



DEVON & SOMERSET FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY

**M. Pearson
CLERK TO THE AUTHORITY**

**To: The Chair and Members of the
Community Safety Committee**

(see below)

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COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE
(Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Authority)

Wednesday, 27 April, 2022

A meeting of the Community Safety Committee will be held on the above date,
**commencing at 10.00 am in Committee Room A, Somerset House, Devon &
Somerset Fire & Rescue Service Headquarters** to consider the following matters.

M. Pearson
Clerk to the Authority

AGENDA

***PLEASE REFER TO THE NOTES AT THE END OF THE AGENDA LISTING
SHEETS***

- 1 Apologies**
- 2 Minutes (Pages 1 - 4)**
of the previous meeting held on 9 February 2022 attached.
- 3 Items Requiring Urgent Attention**
Items which, in the opinion of the Chair, should be considered at the meeting as matters of urgency.

PART 1 - OPEN COMMITTEE

4 **Strategic Priority 1 and 2 Performance Measures: Quarter 3 2021-22 (Pages 5 - 18)**

Report of the Director of Service Delivery (CSC/22/6) attached.

5 **Risk-Based Inspection Programme (Pages 19 - 26)**

Report of the Director of Service Delivery (CSC/22/7) attached.

6 **Prevention - Children and Young People (Pages 27 - 36)**

Report of the Director of Service Delivery (CSC/22/8) attached.

MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO SIGN THE ATTENDANCE REGISTER

Membership:

Councillors Chesterton (Chair), Biederman, Corvid, McGeough, Parker-Khan, Radford (Vice-Chair) and Redman.

NOTES

1. **Access to Information**

Any person wishing to inspect any minutes, reports or lists of background papers relating to any item on this agenda should contact the person listed in the “Please ask for” section at the top of this agenda.

2. **Reporting of Meetings**

Any person attending a meeting may report (film, photograph or make an audio recording) on any part of the meeting which is open to the public – unless there is good reason not to do so, as directed by the Chair - and use any communication method, including the internet and social media (Facebook, Twitter etc.), to publish, post or otherwise share the report. The Authority accepts no liability for the content or accuracy of any such report, which should not be construed as representing the official, Authority record of the meeting. Similarly, any views expressed in such reports should not be interpreted as representing the views of the Authority.

Flash photography is not permitted and any filming must be done as unobtrusively as possible from a single fixed position without the use of any additional lighting; focusing only on those actively participating in the meeting and having regard also to the wishes of any member of the public present who may not wish to be filmed. As a matter of courtesy, anyone wishing to film proceedings is asked to advise the Chair or the Democratic Services Officer in attendance so that all those present may be made aware that is happening.

3. **Declarations of Interests at meetings (Authority Members only)**

If you are present at a meeting and you are aware that you have either a disclosable pecuniary interest, personal interest or non-registerable interest in any matter being considered or to be considered at the meeting then, unless you have a current and relevant dispensation in relation to the matter, you must:

- (i) disclose at that meeting, by no later than commencement of consideration of the item in which you have the interest or, if later, the time at which the interest becomes apparent to you, the existence of and – for anything other than a “sensitive” interest – the nature of that interest; and then
- (ii) withdraw from the room or chamber during consideration of the item in which you have the relevant interest.

If the interest is sensitive (as agreed with the Monitoring Officer), you need not disclose the nature of the interest but merely that you have an interest of a sensitive nature. You must still follow (i) and (ii) above.

Where a dispensation has been granted to you either by the Authority or its Monitoring Officer in relation to any relevant interest, then you must act in accordance with any terms and conditions associated with that dispensation.

Where you declare at a meeting a disclosable pecuniary or personal interest that you have not previously included in your Register of Interests then you must, within 28 days of the date of the meeting at which the declaration was made, ensure that your Register is updated to include details of the interest so declared.

	NOTES (Continued)
4.	<p><u>Part 2 Reports</u></p> <p>Members are reminded that any Part 2 reports as circulated with the agenda for this meeting contain exempt information and should therefore be treated accordingly. They should not be disclosed or passed on to any other person(s). Members are also reminded of the need to dispose of such reports carefully and are therefore invited to return them to the Committee Secretary at the conclusion of the meeting for disposal.</p>
5.	<p><u>Substitute Members (Committee Meetings only)</u></p> <p>Members are reminded that, in accordance with Standing Orders, the Clerk (or his representative) must be advised of any substitution prior to the start of the meeting. Members are also reminded that substitutions are not permitted for full Authority meetings.</p>
6.	<p><u>Other Attendance at Committees)</u></p> <p>Any Authority Member wishing to attend, in accordance with Standing Orders, a meeting of a Committee of which they are not a Member should contact the Democratic Services Officer (see “please ask for” on the front page of this agenda) in advance of the meeting.</p>

COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE

(Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Authority)

9 February 2022

Present:

Councillors Chesterton (Chair), McGeough, Radford (Vice-Chair), Redman, Coles and Randall Johnson (vice Parker-Khan)

Apologies:

Councillor Corvid

* **CSC/21/10 Minutes**

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 2 November 2021 be signed as a correct record.

CSC/21/11 Draft Community Risk Management Plan

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Service Improvement (CSC/22/1) recommending to the Fire & Rescue Authority the approval of the draft Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP) for 2022 to 2027 following incorporation of feedback received during the public consultation exercise which closed on 14 January 2022.

The Director of Service Improvement advised the Committee that the public consultation had been extensive, with 250 individual responses received in addition to the 1700 responses to the pre-consultation exercise undertaken in 2021, the result of which had been fed into the draft CRMP prior to the public consultation exercise. He added that the CRMP was an iterative document and that an annual review would be undertaken to ensure that the Service could address any emerging risks in future years.

Reference was made to a change in appliance type at certain stations and an explanation was requested of the Service's reasoning behind this. The Director of Service Delivery advised that the Service had undertaken a review of its vehicles and their location under its Fleet Replacement Plan to ensure that it had matched its resources to risk appropriately which accorded with its Community Risk Management Plan. This process had been undertaken with staff and stakeholder engagement and an explanation had been given to each station as to why each vehicle was being placed in its location. The Committee requested that all Members of the Authority be kept apprised of such matters or any other contentious information in future to assist them in responding to queries from the public. The Chief Fire Officer responded that more clarity may be needed in terms of the type and means of providing this information whereupon it was suggested that this matter be discussed at a future Members' Forum.

The Committee also referred to the Emergency Response Standards for fires and Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs) and asked if the target set was realistic for urban areas bearing in mind the delays that could occur at key, busy times in the day. The Director of Service Delivery confirmed that the target had been set following extensive research into the survivability of a person some years back and was:

- 10 minute response for primary fires (75%); and
- 15 minutes for RTCs.

It was acknowledged that the impact of changes in fire safety such as the increased use of smoke alarms, more modern appliances, less chip pan fires and so on may have impacted on the survivability of a person in recent years. There may be a piece of work that could be undertaken in the future to look into this.

RESOLVED that the Authority be recommended to approve the draft Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP) for 2022 to 2027 as set out at Appendix A of report CSC/22/1.

* **CSC/21/12 Strategic Priority 1 and 2 Performance Measures: Quarter 2 2021**

The Committee received for information a report of the Director of Service Delivery (CSC/22/2) that set out the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) against which the Service’s performance in relation to the Strategic Objectives for Quarter 3 of 2021-22 was measured.

The performance status of the Service KPIs is based on the following criteria:

- Succeeding - The KPI is achieving its target.
- Near target - The KPI is less than 10% away from achieving its target.
- Needs improvement - The KPI is at least 10% away from achieving its target.

