

MERSEYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY			
MEETING OF THE:	SCRUTINY COMMITTEE		
DATE:	10/09/2020	REPORT NO:	CFO/048/20
PRESENTING OFFICER	ACFO DAVE MOTTRAM		
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	AM GUY KEEN	REPORT AUTHOR:	GM CRAIG WHITFIELD
OFFICERS CONSULTED:	H&S DEPARTMENT, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE DEPARTMENT, LEGAL SERVICES		
TITLE OF REPORT:	HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT PROVIDING A COMPARISON OF MFRA'S ACCIDENT AND INJURY PERFORMANCE AGAINST OTHER FRA'S FOR THE PERIOD 2018/19, SPECIFICALLY METROPOLITAN FRA'S AND THE NW REGION FRA'S		

APPENDICES:	APPENDIX A:	HOME OFFICE FIRE DATA STATISTICS FOR FRA'S (ENGLAND) RELATING TO FF INJURIES FOR THE 2018/19 PERIOD
	APPENDIX B:	HOME OFFICE FIRE DATA STATISTICS FOR METROPOLITAN FRA'S (ENGLAND) RELATING TO FF INJURIES FOR THE 2018/19 PERIOD
	APPENDIX C:	NW REGION H&S STATS FOR ACCIDENT AND INJURIES 2018/19

Purpose of Report

- To provide members with an overview of the Authority's accident and injury performance for 2018/19 in comparison to the following:
 - Other Fire and Rescue Authorities in England
 - Other Metropolitan Fire & Rescue Authorities (FRA's);
 - The North West region Fire & Rescue Authorities.

Recommendation

- That Members note the content of this report and attached appendices; specifically, outcomes for the Authority of its accident and injury performance in comparison to other FRA's during the 2018/19 period.

Introduction and Background

3. The Health & Safety Manager for the Service produces an annual report which updates Members on Health, Safety & Welfare performance against the Authority set LPI's for the relevant period.
4. The 2018/19 annual report was reviewed at the previous Scrutiny panel and a detailed overview and presentation of the annual performance was given by the H&S Manager.
5. The report and overview did not detail performance against any other FRA's and Members resolved that a further report be brought back to a future meeting providing a comparison with other Authorities around accident and injury figures.
6. The 2018/19 Home Office Fire Statistic Data Tables which are published annually and relate to firefighter injuries have been used to source the relevant accident and injury data for comparison to other FRA's as requested.
7. In line with Home Office reporting criteria, this report makes comparisons against the following accident and injury reporting areas:
 - FIRE0508a: injuries sustained by firefighters and firefighter fatalities, by fire and rescue authority;
 - FIRE0508b: injuries sustained by firefighters and firefighter fatalities, during operational incidents, by fire and rescue authorities;
 - FIRE0508c: injuries sustained by firefighters and firefighter fatalities, during training incidents, by fire and rescue authorities;
 - FIRE0508d: injuries sustained by firefighters and firefighter fatalities, during routine activities, by fire and rescue authorities.
8. Appendix A shows the Fire Statistics data tables for each reporting area above. This covers all FRA's for England and MFRA has been highlighted in yellow in each table.
9. Appendix B shows performance graphs for the Metropolitan Authorities and the NW Region Authorities. MFRA has been highlighted in yellow in each table.
10. The national fire statistics data tables only cover FF injuries. Statistics compiled annually for the North West region via the NFCC H&S NW Regional meeting will be used to make comparisons in the wider organisational context i.e. inclusive of all employees, operational and non-operational.
11. Members are to note that the 2019/20 Home Office accident and injury figures are yet to be published and are due in the Autumn 2020; likewise, and due to COVID-19 the NW regional figures have been delayed. A similar report and presentation will be produced for Scrutiny Board once both are published.
12. Some of the highlight areas for Authority members to note from reporting criterions are contained in the following sections.
13. FIRE0508a (Overall injuries and fatalities):

- i. Out of 2646 FF injuries nationally, MFRA contributed 33 injuries which represented only 1.2% of all accidents and injuries to FF's across the 45 English FRA's; 6 of these were RIDDOR reportable and 0 were deemed as major injuries; all Authorities had No firefighter fatalities.
- ii. Out of 857 FF injuries across the Metropolitan Authorities, MFRA contributed 33 injuries which represented only 3.9% of all FF accidents across the 7 Metropolitan FRA's.
- iii. Out of the 323 FF injuries in the NW region, MFRA contributed 33 injuries which still only represented 10.2% of all FF accidents and injuries across the 6 NW regions.

