



Surrey Fire and Rescue Service Epsom and Ewell Borough Plan

2023/24

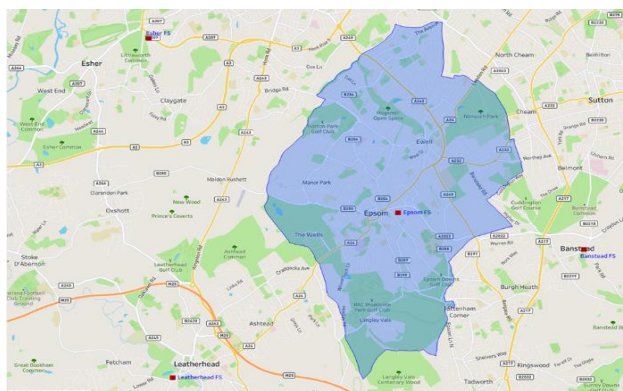


SURREY
COUNTY COUNCIL

Welcome

Welcome to Surrey Fire and Rescue Service's Borough Plan for Epsom and Ewell. Places in the Borough include Epsom, Ewell and parts of Cheam, Chessington and Worcester Park. The Service has a fire station in Epsom town centre.

As part of our commitment to keeping communities safe, Surrey Fire and Rescue Service produces tailored station plans to show what our local priorities are and how we are working with other agencies in the area to improve the local quality of life. To do this, we set specific goals/benchmarks in each area to address the issues particularly relevant to that area.



The Borough Plan is a public document and is available to everybody. For our staff, it gives clear direction in setting annual priorities and projects. For the public, it gives a clear indication of what we will be focusing on in the local area and what we aim to achieve as a result. It allows us to address risks at a local level, putting the right resources into the right areas to ensure we reduce the risks faced by everybody in that borough. It also enables us to work with other agencies such as the police and health services to ensure that, where a local trend cannot be resolved by one service alone, we work together to achieve improved outcomes for the community.

Surrey Fire and Rescue Service also recognises that, to achieve our strategic aims and objectives, we must have a diverse risk managed approach. This will be tailored to local needs ensuring that it provides value for money.

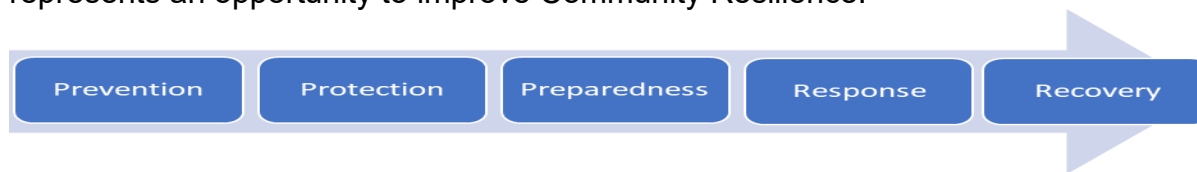
Our Priorities

The Borough Plan supports the principal aim of the [Making Surrey Safer Plan](#) to deliver high performing services. We do this to keep our communities safe along with our partners.

In 2023/24 we will be prioritising the local delivery of certain key business and community safety activities, to improve the safety of our residents and staff, while providing maximum use of our available time.

We aim to identify where our prevention and protection efforts yield results, how well we react when called upon to respond and mitigate an emergency, and where we can assist the community in recovery even before we leave the scene of an incident.

We expect to interact with people at one or more of five contact points. Each contact point represents an opportunity to improve Community Resilience:



To manage our resources more efficiently and effectively, focusing resources to protect those at higher risk.

We aim to provide a service offer that is broader than solely 'time to respond' and recognise that the urban and rural response is different.

We will establish new measures based upon business and community safety activity as well as response.

We will create a 'centrally led, locally delivered' approach, that better aligns our teams with areas of risk within Surrey and develops consistency across the county in how we deliver our services to ensure we keep our residents as safe as possible.

Prevention

Stopping incidents from happening and keeping people safe is at the heart of our Prevention teams and activities.

We will improve the way we collect and share data intelligence so we can better identify the people in our communities who need the most care and attention and provide the right support to keep them safe. This will be through several interventions from online advice to community events through to targeted Safe and Well Visits (SAWVs). We are tackling the issues of changing behaviours and how we deliver SAWVs to the public, also how we can educate the ongoing support network agencies and partners involved in supporting an individual, to recognise and take action when they feel that an intervention needs ongoing work and engagement. By working with partners, we will support them to provide fire information in the home when they visit while SFRS provides a referral route and source of information from the partners.

