



Make your voice heard

We'd like to know what
you think about it...
IT WILL make a difference!



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इस लिखित प्रमाण की प्रतियाँ दूसरी भाषाओं, ब्रेल, बड़े फिन्ट और ऑडियो कैसेट पर निवेदन उपरान्त उपलब्ध हैं। कृपया नम्बर 01277 222531 को ऐक्टिवेशन 2281 पर सम्पर्क करें।

اس دستاویز کے نسخے فرمائش کرنے پر دوسری زبانوں، بریل، بڑی چھپائی میں اور آڈیو کیسٹ پر دستیاب ہیں۔
مہربانی کر کے 01277 222531 کی ایکٹویشن 2281 پر رابطہ کیجئے۔

Foreword

Welcome to the Essex Fire Authority's Integrated Risk Management Plan 2008–2011 Consultation Document. This document has been prepared to inform the people and businesses of Essex, including those in the unitary authority areas of Southend and Thurrock, of the main pieces of work the Fire Authority proposes to undertake over the next three years to make the communities of the County of Essex safer than they have ever been.

It remains the intention of the Authority to make the Essex County Fire and Rescue Service (**ECFRS**) the highest-performing fire and rescue service in the UK, through working towards our vision of doing more than we have ever done to make the communities of Essex safer. The details within this plan demonstrate some of the activities that we are undertaking to make Essex a safer place to live, work and visit.

Our Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) involves shifting the focus in planning to put people first, looking at the range of fires and other emergency incidents, and the options for their reduction and management. The IRMP is a fully integrated, risk-managed approach to community education, fire safety inspections and enforcement, and emergency response arrangements that contribute to providing a safer Essex.

The need to focus our activities and communicate our intentions to our stakeholders has never been more important. Significant events such as flooding, the threat of terrorism and other large-scale incidents mean that all fire and rescue services must ensure they are prepared and equipped to meet the challenges facing them. It is also important that local communities and other stakeholders are fully consulted on, and are able to have a voice and influence the key decisions about how the existing and potential risks to the communities are managed.

The expansion of Essex continues and is such that our planning focus must consider the longer term. The planned development of Stansted Airport, Shell Haven, Bathside Bay and the work required in preparation for the 2012 Olympic Games in London requires us to work with partners during the planning stages so that we may influence building design and anticipate the impact that these developments will have on the community and the Service.

This consultation document provides you with the opportunity to have your say. Our job is to make communities as safe as we can. We commend the document to you. Please let us have your comments.


Simon Walsh
Chairman Essex Fire Authority

David Johnson LLb(Hons), BSc, MA, MSc
Chief Fire Officer



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Speak up, or...
You know how the saying goes. It's all very well leaving it to someone else, but we want to hear what YOU think. We really do. It'll help us fine tune our proposals and may even persuade us to do some things differently. If you have a view about anything in this document, PLEASE share it with us. See the next page for instructions about contacting us... We'd appreciate it. Really!

Four ways to tell us what you think

- 1 USE THE SPECIAL PULLOUT SECTION**, at the centre of this document, which includes everything you need except a pen and a postbox.
- 2 WRITE TO US**, and we'll pay the postage. Put your comments down on paper, being sure to tell us your name, address and – if you don't mind us contacting you by phone – a number we can reach you on during normal business hours. Send your letter to: Chief Fire Officer (IRMP), Essex County Fire & Rescue Service, FREEPOST, EB93, CM13 1BR. Remember, we're paying the postage so you won't need a stamp.
- 3 SEND US AN EMAIL**. Despatch your comments to us online by following the links to IRMP from our website: www.essex-fire.gov.uk. Don't forget to give us your full name and address – and if you don't mind us contacting you by phone – give a number we can reach you on during normal business hours.
- 4 GIVE US A RING**. Providing you do so within normal working hours, you are welcome to telephone us with your comments on 01277 222531, extension 2233. We will be only too pleased to discuss them with you.



Introduction

What's a stakeholder?

Basically a stakeholder is ANY-ONE with any kind of interest in how we perform. If you pay council tax, YOU are a stakeholder. And that means you have a right to tell us how you feel.

This document is designed as a consultation document to encourage **stakeholders** to engage in the **IRMP** process and influence the development of Service activities. It is this process that we believe puts democracy at the heart of our decision making and service provision. Public accountability and awareness of service provision are key to the public sector in terms of scrutiny and challenge.

It is these principles that drive our need to engage the community in the consultation process and we encourage all stakeholders to note the proposals within this document and make comment to us.

Consultation responses from the last IRMP were presented to the Fire Authority for consideration, resulting in several alterations being made to the final outcomes.

The document has been written in such a way that it is accessible to a diverse range of audiences. We can also provide other language versions and formats. Details of these are set out inside the front cover of this plan.

The nature of this document means that there is a certain amount of technical and fire service specific language and phrases. To assist the reader we have used bold green text where possible with an explanation provided in the 'Jargon Buster'. This can be found by

either clicking the hyperlink, if reading an electronic version, or turning to the back of this document.

We hope that you find the document useful and informative, and take this opportunity to give us your comments on where we are going and how we intend to get there.



Background Information

The Need for an Integrated Risk Management Plan

The requirement to develop and consult on IRMPs was established in 2003, to replace existing standards of fire cover which determined how many fire stations and fire appliances we needed.

The process is detailed within the Fire and Rescue Service National Framework published by Communities and Local Government (**CLG**), available to view at <http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/fire/fire3>. This is given statutory effect by the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004. The Fire and Rescue Authority's process requires it to produce a local plan setting out a strategy, in collaboration with other agencies, for:

- reducing the number and severity of fires, road traffic accidents and other emergency incidents in the area it is responsible for;
- reducing the severity of injuries in fires, road traffic collisions and other emergency incidents;
- reducing the commercial, economic and social impact of fires and other emergency incidents;
- safeguarding the environment and heritage (both built and natural);
- providing value for money.

Significant Legislation

In planning the way in which the Service will manage risk, it needs to take into consideration the statutory requirements placed upon it by a number of significant pieces of legislation.

Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004

The Essex County and Fire and Rescue Service is established under the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004, which gives a statutory duty for a number of core functions. These core functions include firefighting, road traffic collisions and fire safety. The Fire and Rescue Service has for many years carried out a wide range of activities to promote community safety. This has included fire safety education, smoke alarm installation, chip pan safety demonstrations and fire safety checks. In addition to these responsibilities the Fire and

Law underpins responsibilities

The 2004 Act doesn't mean we've got to change the things we do... it just means that we are bound by law to carry on doing them.



Background Information contd

Rescue Service also has a duty to respond to emergencies of a Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) nature, and those involving Urban Search and Rescue (USAR), which is essentially the rescue and protection of people who may be trapped in case of certain emergencies.

So now the Service has to formally document in its risk management plans how it intends to plan for, and carry out, these duties.

The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005

What is the Regulatory Reform Order?

