

	Comment	Raised by...	Response/Action Recommended	Responsibility
Fire Safety	<p>One of our frequently asked questions is about the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 which was approved by Parliament on 7 June 2005, and came in to law on 1st October 2006.</p> <p>The FPRA broadly supported these changes which has moved towards a greater emphasis on fire prevention in all non-domestic premises which includes communal parts of blocks of flats which is of most interest to our members although the flats themselves are not covered by the legislation we always strongly recommend to our members that they encourage the flat occupiers to install at least one smoke alarm in each flat.</p> <p>The Fire Safety Order requires a 'responsible person' this may be the house manger or another person within the block who may have control of the communal parts of the premises.</p> <p>With many of our members enquiries this responsibility is often carried out by volunteer Directors of RMC's (Residential Management Companies) often with little or no advice from the Fire Service and with sometimes more than one responsible</p>	Federation of Private Residents Associations Ltd	<p>Thank you for your comments on the 'Integrated Risk Management Plan'.</p> <p>You are clearly well informed about the RRO and the responsibilities that this order places on the 'Responsible Persons'.</p> <p><i>I would also agree and it is the intention of the Service in the future months and years to improve the awareness of the RRO and its responsibilities to both the 'Responsible' and 'Relevant' persons.</i></p> <p>Private property management clearly has a number of high risks associated with it and this profile is being raised in many forums of which WSF&amp;RS is actively involved.</p> <p>I would like to thank you for your email and assure you that the Service is committed to the safety of all residents within West Sussex and will continue to work hard to improve safety in these types of properties.</p>	Trevor Pilcher - Protection & South Districts.
	<p>1. Have we explained our five new Strategic Aims clearly?</p> <p>It might help if you defined exactly who your "Partners" are. It might be neighbouring Fire Services, but it is not specified.</p> <p>2. Do you agree with our new Strategic Aims?</p> <p>Not with Strategic Aim 5. Saving the Planet is not one of your objectives. Reducing fire damage and saving life are your primary objectives. Compromising those by trying to reduce your impact on the environment is a foolish idea.</p>	Member of Public	<p>Many thanks for your comments on our consultation document for 2010/11. In answer to your questions I have listed my response below;</p> <p>Q1. The Fire and Rescue Service works with a wide range of agencies from the Government level through to local level including voluntary organisations. Those that we work with on a regular basis such as Sussex Police, local Councils (Environmental Health and Planning), the NHS Trusts and Primary Care Trusts, Fire and Rescue Services in the South East Region, the Environment Agency are those we refer to as partner agencies.</p> <p>Q2. The Fire and Rescue Service is part of the West Sussex County Council and therefore is obligated to comply with its policies one of which is 'reducing our impact on the local environment' but this is not the only reason we are taking action reduce our CO2 emissions. It is important for us to be aware of our CO2 emissions and where practical and appropriate to reduce them.</p> <p>We believe it is the role of all responsible authorities, public private or voluntary sector, in an era of climate change to do, and we also</p>	Matt Sturman -

<b>Strategic Aims</b>	<p>3. Is the Action Plan for 2010/11 clear and easy to understand?</p> <p>It is written in fairly clear English, but some jargon has crept in.</p>	<p>Member of Public from Hurstpierpoint</p>	<p>Q3. We tried hard to ensure the consultation document was as free from jargon as possible and suitable for the public audience. I will re-read the document and highlight any areas where we could improve in future.</p>	<p>Paul Sturman - Director of Resources</p>
	<p>4. Do you have any comments on any other aspect of the document or consultation?</p> <p>How much did it cost to produce the document? Is the exercise likely to be cost-effective? Could the money have been better spent?</p> <p>Hope these comments are helpful.</p>		<p>Q4. The cost of printing 780 copies of the consultation document and 150 copies of the poster was £1,416. Copies of the document are available in 36 public libraries around the County, the receptions of District and Borough Councils, and in our wholetime Fire Stations. It is also available electronically on our website and we have encourage as many people and organisations to read the documents online in order to reduce print costs and avoid wasting paper. This does not take into account the cost of preparing the document by members of our staff which is part of their role.</p> <p>We believe that we have been prudent in considering how best to canvas public opinion in a way that ensures cost-effectiveness and avoids waste. However to judge its cost effectiveness is a difficult equation to be precise about, to be fair, and to a large extent will depend on the number and content of the replies we receive during the 12 week consultation period. We will be giving this aspect of the consultation a good deal of thought in the Autumn prior to our preparation for the same exercise next year to see whether Your comments are very useful and they will be considered in more</p>	

