

**Working together  
for a safer Scotland**



**SCOTTISH  
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**

Working together for a safer Scotland

# LOCAL FIRE AND RESCUE PLAN FOR STIRLING 2017



DRAFT PLAN FOR CONSULTATION



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## Foreword

Welcome to the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Stirling 2017. This plan has been created to ensure that the needs of our communities are at the heart of everything we do - improving local outcomes for the people of Stirling. It has been developed to take cognisance of the Stirling Council Community Plan, the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP), the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Plan 2016-2019 and the Scottish Government's Fire and Rescue Framework 2016-2019.

This plan will support the delivery of agreed local outcomes for Stirling's communities and meet the national SFRS priorities contained in our Strategic Plan.

The ambition of this plan is: to support partnership working that will deliver improvements in community safety, enhancing the well-being of those who live, work in, and visit Stirling and tackling issues of social inequality across the local authority area. We will set out our priorities over the following pages in order to support this ambition.

The demands placed upon the SFRS to respond to a wide variety of incidents challenges us to ensure our personnel acquire and maintain a range of skills to assure our ability to respond to emergencies. Through the identification and the management of risks within Stirling we will continue to prepare for these responses. However we will also be striving to reduce the demand for our emergency response service through effective engagement, prevention and intervention measures.

We recognise as a public service organisation and as a member of the community planning partnership, the demographics of our society are changing which will challenge us to continually improve the way we deliver our services to our communities. Our plan will therefore seek to focus on those areas of greatest need and maximise the potential to work in partnership and use our capacity more effectively and innovatively. In this way, we can direct our resources appropriately within the community to protect those most at risk from harm.

The SFRS continually evolves to meet the needs of our communities and to meet the expectations of us in relation to public service reform. This flexibility allows us to identify new opportunities to broaden our role within society and to ensure, as a modern fire and rescue service, we continue to protect Stirling's communities effectively. This Local Fire and Rescue Plan, in conjunction with the statutory responsibilities placed upon the SFRS, will be used as a driver to build upon our existing partnership arrangements in Stirling whilst seeking to foster new relationships that will support our mission of "Working Together for a Safer Scotland".

**Area Manager Roddie Keith**  
**Local Senior Officer (LSO)**  
**Stirling**

## Introduction

This Local Fire and Rescue Plan has been developed to place the wellbeing of people living and working in our communities at the heart of everything we do.

The role of the SFRS is expanding and transforming. Our work starts long before any emergency 999 call is made. Our main focus is on prevention and our established Home Fire Safety Visit programme has demonstrated how the Service has moved from an intervention role towards a prevention focused role in recent years. Moving forward we will continue to build on our prevention role and consider how we can utilise our resources to reduce the impact of unintentional harm on the most vulnerable people living in our communities.

As well as our traditional firefighting role, the SFRS also respond to a wide range of other emergencies including, road traffic collisions, water rescues, flooding, rescues from height and confined spaces, entrapment, incidents involving hazardous materials and, responding to the emerging threat from terrorist related activity. Our emergency response role will continue to expand and evolve to ensure a modern, effective and efficient fire and rescue service for the future.

In the current challenging fiscal environment, public services must reform and adopt a collaborative approach to maximise efficient service delivery. The SFRS embrace this approach and will build on established partnership working arrangements and foster new relationships to best meet the needs of our communities for both prevention and emergency response activity.

We will continue to monitor our performance on fire related issues whilst simultaneously broadening our partnership working to deliver effective strategies, safety advice and joint initiatives with our partners. Where incidents and emergencies occur, our resources and highly trained staff are operationally prepared and ready to respond within our local communities.

To remain effective and meet the needs of the SFRS Strategic Plan, operationally: we will ensure local risks are identified and managed and our teams and resources are ready to respond 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 52 weeks of the year.

We will work with partners to reduce the instances of unintentional harm impacting on those most at risk. We will continue to work in partnership to reduce the instances of accidental domestic fires and reduce the number of deliberate fires across the area.

Our Fire Safety Enforcement (FSE) teams will undertake a structured programme of risk based auditing of 'relevant' premises (as defined in the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005), ensuring that local business and commerce can be resilient, flourish and remain safe for people living and working in our communities.

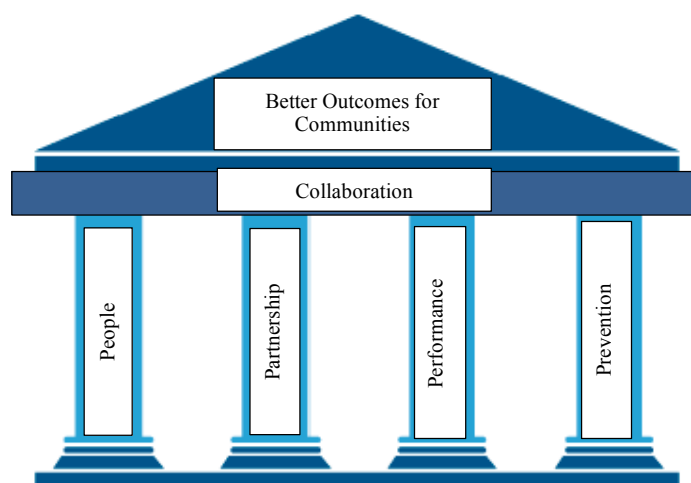
To help keep business free from unnecessary interruption, our FSE teams will work with responsible persons in relevant premises to reduce the number of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS). This also improves the safety of SFRS crews and other road users and benefits the environment by reducing the number of blue light journeys where no fire or emergency exists.

## The Future of Public Services

Public services are operating against a complex financial backdrop. The SFRS is well aware of the pressure on all our budgets and, with public spending not expected to return to 2010 levels in real terms for a number of years, reform and collaborative working is essential to provide effective service delivery to our communities.

Geographic, demographic and social pressures are resulting in a huge increase in the demand for public services. The economic downturn may also intensify and prolong this demand.