The Fire Safety Order, which applies in England and Wales (Northern Ireland and Scotland will have their own laws), delegates the responsibility for compliance to whoever is in charge. In a workplace, this would usually be the employer and any other person who may have control of any part of the building. The Responsible Person should already have carried out a fire risk assessment focusing on the safety from fire of all people working in or visiting the premises.

This assessment should help remove some fire risks and reduce others, and determines what precautions need to be taken to protect people against the risks that remain. If a business employs five or more, a record of the significant findings must be kept in a documented risk assessment which is based on the chances of a fire breaking out.

Responsibility for enforcement of the Order rests with fire and rescue services. This responsibility is discharged by our undertaking a programme of risk-based inspections of premises, to ensure that they are complying with their new obligations under the Order.

Civil Contingencies Act 2004

The Civil Contingencies Act 2004 is a framework for civil protection at local level and details the role of the Fire and Rescue Service as a Category 1 (core) responder. It places a legal duty on responders to undertake risk assessments and maintain them in a community risk register. The Service in meeting its statutory duties has taken a

lead role as chair of the Essex Resilience Forum (ERF). The forum has detailed duties under the Act in that it should deliver:

- A community risk register;
- A co-ordinated response;
- Effective plans.

Risk Management Arrangements

Risk is managed by the Service within different contexts. Firstly, the corporate risk context, which involves the management of business risks, and health, safety and welfare risks. This is recorded within the Authority's Corporate Risk Register. Secondly, the community risk context, which addresses the Service's core role of making communities safe – and it is this context that provides the focus for this plan.



In managing community risk, it is important that decisions regarding the use of resources are intelligence-led.

In support of this intelligence-led approach to the management of risk, the Authority has adopted the National Intelligence Model (NIM). The model, which is also employed by a range of the Service's partner community safety organisations, has been modified for use within the Service and is illustrated overleaf.

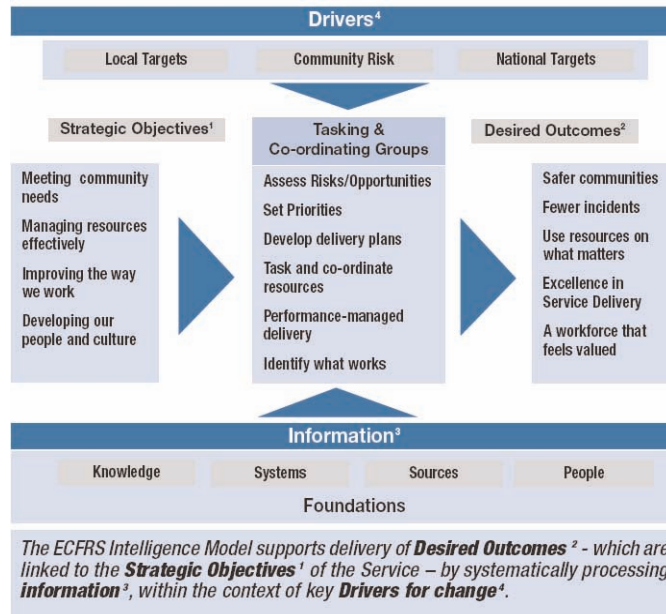
Integrated Risk Management and the Organisation's Direction

The Authority has a clear definition of our primary role – our Mission. Put simply, it is: To save and protect lives, property and the environ-





Background Information contd



ment; and to achieve this to the very best of our ability our Vision is to reach a position when:

- Our people feel inspired to deliver and be part of the best fire and rescue service; and
- We work with other people to do more than we have ever done to make Essex safe.

The Service delivers its plans through the 'Corporate Strategy', which is essentially a performance management framework. This enables us to organise and measure ourselves against the key areas of organisational activity.

The IRMP cuts across all areas of the organisation's activities. The Service divides its activities into four key areas as identified in its Corporate Strategy. Each area is important to delivering safer communities within Essex through either:

- Delivering community safety activities;
- Improving the way in which we manage our activities;
- Maintaining resources to deliver more where it matters;
- Develop the skills and knowledge of our workforce to be effective in their roles.

The Corporate Strategy is detailed on the next page and can also be accessed through the Service website, www.essex-fire.gov.uk.

Also referred to as our **Strategy on a Page**, the **Corporate Strategy** lists measures which enable us to judge our progress towards achieving excellence in service delivery.

*In simple terms, our primary role is to **SAVE and protect lives, property and the environment***



Background Information contd

Corporate Strategy

We Value...

Respect, openness, involvement and accountability

How we do it...

Service-led and values-driven

Why we are here

To save and protect lives, property and the environment

Where we are going

A time when...

⇒ Our people feel inspired to deliver and be part of the best fire and rescue service

⇒ We work with other people to do more than we have ever done to make Essex safer

Priorities	What we want to achieve	Risks and Opportunities	How we know we've been successful
Meeting community needs	Make people understand risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved understanding of risk Fewer incidents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk understanding measure Number of incidents
	Help people at risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People understand & use our services appropriately Fewer deaths & injuries Lesser impact 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service understanding measure Service use measure Impact measure
Managing resources effectively	Find resources to do more	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extra money Partners, volunteers & others found to help Resources shared with partners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity measure Shared resource measure
	Use resources on what matters	Resources allocated to priorities	% of priorities for which there are resources allocated
Improving the way we work	Be good at continuous improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Problem solving approach and innovation adopted New ideas encouraged Performance management framework adopted & used 	Continuous improvement effectiveness measure
	Work effectively with partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are clear about what we can offer We understand our (potential) partners Best practice adopted Partnerships regularly evaluated 	Partnership effectiveness measure
	Be good at marketing, selling and communicating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Needs understood Products developed People engaged Actions and plans explained Services actively advertised & sold 	Marketing, selling & communication effectiveness measure
	Deal with emergencies speedily and effectively	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Response appropriate to incident Speedy response Incident dealt with effectively 	Emergency response effectiveness measure
Developing our people and culture	Make people feel valued	People feel valued	Valued measure
	Make ECFRS a better place to work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pleasant, fit-for-purpose workplaces People consider ECFRS is a good place to work 	Good place to work measure
	Give people rights and responsibilities appropriate to their role	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People understand their rights and responsibilities People apply their rights and responsibilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % people who understand their rights & responsibilities Rights & responsibilities application measure
	Match our workforce to our needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A clear statement of needs for ECFRS People have skills to meet these needs 	Needs match measure

Version 4 (20.04.07)

Integrated Risk Management Plan

Community Risk Management Policy

The Authority's policy in relation to community risk management is to **reduce the level of risk within the communities of Essex, from fires and other emergencies, through delivering an appropriate balance of prevention, protection and emergency response services.**

The Structure of the Fire and Rescue Service in Essex

To deliver this the Authority structures its community safety resources around seven Community Commands. Each has a dedicated headquarters which houses community safety and administrative staff.