The Committee noted that performance to quarter 2 of 2021-22 was as follows:

	Succeeding	Near target	Needs improvement
Priority 1	8	10	1
Priority 2	8	4	0

There was one KPI requiring improvement – KPI 1.1.4.1 on the number of Home Fire Safety Visits completed. This area was the subject of a full review with an exception report was included within report CSC/22/1. A full report on Home Safety Visits was also included elsewhere on the agenda for this meeting.

The Committee expressed its thanks for the quality of report and performance presented.

NB. Minute CSC/21/14 below also refers.

* **CSC/21/13 Fire Engine Availability**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Service Delivery (CSC/22/3) that set out details of fire engine availability within Devon and Somerset based on statistics over a five-year period from December 2016 to November 2021 for:

- Standard pump availability;
- Risk prioritised availability; and
- Risk dependent availability.

Availability had been recognised as a risk in the previous iteration of the CRMP, the Integrated Risk Management Plan. Whilst there had been a decline in the availability of risk dependent pumps (December 2017 to December 2020) as a result of a decline in the numbers of retained duty system staff which had impacted on Emergency Response Standards (ERS), the efforts made by the Service with the advent of Pay for Availability to improve the On Call system had started to result in signs of improvement. It was early in the development of this system, however, thus it was recommended that a review of the position was undertaken in 12 months' time to gauge any further improvement.

The Committee expressed its thanks for the excellent work undertaken on the Pay for Availability system.

Councillor Redman **MOVED** (seconded by Councillor McGeough) an amendment to recommendation (b). in report CSC/22/3 to add:

“that a follow up paper be provided in 6 months as well as 12 months' time”.

Upon a vote, this amendment was **CARRIED** unanimously.

RESOLVED that the Committee:

- (a). noted the contents of this paper as suitable evidence to support scrutiny of strategic objective 2a as agreed by the Authority namely:
 - Provide response resources at times and in locations relevant to identified risks of fires and other emergencies
- (b). received a follow-up paper in 6 and 12 months' time and included this item on the Committee's forward agenda.

NB. Minute CSC/21/12 above and CSC/21/15 below also refer.

* **CSC/21/14 Home Fire Safety Visits**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Service Delivery (CSC/22/4) that set out the background to the instigation of Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSV) and the Service's approach to targeting the most at risk groups of people in the community for such a visit.

The report covered, amongst other matters:

- The impact of prevention activity and the Home Fire Safety Check;
- The Home Fire Safety Visit process in Devon and Somerset;

- The targeting of at risk groups;
- The Service's capacity to deliver Home Fire Safety Visits;
- The risk factors employed in targeting the most vulnerable in the community;
- The Service's Community Safety Strategy 2018-22; and
- The National Fire Chiefs' Council (NFCC) person centric framework.

The Director of Service Delivery reported that the Service's target for HFSV was 18,000 per year. Capacity was based on having 25 full time equivalent technician's posts to deliver specialist home fire safety visits to the most vulnerable people likely to die in a fire. The technicians were able to deliver between 1000 to 1200 visits a month usually. This had been impacted recently by issues such as the Covid-19 pandemic and people being unwilling to let the technicians into their homes to undertake the visits, thus the target was not being met. The Director of Service Delivery added that the Community Safety Strategy was being reviewed currently and integrated with the NFCC's person centric framework. A new online tool was also being developed which would enable those at lower risk from a fire to gain access to information to enable the Service to focus on those at higher risk. The emphasis was being placed on the quality assurance of visits undertaken.

The Chief Fire Officer referred to work being undertaken by the Service's data analysts and advised that a predictor tool was being worked on which could be brought to a future meeting of this Committee for information.

RESOLVED that the report and contents therein be noted as suitable evidence to support scrutiny of strategic objective 1a as agreed by the Fire and Rescue Authority namely:

- deliver interventions and education events to reduce the risk of fire in the community.

NB. Minute CSC/21/12 above also refers.

* **CSC/21/15 Forward Plan 2022-23**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Service Delivery (CSC/22/5) that set out a proposed Forward Plan for the Committee in order to provide appropriate scrutiny against the Authority's Strategic Priorities 1 and 2.

RESOLVED that subject to the inclusion of the following, additional items, the Forward Plan for 2022-23 as set out in report CSC/22/5 be approved:

- Review of fatal fire deaths – July 2022; and
- Interim report on fire engine availability – July 2022.

***DENOTES DELEGATED MATTER WITH POWER TO ACT**

Agenda Item 4

REPORT REFERENCE NO.	CSC/22/6
MEETING	COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE
DATE OF MEETING	27 APRIL 2022
SUBJECT OF REPORT	STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1 AND 2 PERFORMANCE MEASURES: QUARTER 3 2021-22
LEAD OFFICER	DIRECTOR OF SERVICE DELIVERY
RECOMMENDATIONS	<i>That the performance against targets under Strategic Priorities 1 and 2 be welcomed and noted.</i>
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	<p>At its ordinary meeting on 29 June 2021, the Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Authority (the Authority) agreed four Strategic Priorities to guide the activity of the Service (Minute DSFRA/21/9 refers). These Strategic Priorities were also approved for 2022-23 by the Authority at its budget meeting on 21 February 2022 (Minute DSFRA/21/36 refers).</p> <p>It was further agreed that performance against Strategic Priorities 1 and 2 and associated objectives should be reported to this Committee on a regular basis.</p> <p>At its meeting on 26 July 2021, the Committee agreed a set of key performance indicators (KPIs) to maintain scrutiny of Service activity and progress against Strategic Priorities 1 and 2 (Minute CSC/21/2 refers). It was further agreed that a KPI report would be produced for the preceding quarter of the financial year for each subsequent Committee meeting.</p> <p>Appendix 1 of this report presents the Quarter 3 of 2021-22 KPI report for Strategic Priorities 1 and 2.</p>
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	Existing budget and staffing is sufficient to deliver the required improvements
EQUALITY RISKS AND BENEFITS ANALYSIS	N/A
APPENDICES	A. Community Safety Committee 2021-22 Quarter 3 performance report
BACKGROUND PAPERS	<p>Report DSFRA/21/9 (Strategic Policy Objectives 2021-22) to the Authority ordinary meeting held on 29 June 2021 (and the Minutes of that meeting).</p> <p>Report DSFRA/22/2 (Strategic Policy Objectives 2022-23) to the Authority budget meeting held on 21 February 2022 (and the Minutes of that meeting).</p>

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. At its ordinary meeting on 29 June 2021, the Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Authority (FRA) agreed 4 Strategic Priorities to guide the activity of the Service (Minute DSFRA/21/9 refers). These Strategic Priorities were also approved for 2022-23 by the Authority at its budget meeting on 21 February 2022 (Minute DSFRA/21/36 refers).
- 1.2. It was further agreed that performance against Strategic Priorities 1 and 2 and associated objectives should be reported to this Committee on a regular basis.
- 1.3. At its meeting on 26 July 2021, the Committee agreed a set of key performance indicators (KPIs) to maintain scrutiny of Service activity and progress against Strategic Priorities 1 and 2 (Minute CSC/21/2 refers). It was further agreed that a KPI report would be produced for the preceding quarter of the financial year for each subsequent Committee meeting.
- 1.4. Appendix 1 of this report presents the Quarter 3 of 2021-22 KPI report for Strategic Priorities 1 and 2.

2. PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW

- 2.1. The performance status of the Service KPIs is based on the following criteria:
 - Succeeding The KPI is achieving its target.
 - Near target The KPI is less than 10% away from achieving its target.
 - Needs improvement The KPI is at least 10% away from achieving its target.

Performance overview: top level

- 2.2. Table 1 below shows the Service’s performance status overview in Quarter 3 of 2021-22:

	Succeeding	Near target	Needs improvement
Priority 1	11	7	1
Priority 2	8	5	0

- 2.3. There is currently one Priority 1 KPI requiring improvement:
 - KPI 1.1.4.1 - Number of Home Safety Visits completed.
- 2.4. This area has been subject to review and an exception report is included within the performance report attached at Appendix A.

ACFO PETE BOND
Director of Service Delivery



Community Safety Committee

2021/22 quarter three performance report

This report provides an overview of performance against the priorities and objectives that fall within the remit of this Committee.

Alice Murray, Strategic Analyst

Devon & Somerset
Fire & Rescue Service

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 Objective 1.2: we will protect people in the built environment through a proportionate, risk-based approach to the regulation of fire safety legislation. 8

 Objective 2.1: we will maintain accurate, timely and relevant risk information, enabling our operational crews to understand and be prepared to respond to the demand and risks present in their local communities. 9

 Objective 2.2: We will monitor changes in risk to ensure that our resources are most available in the locations necessary to mitigate them. 10

 Objective 2.4: we will support the effective delivery of our frontline services by seeking improvements to our operational resourcing, mobilising and communications functions. 10

 Objective 2.8: we will be prepared to respond to major incidents and support partner agencies. 11

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Introduction

To make sure that we are delivering the best possible service to the communities of Devon and Somerset and its visitors, we need to regularly monitor our performance. This report looks at Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) from the Services' Performance Management Framework that require the scrutiny of the Community Safety Committee.

The KPIs will support us to deliver against two of our four strategic priorities:

Priority 1 – “Our targeted prevention and protection activities will reduce the risks in our communities, improving health, safety and wellbeing and supporting the local economy.”

Priority 2 – “Our operational resources will provide an effective emergency response to meet the local and national risks identified in our Community Risk Management Plan”

The performance status of our KPIs is based on the following criteria:

Succeeding	The KPI is achieving its target.
Near target	The KPI is less than 10% away from achieving its target.
Needs improvement	The KPI is at least 10% away from achieving its target.

When a KPI has a status of “needs improvement”, an exception report will be provided which will contain further analysis and identify whether an additional action needs to be taken to drive improvement. Updates on progress against actions will be provided in future reports until they are closed.

KPIs that are “near target” will be monitored by the lead manager to assess whether performance is likely to improve where appropriate implement tactical changes to influence the direction of travel. No further information will be provided within this report.

Performance overview: top level

Table 1: performance status overview 2021/22 Q3

	Succeeding	Near target	Needs improvement
Priority 1	11	7	1
Priority 2	8	5	0

There is currently one KPI requiring improvement.

- KPI 1.1.4.1 - Number of Home Safety Visits completed (exception report, page 6)

Performance overview: priority one

Objective 1.1: we will work with partners to target our prevention activities where they have the greatest impact on the safety and wellbeing of our communities.

Table 2: KPIs that require improvement

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.
1.1.4.1	Number of home fire safety visits completed	9,236	13,500	-31.6%

Table 3: KPIs that are near to achieving target

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.
1.1.2.2	Rate of dwelling fire fatalities per 100,000 population	0.35	0.32	9.3%
1.1.3.2	Rate of dwelling fire hospitalisations per 100,000 population	4.54	4.28	6.0%
1.1.6.1	Percentage of targeted home safety visits meeting two or more risk criteria	51.5%	60.0%	-8.5%
1.1.10.2	Rate of other primary fire hospitalisations per 100,000 population (excludes dwellings and non-domestic premises)	0.64	0.58	9.0%

1

Table 4: KPIs that are achieving target

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.
1.1.1.2	Rate of dwelling fires attended per 100,000 population	53.18	54.20	-1.9%
1.1.8.2	Rate of other primary fires per 100,000 population (excludes dwellings and non-domestic premises)	45.80	47.26	-3.1%
1.1.9.2	Rate of other primary fire fatalities per 100,000 population (excludes dwellings and non-domestic premises)	0.10	0.11	-4.2%
1.1.11.2	Rate of secondary fires per 100,000 population	91.51	91.90	-0.4%

¹ The actual and target figures within this document are rounded to two decimal places for KPIs that are calculated as a rate. The percentage change is calculated using a higher degree of accuracy, this means that for smaller figures the percentage change may not be derived from the rounded figures presented in this report.

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.
1.1.12.2	Rate of deliberate fires per 100,000 population	78.98	81.87	-3.5%
1.1.13.2	Rate of road traffic collisions per 100,000 population	49.53	52.52	-5.7%
1.1.14.2	Rate of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic collisions per 100,000 population	27.02	27.77	-2.7%

Exception report: number of home safety visits completed

This measure calculates the number Home Safety Visits (HSVs) that have been completed which have met the Home Office requirements of:

- identifying and advising of the potential fire risks within the home
- advising householders what to do to reduce or prevent these risks
- putting together an escape plan in case a fire does break out, and
- ensuring the householder has working smoke alarms.

Analysis

Based on our existing capacity of our home safety technicians and the introduction of doorstep home safety visits, delivered by our wholetime crews, we aim to complete 18,000 home safety visits during the 2021/22 financial year. Our current performance levels are well below the year-to-date target of 13,500 visits.

Table 5: cumulative number of HSVs completed against target, 2021/22



There are two main factors that have affected our ability to deliver the expected level of productivity.

1. COVID-19: understandably, there is still some reluctance from the public to allow our technicians and crews into their homes.
2. The introduction of doorstep home safety visits has taken time to implement. All wholetime watches have now received their training and early indications suggest that this will significantly increase the number of households that we are reaching.

Actions

1. Ensure that performance expectations are clearly communicated to frontline personnel.
2. Review processes and systems relating to the delivery of home safety activities to maximise efficiency and effectiveness.

Objective 1.2: we will protect people in the built environment through a proportionate, risk-based approach to the regulation of fire safety legislation.

Table 6: KPIs that are requiring improvement

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.
--	No KPIs are currently requiring improvement	--	--	--

Table 7: KPIs that are near to achieving target

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.
1.2.4.2	Number of fire safety audits completed (short and full)	411	446	-7.8%
1.2.5.4	Rate of non-domestic false alarms per 10,000 rateable premises (hereditaments)	263.7	256.0	3.0%
1.2.6.1	Percentage of statutory consultations completed to required timescales	99%	100%	-1.0%

Table 8: KPIs that are achieving target

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.
1.2.1.2	Rate of non-domestic premises fires per 10,000 rateable premises (hereditaments)	62.31	62.56	-0.4%
1.2.2.2	Rate of non-domestic premises fire fatalities per 10,000 rateable premises (hereditaments)	0.11	0.14	-20.3%
1.2.3.2	Rate of non-domestic premises fire hospitalisations per 10,000 rateable premises (hereditaments)	1.22	1.38	-11.9%
1.2.4.1	Number of fire safety checks completed	2,233	1,503	48.6%

Objective 2.1: we will maintain accurate, timely and relevant risk information, enabling our operational crews to understand and be prepared to respond to the demand and risks present in their local communities.