<b>Strategic Aims</b>	<p>I have the following comments to make on your document.</p> <p>It is fine as it is. However, 1) perhaps you could look at breaking it done into areas of West Sussex and show how you are going to respond to particular needs on those areas</p>	<p>Department of Planning, Regeneration and Wellbeing, Adur District Council</p>	<p>Many thanks for your comments on our Service Plan which we discussed at our Risk Management Planning Group meeting on 3rd September. I've set out your comments/questions in bold with the appropriate response underneath.</p> <p>A. Our risk team analyses our data on a regular basis and they will be working with our response and prevention teams to highlight areas where we need a particular focus. We are targetting certain areas and groups and working with the partner agencies in the CDRP's which is proving to be really useful at the local level. Nevertheless we are concious of the need to ensure our information is as relevant as possible and will be refreshing our county profile annually and in doing so will consider how best to show how we're addressing particular needs. Please let us know if there is any further information that your Council gathers that you think would be helpful to us.</p>	<p>Neil Odin - Risk &amp; Performance Manager</p>
	<p>2) look at developing other community projects apart from football, such as tennis, golf, netball and activity and basic education schools project with adult education services</p>		<p>A. We currently run a range of education projects with schools such as Fire Awareness Community Education, (FACE), and other more intensive work with vulnerable young people through our Firebreak scheme (10 week course). During the last 4/5 years we have been gradually changing the balance of our activiites from response, more towards prevention with a good level of success which is reflected in our statistics over that time period, attached. We will be reviewing the whole range of our prevention activities during the coming year as part of our new Service Plan to 2015 with the County Council's Fundamental Service Review programme in mind. Resources permitting we will work with partner agencies to develop our current range and introduce new schemes where appropriate.</p>	
	<p>3) outline more detailed actions, there is reference to partnership working, perhaps mention could be made of changes you wish to make with specific partners</p>		<p>A. I agree with you that the consultation document needs to be more detailed in relation to the actions proposed and we intend to ensure that future action plans not only include our recommended proposals they also include options and costings for each option. I'm hoping that we will achieve most if not all of this by the time we consult on the 2011/2012 action plan. We will also take on board your point in relation to working with partners.</p>	

	4) Showing the campaigning work you are perhaps doing in getting changes to the transport network to reduce car accidents.		A. You make a good point and we will take the opportunity in future documentation to emphasise our campaigns around fire safety and road safety as well as the progress we've made. Having said that we're always conscious of the need to make the document as simple and 'readable' for the public as possible and we have to ensure that balance is right.	
	5) I recommend you upgrade and improve your website, even it if remains in the County one is could be made to look much more distinctive and dynamic.		A. We are discussing this with the County IT department at present and we're hoping to have imporvement in place within the next twelve months.	
<b>Fire Safety</b>	Thank you for forwarding this document. Whilst the safety plan is welcome, the Parish Council does consider that the reliance on self-assessment is a weakness in the current process. In the past, regular visits from fire officers to community buildings (who were usually familiar with the building) were extremely helpful. Although it is understood that these visits are now prioritised, the lack of the regular inspections is regretted.	Cuckfield Parish Council	As you will appreciate, the pressures upon us now mean that we must prioritise our work and our guidance is that we will target the higher risk properties first.  However, whilst I appreciate that your building is likely to be well managed and maintained, should you require specific guidance or advice, then we will make every effort to arrange a visit by one of our Fire Safety Officers.  Should you require any such advice please do not hesitate to contact Haywards Heath Fire Safety Department on 01444 452329.	N/A
<b>Emergency Planning</b>	I'm a parish councillor for Southwater Parish Council and at present I'm putting together the emergency plan for this area. Having read your action plan how can I include this in our emergency plan? Also how do I know when there are high risk of hazard substances within our area or how do I find the information out about hazard which needs to be added to the emergency plan so that we know where not to locate our emergency assemble areas. Please can you assist me in anyway possible with the aforementioned?	Southwater Parish Councillor	With regard to your first point on including our action plan in your emergency plan. I do not believe that you would want to include our action plan into your emergency plan as our Action Plan sets out our strategic aims ie, where we want to take the service in the next five years rather than specific detail. I have asked our Emergency Planning Officer the best way to assist you in your plan and he will contact you next week.	N/A
<b>Strategic Aims</b>	Members noted receipt of the West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service Action Plan... well presented and informative document. Members were particularly pleased to see that the West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service through their consultation process, also catered for the diverse cultures now liing in the area, which was commended...'	Bognor Regis Town Council	Complimentary and supportive.	N/A