As well as the seven Community Command areas that Essex is broken up into, the Service also has an administrative Headquarters, currently based in Brentwood, where central departments are located. There are a number of other centres around the County that contribute to the running of the organisation such as our training centres at Wethersfield, Witham and Orsett. In addition, there is a Service vehicle workshop at Lexden, near Colchester, which maintains our operational equipment and fleet of 130 fire appliances and 149 cars and vans.

The Service has 51 fire stations (17 Whole-Time of which 4 are Day Crewed, 13 are 24/7 and 34 Retained), strategically located to provide protection to all areas of the County. It has an establishment of 965 full-time and 539 retained firefighters, 236 support and 45 Control Room staff.

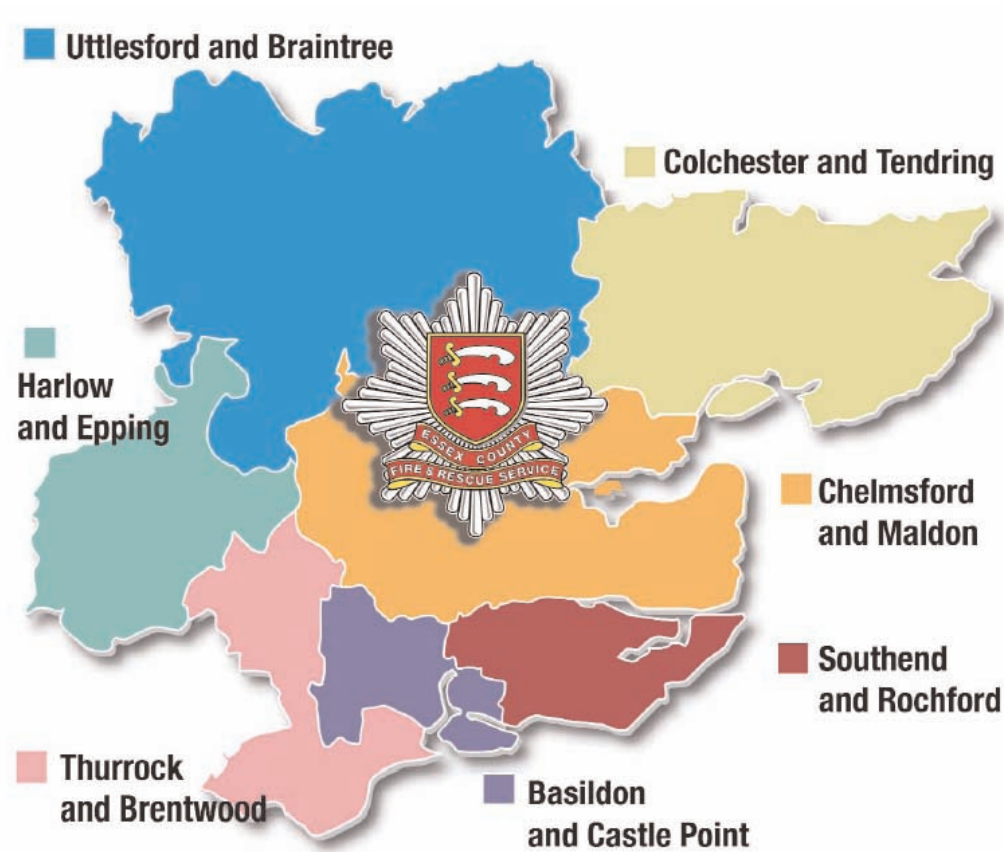
Community Risk Management Planning Process

The Fire Authority's Strategic Community Risk Management Plan addresses community risk management issues within two timeframes:

- Short/Medium-term = up to three years
- Long-term = four years and over



Integrated Risk Management Plan contd



The short to medium-term proposals in this plan combine to form new work that is intended to be introduced into the Authority's IRMP programme.

The process of producing and consulting on new work for inclusion in the IRMP is done on a rolling, annual basis.

At the close of the formal consultation period, your feedback is presented to the Essex Fire Authority for consideration, together with a revised set of proposals. Once they have received **EFA** approval, the proposals are published in the Authority's Corporate Plan (due to be published in April 2008).

The Corporate Plan will also include an update on progress made on those proposals from previous years, letting you know which pieces of work have been achieved and what still needs to be done.

The data used to inform the Fire Authority's approach to assessing and managing community risk is gathered from a wide range of sources. These include the Essex Resilience Forum. The Forum produces an Essex-wide Community Risk Register, which sets out a Community Risk Profile and an assessment of the risks that are faced. The process of preparing this Risk Register is undertaken on a multi-agency basis, and involves a cycle of identifying potential hazards within a local context; assessing associated risks; and giving consideration to how these risks are most appropriately managed. It also considers the implications of the County's close proximity to London.

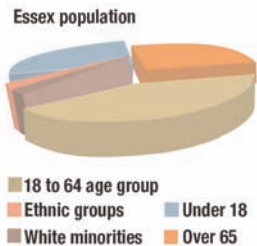
In addition, a more localised approach is undertaken within the Community Command structure. This involves the development of Community Command and individual Station Risk Profiles, whereby information and data is collated to identify risks at ward level, so that action can be taken by those closest to local communities.



The Community Risk Profile for Essex

Essex Fire Authority serves a population of approximately 1.6 million (source: 2001 Census) in the south east of England. It comprises Essex County Council, the unitary authorities of Southend-on-Sea and Thurrock and the district councils of Basildon, Braintree, Brentwood, Castle Point, Chelmsford, Colchester, Epping Forest, Harlow, Maldon, Rochford, Tendring and Uttlesford.

The current risk profile for Essex represents a diverse range of community risk. To the east and south, the County is bordered by 300 miles of coastline populated by bustling seaside resorts such as Clacton and Southend. These contribute to the County's large tourist industry, attracting five to six million visitors per year. To the west and north it borders the counties of Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, Hertfordshire and the metropolitan area of London.



At the time of the 2001 census:

- 2.9% of the population were Mixed, Asian, Black, Chinese or belonged to another other minority ethnic group, compared to 1.8% in 1991.
- 2.6% of the population were white minority groups such as White Irish.
- Essex is also home to the largest gypsy/traveller community in England.
- The 2001 census identified 293,747 children and young people below the age of 18 living in Essex, representing 22% of the County's population.
- In 2001, there were 220,000 people over the age of 65 living with in the County which equates to 27% of the population.
- The fastest growing age group is amongst the over 80s.

Housing

Essex had a total of 717,510 dwellings continuing the steady rise from previous years. The two largest areas of expansion have been Braintree and Maldon.

The London-Stansted-Cambridge M11 corridor has experienced substantial economic growth in the last decade, underpinned by clusters of some of the UK's most successful businesses in biotech-

nology, life sciences and ICT/software. Housing availability along this corridor is already under pressure.

According to the published "Indices of multiple deprivation," Wards within Harlow, Tendring and Thurrock are amongst the 10% most deprived in England; they can be defined as 'seriously deprived'. ECFRS works closely with a number of partnership organisations within these communities including Nacro, Crime and Disorder panels and, particularly in the Basildon area, Traveller liaison groups. Our approach is to work together with partners creatively to find solutions to the demands and constraints placed upon us.

