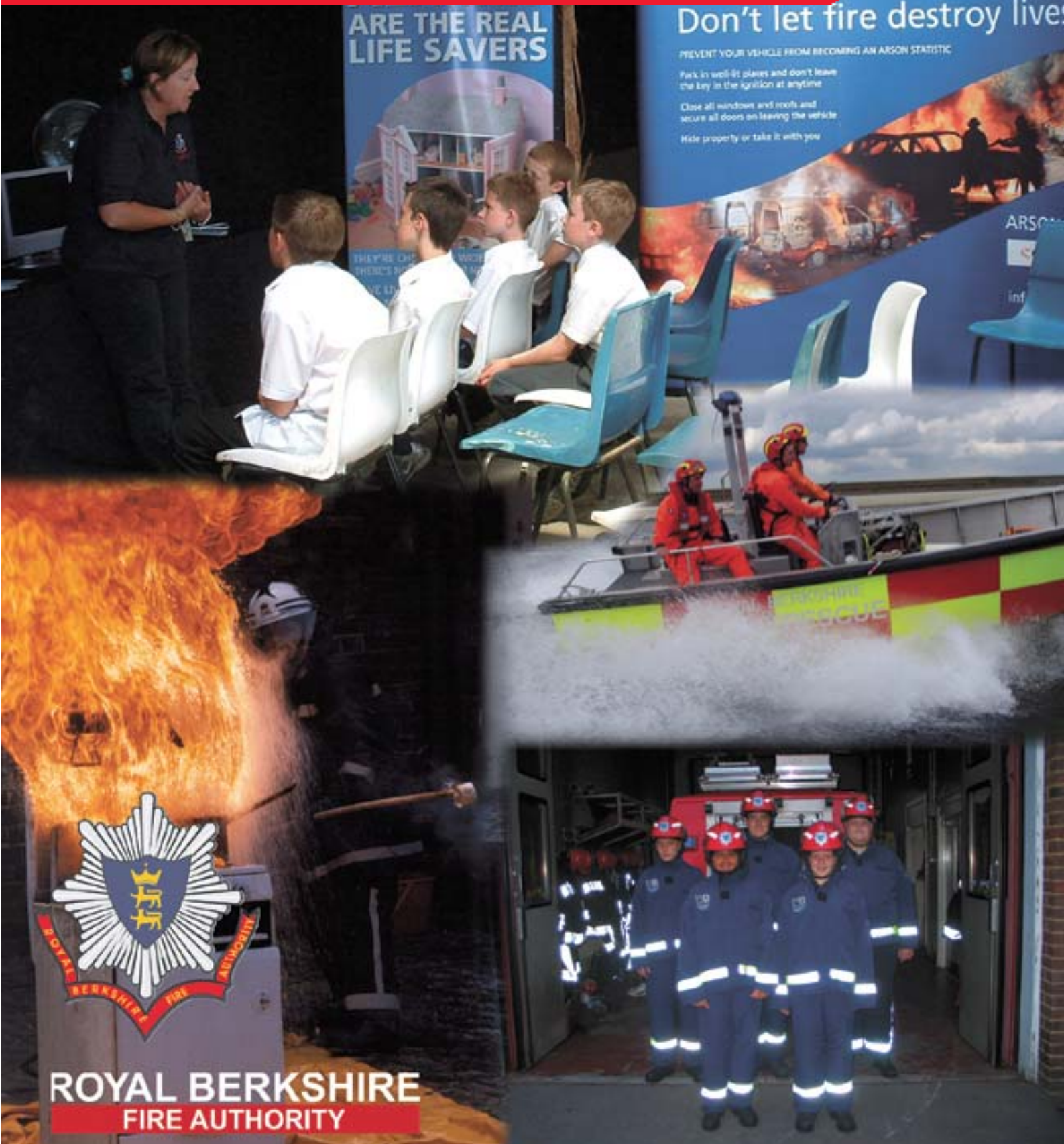


INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN

YEAR 2



**ROYAL BERKSHIRE
FIRE AUTHORITY**

PREVENTING PROTECTING RESPONDING

ROYAL BERKSHIRE FIRE AUTHORITY



PREVENTING PROTECTING RESPONDING

यदि आप यह जानकारी हिन्दी में चाहते हैं तो कृपया हमारा संपर्क करें
के तमने आ मावित्ती. गुजराती मां केरुती दीय तो मदेरत्रानी करी अमारे संपर्क करे

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

संभवतः हमें दिए सादरवती संसर्क करे रिच लेटा पसेर बल्लों का चिन्ता करके लगे हल संपन्न करे

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

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This consultation document outlines proposals to make further changes in the way that the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority delivers its services. The proposals in this document build on the work already completed from the Fire Authority's first Integrated Risk Management Plan, published on 1 April 2004.

The improvements recommended in the Year II action plan have been prioritised because they have been assessed as areas that give the greatest opportunity for making the county of Berkshire a safer place.

The Year I action plan targeted key areas to reduce the number of unnecessary calls that Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service attend in order to make better use of the time available for additional community safety campaigns and training. Early indications are that this is working with a reduction in hoax calls and automatic fire alarms reported since 1 April 2004.

The Year II action plan seeks to build on this work with the introduction of new and innovative community safety strategies to be undertaken by operational firefighters during the times freed up from the implementation of the Year I projects.

Integrated Risk Management Planning has demanded changes to the way the Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service works in order that this risk based approach to service delivery can be embedded in the organisations business and financial planning cycles. Development and redeployment of personnel, clearer responsibility and reporting lines and the creation of a risk register have assisted in progressing the Year I action plan. The greatest improvements since the publication of the Authority's first Integrated Risk Management Plan have been in the areas of data collection and risk mapping.

Progress on each of the eight Year I projects is reported on as well as the Fire Authority's future proposals to improve the safety of those that live, work and travel through the county of Berkshire. The Royal Berkshire Fire Authority's Integrated Risk Management Plan process continues to be informed through a close working partnership involving Elected Members, Officers and representatives of the Fire Brigades' Union.

Consultation remains a key part of the Integrated Risk Management Planning process and guidance on how to engage with the Integrated Risk Management Planning Team to enable your views to be considered is included at the end of the document.

FOREWORD BY COUNCILLOR TERRY MILLS

Chairman of
Royal Berkshire Fire Authority

On behalf of the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority I am pleased to introduce our second Integrated Risk Management Plan and Year II Action Plan. In Royal Berkshire we are not considering change for the sake of change. In fact, we want to build on the good work that has been achieved over the last twelve months.

However, we believe that further changes to the way we deliver our service are necessary in order that we continue to strive towards making Berkshire a safer place.

Prevention is our main objective but maintaining our capacity to deliver a fast, effective and sustained emergency response remains essential. This plan includes proposals to utilise firefighting crews to undertake safety campaigns in areas of high risk without disruption from known low risk incidents, to extend an innovative scheme in Slough to install sprinklers in houses of multiple occupancy (flats/bed sits etc), further developing Public Service Agreements with the unitary authorities to reduce risk in specific areas, and to review the crewing and location of specialist vehicles to ensure we can sustain resources at a major incident.

The proposals contained within this document have been considered at length by elected members of the Fire Authority, following a robust risk assessment process carried out by officers of the Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service .

Improvements in community safety are not always something the Fire and Rescue Service can effectively deliver in isolation. Where appropriate we will work with other fire authorities to find efficiencies and improvements to the services we can offer local people. The proposed changes to emergency cover in South Buckinghamshire and the possible effects on the Cookham area described on page 32 being a good example of such opportunities.

Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service will also continue to work closely with our local partners, the other emergency services, the local authorities, the voluntary sector and local people and businesses, to improve the safety and quality of life for our Berkshire communities.

I would like to thank the many people who have worked hard to tight deadlines in producing this plan and for the co-operation and input given by staff and their representative bodies.

Your views are important to us and I hope that you find the time to let us know what you think of our proposals, before we finalise them early in 2005.



Terry Mills



HOW THE FIRE AUTHORITY WORKS WITH IRMP

The Fire Authority comprises 25 local councillors appointed by the six Unitary Authorities of Berkshire.



Ultimate responsibility for producing the Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) rests with the Fire Authority. The identification, analysis and mapping of risks in the community is undertaken by officers of Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service (RBFRS). Included in this team are members of the Fire Brigades' Union (FBU).

IRMP teams report directly to the Area Manager in Support Services, who in turn reports to the Assistant Chief Fire Officer (Support Services) who is the lead Principal Officer. Recommendations arising from work undertaken by officers are fed into the elected member IRMP working party for discussion and consideration before final approval by the Fire Authority.

STRATEGIC AIMS

The primary focus of this document will be to improve the safety of those who live, work and travel through the County of Berkshire. Royal Berkshire Fire Authority (RBFA) already has strategic aims in place to deliver its vision of 'A Safer Berkshire', these being:

- Minimise loss of life, injury and damage from fire.
- Reduce the number of deaths, injuries and damage caused by hazards other than fire and render appropriate humanitarian services.
- Deliver community safety education (tailored to users' needs) to reduce the number of fire calls and to minimise the consequences of fire.
- Apply fire safety legislation, without bias, to maximise compliance and minimise loss of life, injury and damage from fire.
- Demonstrate continuous improvement in service delivery, based upon consultation and partnership, working within a Best Value framework.
- Be a good employer and be recognised as such.

