



# KNOWSLEY

## Community Safety Plan 2015 -16



# Introduction by the Knowsley District Manager, Dean Bolton



Welcome to the Community Safety Plan for Knowsley for 2015-16.

As well as focusing on the fire and rescue-related risks in Knowsley, this plan reflects our continued role in local partnerships. We work closely with our key partner agencies; in particular Knowsley Council, Merseyside Police, health services, and the voluntary and faith sectors to deliver improved outcomes for our community. For example, our partners share information with us so we can help reduce risks to the most vulnerable people in Knowsley.

This plan should be read in conjunction with the Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority (MFRA) Integrated Risk Management Plan 2013-16 and IRMP Supplement 2015/17.

Contained within the Community Safety Plan are our main objectives and how these will be implemented and achieved across the district in 2015/16. Our four main priorities are:

1. Reduce fires, deaths and injuries, road traffic collisions and anti-social behaviour.
2. Provide an efficient and effective response to emergency incidents.
3. Maintain and improve staff training, safety and competence.
4. Maintain and improve, staff health, fitness and welfare.

These priorities are determined by a number of influences, including:

- The Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004.
- The Fire and Rescue National Framework.
- Strategy for Knowsley.
- Knowsley Council Corporate Plan 2013–2016.
- Knowsley Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2013–2016.
- Safer Knowsley Partnership 2013–2016.
- Police and Crime Plan 2013-2017 (Police and Crime Commissioner).



# Knowsley

Knowsley has a population of just under 145,900, two thirds of which are of working age (16-64 years) and is home to around 3,000 businesses. The district covers an area of 8,620 hectares, of which 54% is designated as Green Belt.

Located between Liverpool and Manchester, Knowsley is connected to these cities by the M57 and M62 motorways, and the A580 East Lancashire Trunk Road. Its superior connectivity means the borough is well placed for both business and commuting, within the City Region and further afield.

The borough is made up of five main townships: Huyton, Kirkby, Halewood, Prescot and Whiston; and the smaller villages of Cronton and Knowsley Village. Each area has its own characteristics and history which makes them unique. Knowsley is a borough of contrasts: it has areas where deprivation levels are amongst the highest in the country, particularly Kirkby, Huyton and Stockbridge Village, and other areas that are seen as relatively affluent.

Knowsley is an important location for employment in the Liverpool City Region. The borough has a large industrial base concentrated mainly at Knowsley Industrial Park and business parks at Kirkby, Huyton and Prescot, as well as being home to renowned businesses such as Jaguar Land Rover, QVC and most recently Matalan.





# Knowsley

Knowsley is also home to three of the county's top tier COMAH (Control of Major Accident Hazards) sites. In recent years there has been considerable investment in Knowsley's infrastructure including new schools, health centres and state-of-the-art leisure facilities.

The town centres of Huyton, Halewood and Kirkby have seen major retail investment and Stockbridge Village has a new village centre and community facilities. Prescot town centre will soon see similar investment, this is also extended to social and private housing. There has been no significant change in Knowsley's population between 2011 and 2012. The population decreased marginally from 145,900 to 145,893.



# The Team

Your local Management Team for Knowsley are:



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Please quote KnowsleyPlan15  
in correspondence.

In the district we have three  
appliances spread across our  
stations in Huyton, Kirkby and  
Whiston community fire stations.

This allows us to meet our  
attendance standards in all areas,  
although the closest appliance will  
always be sent to any emergency  
incident.

These stations are staffed by 57  
firefighters and 13 Watch  
Managers.

We have three dedicated  
Protection staff located at Kirkby  
Fire Station.

We have four dedicated Prevention  
staff located at Huyton Fire Station.



# Community Fire and Rescue Stations



**Huyton Community Fire Station** area has a population of approximately 56,135. The fire station is situated on Huyton Lane. The station area is comprised of mainly private and council dwelling properties, together with care homes for the elderly and Knowsley Housing Trust high rise buildings.

Stockbridge Village, not far from Huyton Community Fire Station, has a new village centre and community facilities. The station covers a mix of residential property, commercial, light industrial sites and has an extensive motorway network (M57/M62) running through the area.

Huyton Community Fire Station is the main base for the Community Prevention Team and the Fire and Rescue Service Prince's Trust Team programme for Knowsley.

The Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service Youth Engagement Team also run Beacon Project courses at the Training and Development Academy (TDA) for teenagers from some Huyton schools.

Their pass-out presentations are carried out by the Mayor of Knowsley.

