

Tell us what you think about our plans for keeping people safe in Berkshire 2020 to 2023



Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service



What's inside?



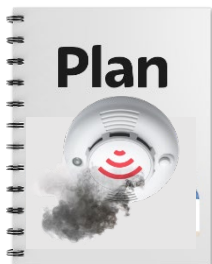
Introduction 3



Planning for risk 5



About us 9



Our plans 11



Tell us what you think 38



What happens next? 41



Introduction



The Government has written a set of rules that all fire and rescue organisations must follow.



As part of this work **Royal Berkshire Fire Authority** wants to find out what you think about our **3** plans:



1. A **Prevention** Plan



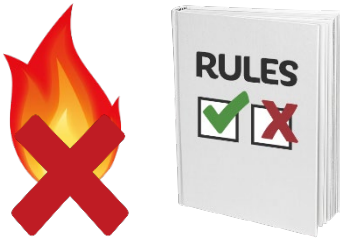
This plan is about **preventing** fires and other emergencies from happening in the first place



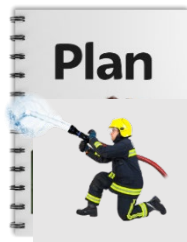
2. A **Protection** Plan



This plan is about **protecting** local people at risk when **fire safety rules** are not met.



Fire safety rules are the things that must be done to keep a building safe from fire.



3. A **Response** Plan



This plan is about **responding** to fires and other emergencies.



If you tell us what you think about our **3 plans** it will help us to run a better fire and rescue service.



Planning for risk

Every fire and rescue service needs to understand the **risks** and dangers in their local area.



A **risk** is something which can lead to harm.



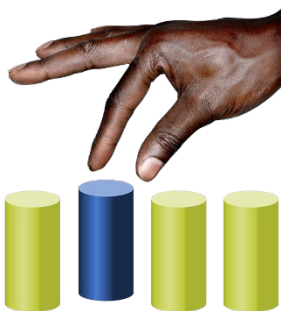
Royal Berkshire Fire Authority must plan how to make Berkshire as safe as possible, using our equipment and people in the best way.



To find out what happened the last time we asked local people about our plans go to www.rbfrs.co.uk and search for '**consultation**'.



The choices we make now may change the way we work and how we run services.





Whatever we do, we must make sure Berkshire is safer for everyone.



We want our services to be better and to support local people.



We will do this by working with local councils, the police, the ambulance service and charities.





Getting feedback from local people



The law says that all fire and rescue services must get feedback from local people and organisations.



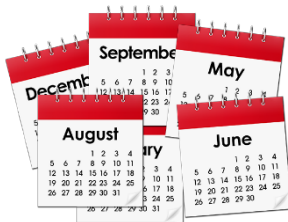
Royal Berkshire Fire Authority has **4** rules about getting feedback:



1. We should get your feedback when we are still working on new ideas or plans



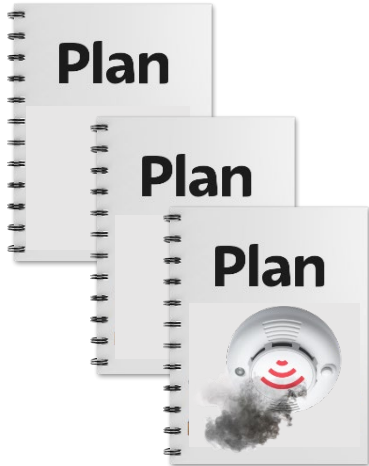
2. Everyone should have enough information to tell us what they think



3. Everyone should have enough time to reply



4. **Royal Berkshire Fire Authority** should spend enough time looking at your feedback before we make any choices.



We want to know what you think of our **3** plans so that:



- we have enough information to keep local people safe



- we can run a good fire and rescue service for local people



About us

The 3 most important things we do are:

Prevention



The work we do to **prevent** fires and other emergencies from happening in the first place

Protection



The work we do to **protect** local people at risk when **fire safety rules** are not met.

Response



This work we do to **respond** to fires and other emergencies.