ROYAL BERKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

FIRE STATIONS

There are 20 fire stations in Berkshire:

- 7 x 24 hour shift crewed fire stations, based at Caversham Road, Wokingham Road, Dee Road and Whitley Wood Reading; Slough, Langley and Windsor.
- 3 x 24 hour shift crewed with support from part-time crews. These are based at Newbury, Bracknell and Maidenhead.
- 1 x nucleus crew of fire fighters during the day with support from part-time crews. Only Wokingham Fire Station operates with this form of crewing.
- 9 x part-time fire stations, based at Hungerford, Lambourn, Pangbourne, Mortimer, Sonning, Wargrave, Cookham, Ascot and Crowthorne.

All of these fire stations are mobilised to incidents through the Control Room based in Reading, which is crewed by specialist staff.



As well as the fire stations, RBFRS has specialist Fire Safety Officers based in Newbury, Reading, Maidenhead and Langley. In addition, the RBFRS Training Department is based at Whitley Wood in Reading. The Community Safety Team and most of the Support Staff are based at Headquarters at Dee Road in Reading.

STAFF NUMBERS (30 September 2004)

	Authorised Establishment	Strength
Full-time operational staff	431	436
Part-time operational staff	177	157
Non-operational staff	106	99
Control room staff	27	31
Totals	741	723

The figures above show the strength of the organisation being greater than the authorised establishment in two areas. This is due to the need to recruit full time operational staff over establishment because of the constant loss of experienced fire fighters to other Fire and Rescue Services due to the high cost of living in Berkshire. When a fire fighter leaves the service it can take up to six months to recruit and train a replacement. Thus, in the interim period, those fire fighters above establishment are able to ensure that crewing remains at appropriate levels. Those figures relating to control room staff are additional personnel on short term contracts covering sickness and other absences.

RESPONSE STANDARDS

The current Response Standards set by the Royal Berkshire Fire Authority are:

- Within 5 minutes for major town centres and industrial complexes.
- Within 10 minutes for suburbs and built-up areas of smaller towns.
- Within 20 minutes for all other areas.

Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service guarantees to send at least two fire appliances to any property fire unless it is known to be small (e.g. chimney or grass fire) or to an Automatic Fire Alarm (AFA).

As an outcome of the Year I projects these standards are likely to change in the following areas:

- Automatic Fire Alarms.
- Hoax calls.
- Aerial ladder response.
- Incidents on motorways.

DIRECTION FROM CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

As part of the Government's Modernisation Programme for the Fire and Rescue Service, every Fire Authority was required to produce an IRMP by 1 April 2004. In addition, the Government has set national targets for the Fire and Rescue Services. These targets are:

Main Target

To reduce the number of accidental fire-related deaths in the home by 20%, averaged over the eleven-year period to March 2010, (equivalent to 280 fire-related deaths per annum) compared to the average recorded in the five-year period to March 1999 of 350 fire-related deaths.

During the last year (2002/03) 6 people died as a result of accidental fires in dwellings in Berkshire.

Sub Target 1: Floor Target

No Fire & Rescue Authority having a fatality rate, from accidental fires in the home, more than 1.25 times the national average by 2010.

Sub Target 2: Deliberate Fires

To achieve a 10% reduction in deliberate fires by 31 March 2010 to 94,000 from the 2001/02 baseline of 104,500.

In Berkshire, during the last year (2002/03) there were 934 deliberate fires in buildings and vehicles.

SR 2000-3

To reduce the number of building fires in England and Wales by 3% by March 2006.

In Berkshire during the last year (2002/03) there were 1,331 fires in buildings.

The first Integrated Risk Management Plan can be accessed via Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service's website at www.rbfrs.co.uk under IRMP consultation.

IRMP's continue to be a fundamental part of the Government's vision for a modern and effective Fire and Rescue Service, which states that it should serve all sections of our society fairly and equitably by:

- Reducing the number of fires and other emergency incidents that occur.
- Reducing loss of life in fires and accidents.
- Reducing the number and severity of injuries in fires and other emergency incidents.
- Reducing the commercial, economic and social impact of fires and other emergency incidents.
- Safeguarding the environment and heritage (both built and natural).
- Providing value for money.

IRMP, A BRIEF HISTORY

RBFA initial IRMP was a strategic document that set out the long term approach that would be taken in order to provide a more objective assessment of the risk to life, property and the environment in Berkshire, making the service more responsive to locally identified needs.

Historically, statistics in the Fire and Rescue Services that drew the most attention were the number of calls each fire station attended and the speed of response by the fire engines attending those incidents. In fact, albeit important, neither is the ultimate goal of a modern Fire and Rescue Service. Preventing the incident from occurring in the first place is the most effective way of improving the safety of those who live, work and travel through the County of Berkshire.

There is no change in direction from that given in the initial IRMP last year, the strategy remains. RBFA is committed to identifying improvements and will seek to implement new ways of making the County of Berkshire a safer place.

The IRMP has encouraged new ways of working within RBFRS. These changes have resulted in many new community safety initiatives being implemented since work on the first IRMP was commenced during the summer of 2003. These initiatives, many in partnership with other local authorities, as well as the private, business, community and voluntary sectors are aimed at RBFA's vision of a 'Safer Berkshire' through preventative work.

For more detail on the Community Safety Strategy, please access Royal Berkshire Fire Authority's 2004/05 Corporate Plan at www.rbfrs.co.uk under Latest News.

Changes in working practice are also being delivered in Fire Safety (protection) where a new system of workplace inspections has been implemented. The emphasis is on inspecting those premises that are at greater risk of a fire occurring. The delivery of operational resources to respond to emergency calls (responding) is also undergoing change with reviews currently being undertaken on the use of aerial appliances, responses to hoax calls, automatic fire alarms, co-responders and the way incidents are responded to on motorways.

As stated in the initial IRMP, the main aim is to make changes in order that resources are used more effectively, in a proactive way to help reduce the number of fires, accidents, injuries and deaths. However, in those circumstances where a fire or other emergency does occur, RBFRS will continue to respond with the most appropriate resources. This is perhaps best summed up by the new national motto being adopted by Fire and Rescue Services:

PREVENTING PROTECTING RESPONDING

The Year 1 Action Plan focussed on improvements in community safety through:

- Assessing ways of reducing the unnecessary use of resources.
- Assessing ways of using existing resources more effectively.
- Amending current working practices.

Progress on the Year One Action Plan is reported on pages 15-23

The main reason for targeting these key areas was to reduce the number of unnecessary calls that RBFRS attend in order to make better use of the time available for additional community safety campaigns and training. Chart 1 compares the operational activity levels of pumping appliances between Fire and Rescue Services within the same family group.

The chart shows that RBFRS appliances are busier compared with fire appliances from Fire and Rescue Services of a similar size. Other than the large Metropolitan Fire and Rescue Services, RBFRS, along with Cleveland, have the busiest fire appliances in the country. Therefore, the focus in Year 1 was to free up time in order to redeploy operational resources into community safety, training and prevention activities.

