: 0118 932 2296

RBFRS is keen to ensure that its consultation with the public is effective and inclusive - so please answer the following questions and return these pages together with any comments you may wish to make to the FREEPOST address shown on page 24. In line with the Data Protection Act 1998, all personal information will be confidential to RBFRS. It will be used for no purpose other than improving services.

Q1 Are you...? (Please cross **one** box only)

Male.....

Female.....

Q2 What was your age on your last birthday? (Please cross **one** box only)

16 to 24..... 35 to 44..... 55 or over.....

25 to 34..... 45 to 54.....

Q3 What is your ethnic group? (Please cross **one** box only)

White - British, Irish or any other White background.....

Mixed - White & Black Caribbean, White & Black African, White Asian or any other mixed background.....

Asian or Asian British - Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi or any other Asian background.....

Black or Black British - Caribbean, African or any other Black background.....

Chinese or Other ethnic group.....

Q4 What is your first language? (Please write in)

Q5 How did you become aware of this consultation? (Please cross all boxes that apply)

Website..... Newspaper..... RBFRS employee.....

Email..... Through the post.....

Other (Please specify)

Q6 If applicable, in which Local Authority area is your main home in Berkshire?
(Please cross **one** box only)

Bracknell Forest Borough Council..... West Berkshire Council..... Wokingham District Council.....

Reading Borough Council..... Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead.... Slough Borough Council.....

If not applicable
please explain

Aerial Appliance	<p>Any vehicle with a high-rise capability above the reach of standard ladders. In RBFRS, the term relates to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ALP or Aerial Ladder Platform (stationed in Slough).• HP or Hydraulic Platform (stationed in Reading). Both have a reach of 30 metres.
AFA	<p>Automatic Fire Alarms</p> <p>An automatically operated fire alarm signal usually generated from electrically operated heat or smoke detectors provided within premises. Alarms are usually connected to an alarm receiving company who contact the fire and rescue service on the receipt of the operation of the alarm.</p>
Appliance	<p>An appliance is any fire and rescue service vehicle that carries personnel and equipment to operational incidents. The term appliance can be subdivided into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fire Appliance (see separate glossary reference).• Special Appliance (see separate glossary reference).
Community Safety	<p>A fire and rescue service activity aimed at preventing the incidence and limiting the effects of fires and other emergencies through informing and assisting the public, commerce and local communities.</p>
Co-Responder	<p>An initiative, in partnership with South Central Ambulance Service National Health Service Trust, to use trained Retained Duty System firefighters to respond to suspected heart attack victims.</p>
CPA	<p>Comprehensive Performance Assessment</p> <p>This is a national audit of fire and rescue services led by the Audit Commission. It looks at a range of evidence about how the organisation is run and then rates the overall performance of the fire and rescue service as either excellent, good, fair, weak or poor.</p>
FBU	<p>Fire Brigades Union</p> <p>The trade union that represents the majority of firefighters in Berkshire.</p>
Fire Appliance	<p>Commonly referred to as 'fire engine' carrying between four and six firefighters to emergency incidents. It carries a range of equipment including pumps, breathing apparatus, hoses, foam, hydraulic cutting equipment, ladders, gas tight suits, thermal imaging equipment and resuscitators.</p>
Fire Safety	<p>Fire Safety officers of the fire and rescue service comment on plans and inspect premises to give advice and to ensure that adequate safety standards are being provided in premises that need to comply with Fire Safety Legislation. This may include taking enforcement action.</p>
GIS	<p>Geographical Information Systems</p>

