



West Yorkshire  
Fire & Rescue Service

# Wakefield District Plan 2021-22





## Contents

Foreword	3
About Wakefield district	4
Why we are here	5
Priorities 2020-2023	6
How we will deliver these priorities	8
Risks in the Wakefield district	10
Managing risk in the Wakefield district	11
Performance	19
Wakefield, our people	20
Monitoring progress	21
Contact us	22

# Foreword

**Wakefield District plan will highlight our service delivery priorities for 2021-2022. It derives from the priorities set out in the WYFRS Integrated Risk Management Plan Your Fire and Rescue Service 2020-2023.**

Our ambition is to “Make Wakefield District Safer” and the team will work together to understand the challenges and changing risks that our communities and those who are most vulnerable face.

Our aim is to build on our proactive community safety programme focusing on prevention and risk reduction while creating safer and healthier communities within Wakefield. To achieve this, we will maintain and strengthen our relationships with partners, local authorities and other statutory services. Operational and Prevention Support Staff within the district will continue to build relationships with the public, community anchors, third sector organisations to assess risk and focus on safety prevention advice and education.

Through our Operational Risk Visit and Building Risk Review programmes we will promote and enforce the fire safety measures required by law to ensure that building and occupants are protected. These programmes will also generate risk information to help keep our firefighters safe.

We will ensure that our firefighters are highly trained, and are ready to respond to fires and other emergencies in an effective and professional manner. Health and Wellbeing of all our staff will be integral to our priorities. In addition, we will ensure that we are resilient when responding to major incidents within the district by sharing operational risk information and response plans with neighbouring districts and other fire and rescue services.

We are proud of the significant reductions in all incident types over the past year and our performance indicators are very positive; we are projected to meet our three year targets in all areas. We are proud of our achievements, but will not be complacent, we will continue to reduce the most serious and impactful issues for our community.

**Lee Miller**  
Wakefield District Commander

“ We will build on our proactive community safety programme focusing on prevention and risk reduction ”



# About Wakefield district

Wakefield district is covered by seven fire stations. Three of these are wholetime, three are day crewing and one retained (on call station).

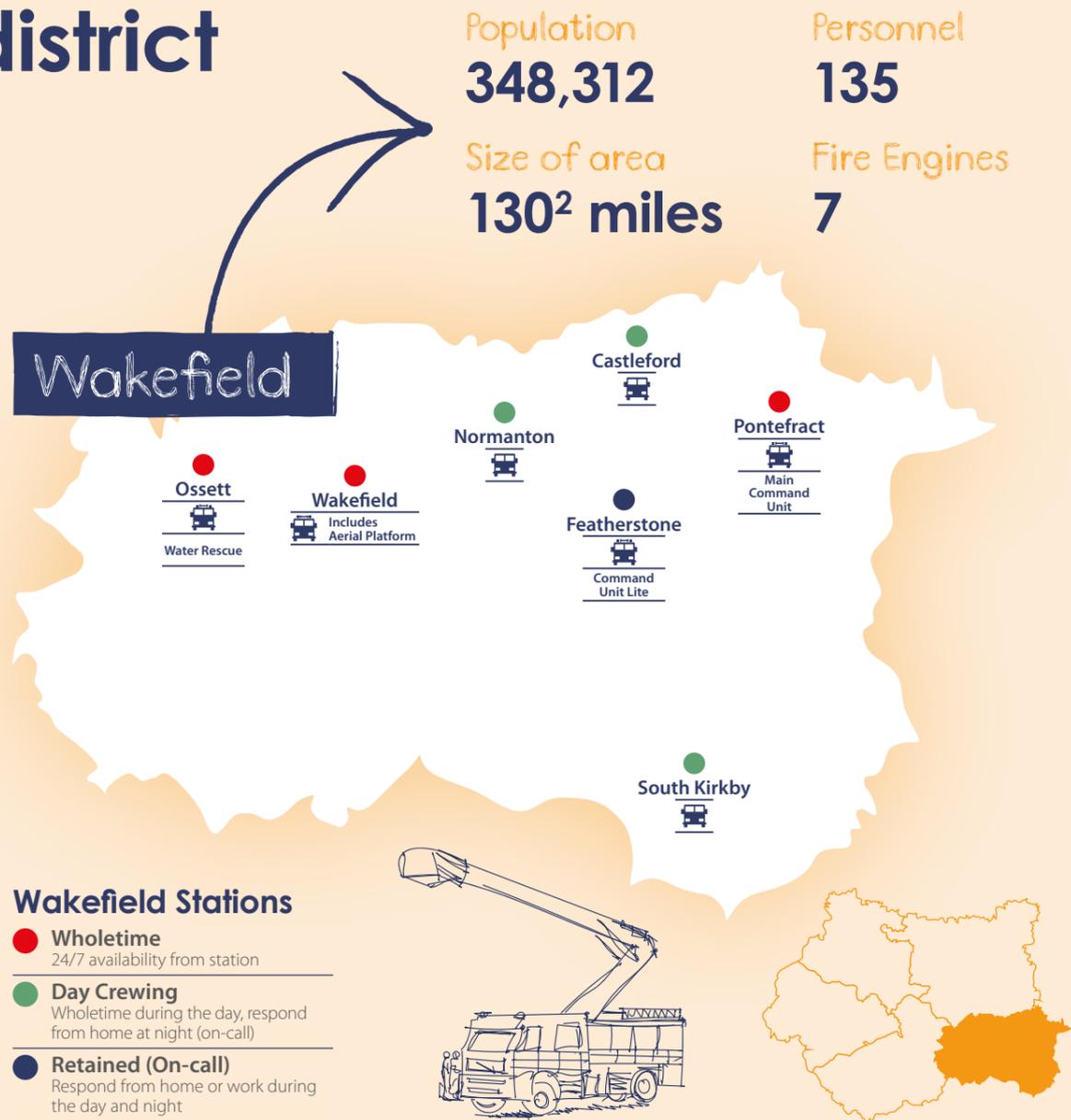
The district has a specialist water rescue team, and the crew at Wakefield Fire Station provides an aerial response to incidents across the Service using their Combined Aerial Rescue Pump. Both of West Yorkshire's Command Unit vehicles are based in the district, with the main command unit in Pontefract and the Command Unit Lite having its home at Featherstone.