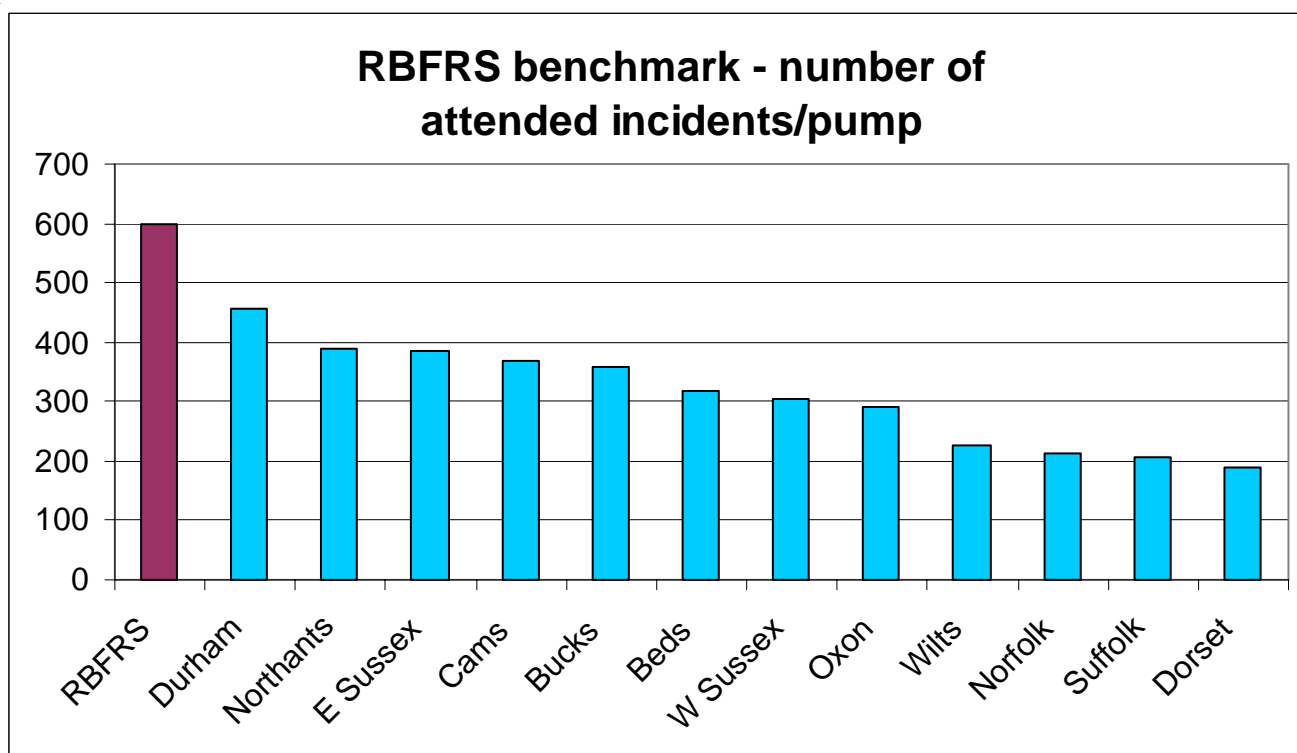


Chart 1: Pumping appliance operational activity levels.

OWNERSHIP OF THE IRMP

In addition to the Year I Action Plan projects, much work has been undertaken over the last six months to develop clear reporting lines and levels of responsibility within the IRMP process.

The diagram below highlights the areas of responsibility at each of the key levels.

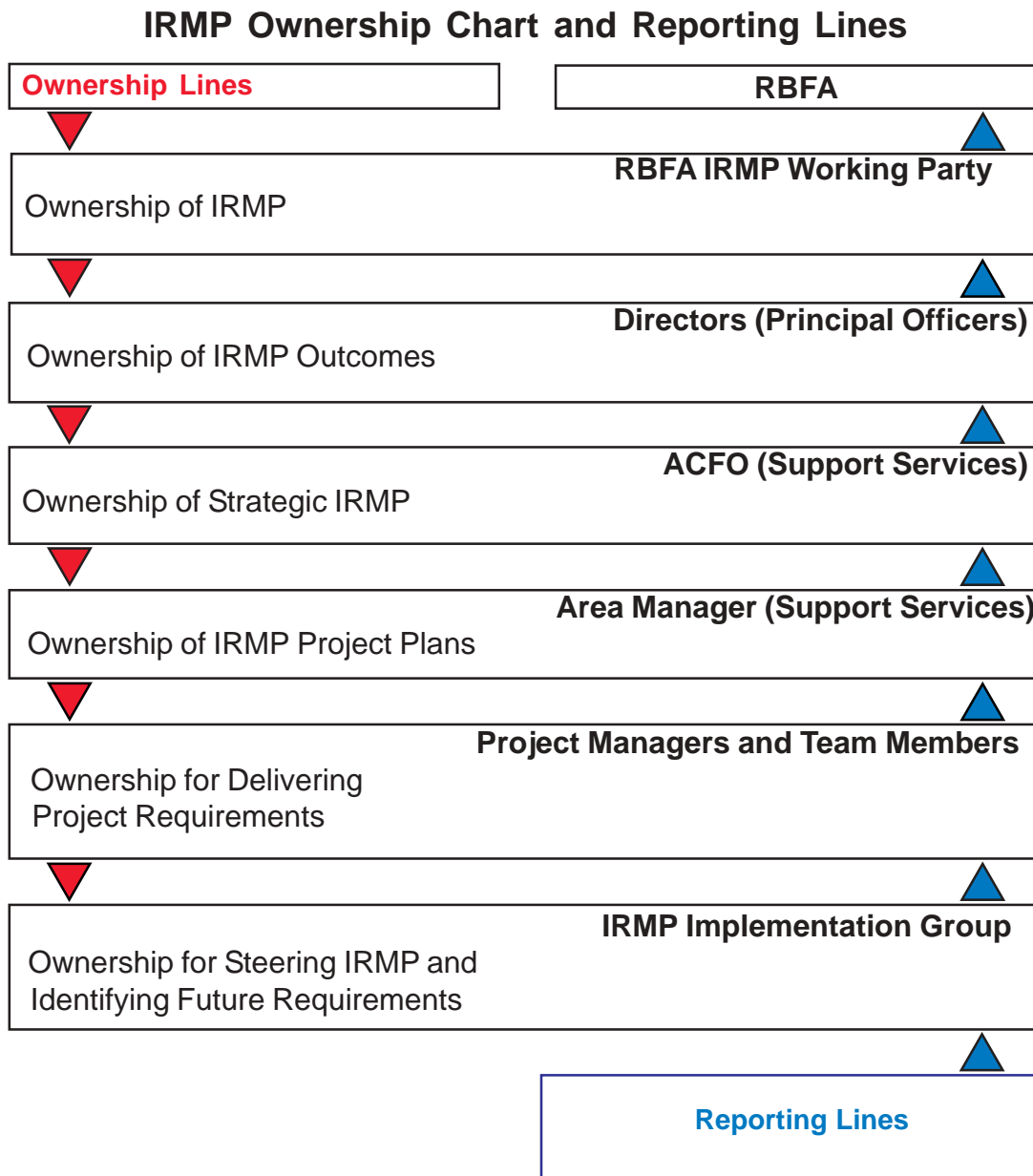


Figure 1: IRMP ownership and responsibility levels

All members of the cross-functional project teams received training on risk and project management. Additionally, guidance was provided to ensure a comprehensive and consistent methodology. All of the IRMP projects are resourced through RBFRS Strategic Plan and are reflected in Directorate and individual Personal Development Plans.

BEST VALUE: EFFECTIVENESS, EFFICIENCY AND ECONOMY

Each of the projects are being undertaken utilising the Government's Best Value framework. Best value enforces a duty on all local authorities to assess their performance and review working practices to secure continuous improvement in the way they deliver their services. Chart 2 shows how cost effective RBFRS is in comparison with many other Fire Authorities.

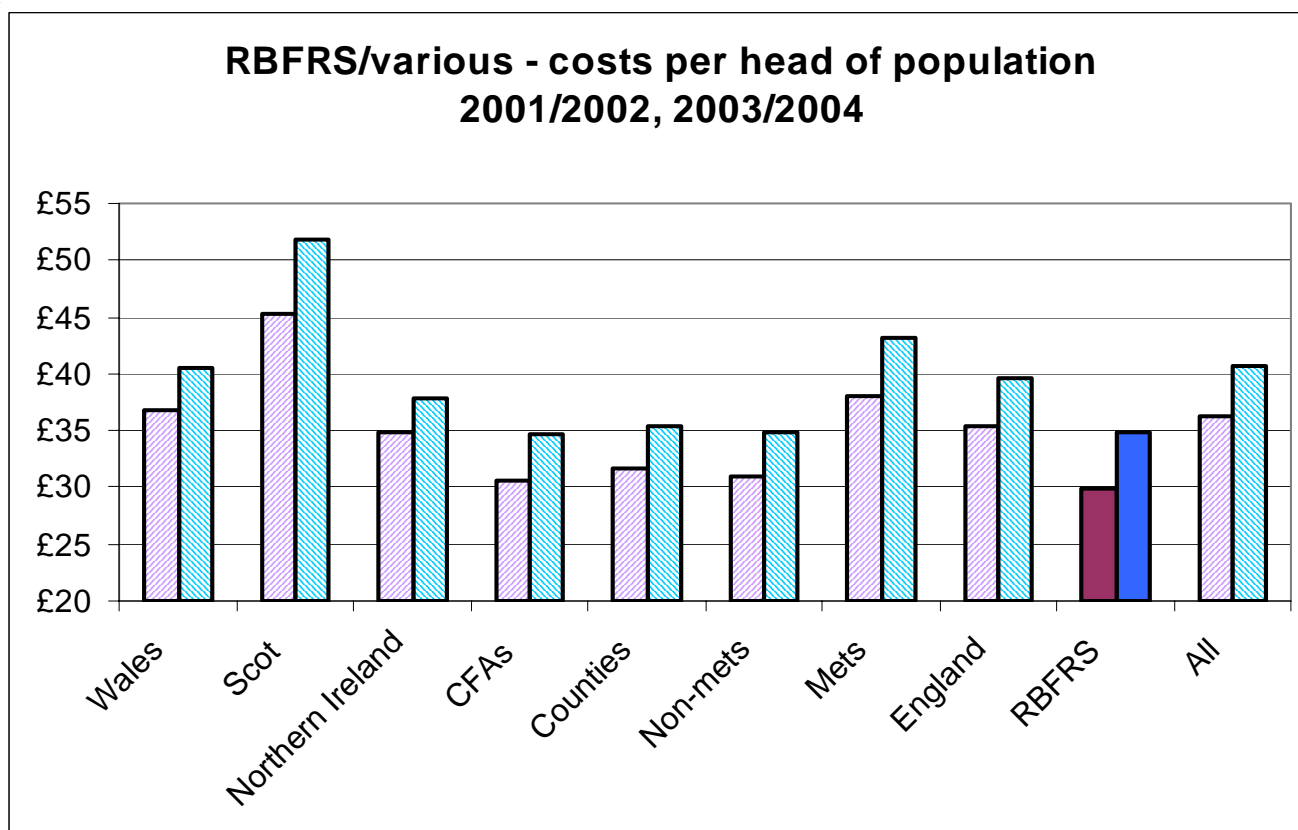


Chart 2: Costs per head of population

Using the Best Value framework, means that each of the IRMP projects will be scrutinised using the Best Value criteria of Challenge, Compare, Consult and Compete. In addition, each area will be audited by a member of RBFRS Performance and Review Team.

