

# Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service

## Equality Impact Assessment Form

<b>Title of policy/report/project:</b>	<b>Retail And Fire-authority Key Authority Partnerships (RAFKAP) Policy</b>
<b>Department:</b>	<b>Community Fire Protection</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>13 May 2012</b>
<p><b>1: What is the aim or purpose of the policy/report/project</b></p> <p><i>This should identify “the legitimate aim” of the policy/report/project (there may be more than one)</i></p>	
<p>To request that Members approve the recommendations of this report relating to the implementation of a Service policy to adopt Retail And Fire-Authority Key Authority Partnerships (RAFKAP) and to enter into a consultation with the Local Better Regulation Office (LBRO) to consider the potential for a Fire Safety Primary Authority Scheme (PAS).</p>	
<p><b>2: Who will be affected by the policy/report/project?</b></p> <p><i>This should identify the persons/organisations who may need to be consulted about the policy /report/project and its outcomes (There may be more than one)</i></p>	
<p>All persons with responsibility for the management of any premises that may become subject of a RAFKAP partnership and any users of such premises; Employers and employees of Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority and residents and visitors to Merseyside.</p>	
<p><b>3. Monitoring</b></p> <p><i>Summarise the findings of any monitoring data you have considered regarding this policy/report/project. This could include data which shows whether the it is having the desired outcomes and also its impact on members of different equality groups.</i></p>	
<b>What monitoring data have you considered?</b>	<b>What did it show?</b>
Website research and case studies.	MFRA have monitored the CFOA website and LBRO_Local Better Regulation Office website which details the benefits

	<p>and F&amp;RA's signed up to PAS.</p> <p>Performance and case study information to date, suggests that the PAS and RAFKAP are mutually beneficial for F&amp;RA and client.</p>
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<p><b>4: Research</b></p> <p><i>Summarise the findings of any research you have considered regarding this policy/report/project. This could include quantitative data and qualitative information; anything you have obtained from other sources e.g. CFOA/CLG guidance, other FRSs, etc</i></p>	
<p><b>What research have you considered?</b></p> <p>CFOA website and visits to F&amp;RA operating a RAFKAP and PAS</p>	<p><b>What did it show?</b></p> <p>CFOA advocate the PAS and RAFKAP, as do F&amp;RS's successfully managing client relationships.</p> <p>Performance and activity of other UK FRA's that have adopted the PAS or RAFKAP approach shows willingness to lead the way in reducing the burden of administration on business while maintaining the safety of the public as its paramount concern.</p> <p>The most suitable models (PAS and RAFKAP) are chosen based on the aims of the F&amp;RA. If a F&amp;RA has a particular project to support i.e. the purchase of new vehicles or build of a community centre, then a RAFKAP is preferred. Where a F&amp;RA seeks an income from the provision of fire safety services then PAS is favoured.</p> <p>Representatives from MFRA have attended a CFOA meeting to understand the benefits of both models.</p>
<p><b>5. Consultation</b></p> <p><i>Summarise the opinions of any consultation. Who was consulted and how? (This should include reference to people and organisations identified in section 2 above) Outline any plans to inform consultees of the results of the consultation</i></p>	
<p><b>What Consultation have you undertaken?</b></p> <p>CFOA have consulted the</p>	<p><b>What did it say?</b></p> <p>CFOA have widely consulted the retail sector and the</p>

<p>retail sector.</p> <p>Consultation with CFOA and UK FRS as detailed in point 4.</p> <p>Consultation by MFRS in general about income generation</p>	<p>Government Local Better Regulation Office culminating in a CFOA seminar in July 2011. The seminar demonstrated that there is a strong appetite from retail to enter into fire safety partnerships with mutual benefits to efficiency and fire safety for both the retail and fire sectors.</p> <p>Other UK Fire and Rescue Services – have been consulted with through CFOA organisation. F&amp;RA's have effectively managed PAS and RAFKAP over the past 12 months with success.</p> <p><b>External Stakeholders:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clients – An initial meeting with a potential client has been staged. Feedback towards the potential working relationship was well-received, with a desire to work with a lead authority in fire safety. Further meetings with commercial clients are planned.</li> </ul>
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## **6. Conclusions**

*Taking into account the results of the monitoring, research and consultation, set out how the policy/report/project impacts or could impact on people from the following protected groups? (Include positive and/or negative impacts)*

### **(a) Age**

This policy will positively affect this group as they are amongst those who are most likely to suffer from poor fire safety provisions in retail premises or in their own home accommodation or place of work.

### **(b) Disability including mental, physical and sensory conditions)**

This policy will likely positively affect this group as they are amongst those who are most likely to suffer from poor fire safety provisions in retail premises or in their own home accommodation or place of work

### **(c) Race (include: nationality, national or ethnic origin and/or colour)**

This policy will positively affect this group as they are amongst those who are most likely to suffer from poor fire safety provisions in their own home accommodation or place of work.

### **(d) Religion or Belief**

No likely impact.

### **(e) Sex (include gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership and pregnancy or maternity)**

No likely impact.

### **(f) Sexual Orientation**

No likely impact.

### **(g) Socio-economic disadvantage**

This policy will positively affect this group as they are amongst those who are most likely to suffer from poor fire safety provisions in their home accommodation or place of work.

## 7. Decisions

*If the policy/report/project will have a negative impact on members of one or more of the protected groups, explain how it will change or why it is to continue in the same way.*

*If no changes are proposed, the policy/report/project needs to be objectively justified as being an appropriate and necessary means of achieving the legitimate aim set out in 1 above.*

This policy works to ensure that all persons living and working on Merseyside can do so in a fire safe environment. It assists retail partners to ensure compliance with fire safety legislation thereby ensuring an enhanced level of fire safety for people in protected groups who may use their premises, not only in Merseyside but across the UK. Additionally funding provided by partners corporate social responsibility budgets will be invested in Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service Community Fire Prevention initiatives to the benefit of protected groups who are known to be disadvantaged by the risk of fire.

## 8. Equality Improvement Plan

*List any changes to our policies or procedures that need to be included in the Equality Action Plan/Service Plan.*

## 9. Equality & Diversity Sign Off

***The completed EIA form must be signed off by the Diversity Manager before it is submitted to Strategic Management Group or Authority.***

Signed off by:

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Date:

15.5.2012

Action Planned	Responsibility of	Completed by

For any advice, support or guidance about completing this form please contact the [DiversityTeam@merseyfire.gov.uk](mailto:DiversityTeam@merseyfire.gov.uk) or on 0151 296 4237

**The completed form along with the related policy/report/project document should be emailed to the Diversity Team at: [DiversityTeam@merseyfire.gov.uk](mailto:DiversityTeam@merseyfire.gov.uk)**