# Community Fire and Rescue Stations



**Whiston Community Fire Station** area has a population of approximately 48,638. The fire station is located on Fire Station Road. The station covers a mix of residential, commercial and light industrial risks including Whiston Hospital and Knowsley Safari Park.

Whiston operational fire crews work closely with the Community Prevention Team and partners to achieve key priorities within the district. Although Whiston does not have a dedicated community room, the station can still be used for some community-based activities with pre-arrangements.

The crews and the Community Prevention Team work closely together on and off-site to engage with community groups and youths in the Community.



# Community Fire and Rescue Stations



**Kirkby Community Fire Station** area has a population of approximately 41,163. The fire station is located on Webster Drive, near to the newly refurbished town centre. The station covers a mixture of residential, commercial and industrial risks, including four of the country's COMAH (Control of Major Accident Hazard) sites on Kirkby's large industrial estates and motorway network (M57/M58).

Predominantly, the area is made up of privately-owned, council, private social landlords properties and Knowsley Housing Trust high rise multi-storey blocks with a small number of Care Homes.

The community fire station is able to offer a community room facility to partners to support community activities, also facilitating the running of a Knowsley Beacon Course for 12 to 16-year-olds. The Knowsley Community Safety Protection Team is also based at the station.

As mentioned previously in this plan, Huyton and Whiston fire stations will be closing to be replaced by a new station in Prescot in 2016.





# Our Performance 2014/15

Since the introduction of District and Station Plans and in particular for the year 2013/14, we have gone to some lengths to ensure all of our staff understand the direction of travel and how their day-to-day activities can hugely effect the outcomes of our local performance indicators (LPIs).

As a district, this year we will have completed over 5,300 Home Fire Safety Checks, with over two thirds being completed in medium and high risk homes. This focus on higher risk people is possible because we now have access to a range of data that allows us to direct our resources more effectively. To do this we rely on partner organisations sharing data with us.

During the bonfire period 2014, we were unable to deliver a reduction in the number of incidents compared to our success in 2013. However, the collaboration and support of partners throughout the period, we would regard as hugely successful, keeping the number of incidents attended over the bonfire period as low as 36 across the whole of Knowsley in comparison to 24 incidents during 2013.

Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service (MF&RS) have provided support to Knowsley Chamber of Commerce and Merseyside Police in reinvigorating the "Knowsley Business Watch" scheme, first in Kirkby and more recently in Huyton and Whiston. This has been used as a platform to increase our access to businesses to improve performance for SSRI visits (Site Specific Risk Information), Bonfire celebrations, and arson risk assessments.



# Our Performance 2014/15

All our fire stations are now Safe Havens. These benefit both our own staff and business owners and the public.

Another benefit of Business Watch is that it has given us the opportunity to train and exercise in real-life environments.

Our Youth Engagement activities across the district are extensive. We host three Prince's Trust Team Programmes each year, we have three schools undertaking Fire Fit programmes with the year 5 age group and a School Fire Liaison Officer working with young people in a secondary school.

The charity Fire Support Network delivers cage sports across the district following a successful award from Sport England and operational crews are delivering Road Safety messages in schools.

For our operational staff in 2013, we introduced a new competency-based framework (Safe Person Assessments) and monthly audit process to ensure key risk critical competencies are maintained in addition to regular crew-based training.

We have also introduced a more robust performance management framework across all Operational Response Local Performance Indicators to improve performance.

This has resulted in a noticeable improvement in such areas as alert to mobile times (how long it takes for firefighters to respond to a call to an incident), Incident Reporting System returns (completed as soon as possible after incidents) and staff vehicle accidents.



# Incidents in Knowsley

This section provides an overview of the incidents that occurred in Knowsley during 2014/15. It looks at whether performance has improved over recent years and where we need to focus our attention over the next year. The table and graphs in this section illustrate the types of incidents that occur in Knowsley District.

The charts are a breakdown of incidents in the district and how these incidents are distributed across the station areas. Accidental fires in the home and anti-social behaviour fires across the district are found mostly in the built-up areas of Kirkby, Huyton and Halewood. This is to be expected and, following the monitoring of any trends in these specific areas, allows us to target our resources accordingly.

Following scrutiny of our performance and working with our partners, we were able to establish that the majority of our anti-social behaviour fires in the district were attended in the Northwood vicinity of Kirkby.