In order to contend with the expected increase in demand, the SFRS have embraced the public service reform process and understand the benefits of shared services and close partnership working to maintain effective service provision. Additionally, we acknowledge the principles of collaborative working and the recommendations contained in the 'Commission on the Future Delivery of Public Services' report. In particular the SFRS champion the four pillars principle as described below:



*Figure 1*

### Pillars of Christie

- **People** – SFRS will work with partners and focus on the needs of the people within our communities. We will ensure that our personnel are competent to respond to the identified needs
- **Partnership** – We will work towards integrated partnership working arrangements with public, private and third sector agencies providing better collaboration and effective local delivery, reducing duplication and maximising resources
- **Performance** – We will work with our internal and external stakeholders and partners to ensure that local outcomes and priorities are monitored for appropriate performance, and take action to improve performance where necessary
- **Prevention** – We will work with our partners towards a programme of prevention, not only towards fire related incidents, but also to broaden our ability to reduce instances of unintentional harm to those most at risk in our communities.

## Our Priorities – National Context

Scottish Ministers set out their specific expectations for the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service in the Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2016. This provides the outline we should follow to ensure our resources and activities are aligned with the Scottish Government’s purpose and national outcomes.

Our Strategic Plan 2016-19 has been designed to meet these national expectations. Set against a complex and evolving backdrop our Strategic Plan encapsulates our mission, values and strategic priorities.

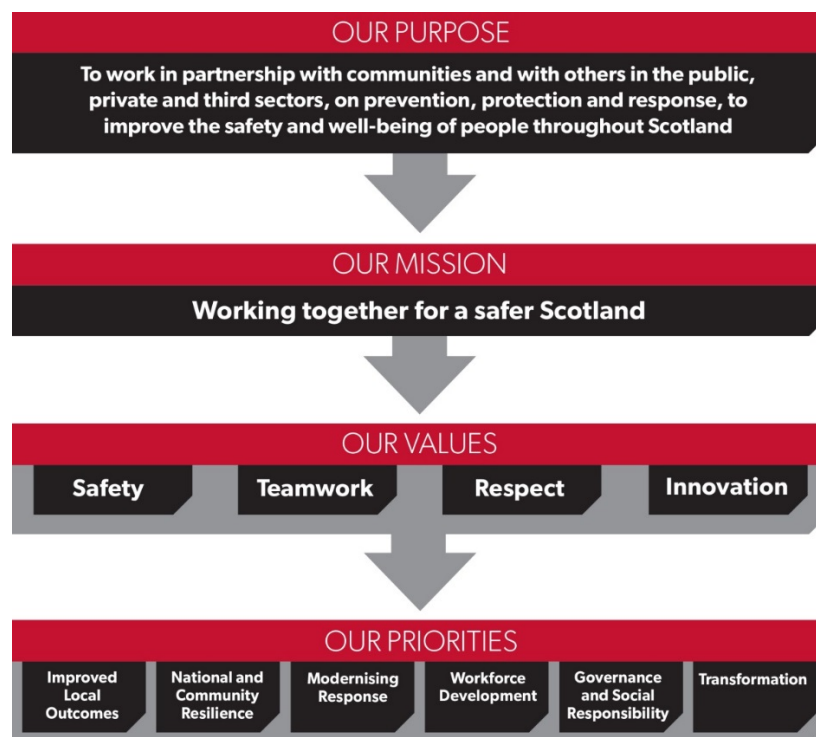


Figure 2

These have been shaped with due regard to the challenges we face and to what we need to achieve to be a highly effective, sustainable public service. Operating within a climate of significant financial uncertainty and public service reform means we need to transform how we operate. This will include how we prepare for and respond to changing societal needs, the impact of climate change and the threat of terrorism.

Strong leadership, supported by sound governance and management arrangements are at the very core of our foundations. These arrangements will direct our activity and provide assurance that we comply with our statutory responsibilities. In addition, they will provide Local Senior Officers with supporting mechanisms to deliver services specifically tailored to local needs.

## Meeting our National Priorities at a Local Level

Priority	We will do this in Stirling by...
<b>Improved Local Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engaging with communities and partners across Stirling in a flexible responsive manner</li> <li>• Focusing on prevention and targeting the most vulnerable in our communities</li> <li>• Ensuring safety and wellbeing is improved by building knowledge and capacity, and delivering education and awareness campaigns to targeted areas.</li> </ul>
<b>National and Community Resilience</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taking a lead role with local partners in Stirling co-producing plans to manage major emergencies</li> <li>• Engaging with partners to mitigate the effects of incidents on the local area e.g. Flooding</li> <li>• Ensuring our fire crews and specialist flood response and Swift Water Rescue teams are equipped, trained and available to respond 24 hours a day.</li> </ul>
<b>Modernising Response</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensuring our emergency response across Stirling meets the specific needs of the area</li> <li>• Enhancing our range of emergency response roles to improve life outcomes for Stirling's communities</li> <li>• Embracing new technology and techniques where it can improve outcomes</li> <li>• Working to reduce unnecessary emergency response to unwanted fire alarm signals within both domestic and commercial premises.</li> </ul>
<b>Workforce Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing our staff to respond to current and future local needs</li> <li>• Safeguarding the health, safety and wellbeing of our employees</li> <li>• Ensuring a highly skilled, empowered and innovative workforce.</li> </ul>
<b>Governance and Social Responsibility</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensuring our decision making processes remain transparent and are evidence led</li> <li>• Developing our performance reporting tools to improve presentation and encourage scrutiny, accepting change and welcoming challenge</li> <li>• Embedding effective communication with our partners and stakeholders across Stirling.</li> </ul>
<b>Transformation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploring new ways of working to meet future needs in Stirling</li> <li>• Embracing digital technology to improve work routines</li> <li>• Managing and deploying the resources within Stirling to meet community needs</li> <li>• Maximising efficiency and productivity both internally and with other organisations and partners in Stirling.</li> </ul>

## Local Outcome Improvement Plans

The Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) for Stirling is in draft form and, as a statutory partner, the SFRS made a significant contribution to the development of the plan.

The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act places a duty on the Community Planning Partnerships (CPP) to produce and publish a LOIP.

*“A Local Outcome Improvement Plan is a plan setting out -*

- a) local outcomes to which priority is to be given by the community planning partnership with a view to improving the achievement of the outcomes,*
- (b) a description of the proposed improvement in the achievement of the outcomes,*
- (c) the period within which the proposed improvement is to be achieved, and*
- (d) a description of the needs and circumstances of persons residing in the area of the local authority to which the plan relates.”*

**Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015**

The SFRS is a key partner in the community planning process. We are experienced in working collaboratively and embrace the opportunity to contribute to actions that will lead to improved outcomes for communities across the Stirling area. We value the opportunity to create new working relationships and we look forward to strengthening established community connections and partnerships.

