Isles of Scilly
Fire & Rescue Service

Council of the
ISLES OF SCILLY

WORKING TOGETHER TO MAKE THE ISLES OF SCILLY SAFER

Integrated Risk Management Plan
2019-2022 Consultation Document

Like all fire and rescue services, we are accountable to the communities we serve. Consultation is one of the ways we provide the public, our partners and stakeholders with an opportunity to shape and understand our priorities and how we deliver our services.

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Purpose of this document

The Government requires all fire and rescue services to produce an Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) covering at least a three year time span and developed in consultation with the public, partners and key stakeholders. We currently have an interim one year 2018-2019 IRMP and need to develop a new one to cover 2019-2022.

Securing a safer island community will not be achieved in isolation. We will continue to work in partnership, particularly with other emergency services and the public sector to meet the needs of our community.

The main purpose of this IRMP is to ensure that we work together to prevent incidents occurring by protecting the natural and built environment to ensure they are safe from fire and other emergency incidents, and that our response to incidents is fast and appropriate.

We must be prepared for the period ahead, which will be one of change. Modernising our Fire and Rescue Service will improve public safety and enhance effectiveness and efficiencies. We are responsible for assessing risk and putting in place the right resources to ensure our community remains safe.

This document provides background information about the Isles of Scilly Fire and Rescue Service (IoSFRS) to support consultation on our 2019-2022 IRMP. Feedback from the consultation will be considered in the development of the IRMP, which assesses existing and potential risks to the local community and will set out how prevention, protection and response arrangements will mitigate risks. Our 2019-2022 IRMP will be published alongside a summary of the consultation findings.

About Us

The Isles of Scilly is an archipelago 28 miles off the south west coast of mainland UK. Comprising 5 inhabited islands with their own distinct character, the population totals 2,203 (Census 2011) although swells to around 6,000 in the peak of summer, reflecting its significance as a holiday destination. The working age population (16-64), is set to decline from 65% of the population to 52% by 2030. An aged population, with many living alone and an influx of visitors represents the biggest risk for the Fire and Rescue Service.

Our remote location and tiny fragmented population means that we face some significant challenges; not least vulnerability and risk of economic and population decline. Many of the issues facing the Isles of Scilly are synonymous with other island communities, including costly infrastructure, high transport and freight costs, limited competition and a population size that is too small to provide economies of scale or generate sufficient income to fund essential services.

In accordance with the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004, the Council of the Isles of Scilly is required to provide a Fire and Rescue Service for the IoSFRS. The IoSFRS is the smallest in the UK comprising on-call retained firefighters and volunteers based on each inhabited island. Our size, isolated location and limited resources mean that there is limited scope to make savings through economies of scale. As such, collaboration and partnership working with Cornwall Fire, Rescue & Community Safety Service (CFRCSS) and St Mary's Airport Fire & Rescue Service provides the most cost effective solution to ensuring that we have the appropriate capacity and resources to meet the

needs and expectations of our community.

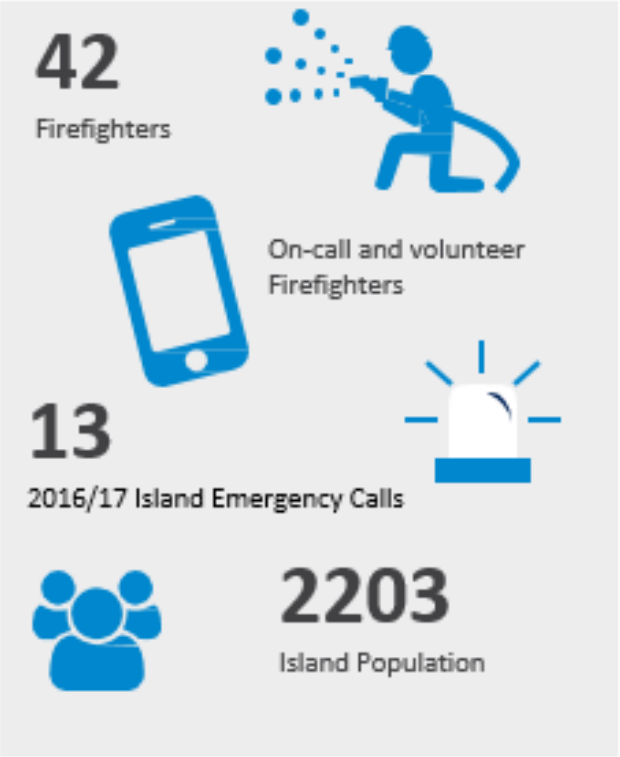
The IosFRS are responsible for providing a wide range of activities that help make the Isles of Scilly safer. We provide a response to 999 emergency calls, as well as undertaking prevention and protection work to help prevent fires in the home or business, and advise people how to stay safe on the roads.

