

## How will this affect the safety of people?

Society will be safer for all. The plan puts people first, looking at the risks arising from all emergency incidents and the options for reduction and management. Introducing this more flexible locally determined risk-based approach will lead to:

- More effective targeting of resources to improve community safety and protective and prevention measures
- More dynamic, flexible and appropriate level of emergency response to incidents, effectively targeted to save lives and reduce injuries



Merseyside  
**FIRE**  
SERVICE

## Is this an exercise to make cuts?

No. This risk assessment is required to be an objective risk assessment based upon the risk to life, injury, property, commercial, environmental and heritage present in all areas and at all times of the day. The final plan could result in savings, but it could equally result in a re-distribution of resources or even require financial investment.

## Where can I find out more information?



Fire Service Circular 7/2003 – Fire Authority Integrated Risk Management Plans and draft Guidance Notes 1&2.

Available on ODFM website at:

[www.safety.odpm.gov.uk/fire/consult/irmp/index.htm](http://www.safety.odpm.gov.uk/fire/consult/irmp/index.htm)

If you want to know anything more about Integrated Risk Management that is not in this leaflet, or know of anyone who wishes to read the document but is unable to do so because of language difficulties or visual impairment – please contact Merseyside Fire Service.

### Contact:

Divisional Officer:  
John Moorcroft on 0151 296 4501  
[www.merseyfire.gov.uk](http://www.merseyfire.gov.uk)



making communities  
*safer*



In April 2003, the government issued a circular instructing all Fire Authorities to develop an Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) by the end of 2003. It is the most fundamental change to the Fire Service in more than 50 years.

*But what does IRMP mean?*

*Here is a simple guide...*

## What is an Integrated Risk Management Plan?



An Integrated Risk Management Plan will save more lives, reduce injuries and will protect property and the environment. It is an assessment of all risks to life and injury to the community, resulting in a long-term plan to make the Fire Service more responsive to locally identified needs. It will mean a safer community. It takes into account commercial, economic, environmental and heritage concerns. Although it will be a Fire Service plan, it will deliver a cross-agency strategy for community safety.



## Why is it different to what we do now?



Fire Services are required to prepare plans for emergency responses based upon outdated standards developed in 1947. These standards are based upon a fire risk assessment of buildings and take no reasoned account of people or the 'real' life risk in society. They do not consider or prepare for other events such

as road traffic accidents, chemical incidents, trapped persons and flooding. The new plans will consider all life risks in the community and develop effective safety plans based on reliable data. This includes the risk from terrorist attack.

## Who will develop the Plan?

It is a statutory duty of the Fire Authority. The work will be carried out in consultation with all other agencies, the community and neighbouring Fire Authorities.

## How will the plan be put together? .....work towards the plan will include



- Identification of existing and potential risks to the community
- Evaluation of the effectiveness of current preventative, proactive, and response arrangements
- Identification of opportunities for improvement and determination of policies and standards for prevention and intervention
- Determination of resources needed to meet these policies and standards
- Arrangements for implementation, monitoring, audit and review of the Plan

## Who will be consulted?

The general public, community organisations, businesses, local authorities, other agencies, other emergency services, the workforce and their representatives, the Fire Service Inspectorate and other groups affected by Integrated Risk Management. Information will be available through the media, our own publications, as well as our website:

[www.merseyfire.gov.uk](http://www.merseyfire.gov.uk)

