



HUMBERSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Prevention

Prevention Policy

Owner	Executive Director of Service Delivery
Responsible Person	Head of Prevention
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1. INTRODUCTION

The Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP) and Strategic Plan transfer statutory responsibility for public safety into the prevention delivery plan to ensure that service delivery is effective, efficient and economical.

Core Code of Ethics

Humberside Fire and Rescue Service (HFRS) has adopted the Core Code of Ethics for Fire and Rescue Services. The Service is committed to the ethical principles of the Code and strives to apply them in all we do; therefore, those principles are reflected in this Policy.

National Guidance

Any National Guidance which has been adopted by HFRS, will be reflected in this Policy.

2. EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

HFRS has a legal responsibility under the Equality Act 2010, and a commitment, to ensure it does not discriminate either directly or indirectly in any of its functions and services or in its treatment of staff, in relation to race, sex, disability, sexual orientation, age, pregnancy and maternity, religion and belief, gender reassignment or marriage and civil partnership. It also has a duty to make reasonable adjustments for disabled applicants, employees and service users.

3. AIM AND OBJECTIVES

HFRS is committed to delivering prevention activities through a strategic, intelligence-led, risk-based and outcome focused approach, as outlined in our Prevention Tactical Plan. This plan ensures that our efforts are targeted, evidence-informed, and focused on achieving measurable outcomes that contribute to safer communities.

The Prevention Delivery Function plays a pivotal role in supporting individuals and communities to prepare for, prevent, and recover from emergencies. In collaboration with our partners, we will reduce risk through proactive education, meaningful engagement, and tailored interventions. These efforts will support our prevention priorities, ensuring that our services are inclusive, accessible, and responsive to local needs. Our approach will focus on building safer and more resilient communities by identifying and addressing local risks, supporting vulnerable individuals, and promoting safer behaviours.

This policy sets out the principles that guide our decisions and actions, in line with HFRS's commitment to public safety. The delivery of this policy enables HFRS to meet its core functions under the Fire and Rescue Service (FRS) Act to promote fire safety, placing the prevention of fires and other emergencies at the heart of our activity. In addition, the policy supports the requirement for FRS to promote

prevention to those households and communities at greatest risk from fire in the home, and those most likely to engage in arson or deliberate fire setting as required by the Fire and Rescue National Framework 2018.

HFRS believes that the development of a consistent, professional and evidence-based prevention function for all its delivery staff to meet the needs of our most vulnerable individuals, is the way to reduce fire and emergency incidents. This approach will adhere to the national Prevention and Safeguarding Fire Standards.

4. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

- [Equality Impact Assessment](#)
- Legal References
This policy outlines the Public Safety framework, responsibilities, performance management and monitoring and review process that enable statutory compliance with the:
 - Fire & Rescue Services Act 2004
 - Fire and Rescue National Framework 2018
 - The Children Act (2004)
 - Care Act (2104)
 - Data Protection Act 2018
 - UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR).
- National Guidance
 - Prevention Fire Standard
 - Safeguarding Fire Standard
 - NFCC Person-Centred Framework
 - NFCC Children and Young People Framework
- [Safeguarding Policy](#)
- [Safer Roads Humber Strategy](#)

5. PREVENTION RISK DATA AND INTELLIGENCE

Prevention activities will be guided by our Risk and Intelligence Team processes, which help us identify individuals, properties, and communities at greatest risk. We commit to producing an annual domestic risk profile using available data sources and processes. This ensures our services are targeted where they are needed most, delivering the greatest impact and supporting those who are most vulnerable. By embedding these approaches into everyday operations, we enhance the delivery of our Strategic Plan objectives and maximise the impact of our prevention work.

6. PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

HFRS commits to adopting an all-age approach to its Prevention Strategy that recognises the importance of a trauma informed approach when engaging with children and young people, adults and older adults to ensure that prevention messages and approaches are tailored to the needs of all our communities through the life course.

HFRS produce a public safety annual calendar of events and communications, within the public safety communications plan, which details the year-round activities and themes, delivered to promote public safety to our communities within Humberside.

The National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) calendar, together with other applicable national and local themes and events are utilised to populate the annual calendar. Communication of these themes will be through relevant channels such as social media, local media outlets, TV/radio coverage and website channels. Themes included within this cover fire, road and water safety as well as public health communications and large-scale local events that include the Service.