Table 10: KPIs that are requiring improvement

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.
--	No KPIs are currently requiring improvement	--	--	--

Table 11: KPIs that are near to achieving target

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.
--	No KPIs are currently near to achieving target.	--	--	--

Table 12: KPIs that are achieving target

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.
M2.1.1.1	Number of local exercises completed	49	36	36.1%
M2.1.1.2	Number of crossborder exercises completed	12	12	0.0%
M2.1.1.3	Number of national exercises completed	2	1	100.0%
M2.1.4.1	Percentage of operational risk information in date - level 3 SSRI	95.4%	94.0%	1.4%
M2.1.4.2	Percentage of operational risk information in date - level 4 tactical plans	100.0%	98.0%	2.0%
M2.2.3.2	Percentage of road traffic collisions attended within 15 minutes of call answer	78.7%	75.0%	3.7%

Objective 2.2: We will monitor changes in risk to ensure that our resources are most available in the locations necessary to mitigate them.

Table 13: KPIs that are requiring improvement

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.
--	No KPIs are currently requiring improvement.	--	--	--

Table 14: KPIs that are near to achieving target

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.
M2.2.3.1	Percentage of dwelling fires attended within 10 minutes of call answer	72.9%	75.0%	-2.1%

Table 15: KPIs that are achieving target

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.
M2.2.3.2	Percentage of road traffic collisions attended within 15 minutes of call answer	78.7%	75.0%	3.7%

Objective 2.4: we will support the effective delivery of our frontline services by seeking improvements to our operational resourcing, mobilising and communications functions.

Table 16: KPIs that are requiring improvement

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.
--	No KPIs are currently requiring improvement.	--	--	--

Table 17: KPIs that are near to achieving target

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.
M2.4.1.1	Risk prioritised pump availability (percentage)	94.8%	98.0%	-3.2%
M2.4.1.2	Standard pump availability (percentage)	78.6%	85.0%	-6.4%
M2.4.3.1	Percentage of calls handled within target time (call answer to resource mobilisation)	83.9%	90.0%	-6.1%

Table 18: KPIs that are achieving target

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.
--	No KPIs are currently achieving target.	--	--	--

Objective 2.8: we will be prepared to respond to major incidents and support partner agencies.

Table 19: KPIs that are requiring improvement

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.
--	No KPIs are currently requiring improvement.	--	--	--

Table 20: KPIs that are near to achieving target

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.
--	No KPIs are currently near to achieving target.	--	--	--

Table 21: KPIs that are achieving target

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.
M2.8.1.1	Availability of national resilience assets (percentage)	100%	100%	0.0%
M2.8.1.2	National resilience competencies in date	100%	100%	0.0%

Glossary

Most terms and definitions can be found within the Home Office Fire Statistics Definitions document: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fire-statistics-guidance/fire-statistics-definitions>

Some other terms are listed below:

Operational risk information: this information is focused on location specific risks posed to firefighters.

Site specific risk information (SSRI): this information is captured for locations that are particularly complex and pose greater levels of risk to our fire-fighters. Visits are made to these locations, hazards identified and plans made on how to respond if an incident occurs.

Risk prioritised pump: there are 56 priority fire engines in our highest risk areas that are essential to enabling us to effectively manage risk levels. There is an expectation that each of these appliances will be available to respond a minimum of 98% of the time.

Standard pump: there are 56 appliances located in less risky areas, but which are still key to ensuring that we are keeping our communities safe. These are all on-call or volunteer appliances and there is an expectation that each appliance will be available at least 85% of the time.

Home fire safety visits: these are visits that are carried out at people's homes by our home safety technicians and wholetime firefighters.

Fire safety checks: FSCs are delivered by our operational crews and provide a basic assessment of fire safety standards within businesses. Where potential issues are identified premises will be referred for a fire safety audit that is conducted by one of our professional fire safety officers.

Agenda Item 5

REPORT REFERENCE NO.	CSC/22/7
MEETING	COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE
DATE OF MEETING	27 APRIL 2022
SUBJECT OF REPORT	RISK-BASED INSPECTION PROGRAMME
LEAD OFFICER	DIRECTOR OF SERVICE DELIVERY
RECOMMENDATIONS	<i>That the report be noted.</i>
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	<p>This paper explains how the Service uses a risk-based inspection programme to enforce the fire safety order within Devon and Somerset. The programme targets our highest risk premises to carry out fire safety audits using staff that are trained in line with the national competency framework. Normal risk premises also have an inspection regime using a fire safety check that can be undertaken by appropriately trained staff.</p> <p>The paper explains the expected number of inspections each year by the Service along with some of the potential risks and challenges that may impact upon delivery.</p>
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	Business as usual. No resource request
EQUALITY RISKS AND BENEFITS ANALYSIS	Complete
APPENDICES	None
BACKGROUND PAPERS	None

1. **INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1. Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service (“the Service”) has a statutory responsibility to promote and enforce the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety Order) 2005 in regulated, non-domestic premises, such as hotels, care homes and other businesses and public and commercial premises.
- 1.2. There have been many approaches to maintaining an inspection plan of regulated premises over the years, but Her Majesties Inspectorate of Constabularies and Fire and Rescue Services have said in the state of fire report, *“To make sure services comply with fire safety legislation services should have a risk-based inspection programme targeted at those premises that present the highest risk”*.
- 1.3. The Service’s protection team also has responsibilities in protection delivery such as Building Regulations, Licencing and attendance at Safety Advisory Committee’s along with business safety education and general public complaints regarding fire safety at premises that can at times compete with the risk-based inspection programme.
- 1.4. There is currently no national definition of what constitutes a “high-risk”, and therefore, it is currently for each individual fire and rescue service to define. However, the National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) has a working party to provide a more consistent national approach, to which this Service contributes. This work is ongoing.
- 1.5. The Service re-defined its definition of “high-risk” in 2021. The Service uses data sources and risk attributes to identify high-risk premises, for example buildings that have the potential for a significant loss of life in the event of a fire such as large hotels and high rise flats that have an evacuation strategy based on ‘stay put’, or phased evacuation, such as health and social care. These premises rely on high levels of fire safety compliance. Other premises include those that will have the largest community impact in the event of a fire.

2. **RISK BASED INSPECTION PROGRAMME**

- 2.1. Following a full review in early 2021, a new definition of ‘Higher Risk’ Premises was established. These premises will be identified as Category 1 premises with the remaining identified as Category 2 ‘Normal Risk’.
- 2.2. The Service ‘High Risk Definition’ (Category 1) is
‘Buildings identified as Category 1 ‘Higher Risk’ are more likely to have vulnerable occupants through unfamiliarity and/or their mobility. They are likely to have evacuation methods consisting of stay put, delayed, or phased/progressive strategies.

Any fire safety failures or lack of compliance places occupants at significant risk due to the critical reliance on the building design and management of any evacuation strategy. Buildings that have the potential to cause significant harm and/or large loss of life in the event of fire, including indirectly due to community impact/loss, will be our highest priority’.

