

Our challenges

As people get older they become more at risk from suffering death or injury from fire. In line with national trends, the elderly population of Hampshire is growing so we will have to find innovative ways of engaging with them and delivering our fire safety messages.

Having a working smoke detector in every household in Hampshire by 2010 is an enormous challenge. We will work with our partners and other agencies to promote the ownership and maintenance of detectors and provide free smoke detectors as part of our free Home Fire Safety Check scheme. **To request a free check, contact the Community Fire Safety team on 023 8062 6809.**

Arson attacks have been on the increase in recent years. They kill and injure people, destroy businesses and blight our communities. We are committed to tackling arson by targeting offenders, educating people and working with local authorities to reduce opportunities for arson.

Fires involving rubbish and forest/undergrowth account for over 20% of our calls, and the majority of these are started deliberately. Whilst we will always attend any call to a fire these calls divert our operational resources from being available for more serious incidents. We will take positive steps to identify offenders and look at different ways of responding to the fires.

The removal of nationally prescribed Standards of Fire Cover enables us to make more flexible use of our operational resources and target risk in different ways. We will seek new and innovative ways to use our operational resources to help prevent fires from happening and to respond to them in the most suitable way.

We are committed to developing our risk management information system to provide our officers with highly reliable risk data that they can use to determine their auditing priorities. We aim to provide new and more effective methods for delivering our risk management activities. This will require investment in new technologies but also the continual development of the risk management culture.

The diverse nature of Hampshire presents us with a challenging environment. On average we attend 25,000 incidents every year, ranging from minor accidents/fires to major chemical spills and fires involving industrial processes.

“ We provide a front-line emergency service from our fire stations, responding to emergencies when they occur. ”

INCIDENT PROFILE		
2002	2003	2004
FIRES IN PROPERTY		
4072	3930	3387
OTHER FIRES		
6023	8651	5566
CHIMNEY FIRES		
271	291	305
FALSE ALARM - GOOD INTENT		
2622	2888	2391
AUTOMATIC FIRE ALARMS		
6720	6401	6621
MALICIOUS CALLS		
760	771	664
ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS		
1317	1315	1304
OTHER INCIDENTS		
2568	2639	2757
TOTALS		
24443	26886	22995