

Safety Plan 2014

Introduction



Committee and consultation process

Month	Activity
October 2013	Unions and staff briefings
November 2013	Planning and Performance Committee agrees the Safety Plan can go out for consultation
November 2013 – January 2014	Staff and public consultation
February 2014	Kent and Medway Fire and Rescue Authority considers the results of the consultation and makes decisions on the proposals in the plan
Year 2014/15	Implementation

What's happened since last plan?

- Continued fall in overall demand levels
- New build programme – four new stations including Ash-cum-Ridley station
- Recruitment of 80 on-call firefighters
- Dramatic fall in AFAs
- Developed primary strategies



This year's main proposals

- Duty systems (including removal of "ridership factor")
- Height vehicles
- Medway's on-call resilience fire engine
- Emergency planning collaboration



Duty systems – 24/7 shift

Three options

1. Convert some 24/7 shift fire engines to day-crewed
2. Delete up to five 24/7 shift fire engines
3. **Reduce watch strengths and introduce central 5th watch – 6 posts**

The third option is preferred: no impact on public

Savings = 76 posts (net 70)



Duty systems – day crewed 1...

- Combine staff into one watch with one WM
- Self rostering system
- Reduce watch strength
- Match “on-station” times to demand



Proposed on station times

Fire station	On-station hours
Deal	9am to 9pm
Faversham	9am to 9pm
Herne Bay	10am to 10pm
Larkfield	9am to 9pm
Sheppey	10am to 10pm
Sittingbourne	9am to 9pm
Sevenoaks	8am to 8pm
Tonbridge	9am to 9pm
Whitstable	9am to 9pm

Duty systems – day crewed ...2

- Move away from housing
- Consolidate pay
- Savings = 18 posts



Duty systems – on-call

- Proposal for three to attend an incident when essential, but always with incident commander, two qualified breathing apparatus wearers, and a driver
- Ability to extend turn-in times across all on-call fire engines when necessary
- New recruits and partnerships with large employers
- Few savings, but fire cover improved



Height vehicles

- Reducing to three (two plus a reserve)
- Strategic locations – 93.7% coverage
- Canterbury
- Maidstone
- Ashford
- Remove attendance standard KPI



Medway's on-call fire engine

- Originally a resilience arrangement
- Reduced demand means no longer required
- Proposal to delete the engine from the fleet during 2014/15
- Staff issues



Other issues

- Offensive versus defensive fire fighting
- Maintaining current 'special services'
- Smaller fire engines
- Support for businesses

Questions

