

Appendix 15

Document Control

Amendment History

Version / Issue Number	Date	Author	Remarks / Reasons for Change

Equalities Impact Assessment

Initial	Full	Completed

Sign Off List

Name	Position

Distribution List

Name	Position	I/R

Related Documents

Reference Number	Title	Author	Version / Date
0.1	TI 17/2006	Dan Stephens	0.1

LOW LEVEL OF ACTIVITY AND RISK (LLAR) CREWING POLICY

It is the policy of Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service (MFRS) to make the most efficient and effective use of resources to implement the Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP), including using more efficient working practices where appropriate.

Where a station is identified as having low levels of operational activity and risk (LLAR) MFRS will utilise the Self Managed Available Response Team (SMART) crewing concept in order to maintain the appropriate speed and weight of attack in keeping with the emergency response standard detailed within the IRMP.

POLICY EXPLANATION

Independent analysis has determined that there are a number of stations within Merseyside that can be deemed to be low activity stations by virtue of the number of incidents they attend each year.

This analysis reveals that there is a clearly discernable gap at which the activity levels increase sharply when considering the activity of all 26 stations. This demarcation occurs at about the 900 incident mark.

Activity levels on these stations are lowest from 2330hrs to 0800hrs. Activity levels also show limited activity from 0800hrs to 1600hrs with lower activity stations having proportionately less activity than higher activity stations

Stations that are considered lower activity stations under this analysis are Southport, Formby, Belle Vale, Bootle and Netherton, Allerton, Whiston, Eccleston, Newton-le-Willows, Heswall, Brombrough and West Kirby.

Whilst either the day crewing or retained duty systems would be appropriate methods by which to crew any of these stations, MFRS are committed to some of the most challenging emergency response times in the country.

Therefore MFRS has sought to develop a crewing methodology, which is efficient and flexible, but retains the ability to respond immediately without the delay in response associated with the day crewing or retained duty systems.

Under the SMART concept, Firefighters work a 42 hours per week day duty system whereby the hours worked are between 1100 and 2300hrs.

Outside of these times and during the times that the activity level of these stations is statistically proven to be at its lowest, Firefighters provide retained cover within a 1.9-minute response isochrone to the station.

Note: the 1.9 minutes is arrived at from analysis of the times taken for Wholetime personnel to respond to an incident during these times.

Where an individual is unable to provide an operating base within a 1.9-minute isochrone of the station, MFRS have elected to provide high quality accommodation adjacent to the station from which they can respond.

By doing so MFRS afford equality of access to all personnel wishing to work this system rather than only those who live within 1.9 minutes of the station.

Such a crewing system allows MFRS to maintain a standard of response at low activity stations commensurate with that of the high activity stations.

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

This crewing system is implemented by means of the procedures outlined within Temporary Instruction 17/2006 Self Managed Available Response Teams Crewing System.