Our SFRS locality team leads are based at Stirling and Callander Community Fire Stations. The Locality Leads within the team are proactive and will engage with communities and partners at a local level. They have a degree of autonomy and the capability to exercise a flexible approach, diverting resource to specific areas in response to acute community needs identified in LOIP actions. An evidence led approach with our partners will lead to effective, meaningful engagement and improved outcomes for communities across the area.

Our Local Senior Officer (LSO) for Stirling directs the SFRS Locality Leads and ensures that the SFRS plays its full part in delivering better outcomes for communities.

In order to make Stirling a more successful place to live, work and visit, we will endeavour to make our communities safer and more resilient by working in collaboration and supporting our partners in delivery of the LOIP as well as addressing the priorities in this Local Fire and Rescue Plan.



## Stirling LOIP

The Stirling Community Planning Partnership (CPP) has set a vision for the LOIP that is evidence led and addresses inequality and disadvantage across Stirling – ‘...within the period of this focused, collaborative and targeted approach, Stirling’s communities will be places ‘where everyone can thrive’.

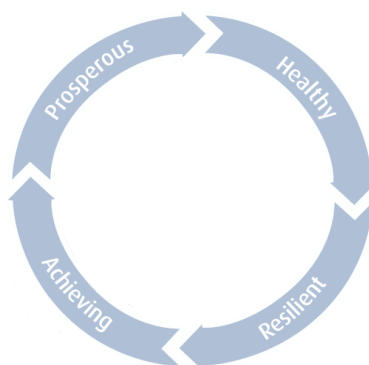
The strategic priorities identified through the engagement process are identified as follows:

- Improving access to learning
- Tackling child poverty, food poverty, fuel poverty and in work poverty
- Early identification of need and support for vulnerable individuals, families and groups
- Care and support for our elderly people and tackling social isolation
- Substance misuse, mental health and wellbeing
- Sustainable and affordable housing
- Improving places and the environment



## Local Priorities

Underpinning the Strategic Outcomes, the LOIP identifies four **Locality Outcome** areas for the partnership. The LOIP describes how the SFRS and other CPP organisations will focus efforts and resources on identifying people most vulnerable from inequality and the impact of poverty, with specific focus on these priorities shown below :



The Locality Outcomes are:

1. Prosperous – people are part of a prosperous economy that promotes inclusive growth opportunities across our communities;
2. Healthy – People are healthy and live positive lives within supportive communities;
3. Achieving – People are skilled and supported to make a positive contribution to our communities;
4. Resilient – People are part of a safe and caring community within an attractive and sustainable environment.

## Meeting our Locality Outcomes within Stirling Council Area

Outcome	We will do this in Stirling by...
Prosperous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engaging with communities and partners in Stirling identifying and intervening where disadvantage and inequality are inhibiting prosperous development and vulnerable people are in need of support</li> <li>• Ensuring that the safety and wellbeing of people living and working in Stirling is prioritised and improved by delivering education and awareness campaigns to targeted areas based on an evidence led approach</li> <li>• Providing the safe environment that allows business to thrive and develop with minimal disruption to productivity</li> <li>• Continuing to train our personnel to recognise indicators to build and improve on referral pathways through new and established partnerships to deliver an appropriate intervention that improves outcomes for individuals to prosper.</li> </ul>
Healthy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engage with local partners in Stirling, co-producing plans to manage the specific needs of identified individuals in Stirling who are subject to health inequalities</li> <li>• Using our operational resources appropriately to assist our partners at medical emergencies</li> <li>• Using an evidence led partnership approach, engage with individuals in need of support to promote safe and well initiatives, referring individuals during our Home Fire Safety Visit programme to the appropriate partner agencies.</li> </ul>
Achieving	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As an equal opportunities employer, SFRS will embrace applications for employment as we strive to match our workforce profile to that of the local community</li> <li>• Expand and develop our youth engagement courses to provide an appropriate targeted intervention for referred individuals that provides them with a bespoke educational programme designed around their needs and the needs of local communities.</li> </ul>
Resilient	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensuring our emergency response across Stirling meets the specific needs of the area</li> <li>• Enhancing our range of emergency response roles to improve life outcomes for Stirling's communities</li> <li>• Working in partnership to reduce unnecessary emergency response to unwanted fire alarm signals within both domestic and commercial premises</li> <li>• Extending our successful Home Fire Safety Visit programme to encompass further elements relating to safety and wellbeing in the home e.g. Slips, trips and falls prevention and intervention</li> <li>• Maintain an appropriate emergency response to incidents involving Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT), mitigating the effects of incidents on our communities and the environment and prompting a swift return to normality as soon as practicable</li> <li>• Continue to provide an appropriate response to incidents involving flooding, ensuring our equipment is available for deployment and our staff are trained to provide a local response where flooding is experienced</li> <li>• Expanding our operational medical response capability in line with Service modernisation and transformation programmes.</li> </ul>

## Local Context

The Stirling Council area on mainland Scotland covers an area of 2,187Km<sup>2</sup>. It has a population of 91,020 with a population density of 41 people per square kilometre.

Stirling shares boundaries with seven local authorities Perth and Kinross, Clackmannanshire, Falkirk, North Lanarkshire, East and West Dunbartonshire and Argyll and Bute and Stirling. It contains 7 Multimember wards. The area can be seen below in Figure 5.