We will continue to support Children and Young People through schools' education, Youth Engagement Scheme and Fire Cadets in some of our fire stations. This is the start of our lifelong learning and covers all aspects of life such as fire safety, water safety and road safety through the successful Safe Drive Stay Alive presentations. The 'lifelong learning' concept delivers key safety advice and information throughout resident's lives via schools, colleges, and universities as well as adult learning centres and other organisations where groups of individuals meet up.

We will provide road safety advice and interventions across the County through programmes like Biker Down and continue to engage with road users to highlight the risks of dangerous or careless driving. This will also include working closely with partners to keep all road users safe.

We will continue to develop the kind of emergencies we aim to prevent to include water and wildfire safety work. Activities like providing water safety throw lines at strategic locations and expanding our wildfire K9 volunteers will support this work.

Work with partner agencies which includes tackling social issues together in partnership and raising a concern when we see one. This includes our work in providing safe havens for survivors of domestic abuse and work to reduce the impact of serious and organised crime.

Protection

Reducing the frequency and mitigating the impact of emergencies and fires on businesses in Surrey is a key role for all our teams supported by the specialists in Protection. Effective fire safety and emergency management is key to keeping the buildings and people of Surrey, safer. We will educate businesses at all risk levels through Business Education Officers, Auditors, Inspectors and Operational crews to reduce the likelihood and impact of any incidents.

Through our Risk Based Inspection Programme and use of data, we will ensure that we are targeting the right premises from low to high risk that we formally inspect. We will aim to educate at first point of contact, only enforcing where necessary.

We will liaise with planners and building control to ensure we have input on the design and safety of buildings in our areas and share this knowledge with operational teams to ensure they are aware of the risks to them and can act appropriately to conduct visits and create plans for if an incident occurs.

Our partnership working will allow us to target groups more effectively that have historically seen higher levels of enforcement. We will use these relationships to remove myths and promote an effective and realistic approach to fire safety.

We will support our operational crews in identifying building risks to them through ongoing training and advice, increasing their knowledge and ability to act on advice or understand how buildings will behave when attending an incident.

Through continued work with the NFCC and Fire Standards Board, we will ensure that we have the right people with the right qualifications and experience to deliver on our legal obligations in enforcing the Fire Safety Order.

Our work will be assured effectively to ensure we are delivering to the highest standards consistently and that we are making a positive difference to businesses and people in Surrey.

Preparedness

Whilst we work hard in reducing emergencies and keeping people safe, we know we can achieve more when working in partnership. SFRS will work with local partners to make every contact count. We are part of the local Community Safety Partnership where agencies work together in reducing harm to our residents. Example of this engagement include working with local authorities on anti-social behaviour, crime reduction and working with vulnerable residents.

SFRS are part of the Local Resilience Forum (LRF) where we are part of the planning and response to major incidents in the county and nationally. We regularly meet with our partners and undertake joint exercises to test our response.

Our personnel continually train to maintain their competence providing an efficient and effective response to emergencies.

Our personnel also make Safe and Well Visits to residents and businesses within their local areas. These visits are just part of what SFRS delivers to keep the community safe. Other areas include providing business fire safety and safety in the community for events.

All activities feed into our Data and Intelligence teams, enhancing our understanding of individuals, community risks and vulnerabilities. This intelligence will also raise the awareness of the risks for our staff.

Response

We continue to develop our response model, to allow us to mobilise a range of vehicles, equipment and personnel in a more flexible way, considering type, level and speed of our response requirements. This will be based on traditional fire engines but also on other capabilities and personnel required to bring the incident to a satisfactory conclusion.

Surrey is 'land-locked' and surrounded by other counties with Fire and Rescue Services which means cross-border working, eg, Surrey into Hampshire, is commonplace. We will always mobilise the closest and most appropriate appliance to all emergencies, to ensure the quickest response to any incident irrespective of borders.

We employ both On-Call and Wholetime firefighters and regard them as equal. We are streamlining career pathways so that staff who want to can move seamlessly between teams/locations or move from On-call to Wholetime. A positive culture and diverse workforce play a big part within our ongoing transformation programme.

As Surrey is a diverse land area in terms of land usage and population density, we respond to more than just fires and road traffic collisions, and as such we will include response to include water and wildfire and other risks that present themselves to support the communities.

Recovery

Recovery begins before the last appliance has left the scene of any emergency and is actively started within the early stages of any incident, minor or major.

As emergencies are disruptive events, it is imperative that the return to a new normality is a conscious thought within the mind of the Incident Commander, Tactical Coordinating Group, and/or Strategic Coordinating Group (SCG), as appropriate.

