

NATIONAL FRAMEWORK 2018 - COMPLIANCE

PRINCIPLE H: Compliance to National Framework 2018 – Must Do

PRINCIPLE OWNERS:

SERVICE MANAGEMENT TEAM (SMT)

CHIEF FIRE OFFICER and EXECUTIVE

The priorities in the National Framework are for fire and rescue authorities to:

- Identify and assess the full range of foreseeable fire and rescue related risks their areas face;
- Make appropriate provision for fire prevention and protection activities and response to fire and rescue incidents.
- Collaborate with emergency services and other local and national partners to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the service they provide.
- Be accountable to communities for the service they provide.
- Develop and maintain a workforce that is professional, resilient, skilled, flexible and diverse.

Must Do	
1	Delivery of functions
2	National Resilience
3	Governance
4	Achieving value for money
5	Workforce
6	Inspection, Intervention and Accountability

1. - Delivery of Functions

Paragraph No. in National Framework	Must Do's
2.1	Assess all foreseeable fire and rescue related risks that could affect its community, whether they are local, cross-border, multi-authority and/or national in nature from fires to terrorist attacks. Have regard to Community Risk Registers produced by Local Resilience and any other local risk analyses as appropriate.
2.2	Put in place arrangements to prevent and mitigate these risks, either through adjusting existing provision, effective collaboration and partnership working or building new capability.
2.3	Each fire and rescue authority must make provision for promoting fire safety, including fire prevention and have a locally determined risk based inspection programme for enforcing compliance with the provisions of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order.
2.9	Make provision to respond to incidents such as fires, road traffic accidents and emergencies within their area and other areas in line with mutual aid agreements.
2.10	Enter into reinforcement schemes, or mutual aid agreements, with other fire and rescue authorities for securing mutual assistance.
2.11	Have effective business continuity arrangements in place in accordance with duties under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004.
2.12	Statutory duty under the Policing and Crime Act 2017 to keep collaboration opportunities under review, notify other emergency services of proposed collaborations and give effect to a proposed collaboration where it is in the interests of efficiency or effectiveness.
2.15	Collaborate with other fire and rescue authorities to deliver interoperability and collaborate with other emergency services, wider Category 1 & 2 responders and Local Resilience Forums to ensure interoperability in line with the Joint Emergency Services Interoperability Principles (JESIP). Collaborate with the National Resilience Lead Authority to ensure interoperability is maintained for National Resilience assets.

How Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service complies

The Service routinely gathers and uses intelligence inputs such as station profiles, operational activity, SSRI records, partner data and community risk register information to assess demands and risks that could affect the community. These risks include local, cross-border, multi-agency and/or national in nature and through the Service's review of emergency response, specialist assets have been placed in strategic locations to improve response to incidents across Cheshire. Regular meetings take place with the other Cat 1 responders (Cheshire emergency Response Collaboration) to identify, manage

1. - Delivery of Functions

and share areas of risk within Cheshire. Information notes received from National Operational Learning & Joint Operational Learning are reviewed for learning and action plans put in place if required.

External incident reports are reviewed and for additional foreseeable risks and provision put in place. Kerslake Report reviewed and discussed both internally and at North West Fire Control to identify learning opportunities and risks. Regular operationally focussed meetings with regional FRS partners who share the same Fire Control to promote consistency of approach when working across borders.

Regional National Occupational Guidance Group (NOG) Established to promote and produce timely and relevant occupational guidance.

The Service has representation on the Local Resilience Forum Management and Executive Groups. The Authority takes into regard and has input in to the Community Risk Register, which supports collaboration with other agencies so arrangements are made to adjust existing provision if required and build new capability along partner agencies. This is tested during local multi-agency exercising.

The Authority has in place reinforcement and mutual aid agreements with all neighbouring FRS's (Sec 13 & 16) and has collaboration agreements in place for responding to other types of emergencies in the best interest of efficiency and effectiveness e.g. Forced Entry for Medical Emergencies. There are also both local and cross border exercises planned to test and deliver interoperability between all agencies, with all training and exercises linked to JESIP principles.

The Authority has representation on NFCC regional and national groups to promote and support interoperability with other FRS's and has systems in place to support its National Asset (High Volume Pump) response to national and local emergencies.

The Authority has a well-developed crisis management plan and each department has its own individual business continuity plan. The BC plans are tested and reviewed regularly and presented to Risk Management Board annually. Service is represented nationally on the NFCC BC group enabling the sharing of best practice. BC supplier audit completed on North West Fire Control for assurance. BC supplier assurance work on Collaborative shared functions is underway.