Using this information we were able to work with partner agencies on focusing our resources in this area, leading to a vastly improved return in the year to date figures. In 2013/14 there were 67 incidents, during 2014/15 to February there have been 37 incidents.

We continue to drive down attendances to unwanted fire signals (which are automatic fire alarm false alarms), as these are a nuisance to our business and those of our partners. We will work with our local business partners to develop our Automatic Fire Alarm strategy to ensure that our response to these types of incidents is mitigated to the lowest level possible.

We will continue to work with our colleagues from Merseyside Police to reduce the number of deliberate vehicle fires that we attend across the district. Since 2008, we have seen a year on year decrease in the number of incidents attended, from 188 vehicle fires compared to 39 in 2015 up to February.

# Incidents in Knowsley

We will continue to support our business partners in the district and the District Manager sits on the Knowsley Business Watch Board, meeting on a monthly basis to improve the local business links in Knowsley.

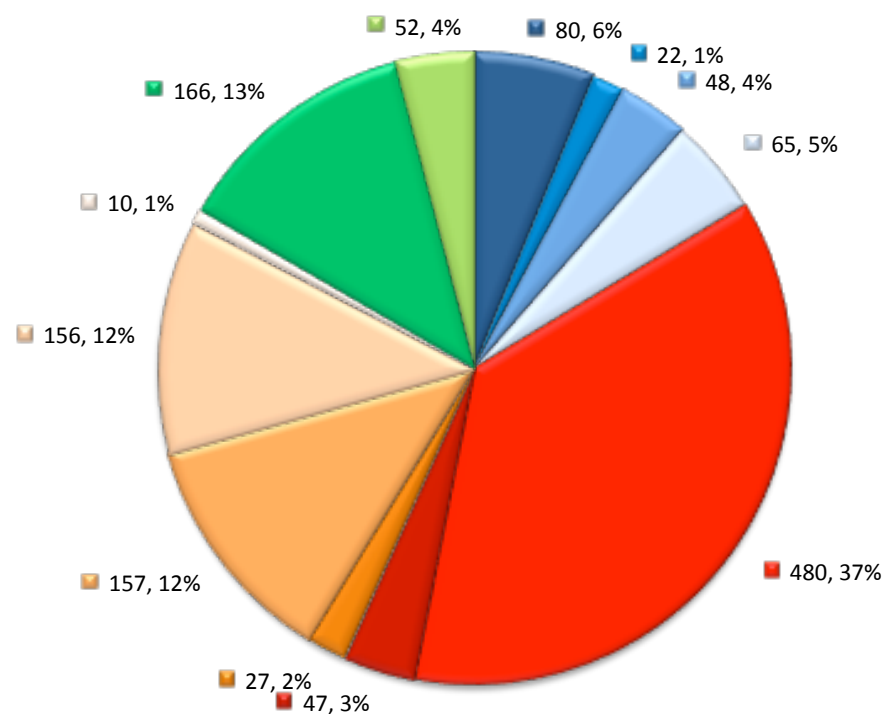
The introduction of a new work routine on fire stations in January 2014 has assisted the District, Station and Watch Managers in improving performance for 2014/15. We have placed three hours of productive time into the day shift from the night shift. There is a simple expectation that the role of our fire crews on day shifts is externally focused, undertaking training, visiting homes, schools and businesses and engaging with the community; with the night shift covering equipment maintenance, station routines, firefighter fitness and underpinning their knowledge.





# Incidents in Knowsley

Incidents attended within Knowsley during 2014/15 (estimate)



