

### The Severe Weather Response Protocol

Severe weather response may be introduced if weather conditions, such as snow and ice, make driving conditions extremely hazardous for personnel turning in and for appliances responding to incidents. This must be authorised by the Duty Operations Commander and the Duty Principal Officer will be informed. Severe weather response will cover all of the Service area until rescinded by the Duty Principal Officer.

It is anticipated that this protocol will only be instigated in exceptional conditions and would only last as long as it is necessary. Severe weather response can mean that no appliance or a reduced attendance is mobilised, which in normal circumstances would not be the case.

When severe weather response is sanctioned by the Duty Principal Officer the following reduced attendances and rules will apply:

- No mobilising to AFAs in occupied premises unless backed up by a 999 telephone call confirming fire when the standard pre-determined attendance will apply.
- Mobilising to AFAs in unoccupied buildings at night – 1 Pump.
- Mobilising to Sleeping Risk AFAs – 1 Pump.
- Mobilise to confirmed fires and rescues only.
- No attendance at RTCs make safe. (Unless risk of fire, personnel require assistance or no other emergency service present or able to attend).
- Only FDS Officers with four wheel drive capability mobilised.
- Nearest FDS Officer including Principal Officers with four wheel drive capability notified of mobilisations and respond where appropriate.
- Fire all out - FDS Officer.
- Smell of burning - 1 pump.
- Smoke detector operating - 1 pump.
- Unknown fire - 1 pump.
- Woodburning stove - 1 pump.
- Other incidents at the discretion of the mobilising officer in consultation with the Duty Ops Commander.

When doubt exists the full PDA should be mobilised.