Cross border regional exercises completed – Bidston Docks, with Merseyside. High rise exercise with Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue. Exercise Merlin held at Jodrell Bank by CFRS in December 2018 with representatives from Police, NWAS and HART teams.

The Authority operates a Risk based Inspection Programme focused on the premises which pose the highest risk to life. This is based on national tools and is embedded within the Information Management System. The authority aims to audit at least 1800 premises per year. Intelligence is also used to inform the risk based programme using national and local information and that from regulatory partners. A business safety team is in place whose remit is to provide fire safety advice and guidance. This is all supported by a variety of web pages and feedback is sought from our customers. Several duty systems are in operation across Cheshire, proportionate to local risks and demands, as well as national and emerging requirements. This

1. - Delivery of Functions

New working patterns have been introduced to increase efficiency and productivity e.g. 12 hour wholetime shifts and a new day crewing agreement.

The Authority has a well-developed Home Fire Safety Programme and a robust targeting methodology which is reviewed annually to ensure that priority and weighting is given to those parts of the community who are considered most vulnerable and at risk e.g. over 65. The Programme delivers approximately 40,000 home visits each year and was developed further in 2016 to include Safe & Well visits; this was designed to support the prevention of some key health & wellbeing issues which may also contribute to reduced risk from fire. Phase 1 & 2 are now implemented with Phase 3 currently in development.

The Authority has a well-developed Community Risk Model (CRM) which provides data on early triggers and hotspots of potential incidents/risk; this ensures that resource can be redeployed in the areas most needed.

Evidence - evidence links (any evidence held on local internal drives can be requested)

[NOL & JOL Action Notes – Cheshire Planning System](#)

[Kerslake Review – Action Tracker OPA](#)

<file:///T:/Policy%20&%20Planning/The%20Kerslake%20Report/Action%20Trackers/VERSION%206%20-The%20Kerslake%20Report%20Action%20Tracker.docx>

[JESIP Training Records - T:\Policy & Planning\External Planning RESTRICTED\JESIP\2018 Jesip refresher training\JESIP training 2017-18.xlsx](#)

<https://www.cheshirefire.gov.uk/business-safety>

[Intelligence led targeting of fire safety activities \(policy document on corp. docs\)](#)

[Business safety policy \(on corp. docs\)](#)

[12 hour shift pattern](#)

[Day crewing agreement \(Corp Docs\)](#)

[CRM Policy](#)

[Safe & Well Policy \(Corp Docs\)](#)

[Safe & Well Handbook \(DOCs 57-3588\)](#)

Assurance – Where do you get assurances from?

MIAA Business Continuity Audit

Cheshire Resilience Forum COMAH Exercises

Level 1 Incident Ground Audits

HMICFRS Report

NWFC Business Continuity Supplier Assurance Inspection

HMICFRS inspected both the Prevention and Protection Department and rated both to be good. Customer Satisfaction Surveys provide quarterly feedback from residents and businesses in relation to the service provided by CFRS to them. Organisation performance indicators

1. - Delivery of Functions

are in place and scrutinised quarterly by members.

LJMU Report – Evaluation of Fire and Rescue Service Safe and Well Visits in Cheshire and Merseyside

Edge Hill Report – Prevention have commissioned further evaluation of the Safe & Well program by Edge Hill – this is due in Autumn 2019

ISO 9001:2015 accreditation – Prevention & Protection departments have accreditation to ISO 9001 : 2015 is an international standard for quality management systems, which is quality assurance framework. Our Services are externally audited on an annual basis with re-accreditation on a three yearly cycle, accredited on an annual basis.

2. – National Resilience

Paragraph No. in National Framework	Must Do's
3.3	Must work with the lead authority to support the national resilience assurance processes in order to ensure capabilities are maintained at a high state of operational readiness.
3.4	Through the National Fire Chiefs Council's (NFCC) representation on the Strategic Resilience Board, work with the Government to identify and address any national resilience capability gaps identified through ongoing analysis of the National Risk Assessment.
3.5	Risk assessments must include an analysis of any gaps between existing capability and that needed to ensure national resilience. Fire and Rescue Strategic Resilience Board, to provide assurance to Government that risks are assessed, plans are in place and any gaps between existing capabilities commissioned to deliver by Government are procured, maintained and managed cost effectively.
3.7	Highlight to the Home Office or the Fire and Rescue Strategic Resilience Board any capability gaps that cannot be met having taken into account mutual aid arrangements, pooling and reconfiguration of resources and collective action.
3.9	Proactively engage with and support the National Coordination and Advisory Framework (NCAF) arrangements including the NFCC's lead operational role.
3.10	Be able to respond to the threat of terrorism and be ready to respond to incidents within their areas and across England.
3.13	Continue to work collectively and with the Fire and Rescue Strategic Resilience Board and the national resilience lead authority to provide assurance to government that existing national resilience capabilities are fit for purpose and robust and risks and plans are assessed and any gaps in capability that are needed to ensure national resilience are identified.