■ Accidental Fires in the Home

■ Other Property Fire

■ Automatic False Alarm - Commercial Building

■ Malicious False Alarm

■ Commercial Building Fire

■ Small Anti Social Behaviour Fire

■ Automatic False Alarm - NOT Commercial Building

■ Special Service

■ Deliberate Vehicle Fire

■ Other Small Fire

■ False Alarm Good Intent

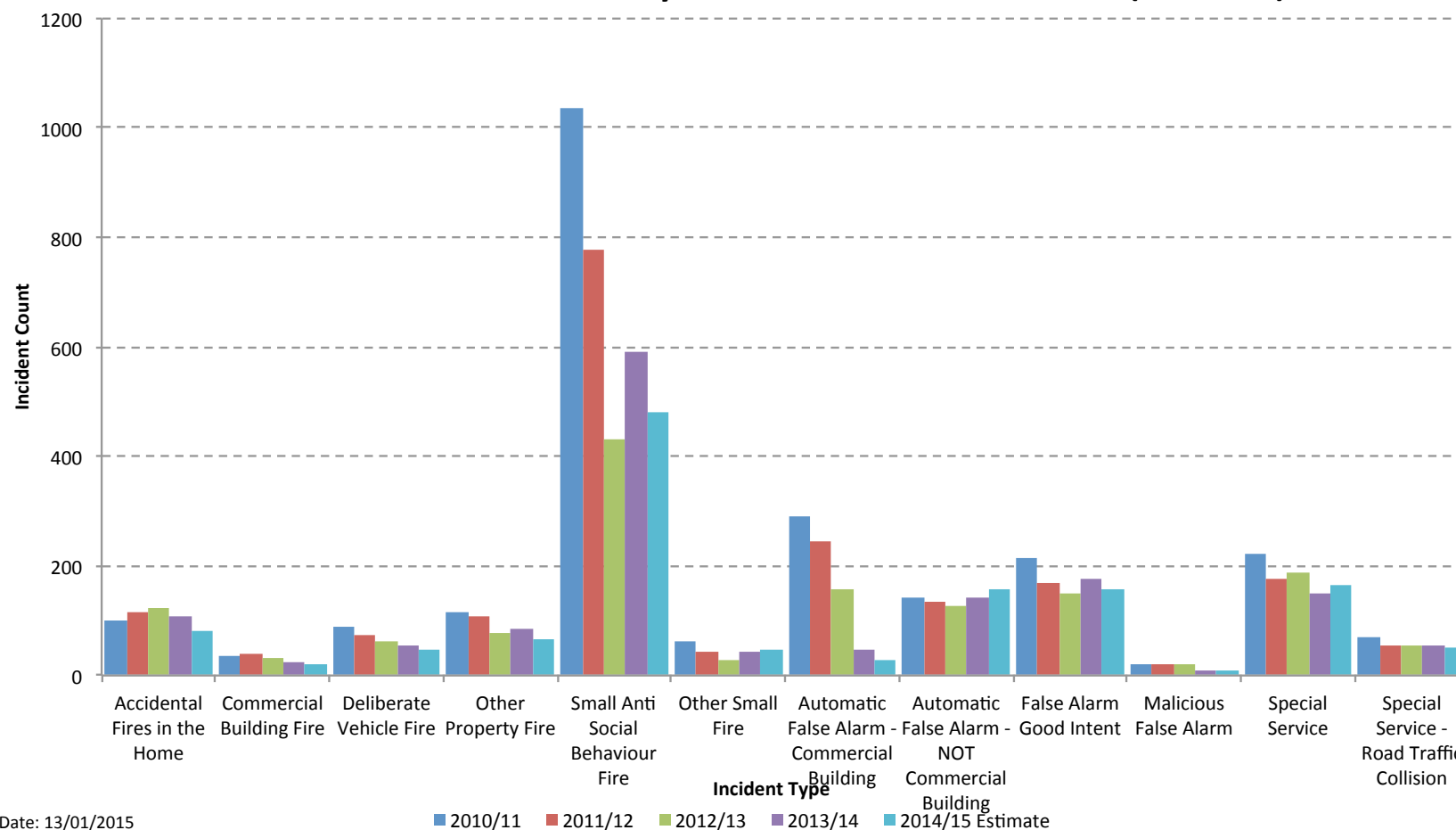
■ Special Service - Road Traffic Collision

Date: 12/01/2015

Strategy & Performance

# Incidents in Knowsley

**Incidents attended in Knowsley between 2010/11 - 2014/15 (estimate)**



Date: 13/01/2015  
Strategy & Performance

# Incidents in Knowsley

Incident Type	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 Estimate
Accidental Fires in the Home	99	116	125	107	80
Commercial Building Fire	37	41	33	25	22
Deliberate Vehicle Fire	88	74	61	54	48
Other Property Fire	116	107	77	84	65
Small Anti Social Behaviour Fire	1038	778	432	591	480
Other Small Fire	64	44	27	45	47
Automatic False Alarm Commercial Building	292	244	158	49	27
Automatic False Alarm – NOT Commercial Building	143	135	128	143	157
False Alarm Good Intent	216	168	151	177	156
Malicious False Alarm	22	21	19	10	10
Special Service	223	177	187	150	166
Special Service - Road Traffic Collision	71	54	56	53	52
<b>Knowsley</b>	<b>2409</b>	<b>1959</b>	<b>1454</b>	<b>1488</b>	<b>1304</b>