2.3. Category 1 ‘Higher Risk’ Premises are:

Premises Source Data (enabler)	Additional Risk Attributes (at least 1)
Buildings identified within the Operational Risk Information System as requiring a Level 3 Site Specific Risk Information Plan	Used for sleeping/residential (6 Storeys +) Identified via Building Risk Review (18m+) FRED* 90%+ Historical risk rating (Very High & High) Buildings with footprint over 10’000m2 Heritage – Grade 1 status Historical Compliance (Risk Rating) Number = 315
Very large commercial premises	Buildings with footprints 15,000m2 or over Number = 50
Hospitals (Acute Service)	All Hospitals Number = 61
Care Homes (Registered CQC)	15 Beds or more Less than 15 beds + FRED* 90%+ Historical Compliance (Risk Rating) Number = 564
Significant Sleeping Accommodation Providers e.g., hotels, boarding, guest, and party houses etc.	Large Buildings / Providers (500m2 footprint or more or 13.5m height or more) Educational Boarding – FRED* 90%+ Heritage (Grade 1 Listed Status) Historical Compliance (Risk Rating) Number = 579
Annual Intelligence Based Review = Response Identified	Feedback from Internal & External Stakeholders New Buildings Significant Incidents Dynamic
Total = 1508	
*Fire Risk Event Data – Predictive data analytics of fire likelihood (FRED - technical description)	

2.4. Category 1 Premises will be inspected initially every 3 years except for the 6 Regional Hospitals, which in addition to ongoing compliance support, will be inspected annually. The 3-year inspection will reduce to 1 year as recently recruited inspecting officers achieve competence.

2.5. Category 1 Locations

Response Group	No. of premises	%
Torquay Response Group	406	27%
Plymouth Response Group	301	20%
Exeter Response Group	238	16%
Taunton Response Group	214	14%
Yeovil Response Group	181	12%
Barnstaple Response Group	168	11%
Total	1508	100%

2.6. Category 2 'Normal Risk' Remaining Premises – Inspection Triggers:

Premises Source Data (enabler)	Additional Risk Attributes (at least 1)
All remaining regulated premises	<p><i>Proactive:</i> - 70%+ FRED Identified – 3 Year Cycle 70%+ Identified – historical compliance 1 year revisit Incident Trends (Local & National) Thematic Reviews – Sector Specific Joint Inspections - Partners Low complexity - Sleeping Risk (Sample) Any regulated premises Heritage Buildings (Sample) Unwanted Fire Signal (AFA) Reduction</p> <p><i>Reactive:</i> Community Based Intelligence – Reactive – Fire Safety Concerns / Complaints Partner Referrals / Concerns Operational Crews – Intelligence Fire Safety Helpdesk – MOP Concerns Post Fire Inspections Statutory Applications – dynamic visit Spate Conditions / Dynamic Events Number = 150,000+</p>
*Fire Risk Event Data – Predictive data analytics of fire likelihood (FRED - technical description)	

3. FIRE SAFETY INSPECTION OFFICERS (FSIO) DEVELOPMENT AND COMPETENCE REQUIREMENTS

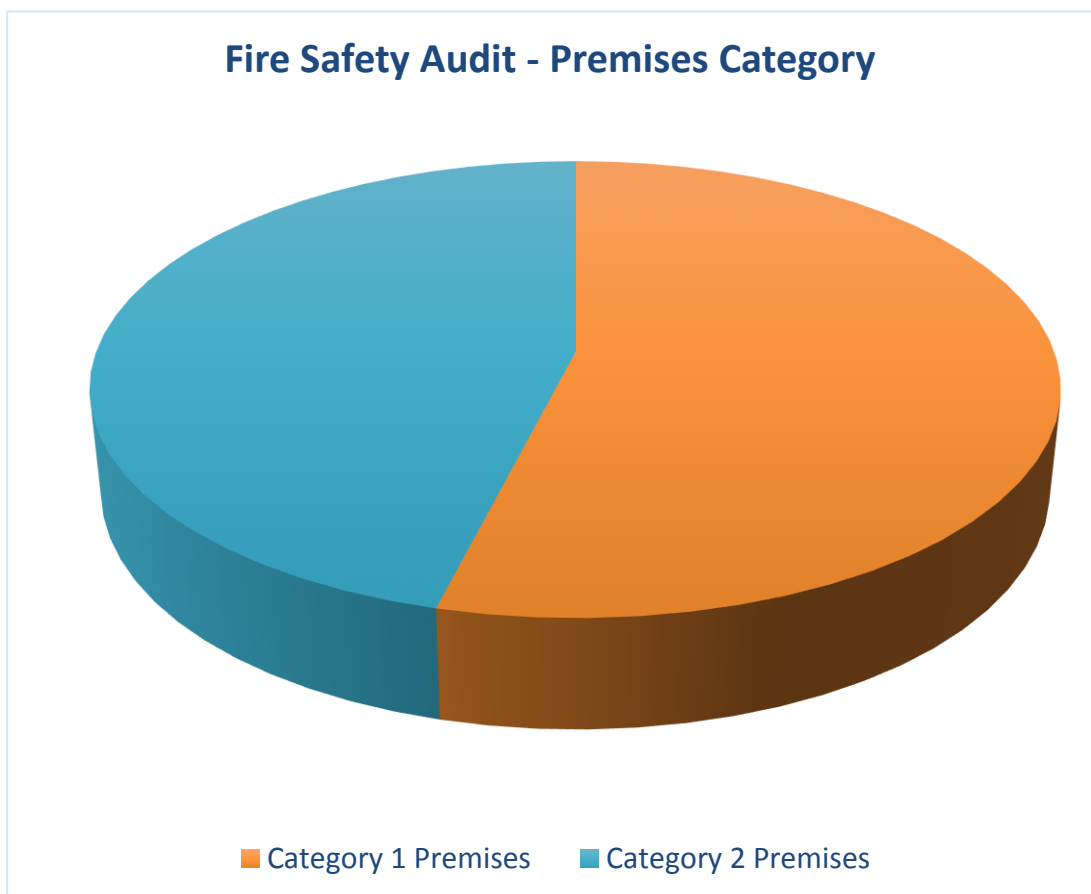
3.1. As stated within the Protection Fire Standards Board and NFCC Competency Framework, Protection Staff will be required to undertake significant development including independent third party accreditation in order to inspect high risk and complex premises. In addition to other statutory duties, the number of competent Fire Safety Inspection Officers will be the critical factor in how many fire safety audits (FSAs) can be undertaken annually.

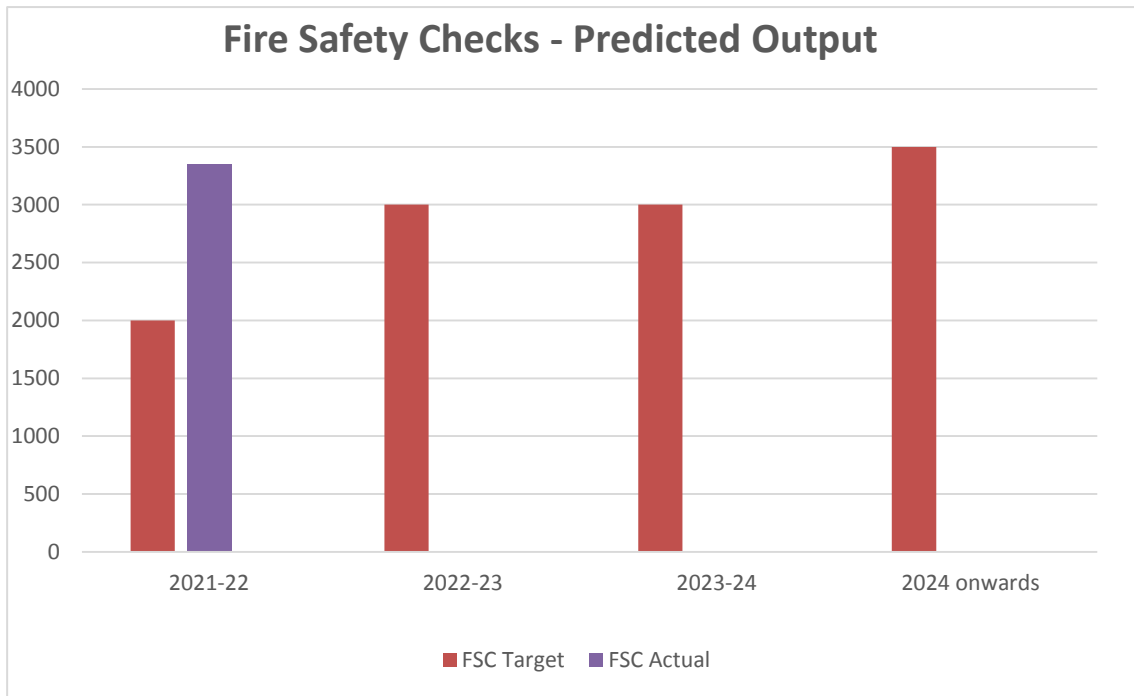
- 3.2. As an example, the recently-recruited trainees will take on average between 24 & 48 months to become competent to inspect the most complex buildings.
- 3.3. Currently Protection Delivery has approximately 16 full time equivalents (FTE) competent FSIOs. Together with the Protection Uplift Grant and ongoing Service investment, it is anticipated this number will grow to over 30 (FTE) during the financial year 2023-24. This will be dependent on the availability of external training courses for new trainees and retention of current high skilled staff. The Service currently has 14 new members of staff undergoing competency training.