2. – National Resilience

How Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service complies

Assurance Audit for High Volume pump being completed by National Resilience Team in February 2019. HVP TAC AD also in Service representing the region and currently planning regional HVP exercise.

National Resilience website reviewed regularly by National Resilience Single Point of Contact. Self-Assessment tools completed for type B Water Rescue Teams. DEFRA type B Water Rescue Equipment availability reviewed regularly.

Terrorism response, regular officer operational awareness training for MTFA and Chemical response by neighbouring services. NR assets, MDU and DIM familiarisation by Merseyside FRS. Lead NILO presentation from GMFRS of Lessons learned from the Manchester Arena Bombing. Review of NWFC action plans for Major/terrorist actions.

The Service also exercises with its blue light responders to prepare for acts of terrorism with the most recent exercise simulating a multi-agency MTFA incident at local shopping complex. This has been facilitated in collaboration with the LRF.

Evidence - evidence links (any evidence held on local internal drives can be requested)

[PDR – Pro Training records](#)

[HVP standard test records](#)

[National Resilience Website](#)

[Exercise Debriefs](#)

[Kerslake Review – Action Tracker OPA](#)

<file:///T:/Policy%20&%20Planning/The%20Kerslake%20Report/Action%20Trackers/VERSION%206%20-The%20Kerslake%20Report%20Action%20Tracker.docx>

Assurance – Where do you get assurances from?

NRAT HVP Assurance Audit Report.

3. – Governance

Paragraph No. in National Framework	Must Do's
4.4	Hold the Chief Fire Officer to account for the exercise of their functions and the functions of persons under their discretion and control.
4.5	Chief Fire Officer must have regard to the IRMP and any set objectives and priorities which may be outlined in a strategic plan.
4.6	Must produce an integrated Risk Management Plan, Annual statement of assurance and financial plans.

How Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service complies

The Authority has published its five year strategy 2015-20 'Making Cheshire Safer'. There is an Annual Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) published year on year which takes into account any specific risks internal/external highlighted in the PESTELO. We have a robust consultation process and respond to the feedback from the communities as part of the IRMP process.

The Authority publishes Annual Statement of Accounts, Statement of Assurance, Annual Governance Statement and Annual report which reassure the communities of Cheshire, Warrington & Halton, we update the community risk model on a regular basis and use the outcomes to direct and prioritise our prevention, protection and response activities. The Statements provide our communities with guidance on how they can access performance information. The website provides accessibility to live performance data and incident information.

The Service provides the Fire Authority with an Annual Health and safety Report to assure that the Service is discharging the statutory H&S duties for which the Authority is the duty holder

Evidence - evidence links (any evidence held on local internal drives can be requested)

[Annual Health and Safety Report](#)

[IRMP Action Plan](#)

[Five Year Strategy](#)

[Statement of Assurance](#)

3. – Governance

Assurance – Where do you get assurances from?

Internal/External Audits
Quarterly performance Reports
Statement of Assurance
Annual Governance Statement

4. - Achieving Value for Money

Paragraph No. in National Framework	Must Do's
5.1	Must manage their budget and spend money properly and appropriately and ensure the efficient and effective use of resources.
5.2	Must ensure that financial decisions are taken with the advice and guidance of the chief finance officer and that decisions are taken with an emphasis on delivering value for money to the public purse.
5.11	Must demonstrate that it is achieving value for money for the goods and services it receives.
5.12	Must demonstrate and support national and local transformation programmes where appropriate.
5.13	Must ensure that commercial activities, be that the placement of new contracts or the use of existing contracts, is in line with their legal obligations.
5.16	Must ensure that commercial profit making activities are exercised through a company.
5.18	Must ensure that any actions taken in respect of their trading companies are considered against the requirements of competition law.

How Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service complies

The Service is a member of the Fire and Rescue Indemnity Company (FRIC), this mutual insurance arrangement has delivered savings in the cost of providing protection for Vehicles, Liability and Property. The mutual has also used its combined purchasing power to deliver cost savings for the statutory engineering and lifting equipment inspections.

The Prevention Department works with partners where possible to deliver services and manage community risk in line with departmental need and include (but are not limited to) home fire safety, arson reduction, road safety, working with children and young people and health and wellbeing. Working in collaboration enables CFRS to maximise the use of resources, build capacity and share information and good practice in order to deliver the

4. - Achieving Value for Money

best outcomes and services for the communities it serves.

Evidence - evidence links (any evidence held on local internal drives can be requested)

Prevention Partnership & Policy Toolkit (Corp Docs and Cheshire Planning System).

Assurance – Where do you get assurances from?

MIAA Prevention partnership Audit 2016

5. – Workforce

Paragraph No. in National Framework	Must Do's
6.1	Each fire and rescue authority should have in place a people strategy that has been designed in collaboration with the workforce. This should take into account the principles set out in the NFCC's people strategy.
6.4	All fire and rescue authorities must implement the any approved professional standards and the inspectorate will have regard to these standards as part of their inspections.
6.6	Each fire and rescue authority must comply with the fitness principles set out in Annex C to the National Framework.
6.8	Fire and rescue authorities must not re-appoint principal fire officers after retirement to their previous, or a similar, post save for in exceptional circumstances in the interests of public safety. Any such appointment must be transparent, justifiable and time limited.
6.9	Any decision to re-appoint should be subject to agreement by a public vote of the elected members of the fire and rescue authority. The reasons must be published and the principal fire officer's pension must be abated until they cease to be employed by a fire and rescue authority.
6.10	All principal fire officer posts must be open to competition nationally and fire and rescue authorities must take account of this in their workforce planning.

How Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service complies

5. – Workforce

6.6 The Authority has had a policy to ensure the fitness of its operational staff for some time; this policy applies to all operational staff. In December 2014 the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) issued an addendum to the National Framework for England in relation to firefighter fitness. In 2015 the Authority proposed amendments to its then current fitness policy to align it to the National Framework requirements and the national fitness standard proposed by CFOA the standard for operational firefighters is applied regardless of rank.

The Authority recruited a fulltime Fitness Advisor to lead on supporting firefighters to attain and maintain the fitness standards required, and to undertake fitness testing. Formal fitness testing for all operational is carried out by the Fitness Adviser as part of an annual program the headline results of the testing program are reported through the Service Health and Safety Committee on a quarterly basis. In addition to the annual fitness test operational staff are expected to carry out an interim test six monthly with the evidence of fitness presented as part of the appraisal process.

An audit of compliance with the National Framework requirements on management of firefighter fitness concluded that the Authority complied with the requirements of the framework.

Evidence - evidence links (any evidence held on local internal drives can be requested)

<https://share.cheshirefire.gov.uk/SiteDirectory/CorpDocs/Health%20and%20Safety/Fitness.docx>

[Firefighter Fitness Addendum](#)

Dedicated Fitness Advisor - Role

Robust Annual Training Programme – Local

Health & Safety Policy & Framework - Local

Assurances – Where do you get assurances from?

MIAA Audit

Quarterly reports to H&S Committee

6. – Inspection, Intervention and Accountability

Paragraph No. in National Framework	Must Do's
7.4	All fire and rescue authorities must cooperate with Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) and its inspectors to enable them to deliver their statutory function.
7.5	Fire and Rescue authorities must give due regard to reports and recommendations made by HMICFRS and, if recommendations are made, prepare, update and regularly publish an action plan detailing how the recommendations are being actioned.
7.10	Fire and rescue authorities must hold the Chief Fire Officer to account for the delivery of the fire and rescue service and the functions of persons under their direction and control.
7.14	Each fire and rescue authority must comply with their statutory transparency requirements. Fire and rescue authorities must make their communities aware of how they can access data and information on their performance.

How Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service complies

Revised structure implemented to co-operate with HMICFRS. SPOC liaised with HMICFRS Service Liaison Lead throughout the process. Our report was published on the Service website and action plans are being drawn up in line with HMICFRS guidelines.

Evidence - evidence links (any evidence held on local internal drives can be requested)

<https://www.cheshirefire.gov.uk/news-events/latest-news/inpsection-report-published>

Assurance – Where do you get assurances from?

Published HMICFRS Reports
Internal action plans and papers regarding HMICFRS