We respond to over 2,500 wide ranging incidents every year, including fire alarm actuations, fires in buildings, assisting other agencies and complex rescue incidents involving road traffic collisions, hazardous materials and rescuing people trapped in water.

The Wakefield district has an increasingly diverse and ageing population containing a large range of social-economic groups from wealthy to very deprived communities. The district has a

relatively small but growing ethnic minority population. In the last census almost 93% of people defined their ethnicity as White British; the largest minority group born outside of the UK are people born in Poland.

Traditional mining communities have been transformed with major regeneration. Due to its high-tech innovation, supply chain networks and easy access to the M1 and M62 motorways and its position on the East Coast main line, there are few more strategically connected places to locate manufacturing or distribution businesses than Wakefield. Many well-known major food, supermarket, logistical and clothing businesses have busy manufacturing, warehouse and distribution hubs, firmly established in Wakefield.



# Why we are here

Our ambition



## Making West Yorkshire Safer

To improve community safety and wellbeing and reduce the risk to life, property and the environment from fire and other emergencies



## Our guiding principles

To achieve our ambition we will:

- Focus on risk and vulnerability
- Be part of our communities
- Work in partnership
- Be at our best and strive to improve
- Make a positive difference in everything we do
- Promote diversity and create an inclusive workplace

## The services we deliver

### Prevention

Raising awareness about the risks people face to prevent emergencies and reduce vulnerability

### Protection

Promoting and enforcing the fire safety measures required by law to ensure buildings and occupants are protected should a fire occur

### Response

Being ready for and responding to emergencies

### Resilience

Being able to deal with major emergencies and disruption locally and nationally whilst continuing to deliver our critical services

# Priorities 2020-2023

This plan sets out how we aim to use our resources to manage the risks we face in West Yorkshire and keep you safe from fire and other emergencies.



“Our priority is to keep you safe from fire and other emergencies”



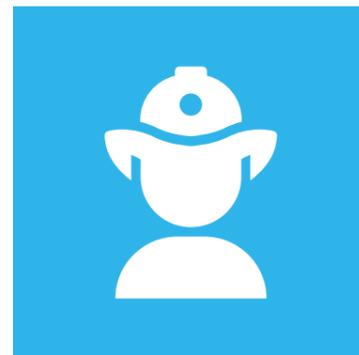
“We will reduce the risks to the Wakefield community”



# How we will deliver these priorities



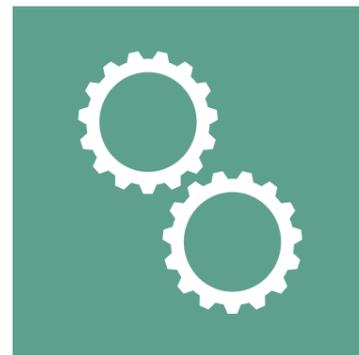
- We will continue to deliver the Safer Communities Prevention Strategy.
- Actively engage with the community and partners to identify risk, reduce vulnerability and support those most in need.
- We will maintain strong partnerships and develop new relationships to foster effective working relationships to identify and help those most vulnerable in our community.
- We will support and drive Road Safety and Water Safety, multi-agency strategies.