The process of recovery can involve a multi-agency coordinated effort and we are able to work effectively within established structures in support of this.

Recovery must focus upon the people and places impacted by an event. We have designed our Post Incident Protocols to give immediate support those people, places and premises affected by an emergency, through the coordination of our partners and Service Delivery teams.

Recovery presents an opportunity to reactively and proactively utilise the other contact points for those individuals and communities immediately involved, and those more broadly aware of and concerned by the answer to 'What if it happens to me?' and 'What should I do in that situation?'.

The County of Surrey

Geography

Surrey is approximately 648 sq miles (1,679 sq km) in size. It is landlocked and has no coastline. Surrey is bordered by Greater London, Kent, East Sussex, West Sussex, Hampshire and Berkshire.

Population

According to the last census data available (2021) the population of Surrey was 1.2 million. The county rates highly in environmental terms. Surrey is England's most wooded county and over 70% of its land lies within the greenbelt. However, per square mile, it is the most densely populated shire county in England. The most densely populated area is Epsom and Ewell Borough, with an average population of over 24 people per hectare of land, in contrast with the least densely populated which is the Tandridge District with a density of 4 people per hectare of land.

Transport

Surrey is served by two of the world's largest international airports on its borders, Gatwick and Heathrow. Most major towns in Surrey have connections by rail to central London with a frequency of under one hour.

The county has more cars per mile of road than any other UK shire, containing some of the country's busiest arterial routes such as the M3, A3, M25 and M23. There are more than 3,000 miles of highway in the county, including almost 70 miles of motorway.