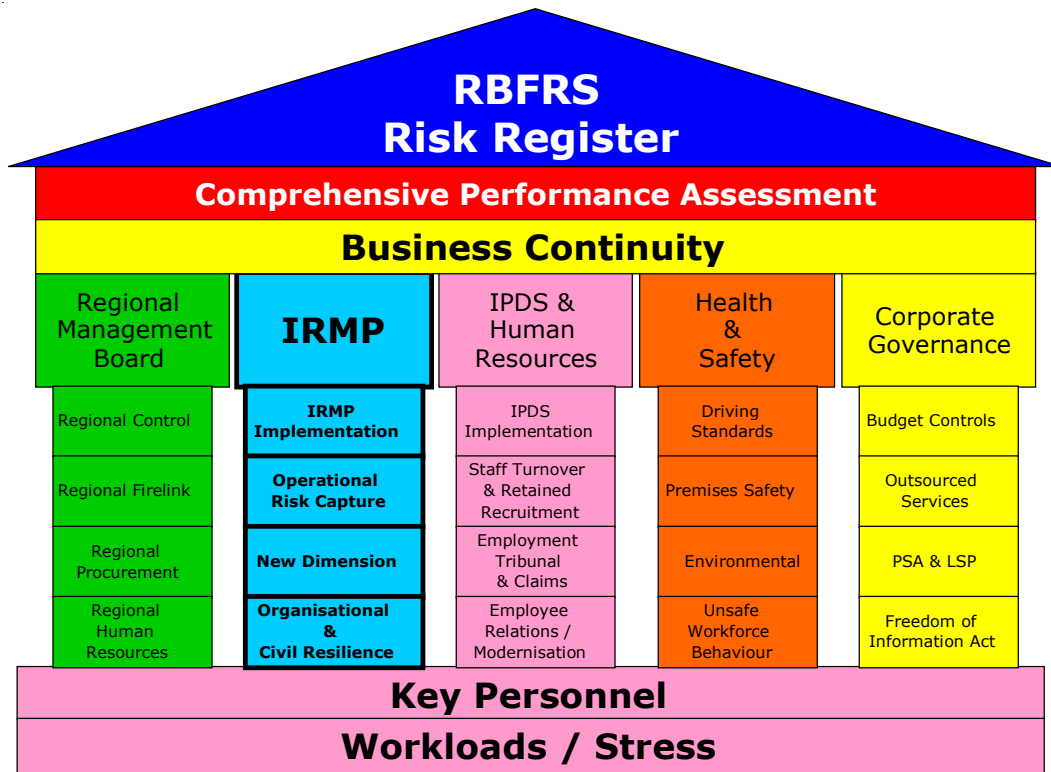
The area of work that has most significantly developed over the past six months is the way that RBFRS has identified and assessed risks in the local community, through its risk mapping. Real progress has been made in this area with the introduction of a data gathering team and supporting structure. This work has been achieved not only through the re-deployment of resources within RBFRS but by improving existing partnerships with the focus on data sharing with other agencies, in particular, the Police, the Ambulance Service and the Berkshire Unitary Authorities.

Worthy of note, RBFRS is currently leading a project on data sharing with the three Thames Valley Fire and Rescue Services and the Police, aimed at reducing arson and deliberate fires in the community.

For detailed information on RBFRS Strategic Planning Process and the Best Value Framework, access Royal Berkshire Fire Authority's 2004-05 Corporate Plan at www.rbfrs.co.uk under Latest News.

ORGANISATIONAL RISK REGISTER AND IRMP

During 2004 RBFRS has also developed its risk register to illustrate the organisational risks that have been identified. IRMP is an important part of this register as the diagram below illustrates.



The columns show the five major areas of risk: Regional Management Boards, Integrated Risk Management Planning, Human Resources and Training, Health and Safety and Corporate Governance. Overarching each of these key work areas, is the need to develop further Business Continuity arrangements and to comply with Comprehensive Performance Assessment criteria which will now be applied to Combined Fire Authorities.

The diagram above shows the risk register being supported by two layers of foundation, comprising of key personnel and workloads/stress. This highlights the importance of effective human resource planning, combining the areas of integrated personal development and resource allocation. Together, they ensure that all personnel are developed to undertake the roles they have been assigned, and that all projects are properly resourced to avoid inflicting undue pressure on any particular part of the organisation.

The risk register illustrates the key themes that evolved from work completed in order to identify and to quantify risks to the organisation. By focusing upon these challenges the organisation will develop additional control measures to strengthen identified areas of vulnerability.

Risk Management

Hazards, for example, fires, road traffic accidents and chemical spillages have the potential to cause harm. Risk, is the chance of that hazard occurring. The ability to reduce the likelihood of hazards occurring, and where they occur in order to minimise the harm done, is called Risk Management.

STATUS REPORTS ON YEAR I PROJECTS

As stated earlier, RBFA's initial IRMP concentrated on the strategic changes taking place in the service. This has involved moving from nationally prescribed response standards that focused on the risk to property, to a more flexible approach with resources targeted to meet local needs with the emphasis on prevention as well as intervention.

For more detail on Standards of Fire Cover, please access section 2 of the Year I IRMP at www.rbfrs.co.uk under IRMP Consultation.

At the time the first IRMP was produced RBFRS was not in a position to evaluate effectively operational risks existing across the County of Berkshire for inclusion in the inaugural document. Because a large amount of the required evidence needed to inform change was not available in a usable format, the decision was taken to focus on early improvements where sufficient knowledge and data existed. The early improvements identified for attention in the Year I Action Plan are the subject of a progress report on pages 15-23. During Year I resources have been used to develop the IRMP process to produce more sophisticated and detailed information for the future.

Following publication of the first draft IRMP in October 2003, RBFRS implemented a consultation process with key stakeholders over a 12-week period. Consultation is a fundamental part of the IRMP process so that proposed changes can be commented upon and views expressed before the plans are finally adopted and put into action. Internal stakeholders consisting of all Fire Authority employees, both operational and non-operational, were consulted during briefings. External stakeholders were sent copies of the IRMP for comment.

Focus groups were also engaged along with radio interviews and newspaper advertisements. Posters and leaflets were displayed in public areas. A private television company was commissioned to produce a video display presenting information over a five day period in Reading town centre. Following this consultation, the plan was ratified for implementation by RBFA at its meeting in March 2004 with no amendments.

All representative bodies within the organisation were consulted as part of the process. In addition, representatives from the FBU continue to be positively engaged with the ongoing process.

Results of the consultation process can be found at [Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service's website www.rbfrs.co.uk](http://www.rbfrs.co.uk) under IRMP consultation.

Response to Automatic Fire Alarms

Project Progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project on target for Nov 2004 consultation. • Improvements identified for Apr 2005 implementation. • Draft policies and monitoring arrangements in place.
Recommendations	<p>The main recommendations for change are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce attendances to automatic fire alarms based on risk assessment. • Partnership working with specific premises to reduce numbers of recurring false alarms.
Efficiency Savings Identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential financial savings of up to £60,000 per year through a reduction in the use of part-time fire crews. • Potential savings of up to 15,000 wholetime fire fighter hours saved.
Reinvestment of Efficiency Savings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conditional upon the successful outcome of pilot schemes, financial savings will be used to fund community safety initiatives by part-time fire fighters. • Wholetime fire fighter hours saved will be used for community safety initiatives including home fire risk assessments.
Resource Requirements for Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further development of data collection systems required. • Visits to specific premises likely to increase. • Data analysis may need to be refined.
Likely Impact on Year II IRMP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In addition to the implementation of the recommendations, there are likely to be further development requirements for data gathering.

Remedial work carried out by the team has already resulted in a 5% decrease in automatic fire alarms since 1 April 2004. In real terms, during the four month period since 1 April 2004, compared to the same period last year, calls have reduced from 1,429 to 1,360.