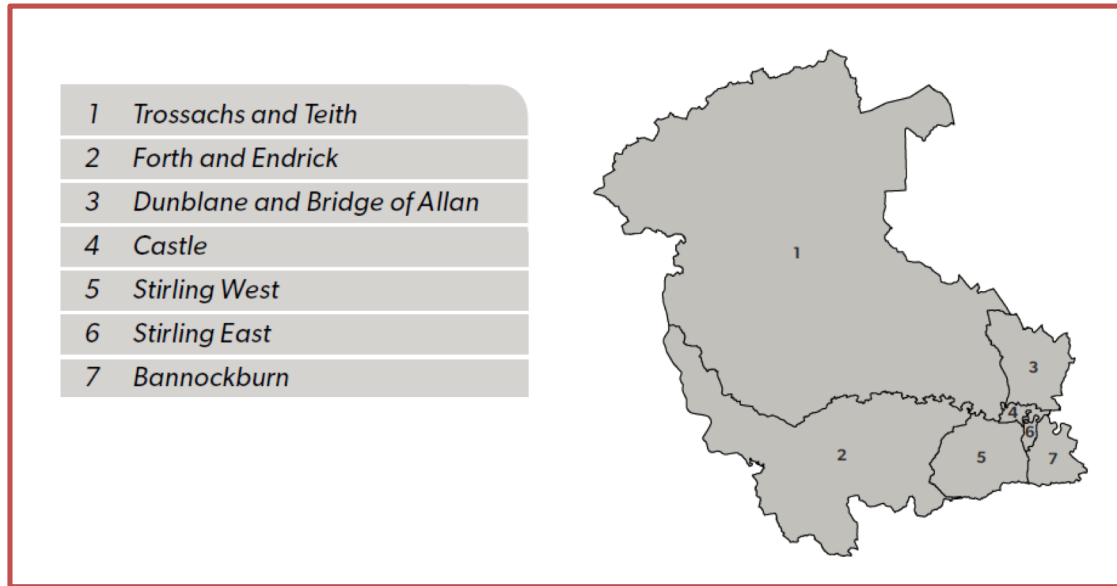


Figure 5

### People

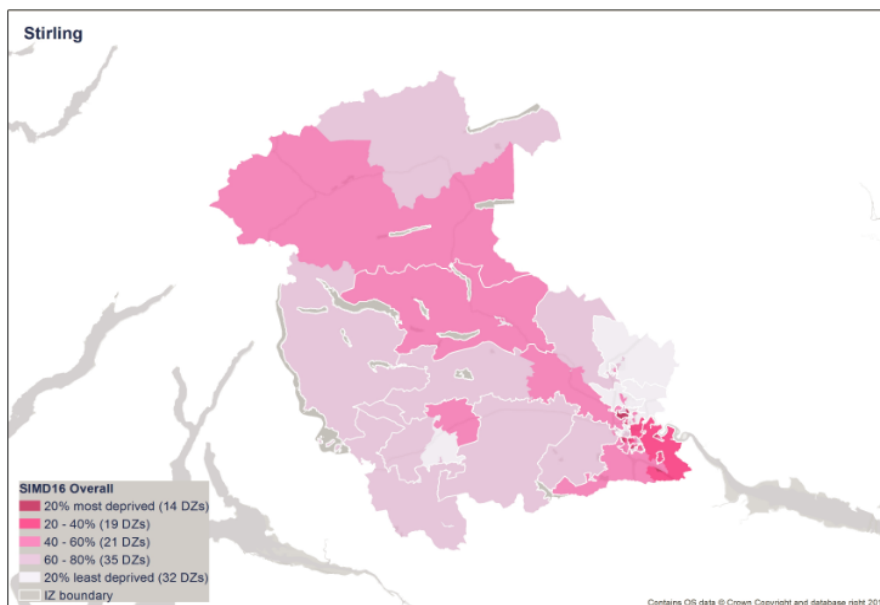
Fifty-six percent of Stirling Council Area residents live in the large settlements of Stirling, Dunblane, Bannockburn, Bridge of Allan and Callander. The remaining forty four percent live in smaller villages and other 'rural areas'.

### Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation

The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) is a data and analysis tool used to identify small area concentrations of multiple deprivation across Scotland. The background data is taken from a number of factors that are known to affect the quality of individuals' lives e.g. income, health, employment, education, housing, access and crime. By collecting data on these domains, the SIMD can help identify areas where inequality is highest. The data can then be used by organisations to target policies and funding where the aim is to tackle areas of multiple deprivation and inequality.

Generally speaking, the Stirling area is reasonably prosperous however, the SIMD for Stirling Council Area identifies areas that require support as they suffer from deep rooted deprivation. The Raploch and Cornton areas are highlighted as being most in need of support. Although other communities in Stirling Council Area also feature in the index, many households within Raploch and Cornton are faced with particular challenges in relation to poverty, inequality and disadvantage.

The priorities in this plan and the actions contained in the LOIP will direct SFRS and partner resources to these areas to deliver prevention activity – providing our services where communities are most in need of support.



SIMD 2016. By decile, from dark red (most deprived) to white (least deprived) Figure 6

### **SFRS Resources**

The SFRS has ten community fire stations across the Stirling Council Area located at:-

Community Fire Station		Staffing resource
Stirling		Whole time Duty System
Bridge of Allan	Aberfoyle	Retained Duty System
Doune	Balfron	
Dunblane	Crianlarich	
Callander	Tyndrum	
Killin		

All of these stations, given appropriate notice and planning time, are available as a community resource as meeting spaces and advice centres.

The LSO headquarters for the Stirling and Clackmannanshire area is based at Alloa Community Fire Station, however Stirling Community Fire Station houses part of our management team and is our main resource hub for the Stirling area. The Stirling Community Fire Station resource consists of two Rescue Pumps and a Swift Water Rescue Vehicle (SWRV). All resources are staffed by our whole time contingent 24 hours a day.

The majority of Community Fire Stations throughout the rest of the area are staffed by our retained resourcing model. These valued members of SFRS staff are available to respond swiftly to fires and other emergencies from their home or workplace. The appliances at all retained duty system stations are Rescue Pumps, with an off road 'Argocat' vehicle an additional resource at Dunblane Community Fire Station.

Every Rescue Pump has trained personnel and is equipped to deal with fires, road traffic collisions, hazardous materials incidents, localised flooding and rescues from height. In addition each appliance carries the equipment required to undertake safe and well visits in the home including fitting of smoke detection, leaflet advice and

referral paperwork. Our operational crews and community action team members are appropriately trained to conduct such visits.