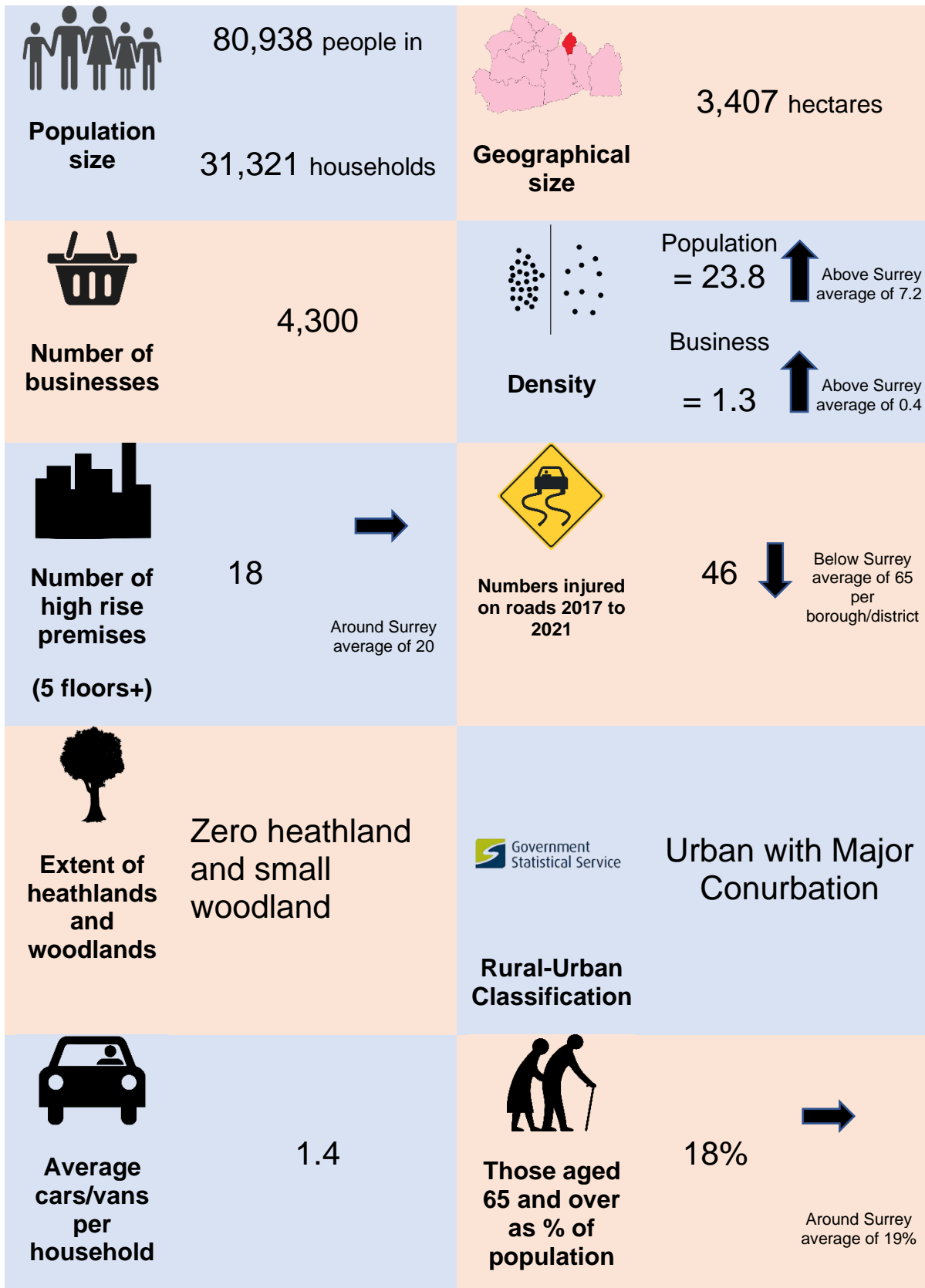
Employment

The main employment is concentrated in the central towns of Guildford and Woking, to the west in Camberley and Staines and to the east in Leatherhead, Dorking and Reigate. Employment levels are very high, although the county's commercial premises have varying levels of occupancy. The unemployment figure remains around 2%.

Education

There are approximately 286,000 children and young people aged 0 to 19 in the county (2021 census). There are over 700 schools and colleges in Surrey providing education up to compulsory attendance age, and education is Surrey County Council's single biggest area of expenditure. The county has three established Universities: Surrey, Royal Holloway and the University for the Creative Arts. Together these universities have around 36,000 undergraduate and postgraduate students.

Living in Epsom and Ewell





% of pensioners living alone

33%



Around Surrey average of 33%

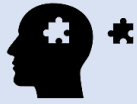


% single person households

10%



Around Surrey average of 11%



Prevalence of some mental health disorders for those 18 to 64 (per 1,000 people)

147



Around Surrey average of 148



% of population with mobility issues

7%



Around Surrey average of 7%



% of population with learning disabilities, autistic spectrum disorders or Down's syndrome

2.6%



Around Surrey average of 2.6%



% people who smoke

9%



Below Surrey average of 10%



Persons aged 18-64 with alcohol related or drug dependency conditions (per 1,000 people)

44



Around Surrey average of 45

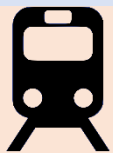


Number of listed buildings

17



Below Surrey average of 42



Number of railway lines running through area

3



Proximity to airports

None



Likelihood
of flooding

Very low areas of
middle risk



Number of
reservoirs
and lakes

0

Summary of incidents attended, activities undertaken, and standards met within Epsom and Ewell during 2022/23

