



Croxteth, TDA and Aintree Merger Public Consultation Feedback Analysis

VERSION 1.0

STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE

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1. Introduction

Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service Authority (MFRA) have proposed the combination of Aintree and Croxteth Fire Stations, including the development of Training & Development Academy (TDA) at Long Lane, Aintree.

To involve:

- Creating a new multi-pump super station and state of the art TDA
- Combining the two stations and increasing the number of fire engines from 3 to 4
- Creating a National Resilience Centre of Excellence

As part of the planning process, MFRA opened a public consultation, running events with interested parties including: members of the public, local businesses and partner organisations to provide information and received comment on the proposals.

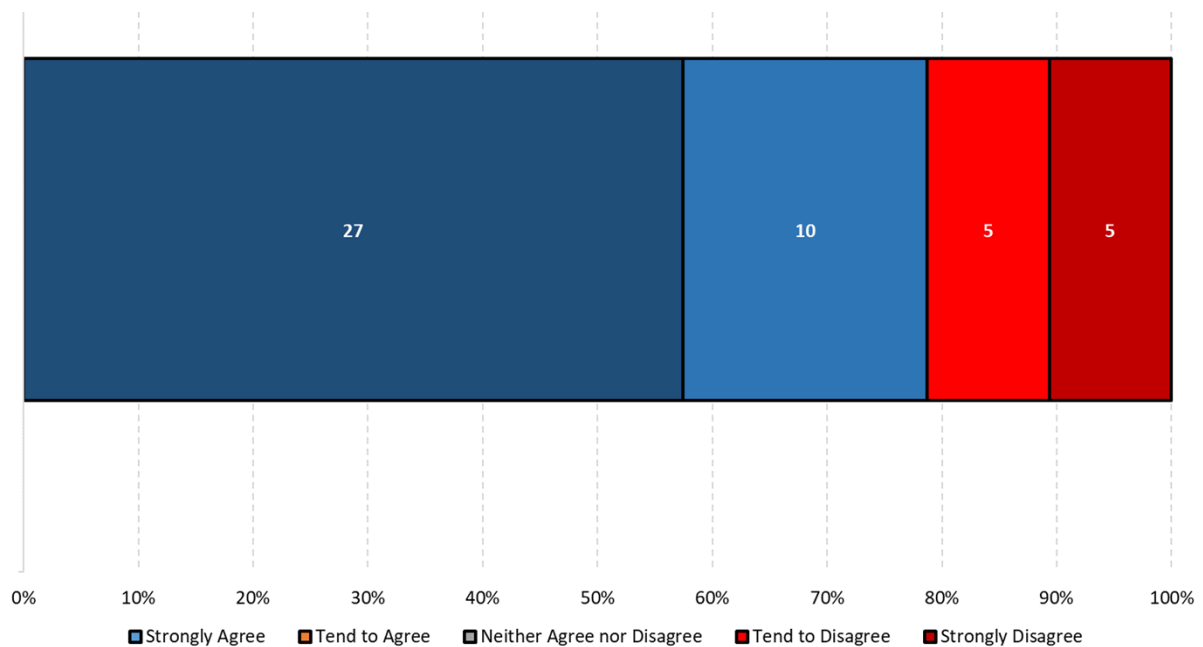
The purpose of this paper is to summarise the responses from the public consultation survey, which went live on 15th July 2021 and closed 7th October 2021. In total, there were 47 responses to the survey.

2. Methodology

- Following the completion of the consultation period, data was exported from Survey Monkey (the tool which built the questionnaire).
- For reference a copy of this survey is located at the end of this document.
- Microsoft Excel 2016 was used to analyse response data.
- Only valid responses to questions are analysed. As not all questions required an answer or were skipped due to survey logic, response counts between questions will differ.
- Respondents' comments have minor corrections to spelling only and are otherwise verbatim.
- Where relevant, comments have been grouped according to the general context
- Mapping of where respondents reside was based on postcode area and completed using MapInfo 17