The SWRV consists of a 4x4 vehicle that tows a rigid inflatable boat that is fitted with a powerful outboard motor. When the SWRV is requested, it is mobilised with a Rescue Pump and will attend incidents involving non-coastal water risks to provide an effective highly trained water rescue resource. Its role is to support Rescue Pump crews at relevant incidents through the provision of specialist equipment and personnel who can safely carry out rescues from incidents involving people and animals at inland running or static water locations.

Should an incident require support in the form of further personnel, additional fire appliances or specialist resources such as height appliances, these can be mobilised from other locations across the country.

### **Our Industrial Risk Sites**

The Control of Major Accident Hazard (COMAH) regulations 2015 aim to prevent major accidents involving dangerous substances and to limit the consequences to people and to the environment from any accidents that do occur. COMAH regulations regard all major accidents as having equal status whether their effects are primarily on people or on the environment.

There is currently only one such site in the Stirling area, listed below

1. Momentive Specialty Chemicals UK Limited C/O Nexfor Station Road "Cowie, Stirling" Stirling COMAH Top Tier Operator

In addition to the high risk industrial site above, the Stirling area also contains a large number of other high risk premises including, a large prison, residential care homes, factories, large retail outlets, numerous hotel and boarding accommodation premises and, a number of heritage risks such as Stirling Castle and the Old Town Jail.

The areas natural habitat attracts a steady stream of tourism and boasts significant transport infrastructure with motorways and busy trunk roads linking the local area to the rest of Scotland, as well as significant railway line structure providing links to Glasgow and Perth.

In terms of water hazards, the area has the Firth of Forth tidal water risk and a number of inland water risks. During spate conditions, a number of towns and localities can be threatened by localised flooding with Stirling having experienced significant flooding events in the past.

The SFRS routinely trains to deal with incidents involving the type of risks mentioned above – additionally, we gather generic risk information and collect operational intelligence on specific premises so our crews have access to the most up to date information should a fire or other emergency occur at a given site.

## Partnership Working

As alluded to previously, public services are subject to a sustained period of increased demand, and no individual service has the capability or resource to independently deal with the rising demand affecting all public services. It is essential that public services reform and take cognisance of the recommendations of the 'Commission on the Future Delivery of Public Services' as described on page 5 of this document.

The SFRS was formed in 2013 and has been on a journey of reform since that time. We are a national organisation and are experienced in partnership working and joint enterprise at all levels in the organisation. We have the four "Pillars of Christie" (see Figure 1) firmly embedded in everything we set out to achieve and understand the value that effective partnership working brings. Our staff are alert to opportunities for partnership working and our statutory role as a key partner organisation ensures our involvement in the Community Planning Process across Local Authority areas in Scotland. Not only do we work in close partnership with other emergency service colleagues, we engage with Local Authorities, the NHS and a number of other public, private and third sector organisations to deliver services to improve outcomes for communities.

The SFRS Stirling and Clackmannanshire LSO area is regularly scrutinised on performance both internally and externally. We monitor and report on our performance internally in terms of our own area performance, as well as reporting our performance nationally to the SFRS Board and Scottish Government.

Our evaluation process measures our performance against our SFRS priorities and those in the LOIP, and also gives opportunities to gauge how effective any partnership working arrangements have been.

External to SFRS, we are scrutinised regularly by Stirling Council's Public Safety Committee, where we will report on –

### Our Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

- 1 Risk Management and Preparedness
- 2 Reduction of Accidental Dwelling Fires
- 3 Reduction in Fire Casualties and Fatalities
- 4 Local Reduction in Deliberate Fire Setting
- 5 Reduction of Fires in Non-Domestic Properties
- 6 Reduction in Casualties from Non Fire Emergencies
- 7 Reduction in Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals

**To monitor performance  
against the SFRS Strategic  
Plan**

### Local Outcomes (LPs)

1. Prosperous – report on engagement that has been targeted to contribute towards an individuals' ability to prosper within our communities;
2. Healthy – report on positive interventions that have been delivered to improve quality of life within our communities
3. Achieving – report on positive education and knowledge building delivery programmes and initiatives;
4. Resilient – report on delivery of safety and wellbeing activity that improves resilience across our communities.

**To monitor performance  
against the Stirling Council  
LOIP**

## Strategy, Planning, Performance and Scrutiny

The SFRS strategic direction is set by the Fire and Rescue Service Framework for Scotland. Scottish Ministers set out their expectations for the Service using this Framework - setting the overarching strategic direction for the SFRS. National SFRS performance is reported back to Scottish Government on an annual basis, providing data and evidence to demonstrate progress towards each of the ten “Strategic Priorities” contained in the Framework.

In order to meet the expectations of the Framework, the SFRS produces a Strategic Plan every three years. The current Strategic Plan for 2016 – 2019 outlines how we as a service will deliver against our priorities, deliver against desired outcomes in local communities and make a greater contribution to the communities we serve.

To address the requirements of the Strategic Plan, the LSO areas are tasked with creating a Local Fire and Rescue Plan (LFRP) for their area of responsibility. Each LSO area has the opportunity to focus on priorities in the Strategic Plan and those more acute priorities that impact on the safety and wellbeing of those communities within the LSO area (e.g. LOIP outcomes). The LFRP is endorsed by the Local Authority prior to publishing, and it is the key priorities in this document that will be used by the Stirling Scrutiny Committee locally to gauge local SFRS performance across the Stirling area.

To complement the LFRP, we also produce an Area Annual Operating Plan, Ward Prevention Plans and Station Plans. The golden thread of prevention runs through each plan and employee appraisal to ensure that every SFRS employee understands the role they are to undertake, exploring and developing opportunities for co-production of services and, how their contribution feeds in to each of the plans - ultimately contributing to the priorities contained in the FRS Framework for Scotland and the Stirling LOIP.

In addition to our internal performance monitoring and performance reporting processes, we engage with and report to a number of other stakeholders including: the Stirling Public Safety Committee, the Community Safety and Wellbeing Partnership, the Adult Support Protection Committee, the Child Support Committee and the Corporate Parenting Board.



# Local Fire and Rescue Plan Priorities 2017

In this section we set out to provide further detail as to how we will achieve our national and local objectives in Stirling Council Area. These priorities have been developed to cover the broad areas of inequality impacting on the Stirling area that were identified during the LOIP consultation process. Our contribution towards LOIP outcomes with our partners will in part address these priorities, supplemented by our core prevention work concerning traditional fire prevention activity.