Co-Responder Scheme

Project Progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project on target for Nov 2004 consultation. • Improvements identified for Apr 2005 implementation. • Draft policies and monitoring arrangements in place.
Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend and objectively monitor the scheme at two further sites as appropriate. • Run pilot schemes at two further retained stations over a six-month period. These will be monitored and managed in partnership with Royal Berkshire Ambulance NHS Trust.
Efficiency Savings Identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct financial savings to the Fire and Rescue Service have not been identified. • However, greater efficiency to local communities arises from the use of professional fire fighters utilising additional skills in a wider forum to help save lives. This is in line with the vision of RBFRS working towards 'A Safer Berkshire'.
Reinvestment of Efficiency Savings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilising existing resources to provide a potentially life saving service in partnership with the Royal Berkshire Ambulance NHS Trust.
Resource Requirements for Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The initial work to establish pilot schemes will involve resources from both RBFRS and the Royal Berkshire Ambulance NHS Trust. <p>When implemented, the additional monitoring and review process can be absorbed within existing resources. There are no financial implications for RBFRS as the schemes will be fully funded by the Ambulance Trust.</p>
Likely Impact on Year II IRMP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The implementation stage of this project will have a resource implication within the Service Delivery Directorate.

Review Aerial Appliances

Project Progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project on target for Nov 2004 consultation. • Improvements identified for Apr 2005 implementation.
Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The main recommendation for change will be to reduce the mobilisation of aerial appliances to incidents based on risk assessment.
Efficiency Savings Identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential time saving of 800 hours per year has been identified.
Reinvestment of Efficiency Savings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wholetime fire fighter hours saved will be used for community safety initiatives, including home fire risk assessments in areas of potential and actual high risk.
Resource Requirements for Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change of policy and procedures identified. • Training needs identified. • Minimum impact on resource requirements.
Likely Impact on Year II IRMP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimal.



Recruitment: Part-Time Fire Fighters

Project Progress	<p>Project unlikely to be on target for the consultation phase in Nov 2004 due to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project is reliant on both National and Regional initiatives that have not yet reported on key issues. • New data collection systems, to capture information not currently available, are having an impact on the project time scales. • A methodology has been developed to identify recruitment and retention needs for specific geographic areas within the county. • Consultation arrangements have been developed with part-time fire fighters in order to gather opinions and ideas on how RBFRS can improve part-time recruitment and retention. These arrangements include the use of a staff questionnaire, dedicated e-mail box and a drop-in centre.
Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information not yet available.
Efficiency Savings Identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The methodology that has been developed will result in targeting of recruitment campaigns to specific areas of the county where shortages of fire fighters have resulted in delays in attending life risk incidents.
Reinvestment of Efficiency Savings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information not yet available.
Resource Requirements for Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information not yet available.
Likely Impact on Year II IRMP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project will continue into Year II IRMP with the project team fully involved.

Hoax Calls

Project Progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project on target for Nov 2004 consultation. • Improvements identified for Apr 2005 implementation. • Draft policies and monitoring arrangements in place. • Partnership working developed and funding achieved with the Vodafone Foundation, which includes working with young people and schools to reduce the number of hoax calls.
Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RBFRS Control challenging potential hoax callers. • Establish direct link between RBFRS Control and Community Safety Department to identify and to take action regarding persistent hoax callers. • In order to test the arrangements, a pilot scheme will be implemented in a targeted area by RBFRS Control. • Policies and monitoring procedures already in place.
Efficiency Savings Identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential financial savings of up to £1500 per year through a reduction in the use of part-time fire crews. • Potential time saving of up to 1100 wholetime fire fighter hours per year has been identified.
Reinvestment of Efficiency Savings <div data-bbox="97 1532 708 1800" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p><i>Remedial work carried out by the team has already resulted in a 20% decrease in hoax calls since 1 April 2004. In real terms, during the four month period since 1 April 2004, compared to the same period last year, calls have reduced from 236 to 190.</i></p> </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conditional upon the successful outcome of pilot schemes, financial savings will be used to fund community safety initiatives by part-time fire fighters. • Wholetime fire fighter hours saved will be used for community safety initiatives, including home fire risk assessments, in areas of potential and actual high risk.
Resource Requirements for Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training requirement for Control staff. • Impact on Community Safety team in taking action regarding persistent hoax callers.
Likely Impact on Year II IRMP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimal.

Motorway Accidents

Project Progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project on target for Nov 2004 consultation. • Improvements identified for Apr 2005 Implementation. • Draft policies and monitoring arrangements in place. • Partnership working with Thames Valley Police developed.
Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue partnership working with Thames Valley Police in attending motorway incidents. • Monitor the arrangements to ensure the project continues to meet its objective to reduce the number of resources committed to motorway incidents.
Efficiency Savings Identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial indications are that some financial savings are probable. These are difficult to quantify at present until the monitoring process has had time to measure the outcomes.
Reinvestment of Efficiency Savings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crews not committed to motorways will be able to resume community safety activities.
Resource Requirements for Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies and monitoring arrangements already in place so resource implications are minimal.
Likely Impact on Year II IRMP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimal

Detailed information on RBFRS performance relating to the Year I projects on Automatic Fire Alarms, Aerial Appliances, Hoax Calls, Co-responders Retained Recruitment and Motorway Accidents can be viewed at www.rbfrs.co.uk under IRMP consultation.

Data Collection

<p>Project Progress</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p><i>A project led by RBFRS has resulted in a system being developed that enables the three Thames Valley Fire and Rescue Services (Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire) to share information on arson and deliberate fire setting with each of the Basic Command Units across the Thames Valley Police area. This is aimed at assisting the Police with quicker identification and detection of offenders.</i></p> </div>	<p>Data collection systems successfully developed to better inform the IRMP process through the use of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More sophisticated risk maps incorporating census and operational data. • Data sharing and information exchange with key stakeholders including Police, Ambulance and Local Authorities. • Enhancements made to performance monitoring systems to include better management of future IRMP projects. • Setting up of a data gathering team and support structure.
<p>Recommendations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To refine further the data gathering process through continued investment in IT systems and reviewing resource requirements. • Develop arrangements with other agencies and Local Authorities to share and refine the available data.
<p>Efficiency Savings Identified</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The savings already identified within the Year I Action Plans have been due to the analysis of the data collected. • By further investment in IT systems, potential efficiency savings may be identified across all areas of service delivery.
<p>Reinvestment of Efficiency Savings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through the data gathering project, efficiency savings have been identified which are reflected in the other Year I projects.
<p>Resource Requirements for Implementation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial bid of £25k required for the next financial year to enhance the data gathering and analysis process.
<p>Likely Impact on Year II IRMP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data gathering, analysis and display now form an integral part of RBFRS approach to IRMP. • The impact on the Support Services Directorate for Year II will be considerable.

Consultation Strategy

Project Progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft policy and guidance now in place to cover all consultation requirements.
Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed scheme to commence Nov 2004 incorporating consultation requirements for both Year I and Year II IRMP's.
Efficiency Savings Identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introducing a comprehensive and inclusive consultation process covering all RBFRS consultation requirements will reduce the level of resource and the time taken for individual consultation arrangements. This will also achieve a more targeted focus for consultation.
Reinvestment of Efficiency Savings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not yet available. Direct financial savings are not identifiable. Indirect savings, arising from a reduction in officers time are believed to be possible.
Resource Requirements for Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a significant financial impact in providing an effective consultation process. A financial bid of £20k will be required for the next financial year.
Likely Impact on Year II IRMP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Once completed, the revised consultation process will become an inherent aspect of the Service's business arrangements.



YEAR I ACTION PLANS -- FINANCIAL DIAGNOSTIC 2004/05

Project	Project Cost £'s *	Potential Efficiency Savings	Financial	Time (Hours) **
Hoax Calls	£4,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wholetime Fire fighter hours • Retained turnout fees 	£1,500	1100 (£15,000)
AFA's	£5,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wholetime Fire-fighter hours • Retained turnout fees 	£60,000	15,000 (£200,000)
Aerial Appliances	£2,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wholetime Fire fighter hours 		800 (£20,000)
Retained Recruitment	£15,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information not yet available 		
Data Collection	£4,000	N/A		
Motorways	£2,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information not yet available 		
Co-Responder	£3,000	N/A		
Consultation	£2,500	N/A		
Totals	£38,500		£61,500	16,900 (£235,000)

* Project cost is defined by the projected total of officer hours taken to complete the project.

** The hours saved have been multiplied by the average paid hourly rate for a fire fighter to give an indication of the financial impact of the savings.

SUMMARY OF POTENTIAL REINVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Financial reinvestment £61,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conditional upon the successful outcome of pilot schemes, financial savings will be used to fund community safety initiatives by part-time fire fighters. These will include home fire risk assessments in areas of potential and actual high risk.
Reinvestment of time for wholetime fire fighters 16,900 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wholetime fire fighter hours saved will be used for community safety initiatives, including home fire risk assessments, in areas of potential and actual high risk. This provides a further 6.5 hours per appliance crew, per watch, per month, that can be invested in community safety activities throughout the year.

FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS AND CHANGES ACHIEVED THROUGH IRMP

IRMP has demanded changes to the organisational structure of RBFRS. In particular, a re-structure of the Support Services Directorate has resulted in clearer identification of roles and responsibilities needed to resource IRMP. Further changes are now proposed which will result in a re-deployment of existing resources to support the Year II and subsequent IRMP's.

The organisation's IT strategy has also been reviewed, resulting in the emergence of short and long term plans to deal with further data gathering demands. This also links to proposed re-deployment of personnel within the IT department. Significant staff investment has been made to provide risk and project management training. This has improved the underpinning knowledge and understanding of those involved in the IRMP process.

These changes have resulted in all but one of the Year I projects being delivered on time and in accordance with prescribed guidance. In addition, these changes coupled with major developments in the data gathering processes have enabled better identification of the risks in the local community.

YEAR II PRIORITIES

During 2004 work was undertaken to develop the IRMP within the Organisational Risk Register. This work has helped to identify and to quantify risks to the community and to determine where resources should be prioritised for the Year II IRMP Action Plan. A risk assessment procedure was adopted that considered the likelihood and potential severity of different scenarios of the Fire & Rescue Services work. These were then systematically considered against existing responses and arrangements. The outcome was a list of priorities that now form the basis of the Year II IRMP Action Plan.

The priorities are:

- Dwelling fires
- Road Traffic Accidents
- Deliberate & Secondary Fires
- Sleeping Risks
- Other Buildings
- Major Incidents

Potential for other projects was considered through the risk assessment process. Subject to consultation outcomes, potential projects that have not been proposed for the Year II Action Plan will be included in subsequent years. Amongst these potential projects were:

- Major Public Events
- Other Operations
- Hazardous Chemicals
- Heritage Sites
- Incident Command System



YEAR II ACTION PLAN

The Year II Action Plan will refocus resources made available from the outcomes of the Year I Action Plan into reducing risk and creating a 'Safer Berkshire'. The Fire and Rescue Service cannot do this alone and needs to develop work further with other agencies and Local Authorities to identify priorities with them and to achieve complementary activities where it is appropriate to do so.

RBFRS also needs to continue to raise its profile in the community as identified from the findings of a public opinion survey carried out in 2003. The survey was sent to 4,000 householders in Berkshire seeking views on fire risk awareness, the presence of fire safety equipment, the use of fire precautions and opinion on the service provision.

RBFRS scored average or better compared to other Fire and Rescue Services with the exception of four areas namely:

- Number of respondents with a planned escape route from their home in the event of a fire.
- Number of respondents with a fire extinguisher in their home.
- Number of respondents who knew fire safety advice was available from the Fire and Rescue Service.
- Number of respondents who knew inspections of commercial and business premises were available from the Fire and Rescue Service.

The projects identified for inclusion in the Year II Action Plan will help to raise public awareness in these areas.

As a result of the proposed Fire & Rescue Services Act 2004, all Fire & Rescue Authorities will assume additional statutory responsibilities including:

- Community Fire Safety
- Road Traffic Accidents
- Other Emergencies

These additional responsibilities are incorporated within the Year II Action Plan.

DWELLING FIRES

Dwelling fires represent the greatest potential threat of injury and loss of life from fire in Berkshire. The map below shows the county of Berkshire highlighting those areas where the potential for a fire involving injury or loss of life to occur is more likely. The dark red areas show where the risk of such incidents is at its highest, with the risk diminishing as the colour changes from orange, to yellow, blue and lastly green.

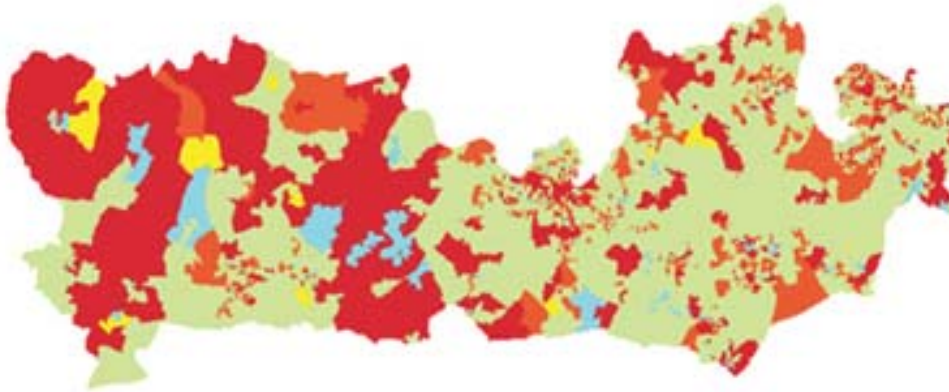


Figure 2: Areas of highest risk of fatalities in dwelling fires predicted by Fire Services Emergency Cover Model

Previously, similar types of property fires attracted an identical response anywhere in the county. With the benefit of improved data collection and analysis it is now possible to demonstrate that in areas of the county where there is greater potential risk, due to occupancy, different risk treatments are appropriate.

Fires in Dwellings	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04
Accidental dwelling fires	553	493	546
Deliberate dwelling fires	74	69	67

Last year in Berkshire, fire fighters attended 546 accidental fires in homes. These fires resulted in 77 injuries and 6 deaths.

It is therefore proposed that the Year II Action Plan for dwelling fires will focus on:

- Utilising resources during times of low risk to carry out community safety activities in actual and potential high risk areas. Using this system will allow operational crews to carry out community safety activities targeted in the highest priority areas regardless of geography. For example, this could be achieved by using firefighting crews from Reading to undertake such activities in the West Berkshire area.
- Monitoring speed and weight of attack to known low risk incidents to avoid deployment of resources engaged in safety activities in high risk areas. Utilising such a scheme would allow firefighting crews to carry out community safety activities, such as home fire risk assessments, without being disrupted by incidents where the potential risk is low. Examples of such incidents would be small rubbish fires, where the next nearest available appliance could attend.
- Developing and extending to other parts of the county, the project with Slough Borough Council to retrofit sprinklers in high risk properties (HMO's).
- Development of Public Service Agreements (PSA's) in order to reduce risk.

ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

The Year I data gathering project identified that data for traffic accidents held by RBFRS needed to be developed to enable the Service to plan fully on how to reduce the numbers of traffic accidents in Berkshire. Risk Maps are therefore being developed through the Thames Valley Safer Roads Partnership. The map below shows the County of Berkshire with the location of road traffic accidents reported to the Police for 2003/04.



Figure 3: Thames Valley Police road traffic accident information for Berkshire.

During 2002 there were 2,921 road traffic accidents resulting in 488 people being killed or seriously injured on Berkshire roads.

The average number of road traffic accident related injuries per year in Berkshire during the four year period 1994 to 1998 was 4,066 (Figures from Department of Transport).

Data gathering during the Year I IRMP has helped identify areas and times of the day where accidents are more likely to occur. This is one area where the work of RBFRS is complementary to that of the other Emergency Services, Hospitals, Local Authorities and other agencies. In order to link with the preventative work being undertaken by these agencies, the Year II Action Plan will focus on:

- Developing campaigns with other agencies in high risk areas.
- Seeking to develop PSA's in order to reduce risk.
- Monitoring speed and weight of attack to known low risk incidents to avoid deployment of resources engaged in safety activities in high risk areas. Utilising such a scheme would allow firefighting crews to carry out community safety activities, such as road safety campaigns, without being disrupted by incidents where the potential risk is low. Examples of such incidents would be small rubbish fires where the next nearest available appliance could attend.

DELIBERATE AND SECONDARY FIRES

Deliberate and secondary fires continue to represent a significant drain on RBFRS resources and the overall effects on society are immense. Apart from the human suffering that arson can cause, financial implications can run into the millions, sites of natural beauty in woodland areas and heritage buildings can be put at risk, and all manner of day-to-day activities are needlessly disrupted.

