



HUMBERSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

# Emergency Response

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## Major Incident Policy

<b>Owner</b>	<b>Executive Director of Service Delivery</b>
<b>Responsible Person</b>	<b>Head of Emergency Preparedness</b>
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What we must  
do well



How we support our  
communities



We value and support  
the people we employ



We efficiently manage  
the Service

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## **1. INTRODUCTION**

This Major Incident Policy describes Humberside Fire & Rescue Service's (HFRS) means of planning, preparing and responding to major incidents for all personnel.

### **Core Code Of Ethics**

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**

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

## **2. EQUALITY, DIVERSITY & 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 nor 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**

The aim of this policy is to provide a direct strategic link to the use of National Operational Guidance (NOG) adopted as best practice by HFRS and throughout the Fire and Rescue Service sector. HFRS aligns with the Guidance set out in NOG with the exceptions identified within Operational Information Notes.

## **4. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS**

- [Equality Impact Assessment](#)
- Legal References
  - [Human Rights Act 1998](#) (1998)
  - [Civil Contingencies Act](#) (2004)
  - [Fire and Rescue Services Act](#) (2004)
  - [Health and Safety at Work Act etc. 20/2/2018](#) (03/1974)
- National Guidance National
  - [Operational Guidance Major Incidents](#)
- [MTA supplementary guidance working with police and other emergency servicesv1](#) (02/2019)
- [Joint Emergency Service Inter-Operability Programme \(JESIP\) Joint Doctrine Edition 3 \(08/2021\)](#)

- [Emergency Response and Recovery Version 5 \(October 2013\)](#)
- [Managing for Health and Safety \(HSG65\) – HSE 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition \(2013\)](#)
- [Major Incident Policy Delivery Guidance](#)

(Dates in brackets are published dates)

## 5. DEFINITIONS

**A policy:** a formal statement of principles established by HFRS that provides the parameters for decision making and actions.

National Operational Guidance: National framework of identified hazards associated with major incident and a set of control measures in order to limit risk.

**Incidents:** any event where a Fire and Rescue Service receive a call for assistance that results in an electronic record being created. An emergency resource does not have to be deployed in response to the call.

**Major Incident:** an event or situation with a range of serious consequences which requires special arrangements to be implemented by one or more emergency responder agency.

## 6. POLICY STATEMENT

Fire and Rescue Services are responsible, under legislation and regulations, for developing policies about foreseeable hazards and risks.

We respond to incidents to extinguish fires, carry out rescues and attend other emergencies including emergencies as directed by the Secretary of State. This Policy relates to Major Incidents which can be broken down, but not limited to, the multi-agency incident types below:

- Marauding Terrorist Attack (MTA)
- Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear Explosive (CBRNE).
- Planned & Unplanned Civil Emergencies.

There is a joint responsibility to maintain role-related operational competence, and staff must operate according to Service training and procedures. To do this we will ensure our operational response personnel are provided with the appropriate training based on safe person principles. In doing so, we will comply with relevant legislation, national guidance and the JESIP principles.

Our response to incidents will prioritise saving life, protecting property and the environment. Those involved in responding to incidents will receive our support and care.

Preparing, responding and recovering from a major multi-agency incident will be

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routinely exercised to ensure joint understanding and shared situational awareness. Warning and informing will ensure communities and partners are provided with timely, accurate and up-to-date information throughout all phases of an emergency.

Following the emergency phase of incidents, we will work with partner agencies to, as soon as practicable, safely transition to the recovery phase.

Post-incident debriefing will inform joint learning and the identification of good practices to inform future changes to major incident planning.

**If you require any further guidance in relation to this policy,  
please contact Emergency Preparedness**