

# Protection Strategy

# 2025-2028



**Our ambition is to make West Yorkshire safer. This strategy outlines the crucial role that Fire Protection plays in achieving this and details how we will fulfil our statutory duty to enforce relevant legislation.**

The strategy is designed to support our aim of reducing risk and vulnerability within our communities. We will accomplish this by maintaining an excellent Fire Protection team that focuses on the highest risks and adapts as these risks evolve. By adopting national methodology principles and leveraging local knowledge, we can identify premises to audit through our Risk-Based Intervention Programme. Additionally, we are committed to supporting businesses and responsible persons who seek to comply with fire safety laws and ensure their premises are safe by providing advice and education.

We will ensure that the Fire Authority's statutory Fire Protection duties are carried out efficiently and effectively. We will also rigorously challenge reports of serious non-compliance where individuals are placed at significant risk.

By focusing on these key areas, we aim to create a safer West Yorkshire for everyone.

## What have we achieved and what will we achieve?

We have developed and put processes in place to ensure the Fire Protection team are suitably staffed and robust enough to enable the team to effectively deliver our services. This has evolved the development of a new apprenticeship programme for Business Fire Safety Advisors and Fire Protection Inspectors.

Our innovative approach to this scheme has enabled the team to recruit 21 new staff in 2024 which once competent will be the enablers for the future Fire Protection team.

- ➔ Provide a safe, effective and resilient response to local and national emergencies.
- ➔ Focus our activities on reducing risk and vulnerability.
- ➔ Enhance the health, safety, and well-being of our people.
- ➔ Prioritise a people first mindset through ethical and professional leadership and management.
- ➔ Work with partners and communities to deliver our services.
- ➔ Use resources in an innovative, sustainable, and efficient manner to maximise value for money.
- ➔ Further develop a culture of excellence, equality, learning, and inclusion.

## How are we going to do it?

- Providing advice and support to businesses.
- Effective consultation with building control bodies to ensure buildings are adequately protected from the effects of fire.
- Working with other enforcing authorities to ensure consistent application of standards across West Yorkshire.
- Imposing controls on the safe keeping of explosives and petroleum spirit as the licensing authority.
- Examining license applications for licensed premises and providing advice for achieving satisfactory standards of fire safety.
- Working towards a reduction of false alarms and unwanted fire signals.
- Carrying out Site Specific Risk Inspections to collect operational information about risk within buildings.

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We ensure every premise  
our inspectors visit is safer  
when they leave.”