7. TARGETED HOME SAFETY SERVICES

Providing fire safety advice is a core statutory duty of HFRS. Through our online platform, residents can complete a home fire safety self-assessment, helping them identify potential fire risks and access tailored safety advice.

In addition to digital support, HFRS carries out thousands of **Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSV)** each year for individuals identified as being at greater risk. The HFSV adopts a person-centred process, designed to identify, and mitigate fire risk, aligned to the NFCC person-centred framework. These person-centred visits may include fitting safety equipment, developing escape plans, and offering practical advice to reduce fire risk in the home. By adopting a person-centred approach to prevention, HFRS is committed to tailoring its support around individual needs and ensuring that the services we deliver are designed with the person at the heart of every interaction.

HFSV support the principles of Making Every Contact Count (MECC) and contribute to the delivery of health and wellbeing priorities across the HFRS area, in line with our strategic plan. Key focus areas include falls prevention, smoking cessation, tackling cold homes, reducing social isolation, and supporting crime prevention.

HFSV will be delivered on a targeted basis, prioritising households and individuals identified as being at greatest risk from fire. Properties falling within defined risk categories (A to D) will be offered a visit, with contact and follow-up actions guided by risk level. Where direct contact is not achieved after three attempts, alternative methods such as postal advice or partner engagement will be used.

HFSV will be conducted within set timeframes based on priority:

- Category A (very high risk) within 48 hours
- Category B (high risk) within 7 days
- Category C (medium risk) within 14 days
- Category D (low risk) within 28 days

All actions aim to ensure timely, risk-based prevention activity across the Service area.

Partner Agencies

Referrals from partner organisations received by the Service will be dealt with via our online home fire safety self-assessment platform. Where partners act as referrers, suitable arrangements must be in place to ensure staff receive appropriate fire safety training, referrals are accurately recorded, and a quality assurance process is applied to maintain consistency and effectiveness.

Revisits

HFRS may adopt a process for revisiting at-risk properties and individuals. There is no frequency for revisits, however if deemed appropriate, a timescale will be applied on an individual basis and within the discretion of the Prevention managers.

8. WORKING IN COLLABORATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

HFRS recognises that many organisations share common goals, and greater impact can often be achieved through collaboration than by working in isolation. In line with our strategic priorities and reflecting the approach outlined in HFRS's CRMP and Prevention Plan, we are committed to working more closely with partners to build a shared understanding of vulnerability. This includes improving referral pathways, sharing information effectively, and delivering targeted safety interventions where they are needed most.

HFRS will integrate partnership working into its prevention planning processes, ensuring active engagement in Strategic Partnerships and other collaborative forums that support the delivery of the Service's Strategic Plan. Through effective multi-agency collaboration, HFRS aims to maximise efficiency, enhance service delivery, and ensure that community needs are met through coordinated and targeted interventions.

Arson Reduction and Deliberate Fire Setting

HFRS works in close partnership with Humberside Police and key partner agencies to reduce both the number and impact of arson incidents and deliberate fire setting. We provide targeted support to individuals and properties identified as being at risk of arson. Risk levels are primarily assessed through multi-agency forums such as the Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) and Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC), ensuring a coordinated and informed response.

Deliberate fire setting presents a significant risk to public safety and community wellbeing. HFRS is committed to identifying and addressing the underlying causes of such behaviour through targeted prevention, education, and partnership working. By engaging with individuals in a person-centred approach and communities at risk and collaborating with agencies such as Humberside Police and Children and Young People partners, the Service aims to reduce incidents of arson and deliberate fire setting through early intervention, risk assessment, and tailored support.

Road Safety

HFRS is committed to supporting the Safer Roads Humber Partnership in its efforts to reduce road traffic collisions across the region. Road safety activities are delivered in alignment with the partnership's strategic framework, ensuring a coordinated and evidence-based approach. For further details, please refer to the Safer Roads Humber Strategy.

Water Safety

HFRS is committed to working collaboratively with partners to reduce the incidence of drowning across the Humberside region. The Service will utilise data from internal sources and partner agencies to identify individuals and groups most at risk of water-related incidents. Targeted interventions and support for partnership-led initiatives will be delivered to mitigate these risks and enhance community safety.