- We will provide support to our staff, our partners and members of the community in response to the Covid pandemic.
- We will undertake training and exercises to ensure a safe response to the risks identified in this document.
- We will implement outcomes and recommendations from the Firefighter Safety Programme and Grenfell Project Team.
- We will debrief and learn from all incidents, exercises and training we attend.
- We will implement a structured cross border training strategy with neighbouring FRS's.



- We will continue to look for opportunities to be more efficient in how we operate.
- We will encourage staff to be innovative and share ideas of new ways of working.
- We will continue to communicate and collaborate effectively with our key partners.
- We will embed the Command Leadership and Management programme within Wakefield to enhance more effective ways of working.



- We will continue to support the delivery of lean working projects.
- We will look for opportunities to build and learn from how the service responded to Covid
- We will continue to explore and implement new ways of conducting training, engagement and meetings with internal and external stakeholders.



- We will support the integration of VOIP and agile ways of working for district-based staff.
- We will continue to engage with the community utilising new technology and ways of working.
- We will support the implementation of the Performance Dashboard which will support organisational improvement and assurance.
- We will embed the use of social media within the district to provide a platform for community engagement.



- We will provide opportunities to support and develop all staff by implementing training and development opportunities to ensure continuous improvement of services to the public.
- We will provide regular Continuous Professional Development sessions for all our staff .
- We will provide command training scenarios and theoretical input and for all officers within the district.
- We will focus on operational exercising that will prioritise foreseeable risk within Wakefield and West Yorkshire.
- Support the NVQ, IQA processes across the district and modular training at Featherstone.



- We will nurture talent and provide support for those willing to develop in the service.
- We will continue to maintain the competence of all staff.
- We will support organisational change to ensure continued improvement of service delivery.
- We will underpin assurances and professional standards through the Station Assurance process.



- We will work in partnership to prevent climate driven emergencies and develop ways of working to respond more effectively.
- Work with partners to mitigate and limit the impact of flooding events within Wakefield District.
- Implement recycling programme and environmentally friendly initiatives at all stations.



- We will undertake inspections of all Highrise residential buildings as part of the Building Risk Review Programme.
- We will continue to implement and train against new procedures which improve our operational effectiveness.
- We will inspect and gather risk information through the Operational Risk Visit Programme.



