



Operational Plan

2013-2017

UPDATE SEPTEMBER 2014



South Yorkshire
Fire & Rescue

WORKING FOR A SAFER
SOUTH YORKSHIRE



Introduction

Chief Fire Officer James Courtney

During the time since our 2013-17 Operational Plan was adopted by the Fire Authority in November 2013, we have been working hard to implement the proposals we consulted on. We are publishing this update document to inform how we are progressing against the commitments that were made. In most cases, we are progressing as expected.

Our intention to introduce a Close Proximity Crewing (CPC) staffing model in South Yorkshire has been delayed. CPC at our less busy fire stations will enable us to make significant financial savings whilst having no impact on our current ability to provide emergency response. CPC is now scheduled to be introduced before the end of 2014.

Introducing innovative new systems like CPC illustrates how we are attempting to manage the budget cuts being imposed on us. Instead of cutting frontline services, we are working hard to bring new ways of thinking and working into South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue, in order to maintain the most efficient and effective use of the resources we have. I believe that by making changes during the less active night time periods, we can increase fire appliance availability during the busier day shifts, and make the necessary savings at the same time.

Close Proximity Crewing

Our Close Proximity Crewing trial was due to start in April 2014 but had to be postponed at short notice. As a consequence, we had to remove two fire engines from service. These were the second fire engines at Barnsley and Rotherham stations.

We now intend to have introduced Close Proximity Crewing by the end of 2014. This will allow us, over the months that follow, to explore options for the reinstatement of the second fire engines at Barnsley and Rotherham.



Maltby Fire Station

We have submitted a bid to the Government's Transformation Fund for one-off capital funding to relocate fire fighting resources in Maltby from the existing site to a shared facility at the nearby Police station site. If we are awarded this funding, we will close the existing Maltby fire station.

This joint venture will benefit both South Yorkshire Police and ourselves by sharing building running costs in future. We also envisage improved information-sharing in our respective community safety activities. This relocation will improve our emergency response in the area, by moving our resources closer to where the greater numbers of local incidents occur.

Firefighter training

We committed to review training in light of learning from operational incidents. Following the review we have concluded that, where necessary, essential training (i.e. training required to ensure an individual can operate competently within his/her role) will be undertaken at any time of the day or night to take greatest advantage of organisational capacity. Such arrangements may also provide an opportunity for our staff to train in more realistic settings.

Review of support services

A Support Services Review has taken place with the aim of saving around £1 million from support staff and non-pay budgets, thereby helping to protect frontline resources. A new organisational structure has been proposed and is currently being consulted upon with trade unions.

Completed actions

The issues above were all included within a 15-point action plan which was published in our Operational Plan. Of those 15 commitments, the following have already been completed:

Commitment

"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 produce South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Critical Attendance Standards (CAST), which will look to redefine appliance resource requirements for all standard incidents."

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

Completion

This work is scrutinised on an ongoing basis by the Fire Authority Workforce and Organisational Development Board.

These have been produced.

This has taken the form of an annual plan, which is already being implemented for 2014/15.

Risk Modelling

Because of the limited time which has passed since our Operational Plan was adopted in November 2014, we believe there has been no significant change in the risks present in South Yorkshire. We are aiming to develop a risk model for the non-domestic properties in the county i.e. businesses. This is the only other area of the action plan where we are running behind schedule but we still hope to have this in place by March 2015.

Further information

Our full 2014-17 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, news, and much more. www.syfire.gov.uk

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