14. FIRE0508b (Injuries sustained during operational incidents)

- i. 1,129 personnel across all FRA's were injured at incidents in the 2018/19 period; 806 at fires and 323 at non-fire incidents. MFRA contributed a total of 23 injuries to the overall figures; 19 at fires and 4 at non-fire incidents. This represents 2.1% of all injuries at incidents; 2.4% of those injuries at fires and 1.2% at non-fire incidents.
- ii. 398 personnel across the Metropolitan FRA's were injured at incidents in the 2018/19 period; 302 at fires and 96 at non-fires. MFRA contributed a total of 23 injuries; 19 at fires and 4 at non-fire incidents. This represents 5.8% of all injuries at incidents; 6.3% of those injuries at fires and 4.2% at non-fire incidents.
- iii. 177 personnel across the NW FRA's were injured at incidents in the 2018/19 period; 143 at fires and 44 at non-fire incidents. MFRA contributed a total of 23 injuries; 19 at fires and 4 at non-fire incidents. This represents 10.7% of all injuries at incidents; 13.3% of those injuries at fires and 11.8% at non-fire incidents.

15. FIRE0508c (Injuries sustained during training incidents)

- i. 966 personnel across all FRA's were injured during training events in the period of 2018/19. MFRA contributed a total of 8 injuries. This represents only 0.8% of injuries during training events.
- ii. 252 personnel across the Metropolitan FRA's were injured during training events. MFRA contributed a total of 8 injuries which represents 3.2% of all injuries at training events across the Met FRA's.
- iii. 105 personnel across the NW region FRA's were injured during training events in the period of 2018/19. MFRA contributed a total of 8 injuries. This represents 7.6% of injuries during training events.

16. FIRE0508d (Injuries sustained during routine activities)

- i. 551 personnel across all FRA's were injured during routine activities for the period of 2018/19. MFRA contributed a total of 2 injuries which represents only 0.4% of injuries during routine activities.
- ii. 207 personnel across the Metropolitan FRA's were injured during routine activities for the period of 2018/19. MFRA contributed a total of 2 injuries which represents 1.0% of injuries during routine activities.
- iii. 88 personnel across the NW region FRA's were injured during routine activities for the period of 2018/19. MFRA contributed a total of 2 injuries which represents only 2.3% of injuries during routine activities.

17. The comparative statistics for all employee accident and injuries across the NW region, including type of injury, can be found in attached appendix C.

Equality and Diversity Implications

18. This report informs on the Authority's performance in comparison to other Authorities, and under its Health, Safety & Welfare Policy and supporting procedures, all of which are subject to current Equality Impact Assessments.

Staff Implications

19. Health, Safety & Welfare is integral to the management of all members of staff.

Legal Implications

20. Health, Safety & Welfare Reports provide evidence of compliance with the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and Regulations made pursuant to that Act.

A failure in compliance may lead to a litigation claim with a financial impact on the Authority budget.

Financial Implications & Value for Money

21. The positive work undertaken by the H&S Department impacts the amount of litigation and repair costs that the Authority is liable for. In being proactive and working closely with other internal stakeholders in reducing accident and injury, it provides a safer work environment and avoids the indirect costs of a poor H&S culture – staff absence, sick pay, legal costs, claims, reputational impacts, etc.

Risk Management, Health & Safety, and Environmental Implications

22. Implicit throughout the report and attached Appendices.

Contribution to Our Mission: *Safer Stronger Communities – Safe Effective Firefighters*

23. This report details high level Health, Safety & Welfare performance in comparison to other FRA's which is at the core of the Authority's mission.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

MFRA	Merseyside Fire & Rescue Authority
MFRS	Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service
HS&W	Health Safety & Welfare
NFCC	National Fire Chiefs Council