<p><b>Sustainability</b></p>	<p>The Parish Council reviewed the Action Plan at their last meeting and would like to make the following comments:</p> <p>The Action Plan has opposing aims as you cannot provide the best equipment and save money, and become greener and cut the budget. The Council also felt that the reference to preparation for the Olympic Games in 2012 had no relevance.</p>	<p>Southwater Parish Councillor</p>	<p>In response to the Parish Councils comments on the proposed action plan I would like to explain our intentions for the two areas that have been raised.</p> <p>To provide the best equipment West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service has a procurement strategy that allows us to procure with other South East Fire and Rescue Services and indeed National Fire and Rescue Services to achieve greater economies and efficiencies. All specifications for our replacement equipment and vehicles are required to meet our sustainability agenda and as such we become greener for example with the use of more efficient engines reducing not only our carbon foot print but costs on replacement parts and servicing.</p> <p>We are required to prepare for the Olympic Games under the Civil Contingencies Act to support the Olympic Resilience Project Strategy of " preparing for events that may significantly disrupt the safety and security of the Games, and make sure that contingency plans are in place". For our part this means we must plan and prepare for the people who will travel through our county and stay in our county which is additional to our normal risk profile.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p><b>Response</b></p>	<p>Having read both your Action Plan for 2010-2011 and your Service Plan for 2010-2015, one observation I would like to comment on is why, with the 6th highest number of incidents attended in 2008/09 for all stations across the County, Littlehampton is only a Retained Station. I would have thought having regard to the statistics that it should at least be Variable Crewed if not an Immediate Response station. The statistics also show that in terms of critical fire standards, Littlehampton is 'very high'. With the continued growth of the Littlehampton area there must be a case for reconsidering its status as a retained station.</p>	<p>Member of public concerned with Littlehampton</p>	<p>Littlehampton Fire Station, along with the overall disposition of risk and resource across the County, will be looked at as part of the one year plan to consider where we need to change and where we need to keep things as they are.</p>	<p>Lee Neale - Assistant County Fire Officer</p>
	<p>In relation to its five strategic aims. I have a few comments/questions and set them out below.</p> <p>Aims 1 &amp; 2: What is the difference between Partnership Working in 1, and Co-operation and Joint Working in 2 ?</p>		<p>Aims 1 &amp; 2: What is the difference between Partnership Working in 1, and Co-operation and Joint Working in 2 ?</p> <p>Essentially its the difference between a formal partnership with a constitution and voting rights such as the Crime and Disorder Partnerships and informal sharing and covering arrangements. <b>Nevertheless, this point has been made consistently and we will amend the final document to make it much clearer.</b></p>	<p>Neil Odin - Risk &amp; Performance Manager</p>