Transport

The county's road networks include a number of major arterial routes such as the M25, M11, A12, A13 and A127. In total there are 7,586.5km of road and 785,000 registered cars in the County, travelling over 11 million vehicle kilometres annually.

Accident figures for the County's roads for the period 1998-2002 show a 5.4% decrease over the period 1994-1998. 2005 saw an increase of 1.5% in the flow of traffic on the County's roads compared to 2004 figures. Although the County supports major motorway routes, over 70% of road accidents occur on 'A' and 'B' roads. The number of cars and vans owned within the County has risen by 25% in the last decade. This is reflected in an increase in road movements.

The infrastructure supporting the County's transport networks incorporates a number of rail links, including a section of the Channel tunnel rail link in the south.

The high number of daily rail passenger movements in the County is illustrated by passenger figures for the two largest rail networks, which now exceed 73 million passengers annually.

A major site of focus for transport and infrastructure development is Stansted Airport, the third busiest passenger airport in the country



The Community Risk Profile for Essex contd

and the fastest growing airport in Europe. The airport serves 38 airlines flying to over 145 destinations. The current passenger numbers for the airport are in the region of 22.5 million per year.

The airport has planning permission to serve 25 million passengers per year and is expected to reach this level by 2008. The expansion of Stansted Airport is part of the plan for growth in the south east under the Government's "Sustainable Communities" programme. By 2010 the airport's owners will have invested more than £1 billion in developing the airport and associated infrastructure to support growing passenger and cargo movements through the airport. There is also the possibility that a second runway will be built – leading to passenger numbers exceeding 70 million a year.

Industry

Essex supports a complex range of industries. The north of the County is predominantly rural with a large agricultural community. This provides a contrast to the industrial South of the County, which supports a large oil refinery at Corringham and the retail shopping centre at Lakeside, Thurrock.

The county's coastline supports the busy shipping terminals of Tilbury and Harwich. Over 400 million tonnes of shipping movements each year pass through Harwich alone, as well as 1.5 million passenger movements. This adds to the volume of road and rail freight movements within the County.

Control Of Major Accident Hazards (COMAH) Sites

These are establishments that pose a particular risk due to the nature and quantity of the materials that are stored and/or processed on site. Managers of these sites are required to put in place comprehensive plans to prevent accidents happening, and to minimise their impact if they do.

There are currently 30 COMAH sites within the County. The Service takes a key role in planning and preparing for incidents involving

these sites. This includes exercises and visits to maintain familiarity with layout and procedures.

ECFRS has taken a lead role in developing the County's civil protection arrangements through its role as chair of the Essex Resilience Forum.

Heritage

Essex is rightly proud of its wealth of historic buildings. However, it is not widely appreciated that there are over 14,000 listed buildings and 56 listed churches in the County. Because of the irreplaceable nature of these buildings, it is important that particular attention is paid to ensuring that, firstly, appropriate fire safety standards are in place within them; and, secondly, that plans are made to minimise the extent of any damage if they do suffer a fire.

Future Development

Essex is a fast-growing county. The Bathside Bay area of Harwich has received approval for the development of a £300 million container terminal scheme. This will eventually develop Harwich into potentially the second largest container port in the UK.

It will see a significant expansion of the existing site, almost doubling the total quay length to three kilometres, an expansion of the existing container terminal to accommodate 26,000 full-sized shipping containers (each 40 feet in length), and rail infrastructure to transport nearly a quarter of a million of them. It is also expected to generate 772 jobs and significant vehicle movements daily.

An expansion and development of the deep-sea container port at Shell Haven/Coryton is planned. Due for completion in 2008, it will be capable of handling 1.75 million 40-foot containers annually, with three kilometres of quayside, providing enough berthing for up to ten vessels. This will create a huge increase in shipping on the Thames, and traffic in the south of the County.

Listed Buildings	
Grade	Number
1	271
2*	734
2	13,170

Listed Churches	
Grade	Number
A	2
B	43
C	11



The Community Risk Profile for Essex contd



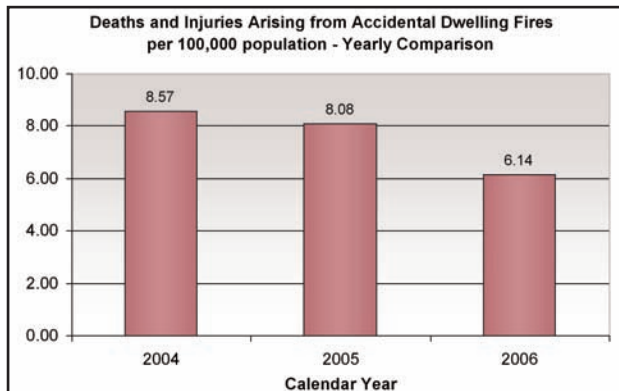
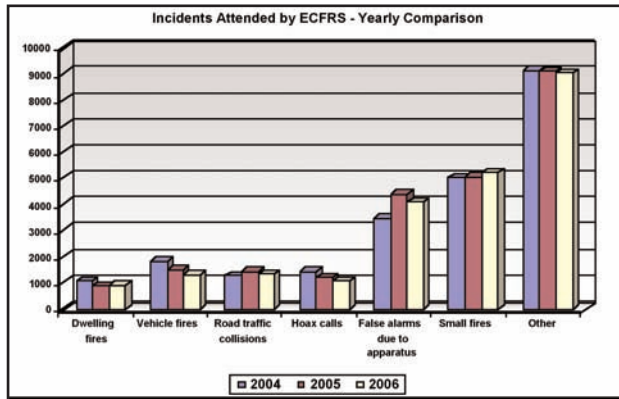
The Thames Gateway area is recognised by central government as a national priority for regeneration and growth, with the Thames Gateway South Essex area (TGSE) expected to receive significant growth over the next fifteen years – adding 55,000 jobs and 37,000 homes. The regeneration of the TGSE area is gathering momentum as work continues preparing for the 2012 Olympic Games, and the Shell Haven London Gateway Port development.

The potential for growth in housing provision up to 2021 could add 125,000 new homes and will provide new population characteristics and challenges. It is also recognised that achieving this growth

would require significant improvements to transport and public services infrastructure.

Incidents

The total number of incidents ECFRS attended in 2005/06 was 23,622. This figure rose slightly to 24,225 in 2006/07.



Consultation Questions Form

Have Your Say



Essex County Fire & Rescue Service

Headquarters
Rayleigh Road
Hutton
Brentwood
Essex CM13 1AL
Tel: 01277 222531

www.essex-fire.gov.uk

During last year's public consultation a total of 290 responses were received – almost eight times as many as we received the previous year. An overwhelming response to one proposal in particular resulted in that proposal being withdrawn. This demonstrates the power of consultation and that you, too, can make a difference to our plans by taking part.

