

Addendum

Our Partners

Like many Fire and Rescue Authorities across the country, we're involved in a wealth of partnerships. We believe that by working with other organisations and with local communities, we can share our experiences and understanding, find new and better ways of delivering services, and make a greater impact in tackling the many complex issues facing our two counties.

We work with all the local councils and health authorities, the other emergency services, local business organisations and a host of voluntary and community groups. With many of these organisations we work in formal partnerships, but we also work with them on a day-to-day basis where appropriate. Limited resources mean that we need to carefully evaluate the overall community benefits surrounding our involvement in each partnership, and based upon this we target those partnerships where we can make the most impact. We also ensure that we are represented appropriately at all levels, from local Station Commanders and Community Safety officers to the Chair of the FRA and the Chief Fire Officer.

Much of our work with partners is about keeping communities safe: this ranges from preparing community safety strategies and plans for the future through to putting joint safety events together on the ground. For instance:

- we work with other emergency services in the West Mercia Local Resilience Forum to prepare contingency plans in the event of a major incident,
- we work with the Police and other public services in Community Safety Partnerships preparing local safety plans,
- we organise joint events like the Emergency Services Village at the Three Counties Show, and local fire awareness and road safety campaigns, and
- we encourage community involvement in our service through local volunteers and organisations such as the Young Firefighters Association.

We're also working closely with others to make sure we make the best use of our resources. For instance, we share our fire stations at Droitwich and Pershore with ambulances from the West Midlands Ambulance Service, and we're currently in the process of creating a new joint Police and Fire Station at Bromsgrove.

Some of the formal partnerships we're involved in include:

- Local Strategic Partnerships, such as Herefordshire Partnership and Worcestershire Partnership
- Community Safety Partnerships, such as the Worcestershire Safer Communities Board
- West Mercia Local Resilience Forum
- Safer Roads Partnership in West Mercia