3. Findings

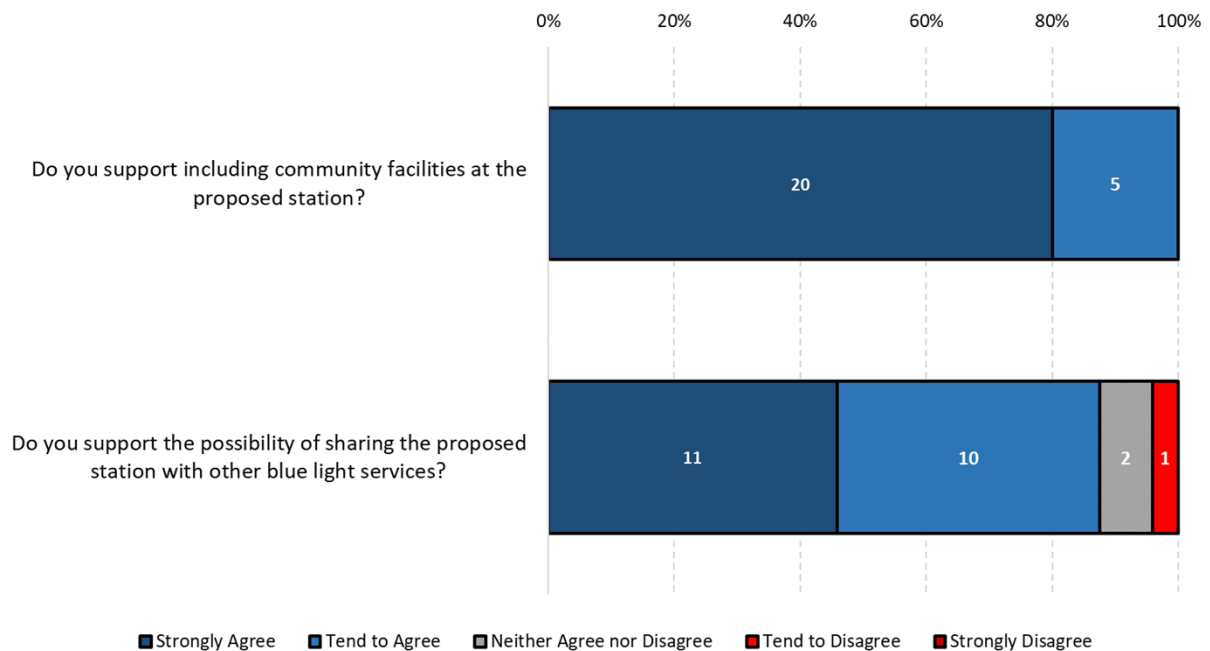
Question 1: Having read the consultation document, do you agree that it is reasonable for the Fire and Rescue Authority to make the proposed changes by closing Aintree and Croxteth fire stations; building a new super-station at a site on Long Lane as part of the development of a new Training and Development Academy



The above chart identifies that a substantial majority of respondents¹ (78%) *agreed* that merging Aintree and Croxteth in the form of a new super-station was reasonable. In combination 22% of respondents disagreed, with 11% tending to disagree and the same proportion for strongly disagree.

¹ 78% made up of 57% Strongly Agreeing and 21% Tending to Agree

Question 2: If you agree with Q1



Based on respondents agreeing to the proposal in Question 1, Question 2 asks whether respondents support the inclusion of community facilities and possibly sharing the site with other blue light services.

In response to supporting community facilities, all respondents agreed to this concept, with 80% (20) strongly agreeing with this proposal. Concerning whether respondents supported sharing the site with other blue light services, there was still strong support for this with 87.5% (21) agreeing to the proposal, 8.3% (2) of respondents were unsure and 4.2% (1) tended to disagree.