	<p>Aims 3: I think I know what a healthy, competent and representative employee is, but what is a 'safe' employee?</p>		<p>Aim 3: I think I know what a healthy, competent and representative employee is, but what is a 'safe' employee?</p> <p>Again, we will look at the wording here, but what we are aiming to convey is that we operate safe systems of work in order to ensure as far as possible that we minimise the danger to our firefighters in what can be a very dangerous environment at times. Firefighter deaths around the country are still too common and we're continually learning and adjusting the ways in which we work to ensure the safety of our employees.</p>	
	<p>Aim 4: The document speaks of delivering high quality services that people want. How do you know what people want?</p> <p>What is the current "cost per head of population" ? By how much will it need to fall for you to be able to demonstrate value for money.?</p> <p>The booklet says you will strive for greater efficiency. How will efficiency be measured ?</p>	<p>Member of public from Duncton</p>	<p>Aim 4: The document speaks of delivering high quality services that people want. How do you know what people want?</p> <p>Clearly there are aspects of our service that are statutory but many which are discretionary and we have mechanisms to invite the views of business and residents across the county, indeed this 12 week consultation is one of them. We also undertake 'After the Incident' surveys and other forms of seeking public engagement such as Fire Station open days.</p> <p>What is the current "cost per head of population" ? By how much will it need to fall for you to be able to demonstrate value for money.? We will demonstrate value for money through the best use of our resources on an annual basis as part our organisational assessment undertaken by the Audit Commission on behalf of Government.</p> <p>The booklet says you will strive for greater efficiency. How will efficiency be measured?</p> <p>In recent years we have made a range of efficiency savings both cash and non-cashable and will continue to seek improvements in service and efficiency whether that be in terms of personnel, building</p>	

<b>Strategic Aims</b>	<p>Aim 5 I think the strategic aim ought to include the word 'negative' before 'impact'. Positive impacts would be welcome.</p> <p>The box says " we will measure this aim against the following performance indicators". It then gives two examples. Reducing carbon emissions is a measurable performance indicator, but P1 18 resembles a woolly aspiration rather than a performance indicator.</p>	<p>Aim 5 I think the strategic aim ought to include the word 'negative' before 'impact'. Positive impacts would be welcome.</p> <p>We will take this point into consideration when finalising the document.</p> <p>The box says " we will measure this aim against the following performance indicators". It then gives two examples. Reducing carbon emissions is a measurable performance indicator, but P1 18 resembles a woolly aspiration rather than a performance indicator.</p> <p>Yes, I agree. We're looking to make these high level indicators more robust and we'll give this one more consideration.</p>	
	<p>Thank you for your recent consultation on the proposed WSFR Service Plan 2010-15. John Marsland our Chief Executive has asked me to co-ordinate a response on behalf of Chichester District Council.</p> <p>The District Council has many excellent collaborative links with WSFR and it is pleasing that this proposed Service Plan seeks to strengthen partnerships to build safer, stronger, healthier and more sustainable communities; an aim we can all share. In response to your specific consultation questions I would comment that your strategic aims are clearly explained and the District Council fully supports them. The Action Plan is well set out and easy to understand.</p> <p>Again thank you for the opportunity to comment on your proposed service plan and I look forward to receiving the final plan once you have completed your consultations and the opportunity to work with WSFR in partnership in the future.</p>	Chichester District Council	N/A

	<p>The Partners of the Mid Sussex Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) have received a copy of your Action Plan 2010-2011 and a copy of the Service Plan 2010-2015.</p> <p>The Mid Sussex CDRP confirms they agree with the five strategic aims as set out in the five-year service plan. The Action plan clearly sets how West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service plan to develop over the next year in order to meet the strategic aims for the service.</p> <p>The Partnership does not have any other comments on the action plan or service plan and fully endorses the aims of Fire Service for the next five years. The Mid Sussex CDRP will continue to work in Partnership with West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service to assist in meeting these aims.</p>	<p>Community Safety, Mid-Sussex Crime &amp; Disorder Reduction Partnership</p>		<p>N/A</p>
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