We have outlined more detail on our work in this document and ask for your views on six key areas, which will help shape the 2019-2022 IRMP.

The majority of the population of the Isles of Scilly reside on St Mary's, which also provides the key strategic transport links with mainland UK through St Mary's Harbour and Quay and the Airport. There are currently plans to provide a new helicopter link from Penzance to both St Mary's Airport and the heliport on Tresco. Transport links to the off islands for both passengers and freight is provided by various boating services.

There can be significant challenges at times when bad weather means that transport links with the mainland can be disrupted, particularly during the winter months where passengers are reliant on air travel.

Although unemployment is low (less than 1%), there is significant under–employment with wages on the islands low - reflecting the reliance on tourism and high proportion of very small businesses and self-employment.



The cost of living on the islands is relatively high. For example, house prices and rents are exorbitant compared to average incomes and exacerbated by the highest proportion of second and holiday accommodation in the UK. (Around 30% and concentrated in the owner occupation sector - the lowest in the UK representing only 44% of the total housing stock).

On-call firefighters

On-call firefighters are retained personnel who have a job outside of the fire service, but are available to respond to an incident. They are alerted to an incident by a pager, and attend the station ready to 'turn out' in response to an incident if they are available. They are required to attend a training session once a week for two hours. The number of hours they may be available for depends on their contract and they are paid for training and for attending incidents.

The national picture

Since Fire and Rescue moved to the Home Office, there have been many changes and reforms. The three Pillars of Reform are:

1. **Efficiency and Collaboration –** We have a statutory duty to collaborate with other emergency services in the Policing and Crime Act 2017, to include co-response, co-location, joint/national procurement.

2. **Accountability and Transparency –** Including the introduction of Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabularies and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS)

3. **Workforce Reform –** Including the provision of flexible duty systems, apprenticeships, diverse workforce, attracting and retaining staff, professional leadership, talent pipeline, service culture and staff engagement and national professional standards.

HMICFRS independently assesses the effectiveness and efficiency of police forces and fire and rescue services, providing information which allows the public to compare the performance of their fire and rescue service against others and used to drive improvements in the services they provide to the public.

The new Fire and Rescue National Framework for England published in May 2018 reinforces the Home Office programme for reform, outlining the following priorities for fire and rescue services:

- Provision of fire prevention and protection activities and response to fire and rescue incidents
- Identify and assess full range of foreseeable fire and rescue related risks
- Collaborate with emergency services and other national and local partners to increase efficiency and effectiveness of service
- Be accountable to the communities for the service they provide
- Develop and maintain a workforce that is professional, resilient, skilled, flexible and diverse.

Our next three year IRMP will contain the outcomes of our HMICFRS inspection that took place in July 2018 and found the Service as 'Good' for Effectiveness, 'Good' for Efficiency and 'Requires Improvement' for People. These outcomes will form part of our objective to continuously improve the fire and rescue service. You can read the full HMICFRS report on the Isles of Scilly Fire & Rescue Service at:
https://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/hmicfrs/publications/frs-assessment-2018-19-isles-of-scilly/

Risks and Challenges

We will review a range of risks that face our communities on the Isles of Scilly. This information will play a key role in informing our IRMP and ensure that we focus Fire, Rescue and Community Safety activities on reducing and managing these risks.