Group Manager	A role in the fire and rescue service equivalent to a senior manager.
HFRA	Home Fire Risk Assessments The involvement of operational fire crews and other staff in visiting homes to carry out a fire risk assessment and to give advice on how to reduce that risk.
Hoax Calls	Emergency calls received which prove to be deliberately false.
ICS	Incident Command System A national system in the fire and rescue service that helps organise and maintain safe systems of work at operational incidents.
ICU	Incident Command Unit
IPDS	Integrated Personal Development System A national system in the fire and rescue service that provides the framework to manage, record and track the development and maintenance of competent firefighters, managers and incident commanders against set standards.
IRMP	Integrated Risk Management Plan A formal plan designed to ensure an integrated approach to implementing measures to address identified risks.
IRMP Steering Group	The team of officers in RBFRS that meet regularly to plan and review the progress of IRMP.
IRMP Working Party	The group of Fire Authority members that meets regularly to oversee and determine the direction of the IRMP projects.
LAA	Local Area Agreement Agreement between Government, the local authority and its major partners in an area (working through the Local Strategic Partnerships). Structured around children and young people, safer and stronger communities, and healthier communities and older people.
LPIs	Local Performance Indicators Local targets that are set to achieve a standard, the performance in achieving this standard is then measured.
LSP	Local Strategic Partnership This brings together public, private, voluntary and community interests to provide a strategic framework within which partners can work together to improve the quality of local communities for those living and working there.
Optimum Response Standard	An ideal response standard to an incident.

New Dimensions	UK Government programme to increase resilience. Has a number of workstreams, some of which focus on fire and rescue services.
Organisational Risk Register	See Risk Register.
Part Time	A term sometimes used to refer to RDS duty system firefighters.
PSA	Public Service Agreement Community Safety Partnership agreements between the fire and rescue service and specific stakeholders.
Pump	See Fire Appliance.
RBFA	Royal Berkshire Fire Authority This is the elected decision-making body responsible for the provision of a fire and rescue service in Berkshire. It is composed of councillors nominated from the district and borough councils that make up the county.
RBFRS	Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service This is the organisation that delivers the fire and rescue service in Berkshire as delegated by the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority.
Response Standards	This is the standard (in minutes and seconds) set by the Fire Authority, against which RBFRS will plan the distribution of its intervention resources. It is a measurement from when a call is first received and the time when the first resource with ability to intervene arrives at the actual scene of the incident.
RCC	Regional Control Centre
RDS	Retained Duty System Duty system where firefighters are contracted to be available from home or work for a specified number of hours but respond when required for emergency incidents.
Risk Mapping	The recording of risks, census information and incident information on the fire and rescue service's electronic maps. It provides visual representation to help the fire and rescue service plan the deployment of its resources.
Risk Register	A risk assessment process that prioritises and registers organisational and operational risk.
RR (FS)O	Regulatory Reform Order (Fire Safety) In 2005 a change to the legal basis of fire safety brought together the fragmented sections of fire related legislation under one legislative 'umbrella'.

RTC	<p>Road Traffic Collision</p> <p>Any road incident involving the collision of vehicles that is attended by the fire and rescue service, police service or ambulance service.</p>
SDS	<p>Shift Duty System</p> <p>Duty system where firefighters are on duty and immediately available to respond. Also known as Wholetime (W/T) or Full -Time.</p>
Secondary Fires	<p>Fires that do not require the completion of a fire report, such as rubbish fires and abandoned vehicles.</p>
Special Appliance (or specialist vehicle)	<p>An emergency response vehicle that is designed for a specific purpose. The special appliances in service in RBFRS are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 x Rescue Support Vehicles (RSV) • 1 x Aerial Ladder Platform (ALP) • 1 x Hydraulic Platform (HP) • 1 x Incident Control Unit (ICU) • 1 x Chemical Incident Unit (CIU) • 1 x Water Response Unit (including Boat) (WRU) • 1 x Operational Support Unit (OSU) • 1 x Incident Response Unit (IRU) • 1 x High Volume Pumping Unit (HVP) • 1 x Six-wheel off road firefighting (L6P) • 1 x Four-wheel limited off road firefighting (L4P) • 1 x Water Bowser
Stakeholders	<p>Any person or organisation likely to be affected by, use, be involved with or having an interest in the work of the fire and rescue service.</p>
Standard Response Standard	<p>A response time for fire appliances to reach an incident that, if the standard is not met, will trigger alternative community safety activity.</p>
Turnout Times	<p>Measured from the time of being notified of an incident, this is the time it takes for operational vehicles to become mobile to the incident.</p>
Unitary Authority	<p>The six district or borough councils that make up Berkshire (West Berkshire, Reading, Wokingham, Windsor and Maidenhead, Slough, and Bracknell Forest) are also known as unitary authorities.</p>

ROYAL BERKSHIRE
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

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