# Incidents in Knowsley

Incident Type	40 - Huyton	41 - Whiston	42 - Kirkby	Neighbouring Stations
Accidental Fires in the Home	30	18	24	6
Commercial Building Fire	10	6	9	1
Deliberate Vehicle Fire	20	5	19	3
Other Property Fire	28	7	22	8
Small Anti Social Behaviour Fire	134	81	198	68
Other Small Fire	16	8	17	5
Automatic False Alarm Commercial Building	6	7	9	4
Automatic False Alarm – NOT Commercial Building	49	31	38	40
False Alarm Good Intent	45	36	42	34
Malicious False Alarm	1	0	11	0
Special Service	79	26	49	14
Special Service - Road Traffic Collision	12	9	16	15
Grand Total	431	234	453	197



# Incidents in Knowsley

Incident Type	40 - Huyton	41 - Whiston	42 - Kirkby	Neighbouring Stations
Accidental Fires in the Home	7.0%	7.8%	5.4%	3.0%
Commercial Building Fire	2.3%	2.6%	1.9%	0.5%
Deliberate Vehicle Fire	4.6%	2.1%	4.2%	1.4%
Other Property Fire	6.6%	2.9%	4.9%	4.1%
Small Anti Social Behaviour Fire	31.1%	34.6%	43.7%	34.5%
Other Small Fire	3.7%	3.2%	3.7%	2.3%
Automatic False Alarm - Commercial Building	1.5%	3.0%	2.0%	2.0%
Automatic False Alarm – NOT Commercial Building	11.4%	13.2%	8.3%	20.3%
False Alarm Good Intent	10.5%	15.2%	9.3%	17.1%
Malicious False Alarm	0.2%	0.0%	2.3%	0.0%
Special Service	18.4%	11.3%	10.8%	7.2%
Special Service - Road Traffic Collision	2.7%	4.0%	3.5%	7.7%
Grand Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

# Our Plans for Knowsley

## **Our Organisational Objectives:**

We have a number of Organisational Objectives that we want to deliver for every area of Merseyside. These are:

- To reduce fires, deaths and injuries, road traffic collisions and anti-social behaviour (ASB) working with partners and the community to protect the most vulnerable people in Merseyside
- To provide an efficient and effective response to all emergency incidents, for all risks across all areas of Merseyside
- To maintain and improve staff training, safety and competence to ensure they can safely and effectively resolve all emergency incidents
- To maintain and improve staff health, fitness and welfare, to ensure our staff are the best they can be.

We have talked to our partners and studied our performance last year and we aim to improve outcomes for Knowsley in 2014/15 by focusing on the following areas:

## **Our Local Actions:**

- We will continue to work with key partners to implement risk reduction strategies that have a direct impact upon improving outcomes for Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service . For example, supporting the Safer Knowsley Partnership which will give focus
- to the Hillside Estate in Knowsley and tackling ASB.

- We will look to support the development of the Healthy Homes Team in Knowsley – working with Public Health colleagues will be invaluable in providing us with key data to support our business objectives and identifying those individuals who will need our support in making their homes safer from fire risk.
- Economic growth is important to the borough of Knowsley; we will continue to use the Chamber of Commerce as a platform for engagement with the Business Community – we will support its Business Watch scheme, this approach will provide opportunity for engagement through increased SSRI, training and exercising opportunities and arson risk assessment.

# Our Plans for Knowsley

- Young people have a clear role in the development of the borough. We will support this by providing various opportunities. For example, Prince's Trust volunteers, the Beacon Project for 12 to 16-year-olds, Fire Fit Schools and Emergency Service Cadets for 9 to 11-year-olds.



# Action Plan 2015/16

Strategic Aim	Organisational District Plan Objective	Organisational Actions	Local Actions	Location
<b>Excellent Operational Preparedness</b>	Maintain and improve staff training, safety and competence	Test Operational Preparedness vs Standard Operating Procedures and Generic Risk Assessment.	Personnel know and understand the pre-planned site specific operational procedures for all risks.	Stations
		Complete all Site Specific Risk Information inspections in line with Service Strategy.	Complete SSRI on sites in District and allocated Merseyside category 1 and 2 sites during 2015/16.	Stations
		Complete all water surveys (hydrant inspections) in line with Service Strategy.	Ensure that water surveys are completed within the prescribed Timescales.	Stations
		All personnel to attend core risk critical assessments courses during the year.	All personnel to attend the core risk critical training (TDA) courses during 2015/16.	Stations
		All personnel to attend core risk critical assessments courses during the year.	All personnel to remain operationally ready through meaningful training and elearn packages.	Stations