Feedback from previous years tells us that you'd like to see the proposals described in more detail, together with the costs involved and the reasons behind each proposal. While it is not always possible to determine the exact costs involved in each project at this early stage, we hope you'll agree that this year's proposals are described more fully than in previous years. However, if you would like to know more, please contact the Business Excellence Directorate on 01277 222531 or email performance@essex-fire.gov.uk.

Tell us what you think!

What do you think about the proposals contained in this document? Let us know and you will be helping to shape the future of your Fire and Rescue Service.

If you are reading a printed copy of the IRMP, please complete the detachable form and return it to the following FREEPOST address:

Chief Fire Officer (Business Excellence)
Essex County Fire and Rescue Service
FREEPOST
EB93
CM13 1BR

Alternatively, please call 01277 222531 and ask for Business Excellence, or send an email to performance@essex-fire.gov.uk. If you'd like us to contact you, remember to include your details.

DOING MORE THAN WE HAVE EVER DONE TO MAKE ESSEX SAFE

Consultation Questions

(detachable feedback form)

Proposal 1: To introduce a robust medium to long-term community risk profiling capability.	
a.	Do you broadly agree that the proposal is important for the future safety of communities in Essex? <i>(Please delete as appropriate)</i> YES/NO
	If no, please explain why:
b.	Do you believe that the issues identified in the 'why we intend to do it' section of the proposal all have the potential to increase risk to communities in Essex, in the future? <i>(Please delete as appropriate)</i> YES/NO
	If no, please explain why:
c.	Do you believe that there are issues not identified in the 'why we intend to do it' section of the proposal, that are relevant for the Fire and Rescue Service, and have the potential to increase risk to communities in Essex, in the Future? <i>(Please delete as appropriate)</i> YES/NO
	If yes, please list the issues and describe the basis upon which they have the potential to increase risk:
d.	Do you believe that the proposal could impact on areas of performance other than those identified in the "performance information associated with the proposal" section? <i>(Please delete as appropriate)</i> YES/NO
	If yes, please list other areas of performance and the basis upon which you believe they could be impacted:

Proposal 1: To introduce a robust medium to long-term community risk profiling capability. (contd)	
e.	If you have any other comments in relation to the proposal, please set them out below:

Proposal 2: To undertake an area-specific review of community risk management arrangements in Thurrock.	
a.	Do you broadly agree that the proposal is important for the future safety of communities in Thurrock? <i>(Please delete as appropriate)</i> YES/NO
	If no, please explain why:
b.	Do you believe that the circumstances in Thurrock are sufficiently unique, in Essex terms, to justify bringing forward a review specific to this area of the county? <i>(Please delete as appropriate)</i> YES/NO
	If no, please explain why and, if appropriate, identify other areas of the county which you believe would warrant a similar review:
c.	Do you believe that the proposal could impact on areas of performance other than those identified in the "performance information associated with the proposal" section? <i>(Please delete as appropriate)</i> YES/NO
	If yes, please list other areas of performance and the basis upon which you believe they could be impacted.

Proposal 2: To undertake an area-specific review of community risk management arrangements in Thurrock. (contd)	
d.	If you have any other comments in relation to the proposal, please set them out below:

Proposal 3: To commission a full business case to determine the optimum deployment of resources within the north west area of Essex.	
a.	Do you agree that this initiative is essential to make certain that we are doing all we can to ensure that we continue to have the capability to provide, in the most cost effective way, the resources that we need to maintain the future safety of our expanding communities in the north west of the County? <i>(Please delete as appropriate)</i> YES/NO
b.	Do you foresee any problems with this proposal?
c.	If you have any further comments that you would like to make in relation to this proposal, please set them out below:

DETACH FROM STAPLES

FOLD

Consultation Questions

Proposal 4: To establish a dedicated planning team for the 2012 London Olympics.

- a. Does the above proposal provide sufficient information for you to appreciate the sheer magnitude of this event and, accordingly, the reasons why we need to increase our capacity in order to effectively plan and meet the demands that the Olympics will put on the Fire Authority? *(Please delete as appropriate)*
YES/NO
- b. Do you agree with the proposal? *(Please delete as appropriate)*
YES/NO
- c. If you do not agree with the proposal can you give your reasons why?
- d. If you have any further comments that you would like to make in relation to this proposal, please set them out below?

What is your role in compiling this questionnaire? (please tick as appropriate)

- Member of Public ECFRS Business Community Other

Did you find the document easy to understand? Yes No

Do you think that the document is well laid out? Yes No

How did you hear about this consultation exercise? (please state below)

How would you describe your ethnic origin?

- WHITE British Irish
 Any other White background, please specify:.....

- MIXED White and Black Caribbean White and Black African
 White and Asian
 Any other Mixed background, please specify:.....

- BLACK OR BLACK BRITISH Caribbean African
 Any other Black background, please specify:.....

(detachable feedback form)

- ASIAN OR ASIAN BRITISH Indian Pakistani Bangladeshi
 Any other Asian background, please specify:.....

- CHINESE OR OTHER ETHNIC ORIGIN Chinese Traveller of Irish Heritage
 Gypsy/Roma Other Travellers
 Any other background, please specify:.....
 Prefer not to specify

Do you have a disability under the terms of the 1995 Disability Discrimination Act?

- Yes No

Please tick to indicate your age group:

- Under 16 16 – 24 25 – 34 35 – 44 45 – 54
 55 – 64 65 – 74 75+

What is your Sexual Orientation?

- Bisexual Gay/Lesbian Heterosexual Prefer not to say

Are you are a Transsexual?

- Yes No Prefer not to say

What is your religious belief/faith?

- Buddhist Christian Hindu Jewish Muslim Sikh
 Other, please specify:..... None Prefer not to say

You don't have to provide the following personal details if you don't wish to. However, it is required if you are interested in joining our Community Consultation group. In line with the Data Protection Act 1988, any personal information you do give us will be treated as confidential and will not be shared.

Title Mr Mrs Miss Ms Other

First Name

Surname

Address

.....Postcode

Telephone (home) (day)

Email

Our Proposals for 2008–11

This year the EFA offers four proposals for consultation, which are set out below. Please refer to the Consultation Questions section on page 'V' for details of how to take part. Please take this opportunity to have your say and help to shape the future of your fire and rescue service – remember, you can influence what we do. We look forward to hearing from you.

Proposal 1:

To introduce a robust medium to long-term community risk profiling capability

Details of community risk/opportunity to be addressed:

The community risk profile in Essex is certain to change significantly over the next fifteen to twenty years, due to a range of factors.

The approach currently employed for profiling risk in the County relies substantially on the analysis of historical information; in other words, it relies on examining things that have happened, and circumstances that have existed in the past, to assess what is likely to happen in the present and future. For example, data from emergency incidents previously attended by the Service and demographic information from the 2001 Census currently contribute to the development of a risk profile for the County.