Question 3: If a station was to be built at the site on Long Lane, please let us have your view on what you would like the station to look like, including any particular design features or facilities you would like included:

Selected Comments:

Community Facilities
If community facilities included - own access, own facilities, etc. Same with other blue light services, shared rooms (garage areas, lecture rooms, etc), separate rest facilities
Youth Engagement building
I would like to see a traditional station design retained. Then the use of facilities to offer the delivery of community room to offer services for various age groups. Duke of Edinburgh, youth engagement, Fire Cadets, Safe Haven etc.
Design Considerations
Better crew facilities, more fire engines with crews to operate them.
The garages to be open and spacious so that members of the public can look through the windows and see the appliances.
Modern Design
Functionality over form; the most suitable design to allow a fire service to best meet the needs of the population it protects. No neon signs, gyms, meeting spaces or any of that nonsense!
I would hope the design would be of a high quality with good industrial planting to the front so it is attractive to the community.
Definitely include greenery and trees.
Should be a bold statement and like no other. The flag ship of the organisation.
Modern , sustainable for the future
modern and try and make it a fully carbon neutral station
Needs to be Modern, but not just look like a garage or warehouse.
Consistent Design
I'm happy to wait and see- the other new community stations seem very well designed and modern
I suppose it should be in keeping with the other new stations. It's more important to make sure the internal design caters for the needs of the staff though.
New St. Helens fire station design
Similar to newer stations
Similar build to Saughall Massie with modern environmentally friendly facilities
Concerns
The traffic on long lane between four and six pm is quite bad - is this the best location?
It would need its own road as long lane is far too busy and small to have an active fire station on it

Question 4: Please provide any further comments in support of your responses:

Working in the Community
I personally think this is great opportunity for MFRS to enable to continue to provide an excellent service to the communities which will benefit from these proposed changes. Also to give a new TDA to train future firefighters to the highest standards and ensure their people are the best they can be. Also be enable MFRS to continue to provide an excellent operational preparedness and response. Both of which align with the services aims & core values.
Merseyside is expanding very rapidly and the fire and rescue service must move with these changes, but not at the risk of the public, no reduction in fire fighters or machines available.
Aesthetics
Enhancing streetscene
With environmental impacts being so critical at this stage, a unique station which will help the environment and also not be an uninvited sight to the local community.
Concerns
Long Lane / Stopgate Lane is too busy and small for an active fire station. If going down long lane towards the bridge by Archbishop Beck, if both sides are busy and full of traffic, Fire service vehicles will really struggle wasting precious time in the event of a very serious incident
My only concern would be traffic on Long Lane but I am sure this can be overcome.
Visit long lane during the week between four and six pm. Early morning would be quite poor too.

Question 5: Having read the consultation document, do you have any other suggestions on how the Authority can make the required changes to our training facilities and Croxteth and Aintree fire stations?

Further suggestion
Have educational Centre that is accessible by local schools, colleges and universities as well the general public. Where people can come and seek fire safety education with practical experience.
Alternative Concepts
Rebuild the training centre at Croxteth. Remove the carpark to allow more space and form an agreement/alliance with St John Bosco school to use their large carpark
Give them a private road leading onto the main road
Other Comments
no * 4
No (I) think the plans are sensible and the fact that response times are improved are to be applauded
No this is a very good solution to develop the service and its assets to be fit for purpose.
No, but be very cautious about putting all your resources together, that may increase response times and delay specialist equipment getting to where is needed in hurry
None
Speak to staff, see what works for them.