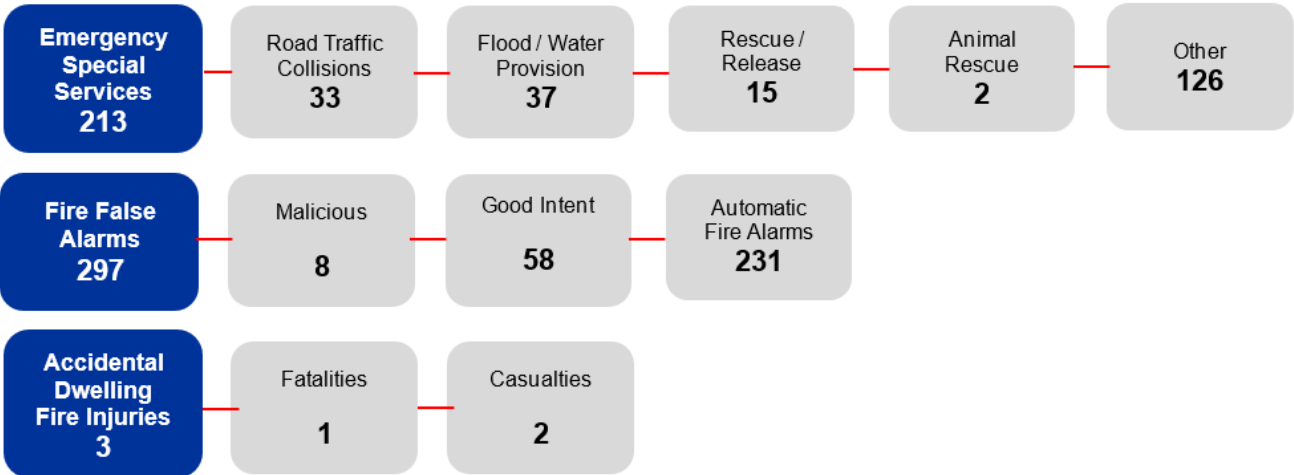
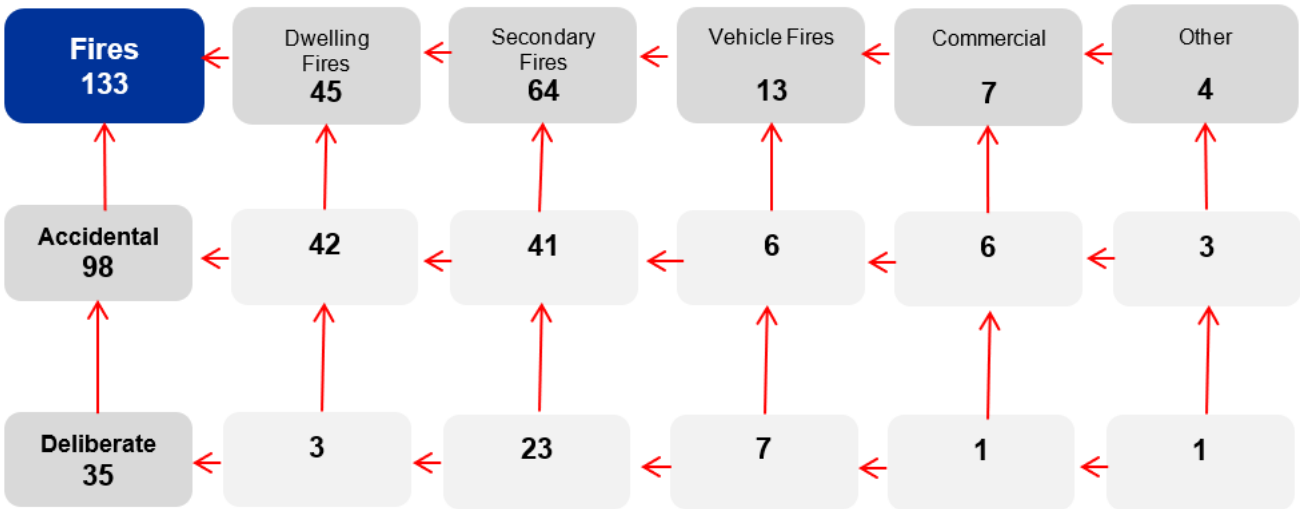
Business and community safety activities undertaken

Performance Area	Result
Safe and Well Visits (SAWVs) completed (Home Safety)	245
Percentage of SAWVs completed to Vulnerable People	91%
Operational Premises Surveys and Tactical Consideration Records (Firefighter Safety)	80
Business Safe and Well Visits completed (Business Safety)	2
Business Safety Audits (Business Safety)	118
Consultations (Building Regulations, Licensing Applications, Post Event Reviews etc.)	125

Standards Achieved

Performance Area	Result
Average turnout time (seconds) - Day	56
Average turnout time (seconds) - Night	74

Incidents attended



Community and Business Safety

In Epsom and Ewell, we will work with others on community and business safety initiatives to address and drive down risks in our area.

Community safety activities

- Attend the Epsom and Ewell Community Safety Partnership (CSP) meetings.
- Attend SOC / JAG meeting alongside partner agencies.
- Complete the Safe and Well visits and Business Safe and Well visit targets set for 2023/24
- Liaise with London Fire Brigade to ensure working practices that deliver efficient and effective services when cross-border working.
- Work with Epsom and St Helier University Hospital NHS Trust (Epsom General Hospital) to ensure up-to-date information is received.
- Ensure that the High and Medium Risk OPS visits are completed within the required time schedules for the forthcoming year.
- Liaise with local Partnership Officers to ensure Safe and Well visits to the vulnerable are completed within designated timeframes.
- Hold local campaigns to promote community safety.
- Attend local events, school fairs to promote community safety.

List of initiatives/activities

- Support the Jockey Club with the safe delivery of the Epsom Derby Festival through advice and increased attendance.
- Liaise with high-risk premises owners to collect data and offer advice on fire safety.
- Engage with local colleges running Public Services Diploma/BTEC courses.
- Promotion of Safe Drive Stay Alive when engaging with schools.
- Liaise with Epsom and Ewell Open Spaces Team/Rangers etc to help reduce risk of wildfires.
- Work alongside Epsom and Ewell Environmental Health Team regarding fly-tipping, abandoned vehicles, environment issues etc.

