Every English fire and rescue service must produce a high-level plan (an IRMP) that explains how the Service intends to use their resources to respond to, and reduce, the risk they have identified within their area. The plan is subject to Public Consultation. We therefore want your views on our proposals for changes to emergency response in Suffolk.

**Integrated Risk Management Plan 2019-22**

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**Our Resources**

- **608** Uniformed staff
- **59** Non-uniformed staff
- **35** Fire stations
- **43** Fire engines

**Our Budget 2018/19**

- Support functions: £8,250,313
- Training and Development teams: £1,615,041
- Risk and Resilience team: £464,325
- Prevention team: £363,075
- Protection team: £943,075
- Fire stations: £10,063,788

**Risk Management**

1. **Prevention**
   
   Our Prevention team is based at Ipswich East fire station. The team is made up of managers, co-ordinators, liaison officers, prevention practitioners and volunteers.

2. **Protection**
   
   The Protection team has 10.5 inspecting officers, spread over the three districts. In the last three financial years the department conducted 2,870 audits of which approximately 2,370 were generated by the Risk Based Inspection Programme (RBIP).

3. **Response**
   
   Our Combined Control answers about 8,000 ‘999’ calls and we attend approximately 5,000 emergencies each year. Of these, in 2017/18, 824 were primary fires; 292 were accidental dwelling fires and 312 were road traffic collisions (RTCs). (Data taken at 11/10/18).

**Risk in Suffolk**

- Suffolk covers 1,466 sq miles. The population is over 745,300
- Forecasts indicate a decrease in number of children under 15
- Forecasts indicate 25% of Suffolk’s population will be 65+ by 2021
- 7.4% of Suffolk’s population are living in the 20% most deprived areas in England. Approximately 53,000 people
- One third of the population live in the three largest towns, Ipswich, Bury St. Edmunds and Lowestoft
- Over 80% of households own at least one car, with 35% owning two or more
- Over 50 miles of coastline and estuaries support recreational and commercial water use
- The Port of Felixstowe remains one of the UK’s and Europe’s busiest container ports
- Sizewell hosts one live and one decommissioned nuclear power station
- 335,370 homes in Suffolk. Over 70% of housing is owner-occupied
- A large-scale flood risk exists from coastal inundation and rivers Orwell, Gipping, Stour, Deben, Alde, Blyth and Waveney
- Renowned for heritage sites, some of which date from Roman times
Response Standards

Fire Incident Response Times: April 2016 to March 2017, England

Home Office returns show:

**Average response time to primary fires in Suffolk**
- **10.9 minutes** in 2015/16, increasing to **11.4 minutes** in 2016/17

**Average response time to dwelling fires in Suffolk**
- **9.0 minutes** in 2015/16, increasing to **9.9 minutes** in 2016/17

**Average response time to other building fires in Suffolk**
- **11.0 minutes** in 2015/16, decreasing to **10.4 minutes** in 2016/17

**Average response time to road vehicle collisions in Suffolk**
- **11.4 minutes** in 2015/16, increasing to **12.2 minutes** in 2016/17

Emerging Risks

- On-call firefighter recruitment, retention and availability continues to challenge fire and rescue services across the UK
- Grenfell Tower tragedy - enquiries and review of building regulations; safety of people in high-rise buildings
- Terror incidents such as Manchester Arena and London bridge attacks
- Extreme weather events and climate change - 'beast from the east', the summer of 2018 and increased flooding events
- Suffolk's population is ageing and will need greater support across a largely rural county
- Cyber risk grows as a threat to business delivery and continuity
- Managing the implications and outcomes of BREXIT

Suffolk IRMP Proposals

We want your views on our IRMP, the IRMP proposals, and the service we deliver.

The five IRMP proposals are to:

1. **Review our attendance to automatic fire alarm actuation**
2. **Review our response to road traffic collisions**
3. **Review staff shift patterns and duty systems**
4. **Review our specialist rescue capabilities**
5. **Review how we measure and record our response to emergency incidents**

The full IRMP and detail of all our proposals can be found at [www.suffolk.gov.uk/IRMP2019](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/IRMP2019)

The Consultation

The IRMP public consultation runs for 8 weeks from 11 February - 7 April 2019.
Find out more at [www.suffolk.gov.uk/IRMP2019](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/IRMP2019)
on social media, or by contacting us to request a copy of the IRMP or speak to a member of our team.

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