Whilst this approach is relatively effective in determining whether existing resources are adequate and appropriately located to manage existing risk, it leaves the Authority vulnerable in terms of its ability to take timely decisions regarding future changes in the County's risk profile.

What we intend to do:

Develop a process, employing newly-developed computer software for assessing:

1. The impact that future changes in the County are likely to have on its community risk profile; and

Progress with previous intentions

Details of the progress made to date will be published in our Corporate Plan 2008–11, which will be available to view on our website:

www.essex-fire.gov.uk, from April 2008.

Are you due a visit?

Maybe you are wondering how we decide when and where we are going to call. Do YOU think we need to reveal more specific information? Remember, we need you to tell us what you think!



Our Proposals for 2008-11 contd

2. What adjustments need to be made across the range of prevention, protection and emergency response services delivered by the Authority, to ensure that a proactive approach is taken in managing future risk.

Why we intend to do it:

Essex will change significantly over the next ten to fifteen years and beyond; with many of the changes likely to impact on the work of its fire and rescue service. Set out below are some examples of the drivers that will change the risk profile in Essex over this period:

The East of England Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS)

The RSS sets out the strategy for planning and development in the East of England to the year 2021. It covers economic development, housing, the environment, transport, waste management, culture, sport and recreation, mineral extraction and more.

Whilst the final RSS is not expected to be published before autumn 2007, it is clear that, amongst other things, it will set out details of:

- Plans to significantly increase the number of employment opportunities in Essex, across both the industrial and commercial sectors.
- Plans to build a substantial number of new homes in Essex
- Substantial development of the Haven Gateway, on the Tendring peninsula
- Substantial development of the Thames Gateway, in the South of the County
- An increase in air transport capacity, through expansion of Stansted airport
- Major expansion of the County's road transport infrastructure.

The Impact of Climate Change

Despite some disagreement regarding its cause, there is a consensus that climate change is happening. This has significant implications in terms of the demands that will be placed on the Fire and Rescue Service in Essex. In particular:

- The increased risk of heavy rain elevates the chances that the County will suffer severe, inland flooding.
- Rising sea levels increase the risk that coastal areas of the County will suffer severe flooding.
- More frequent high winds will lead to an increase in damage to property and the natural environment from such events.
- A rise in summer temperatures increases the chances of fires starting and spreading quickly – particularly in rural parts of the County.

Demographic Change

As well as growing substantially in size, the make-up of Essex's population will change in the years ahead.

Essex will see an increasingly ageing population, with the ratio of working age to older people progressively reducing. Experience tells us that older people are at statistically higher risk from fire than younger adults, and it will be necessary to tailor the Fire Authority's resources to meet the demands associated with this change.

It is also likely that job opportunities in and around Essex – particularly in the construction industry – will attract migrant workers to the area. Again, the Authority's services will need to be targeted at addressing risk management issues associated with an influx of such workers.

Against the background of the issues set out above, the Authority believes that an imperative exists to introduce a capability that will enable good quality, timely decisions to be made about future community risk management arrangements.

Performance information associated with the proposal

Best Value Performance Indicators potentially affected by the proposal:

BPVI 142ii

Total number of calls to primary fires per 10,000 population



Our Proposals for 2008-11 contd

BVPI 142iii	<i>Total number of calls to accidental fires in dwellings per 10,000 population</i>
BVPI 143i	<i>Number of deaths arising from accidental fires in dwellings per 100,000 population</i>
BVPI 143ii	<i>Number of injuries arising from accidental fires in dwellings per 100,000 population</i>
BVPI 144	<i>Percentage of accidental fires in dwellings confined to room of origin</i>
BVPI 207	<i>Number of fires in non-domestic premises per 1,000 non-domestic premises</i>
BVPI 208	<i>Percentage of people in accidental dwelling fires who escape unharmed without FRA assistance at the fire</i>
BVPI 209i	<i>Percentage of fires attended in dwellings where a smoke alarm had activated</i>
BVPI 209ii	<i>Percentage of fires attended in dwellings where a smoke alarm was fitted but did not activate</i>
BVPI 209iii	<i>Percentage of fires attended in dwellings in which no smoke alarm was fitted</i>

Local performance indicators potentially affected by the proposal:

Number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic collisions per 100,000 population.

How we intend to do it:

We will engage consultants to develop a computer software application to support the process of managing future risk in the County.

When we will do it:

Preliminary work will commence on clearly specifying details of what the software application will be required to do, during late 2007 and early 2008.

Once this work is completed, the specification will be used as a basis for engaging consultants to develop the software application during the 2008/9 financial year.

Who will be responsible for its delivery:

The Director of Safer Communities.

How we will resource delivery of the proposal:

Provision will be made for consultation fees as an element of the 2008/9 budget-setting process.

Opportunities are also being pursued to share the development costs of this software with other fire and rescue authorities who are facing significant, medium and long-term changes to the risk profile in the geographical areas for which they have responsibility.

Please see page 'III' for the consultation questions relating to this proposal.



Our Proposals for 2008-11 contd

Proposal 2:

To undertake an area-specific review of community risk management arrangements in Thurrock

Details of community risk/opportunity to be addressed:

Thames Gateway is a geographical area that extends along both sides of the Thames from the London Docklands into north Kent and South Essex. The Gateway is in the early stages of a substantial long-term regeneration programme – the largest in Europe.

As an important element of this programme, planning permission has recently been granted for a new port at Shell Haven, and an associated commercial centre, which will combine to form the London Gateway development. The timescale for completion of this development will significantly accelerate the rate at which the risk profile in Thurrock is changing.

Against a background of already high levels of activity, across the range of prevention, protection and emergency response services in the Thurrock area, the increase in demand for such services in the relatively short-term, arising from the London Gateway development, generates a risk that the Authority will not have sufficient capacity to effectively discharge its statutory functions in the area. This proposal is intended to mitigate that risk.

What we intend to do:

It is intended that a two-stage review of prevention, protection and emergency response service provision in the Thurrock area will be undertaken. The first stage will focus upon prevention and protection arrangements and, in particular, will:

- Review arrangements for discharging the Authority's statutory duty to promote fire safety in the area;
- Review arrangements for discharging the Authority's statutory duty to enforce fire safety standards in premises that fall within the scope of the Fire Safety Order, ie non-residential premises;
- Review arrangements for discharging the Authority's statutory duty to engage in consultation, regarding fire safety standards in new

- premises, and existing premises undergoing major building works;
- Assess the extent to which existing resources need to be adjusted to ensure sufficient capacity to meet demand against these duties over the medium-term; and
- Bring forward recommendations associated with the means by which any adjustments in service provision can be resourced.

The second stage of the review will concentrate on emergency response arrangements and will involve a review of fire station locations; emergency response vehicle capability; and crewing arrangements including options for redeployment. This stage of the review is likely to form an element of a more substantial review of such arrangements across the County.

