



HUMBERSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

# Emergency Preparedness

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## National Resilience 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

## CONTENTS

1. Introduction
  - Core Code of Ethics
  - National Guidance
2. Equality and Inclusion
3. Aim and Objectives
4. Associated Documents
5. Responsibilities
6. Accident Investigation & Reporting Procedures
7. National Resilience Vehicle Defect Reporting
8. Equipment Defect Reporting
9. Tactical Advisors (TACADS)

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

Humberside Fire and Rescue Service (HFRS) will co-operate fully with the National Resilience Programme to assist it in meeting its objectives. In doing so the service will increase its own capability to respond to a range of incidents locally and nationally thereby ensuring that the Service can meet its statutory and contractual obligations.

The National Resilience Programme forms the contribution by the Home Office to enhance the country's preparedness and resilience, to respond to major and catastrophic incidents, by improving the capability of the Fire and Rescue Service (FRS).

This has included providing assistance in formulating organisational capabilities and structures that enable co-ordinated national responses to be made to such events. The effect of the programme is that the Fire Service in conjunction with partner agencies is able to minimise the loss of life and injury and to reduce the physical and financial effects of consequential loss and collateral damage.

The programme has helped enhance the capability of HFRS in three distinct areas:

- Mass Decontamination
- Detection, Identification and Monitoring (DIM)
- High Volume Pumping (HVP)

The Service Lead Officer for National Resilience (NR), National Resilience Single Point of Contact (SPoC), will have responsibility for coordinating the arrangements required to implement this policy in accordance with the annual review. Consultation and dialogue with HFRS Hazmat Group, Control Staff, Fleet and Equipment, Organisational Development, the Representative Bodies and the capability instructors will be maintained to identify and resolve any issues arising that may affect the serviceable condition of equipment and the ability of personnel to maintain their competence. Integral to this is the acceptance by the Service of the national set of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) which will be used as a benchmark for best practice.

The Chief Fire Officer signed an agreement for the transfer of New Dimension assets and functions from the Department of Communities and Local Government (now the Home Office) to Humberside Fire Authority on 6th April 2010.

### **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**

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

## **2. Equality 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 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**

To ensure compliance with the obligations set out for the Fire Authority in Schedule 2 (page 7) of the transfer agreement.

## **4. Associated Documents**

- [Equality Impact Analysis](#)
- Legal References
  - Schedule 2 (Page 7) of the New Dimension assets and functions transfer agreement
- National Guidance
  - National Coordination Advisory Framework (as amended)
  - National Operational Guidance
  - National Resilience Incident Note and Accident Reporting to NRFC
  - National Resilience Information Note – National Resilience Defect Reporting
- Defect Reporting of National Resilience Vehicles
- National Resilience Equipment Asset Register

## **5. RESPONSIBILITIES**

To ensure compliance with the obligations set out for the Fire Authority in Schedule 2 (page 7) of the transfer agreement the Emergency Preparedness, Fleet and Equipment and Organisational Development will have the following responsibilities:

- **Emergency Preparedness:** have the responsibility for the formulation, monitoring and review of the associated policy and relevant guidance notes.

The lead officer for NR will coordinate the arrangements implemented by the Service to ensure compliance with its statutory and contractual obligations. This will entail maintaining the link between the Service and the National Resilience Assurance Team (NRAT) and ensuring that other relevant sections

remain informed of developments on a regional and national level. This will also include a quality assurance role in relation to the HFRS National Resilience capability to ensure all sections of the service comply with the requirements. Assurance visits and assessments by NR will be coordinated and completed by Emergency Preparedness, with the support and assistance as required from Emergency Response.

- **Fleet and Equipment:** have the overall responsibility for the management of the servicing, testing and maintenance arrangements for vehicles and equipment transferred to the authority, in accordance with the terms of the agreement set out in Schedule 7.
- **Organisational Development (OD) and Training:** OD will, along with support from Emergency Preparedness (EP) and Training, have the responsibility for fully integrating all HFRS National Resilience learning and development requirements into normal business. This is to ensure that the competence of personnel in relation to NR capability is maintained, through training activities within Service Delivery.

OD and Training will ensure that all development activities regarding Resilience Assets and associated procedures and safe working practices are incorporated into the Service Course Prospectus and Training Needs Analysis. This will include issuing course joining instructions and the recording of training courses on the Course Management System (CMS). Requests for development with regard to these assets and procedures will be made through the Personal Development Review (PDR) process which OD will collate and ensure that the lead officer for NR is aware of the requirements.

This will assist in ensuring that the instructors responsible for delivering development activities for each of the capabilities receive the full support required from both EP and OD. OD and Training will also ensure that the software system utilised by the service for recording local development activities includes these assets.

- **Emergency Response:** have the responsibility of local asset management, maintaining adequate numbers of trained staff and ensuring exercises are completed, in accordance with requirements as set out by. Exercises will be recorded on the NR exercise reporting tool as well as HFRS exercises recording system. Emergency Response will also assist EP with the completion of any assurance visit or assessment.

## **6. ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION AND REPORTING PROCEDURES**

HFRS is committed to the safety and welfare of all of its employees and others that may be affected by our activities. HFRS procedures for reporting a near miss, personal injury, equipment failure, acts of aggression and causes for concern are detailed in the Health and Safety policies and policy delivery guidance. In the event of such occurrences with the National Resilience fleet of vehicles or associated

equipment the reporting officer must also inform NRAT and complete the [NR Health and Safety Reporting Tool](#).

Informing NRAT of an accident or near miss will be a two-stage process. Firstly the National Resilience Fire Control (NRFC) must be informed of the event via Fire Control ([Incident and Accident Reporting to NRFC](#)). Secondly the reporting officer must also access the website <https://mfrsnrauthapp.fireresilience.org.uk/Account/Login> and complete NRAT's own web form by clicking the relevant links. Information on this process is contained in the HFRS operational information note and national resilience health and safety reporting guidance document. ([See Section 4 Associated Documents](#))

## **7. NATIONAL RESILIENCE VEHICLE DEFECT REPORTING**

The procedures to be adopted regarding defect reporting of National Resilience vehicles is detailed in the guidance which can be seen in [Section 12 – Fleet and Equipment](#).

## **8. EQUIPMENT DEFECT REPORTING**

The procedure to be followed for reporting defects with equipment provided through National Resilience is detailed in [National Resilience Information Note National Resilience Defect Reporting](#).

In addition to this, personnel must update the status of the [National Resilience Equipment Asset Register](#). This must be amended again upon replacement equipment being delivered.

On repair or return, the equipment will have an acceptance test carried out.

## **9. TACTICAL ADVISORS (TacAds)**

National Resilience has a number of Tactical Advisors for specific capabilities that can be mobilised on request via the NRFC to assist at large scale incidents if required.

HFRS has TacAds for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear (CBRN), Waste Fires, Communications (Airwave) and Fire and Rescue Marine Response who should be notified when the respective service asset is deployed. These officer may be available for "Recall to Duty" should the incident warrant, the officer may also be requested to provide support and specialist knowledge to other FRS via the NRFC.

**For further guidance / information relating to this document please contact the  
Emergency Preparedness Section.**