We run **18 fire stations** across Berkshire in **2** different ways:

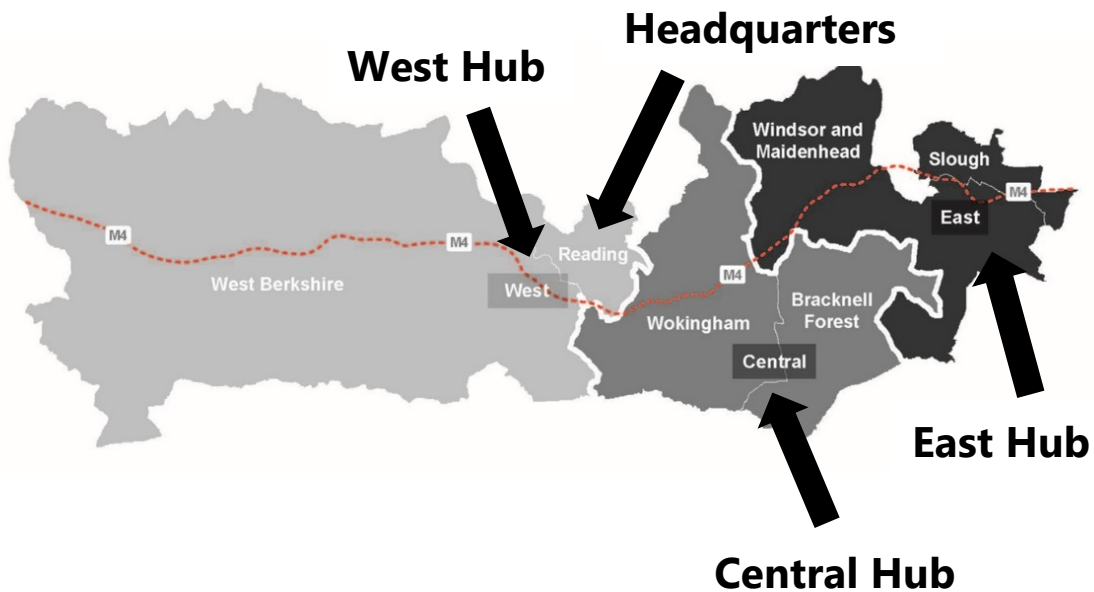


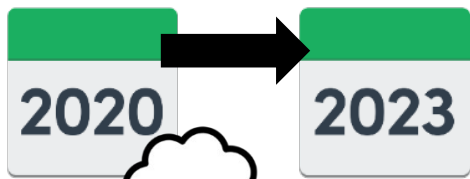
1. In some fire stations usually in big towns, there are firefighters at the station all the time.



2. In some fire stations usually in smaller towns, the firefighter gets a call when there is an emergency.

Our fire stations are managed by teams in **4** offices - the Central Hub, East Hub, West Hub and our Headquarters.





Our plans



We want to know what you think about our 3 plans for **2020** to **2023**.



The plans explain what we are going to do to cut down the number of fires and other emergencies.



And to keep people safe in Berkshire.



Our Prevention Plan



Find out more about our work to prevent fires and other emergencies please read our **Prevention Plan**. It explains how:



- **Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service** will carry out safety visits to people's homes in Berkshire.



- these safety checks help to make local people safer and make sure they have support if they need it.



- we work with the police, the ambulance service and other organisations to find people who are most at risk



- we will find vulnerable people and share this information with other organisations such as social services and housing services.



There are **5** ideas in our **2020** to **2023** **Prevention Plan**:



Idea 1 - Carry out extra **Safe and Well Visits** to check if vulnerable people are still at risk after our first visit.



Idea 2 – Carry out **Safe and Well Visits** based on risk to people or risk to the houses they live in.



Idea 3 – Carry out road safety activities for motorcyclists, as they are the road users most at risk.



Idea 4 - We will support children and young people through our visits to schools, **Fire Cadets** and **FireSafe**.

Fire Cadets are young people who take part in activities.



FireSafe is how we work with young people whose behaviour could lead to fire.



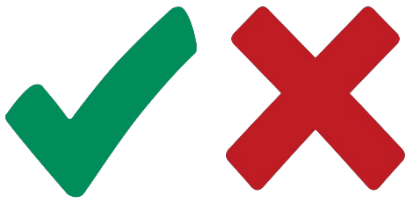
Idea 5 – Try out a **Fire Safe** programme for adults.



After reading this document and the **Easy Read Prevention Plan**, please answer these **5** questions.



Question 1 - Do you agree that we should carry out extra **Safe and Well Visits** to the most vulnerable people?



Yes or No?



Please give us any other feedback in the box below:





Question 2 – Carry out **Safe and Well Visits** based on risk to people or risk to the houses they live in.



Yes or No?



Please give us any other feedback in the box below:





Question 3 – Do you agree that we should carry out road safety activities for motorcyclists?



Yes or No?



Please give us any other feedback in the box below:





Question 4 – Do you agree that we should support children and young people through road and water safety education, Fire Cadets and Fire Safe?



Yes or No?



Please give us any other feedback in the box below:





Question 5 – Do you agree that we should start a **FireSafe** programme for adults?



Yes or No?



Please give us any other feedback in the box below:





Protection Plan

Find out more about our work to **protect** local people at risk from **fire safety rules** not being met, please read our **Protection Plan**.



The law says **Royal Berkshire Fire Authority** must check that building owners follow **fire safety rules** and take action if they do not.

We do this by:



- giving feedback on plans for new buildings or changes to old buildings



- carrying out checks to make sure **fire safety rules** are being followed



- taking action if building owners do not follow **fire safety rules**, which could mean fining the owner



- taking legal action against building owners that do not follow **fire safety rules**



In the **Protection Plan** we explain:



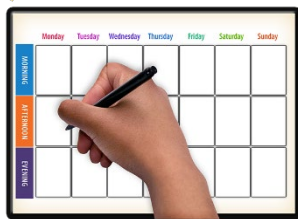
- how we are going to make Berkshire safer



- how the **Grenfell Tower Fire** has changed the way we work



There are **2** ideas in our **2020 to 2023 Protection Plan:**



Idea 1 – We will set up a timetable of checks to look closely at the:



- Buildings that are at risk of not meeting **fire safety rules**.



- Building owners that are not likely to follow **fire safety rules**.



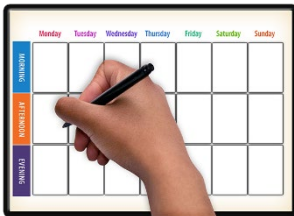
Idea 2 – We will change how we work as **building regulations** and **fire safety rules** change.



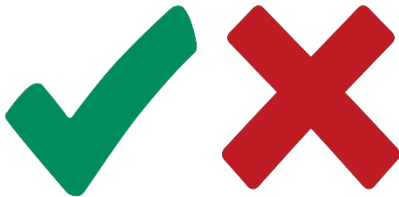
Building regulations are **fire safety rules** that need to be followed.



After reading this document and the **Protection Plan**, please answer these questions.



Question 6 – Do you agree that we should set up a timetable of checks to make sure **fire safety rules** are followed?



Yes or No?



Please give us any other feedback in the box below:





Question 7 – Do you agree that we should change how we work as **fire safety rules** change?

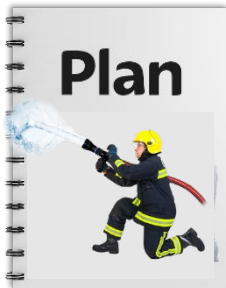


Yes or No?



Please give us any other feedback in the box below:





Response Plan

Find out more about how we **respond** to fires and other emergencies please read our **Response Plan**.



The law says all fire and rescue services must:



- put out fires in their area



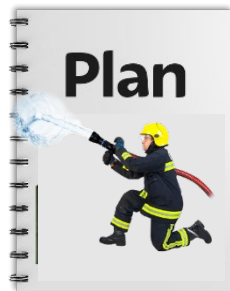
- protect people and buildings if there is a fire in their area



- rescue and protect people if they are in a road accident



- rescue and protect people in other emergencies.



There are **6** ideas in our **Response Plan 2020 to 2023**:



Idea 1 – From **2020** to **2021** we will find out if our **water rescue service** can meet local need and works in the best way possible.



Idea 2 – From **2021** to **2022** we will find out if our **technical rescue service** can meet local need and works in the best way possible.



Idea 3 – From **2022** to **2023** we will find out if our **incident support service** can meet local need and works in the best way possible.



Idea 4 – We will think about new ways to make response times faster in the West of Berkshire.



Idea 5 - We will carry on planning for risks and emergencies in the same way.



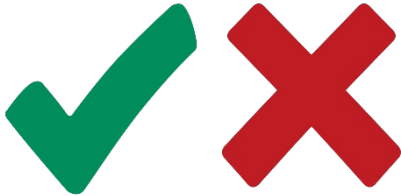
Idea 6 - We will ask the Government for more money so that we can carry on working in the best possible way.



After reading this document and the **Response Plan**, please answer these questions.




Question 8 – Do you agree that we should find out if our **water rescue service** can meet local need and works in the best way possible?



Yes or No?



Please give us any other feedback in the box below: 



Question 9 – Do you agree that we should find out if our **technical rescue service** can meet local need and works in the best way possible?



Yes or No?

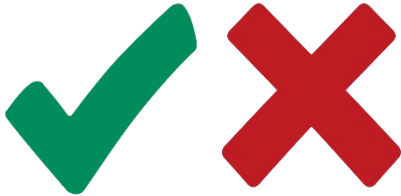


Please give us any other feedback in the box below:





Question 10 – Do you agree that we should find out if our **incident support service** can meet local need and works in the best way possible?



Yes or No?



Please give us any other feedback in the box below:



Question 11 – Do you agree that we should think about new ways to make response times faster in the West of Berkshire?