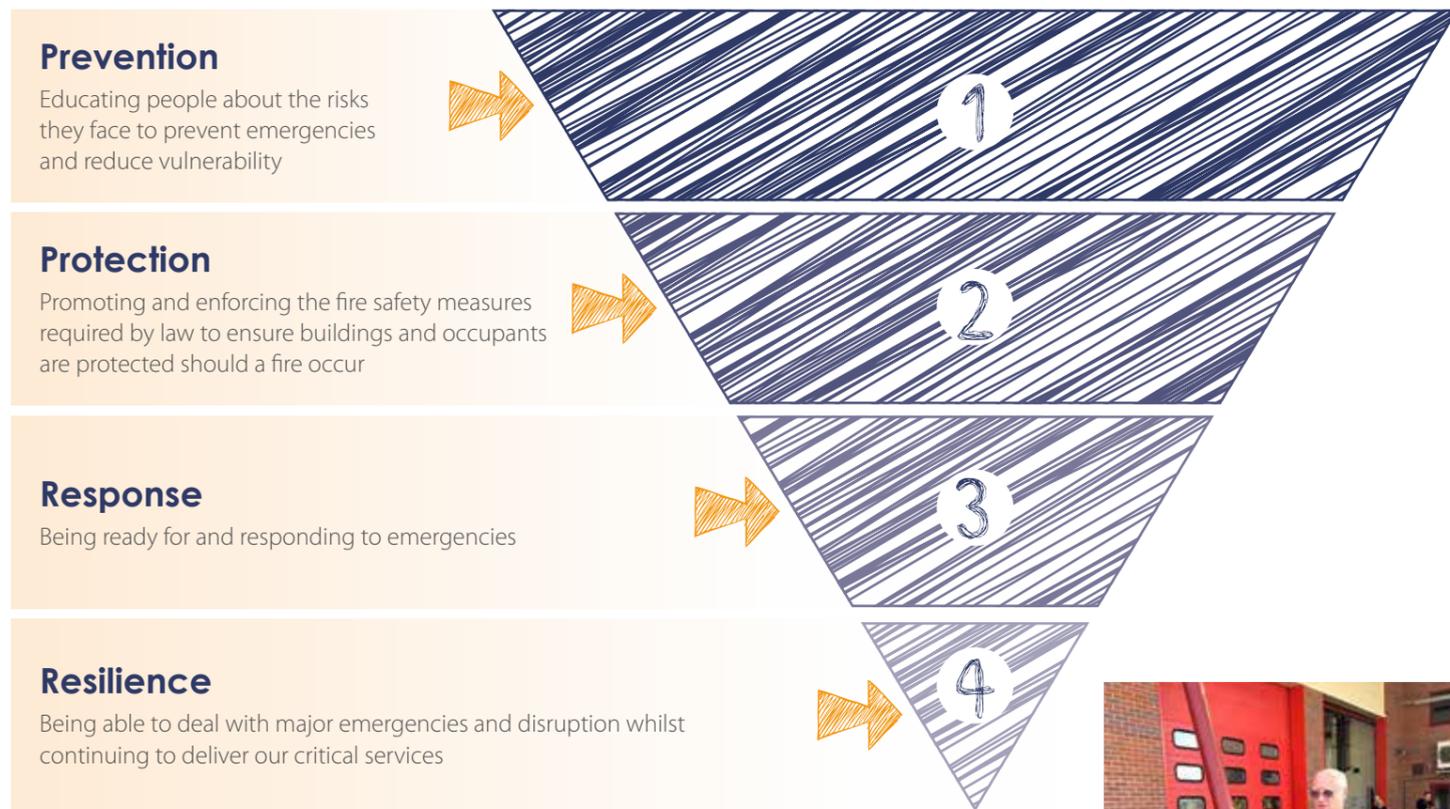
- We will deliver recruitment messages during all service delivery contact.
- We will continue to positively represent the service when working in our unrepresented communities.
- We will diversify our staff, promote inclusion and create a fair and equal workplace.
- We will promote recruitment opportunities at Featherstone Fire Station and support positive action initiatives.

# Risks in the Wakefield district

Whilst attending emergencies across West Yorkshire is a statutory duty, our role is much broader than this. We aim to do everything we can to prevent an emergency response in the first place. We do this through prevention and protection activity. The residual risk that remains is managed through our response and resilience strategies.

## The following sources have been used to identify the risk within Wakefield District:

- The National Risk Register
- The WY Community Risk Register
- Local knowledge
- CPNI sites
- WYFRS Premises Risk Database (PRD)
- IRS; national and international data and experiences
- Environmental data and flood risk
- Information from local partners
- Foreseeable Risk Register



“  
To reduce risk our main focus is prevention”



# Managing risk in the Wakefield district

## High Rise Buildings

### How will we reduce the risk?

- Prevention**
- We will work with Wakefield District Housing, private owners and resident associations to provide advice to those most at risk from a fire in a high rise building.
  - We will update our prevention advice to reflect the learning from Grenfell.
  - Ensure that Partnership training is delivered to WDH staff to reflect our up to date policies and procedures.
  - We will ensure there is clear dialogue between ourselves and WDH when and if new risks emerge that require a joint problem solving approach.

- Protection**
- We inspect all highrise buildings as part of the WYFRS Building Risk Review Programme.
  - We will report and enforce non-compliance with legislation.

- Response**
- We will undertake a series of practical exercises to improve our response to this type of emergency.
  - We will undertake operational response visits (ORVs) to ensure we understand each of the Highrise risks in our area.
  - We will produce and review tactical plans for high rise buildings aligned to the Building Risk Review Programme and Wakefield District High Rise Strategy.
  - Castleford and Command Unit Operatives will undertake a series of training scenarios to test new evacuation guidance.

- Resilience**
- We will share our response plans with all stations likely to attend an emergency in Wakefield District.

## Flooding

### How will we reduce the risk?

- Prevention**
- We will work with Wakefield Council and engage with residents and identify vulnerabilities at risk of flooding within their areas.
  - We will review the Wakefield District Flood Plan which shows us the areas of highest risk in the event of a Flood Alert.
  - We will implement a coordinated response with Wakefield Council and other key partners within the district to share effective safety advice to residents on opportunities to reduce the risk of flooding within their homes via Social Media; Community Alerts via WY Police; Community Anchors and Assets .

