

# I.R.M.P. ACTION PLAN 2004/05

This document will be reviewed and re-evaluated on a quarterly basis and the results reported to CMT and to the Authority.

<u>No.</u>	<u>Action Plan</u>	<u>Executive Officer</u>	<u>Responsible Officer</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Timeframe</u>	<u>Corporate Aim/Service Plan Objective/ Target</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1.	Continue to offer Home Fire Risk Assessments and, where necessary, fit smoke alarms to all households in Merseyside as part of a completely free service.	DCFO	Fire Safety Manager	High	2004/05	1/LPI 3	
2.	Increase the percentage of smoke alarms which operate in accidental dwelling fires.	DCFO	Fire Safety Manager	High	2004/05	1/LPI 6	
3.	Promote residential sprinklers as the ultimate fire safety measure and work with Government, local authorities, the sprinkler industry, developers and designers of buildings and other interested bodies to promote low cost, self-contained 'first attack' systems, including partial property protection, to achieve a far wider use of this safety system. Continue to lobby the ODPM to influence the current review of the Building Regulations to include residential sprinklers.	DCFO	Fire Safety Manager	High	2004/05	1/1.8/LPI 9a	
4.	Work with Local Education Authorities to promote school sprinklers as a cost effective risk reduction measure and to achieve a commitment to have sprinklers in the design of two new schools in 2004/05.	DCFO	Fire Safety Manager	High	2004/05	1/LPI 9b	

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5.	Through local initiatives and partnership working, gain access to the most hard to reach and vulnerable in the community, in particular, the older residents and those with physical and behavioural challenges. We will create more fire safety 'advocates' from within local communities to deliver a more flexible customer focused home safety strategy. They will be representative of a 'target group' by virtue of ethnicity, gender, age or other characteristics.	DCFO	Fire Safety Manager	Very High	2004/05	1/1.6	
6.	Deliver and extend our youth programmes designed to develop self-esteem and community awareness. These will be expanded by the introduction of a Young Firefighter Scheme.	DCFO	Fire Safety Manager	Medium	2005/06	1	
7.	Play an active role and set targets in the various local District and Merseyside partnerships where they are involved in community safety, including reducing incidences of fire and non-fire emergencies	DCFO	District Managers	Medium	2004/05		
8.	Work with partners to develop a pan Merseyside approach to reducing the risk from abandoned vehicles.	DCFO	Fire Safety Manager	High	2004/05	1/1.1/LPI 1	
9.	Develop the partnership with our Police colleagues to create a Fire/Police Arson and Fire Investigation Protocol and develop partnership working at Headquarters and area level and devise common recording methods.	DCFO	Fire Safety Manager	Medium	2004/05	1/1.12/LPI 1	

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10.	Introduce, with partners, a pan Merseyside approach to the boarding up of unoccupied properties and the removal of combustible materials	DCFO	Fire Safety Manager	Medium	February 2005	1/1.14/LPI 1	
11.	Work closely with our Police colleagues on an area and Merseyside basis to predict patterns of arson, investigate them professionally and seek successful prosecutions where appropriate. Also identify those properties most vulnerable to an arson attack and, with the responsible person(s), carry out a joint arson risk assessment. Seek funding from Government and elsewhere to support the Authority's arson objective and work with other youth agencies/bodies to influence young people on the dangers of arson (these include Youth Offending Teams, Youth Inclusion Programmes, alternative referral from the Courts and The Prince's Trust Volunteers).	DCFO	Fire Safety Manager	High	2004/05	1/1.12/LPI 1	
12.	Build upon our active involvement on Crime & Disorder Reduction Panels and strengthen the Merseyside Arson Task Force, including the employment of "arson interventionists" to work at District Council level reducing the incidence of arson. We will also look at arson reduction from a regional perspective.	DCFO	Fire Safety Manager	Medium	2004/05	1	
13.	Offer those schools most at risk of an arson attack a specific arson risk assessment.	DCFO	Fire Safety Manager	Medium	2004/05	1/1.2/LPI 1	

