

# Response and Resilience Strategy

# 2025-2028



**We aspire to be the best trained, best equipped and most highly skilled fire and rescue service; able to provide the most effective response to emergencies across West Yorkshire, the Yorkshire and Humber Region and the United Kingdom.**

Our Response and Resilience Strategy outlines how we manage the deployment of firefighters, appliances and equipment to provide the highest standard 'speed and weight' of response. We refer to this as fire cover.

We aim to make sure that the speed and weight of our emergency response is proportionate to the level of risk and type of emergency. No two fires are the same, every situation is different, and these differences can have a significant effect on the severity of the fire. However, for the purpose of planning, some generalisations have to be made, and these have been based on information, evidence and data along with professional judgement and experience.

We have outstanding performance against our risk-based planning assumptions meeting or surpassing these over 93% of the time.

- ➔ 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.

“We will share neighbouring Fire and Rescue Service fire engines and other specialist resources if required.”

## Achievements

- Deliberate fires decreased by 23% from 2022/23 to 2023/24.
- Total incidents fell by 5% during the same period.
- Fires reduced by 20%.
- Malicious false alarms down by 14%.
- Safe and Well visits increased by 4%.
- New automated fire alarms policy cut calls by 4,700, leading to about 6,700 fewer fire engine deployments.
- Invested £20m in a fire engine replacement programme for improved safety.
- £8m spent on a new mobilising system for Fire Control.
- Introduced new PPE for firefighters, including structural fire kits and lightweight multi-role equipment.
- Provided lithium-ion battery training and equipment for electric vehicle fire response.
- Implemented smoke curtains and hoods to manage fire products.
- Enhanced wildfire resources, training, and equipment.
- Added 2 aerial appliances, the tallest at 43 metres.
- Increased on-call fire engine availability from 67% in 2018 to 76% in 2023.
- Improved recruitment areas for on-call fire stations to boost staffing levels.
- Standardised mobilising times to enhance on-call colleagues training and experience during incidents.

