



HEREFORD & WORCESTER
HWFR
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE



Resource Review

Post Consultation Amendments

June 2024



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Post Consultation Amendments

Thank you very much to all those people that engaged in the consultation process and provided their feedback to the Resource Review proposals.

Opinion Research Services (ORS) were commissioned to undertake a programme of key consultation activities and to report respondents' views, gathered through an open consultation questionnaire and three focus groups with members of the public. In total, 1,122 questionnaire responses were received; and 28 residents attended the three focus groups, with each focus group lasting two hours.

In total there were 49,352 views of social media posts across Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn. 3,000 people visited the consultation web page.

In addition to this, HWFRS held 27 formal internal consultation sessions with 202 staff at the affected fire stations (as well as Strategic Leadership Board discussions with other stations and support staff departments, at which the Resource Review proposals were discussed); and eight written submissions were received from the Fire Brigades Union (FBU), the Fire and Rescue Services Association (FRSA), Leominster Town Council, Malvern Town Council, Redditch Borough Council, two individual town/county councillors, and an individual fire fighter.

After careful consideration of all the feedback received, some amendments to the proposals are proposed for consideration by the Fire Authority.

Malvern

The original document proposed that the second fire engine at Malvern Fire Station is removed. In response to feedback received an amendment is proposed, which is to maintain Malvern's second fire engine, for a period of two years, after which a review of availability and numbers of incidents attended will be conducted. The second fire engine will be a Compact fire engine. Upon completion of this review after a period of two years, a recommendation will be presented to the Fire Authority for further consideration.

Vehicles

As stated in the Resource Review document on page 46, savings will be reinvested to provide a 4x4 type vehicle at some of the impacted stations, this is to enable the use of alternative, more flexible modes of transport (instead of fire engines) to transport additional fire fighters to incidents.

Following consultation with staff members it became apparent that some locations may prefer an alternative vehicle such as a van for example. This recommendation will be taken forward and discussions with local stations will determine what type of alternative vehicle is best suited depending on the specific needs of the local community.

Special Appliances

Following consultation, the Service will explore ways to continue to utilise On-Call staff to support certain special appliances in order to support availability and resilience – such as the Aerial Lifting Platforms at Worcester and Hereford fire stations.

Financial Impact of Amendments

The financial impact of the amendments can be accommodated and, whilst they will utilise all the savings made and require a small additional investment, this can be supported from existing budgets.



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