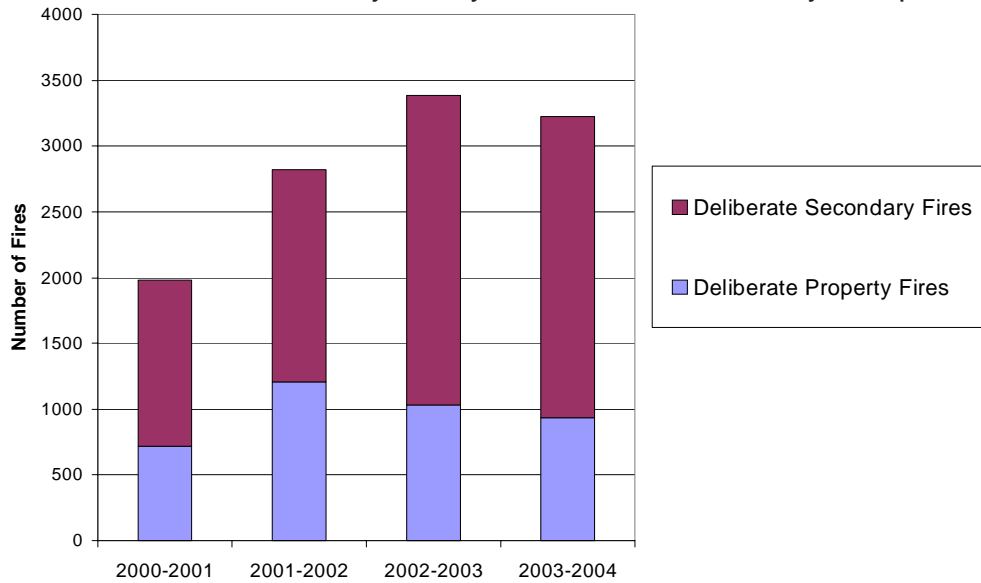


Chart 3: Total number of deliberate fires in Berkshire Apr 2000 - Mar 2004

Deliberate vehicle fires in Berkshire		
2001/02	2002/03	2003/04
864	714	617

The Police Reform Act 2002 places a duty on Fire & Rescue Authorities to work with the Police & Local Authorities in Community Safety Partnerships to identify crime and disorder problems in their area and to develop and implement a strategy to tackle them.

It is therefore planned that the Year II Action Plan will focus on:

- Develop PSA's in order to reduce risks.
- Fully participating in the Local Strategic Partnerships within Berkshire.
- Monitoring speed and weight of attack to known low risk incidents to avoid deployment of resources engaged in safety activities in high risk areas. Utilising such a scheme would allow firefighting crews to carry out community safety activities, such as home fire risk assessments, without being disrupted by incidents where the potential risk is low. Examples of such incidents would be small rubbish fires, where the next nearest available appliance could attend.

SLEEPING RISKS

New legislation in the form of a regulatory reform order will fundamentally change the role of Fire & Rescue Services:

- Responsibility for Fire Safety in non-domestic premises will rest with the owner or occupier which will include the need to produce written fire risk assessments.
- RBFRS will no longer issue Fire Certificates but will inspect premises based on the level of life risk.

The Fire Safety Department has developed an inspection programme that prioritises visits to premises with high life risk. The Year II IRMP risk assessment process has further identified sleeping risk premises, for example houses of multiple occupancy (houses split into flats / bed sits), as an area of high life risk. It is therefore planned that the Year II Action Plan for sleeping risk premises will focus on:

- Re-prioritising the inspection regime to place greater importance on sleeping risk premises.
- Developing a strategy in order to capture data relating to other buildings through information sharing and new technology.

The chart below illustrates how resources in the Fire Safety Department of RBFRS have been gradually diverted from the traditional work of fire certification to carry out inspections based on life risk. This has resulted in an increase of 67 risk based inspections since February 2004 compared to the previous six month period to January 2004.

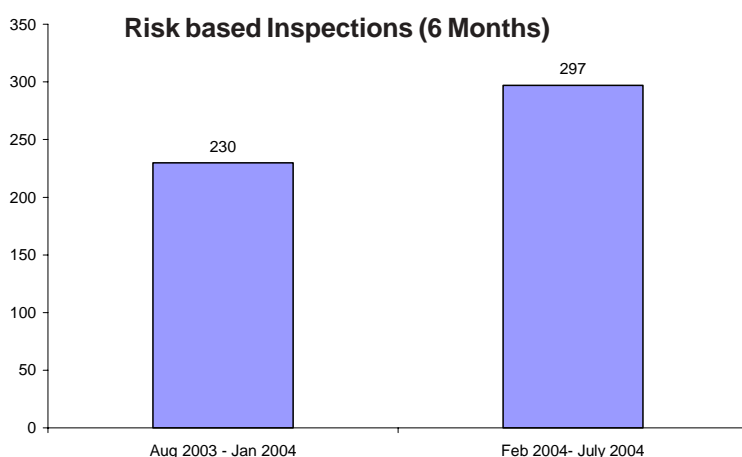


Chart 4: Number of risk based inspections carried out by RBFRS.

OTHER BUILDINGS

Previously, Fire Cover Standards were based on property, rather than the nature of the occupancy, this has now changed. These changes can be summarised as follows:

- Speed and weight of attack to building fires will now be based on actual risk and planning scenarios.
- Detailed information, most importantly the occupancy, will be gathered and recorded to assist the risk assessment process.

The Year I Data Gathering Project has identified an gap with regard to the information held on other buildings in Berkshire such as:

- Heritage sites
- Commercial sites
- High rise premises
- Other premises that may present a risk

It is therefore planned that the Year II Action Plan for other buildings will focus on:

- Developing a strategy in order to capture data relating to other buildings through information sharing and new technology.

MAJOR INCIDENTS

Major Incidents such as widespread flooding, air and rail accidents, adverse weather and acts of terrorism occur infrequently. However, the Government's Resilience Agenda requires Fire and Rescue Services to develop plans to ensure their continued ability to function in the event of major incidents. The Fire & Rescue Services Act 2004 and the Civil Contingency Bill, when enacted, will impose additional responsibilities on Fire & Rescue Services to equip, train and prepare for these eventualities and to be able to sustain operations over several days or weeks.

As part of this preparation and the National Framework document, RBFRS will need to consider:

- The location, training and crewing of specialist vehicles.
- The role of part time fire fighters.

It is already known that changes are proposed to emergency cover arrangements in South Buckinghamshire. In particular, the proposed change of crewing at Marlow fire station from part time to 24 hour shift crewing will have an effect on emergency fire cover in the surrounding area, this includes Cookham. These changes provide an opportunity to focus on resources at Cookham fire station that may be better used to support major incident preparedness, rather than just being utilised to attend incidents in the local area.

For more detail on the Fire and Rescue Service National Framework 2004/05 please refer to www.rbfrs.co.uk under Quick Links.

It is therefore planned that the Year II Action Plan for major incidents will focus on:

- Reviewing the crewing of specialist vehicles to ensure RBFRS has the ability to sustain resources at a major incident in command and specialist areas.
- Developing business continuity plans.
- Reviewing the use of Cookham Fire Station.

Officers from RBFRS will continue to attend the South East Fire and Rescue Services IRMP Practitioners Group, and other Regional Management Board working parties to adopt collaborative responses at major incidents. Closer working arrangements at regional level will ensure that each Fire and Rescue Service will be better prepared to sustain operations over a prolonged period, should it be required.

The following key areas have been identified within the Year II Integrated Risk Management Plan:

- Dwelling Fires
- Road Traffic Accidents
- Deliberate and Secondary Fires
- Sleeping Risks
- Other Buildings
- Major Incidents

The following Year II Action Plan outlines the areas of focus, outcomes, resources and time scales for each of these key areas.

To assist in delivering the outcomes of these key areas it is important that operational fire crews are involved in community safety initiatives.

Current arrangements are that fire fighters at wholetime shift stations are not required to perform any duties, other than responding to emergency calls and performing essential maintenance of kit, all day on Public Holidays and between midnight and 7am on other working days.

It should be noted that currently some fire crews in Berkshire have voluntarily attended events during Public Holidays to support community safety activities, even though they were not required to do so.

The Fire Authority wishes to extend this good practice and to increase the productive hours available to firefighters to carry out community safety activities, for example, home fire risk assessments.

It is therefore proposed that in order to support community safety activities, changes to the night shift and Public Holiday activities of operational crews will be made, appropriate to the requirements of the Integrated Risk Management Plan and within the role and responsibilities of fire crews.

*RBFRS performance against the targets set for 2004/05 will be published
in the 2005/06 Corporate Plan in June 2005.
This will also be available at www.rbfrs.co.uk*

Key Area: Dwelling Fires

Fires in dwellings represent the greatest potential threat of injury and loss of life than any other fire related incidents in Berkshire. To reduce this risk the following areas will be the subject of focus for the Year II Action Plan.

Areas of Focus	Outcome	Project Team	Start Date	Completion
Utilising operational crews for community safety activities when there is clear evidence that the likelihood of them being required for fire fighting and rescue is low.	<p>To have developed a system to identify times and areas of low risk across the county.</p> <p>To have developed a system of identifying areas of actual and potential high risk.</p> <p>To have developed targeted community safety activities in order to re-deploy crews and appliances to deliver community safety in the form of home fire risk assessments.</p>	DO (CS) and Community Safety Team.	April 2005	Sept 2005
Monitoring speed and weight of attack to known low risk incidents to avoid deployment of resources engaged in community safety activities in high risk areas.	To have a robust mobilising policy, based on risk, which will ensure a minimum impact on crews engaged in community safety activities.	DO (SS) and cross-functional team.	April 2005	Sept 2005
Developing and extending to other parts of the county, the project with Slough Borough Council to retrofit sprinklers in high risk properties (houses of multiple occupancy).	To have developed additional partnership working with unitary authorities to drive down risk using sprinklers in high risk properties.	DO (CS) and Community Safety Team.	April 2005	Sept 2005
Development of PSA's in order to reduce risk.	To have developed more PSA's in order to drive down risk and secure additional funding.	DO (CS) and Community Safety Team.	April 2005	Sept 2005

Key Area: Road Traffic Accidents

To reduce the risk of road traffic accidents by better targeting of preventative work and linking in with other agencies, the following areas will be the subject of focus for the Year II Action Plan.