Why we intend to do it:

From a fire and rescue service perspective, Thurrock already has a substantial and diverse risk profile. With a concentration of large industrial and commercial sites, as well as a significant resident population, the area currently presents a range of risk management challenges that are not found elsewhere in the County - and Thurrock is growing fast. It sits at the heart of the Thames Gateway regeneration area and, as a result, is benefiting from a programme of sustained inward investment that will extend for many years.

This inward investment will generate employment opportunities across the industrial and commercial sectors, which will fuel an increase in the resident population – catered for by constructing something in the region of 20,000 new homes.

Notwithstanding the fact that the regeneration programme is in its relatively early stages, growth in the area is already imposing unprecedented demand on the Fire Authority's resources. Whilst the number of calls to emergency incidents in Thurrock has remained relatively stable over recent years, work associated with expansion has impacted in other areas. For example, in 2006/7, the local fire safety department responded to 50% more consultations, in respect of fire safety standards for new buildings, than it had dealt with as an average across the four preceding years. In response to this,



Our Proposals for 2008-11 contd

resources were diverted to allow an additional, fulltime fire safety officer to be temporarily posted into the department.

This increase in the 'background' workload for the local fire safety department will continue for many years, as the Thames Gateway regeneration programme unfolds. It is also possible that, over time, the programme will generate a rise in the number of emergency calls responded to by fire stations in the area.

Additionally, the recent announcement that approval has been granted for the development of a new port at Shell Haven and an associated commercial centre, which combine to form the London Gateway development, will result in new risk being imported into the area. This risk will need to be managed on an ongoing basis. Of more immediate concern, however, is the fact that the announcement will generate a significant short-term spike in workloads.

The London Gateway Port and Business Park will be developed on a 15,000-acre site at Shell Haven. The scheme – which is expected to cost £1.5bn – will generate in the region of 17,000 jobs; establish the UK's largest logistics and business park; and provide a port capable of handling 3.5 million standard container units per year. The project is expected to see the first container berths operational by 2010, with some business units occupied by, as early as, the end of 2007.

Both the short and long-term implications of the announcement that the London Gateway development is to go ahead have triggered the review which forms the basis of this proposal.

Performance information associated with the proposal

Best Value Performance Indicators potentially affected by the proposal:

BVPI 142ii	<i>Total number of calls to primary fires per 10,000 population</i>
BVPI 142iii	<i>Total number of calls to accidental fires in dwellings per 10,000 population</i>
BVPI 143i	<i>Number of deaths arising from accidental fires in dwellings per 100,000 population</i>

BVPI 143ii	<i>Number of injuries arising from accidental fires in dwellings per 100,000 population</i>
BVPI 144	<i>Percentage of accidental fires in dwellings confined to room of origin</i>
BVPI 207	<i>Number of fires in non-domestic premises per 1,000 non-domestic premises</i>
BVPI 208	<i>Percentage of people in accidental dwelling fires who escape unharmed without FRA assistance at the fire</i>
BVPI 209i	<i>Percentage of fires attended in dwellings where a smoke alarm had activated</i>
BVPI 209ii	<i>Percentage of fires attended in dwellings where a smoke alarm was fitted but did not activate</i>
BVPI 209iii	<i>Percentage of fires attended in dwellings in which no smoke alarm was fitted</i>

How we intend to do it:

Project teams, comprising members of the Service, co-opted specialists and trade union officials will deliver the respective stages of the review.

When we will do it:

Stage 1 will be completed in the first half of the 2008/9 financial year. This will enable any financial implications associated with recommendations flowing from the review to be factored into the 2009/10 budget-setting process.

It is anticipated that Stage 2 of the review will be undertaken during the 2009/10 financial year.

Who will be responsible for its delivery:

Director of Safer Communities

How we will resource delivery of the proposal:

The review will be undertaken within existing financial provision.

Please see page 'III' for the consultation questions relating to this proposal.



Our Proposals for 2008-11 contd

Proposal 3:

To commission a full business case to determine the optimum deployment of resources within the north west area of Essex

Details of community risk/opportunity to be addressed:

The current development of north west Essex and the proposed development, as described in Regional Spatial Strategy documents¹, has increased the existing and potential risks in this area to such an extent that ECFRS initiated research into an outline business case. The purpose of this outline business case was to assess the impact of these developments on the ability of ECFRS to meet the extra demands that are being placed on it.

Following several months of consultation and research the outline business case has now been completed². This outline business case assesses the risk to life, property and the environment which may result from the planned and proposed developments in the north west. The plan has also taken into consideration the social impact and other local factors to ensure that the highest possible standards of performance at emergency incidents continue to be delivered to our communities in this area of Essex.

The findings of the outline business case clearly point towards a new fire station being built within the boundary of Stansted Airport which would provide the optimum deployment of the specialist and standard appliances needed to provide a standard of fire cover that compares to Heathrow and Gatwick airports. This would also ensure that fire cover is appropriate (within ECFRS' stated fire cover standards) to the current and future needs of the community in the surrounding areas.

¹ The draft East of England Plan sets out a strategy to guide planning and development in the region to the year 2021. The plan is expected to be approved by Government in summer 2007. It is one of a series of Regional Spatial Strategies that are prepared for regions in England.
² ECFRS Outline Business Case for the Assessment of Current and Developing Risk in North West Essex. Available on ECFRS website, www.essex-fire.gov.uk.

What we intend to do:

The outline business case does not provide sufficient evidence on which to base the decisions that will be required in order to implement the changes that have been proposed. We therefore intend to commission a full business case to define more exactly how ECFRS should arrange its operational response resources to manage these future additional risks.

Performance information associated with the proposal

Potential Best Value Performance Improvement Areas:

BVPI 143i	<i>Number of deaths arising from accidental fires in dwellings per 100,000 population</i>
BVPI 143ii	<i>Number of injuries arising from accidental fires in dwellings per 100,000 population</i>
BVPI 142ii	<i>Total number of calls to accidental fires in dwellings per 10,000 population</i>
BVPI 144	<i>Percentage of accidental fires in dwellings confined to room of origin</i>
Government Target	<i>Reduce the number of people killed and seriously injured on roads</i>

Potential Local Performance Improvement Areas:

Percentage of times Fire Authority emergency response attendance standards are met.

How we intend to do it:

The plan will adhere to Best Value principles by ensuring that any business opportunities and partnerships are also considered and evaluated. In order to offer a robust foundation for any decisions that are made, the business case will also include a scientific projection based review as part of its research into the likely impacts of any development of ECFRS resources in this area.



Our Proposals for 2008-11 contd

When we will do it:

We intend to commission the work in spring 2008 for completion by autumn 2008.

Who will be responsible for its delivery?

The Director of Civil Resilience.

How we will resource delivery of the proposal:

A specialist consultant will be commissioned to produce the full business case, managed by existing staff. Value for money invested in the initial outlay in the acquisition of a consultant, with a previous track record of high quality delivery in this field of work, should prove to be a cost-effective investment by highlighting possible innovative business partnerships for sharing the costs of any proposed building solutions.