Volunteers

HFRS is committed to working in partnership with Humberside Police in recruiting and supporting a diverse volunteer workforce that reflects the communities we serve. Community Safety Volunteers will play a key role in delivering our prevention plan and supporting the wider aims of the Service.

9. YOUTH ENGAGEMENT AND EARLY INTERVENTION

HFRS is committed to delivering impactful engagement and prevention activities with children and young people, in alignment with the NFCC Children and Young People Framework. Recognising that lifelong behaviours are shaped during childhood and adolescence, the Service will work collaboratively with partners to promote safer choices, raise aspirations, and reduce risk.

Through targeted education and early intervention, HFRS aims to divert young people from harm, including entry into the criminal justice system, and address inequalities that affect outcomes across the Humberside region. As part of its commitment to the Serious Violence Duty, HFRS contributes to a multi-agency approach to prevent and reduce serious violence by identifying those most at risk and delivering timely, person-centred interventions. This approach supports the development of resilient, informed communities and contributes to long-term safety and wellbeing.

HFRS is committed to providing resources to schools in the Humberside region with further face-to-face support in higher risk areas. This resource will be targeted to those areas, groups and individuals who are identified at risk from fire, aligned to the risks identified in our CRMP.

HFRS delivers a national Fire Cadets programme designed to support young people in developing resilience, confidence, and essential life skills. The programme includes basic firefighting techniques, first aid, health and safety awareness, and education on fire, road, and water safety, culminating in a nationally recognised qualification.

10. SAFEGUARDING AND SERIOUS VIOLENCE DUTY

The Service has a Safeguarding Policy that all staff must adhere to. Safeguarding is the process of protecting the safety and wellbeing of children, young people, and adults at risk who come into contact with the Service. Everyone shares responsibility for safeguarding, and HFRS has a duty of care to prevent harm and respond to abuse or risk of abuse.

HFRS also has a responsibility to help deliver the Serious Violence Duty, which requires local services to work together to prevent and reduce serious violence. We collaborate with the Humber Violence Prevention Partnership, Community Safety Partnerships, and other key partners to deliver early interventions and targeted programmes.

11. SERIOUS INCIDENT REVIEWS

HFRS will conduct a Serious Incident Review (SIR) following any incident resulting in serious injury or death. The purpose of the review is to identify and embed learning opportunities through a collaborative, multi-agency approach and not to assign blame. Data from HFRS and partner agencies will be used to identify risk trends and contributory factors, informing future prevention strategies.

The SIR process operates independently of the Coroner's Inquest, though findings may be shared with the coroner. Reviews are held at either Service Level (involving multiple agencies and significant learning) or Local Level (internal learning only). The process is initiated by Fire Service Control, with the Head of Prevention who coordinates immediate actions with operational, prevention fire staff and the Fire Investigation Officer. All SIRs must be completed within 30 days of the incident unless delayed by exceptional circumstances such as an ongoing police investigation.

12. STAFF COMPETENCY

Competency frameworks guide the qualifications, knowledge, skills, and experience required for the effective delivery of prevention activities. All staff involved in prevention are expected to engage in ongoing continuing professional development relevant to their roles, ensuring they maintain the necessary competencies to deliver high-quality, person-centred services.

13. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

To ensure that our prevention activities are having a positive impact on the safety of our communities, we will monitor and analyse the number of fires and other incidents in Humberside.

We will quality assure and evaluate the effectiveness of our activities through suitable methods to ensure our delivery is of the highest standards, rectifying underperformance where necessary. We will capture and act on learning from

Serious Incident Reviews and share learning locally, regionally, and nationally, as appropriate.

14. POLICY DELIVERY GUIDANCE

Our prevention activities will be delivered consistently across the communities of Humberside. To support this, a suite of policy delivery guidance (PDGs) detailing internal processes in relation to specific activities, will be adhered to by managers and teams.

PDGs will be continually reviewed and refreshed in line with changes in legislation, national guidance, data and intelligence analysis, strategic plan alignment, quality assurance processes, internal learning and public/partner feedback.

**If anyone needs any further guidance / information regarding this document,
please contact Prevention**