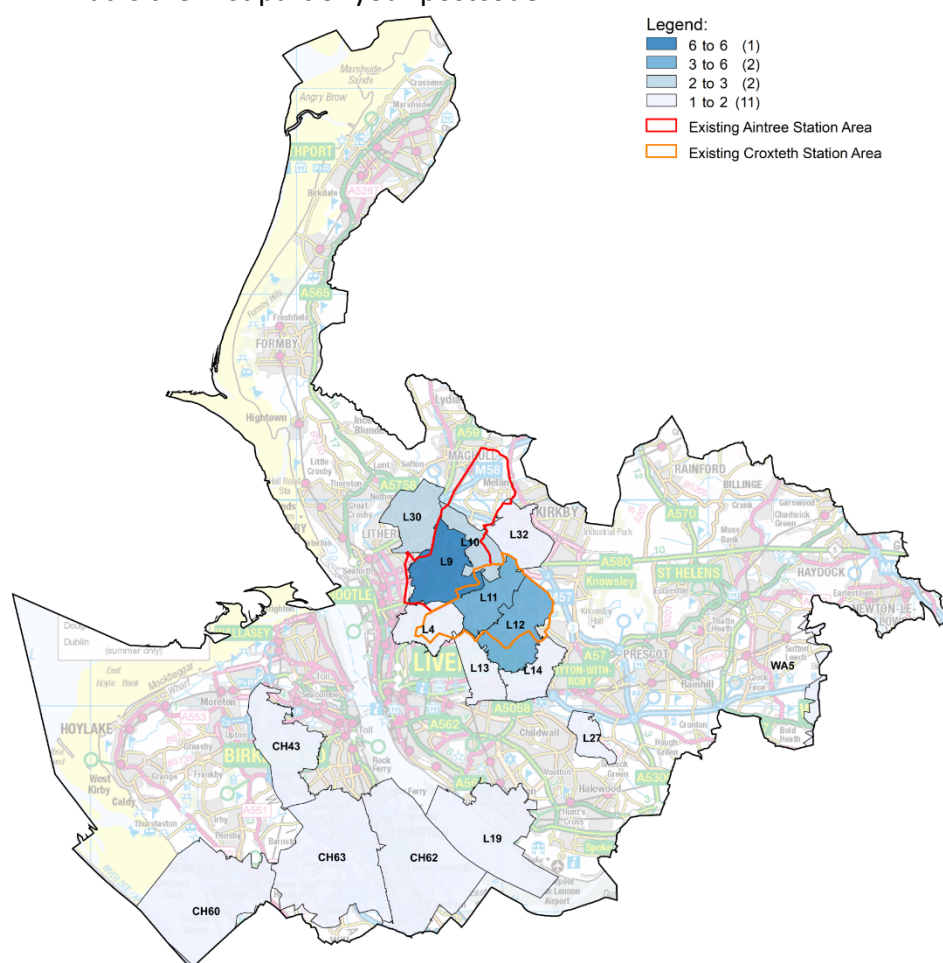
Monitoring Information

Question 6: Are you a member of:

Answer Choices	Count	%
Public	22	71.0%
Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service Staff	8	25.8%
Partner Organisation	1	3.2%
Total	31	

Of the respondents to this question, the majority (71%, 22) were members of the public.

Question 7: What is the first part of your postcode:



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The above map shows that of the 30 respondents to provide the first part of their postcode, that there is a variety of people across Merseyside interested in the proposed development. What is key is that the majority of responses; are from postcode areas directly affected by the merger (L9 in particular), meaning that local residents have taken advantage of the opportunity to contribute their opinions.

Question 8: Your Gender:

Answer Choices	Count	%
Male	24	80.0%
Female	5	16.7%
Prefer not to say	1	3.3%
Total	30	

Question 9: Your Age:

Answer Choices	Count	%
19 or younger	5	16.7%
20 - 29	4	13.3%
30 - 39	7	23.3%
40 - 49	6	20.0%
50 - 59	4	13.3%
60 - 69	3	10.0%
70 - 79	1	3.3%
Greater than 80	0	0.0%
Total	30	

Question 10: Do you consider yourself to have disability?

Answer Choices	Count	%
Yes	5	17.2%
No	24	82.8%
Total	29	

Question 11: How would you describe your ethnic origin?

Answer Choices	Count	%
White: English	29	96.7%
Other ethnic group (please state):	1	3.3%
Total	30	

Question 12: How did you find out about this consultation?

Answer Choices	Count	%
Consultation Document from Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service/Authority	5	16.1%
Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service website www.merseyfire.gov.uk	14	45.2%
Newspaper	4	12.9%
Radio	0	0.0%
TV	0	0.0%
Word of Mouth	2	6.5%
Social Media	5	16.1%
Phone	0	0.0%
Online news website	1	3.2%
Total	31	

Question 13: If you responded "Social Media" in the previous question, please indicate if this social media was

Answer Choices	Count	%
@MerseyFire Twitter	0	0.0%
Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service Facebook page	3	60.0%
Twitter – Other Account	0	0.0%
Facebook – Other Account	1	20.0%
Other	1	20.0%
Total	5	

Consultation Questionnaire

On 15th July 2021 Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority began a 12-week public consultation on proposals regarding changes to fire stations in Aintree and Croxteth in order to create a new super-station and training centre on Long Lane, Aintree.

The public consultation follows a previous public consultation on the Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) for 2021-24 which first outlined the plans.