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14.	Increase the number of volunteers who are acting as "Friends of Merseyside Fire Service" to promote fire safety awareness within all sections of the community and extend the range of issues Friends are able to help us with. This expansion will demand a new relationship with voluntary sector partners.	CFO	Stn. Manager Huyton	Low	2004/05		
15.	Revise the role & duties of day related 'uniformed' staff in the light of the settlement of the recent national pay dispute. This will be in response to the need to be available when the community and the Service needs them the most. Any new system of work will be within the framework provided by the pay agreement and will include flexible working arrangements.	DCFO ACFO	Fire Safety Manager	Medium	2004/05		
16.	Seek to introduce a third party accreditation scheme, for equipment, system installation and fire safety advice to support building owners and occupiers in meeting their fire safety responsibilities.	DCFO	Fire Safety Manager	Low	2004/05		
17.	In conjunction with the Universities in Liverpool, establish a contestable research fund of £25,000 with the aim of encouraging academic research into fire related matters in Merseyside.	DCFO	I.P.D.S. Manager	Medium	2004/05	1/1.9	

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18.	Continue to work closely with building owners and occupiers and with the fire alarm companies, to make sure fire alarms are correctly installed and maintained and to develop good building management practice to reduce the number of unwanted false alarms. Where this fails we will be prepared, where appropriate, to publicise the diversion of public resources and, where appropriate, take enforcement action to improve the management of their buildings.	DCFO	Fire Safety Manager	High	2004/05		
19.	Work more closely with call receiving centres to put in place some filtering and additional monitoring of AFA calls received in their centres.	ACFO	Ops Planning Manager	Medium	January, 2005	2/2.11	
20.	<p>Respond to alarms with automatic equipment in line with the risks they present. This means that we propose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to make no change to the current arrangements for responding to calls for assistance in domestic properties where a smoke detector is sounding;</li> <li>- to mobilise two appliances under emergency conditions in response to all alarms from automatic equipment unless in an exceptional circumstance a risk assessment has indicated an enhanced initial attendance is required.</li> </ul> <p>This is in accordance with the Authority's risk response standards and A.F.A. policy.</p>	DCFO	Ops Planning Manager	Very High	August 2004	2/2.12	

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21.	Formalise our policy to challenge callers to our mobilising centre when there is reason to believe that the call may not be genuine.	ACFO	Ops Planning Manager	High	November 2004	2/2.15	
22.	Introduce a protocol to respond to abandoned calls from public phone boxes, only where there is a good reason to believe they may be genuine.	ACFO	Ops Planning Manager	High	September 2004	2/2.8	
23.	Develop a protocol with Transco, referring all calls to attend domestic gas leaks or carbon monoxide detectors to them to deal with.	ACFO	Ops Planning Manager	Low	February, 2005	2	
24.	Relocate the Authority's specialised vehicle/equipment capability at two operational resource centres. The locations for these centres will be Kirkdale and Birkenhead fire stations.	ACFO	Ops Planning Manager	Top Priority	May 2004	2/2.16	
25.	Site a foam unit and bulk water carrier at appropriate alternative location(s), staffed on a flexible basis.	ACFO	Support Services Manager	Medium	January, 2005	8/8.9 & 8.10	
26.	Reduce the number of aerial appliances we maintain from 5 to 4. These pan Merseyside vehicles will be sited at Southport, City Centre, Eccleston and Birkenhead.	ACFO	Support Services Manager	Top Priority	November, 2004	8/8.11	
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27.	Replace two of the four aerial appliances with combined pump platform appliances. These will form part of the Authority's aerial appliance capability.	ACFO	Support Services Manager	Medium	2005/06 & 2007/08	8/8.12	