## **1. Local Risk Management and Operational Preparedness**

### **Background**

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service is a key partner within the Resilience Partnership structure in Scotland as a Category 1 Responder as set out in the Civil Contingencies Act (2004) and Civil Contingencies Act (2004) (Contingency Planning) Regulations (2005).

There are three Regional Resilience Partnerships (RRPs) in Scotland which mirror the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Delivery Areas (SDAs). These are defined as the East SDA, West SDA and North SDA. Stirling is located in the East SDA (ESDA).

These are supported by Local Resilience Partnerships (LRPs) of which there are 12 in Scotland. The Forth Valley Resilience Partnership is part of the East of Scotland Region.

The SFRS works closely with partners including Police Scotland, Scottish Ambulance Service, Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), NHS Forth Valley, MET Office, Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) and Local Authorities to develop and maintain plans based on identified risks across the RRP area.

Importantly, all partners work to ensure that collectively, we have the capability to deal safely and effectively with the consequences of any industrial or natural hazards in our area. More information can be found in the East of Scotland community risk register - [http://www.firescotland.gov.uk/media/861633/east\\_crr\\_v1.2.pdf](http://www.firescotland.gov.uk/media/861633/east_crr_v1.2.pdf)

More locally, our management team and personnel must ensure that we have the capacity, capability and training to respond to all incident types, particularly the high risk COMAH industrial site in Stirling as well as the many other high risk factories and key elements of infrastructure.

As well as our routine operational equipment, the SFRS ESDA has a number of resilience capabilities including swift water rescue, flood response, hazardous material response, urban search and rescue response and rope rescue response. As we are a national organisation, we have other resilience capabilities across the country that can be mobilised to support any acute need in a particular SDA.

SFRS are also responding to a wider range of incidents including Out of Hospital Cardiac Arrests (OHCA) and falls prevention. Whilst these projects are in trial phases/ test of change at the moment, we must ensure that we are ready to respond to these and other emerging incident types where people's wellbeing can be supported by rapid intervention using SFRS resource.



**We will work together with our partners to maintain local risk management and operational preparedness by:**

- Ensuring that our training and equipment is appropriate and our personnel are competent to meet our risk profile, whilst maintaining the ability to adapt to changes
- Ensuring that firefighter safety is paramount in everything we do. This will ensure that our personnel are able to meet the challenges we face
- Maintaining an accurate record of information on identified local risks through Operational Intelligence
- Working with our partners to plan, prepare and exercise our response to major emergencies.

**We will monitor the effectiveness of our management strategies by:**

- Auditing our operational intelligence and fire safety databases
- Auditing our equipment maintenance records
- Auditing our personnel training and development databases
- Auditing our absence management databases
- Auditing our performance at exercises through operational assurance processes.

**By achieving this we will;**

- Ensure the safety of our personnel and public
- Reduce exposure to risk for our personnel, public and businesses within Stirling
- Ensure that our organisation is ready to respond, maintains readiness and remains resilient
- Ensure our personnel have the equipment and knowledge to mitigate the effects of major emergencies
- Maintaining firefighter safety.

## **2. Unintentional Harm and Injury**

### **Background**

Unintentional harm in the home environment, and in particular, slips, trips, falls and scalds to the very young and old, is now widely recognised as presenting significant issues to the health of the public, as well as the increased demand these injuries have on our public services.

As part of the Scottish Government's 'Building Safer Communities' project, a strategic assessment regarding unintentional injuries has identified key themes that the SFRS can contribute towards. We will work on these themes with partners, voluntary groups and local communities to reduce unintentional harm in our communities.

Analysis shows that our very young and elderly, particularly in more deprived communities, are most at risk of suffering from an unintentional injury. Analysis also shows that a number of agencies are often involved with those most vulnerable to these injuries, and that previously, information has not been passed to the relevant agency to make a safe intervention.

Working with our community safety partners, both within Stirling and across Scotland, SFRS has a significant role to play in contributing towards identifying those at risk, and the risks they are exposed to, and reducing or eliminating those risks, either directly through SFRS, or indirectly through partner intervention.

### **We will seek to reduce the impact of unintentional injury and harm in Stirling by:**

- Creating a multi-agency plan with our partners, which enhances appropriate information exchange, to improve the safety of those within our communities who are most at risk
- Working with our partners to understand the factors relating to unintentional harm in the home, and train SFRS personnel to identify these and deliver the appropriate intervention method
- Broadening our Home Fire Safety Visit programme to assess for risk in the home, with a focus on the young and elderly, taking appropriate action to mitigate injury or, referring those deemed at risk from injury and harm to partners to provide additional advice and support
- Focusing resources where demand has been identified and deliver key community safety messages.

### **We will monitor the effectiveness of our intervention strategies by:**

- Providing regular performance reports against our plan to monitor its success
- Reviewing the number of information exchange requests for assistance, both to and from our partners
- Evaluating our intervention measures, and those of our partners.

### **By achieving a reduction in the frequency and severity of unintentional harm and injuries we will:**

- Contribute to safer communities within Stirling
- Reduce the social and economic cost of unintentional harm and injury
- Support vulnerable people to live independently within their communities
- Ensure the safety and well-being of those living in, working in, and visiting Stirling
- Reduce the negative demand on other public services.

### **3. Domestic Fire Safety**

#### **Background**

Dwelling Fires, and the potential fire casualties and fatalities resulting from them, have a significant impact on the families affected, as well as the wider communities, and responding services, not to mention the financial cost to the economy. Whilst the number and severity of fire casualties is relatively low for the Stirling area, it will remain a high priority for the SFRS to continually drive down the number of accidental dwelling fires and the number of casualties resulting from such instances.

Analysis of accidental dwelling fire data identifies cooking as the most common cause of fires within the home. The most common contributory factor given is distraction. Due to the increase in smoke detection in the home, the vast majority of these fires are limited to the item first ignited. Analysis identifies that premises with working smoke detection will, on average, have significantly less fire damage than those premises without detection.

In order to reduce the number and severity of dwelling fires, we will continue to focus on prevention. We will work to identify those most at risk and deliver fire safety awareness education to reduce the instances of fire and prevent injury. Using a partnership approach and existing funding streams, we will source equipment which will mitigate the damage by fire and afford early warning to alert the householder should an incident occur.