Consultation will consider:

MFRA's proposal to move to a 12-acre site at Long Lane which will allow MFRS to replace two very old fire stations at Aintree and Croxteth, along with an outdated training centre which is now unable to meet the demands of a modern fire and rescue service. MFRS proposes to replace these three locations with new facilities at one site designed to support and develop MFRS staff and the communities they serve. As well as providing new facilities and a training centre of excellence, the new location is predicted to improve the time taken to respond to emergencies in the area.

A consultation document explains why the Authority propose to make these changes. A link to the consultation document is here: <https://www.merseyfire.gov.uk/media/2308/aintree-croxteth-consultation-document-final.pdf>

We are holding public meetings and other events during the 12-week consultation in order to fully understand the views of the public and other interested parties. Information on when and where the meetings will be held is included in the consultation document.

Please read the consultation document and complete the questionnaire below. The Fire and Rescue Authority will consider all the comments it receives before it makes any final decisions.

This questionnaire should take approximately 5 minutes to complete. Thank you for taking the time to tell us your views.

1. Having read the consultation document, do you agree that it is reasonable for the Fire and Rescue Authority to make the proposed changes by:

Closing Aintree and Croxteth fire stations; building a new super-station at a site on Long Lane as part of the development of a new Training and Development Academy

Strongly Agree	Tend to Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Tend to Disagree	Strongly Disagree
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

2. If you agree with Q1:

	Strongly Agree	Tend to Agree	Neither agree nor Disagree	Tend to Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Do you support including community facilities at the proposed station?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Do you support the possibility of sharing the proposed station with other blue light services?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

3. If a station was to be built at the site on Long Lane, please let us have your view on what you would like the station to look like, including any particular design features or facilities you would like included:

4. Please provide any further comments in support of your responses:

5. Having read the consultation document, do you have any other suggestions on how the Authority can make the required changes to our training facilities and Croxteth and Aintree fire stations?

Monitoring Information

Please note that information collected within this section is for monitoring purposes no personal identifiable information will be collated.

6. Are you a member of:

Please tick the appropriate box

- ☐ Public
- ☐ Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service Staff
- ☐ Partner Organisation

7. What is the first part of your post code: (for example WA9)

8. Your Gender: Please tick the appropriate box

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female
- ☐ Prefer not to say

9. Your Age: Please tick the appropriate box

- ☐ 19 or younger
- ☐ 20 29
- ☐ 30 39
- ☐ 40 49
- ☐ 50 59
- ☐ 60 69

☐ 70-79

☐ Greater than 80

10. Do you consider yourself to have disability? Please tick the appropriate box

☐ Yes

☐ No

11. How would you describe your ethnic origin? Please tick the appropriate box

☐ White: English

☐ White: Welsh

☐ White: Scottish

☐ White: Northern Irish

☐ White: Irish

☐ White: Gypsy or Traveller

☐ White: Other White Background

☐ Mixed / Multiple Ethnic Background: White & Black Caribbean

☐ Mixed / Multiple Ethnic Background: White & Black African

☐ Mixed / Multiple Ethnic Background: White & Asian

☐ Mixed / Multiple Ethnic Background: Other Mixed / multiple background

☐ Asian or Asian British: Indian

☐ Asian or Asian British: Pakistani

☐ Asian or Asian British: Bangladeshi

☐ Asian or Asian British: Chinese

☐ Asian or Asian British: Other Asian Background

☐ Black or Black British: Caribbean

☐ Black or Black British: African

☐ Black or Black British: Other Black Background

☐ Prefer not to say

☐ Other ethnic group (please state):

12. How did you find out about this consultation?

- ☐ Consultation Document from Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service/Authority
- ☐ Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service website www.merseyfire.gov.uk
- ☐ Newspaper
- ☐ Radio
- ☐ TV
- ☐ Word of Mouth
- ☐ Social Media
- ☐ Phone
- ☐ Online news website
- ☐ If "Online news website" please specify:

13. If you responded "Social Media" in the previous question, please indicate if this social media was:

- ☐ @MerseyFire Twitter
- ☐ Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service Facebook page
- ☐ Twitter – Other Account
- ☐ Facebook – Other Account
- ☐ Other
- ☐ If "Other", please specify: