



Annual Plan 2026-27

Rationale for Amendments to Measures and Targets

Introduction

The Annual Plan 2026-27 includes amended targets for some of our Corporate Measures. These changes are the result of our maturing understanding of risk in our communities and evaluation of current performance.

Key amendments are the updating of our corporate measure relating to operational risk sites where we are moving from a target tracking performance of a small group of officers to one which more accurately reflects our performance against the corporate risk we are trying to mitigate. We will continue to monitor service level measures across all quadrants. We have made amendments to target in line with previously agreed methodology, unless that results in an unacceptable change to the target, for example using a rolling average for the number of non-fatal fire casualties would result in an increase when our objective is to reduce the number year on year, and deviation from the methodology is outlined below. It should also be noted that our rolling average now starts to remove any covid periods and as such we return to environmental and behavioural factors as the key influencers.

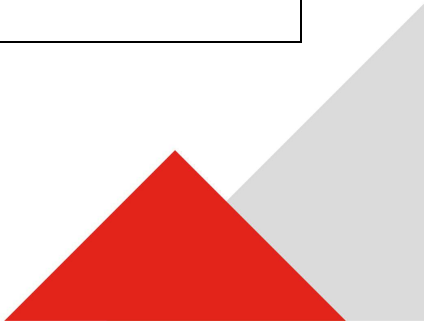
We have added a focus on our financial efficiency and as a result removed two measures which we continue to track internally but will no longer publish.

Further detail setting out the rationale for these proposed changes is below. (The numbering of measures will be changed this year due to the addition and removal of measures throughout the list).

CM Reference	Amendment
CM2 Number of Non-Fatal Fire Casualties	The 5-year average has been calculated with latest data (to Q3 2025/26). Based on rolling average of 38, calculations show: 5% = 36, 10% = 35, 15% = 33. Rationale – Measure purpose to reduce/maintain: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15% reduction to decrease target from previous year could prove too challenging to sustain. Recommend no change to target. Target set to 34 (max)
CM3 Number of Deliberate Primary Fires	5% reduction on 5-year average calculated with data to Q3 2025/26. Target of 102 max set based on 5-year average of 112.



<p>CM4 Number of Deliberate Secondary Fires</p>	<p>5% reduction on 5-year average calculated with data to Q3 2025/26. Target of 194 set based on 5-year average of 204</p>
<p>CM5 Increase in the number of Safe and Well partner referrals in areas identified as having low uptake in previous 2 years.</p>	<p>NEW/AMENDED The goal has shifted to focus on our lowest performing areas. The target of 5% increase remains. Over the years the service has seen increases more than our target in specific areas, at times resulting in an impact on our ability to respond to safe and well visit demands (as seen in our corporate measures related to completion rates). We continue to monitor service levels on the quality of the referrals to support our ability to complete visits in a timely manner.</p>
<p>CM6 Percentage of Safe and Well referrals, where there has been a threat or incidence of arson, completed within 48 hours</p>	<p>No change, however, we would note the following: Decision at Q3 2025/26 to reflect figure as all visits achieved against all referrals. This removed rationale for exclusions which were previously deemed as achievable/unachievable.</p>
<p>Success when cases go to court (was CM12 in 2025/26)</p>	<p>REMOVED</p>
<p>CM 18 Percentage of Very High, High and Medium operational risk sites with no in date operational risk visit.</p>	<p>NEW (replacing old CM17 Ops Risk Measure) This measure will now focus on ensuring that our overdue visits are completed and we expect the percentage compliance to decrease over time to a point where 0% will be maintained. The shift in focus is to manage the organisational risk to our firefighters rather than a service level measure more focussed at process than risk. Service level measures will support and evidence this at an operational level, we will maintain the old measure as it is required for external reporting (HMICFRS), station completion rates and number of sites etc.</p>
<p>CM20 Percentage of Automatic Fire Alarm calls where RBFRS did not attend. (was CM19 in 25/26)</p>	<p>AMENDED - Suggest rise from 45% to 50%. - Figures to Q3 2026 show target exceeded year to date. - NB: 2025/26 45% target % was based on six months data and overview of other services. - The 45% target has been achieved quarterly since Policy change. - Benchmarked data shows Berkshire as below England average since 2021/22, rising in 2024/25 (with AFA policy change).</p>
<p>CM21 Number of Service Delivery Hub exercises completed (was CM20 in 25/26)</p>	<p>AMENDED - No change to target but proposal for 12 exercises to be an annual figure instead of three per quarter. This allows for planning and changes beyond our control.</p>
<p>CM30 Delivery of Efficiency Plan Savings (Year 1)</p>	<p>NEW - A new measure to demonstrate tracking of our actual financials against baseline savings</p>





