

The information role in modernising the UK fire and rescue services Part 1



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Hyperlinks

- ▶ <http://www.irfs.org.uk/docs/future/index.htm>
- ▶ [Our Fire and Rescue Service White Paper \(PDF 1336 Kb\)](#)
- ▶ <http://www.hmso.gov.uk/acts/acts2004/40021--a.htm#end>
- ▶ [Fire and Rescue Service National Framework 2004/05 \(PDF 577 Kb\)](#)
- ▶ [Towards a National Workforce Development Strategy for England \(PDF 513 Kb\)](#)
- ▶ [Draft Order: The Regulatory Reform \(Fire Safety\) Order 2004](#)
- ▶ <http://www.ipds.co.uk/efs.php>



Modernisation of the UK fire services

- ▶ Bain Independent review of the Fire Service
- ▶ Our fire and rescue service White Paper
- ▶ Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004
- ▶ The Fire and Rescue Service National Framework 2004/05
- ▶ Towards a national workforce development strategy for England: a consultation document July 2004
- ▶ Draft Order: The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2004



▶ applies to England and Wales only (devolved responsibility to National Assembly of Wales soon)

recognises the following statutory **core** functions

fire safety

fire-fighting

road traffic accidents (RTAs)

emergencies

+ an event or situation “that causes or is likely to cause –
(a) one or more individuals to die, be injured or become ill;
(b) harm to the environment (including the life and health of plants and animals)



Key phrases in the ACT

power to create combined fire and rescue authorities (FRA)

fire and civil defence authorities

reinforcement

may require to act outside the authority's area

arrangements for discharge of functions by others

powers of Secretary of State to direct or intervene and to produce a national framework and report within two years on the extent to which FRA's are acting in accordance with it

promoting fire safety – the provision of information, publicity and encouragement...to prevent fires and death or injury by fire

giving advice on request – how to prevent fires and restrict their spread in buildings and other property; means of escape in case of fire

obtaining information and investigating fires (powers of entry)



The Fire and Rescue Service National Framework 2004/05

- ▶ Fire prevention and risk management
- ▶ Working together: the regional approach
- ▶ Effective response
- ▶ Resilience and New Dimension
- ▶ Fire and rescue staff
- ▶ Workforce development
- ▶ Finance
- ▶ Performance management
- ▶ Research



Partnership

The government and authorities must work in partnership to achieve our shared goals.. The government's key role is to provide FRAs with the support and direction they need to deliver a high quality service for their local communities

- ▶ Integrated risk management plans
- ▶ Mass decontamination Incident Response Units
- ▶ Regional Management Boards
- ▶ Regional Control Centres target by end of 2007



Regional functions

- ▶ Integrate common and specialist services
e.g. fire investigation
- ▶ Resilience plans for large scale emergencies
- ▶ Regional HR and training functions
- ▶ National procurement strategy with regional procurement introduced (draft strategy due)



Consultation and communication – making documents widely available

Fire and Rescue Service Circulars

(Dear Chief Officer Letters dropped)

Local community partnerships – annual plans and twelve weeks consultation; joint working with local government, voluntary sector and other emergency services

Research

Guidelines

Share best practice

Local risk reliably located and measured – IT data



Operational Training and Development Manual - due Autumn 2004

Revised guidance on generic risk assessment Spring 2005

Improve the quality of accident and injury data collection and arrangements Autumn 2005

Arson Control Forum to produce model protocol for fire investigation Autumn 2004 and national occupational standard

Intelligent information systems to assess risks more effectively e.g. false alarm and detection systems



Internal and external customers:

Fire Service College staff and delegates

UK fire service

Fire related industry

General enquirers – individuals, business, government,
media, public, worldwide

Information colleagues



LIRC services

Current awareness e.g FLASH, full text journal articles via Emerald and Science Direct and other online resources

Online catalogue

IPDS Module 013 Information collection methods – “to be able to retrieve, sift and select information from a variety of sources” (National occupational standards for Crew, Watch, Station, Control and specialist roles) and constraints in accessing and copying information

Supporting IPDS – the Integrated Personal Development System in the workplace and via FSC programmes – individual competence-based HE and distance learner services support

Webliographies and key guides



- ▶ Making available to staff relevant web-based information and tools to support the Fire and Rescue Service modernisation agenda
- ▶ E-promotion of fire safety
- ▶ Development of web...major access channel for interactions between the citizen and FRS
- ▶ Online Fire Research Academy – research strategy by Dec 2004
- ▶ Online collection and publication of statistics – upgrade data collection in 2005



Training and development for role through IPDS

Types of training broadened

Fire Service College as a developing Centre of
Excellence

Quality assurance

E-learning



The information role part 1 - summary

- ▶ Partnerships in information
- ▶ E-information
- ▶ Widening LIRC role in the UK fire service
- ▶ Support and working with the FSC Institute
- ▶ Gathering support and funding for digitisation of case studies and historical documents



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