28.	Subject to the outcome of the public enquiry, relocate our City Centre Fire Station from its current location at Canning Place to a new site at St. Anne Street, Liverpool	ACFO	Support Services Manager	Medium	2005/06	8/8.17	
29.	Establish with District Councils and Merseyside Police, a strategy for dealing with unsafe structures across Merseyside and review our role in attending such incidents.	ACFO	Ops Planning Manager	Low	2005/2006		
30.	Enter a partnership with the Heart of Mersey organisation with the aim of reducing the effects of coronary heart disease in Merseyside, in line with Government targets.	ACFO	Personnel Manager	Medium	2004/05		
31.	Run a pilot scheme, at location(s) to be determined, in partnership with Mersey Regional Ambulance Service, where both services will co-respond to specified calls where someone is suspected of having a heart attack. Firefighters will be equipped with defibrillators and be trained in their use. After 12 months, the pilot scheme will be reviewed to consider its success and whether it should be continued and extended to other areas of Merseyside.	ACFO	Ops Planning Manager	Very High	October, 2004	4 & 8/4.31 & 8.6	
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32.	Develop protocols with District Councils and all social housing providers to reduce the number of non-life threatening incidents we attend.	ACFO	Ops Planning Manager	Low	December, 2004	1 & 4/1.10 & 4.25	
33.	Establish a dedicated rescue team to ensure the Authority meets the expanded role of the Service in respect of rescue from non-fire emergencies.	ACFO	Ops Planning Manager	Very High	January, 2005	2 & 4/2.13, 4.29 & 4.37	

34.	Establish response standards to life threatening non-fire emergencies, following analysis of relevant data.	CFO	Knowledge/ Risk Manager	Medium	August, 2004		
35.	Use the outcome of the risk assessment of the River Mersey to inform future response arrangements to the tidal River Mersey and use it to inform our response to other water rescue situations. Provide training to our personnel to allow them to work safely on or near water during emergencies.	ACFO	Ops Planning Manager	Medium	December, 2004	3 & 4/3.2 & 4.33	
36.	Expand our urban search and rescue capability.	ACFO	Ops Planning Manager	Medium	January, 2005	3 & 4/3.1 & 4.33	
37.	Produce a new risk map of Merseyside with areas categorised as high, medium or low risk and set new attendance times for these areas.	CFO	Knowledge/Risk Manager	High	2004/05		
38.	Introduce a protocol to share relevant data with the Police & Ambulance Services (in respect of emergency incidents)	DCFO	Fire Safety Manager	Medium	January, 2005	1/1.5	
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39.	Pending production of the new risk map of Merseyside, the Authority will send two fire engines to all property fires in areas classed as 'C' risk with the first engine arriving at the incident in 8 minutes and the second in 10 minutes. The Authority aims to achieve this attendance time on at least 85% of occasions.	ACFO	Ops Planning Manager	High	May 2004	2/2.1	



40.	Pending production of the new risk map of Merseyside, the Authority will send two fire engines to all property fires in areas classed as 'D' risk, with the first fire engine arriving at the incident in 10 minutes and the second in 12 minutes. The Authority aims to achieve this attendance time on at least 85% of occasions.	ACFO	Ops Planning Manager	High	May 2004	2/2.1a)	
41.	Pending production of the new risk map of Merseyside in those areas currently classified as 'A' or 'B' risk, the attendance time to property fires for the first fire engine will be 5 minutes and the second within 8 minutes. The Authority aims to achieve this attendance time on at least 85% of occasions. Our policy will be to mobilise two pumps to current 'A' and 'B' risk.	ACFO	Ops Planning Manager	High	June 2004	2/2.2	
42.	Where it is confirmed that people are still inside the property, we will send three fire engines to the incident.	ACFO	Ops Planning Manager	High	April 2004	2/2.3	
43.	Develop our RAPID system to review appropriate response times.	CFO	Knowledge/Risk Manager	High	2004/05		
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44.	Following the Authority's risk assessment, pilot a scheme to vary the number of appliances at any location, commensurate with such risk. The Authority will, however, maintain a rescue pump at all 26 fire stations, 24 hours a day, but the pilot will involve the relocation of support pumps.	CFO	Knowledge/Risk Manager	Very High	2004/05		