Key challenges include:

- The cost of providing an effective, resilient and responsive service for each inhabited island, which is proportionally more expensive than anywhere else in the country reflecting our geographically isolated and tiny population spread across 5 islands that all need to be protected and kept safe – the cost of firefighters on the mainland varies between £16 and £32 per head of population with our service costing around £200 per head of population (and around 10% of the overall Council budget);

- With limited resources difficulties in securing capital investment to ensure appropriate vehicles, kit and equipment;

- Recruiting and retaining firefighters, particularly on the off-islands, given our tiny and aging population and shortage of affordable homes;

- Providing an appropriate engineering resource on the islands to maintain, service and repair our vehicles and equipment recognising our remoteness from specialist engineering businesses located on the mainland.

Incident data for previous 5 years

Island	*Incident type*	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
St Marys	Fire	8	6	15	5	6
	Special Service Call	7	2	4	4	2
	False Alarm	4	5	8	1	6
Bryher	Fire	1	1	1	1	0
	Special Service Call	0	0	0	0	0
St Martins	Fire	2	1	0	1	1
	Special Service Call	0	0	0	0	0
	False Alarm	0	0	0	1	0
St Agnes	Fire	0	0	0	0	1
	Special Service Call	0	0	0	0	0
Tresco	Fire	2	1	2	1	0
	Special Service Call	0	0	0	0	0
	False Alarm	0	0	1	0	0
	Total	**24**	**16**	**31**	**14**	**16**

Next steps

The Isles of Scilly will be consulting on our Fire and Rescue Service Plan throughout January and February 2019 and efficiently using consultations and events which are being undertaken throughout this period, consultation will be officially open from 30th January 2019 at the Emergency Services Collaboration Event. The Draft Local Plan consultation events and Staff consultation will also take place during this period.

Your views will help shape your Fire Service's activities for the next three years and inform the development of the IRMP, which assesses existing and potential risks to the local community and will set out how prevention, protection and response arrangements will mitigate risks.

Please respond by Thursday 28th February 2019 with comments and answers to the following questions sent to:

Craig Dryden
Senior Manager Infrastructure and Planning
Council of the Isles of Scilly
Town Hall
St Mary's
TR21 0LW

Thank you for taking the time to read this consultation document, please now share your views via the following questionnaire.

Consultation questionnaire

Question 1

As a business, what information and/or activities would you find useful to support you to fulfil your fire safety management responsibilities?

Comments

Question 2

How do you think we could improve information about Home Safety Checks and preventing fires in the home?

Comments

Question 3

Should we continue to dedicate resources to exploring and developing opportunities to share our community fire stations with the RNLI, Coastguard, police and ambulance colleagues and/or other local agencies and groups?
Select all options that you support – if you do not support any please let us know why.

Devon and Cornwall Police ☐

RNLI/Coastguard ☐

South West Ambulance Services Foundation Trust ☐

Other groups ☐

Comments

Question 4

On a scale of 1-5 (1 being very important) **how important do you think it is to have trained and available firefighters on every island?**

Very important	Important	Neutral	Not very important	Not important at all
1	2	3	4	5

Comments

Question 5

Do you have any additional comments that you would like us to consider in relation to the development of our IRMP?

Comments

Question 6

On a scale of 1-5 (1 being very satisfied) **how satisfied are you with the services we provide?**

Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neither	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
1	2	3	4	5

Comments

About you

Please select which of the following relates to you

Public ☐

Partner ☐

Staff ☐

Elected Member ☐

How do you describe your gender?

Do you identify as being LGBTQI+ if so, how do you identify?

How do you describe your ethnic origin?

Please indicate your age

Do you consider yourself to have a disability?

Yes ☐

No ☐

Please provide the first 4 letters/numbers of your postcode. This will help us ensure we have responses from across Cornwall.

Data Protection statement

The information you provide on this form will be held by the Isles of Scilly and Cornwall Fire and Rescue Services in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018. Your information will not be used for any other purpose by Cornwall Council, and will not be passed on to any other third party without your permission. In accordance with the Council's Record Retention Policy, the information you provide on this form will be retained for its purpose, after which period it will be destroyed in a secure manner. The purpose for collecting the data is to ensure that the service are collecting the differing perceptions of need and views from all, providing fairness to all protected characteristics. Any personal data collected will not be shared with any third parties.

Closing date for responses is Thursday 28th February 2019.