**Using a partnership approach, we will seek to reduce accidental dwelling fires and fire related injuries within homes across Stirling by:**

- Identifying those areas and members of the public most at risk from fire and offer to undertake Home Safety Visits at those addresses
- Working with our partners and share appropriate information on risks identified within the home to ensure the safest solution for those at risk
- Increasing the provision of appropriate fire detection systems in the homes of those at risk
- Engaging with and educating communities about fire risks in the home.

**We will monitor our progress in promoting our domestic safety strategy by:**

- Continuously monitoring the number of accidental dwelling fires
- Continuously monitoring the severity and cause of accidental dwelling fires
- Continuously monitoring the number and severity of fire related injuries
- Working with partners to provide further intervention where deemed appropriate
- Analysing the number of Home Fire Safety Visits undertaken, particularly those carried out in high risk homes.

**In achieving a reduction in accidental dwelling fires and fire related injuries within the home we will:**

- Use a partner based approach, improve the lives of those most vulnerable to fires and other risks
- Reduce the social and economic impact on our communities from fires
- Reduce the demand on SFRS resources, creating capacity for other prevention activities
- Allow more people to live their lives safe from harm.

## **4. Deliberate Fire Setting**

### **Background**

Deliberate fire setting within Stirling has increased in the last year when compared to the previous three years. It incurs a significant cost to our communities and businesses. It also places a significant impact on SFRS resources, as well as increased road risk for SFRS personnel and the public, and increases our carbon footprint.

Whilst some of these incidents occur in buildings, or involve vehicles, the vast majority can be identified as small, outdoor refuse fires. SFRS class these as 'secondary fires'. As described above, they account for a significant number of our incidents. They are also classified as anti-social and are a criminal offence.

Activity increases significantly in April and May each year, and is at its lowest in October and January of each year.

Deliberate fire setting can often be linked to other anti-social behaviour (ASB). We will work with our partners to identify those areas of our communities affected by ASB and deliberate fire setting, and focus resource in these areas to prevent this type of unwanted behaviour and activity.

We will work with our partners in policing, the local authority and the third sector, to identify those involved in deliberate fire setting and ASB. Once identified, we will work with our partners to provide a number of diversionary educational courses and workshops designed and delivered to change the behaviours of individuals and discourage future ASB and fire setting.

### **We will seek to work closely with our partners to reduce the instances of fire related anti-social behaviour in Stirling by:**

- Using local knowledge and data systems, identify those areas of Stirling most affected by deliberate fire setting
- Identifying the cause of the deliberate fire setting, and inform appropriate partners to take action where required
- Working with partners to develop strategies to reduce deliberate fire setting
- Designing, developing and delivering educational opportunities such as school talks and specialist Community Safety Engagement programmes to educate people of the risks involved with deliberate fire setting and ASB, and the consequential effects on individuals and communities.

### **We will monitor the effectiveness of our strategies by:**

- Monitoring the number, type and cause of deliberate fire setting incidents in Stirling
- Evaluating our education programmes for effectiveness and change where appropriate.

### **In reducing deliberate fire setting we will:**

- Reduce the risk of injury to the public and SFRS personnel
- Make our communities nicer safer places to live, work in and visit
- Ensure SFRS resources are available to make our communities safer.

## **5. Built Environment**

### **Background**

Our Prevention and Protection personnel within Stirling act on behalf of the SFRS Board to enforce the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005. As the 'Enforcing Authority' our Fire Safety Enforcement (FSE) teams ensure compliance with the Act and its associated Regulations. The team manage a regular auditing programme of 'relevant premises' (non-domestic dwellings) within the area. The annual workload focuses on the higher risk premises such as Care Homes, Hospitals, Prisons, Hotels and Hostels. In addition to this, we audit premises that have suffered from a fire incident in order to see what has failed and what improvements are required. It should also be noted that there is flexibility to undertake thematic work in response to new information or trends emerging – an example of this would be the SFRS auditing and advice response in relation to the Grenfell Fire tragedy.

During routine auditing, if deficiencies are found, the team can make recommendations for improvements, request action plans, issue a formal Enforcement Notice or – where it is deemed to be an immediate life risk – issue a Prohibition Notice restricting the use of all or part of the premises.

Our Prevention and Protection personnel work closely with architects and Building Control Officers (BCO). Prior to application for a building warrant, FSE officers will provide advice to architects and will offer guidance and support in relation to fire engineered solutions at any phase of the planning process. The responsibility for "verifying" building warrant applications rests with the local authority building control team. Our team will support statutory and non-statutory consultation requests from BCOs to ensure compliance with the Scottish Building Standards Technical Handbook (Non – domestic). By continuing with this working arrangement, and delivering high quality advice and guidance, we will ensure that all new build proposals meet the appropriate safety standards.

### **We will work with business and commerce across Stirling to reduce fire related incidents within relevant premises by:**

- Delivering our fire safety audit schedule in accordance with the SFRS Enforcement Schedule
- Engaging with duty holders, providing advice and support to ensure that they are compliant with Part 3 of the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005
- Working with our partners to ensure that appropriate fire precautions are included in building design and, appropriate fire engineered solutions are suitable and sufficient for the proposed building and its use, at the earliest stage.

### **We will monitor our progress by:**

- Monitoring the number and building types of completed audits by our staff
- Monitoring the amount of building warrant applications, consultations and fire engineering solutions managed by our personnel
- Monitoring the number and severity of fire related incidents in our relevant premises.

### **In achieving a reduction in fires within relevant premises we will:**

- Increase life preservation through the application of preventative measures

- Ensure that business owners, employees and visitors can safely use premises in our communities, whilst protecting our economy
- Improve resilience and business continuity for businesses operating in the built environment
- Ensure that Stirling's cultural and historic buildings are preserved for generations.

## **6. Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals**

### **Background**

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) incidents are defined as 'an event which has required an operational attendance by the Fire and Rescue Service due to the unwanted actuation of a fire alarm system'. Common causes include engineer testing, aerosols, cooking, accidental call point actuation, dust etc.

