



**Service Policy: PREPOL05
Sharing of Resources**

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1.1	Apr 12	[REDACTED]	Policy Review
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1.3	27/03/2015	[REDACTED]	Policy Review
1.4	31/03/2016	[REDACTED]	Policy Review
1.5	31/03/2017	[REDACTED]	Policy Review
1.6	31/03/2018	[REDACTED]	Policy Review
1.7	05/04/2019	[REDACTED]	Policy Review
1.8	28/02/2020	[REDACTED]	Policy Review
1.9	01/04/2022	[REDACTED]	Policy Review
1.10	13/03/2024	[REDACTED]	Policy Review
2.0	08/05/2026	[REDACTED]	Policy Review

Equalities Impact Assessment:

Initial	Full	Date	Reviewed by	Comments
	X		ED&I TEAM	LOCATED ON PORTAL

Civil Contingencies Impact Assessment:

Date	Reviewed by	Comments

Related Documents:

Doc. Type	Ref No.	Title	Location

Distribution List:

Name	Position	Department

Sign-Off List:

Name	Position

Target Audience:

All MFRS	Principal Officers	Senior Officers	Operational Crews	Fire Safety	Community Fire Safety	Support Staff
X						

Ownership:

FOI exemption required?	Yes	X	URL
	No		Reason

Legislation:

Title
Fire & Rescue National Framework Document for England 2018
The Fire and Rescue Services (Emergencies) (England) Order 2007

Contact:

Department	Email	Telephone ext.
Operational Planning & Policy Team	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

POLICY

PREPOL05 Sharing of Resources Policy

1. Policy Introduction and Background:

It is the policy of Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority (MFRA) to maintain operational mutual aid and reinforcement arrangements with neighbouring Fire and Rescue Services (FRSs) and partner organisations to support operational response, interoperability, and resilience.

Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service (MFRS) recognises that operational incidents may require mutual assistance, operational reinforcement, or the discharge of functions between Fire and Rescue Authorities in order to support effective incident response and the management of operational risk.

This policy supports the Service's statutory responsibilities under Sections 13 and 16 of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004, The Fire and Rescue Services (Emergencies) (England) Order 2007, and the Fire and Rescue National Framework for England.

2. Policy Explanation:

The Fire and Rescue National Framework for England places responsibilities on Fire and Rescue Authorities to maintain arrangements for mutual assistance and interoperability with other Fire and Rescue Services.

Section 13 of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 provides for Fire and Rescue Authorities to enter into reinforcement schemes and mutual aid arrangements, whilst Section 16 enables Fire and Rescue Authorities to enter into arrangements for the discharge of functions on behalf of another authority.

MFRS recognises that operational incidents and periods of heightened operational demand may require the provision of mutual assistance, operational reinforcement, or cross-border response arrangements in support of effective operational response.

The Service will therefore maintain arrangements to support:

- Mutual aid and operational reinforcement
- Cross-border operational response arrangements
- Interoperability with neighbouring Fire and Rescue Services and partner agencies
- National resilience commitments where required.

Collaborative arrangements may include operational support, specialist capabilities, information sharing, training, exercising, and other operational activities necessary to support effective incident response and interoperability.

All mutual aid and reinforcement arrangements will be developed in accordance with relevant legislation, national guidance, interoperability principles, and established governance arrangements.

3. Policy Implementation:

This policy will be implemented through established local, regional, and national operational mutual aid and interoperability arrangements.

MFRS will maintain appropriate agreements and operational arrangements with neighbouring Fire and Rescue Services and partner organisations to support mutual assistance, reinforcement, cross-border response, and the discharge of functions where appropriate.

Governance and oversight of mutual aid and interoperability arrangements will be delivered through established Service and partnership governance structures to ensure that arrangements remain effective, proportionate, and aligned to operational and national requirements.

All Policies can be found on the [Website](#)

POLICY