Epsom and Ewell Action Plan

We have set out our planned actions against the Service priorities to give a clear indication of what we will be focusing on in the local area and what we aim to achieve as a result.

Service Priority:	<i>1. Preventing and protecting people from fire and other risks</i>	
Aim	Lead	
<i>Through local risk management and with wider support from internal and external partners highlight those most at risk and develop actions to support the most vulnerable.</i>	Watch Commander White Watch	
Narrative	Initiative	
Personnel will work with SFRS Partnership Officers to identify / visit / support the vulnerable within the Borough.	<p>Personnel will work closely with SFRS Partnership Officers to ensure information is shared (GDPR compliant).</p> <p>Partnership Officers to assist personnel with planning and delivering campaigns. This assistance will be with resources and attendance.</p> <p>Personnel to carry out Safe and Well visits to those who have requested them through the Surrey County Council (SCC)/SFRS website.</p> <p>We will provide and fit free smoke detectors to any vulnerable persons following an emergency call to their premises and will appropriately refer the most vulnerable residents that require further assistance from GPs and social services.</p> <p>SFRS has a robust water rescue capability that can be utilised within the borough if required.</p> <p>Following a dwelling or fire at a business, we will continue to undertake 'hot strike' campaigns in the local area.</p>	

Personnel to liaise with external partners, not only blue light, to collaboratively work / share information, that provides a complete and comprehensive service to local residents.

Our aim is to maintain and develop further relationships in the community, that allow us to reach those members whom both us and our partner agencies consider to be at a higher risk.

The Station Commander will attend Borough Joint Action Group (JAG) and Community Safety Partnership (CSP) meetings and will disseminate information gained to station personnel.

Liaise with Epsom and Ewell Open Spaces, Team Rangers etc. to help reduce risk of wildfires.

Based on historical incident data/current trends/demographic, local initiatives/campaigns will be run in conjunction with other agencies, working together to target the most vulnerable.

Personnel to promote/support Safe Drive Stay Alive during visits involving young people.

Personnel will liaise with care homes, sheltered accommodation and assisted living premises to offer vulnerable residents advice and guidance.

Personnel will liaise with Epsom and Ewell Environmental Health Team to assist with the identification of abandoned vehicles or large amounts of rubbish, that could be subject to arson attack.

Service Priority:	2. Provide more accessible services to better support businesses and communities	
Aim	Lead	
<i>Through local risk management and with wider support from internal and external partners highlight businesses within the area to provide support and advice.</i>	Watch Commander Green Watch	
Narrative	Initiative	
Personnel will work with SFRS Protection Officers to ensure local businesses receive visits/information that will allow them to operate safely.	<p>Targeted campaigns based on data/incidents will be carried out by personnel.</p> <p>Personnel will complete annual visits to simple business premises and offer business safe and well visits.</p> <p>Personnel will conduct timely visits (based on level of risk), to ensure they are cognisant with layout, hazards, access etc. Personnel will conduct seasonal visits based on potential increase in hazards.</p> <p>Personnel to liaise with Protection Officers and align campaigns to any national safety campaigns.</p>	
Personnel will work with local planning officers and utilise local knowledge, to ensure new businesses and new builds are visited and that all required information is given and gathered.	<p>Business Safety personnel will liaise with planning authorities, to ensure new and refurbished building aligns with Fire Safety regulations.</p> <p>Unoccupied business premises will be monitored for signs of anti-social behaviour. Information will be passed to external partners.</p> <p>Liaise with external partners (Trading estate managers, shopping centre managers etc) to gain information on new businesses.</p> <p>Personnel will liaise with Environmental Health if businesses are accumulating large amounts of rubbish that could pose a fire risk.</p> <p>Personnel will liaise with the responsible person from local high-risk premises, to ensure up to date information is received and given.</p>	

Service Priority:	3. Improve community outcomes and evaluate services.	
Aim	Lead	
<i>Through local risk management and with wider support from internal and external partners work to improve community outcomes with partners to drive down risk within local area.</i>	Watch Commander Blue Watch	
Narrative	Initiative	
Station and centrally based personnel will work together to ensure that services and information is provided to local communities, that will assist with reducing risk.	<p>Data from incidents attended will be analysed and used to plan local campaigns that target identified areas or demographic.</p> <p>SFRS will inform local communities, via centrally controlled social media, on campaigns, events or information regarding local communities.</p>	
Personnel to liaise with external partners, not only blue light, to work collaboratively and share information, that provides a complete and comprehensive service to local residents.	<p>The Station Commander will attend Borough CSP, JAG and SAG meetings and disseminate information to personnel so they are able to understand and respond to requests from other agencies.</p> <p>We will work alongside Community Safety Teams (SFRS) and Borough Policing Teams to identify and reduce the risk from anti-social behaviour. This will be achieved through information sharing and joint events.</p> <p>Data from JAG will be monitored and introduce interventions when required.</p> <p>Personnel to work with young people through schools and organised groups, to inform and educate on subjects such as fire safety, safe driving etc.</p> <p>Personnel to work with The Jockey Club to assist with the safe delivery of The Epsom Derby Festival.</p>	