Please see page 'IV' for the consultation questions relating to this proposal.

Proposal 4:

To establish a dedicated planning team for the 2012 London Olympics

Details of community risk/opportunity to be addressed:

The London 2012 Olympics are just under five years away. At first glance it may appear both distant and insignificant. It is neither of these. Large-scale planning work has already been initiated across many public and private sector organisations. The statistical data that demonstrates the size of both the Games and their financial implications is astounding.

Essex will be hosting the mountain biking event at Weald Park, Brentwood. This will require a significant commitment from the Fire Authority in the lead-up to, and during, the event. However, in the lead-up to the games we will also need to be prepared to deal with:

- A large influx of people for the Olympics in general. The 'Olympic Family' will consist of approximately 215,000 people. This influx of a large number of people will have an effect upon our transport network and provides Essex with accommodation issues.
- A large influx of construction workers and equipment through our ports and on our transport networks.
- International competitions at all venues in the two years prior to the Games.
- Re-prioritisation of the transport network to support the Games.

The road network around London (including parts of Essex) will be reprioritised to support the Games, planning will need to be undertaken to ensure that our normal business activity is not adversely affected. We will also need to ensure that the network builds in our need to respond efficiently to Games-related incidents.

What we intend to do:

It is important that ECFRS is seen as a reliable partner in the safe delivery of the 2012 Olympic Games.



Our Proposals for 2008-11 contd

Performance information associated with the proposal:

Increase the number of cross agency exercises
Partnership working measure

How we intend to do it:

In ensuring the Service is best prepared to deliver against the above, ECFRS already sits on the combined fire services group. ECFRS is also a member of the Essex Olympic Transportation Consultation Group. The Essex Resilience Forum is investigating the impact of the Olympics on civil resilience for the County and it is anticipated that a multi-agency emergency planning group will be established in the lead up to the Olympics.

ECFRS is one of nine hosting authorities outside London. A combined UK Fire and Rescue Service Olympic Group has been established to carry out joint planning activities. This group has identified that each Fire and Rescue Service will require both a Group Manager and a Watch Manager in varying percentages in the coming years; accordingly, a bid has been placed to the Olympics fund under the overall security banner.

The provision of a dedicated planning team in the run up to the Olympics will ensure that sufficient resources are available to both staff the event at Weald Park and respond to the raised risk level appropriately across Essex and our borders whilst maintaining the standard of our normal operational response.

It is also proposed to run four multi-agency training events.

When we will do it:

As mentioned above, work has already started in a variety of work streams. The demand is increasing at a rate where we now need start building our dedicated planning team.

The sheer size and scale of the event makes it difficult to be specific about the resources we will need; however, the initial timescale for the implementation of the dedicated planning team is:

- 2008/9: One Group Manager on a 50% shared basis with other duties and one full-time Watch Manager.
- 2009–11: One full-time Group Manager and one full-time Watch Manager.

This is subject to change in line with the demands of the Olympics project.

Who will be responsible for its delivery?

The Director of Civil Resilience.

How we will resource delivery of the proposal:

There is a need to appreciate that current work activity in this area is increasing significantly to a point where more dedicated resources are required. Accordingly, all member fire and rescue services have jointly requested funding for human resources to cover the period 2008-2011. The delivery year 2012 will be subject to a separate funding process. The funding request is made as part of the overall security costs for the London Olympics.

Please see page 'V' for the consultation questions relating to this proposal.



Our Services

As well as dealing with emergencies, fires and other incidents, ECFRS also offers a range of safety services free of charge:

- Home fire safety checks
- Crucial Crew
- Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Juvenile Fire Setters Programme
- Electric blanket testing
- Open days
- School visits
- Station visits
- Chip pan demonstrations
- After the Incident Response
- Road traffic collision reduction initiatives
- During performance inspections
- Driver awareness campaigns on access issues
- Nominate a Neighbour scheme
- Posters, leaflets and newsletters for local communities and organisations
- Attend fêtes and charity events
- Provide business fire safety advice
- Provide advice on request
- National campaigns

For more information on any of the above please call the Community Education Department on 01277 222531.

Jargon Buster

- BVPI** Best Value Performance Indicator
A statutory set of indicators developed by the Government to measure the performance of local authorities. The data is collected and audited annually by the Audit Commission. BVPIs derive from the duty of Best Value on local authorities, which came into effect under the Local Government Act 1999.
- CLG** Communities and Local Government
The Government department that sets UK policy on local government, housing, urban regeneration, planning and fire and rescue.
- COMAH** Control of Major Accident Hazards
COMAH regulations apply mainly to the chemical industry, but also to some storage activities, explosives and nuclear sites, and other industries where dangerous substances are kept or used.
- CBRN** Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear
- ECFRS** Essex County Fire and Rescue Service
The statutory fire and rescue service for the County of Essex and the unitary authorities of Southend and Thurrock.
- EFA** Essex Fire Authority
Runs and manages the Essex County Fire and Rescue Service on behalf of the communities of Essex. The Authority is made up of 25 elected members representing Essex County Council and the unitary authorities of Southend and Thurrock.
- ERF** Essex Resilience Forum
The purpose of the ERF is to ensure that the emergency services are prepared to respond to any emergencies that may have a significant impact on the communities of Essex.
- IRMP** Integrated Risk Management Plan
Sets out a fire and rescue authority's assessment of local risks to life from fire, and uses this to identify how its resources should be deployed to tackle these risks and improve the safety of local people.
- NIM** National Intelligence Model
NIM improves the opportunities to share intelligence across police forces and other agencies such as Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships. The Essex Fire Authority's model is based on the NIM and helps us to ensure that our planning process is aligned to those of our partners.



Jargon Buster contd

- RRFSO** Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005
A statutory instrument which places the onus on individuals to carry out risk assessments on certain types of property and submit them to their local fire authority.
- RSS** Regional Spatial Strategy
A strategy to guide planning and development in the East of England to the year 2021.
- Stakeholders** *People with an interest or concern in something.*
- TGSE** Thames Gateway South Essex
Aims to deliver a better quality of life for those who live and work in the south of Essex, with a series of initiatives covering education, health, urban regeneration, transport, prosperity, leisure, the environment, culture, the arts, sport and business innovation.
- USAR** Urban Search and Rescue

Reference Documents

Title:	Available from:
Best Value Performance Plan 2007/8	Essex Fire Authority www.essex-fire.gov.uk
Civil Contingencies Act 2004	Office of Public Sector Information www.opsi.gov.uk
Data Protection Act	Office of Public Sector Information www.opsi.gov.uk
East of England Plan	East of England Regional Assembly www.eera.gov.uk
The Fire and Rescue National Framework 2006–8	Communities and Local Government www.communities.gov.uk
Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004	Office of Public Sector Information www.opsi.gov.uk
Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2004	Communities and Local Government www.communities.gov.uk
Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005	Office of Public Sector Information www.opsi.gov.uk



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