- Response**
- We will organise familiarisation days with local partners and operational crews to aid in a co-ordinated response to any flooding incident within Wakefield District.
  - Ensure that all our firefighters are trained to work safely in and near flood water.
  - We have specialist Water Rescue assets at Ossett Fire Station that are trained to work in fast flowing water.
  - We will undertake scenario training for wide spread flooding with partners.

- Resilience**
- We will share our response plans with local partners and emergency planning teams to aid in a co-ordinated response to any flooding incident within Wakefield District.
  - A number of other Fire Stations across west Yorkshire have Specialist Water Rescue resources that will be brought in to support where required.
  - We can request support of other Fire Services across the country through local arrangements or through the National Coordination and Advisory Framework.

# Managing risk in the Wakefield district

## Upper Tier COMAH Sites

### How will we reduce the risk?

- Prevention**
- We will work with premise owners and the COMAH department in carrying out regular visits to the premises within Wakefield.
- Protection**
- We will report and enforce non-compliance in liaison with the COMAH Team and Fire Protection.
- Response**
- District staff will participate in brigade COMAH exercise programme.
  - Operational Crews will undertake a white board scenario and visit each COMAH site within Wakefield District to improve operational knowledge and understanding of the premise.
- Resilience**
- We will share our response plans with all stations and neighbouring services likely to attend an emergency in Wakefield District.

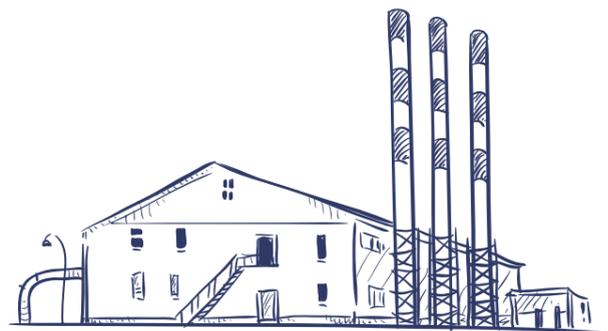


“ We will work with premise owners and the COMAH department ”

## Complex Buildings including large scale manufacturing and distribution hubs

### How will we reduce the risk?

- Prevention**
- We will identify buildings and provide advice on how to mitigate risk of fire.
- Protection**
- We will carry out Operational Risk Visits to Very High and High risk premises.
  - We will report and enforce non-compliance with legislation.
- Response**
- We undertake a series of practical exercises to improve our response to this type of emergency.
  - We will undertake operational response visits (ORVs) to ensure we understand risk.
  - We will produce risk presentations on our high and very high risk premises.
- Resilience**
- We will share our response plans and risk presentations with all stations likely to attend an emergency in Wakefield District.