4. CURRENT PERFORMANCE (AS OF 01/03/2022)

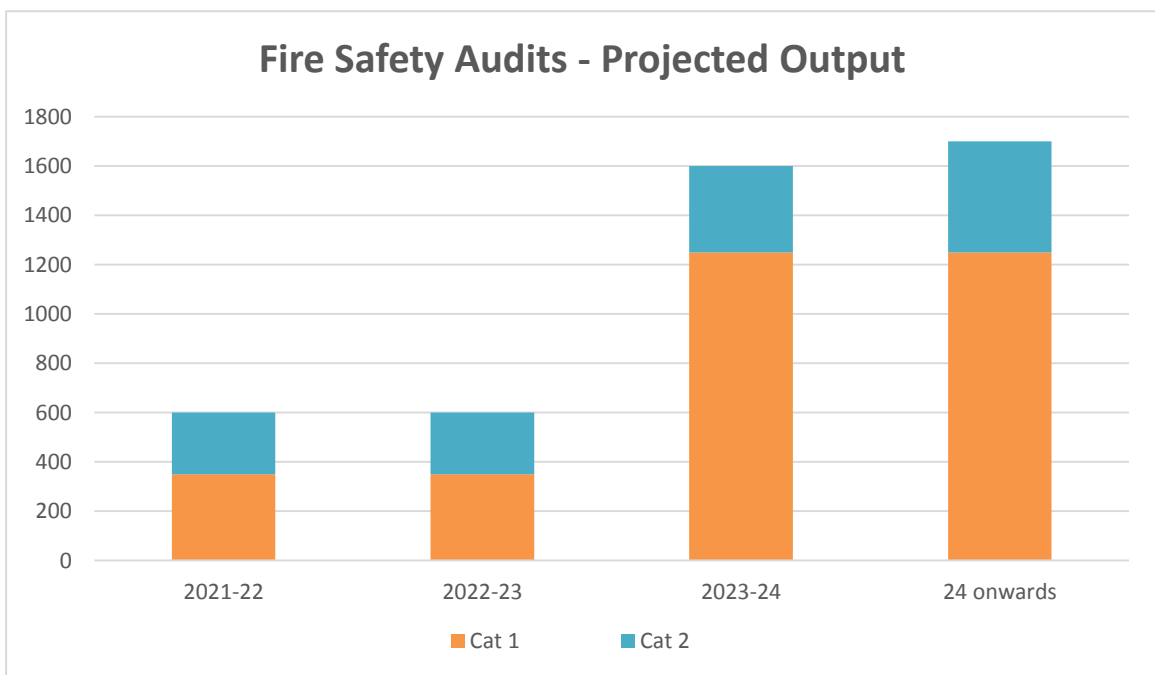
- 4.1. 2021-22 FSA Target = 600 FSAs Predicted Total = 550 FSAs*
 2021-22 FSC Target = 2000 FSCs Predicted Total = 3350 FSCs

(*The primary reason for the slight underperformance in the number of fire safety audits directly relates to a lower than anticipated number of competent fire safety inspecting officers. However, this has provided an opportunity to undertake additional fire safety checks using developing staff.)





4.2. Due to the number of developing Protection staff, the target for 2021-2022 has been exceeded. An increased target of 3000 Fire Safety Checks will be implemented from 2022 onwards which will be achieved through Protection staff and operational crews.



4.3. Projected Fire Safety Audit outputs are based on the current enhanced establishment and reasonable expectation on the number of competent Fire Safety Inspecting Officers. These additional projected outputs may be impacted by new regulations, government direction through the new Building Safety Regulator and significantly the retention of highly skilled protection officers.

5. CONCLUSION

- 5.1. The Service's risk-based inspection programme has been generated using a combination of data analytics, risk attributes and local knowledge. Its sole aim is to protect communities in the built environment within Devon and Somerset.
- 5.2. The delivery of the programme relies heavily on having the correct number of competent inspecting officers. The Service has a workforce planning strategy for the protection team, utilising uplift grants from Government to ensure the Service has the resources to deliver the programme. One of the biggest challenges for the fire sector nationally is a lack of appropriately trained inspectors that are qualified to inspect in accordance with the National Competency Framework which can be challenging when recruiting.
- 5.3. The Service has a retirement profile that potentially could impact on the future ability to deliver the risk-based inspection programme. The Service has, however, recruited and is training new staff in anticipation of this. The Service is in a good position currently to deliver its risk-based inspection programme. There will always be some margin of risk such as having unplanned leavers from the team, which can impact on the ability to deliver the number of audits planned.
- 5.4. In comparison to other fire and rescue services, the average time to deliver audits can be greater for this Service. This is because the Service has a robust system in place to target audits at the most "at risk" premises. Consequently, this Service has a higher rate of enforcement action per audit undertaken than some other fire and rescue services. The Service is currently in the top quartile for outcomes from audits, with 70% of audits being classified as unsatisfactory. This highlights that the Service is visiting the correct premises. Geography also plays its part, with premises being more widely dispersed than in metropolitan fire and rescue services and therefore having longer travel times for inspecting officers.
- 5.5. The Service's risk-based inspection programme is complimented through its communications strategy and compliance education, to inform businesses on how they can stay compliant with the Fire Safety Order. The Service will be developing a more comprehensive compliance education strategy in 2022/23.

ACFO PETE BOND
Director of Service Delivery

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Agenda Item 6

REPORT REFERENCE NO.	CSC/22/8
MEETING	COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE
DATE OF MEETING	27 APRIL 2022
SUBJECT OF REPORT	PREVENTION - CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE
LEAD OFFICER	DIRECTOR OF SERVICE DELIVERY
RECOMMENDATIONS	<i>That the report be noted.</i>
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	<p>This paper is to inform members of the Community Safety Committee of the Service's core engagement with Children and Young People. Current engagement activities are focused in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education in Schools to promote Fire and Road Safety. • Fire Cadet and academy programmes • Out of the Blue Courses • Fire-Setter intervention programme <p>This delivery will be reviewed during 2022 to ensure alignment with the Community Risk Management Plan (CRPM) and Service delivery plan 2021-2023.</p>
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	Business as usual. No resource request
EQUALITY RISKS AND BENEFITS ANALYSIS	Complete
APPENDICES	None
BACKGROUND PAPERS	None

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. The Service engages with children and young people as an early intervention to promote safe behaviours within the community, particularly regarding fire safety and road safety. The Service also works with partners to promote water safety and encourage children and young people to be good citizens within the community. The intervention with young people also provides access to families, to encourage fire prevention and the use of smoke detection within the home.
- 1.2. Service core activities focus on education in schools, fire cadets and fire academies along with a fire-setters intervention programme and road safety events.

2. EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT IN SCHOOLS

- 2.1. There are over 800 schools within the Devon and Somerset area, serving 245,000 children and young people aged between 5 and 16 years old. The Service's engagement with education providers plays an integral role in helping keep communities safe and reducing risk.
- 2.2. Effective prevention education goes beyond the school gates into the homes the children live in, and the life-saving lessons learnt can last a lifetime. Through Service education programmes, children and young people acquire important "life skills". They are encouraged to discuss what they have learnt with family, relatives and friends, thus acting as an important channel for sharing safety and prevention messages and promoting safer behaviour within the wider community.
- 2.3. Service education programmes have been developed using best practice from the National Fire Chief Council's programme 'Stay-Wise'. The programmes have been formulated using research papers and publications written by experienced fire safety and early intervention practitioners, as well as using the professional knowledge and expertise of the Service's education team.
- 2.4. Delivery of the programmes is by a trained team of staff drawn from other work streams within the Prevention department, and across the Service including former and serving operational staff, home fire safety technicians, fire-setter advisers, road safety advocates, cadet instructors and community safety advocates. Their informed knowledge base and experiential skillset alongside their awareness of the needs and risks within their local community, ensures Service safety and prevention messages are delivered with increasing effectiveness and efficiency.
- 2.5. The only exception to this is in Torbay and Plymouth; in these areas Service operational crews deliver the prevention education programme to year 2 and year 5 pupils. However, this is currently under review with the intention of providing a consistent approach.

- 2.6. Quality assurance and evaluation systems ensure provision and delivery are consistent, appropriate, inclusive, and engaging. Feedback is used to inform and develop future provision and highlight where updates are needed with regards to the method and practice of delivery as well as keeping abreast of trends in local risk and need.

3. SAFEGUARDING AND EDUCATION ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES:

- 3.1. In engaging with the school community, compliance with the Service Safeguarding Policy is imperative to safeguard and mitigate risk to individuals, members of the community and the reputation of our Service. The Service commitment to safeguarding is strengthened further with due diligence shown to Working Together to Keep Children Safe and Keeping Children Safe in Education statutory guidance documents.
- 3.2. Using advocates to deliver to the Service primary programme costs approximately £40,000 a year.
- 3.3. During the pandemic, the Service reduced this cost by offering an on-line delivery model. The Service will research a hybrid model for the future where physical visits to schools will be targeted at high-risk schools. Low and medium-risk schools will be offered an on-line alternative.
- 3.4. The aims of the Education and School Engagement Programmes are to:
- deliver clear, consistent and explicit messages regarding safety and prevention, to children and young people;
 - enable children and young people to recognise and identify risk in everyday situations;
 - help them make informed choices when it comes to safe behaviour at home and in the wider community;
 - show children and young people that by making the right choices they can reduce risk and prevent harm, injury damage and potential fatalities;
 - equip children and young people with an understanding and the skills of how to be proactive in keeping themselves (and others) safe and reducing risk; and
 - encourage children and young people to share what they learn thus fostering wider community engagement and cohesion with regards to safety and prevention.

4. PRIMARY SCHOOLS – FIRE SAFETY AND PREVENTION EDUCATION

- 4.1. The Service aims to visit all the state primary schools in its area, delivering fire safety and prevention education programme to year 2 and year 5 pupils. Each of the key stage packages link to the National Curriculum Programmes of study as follows:

Key Stage 1 – year 2:

- identify hazards and risks in familiar settings;

- understand how simple risks can be reduced or prevented;
- understand the dangers of smoke and importance of smoke alarms;
- know what to do and who to contact in an emergency;
- recognise the risks involved when you “play” with fire (matches and lighters); and
- identify the feelings that you have if a situation feels unsafe and know who to tell.

Key Stage 2 – year 5

- understand the role of the fire service in protecting people and keeping them safe;
- recognise what you can do to reduce risk and prevent a fire starting, around the home and outside;
- recognise when and when not to call the emergency services;
- understand how quickly fires can get out of control and the risks involved;
- understand that our actions and behaviour can affect others; and
- understand what to do if a situation makes you feel unsafe.

5. NURSERIES, PRE-SCHOOLS, AND RECEPTION CLASSES

- 5.1. To reduce the multitude of requests to support delivery to nursery, pre-school or reception classes, the online resource [“People who help us – the Fire Service”](#) is available. Use of this resource allows for consistency of provision across the Service area and means a fire engine and crew do not have to attend physically. This mitigates and health, safety and safeguarding risks. The online content focuses on:
- what firefighters do to help – the roles of the fire service;
 - how firefighters help – the kit, equipment, vehicles; and
 - how you can help our firefighters – simple fire safety and prevention advice.

6. SPECIAL SCHOOLS AND ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROVIDERS

- 6.1. The education provision for children and young people who attend special schools and alternative education establishments within our Service area is bespoke and targeted. Pre-planning and collaboration with, operational crews and external agencies is fundamental to the success of this engagement activity and the education team staff have specialist knowledge and expertise to deliver to the content of these packages.

7. ARSON INTERVENTION AND RISK REDUCTION PROGRAMMES

- 7.1. Where there is evidence of arson or a particular risk, a targeted intervention is arranged.

- 7.2. These interventions are based on local risk and incident data. Visits are coordinated with support from other Community Safety Teams and our operational crews and/or local Police.
- 7.3. The programme is designed to:
- raise awareness and develop an understanding of the dangers and risks of fire;
 - identify reasons why young people may engage in certain behaviour and take risks involving fire;
 - identify and develop strategies to keep themselves and others, safe and in control; and
 - recognise the wider impact that choices of behaviour can have on themselves and others.

8. FIRE CADETS AND ACADEMIES

Fire Cadets

- 8.1. The Service operates 4 Fire Cadet Units across the counties of Devon and Somerset. The sessions are 2 hrs per week, in term time only. The National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) Fire Cadet programmes are station-based uniformed youth groups for young people in Key Stages 3 and 4, 13-17 years of age. There are currently units at, Bovey Tracey, Plymouth, Tiverton and Wincanton.
- 8.2. The objectives are to:
- Promote fire cadets as a nationally recognised and inclusive uniformed youth organisation;
 - Promote and develop the national brand of fire cadets;
 - Explore and develop a sustainable funding strategy;
 - Provide a fire cadets national syllabus with associated learning materials to all fire and rescue Services;
 - Provide quality volunteering opportunities for adults;
 - Provide fire and rescue services with recourse to train instructors and volunteers;
 - Ensure young people have opportunities to contribute to the ongoing development of fire cadets;
 - Create opportunities for fire cadets, instructors, and volunteers to participate in national and international events and activities;
 - Provide progression opportunities for fire cadets, instructors, and volunteers;
 - instil Fire Cadet Values, in addition to Service Values:
 - Be Inclusive
 - Be Fair

