



Hereford & Worcester
Fire and Rescue Authority

2010 / 11 IRMP

Integrated Risk Management Plan

Action Plan



I N T R O D U C T I O N

Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service's Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) for 2009/12 sets out a broad set of strategic objectives to realign our resources to the areas of greatest risk within our community. We consider these risks and identify initiatives to reduce risk and improve community safety.

As part of the IRMP process, Fire and Rescue Services are required to produce annual action plans which set out each year's priorities as part of this plan.

On Friday December 18, 2009, Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Authority met to consider recommendations regarding its Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) consultation and approval of the final annual action plan for 2010/11. Several amendments to the draft proposals were proposed and agreed by the Authority in direct response to feedback received from the public, staff, representative bodies and other interested organizations.

Our Action Plan for 2010/11 is:

1 • Review our Revised Management Arrangements at our Day-Crewed Stations

The Service introduced revised shift systems at day crewed stations in its 2005/06 IRMP in order to deliver efficiencies without affecting our emergency response. It has been agreed that during 2010/11 we review the effectiveness of the revised management arrangements at these stations (Droitwich, Malvern and Evesham) either confirming the new arrangements or making further recommendations for change.

2 • Further develop Local Risk Profiles

to include an assessment of high level salvage risks associated with Heritage Sites and an assessment of potential risk to the environment

Fire crews have carried out an initial review of the cities, towns and villages they cover to identify heritage sites and sites with the potential to pollute, either from their on-site activities or from water run-off from firefighting at their premises. Protection of heritage sites and the environment is a developing role for the Fire and Rescue Service and this IRMP sets out an intention to further develop this work.



3 • Further develop Interoperability Arrangements with Gloucestershire, South Wales and Mid and West Wales

The Service is committed to reviewing interoperability arrangements with colleagues in neighbouring Fire and Rescue Services. We are working towards common operational procedures to reduce risk and make the most efficient and effective use of combined resources in border areas. Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service has made significant progress in this area, in particular with our neighbours in the West Midlands region, (Shropshire, Warwickshire, Staffordshire and West Midlands). However, additional work will now be carried out with our other neighbours in Gloucestershire, South Wales and Mid and West Wales.

4 • Introduce an optimum level of Flood / Water First Responder Cover

Following the 2007 flooding event, HWFRS carried out a significant piece of work and the findings were presented in a scrutiny report. Since then the Service has updated its Water Rescue Strategy which has identified a number of improvements necessary to strengthen its response and ensure the safety of its personnel.

Taking account of local flood/water risks and strategic cover requirements, a need for a number of trained 'first responder' teams equipped with dry suits and other equipment was identified. These teams are in addition to specialist rescue units already maintained at Worcester, Hereford and Evesham.

To provide an optimal level of cover that will provide extra flexibility and resilience across the two counties, selected personnel at Kidderminster, Tenbury, Upton-on-Severn and Ross-on-Wye will receive additional equipment and training. Pershore, Bromyard and Leintwardine fire stations will also be trained and equipped to first responder standards.



5 • Establish a Centre based around the USAR Team

to co-ordinate and manage the Specialist Technical Rescue functions within the Service

The changing nature of risk and the expanding rescue role for the Fire Authority has resulted in a number of new technical rescue disciplines being adopted in recent years, including water and rope rescue, along with Urban Search and Rescue. In order to consolidate support for all elements of technical rescue within the Service and provide greater coherence, a centre will be established to co-ordinate and manage all specialist technical rescue functions within the Service.

The full report, consultation responses and recommendations are contained within the FRA report, available at www.hwfire.org.uk.

This document is also available in accessible formats

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