Yes or No?

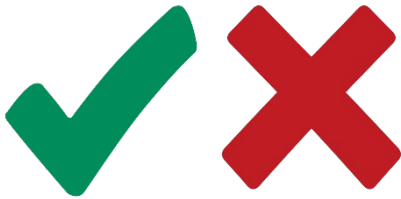


Please give us any other feedback in the box below:





Question 12 – Do you agree that we should carry on planning for risks and emergencies in the same way?



Yes or No?

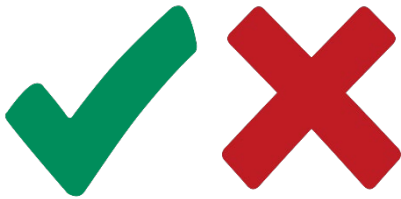


Please give us any other feedback in the box below:





Question 13 – Do you agree that we should ask the Government for more money to make sure we can continue to provide the same level of service?



Yes or No?



Please give us any other feedback in the box below:





Royal Berkshire Fire Authority, like all fire and rescue organisations, can only spend the money it gets from the Government, local people and businesses.



Our budget from **2019** to **2020** was **£34 million**.



From **2010** to **2020** we saved over **£7 million**.



Royal Berkshire Fire Authority must run services that are value for money.



We get most of our funding from Council Tax.



The rest of our funding is from the Government and local businesses.



In the last **5 years** Government funding has decreased by a large amount.



But we have carried on running a good service in Berkshire.



But have had to do a lot of extra work with local councils and building owners after the **Grenfell Tower Fire**.



We have a **15-year plan** to make sure our equipment, fire stations and computers are up-to-date.



To carry on providing a good fire and rescue service we would like to increase Council Tax by £5 a year.



If we cannot increase Council Tax, we will have to make savings.



If we made more savings, it would take us longer to respond to emergencies.



We do not want to do this.



Question 16 – Would you support an increase of **£5** in Council Tax for Band D properties from **April 2021**?



Yes or No?



Please give us any other feedback in the box below:





Tell us what you think



We would like your feedback from
Monday 2 March 2020



to **Monday 27 April 2020.**



Your views are important because they will help us decide how we run services in the future.



Write to us with your comments, ideas or views at:

Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service, IRMP Consultation,
Newsham Court,
Pincents Kiln, Calcot,
Reading,
Berkshire, RG31 7SD



Send your comments on our website at: www.rbfrs.co.uk/consultation



Email us at irmp@rbfrs.co.uk



Call **0118 938 4331** and leave us a message.

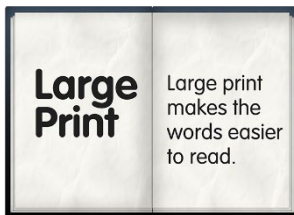


Other ways to read this document

Please get in touch if you would like this document and the **3 plans**:



- as a paper copy



- in large print



- in another accessible format



- in a different language.



Follow us on:



- Twitter - [@RBFRSOfficial](https://twitter.com/RBFRSOfficial)



- Facebook – [RoyalBerksFRS](https://www.facebook.com/RoyalBerksFRS)



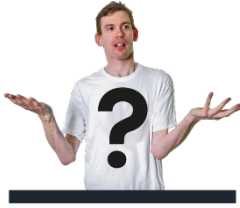
- Instagram - [RoyalBerkshireFire](https://www.instagram.com/RoyalBerkshireFire)



- Youtube - [RoyalBerkshireFRS](https://www.youtube.com/RoyalBerkshireFRS)



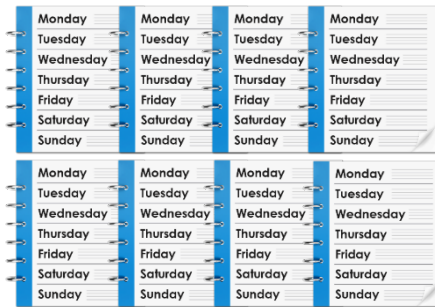
- LinkedIn – [Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service](https://www.linkedin.com/company/Royal-Berkshire-Fire-and-Rescue-Service)



What happens next?



From Monday 2 March 2020



There is 8 weeks for local people, local organisations and **Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service** staff to give us their feedback.



Monday 27 April 2020

This is the last day to send in your feedback



After this date the work begins on writing report about all your feedback.



Thursday 25 June 2020



A **Royal Berkshire Fire Authority** meeting to talk about what is going to happen next.

Members of the public are welcome at this meeting.



July 2020



Work will start on the changes to the service in July.



The report telling you what we are going to do will be on our website www.rbfrs.co.uk