Areas of Focus	Outcome	Project Team	Start Date	Completion
Developing campaigns with other agencies in high risk areas.	To have developed road safety initiatives through partnership working with other emergency services and agencies.	DO (CS) and Community Safety Team.	April 2005	Sept 2005
Seeking to develop PSA's in order to reduce risk.	To have investigated the possibility of future PSA's within this new area of responsibility.	DO (CS) and Community Safety Team.	April 2005	Sept 2005
Monitoring speed and weight of attack to known low risk incidents to avoid deployment of resources engaged in safety activities in high risk areas.	To have a robust mobilising policy, based on risk, that will ensure a minimum impact on crews engaged in road safety activities.	DO(SS) and cross-functional team.		Sept 2005



Key Area: Deliberate and Secondary Fires

Deliberate and secondary fires represent a significant drain on RBFRS resources, to reduce this risk the following areas will be the subject of focus for the Year II Action Plan.

Areas of Focus	Outcome	Project Team	Start Date	Completion
Develop PSA's in order to reduce risk.	To have developed further PSA's in order to drive down risk and secure additional funding.	DO (CS) and Community Safety Team.	April 2005	Sept 2005
Fully participating in the Local Strategic Partnerships within Berkshire.	To further develop Local Strategic Partnerships to drive down the risk and secure additional funding.	DO (CS) and Community Safety Team.	April 2005	Sept 2005
Monitoring speed and weight of attack to known low risk incidents to avoid deployment of resources engaged in safety activities in high risk areas.	To have a robust mobilising policy, based on risk that will ensure a minimum impact on crews engaged in community safety activities.	DO (SS) and cross - functional team.	April 2005	Sept 2005



Key Area: Sleeping Risk

The Fire Safety Department has developed an inspection programme prioritising premises with high life risk. The Year II IRMP Risk Assessment Process has further identified sleeping risk premises as an area of high life risk. It is therefore planned that the Year II Action Plan for sleeping risks will focus on the following areas.

Areas of Focus	Outcome	Project Team	Start Date	Completion
Implementation of a prioritised inspection regime based on life risk.	To have developed and implemented a risk based inspection programme and policy giving priority to life and sleeping risk.	DO (FS) & cross functional team.	April 2005	Sept 2005
Developing a strategy in order to capture data relating to other buildings through information sharing and new technology.	To have further developed partnership working with other agencies and authorities. To share data in order to identify other high-risk buildings.	DO (SS) and IT Team.	April 2005	Sept 2005



Key Area: Other Buildings

The Year I Data Gathering project has identified an information gap with regard to the data held on other buildings in Berkshire. It is therefore planned that the Year II Action Plan for other buildings will focus on the following areas.

Areas of focus	Outcome	Project Team	Start Date	Completion
Developing a strategy in order to capture data relating to other buildings through information sharing and new technology.	To have further developed partnership working with other agencies and authorities in order to share data relating to other buildings. On completion of phase one of this project an analysis will be undertaken to identify any information gaps along with a strategy to strengthen internal data gathering systems.	DO (SS) and IT Team.	April 2005	Sept 2005



Key Area: Major Incidents

Major Incidents such as widespread flooding, air and rail accidents, adverse weather and acts of terrorism occur infrequently. However, the Government's Resilience Agenda requires Fire and Rescue Services' to develop plans to ensure their continued ability to function in the event of major incidents. As part of this preparation RBFRS will focus on the following areas.

Areas of Focus	Outcome	Project Team	Start Date	Completion
Review crewing and location of specialist vehicles to ensure RBFRS has the ability to sustain resources at a major incident in command and specialist areas.	<p>To have in place a system of crewing and location of specialist vehicles, that will maximise the ability to deliver and sustain resources at a major incident.</p> <p>To have considered and planned for the introduction of new specialist vehicles that may form part of the New Dimensions Programme.</p>	<p>DO (SS) and cross-functional team.</p> <p>This will be an initial team to identify the needs and methodology for the project.</p>	Oct 2004	Oct 2004
Development of business continuity plans.	To have a business continuity plan in place to reduce the risk to the organisation.	Head of Financial Services and Risk Management Group.	April 2005	Sept 2005
Review of Cookham Fire Station.	To have in place a strategy for the future use of Cookham Fire Station following the proposed changes to emergency cover arrangements in South Buckinghamshire.	DO (Ops) and cross-functional team.	April 2005	Sept 2005

Aerial Appliance

Any vehicle with a High Rise capability above the reach ladders carried on our pumping appliances. In RBFRS the term relates to the Aerial Ladder Platform and Hydraulic Platform appliances both having a reach of 30 metres.

Automatic Fire Alarm

Automatically operated fire alarm signal usually generated from electrically operated smoke or heat 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 a fire alarm.

Appliance

Fire Appliance. A Fire and Rescue Service vehicle. Usually taken to be a pumping appliance maintained for Fire and Rescue purposes. See also Pump.

Community Safety

Activity that is taken to educate, inform members of the public and specific parts of the community to reduce the incidence or severity of fires occurring within the community.

Control

Dedicated premises for the receipt of emergency calls and for the mobilisation of appliances, equipment and personnel required to deal with emergency incidents.

Co-responder Scheme

An initiative that has been undertaken to provide limited medical support by firefighters to the Ambulance Service in local communities.

Fire Cover Standards

Prescriptive Standards to enable Fire Authorities to provide Fire and Rescue resources according to the types of property and standards of risk.

Fire Safety

Officers of the Fire and Rescue Service comment on plans and inspect premises to provide advice and to ensure that adequate safety standards are being provided.

Houses of Multiple Occupation

Any house or other type of dwelling occupied by other than single family units.

IPDS

Integrated Personnel Development System. System of training for all personnel designed to provide a set of standards for individual roles

IRMP

Integrated Risk Management Plan. A plan designed to ensure an integrated approach to address risks that have been identified and to implement priorities in a controlled way.

New Dimension Programme

A specific programme designed to increase resilience to terrorist and or other threats. The programme is led by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister as part of a national resilience programme.

Public Service Agreements

Community Safety Partnership agreements between the Fire and Rescue Service and specific local authorities with individually determined targets according to local priority.

Pump

Fire Appliance. Crewed with 4 or 5 persons. See Appliance above.

Retained

Part time fire fighters who provide incident response provisions in a number of areas of the county

Risk Mapping

The recording of Risks on the Fire and Rescue Service's electronic maps (GIS). By collecting data on risks regarding individual properties and types of occupancy the Fire and Rescue Service are able to develop a pictorial representation of risk information. A number of overlays have now been developed with individual risk profiles displayed.

Specialist Vehicles

Any appliance, other than a pumping appliance, provided by the Fire and Rescue Service. The RBFRS has a number of specialist vehicles used for a variety of purposes including, Incident Command and Support, Rescue and High Rise work.

Stakeholders

Any person or organisation likely to be affected by, use, involved in, or having an interest in the work of the Fire and Rescue Service.

CONSULTATION

Consultation on this draft Integrated Risk Management Plan will be undertaken during the winter of 2004. Views from the community of Berkshire, political representatives, partner organisations and other interested stakeholders will be sought during this time.

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 using one of the following:

- Comment in writing using the sheet on the following page and **FREEPOST** envelope provided (no stamp required)
- Email at 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

The results of the consultation will be published on our Website soon after the closing date of December 31st 2004.

If you wish to include your details, the Service can respond to you on any of the issues you have raised on the following page.

Name

Address

.....

.....

..... **Postcode**

Daytime Telephone Number

Thank you for your assistance.

Royal Berkshire Fire & Rescue Service is keen to ensure that its Consultation with the public is effective and inclusive. To help the Service in this area, it is requested that you complete the monitoring information below. The data provided will be used to help Royal Berkshire Fire & Rescue Service evaluate its consultation procedures.

Royal Berkshire Fire & Rescue Service **guarantees** that upon receipt of your consultation reply the information provided on this monitoring sheet will be separated from the personal information provided by yourself on other parts of your consultation reply. It is **guaranteed** that the information provided by you will be used for no purpose other than to help improve the delivery of a Fire & Rescue service.

Age Range:							
up to 25		26-35		36-45		46-55	56 & over

Ethnic Origin:		Do you consider yourself to be:							
Black African		Black Caribbean		Black British		Black Other		White British	
Indian		Chinese		Pakistani		Bangladeshi		Irish	
Other (specify)				First Language:					

Consultation Source:		How did you first become aware of this Consultation document?					
Website		Through the post		Radio		Television	
Newspaper		As a RBFRS employee		Word of mouth		Other (specify)	

Location:		Are you located in?					
West Berkshire		Reading Borough		Wokingham District		Bracknell Forest	
Maidenhead		Windsor		Slough Borough		Other (specify)	