

# West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority

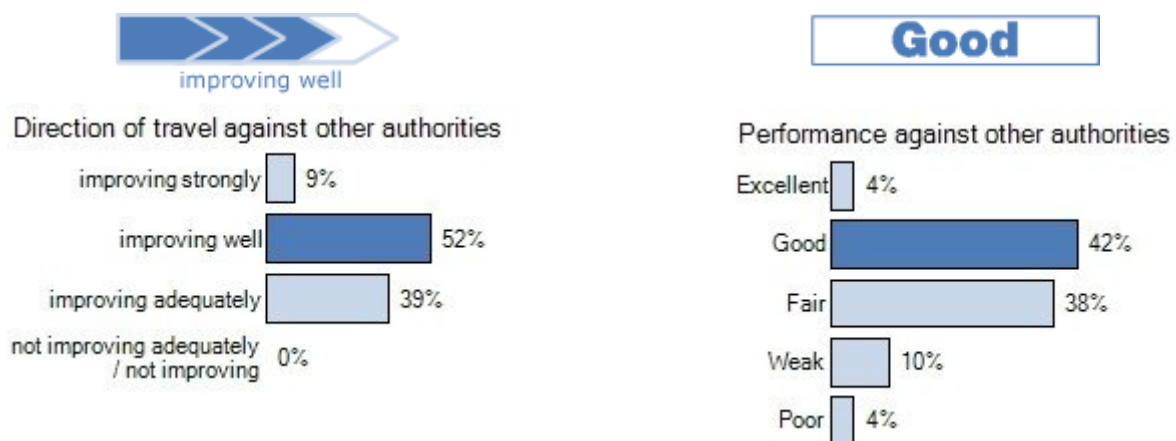
## Fire and rescue performance assessment 2007

Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) for Fire and Rescue Authorities was introduced in 2005 when each authority was given a corporate assessment rating of either excellent, good, fair, weak or poor. Inspectors looked at issues like staff training, budget management and the way the service works within the community to make it safer and prevent fires from happening in the first place.

Additional elements give an overall assessment of services including how the authority performs operationally

### Overall performance for this fire and rescue authority

This is an authority that is improving well having demonstrated Good overall performance in 2005.



In addition to Fire CPA 2005, fire and rescue authorities were assessed under the 2007 performance framework on three elements:

- What progress West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority has made in the last year – direction of travel
- How West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority manages its finances and provides value for money – use of resources
- How West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority delivers its fire and rescue service – service assessment

The use of resources and service assessment are scored on the following scale:

- 1 = Inadequate performance – below minimum requirements
- 2 = Adequate performance – only at minimum requirements
- 3 = Performing well – consistently above minimum requirements
- 4 = Performing strongly – well above minimum requirements

## Direction of travel

### What progress has West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority made in the last year

Direction of travel	2006	2007
This assessment indicates the progress being made, or otherwise, to achieve improvement.	improving strongly	improving well

The following summary has been provided to support the 2007 direction of travel assessment:

West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service continues to improve in its priority areas and has good plans for future progress. Targeted community fire safety work has resulted in 66 per cent of key indicators improving including primary fires; accidental dwelling fires; deliberate primary fires; fires confined to room of origin; and injuries, although some are still in the lower quartiles. Although the longer-term trend is downwards, the number of deaths is static while deliberate secondary fires and fires in non-domestic properties increased slightly. The Fire and Rescue Authority (FRA) targets activity at vulnerable and hard-to-reach community groups. Initiatives and effective partnership working have led to improved measurable outcomes for the wider community. There is a strong emphasis on diversity and equality within the workforce and the number of women and black and minority ethnic firefighters has increased. The Commission on Integration and Cohesion regards the FRA as best practice in community cohesion. West Yorkshire FRA is providing and improving value for money and has achieved £12 million efficiency savings in three years. Improvements have been made to the financial, performance and governance framework.

## Use of resources

### How West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority manages its finances and provides value for money

Use of resources	2006	2007
This assessment looks at financial accounting and reporting arrangements, how well the Authority plans and manages its finances and whether the Authority achieves value for money.	3	4

This use of resources judgement is drawn from five individual judgements provided by the Authority's appointed auditor:

Auditor judgements	2007
Financial reporting	4
Financial management	3
Financial standing	4
Internal control	4
Value for money	3

## Service assessment

### How West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority delivers its fire and rescue service

Service assessment	2006	2007
The overall service assessment is the Authority's performance in delivering the fire and rescue service and is constructed from two elements: performance indicators (PIs) and the OASD.	3	2

The following summarises the operational assessment of service delivery:

West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service is performing well in all areas of service delivery, and particularly strongly in prevention, protection and emergency response activities. The Service's youth engagement and diversion activities are excellent. It works with a substantial number of school children and young offenders in order to positively reduce and prevent arson and car crime. Community safety work with partners is innovative and includes safety messages displayed in town centre locations. The Service has strong emergency response arrangements in place. It has a highly developed and sophisticated approach to training and developing managers involved in critical incident command, and works well with strategic partners to co-ordinate response to major incidents. Monitoring arrangements for operational performance are effective and the Service is good at sharing best practice amongst staff. The Service performs well in risk analysis and thoroughly audits and reviews its processes in order to monitor the effect of any changes it makes to service delivery. Call management and incident support arrangements are good, and the Service is well prepared operationally. Overall the Service is performing strongly with a resolute commitment to sharing its skills with partners and other services.

## CPA 2005

### How West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority performed in 2005

CPA 2005	2005
We assessed the Authority on the way it was run and the delivery of its services. Our corporate assessment did not give an opinion on how well the fire and rescue service responded to emergency incidents. The assessment provided a baseline measurement that helps fire and rescue authorities focus on improvement. Fire and Rescue CPA 2005 was scored on the scale Poor/Weak/Fair/Good/Excellent.	Good

Please visit the Audit Commission website ([www.audit-commission.gov.uk](http://www.audit-commission.gov.uk)) for the full version of this scorecard.

# West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority

## Fire and rescue service assessment

### How West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority delivers its fire and rescue services

The service assessment is scored on the following scale:

- 1 = Inadequate performance – below minimum requirements
- 2 = Adequate performance – only at minimum requirements
- 3 = Performing well – consistently above minimum requirements
- 4 = Performing strongly – well above minimum requirements

Service assessment	2006	2007
The Authority's performance, as assessed by the Audit Commission, in providing its fire and rescue services.	3	2

The service assessment is constructed from two elements:

- performance information
- operational assessment of service delivery (OASD)

Service assessment elements	2006	2007
Fire and rescue performance information	2	1
The 2006 OASD provided by the Department for Communities and Local Government (CLG)	4	4

## Fire and rescue performance information

Performance on specified performance indicators (PIs) is assessed as above, between or below two levels (thresholds) to make three performance groupings:

- above the upper threshold = comparatively high performance
- between the thresholds
- below the lower threshold = comparatively low performance

The number of PIs in each performance grouping determines the score for the performance information element. For detailed information view the service assessment framework technical guide for CPA 2006 on the Audit Commission website ([www.audit-commission.gov.uk](http://www.audit-commission.gov.uk)).

## Performance indicators

PI	Description	Performance
F1	Primary fires per 10,000 population	above the upper threshold
F2	Accidental dwelling fires per 10,000 dwellings	
F5	Percentage of accidental dwelling fires confined to room of origin	
F7	Number of deliberate primary fires (including vehicles) per 10,000 population	
F11	Fires in non-domestic properties per 1,000 non-domestic properties	
F4	Injuries arising from accidental dwelling fires per 100,000 population	between the thresholds
F3	Deaths arising from accidental dwelling fires per 100,000 population	below the lower threshold
F8	False alarms caused by automatic fire detection	
F9	Calls to malicious false alarms	
F13	Percentage of fires attended where no smoke alarm was fitted	

## 2006 Operational assessment of service delivery

West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority scored 4 (performing strongly) in the CLG's OASD.

The OASD looks at fire prevention and emergency responses to fires, accidents, rescues, major incidents, terrorism and environmental threats. It covers the following areas:

- risk analysis
- prevention and protection
- operational preparedness
- call management and incident support
- emergency response

The following summary has been provided by CLG to support its assessment:

West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service is performing well in all areas of service delivery, and particularly strongly in prevention, protection and emergency response activities. The Service's youth engagement and diversion activities are excellent. It works with a substantial number of school children and young offenders in order to positively reduce and prevent arson and car crime. Community safety work with partners is innovative and includes safety messages displayed in town centre locations. The Service has strong emergency response arrangements in place. It has a highly developed and sophisticated approach to training and developing managers involved in critical incident command, and works well with strategic partners to co-ordinate response to major incidents. Monitoring arrangements for operational performance are effective and the Service is good at sharing best practice amongst staff. The Service performs well in risk analysis and thoroughly audits and reviews its processes in order to monitor the effect of any changes it makes to service delivery. Call management and incident support arrangements are good, and the Service is well prepared operationally. Overall the Service is performing strongly with a resolute commitment to sharing its skills with partners and other services.

Further details of this assessment can be found on the CLG website.

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