- Be Respectful
- Be Honest
- Be Trustworthy
- Have Integrity

- 8.3. The Fire Cadet Vision is to be nationally recognised inclusive and progressive uniformed youth organisation delivery through Fire and Rescue Services, which inspires and empowers young people to be the best they can be.
- 8.4. The Fire Cadets mission is to provide fun and challenging inclusive opportunities for young people to reach their potential contribute to safer, stronger and healthier communities.
- 8.5. The overarching principles for the Fire Cadets initiative are:
- An agreed vision, mission aims and objectives;
 - A national brand and uniform;
 - A core target age 13-17 years of age;
 - An inclusive and diverse membership;
 - A programme duration minimum one academic year;
 - A commitment to delivery with the national framework; and
 - A contribution to safer strong community's through social action.
- 8.6. In terms of outcomes, it is not compulsory for fire cadets to participate in the BTEC qualification. For some, it is an achievement just to be part of the programme. Social actions, practical assessments and theory all form part of the Fire Cadet programme and culminate in the opportunity to attain:

Level 1	Pearson Education	Pearson BTEC Level 1 Award in Teamwork and Personal Skills for Uniformed Youth Organisations
Level 2	Pearson Education	Pearson BTEC Level 2 Certificate in Fire and Rescue Services in the Community
Level 2	Pearson Education	Pearson BTEC Level 2 Diploma in Teamwork and Personal Development in the Community

999 Academy

- 8.7. The Service supports 999 Academy Programmes at two locations:
- Devon – Petroc College Barnstaple; and
 - Somerset – Bridgwater and Taunton College, Bridgwater Campus.
- 8.8. The Academy Mission Statement is to be the leading joint service academy inspiring young people to become valued and respected members of the community.

- 8.9. Academy values are to provide knowledge and skills for individuals by raising aspirations and promoting a positive image, using the following core values:
- Respect
 - Inclusion
 - Education
 - Safety
 - Community
- 8.10. The 999 Academy programme has a challenging and exciting syllabus that incorporates learning elements from all the emergency services. In addition to theory-based classroom sessions, students put some of their theory into practice throughout the course. A final presentation is delivered by the students to their significant adults, local dignitaries, and senior emergency service representatives, culminating in a practical scenario demonstration incorporating many aspects of what they have learnt.
- 8.11. Curriculum subjects which may be delivered on a 999 Academy course include:
- Police subjects***
- Police Powers
 - Operations Policing
 - Modern Slavery
 - Missing Persons
 - Misuse of Drugs
 - Roads Policing
 - Homicide Investigation
 - Hostage Negotiation
 - Knife talk
- Ambulance Service subjects***
- Emergency Aid & Basic Life Support
 - Ambulance Service Overview
 - Paramedic Interventions
 - Drugs & Medication
 - Volunteering
 - Mental Health First Aid
 - Conflict Resolution
- Fire & Rescue subjects:***
- Fire Station Visit
 - Hydraulic Platform and Rope Rescue Session
 - Breathing Apparatus Procedures Session
 - Business Fire Safety Session
 - Hazardous Materials (HazMat) Session
 - Pumps and Hose Running Session
- College subjects:***
- Health & Fitness
 - CV Building & Job Application Process
 - Personal Banking

Job Interview Techniques
PREVENT
Internet Safeguarding

Joint service subjects:

Equality & Diversity for the Public Services
Missing Persons Theory and Practical
Map reading & Navigation
Search & Rescue Dogs (SARDA)
Communications
Road Casualty Reduction
Joint Emergency Services Interoperability Principles (JESIP)

9. OUT OF THE BLUE PROGRAMME

- 9.1. The Out of the Blue programme operates in Bideford and Ilfracombe. It is a ten-week Programme with referrals from space youth services, aimed at secondary school children who would benefit from improved self-esteem and confidence that are not already involved in other provisions.
- 9.2. The course content includes:
- Introduction evening for cadets and parents/carers;
 - Devon youth services lead session. Icebreakers, team building, effective communication exercises, reinforced learning;
 - First aid session with team building games and challenges;
 - RNLI session. Onsite with Staff and boats;
 - Fire Service first aid session including secondary care instruction;
 - Environment Agency (EA) and Fire Service 'Sandbags and hoses'. EA presentation and activity around flood prevention, communication exercises with the fire service;
 - Fire service search and rescue in buildings and first aid in the real world;
 - Police session with a Police Dog handler;
 - Police crime scene investigators; and
 - Fire Service team challenge and award ceremony with local dignitaries.
- 9.3. Out of the Blue Bideford candidates are signposted on the back of an existing partnership between Space Youth Services and two local schools. This ensures that the programme is accessible to young people in the surrounding community and gives them a chance to engage with emergency services, even though they may not want to attend full time education.
- 9.4. Barnstaple Academy recruits from its community. Students do not have to be enlisted on a course at the Academy to apply. This ensures that the programme is accessible to young people in the surrounding community and gives them a chance to engage with emergency services, even though they may not want to attend full time education.

10. FIRE SETTER INTERVENTION PROGRAMME

- 10.1. The Service provides a fire-setter intervention programme that supports and guides children and their families when a young person begins to display a potentially dangerous fascination with fire.
- 10.2. The aim of the programme is to help children and young people understand and control the feelings and circumstances that leads them to set fires. The team provides education around the risks and consequences of fire setting, supports the young person and their family in fire safety knowledge and keeping safe at home.
- 10.3. The Service has a network of 18 trained advisors on casual contracts who are called upon when needed. The advisors receive a comprehensive week's training from an external training provider. The course is an accredited training course, exploring area such as behaviour change and helping young people develop problem solving skills.
- 10.4. The advisors work with the children and their families in teams of two, helping address fire setting through an agreed set of sessions either carried out at home or within the school setting. The advisors also work with parents, carers, teachers, and other agencies involved to help provide a sensitive and structured approach to each individual case.
- 10.5. The number of referrals to the Service each year fluctuates but is in the region of 70-100 cases.
- 10.6. Referrals are generated from several different sources, for example, operational fire crews following an incident, schools, social workers, doctors, foster families, children and adolescent mental health service, care homes, police and youth offending teams. Parents and carers are also able to make referrals.
- 10.7. The Service works with partner agencies including social services, often due to the complexity of the referrals. Children can be from vulnerable backgrounds, often already known to other agencies or requiring specialist support. For example, many children are referred via care homes, and have been living in and out of care. The complexities surrounding these young peoples' backgrounds often require engagement with the care home.
- 10.8. Due to the complex nature of some of the referrals received, safeguarding issues can arise where a young person may disclose sensitive information of safeguarding nature. The safeguarding team ensures that the fire-setter advisors have comprehensive safeguarding training. The advisors will also receive training on national and regional issues, for example child exploitation and county lines.
- 10.9. Upon receiving referrals, the team will also ensure that a home fire safety visit is arranged and advice given to parents/guardians or carers.

- 10.10. The safeguarding team coordinate the fire-setter programme and work collaboratively with the Service education team to work with groups of young people who have been involved in fire-setting.
- 10.11. While early recognition of fire-setting behaviours can help prevent the problem escalating and progressing into adulthood, further evaluation needs to be completed to fully understand the success of the programme.

11. CONCLUSION

- 11.1. The Service recognises the valuable contribution that can be made by engaging with children and young people in keeping our communities safe. The current intervention programmes aims to provide young people in Devon and Somerset with fire prevention and road safety skills that will last a lifetime.
- 11.2. The current cadet and academy programmes, along with bespoke interventions through the out of the blue programme, will be reviewed in 2022-23 to ensure the Service is are providing a consistent service that fits with the Community Risk Management Plan. We will also consider the Serious Violence Duty that is currently in draft guidance to ensure we can contribute as a fire and rescue service to the duty and work with partners where possible to reduce risk in our communities.

ACFO PETE BOND
Director of Service Delivery