# Managing risk in the Wakefield district

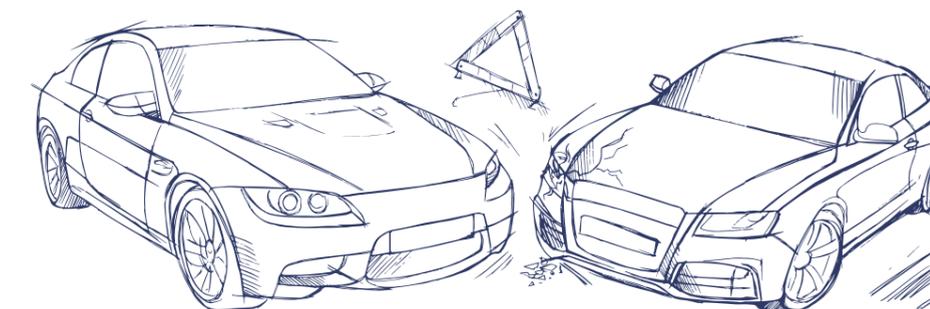
## Road Traffic Collisions

### How will we reduce the risk?

- Prevention**
- Wakefield district staff will attend strategic and tactical Road Safety groups at a local and regional level – Safer Roads Wakefield; Safer Roads West Yorkshire; Safer Roads Yorkshire and Humber.
  - We will continue with delivery of our education in colleges and schools targeting the Year 7, 16+ age groups – working closely with the Local Authority Wakefield Road Safety Team to create further innovative local solutions to road safety.
  - Continue our effective partnership with Theatre in Education – The Riot Act – to deliver cutting edge performances reinforcing the Road Safety Message to young people across the High Schools within Wakefield District.
  - Carry out Community based Initiatives which will improve the safety of the people of Wakefield on the roads.
  - Aim to be innovative in our approach, encouraging our staff and local communities to suggest new ideas and local solutions. We will explore examples of cross-sector good practice to help inform the way forward.
- Response**
- We will undertake practical and theoretical training to improve response to road traffic collisions.
  - We will ensure that operational crews have good knowledge and understanding of Nationals Operational Guidance through the Service Assurance Process.
- Resilience**
- WYFRS will continue to work with the Wakefield road safety partnership and West Yorkshire Police in aiming to make Wakefield road network safer.



“ We will continue visiting schools and working with young people, particularly years 7 and over 16s, to educate them on risk and fire prevention ”



# Managing risk in the Wakefield district



## Anti-Social Behaviour & Arson Reduction

### How will we reduce the risk?

- Prevention**
- We will work in collaboration with Street Scene; Environmental Health Team and Environmental Crime Team from the Council to target hot spot areas to arrange swift interventions and clean ups by reporting accumulated or abandoned waste.
  - Each station will actively engage in Arson Reduction work and to this objective will actively utilise the new PMI recording process.
  - Each station will develop Community Assets, Anchors and third sector organisations; Nova within Wakefield, to enable successful collaboration in prevention initiatives.
  - Work closely with Neighbourhood Co-ordination Groups across all areas of the District to identify current ASB and Arson trends and proactively develop local solutions which can be delivered across a multi-agency platform.
  - Deliver Arson and Anti-Social Behaviour Education to local schools and young people across the district with effective partnership working involving WYP Schools Liaison Officers; Wakefield Council Outreach Youth Workers; Wakefield Council Anti-Social Behaviour Teams. WY Police Early Intervention and Prevention Teams; Wakefield Council Early Intervention Hubs.
  - Utilise the Theatre in Education Group to deliver ASB and Arson inspired performances which will reinforce the consequences of such behaviours.
  - Work closely with our Youth Intervention Team in relation to Fire Setting behaviour and young people engaging in Arson and ASB to deliver early interventions and signposting to other key partner agencies for support.

- Response**
- Operational crews will undertake Environmental Visual audits to identify areas which may be vulnerable to arson threats. Any potential hazards or issues will be recorded and shared with crews and local authority.
  - Operational crews will visit identified derelict buildings at risk from arson on a regular basis, based on the security and risk posed.

- Resilience**
- We will share our response plans with all partners likely to attend any emergency in Wakefield District.
  - We will work with the local community wardens and neighbourhood police teams in sharing local intelligence.



# Managing risk in the Wakefield district

## Dwelling Fires

### How will we reduce the risk?

- Prevention**
- A person-centred service based on an assessment of an individual's risk of injury or death in the home by fire.
  - Target our resources towards those who are at the greatest risk of injury or death from fire in the home.
  - Provide advice, education and interventions through our Safe and Well Programme with Fire, Health and Well Being Interventions delivered as part of the holistic, individual based Safe and Well visit.
  - Use a shared intelligence-led, partnership approach working closely with Wakefield Council Housing Solutions Team; WDH and other Key Housing Providers to identify at risk properties, families and individuals who require fire safety advice and education.
  - We will deliver regular training to our key partners to ensure the most effective and efficient referral pathways are maintained and we are targeting the most vulnerable with early intervention and prevention.
  - Work closely with the Wakefield Council Community Cohesion Team to address potential housing inequalities and lack of fire safety awareness amongst our local population within the BAME Community; Asylum Seekers and Eastern European Community who find it difficult to engage with services.

- Protection**
- We will report and enforce non-compliance with legislation in appropriate premises.

- Response**
- We will undertake a series of practical exercises to improve our response to this type of incident.
  - We will debrief and learn from incident attendance and share that learning to improve the operational response.
  - We will ensure that operational crews have good knowledge and understanding of Nationals Operational Guidance through the Service Assurance Process SAV.

- Resilience**
- We will ensure that resources are aligned to risk based planning assumptions.