45.	Change the staffing on the third pump at Southport fire station from wholetime to a flexible staffing system(s), an example of which is retained.	ACFO	I.P.D.S. Manager	Top priority	March 2005	2/2.5	
46.	Where an aerial appliance is required at an incident the Authority aim, as an interim measure until the new risk map is finalised, for it to arrive within 10 minutes to high risk areas, within 15 minutes to commercial risk and within 20 minutes to other incidents. The Authority aim to achieve this attendance time on at least 85% of occasions.	ACFO	Ops Planning Manager	High	April 2004	2/2.7	
47.	Pilot the use of a targeted response vehicle (TRV) to attend secondary and vehicle fires. We will obtain new four-wheel drive vehicles to provide a response in targeted areas at peak times. Vehicles will be staffed on an overtime basis initially from 1600 – 2200 hours each day, although these times may be subject to change.	ACFO	Service Support Manager	Very High	July 2004	4 & 8/4.22 & 8.13	
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48.	Form an Incident Command & Continuity Team who will receive specific training in Incident Command. Members of this team will attend and support the Incident Command of any significant emergencies. This Team will also attend incidents to ensure officers managing emergency incidents have a clear framework in which to work.	ACFO	Ops Planning Manager	Very High	September 2004	2/2.14	

49.	Complete incident investigations in accordance with Authority policies and produce reports of such investigations detailing underlying factors influencing fire ignition and spread (where these can be determined), including human behaviour, fire safety knowledge and exposure to fire safety messages.	DCFO	Fire Safety Manager	Medium	June, 2004	1 & 4/1.11a & 4.33	
50.	Introduce additional vehicles and equipment to help the Authority perform roles in connection to resilience and as an integral part of capability to provide assistance at a whole range of emergencies.	ACFO	Ops Planning Manager	High	February, 2005	3 & 4/4.33	
51.	Extend the successful use of non-uniformed technical officers in the Authority fire safety team which will open up opportunities for a wider group for the community to access careers in the Fire and Rescue Service, bringing with them the knowledge which will compliment the operational experience of uniformed fire officers.	DCFO	Fire Safety Manager	Medium	2004/05	1	
52.	Implement a review of rank structure to reflect the core roles identified in the IPDS in relation to risk management.	ACFO	I.P.D.S. Manager	High	2004/05	4/4.33	
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53.	Consider development of local arrangements to make additional payments to recognise special skills which particular staff may develop.	ACFO	Personnel Manager	Medium	2004/05		

54.	Develop options for more flexible working patterns for some firefighters, looking in particular at opportunities for part-time working, reduced commitment for some staff for night-time working, more flexible call out arrangements and arrangements where some staff may not be based at a single fire station but may move to different parts of Merseyside to address the particular risks faced by different communities.	ACFO	Personnel Manager	High	June 2004	4/4.14	
55.	Develop and implement measures to secure a better work/life balance for our staff through family/friendly policies covering areas such as childcare, parental leave, job sharing, etc	ACFO	Personnel Manager	Medium	2004/05	4/4.18	
56.	After consultation with the trade unions, extend the Authority's existing arrangements for pre-arranged overtime to all firefighters, in appropriate circumstances, where this can help the Authority to improve services and reduce risk, in a cost effective way	ACFO	Attendance Management Manager	High	September, 2004	4/4.7 & 4.8	
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57.	Establish a Crew Level Maintenance team, with the aim of ensuring the overall watch staffing levels are maintained at a level required to enable an appropriate life-saving response on rescue pumps and on support pumps. On a single pump fire station this means five personnel on a rescue pump. On a multi pump fire station this means five on the rescue pump and four on the support pump, this to be achieved on 85% of occasions. The Authority's minimum level would be four and four. This approach conforms to guidance from the Health & Safety Executive.	ACFO	Attendance Management Manager	Very High	July 2004	2/2.6	

58.	Pilot the use of closed circuit TV on our fire engines as part of an approach to placing the safety of personnel at the heart of the Authority's response. We will pursue strong action against any individual who acts in an aggressive manner to our personnel.	ACFO	Service Support Manager	Medium	July 2004	8/8.14	
59.	Conduct and complete a review of fire cover and other cross border arrangements with neighbouring fire authorities.	CFO	Knowledge/Risk Manager	Medium	2004/05		
60	Pilot the role of Station Locality Manager for a period of 12 months to improve performance on stations and to forge partnerships with District Councils and other local agencies.	DCFO ACFO	Attendance Management Manager	Very High	2004/05	4/4.4	
61.	Create new arrangements with the voluntary sector.	DCFO	Partnerships Manager	Medium	2004/05		