# Action Plan 2015/16

Strategic Aim	Organisational District Plan Objective	Organisational Actions	Local Actions	Location
<b>Excellent Operational Response</b>	Provide an efficient and effective response to emergency incidents	Ops crew will aspire to achieve an Operational Assurance Team daily audit result of 100%.	Attainment of Operational Performance Team Audit Scores of 80% average for the year.	Stations
		All individual Safe Person Assessments to be completed.	Operational firefighters will demonstrate excellent skills through training audit and assessment.	Stations
		Achieve Alert to Mobile times within prescribed timescale.	Resources will be mobile to calls before 1 minute 54 seconds to ensure the highest levels of response.	Stations

# Action Plan 2015/16

Strategic Aim	Organisational District Plan Objective	Organisational Actions	Local Actions	Location
<b>Excellent Operational Response</b>	Provide an efficient and effective response to emergency incidents	Manage and reduce accidents and injuries to the lowest achievable level.	We will ensure compliance with regard to the management of road risk and low speed manoeuvres.	District
		Reduction in Accidental Dwelling Fires (ADFs) through intelligent targeting of high risk or previously unvisited properties for Home Fire Safety Checks (HFSCs).	We will continue to develop and enhance the Knowsley Healthy Homes Team utilising our advocate teams.	District

# Action Plan 2015/16

Strategic Aim	Organisational District Plan Objective	Organisational Actions	Local Actions	Location
<b>Excellent Prevention and Protection</b>	Reduce fires, deaths and injuries, road traffic collisions and anti-social behaviour	Reduction in ADFs through intelligent targeting of high risk or previously unvisited properties for HFSCs.	Work with the Stronger Families Team to provide a service to vulnerable families reducing the risk.	District
		Reduction in ADFs through intelligent targeting of high risk or previously unvisited properties for HFSCs.	We will visit schools to deliver key fire safety messages consistent to the Fire Kills calendar.	District
		Seasonal pre-planning and arson/hate crime risk intelligence led target hardening.	We will plan our activities year-round to respond to seasonal increases in risk.	District
		Seasonal pre-planning and arson/hate crime risk intelligence led target hardening.	We will work with our partners to reduce anti-social behaviour (ASB) incidents, by maintaining data sharing protocols.	District

# Action Plan 2015/16

Strategic Aim	Organisational District Plan Objective	Organisational Actions	Local Actions	Location
<b>Excellent Prevention and Protection</b>	Reduce fires, deaths and injuries, road traffic collisions and anti-social behaviour	Enhance road safety through education and engagement with young drivers most at risk.	Operational crews will deliver road safety education to young people across district aged 17-25 year-olds.	District
		Enhance road safety through education and engagement with young drivers most at risk.	We will establish a local road safety forum with key partners to look at road risk.	District
		Improve business fire safety to comply with Regulatory Reform Order (Fire Safety) 2005.	Fire safety visits will be carried out on care homes by operational crews.	District
		Improve business fire safety to comply with Regulatory Reform Order (Fire Safety) 2005.	Work in partnership with the Knowsley Chamber to promote fire safety among the business community.	District



# Action Plan 2015/16

Strategic Aim	Organisational District Plan Objective	Organisational Actions	Local Actions	Location
<b>Excellent Prevention and Protection</b>	Reduce fires, deaths and injuries, road traffic collisions and anti-social behaviour	Improve business fire safety to comply with Regulatory Reform Order (Fire Safety) 2005.	We will use the Business Watch Forum to increase SSRI capture and arson risk assessment.	District
		Improve business fire safety to comply with Regulatory Reform Order (Fire Safety) 2005.	Heritage – we will adopt the “HeritProt” model for Knowsley Hall.	District

# Action Plan 2015/16

Strategic Aim	Organisational District Plan Objective	Organisational Actions	Local Actions	Location
<b>Excellent People</b>	Maintain and improve, staff health, fitness and welfare	Absence to be managed to lowest achievable levels.	Knowsley management team will ensure absence levels are monitored and procedures are adhered to.	District
		Completion of appraisals for all staff in January and February.	Ensure 100% completion of quality Values Based Appraisals at all levels within the district.	District
		Development of staff skills and knowledge through training opportunities.	Training and support will be provided to staff with a focus on quality of service delivery.	District