# Managing risk in the Wakefield district

## Open Water Sites & irresponsible behaviour

### How will we reduce the risk?

- Prevention**
- We will be an integral partner in the Wakefield Water Safety Strategy.
  - Establish a Water Safety Group with stakeholders from all the key partners with interests in Water Safety across the District.
  - We will adopt a multi-agency approach to prevention which is intelligence led and data driven to deliver education on site.
  - Working closely with the Health and Safety Team at Wakefield Council we will develop Water Safety Plans at key priority sites.
  - As a result of the multi-agency collaboration we will identify the risks and needs of each site and address the issues of signage; water safety aids and equipment.
  - Implement community based initiatives which will improve the safety of the people of Wakefield around open water sites.
  - We will initiate seasonal campaigns throughout the year to raise awareness of Water Safety.
  - Campaigns will be supported by education within local schools and across networks of young people with the support from Wakefield Council Youth Outreach Team; ASB Team; WY Police Schools Officers; Crime Prevention Teams and the local NPT Neighbourhood Officers, Countryside Team from Wakefield Council and our representative from the Canal and River Trust – Yorkshire and Humber.



- Response**
- We will train and exercise to improve operational effectiveness at open water sites utilising water specialist trained crews at Ossett.
  - We will develop effective training procedures and protocols for both our operational crews and staff and those of our partners who may be the first responders to any open water incident or emergency.
  - We will incorporate What 3 Words information from key sites to assist our Control with incident location to ensure more effective response.
  - We will ensure that operational crews have good knowledge and understanding of Nationals Operational Guidance through the Service Assurance Process SAV.

- Resilience**
- We will work collaboratively Local Authority and other partners in accordance with workstreams in the open water safety strategy.
  - We will share our response plans, risk information with all stations and relevant partners likely to attend an emergency in Wakefield District at open water sites.



# Managing risk in the Wakefield district

## Prevalence of false and malicious fire alarms

### How will we reduce the risk?

- Prevention**
- We will continue to work with local businesses, members of the public Wakefield Council Housing Solutions Team, WDH and other Key Housing Providers to reduce repeat actuations.
  - Wakefield Prevention team will work with partners in working with vulnerable individuals subject to multiple accidental or malicious call to emergency services.
  - We will work with both the education sector and local partners to reduce malicious fire calls.

- Protection**
- Operational Crews when undertaking Operational Risk visits will highlight the responsibilities of businesses owners in reducing causes of alarm at their premises.
  - We will continue to work with Fire Protection to enforce where multiple calls to premises are received.

- Response**
- We will continue to respond to calls, ensuring our resources are sufficient to deal with the risks faced.
  - Operational Crews will continue to highlight the consequences of malicious false alarms during our school education programme.

- Resilience**
- Operational crews will highlight incident trends and performance indicators and work collaboratively with fire protection and prevention teams to resolve the issue.

“ We will continue to respond to calls, ensuring our resources are sufficient to deal with the risks faced ”



# Managing risk in the Wakefield district



## Farms and Rural incidents

### How will we reduce the risk?

- Prevention**
- A person-centred service based on an assessment of an individual's risk of injury or death in the home by fire if within that environment.
  - Use a shared intelligence-led, partnership approach to improve our basic understanding of risk in rural areas; including vulnerable, isolated individuals.
  - We will work actively with our key partners such as the Neighbourhood Co-ordination Group who have resources and interests across our Rural Wards.
  - We will ensure a proactive approach using targeted data and the support from our local Countryside and Wildlife Team as well as WY Police – local NPT Teams and Environmental Health and Environmental Crime Team from Wakefield Council to enable us to establish repeat and hot spot locations.
  - We will target our resources towards those who are at the greatest risk of injury or death from fire or other incident types within the rural environment.
  - We will provide advice, education and interventions through our Safe and Well Programme.
  - We will deliver risk reduction awareness and education to local schools and youth outreach around the consequences of fires and other emergencies within that rural setting.

- Protection**
- We will report and enforce non-compliance with legislation.

- Response**
- We will undertake practical and theoretical training to improve response to farms and rural incidents within the district.
  - We will undertake familiarisation visits, gather operational risk information and understand the varied risks posed.
  - We will ensure that operational crews have good knowledge and understanding of Nationals Operational Guidance through the Service Assurance Process.

- Resilience**
- We will share our response plans, risk information with all stations, relevant partners and neighbouring FRS's likely to attend an emergency in Wakefield District within the rural environment.