Service Priority:	4. Promote Equality, Diversity and Inclusion.	
Aim	Lead	
<i>Through local risk management and with wider support from internal and external partners work to promote equality, diversity and inclusion with the local area.</i>	Watch Commander Red Watch	
Narrative	Initiative	
<p>Diversity recognises that, though people have things in common with each other, they are also different in many ways. Inclusion is where those differences are seen as a benefit, and where perspectives and differences are shared, leading to better decisions.</p> <p>Personnel will work with SFRS Education Officers to ensure all schools receive their Key Stage 1, 2 & 3 visits and reception classes receive an 'Early Years Foundation Stage' visit by operational crews. Promotion of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion will form part of these visits.</p>	<p>Operational personnel to deliver talks to reception classes.</p> <p>Education Officers to provide Key Stage 1, 2 & 3 (Years 2, 5 & 8) visits in line with SFRS's Fire Safety Education Programme</p> <p>Personnel will ensure that all public facing meets, will promote a positive Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) attitude.</p> <p>Personnel to ensure they maintain up-to-date knowledge on EDI.</p>	
<p>Personnel will work with the local Community Safety Partnership team and other agencies, to ensure they bring together the range of assistance and resources to support the residents and workforce of the borough.</p>	<p>We will join community meetings where possible.</p> <p>We will demonstrate EDI in the Fire Service at Epsom Fire Station Open day (01/07/2023).</p> <p>We will support local organisations and community groups hosting an event.</p> <p>We will ensure that the Fire Station is seen as an inclusive environment for all.</p> <p>Personnel will model good practice, dealing with discriminatory incidents and being able to recognise and tackle bias and stereotyping. Personnel to challenge inappropriate behaviour.</p>	

The Fire Station will become a Safe Space / haven, where staff will offer non-judgemental support against harassment, violence or intimidation.

Service Priority:	5. Responding to emergencies when they occur.	
Aim	Lead	
<i>Should the worst happen, drive wider safety campaigns through joined up working with internal and external partners.</i>	All Watch Commanders	
Narrative	Initiative	
Personnel will ensure they are as well equipped and well trained as they can be to deal with any incidents that arise.	<p>Personnel will monitor turn out times and ensure they are meeting Service standards.</p> <p>Personnel to ensure continual professional development across all areas.</p> <p>Personnel to ensure core skills training is maintained in line with SFRS policy.</p> <p>Hot strikes to be carried out by personnel following an incident.</p>	
Personnel to work with external partners to ensure that our service does not end at the response stage. Recovery remains a priority; personnel will work with those affected and the wider community to ensure support and advice is offered.	<p>Personnel to link with external partners to support residents with further needs eg Red Cross, Local Resilience.</p> <p>Personnel will liaise with local communities affected by an incident and ensure they receive the support required.</p> <p>Liaise with London Fire Brigade to ensure working practices that deliver efficient and effective services when joint working.</p>	

Appendix 1: Targets for 2023/24

Area to measure performance against	Borough Goal for the year
Operational Premises Surveys and Tactical Consideration Records	50
Safe and Well Visits (SAWV) completed (not campaigns)	207*
% SAWV completed to vulnerable people	At least 70%
Business Safe and Well Visits completed	80
Business Safety Audits	Contributing to Surrey-wide target of 2,052
Consultations (Building Regulations, Licensing Applications, Post Event Reviews etc)	Respond to building regulation applications = at least 90% within 15 working days Respond to licensing applications = at least 95% within 15 working days

* plus a share of a countywide target of 2,000 delivered by a central Partnerships Team

Latest results against targets and incidents

These are available on Tableau, a third-party website:

- [Link](#) to results against community protection activities (available mid-May onwards)
- [Link](#) to numbers of incidents attended (select specific borough/districts via the drop down menu on the left of the page).