CM31 Working hours saved through improved ways of working	NEW – This measure is intended to support our productivity and efficiency plan by tracking the hours saved.
Monitoring the annual completion of the mandatory Protecting Information Course	REMOVED - We are tracking all our mandatory training requirements through our Workforce Planning Group
CM35 Percentage of fully up to date and complete retention schedules (was CM33 in 25/26)	AMENDED - The target remains 100% but with a change of wording to include keeping them up to date and we will use auditing as our tool for compliance





Additional Information

Home Office Incident Type Definitions

Primary fires are potentially more serious fires that harm people or cause damage to property and meet at least one of the following conditions:

- any fire that occurred in a (non-derelict) building, vehicle or (some) outdoor structures
- any fire involving fatalities, casualties or rescues
- any fire attended by five or more pumping appliances

Primary fires are split into four sub-categories:

- **Dwelling fires** are fires in properties that are a place of residence i.e. places occupied by households such as houses and flats, excluding hotels/hostels and residential institutions; dwellings also includes non-permanent structures used solely as a dwelling, such as houseboats and caravans
- **Other buildings fires** are fires in other residential or non-residential buildings; other (institutional) residential buildings include properties such as hostels/hotels/B&Bs, nursing/care homes, student halls of residence etc; non-residential buildings include properties such as offices, shops, factories, warehouses, restaurants, public buildings, religious buildings etc
- **Road vehicle fires** are fires in vehicles used for transportation, such as cars, vans, buses/coaches, motorcycles, lorries/HGVs etc; 'Road vehicles' does not include aircraft, boats or trains, which are categorised in 'other outdoors'
- **Other outdoors fires** are fires in either primary outdoor locations (that is, aircraft, boats, trains and outdoor structures such as post or telephone boxes, bridges, tunnels etc.), or fires in non-primary outdoor locations that have casualties or five or more pumping appliances attending

Purpose-built flat/maisonette fires are split into three sub-categories:

- fires in purpose-built low-rise (1-3 storeys) flats
- fires in purpose-built medium-rise (4-9 storeys) flats
- fires in purpose-built high-rise (10+ storeys) flats

Additionally, the relevant data can be found under the 'property type' variable in the [spreadsheet](#) on the [guidance page](#).

Secondary fires are generally small outdoor fires, not involving people or property. These include refuse fires, grassland fires and fires in derelict buildings or vehicles, unless these fires involved



casualties or rescues, or five or more pumping appliances attended, in which case they become primary fires.

Chimney fires are fires in buildings where the flame was contained within the chimney structure and did not involve casualties, rescues or attendance by five or more pumping appliances. Chimneys in industrial buildings are not included and are included under primary fires.

Accidental fires include those where the motive for the fire was presumed to be either accidental or not known (or unspecified).

Deliberate fires include those where the motive for the fire was 'thought to be' or 'suspected to be' deliberate. This includes fires to an individual's own property, others' property or property of an unknown owner. Despite deliberate fire records including arson, deliberate fires are not the same as arson. Arson is defined under the Criminal Damage Act of 1971 as 'an act of attempting to destroy or damage property, and/or in doing so, to endanger life'.

Late fire calls are fires attended by an FRS which were known to be extinguished when the call was made (or to which no call was made) and the fire came to the attention of the FRS by other means (e.g. press report or inquest). Such fires are recorded if an attendance is made (even if for inspection only) but are not recorded if no attendance is made.

Fatal fires are those that result in at least one fatality that would not have otherwise occurred had there not been a fire.

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