



Operational Plan

2013-2017

UPDATE APRIL 2016



**South Yorkshire
FIRE & RESCUE**

Introduction - Chief Fire Officer James Courtney

During the time since we published our 2013-17 Operational Plan we have made significant progress against the commitments we made, and have implemented a number of changes to the Service. This second update to the plan highlights the achievements and progress made to date, and looks forward to our next plan, which we will begin consulting on during 2016.

Following the Government's confirmation of the Financial Settlement for South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue over the next four years we have re-assessed the changes that we proposed in our plan. The cuts to our funding are not now anticipated to be as great as we first thought, which has enabled us to commit to maintaining our establishment (firefighter numbers) during the 2016/17 financial year whilst we plan for the future. Considerable savings will still be required to be made, however we may now have an opportunity to protect existing levels of service to the community by maintaining second pumps at wholtime stations.

In our 2014 update we advised that our plans to introduce Close Proximity Crewing (CPC) had been delayed. We have now introduced this new crewing system at four of our Fire Stations, which has enabled us to reduce the wholtime establishment and make significant cost savings, whilst maintaining 24x7 fire cover to the communities they serve.

We are very pleased to have opened two new Fire Stations in Sheffield in 2015, at Birley Moor and Parkway. The facilities at both are the best possible physical reminder of the fact that despite the financial challenges we face we remain absolutely committed to providing a first class emergency response to the communities of South Yorkshire.

SYFR also launched South Yorkshire's first Emergency First Responder (EFR) scheme in November 2015. The scheme is a joint initiative between Yorkshire Ambulance Service NHS Trust (YAS) and ourselves which sees firefighters called out to certain life-threatening incidents at the same time as an ambulance. The scheme is just one example of how we work effectively with partners to save lives and protect our communities. As we plan for the future we will continue to look at opportunities to work with local partners amongst our emergency service colleagues and within the voluntary sector to deliver enhanced services in a cost effective way.



Close Proximity Crewing

Close Proximity Crewing (CPC) commenced at Aston Park and Lowedges Fire Stations in Sheffield in October 2014 and has been operating successfully, enabling a reduction in wholtime posts. Edlington (Doncaster) and Tankersley (Barnsley) stations have also since converted to the CPC system.

Day crewing was introduced at Barnsley station in May 2015, which has enabled the second appliance at that station to provide daytime cover at reduced costs compared to the traditional wholtime staffing model.

Maltby Fire Station

South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority was successful in its bid for Transformation Funding and received £560,000 towards a relocation of Maltby fire station to the existing Police station. The relocation will also improve our emergency response to the area by moving our resources to where greater numbers of incidents occur. The target date for the move is September 2016. Sharing facilities is just one of the areas we are looking at for collaboration with South Yorkshire Police, and we are currently undertaking a wider review with our emergency service partners.

Review of support services

We have completed our review of Support Services, which saved £1.2 million from support staff costs, without any need for compulsory redundancies. A number of staff left the organisation through a voluntary redundancy scheme following a review and restructure of all support departments and roles.

South Yorkshire's first Emergency First Responder (EFR) scheme

SYFR launched its Emergency First Responder (EFR) scheme on 1 November 2015. The scheme is a joint initiative between South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue (SYFR) and Yorkshire Ambulance Service NHS Trust (YAS) which sees firefighters called out to certain life-threatening incidents at the same time as an ambulance. The EFR unit location within the local community could mean they are nearer to the scene in those first critical minutes of a medical emergency, delivering life-saving care until an ambulance arrives.

Completed actions

Our Operation Plan 2013-17 included 15 commitments, 9 of which have now been completed:

Commitment

We will further develop our Community Fire Risk Model to incorporate evaluation of our prevention activity in reducing risk, and review the process in 12 months time. We will use the model to target our Community Fire Safety resources, and use our resources where they have the most impact.

We will continue to work with partner agencies and seek to further to improve data sharing in order to target our interventions on the most vulnerable in society.

We will work with our Communities more closely in reducing risk in areas of greatest need through the use of the 'Stronger Safer Communities Reserve', which provides £2 million of funds to support agencies and community partners in the delivery of projects that support our community safety objectives and priorities.

We will continue to develop our approach to Inclusion by ensuring that it is integrated into all aspects of how we deliver our services, and better understand our communities and the risks they face.

We will continue to review and monitor our operational resources to ensure we have the right equipment and appliances to meet the changing risks in South Yorkshire, taking into consideration future local developments such as managed motorways and the High Speed Rail Network.

We will produce South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Operational Task Analysis (OTA) which will look to define appliance resource requirements for all standard incidents.

We will continue to work with our partners through the Joint Emergency Services Interoperability Programme (JESIP) to improve the ways in which we respond to major and complex incidents, feeding into regional and national policy direction.

We will develop our training strategy and policy in line with our IRMP and identified risks, and reinforce our desire to ensure that all our training is as realistic and relevant as possible.

We will review our approach to benchmarking our performance against others within the Fire Sector, to ensure we are comparing ourselves to 'like' Services, to inform how well we are performing against a number of key indicators. This will include identifying appropriate tools and resources to achieve this, for example exploring the benefits of the new Local Government Association online 'LG Inform Tool' for public sector benchmarking.

Completion

- ▶ **The Risk Model is now in use and will be annually review and refreshed**
- ▶ **We are working with a number of partner in this area and it is now business as usual**
- ▶ **The first and second rounds have been successfully awarded to partners. The FRA have committed an additional £2million from reserves for community projects**
- ▶ **This work is scrutinised on an ongoing basis by the Fire Authority.**
- ▶ **2 new turntable ladders were delivered this year. We will continue to review annually**
- ▶ **These have been drafted**
- ▶ **This is complete and the extend to which it is embedded within the service has been audited**
- ▶ **We have produced an annual plan to deliver this**
- ▶ **This has been completed**

Risk Modelling

We were aiming to develop a risk model for non-domestic properties by March 2015. Having reviewed the requirements for the model this has now been put on hold. We are implementing an upgrade to our ICT software to enable better management and targeting of our Risk Based Inspection Programme, which has taken priority.

Future Plans

We are in the early stages of developing our next Operational Plan which we will consult on in 2016.

Further information

Our full 2013-17 Operational Plan can be found on our website, which also provides more information on our services to the community, our people and resources, latest incidents and much more www.syfire.gov.uk

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