# Performance

- Target met/under the 3 year average target
- On target or within 10% of target
- Over target by 10%

## District performance 2020 - 21

Performance indicator	3 year average target (2017/20)	Actual (2020/21)	Performance against 3 year average (2020/21)	Performance targets 2021 - 22 Target (2021/22)
Arson	981	859	-12.4%	859
Primary Arson	196	194	-1.0%	194
Secondary Arson	789	665	-15.7%	665
Actual Rescues	108	97	-10.5%	97
Total Activity	2990	2919	-2.4%	2919
Dwelling Fires	127	122	-3.7%	122
Non-Domestic Building Fires	50	36	-28.0%	36
Prevalence of False Alarms	1141	1135	-0.5%	1135
Fire Related Injuries	24	19	-19.7%	19
Road Traffic Collisions	89	54	-39.5%	54
Malicious False Alarms	27	14	-48.8%	14

# Wakefield, our people



## Teamwork

Wakefield crews will undertake a variety of 3 pump exercises, including with those from neighbouring services and partner agencies to establish closer working relationships. As one team we will continue to support the Health and Wellbeing of all our people.



## Integrity

Wakefield district will ensure that all staff act with integrity, are trustworthy and ethical by providing guidance, support and mentoring. We will ensure that the district strengthens our ability to provide an excellent service by diversifying our staff, promoting inclusion and creating a fair and equal workplace.



## Learning

We will undertake a variety of practical and theoretical training sessions to ensure that operational crews are prepared to respond to a variety of scenarios to ensure continuous improvement of services to the public.



## Responsibility

Through the service assurance process, we will ensure that all staff within the district are responsible and take ownership of the work we do. Our leaders and line management will be responsible for driving organisational change and have clarity on decision making levels to be accountable with unnecessary hierarchy.



## Communication

The district team will engage with all staff on a regular basis to update them of changing priorities in both district and across the service; this will be a two way process providing opportunity for feedback from our colleagues. A focus in the district will be excellent communication of key messages in an open way using a wide range of engagement methods.

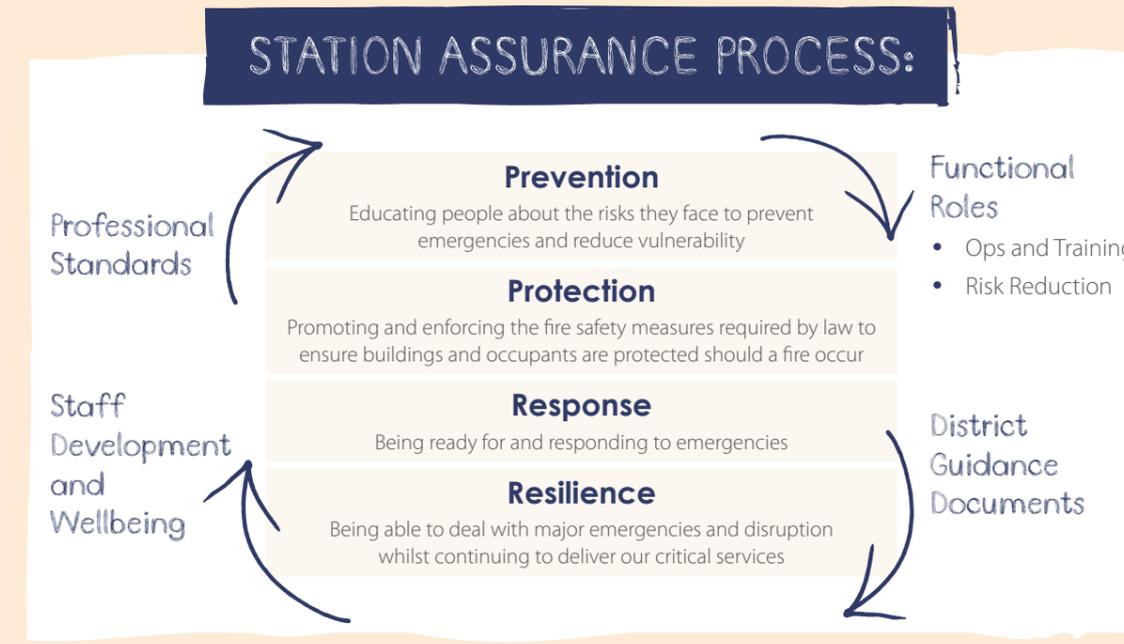


# Monitoring progress

## Wakefield District performance across all areas will be monitored through Service Assurance Visit (SAV) process.

Progress against the management of district risk will be reported to the West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority to the West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority in line with the Performance Management Framework.

Additional monitoring and review will be undertaken the Area Manager Service Delivery on a monthly basis.



# Contact us



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West Yorkshire  
Fire & Rescue Service