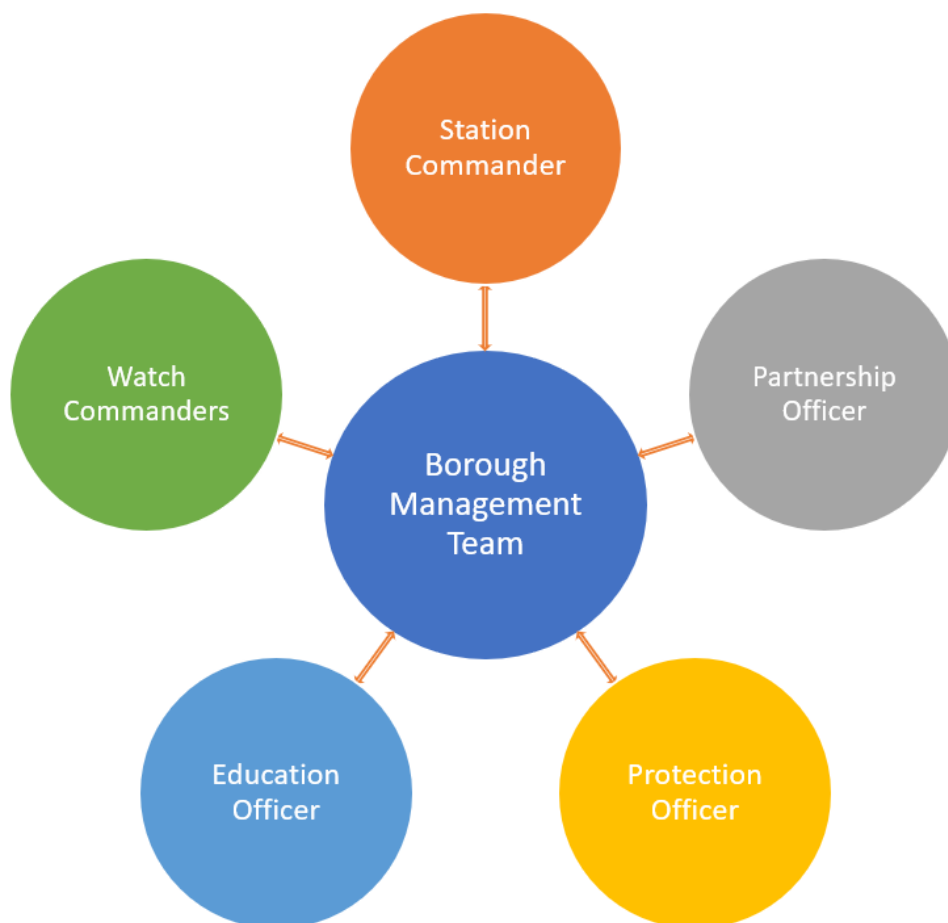
Appendix 2: Working with Partners

To achieve our objectives, we will work with the following partners:

- Surrey Police
- South East Coast Ambulance Service
- Adult Social Care
- Epsom and Ewell Community Safety Partnership
- London Fire Brigade
- Local providers of support to the community

Appendix 3: Borough Management Team

A number of roles in SFRS work together to ensure we understand the risks and issues to residents and businesses in the borough and districts of Surrey. If you would like to speak to a member of the Borough Management Team, please use the contact details on the next page.



Comments and Feedback

Your views matter

Your views are very important to us, we want to know what you think about us, our services and the way we deliver them.

We work hard to deliver quality services and we welcome feedback which enables us to improve our performance.

Feedback

You can contact us as follows:

- **Email:** sfcontactqueries@surreycc.gov.uk.
- **Telephone:** 03456 009 009 (8.45am-4.30pm weekdays, excluding bank holidays).
- **Write to us:** Surrey Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Woodhatch Place
11 Cockshot Hill Reigate Surrey RH2 8EF
- **Textphone (via Text Relay):** 18001 03456 009 009.
- **Telephone from overseas:** +44 20 8541 9944 (9am-5pm weekdays, excluding bank holidays).
- **SMS:** 07860 053 465 for deaf and hearing-impaired residents only (Monday to Friday: 9am-5pm).
- **Emergency SMS:** The [emergency SMS service](#) lets deaf, hard of hearing and speech-impaired people in the UK send an SMS text message to the UK 999 service.
- **VRS:** [Sign Language Video Relay Service](#).

Surrey County Council has a process in place designed to help residents to make a comment on our Service or register a compliment or complaint. We collect information on complaints and compliments so that we can identify any themes or trends in what people are telling us.

Please contact us if you require this document in a different format or language.