UFAS calls account for more than half of our total operational activity. These unnecessary appliance movements increase the risk to our personnel responding under blue light conditions and increase the risk to members of the public and other road users. Additionally our carbon footprint is extended, the financial burden on the SFRS is significant and a UFAS call could result in directing resources from an area where a genuine emergency could be taking place.

Interruption to business is also significant with each UFAS actuation estimated as costing a business approximately £827 per call and an average of 27 minutes of no productivity.

### **We aim to reduce the number of UFAS attendances by:**

- Applying robust implementation of the UFAS Policy to reduce UFAS activity
- Operating a 'zero tolerance' policy, and engage with premises holders to identify the causes of every UFAS incident
- Implementing intervention practices such as staff alarm response or technical/system modifications or interventions
- Implementing the SFRS UFAS Policy, and reduce the operational response to premises with sustained and continuous UFAS incidents
- Identifying premises which attract a significant operational response, and re-assess the response required using the PDA Reduction policy where appropriate
- Implementing a number of proven initiatives developed and design to reduce UFAS at source
- Monitoring, and challenging, each UFAS incident across Stirling.

### **We will gauge the effectiveness of our intervention by:**

- Monitoring engaged premises to identify the success or otherwise of agreed UFAS reduction plans or initiatives
- Monitoring the number of UFAS type incidents that our crews attend.

### **By Reducing UFAS incidents we will:**

- Reduce the unnecessary businesses interruption and improve business continuity
- Reduce unnecessary appliance movements, reducing our carbon footprint, and increasing the safety of our personnel, public and other road users
- Increase our capacity to complete other important tasks within our communities.

## **7. Transport and Environment**

### **Background: Transport**

Road Traffic Collisions (RTC) continue to cause injury to people using our roads infrastructure. With a growing number of vehicles on our roads, we will seek to inform and educate those statistically most likely to cause a collision, targeting school leavers with a robust consistent road safety message. We will target all road users in a bid to reduce the frequency of RTC incidents.

**We will continue to work in partnership with public, private and third sector organisations to reduce the number of incident occurrences by:**

- Continuing to work with partners to deliver road safety associated education programmes
- Targeting and educating those age groups most at risk from injury or harm with regard to Road Traffic Collisions
- Considering new research and best practice to ensure our road safety programmes are current, targeted and informed.

**We will monitor the effectiveness of our strategies by:**

- Monitoring the frequency of SFRS attendances at RTCs and non-fire emergencies, as well as the number and severity of injuries. These will be monitored alongside Police Scotland RTC incident information
- Engaging in evaluation and feedback from participants on SFRS led road safety programmes.

**In reducing the number of such incidents we will:**

- Make Stirling's roads and communities safer, and reduce the social and economic costs of such incidents
- Ensure that age groups statistically at risk of involvement in RTC incidents are subject to behavioural challenging techniques to modify the way they think and act in and around vehicles
- Reduce the consequential effects on emergency responders, families and friends
- Reduce the demand on other public services.

### **Background: Environment**

Almost all fire incidents that the SFRS attend have some form of environmental impact, from a small fire, the smoke from it and debris left behind, through to a large scale incident involving hazardous materials where a release of substances harm the environment. Additionally, natural weather events can lead to widespread flooding often requiring an emergency response from the SFRS to protect property at risk, or lives in danger.

The SFRS seek to reduce the impact on the environment from incidents, naturally occurring events and consequential/responsive actions as we engage in day to day operational activity.

**We will work in partnership to reduce the impact on the environment by:**

- Continuing to work with partners at known COMAH and high risk sites, training with other public services and organisations
- Ensuring that we maintain our role in emergency planning and exercising with other partners through the Local and Regional Resilience Partnerships to ensure operational preparedness and resilience
- Ensuring our risk data is accurate and available to crews on fire appliances
- Working with partners from the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency where appropriate
- Continuing to train our personnel to use equipment, techniques and tactics that limit the impact of our actions on the environment and the impact of incidents on the environment
- Providing sufficient resource and expertise at incidents where hazardous materials impact on the public or the environment
- Providing sufficient resource and expertise at incidents where localised flooding impacts communities and endangers lives
- Continuing to employ “Green” policies to ensure that the SFRS organisation as a whole is compliant with legislative requirements and doing everything that is reasonably practicable to limit our carbon footprint.

**We will ensure the effectiveness of our strategies by:**

- Ensuring that incidents with potential to harm the environment are sufficiently resourced and a return to a new normality is in place safely and as soon as possible
- Working with partners in Local Resilience Partnerships to test our response to known local environmental risks
- Continuing to support the culture of a “green environmentally friendly” organisation
- Continually reviewing our approach to incidents where there has been an environmental impact and adjust our policies and standard operating procedures as appropriate.

**In considering the environment in all that we do we will:**

- Make the Stirling area is a safer, healthier, cleaner and greener place to live and work
- Have an effective response to dealing with incidents impacting on the environment
- Contribute towards community resilience planning programmes with partners in order to ensure that an adequate multi-agency response is established and prepared to deal with large scale environmental incidents.



## Review

To ensure this Local Fire and Rescue Plan remains flexible to emerging local or national priorities a review may be carried out at any time but will be reviewed at least once every three years. A review may also be carried out if the Scottish Minister directs it or if a new Strategic Plan is approved. Following a review the Local Senior Officer may revise the Plan.

## Tell us what you think

This draft Local Fire and Rescue Plan sets out what our broad ambitions will be on behalf of the people of our area. It sets our local direction for the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and it will determine the details contained in all our other plans for that period.

We would like you to tell us what you think of our plan. The formal consultation for this draft Local Fire and Rescue Plan opens on 5 October 2017 and will run until 22 December 2017. To ensure we review and manage all responses consistently you are invited to provide comment in our online survey. This can be accessed at <https://firescotland.citizenspace.com/planning-and-performance/stirling-draft-local-fire-plan>. After the consultation is closed we will publish the results.

If you cannot access our online survey, or if you would like more information about the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service in your area you can:

Write to:                      Scottish Fire and Rescue Service  
   Alloa Community Fire Station  
   Stirling Road  
   Alloa  
   FK10 4DA

Phone:                              01259 724112

Visit our website:        [www.firescotland.gov.uk](http://www.firescotland.gov.uk)

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