

REPORT AUTHOR: DEPUTY CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

SUBJECT: COMMUNITY RISK MANAGEMENT PLANNING

For further information on this Report contact: Steve Frank
Head of Strategic Support and Assurance
Tel No: 07876 144846

Background Papers: Item 7 of the FRA Executive Committee report on Proposals for the Strategic Planning Cycle for CRMP, and the timetable presented to Members at the Member Development Day on 7th July 2022

PURPOSE:

For FRA Members to consider progress with CRMP Planning and any implications of the CRMP summer survey results

RECOMMENDATION:

That Members acknowledge the content of this report for information and comment.

1. Summary

1.1 During 2022-23 considerable work is being undertaken to develop our next Community Risk Management Plan. The Community Risk Analysis and PESTEL analysis is complete. These will all be discussed with Members at the next Member

Development Day on the 6th October. A summary of the results of the CRMP Summer survey is in Appendix 1. A comparative analysis of CRMPs from other Fire and Rescue Services is contained in Appendix 2.

1.2 The results of the CRMP community concerns survey in Appendix 1 shows some interesting results:

- Response services are the top public priority
- Working with our communities is second
- Water rescue is third although it is worth considering that we launched this survey at the Bedford River Festival and therefore water safety will be uppermost in people's minds
- Local collaboration is rated three times more important than national collaboration
- Extreme weather is the public's top concern
- The impact of poverty and deprivation on community safety is second, and a particular concern raised by younger people
- Third is slow time to incidents

1.3 The comparative analysis of other Fire and Rescue Service's CRMPs in Appendix 2 finds

- Most Fire and Rescue Services have four-year CRMPs;
- Noteworthy practice is contained in many plans, but not consistently throughout;
- Weaker areas include Supporting Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) and showing results of ongoing engagement consultation processes. Asking the 'so what' question is enlightening;
- Consideration of risk appetite is also a weaker area;
- Showing how FRS are matching operational capabilities with community risks is generally poor; and
- No community engagement survey had over 250 responses, but focus groups were used extensively.

2. Timetable

2.1 With reference to the CRMP timetable in paragraph 2.6 which was first presented to Members on 7th July 2022, we can see we are on schedule. The CRMP Steering Group has met three times, and CRMP community concerns survey is now complete.

2.2 An important aspect of community risk management planning and is community engagement. This is an area of high public interest as expressed in the results of the public survey on the CRMP action plan for 2022-23. Our CRMP community engagement plan is based on the following principles:

- Any appropriate national guidance and thinking;
- Building on previous engagement;
- Insight developed from our community risk analysis;
- Evaluation of our top 50 stakeholders for power and influence – this guides our engagement priorities and effort;
- Effective internal and external collaboration and not duplicating effort in line with our service value Every Contact Counts;
- Towards Bedfordshire 2050 long term horizon scanning;
- Integrating Equality, diversity and inclusion into everything rather than treat it as an ‘add on’;
- Effective People Impact Assessment – formerly known as an Equality Impact Assessment; and
- Demonstrating ethical principles, Values based thinking and professional behaviours.

2.3 Our CRMP Reference Group has yet to meet due to diary clashes and holidays but we have met the members individually. As a result, we dovetailed our CRMP community concerns survey with council community safety surveys and did not duplicate questions.

2.4 So far, we have spoken with nine groups of key stakeholders including a wider range of community groups including faith groups, housing partners, business forums, Bedfordshire Chief Executives Forum, the Local Resilience Forum administrators, and sports clubs. Key findings include:

- A shared value in the importance of data sharing and concern over no common data sharing agreement;
- All public services are working in a 'fragile system' with little resilience;
- Rising demand and sustained reliance on public service and the voluntary sector since the pandemic;
- No single voice on community resilience, and understanding of the impact of the cost of living crises on communities;
- The need to join up efforts on volunteering; and
- The importance of positive communications "*to give people courage*"

2.5 Our stakeholder mapping of our top fifty stakeholders is based on an assessment of resource reliance, relationship risk, benefits rating, national/regional/local drivers and CRMP impact. Our analysis finds:

- Local Councillors and Members of Parliament have a high rating for power and influence;
- Community groups such as advocacy and poverty reduction charities have limited power but increasing influence over how effectively we can collectively prevent fires and other emergencies. The impact of Poverty on community safety is rated highly in our community concerns survey.

2.6 CRMP timetable with Member input:

Activity	Dates	Member input
CRMP Timetable discussed	7th July 2022	Member development day on 7th July on CRMP
Launch community concerns survey	23-24 th July 2022	Member attendance at River Festival, Members share survey with their networks, and support completion of survey (1 st of two surveys).
CRMP External Reference Group	28 th July 2022	Member rep attendance (tbc). Including Bedfordshire Police, all three Councils, Multi Faith Group, Bedfordshire Chamber of Commerce etc
Community Risk Analysis (CRA)	By 29 th July 2022 for internal completion	Member development day on 6 th October on community risk analysis
Plain Language summary of CRA	By the end of August 2022	Member development day on 6 th October on community risk analysis
Staff engagement on CRMP and budget	February 2022 to April 2023	Member updates at FRA meetings
Community engagement	May 2022 to March 2023	Member input to community engagement planning
Member Development Workshop (CRA overview and sounding board for CRMP proposal options)	6th October 2022	Member development day on community risk analysis & sounding board on options being developed for CRMP proposals for consideration at 31 st Oct meeting prior to launching consultation survey.
Launch budget consultation and Survey of specific CRMP proposals	1 st November 2022	Member input to survey on CRMP November 2022
Horizon scanning workshop (long term forward look)	November 2022 (date tbc)	Member attendance
CRMP Reference Group	3 rd November 2022	Member rep attendance (tbc)
CRMP and Medium-Term Financial Planning	22 nd November 2022	Member workshop on integrating the CRMP with Corporate Risk and Medium-Term Financial planning and budget for 2023-24
Consultation analysis	14 th December 2022	FRA report on cumulative results on consultation and engagement and our response
Draft CRMP	2 nd February 2023	Members are presented with draft CRMP for approval
CRMP action planning for 2023-24	23 rd February 2023	Member development day on performance reporting
CRMP Reference Group	2 nd March 2023	Member rep attendance
Final CRMP	30 th March 2023 FRA Meeting,	Members are presented with the final CRMP 2023-24 to 2027-28 for publication

3 Implications

- 3.1 Human Resource implications relate to our People Strategy are currently integrated into our Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP) 2019-23. We will need to decide how we present strategies such as workforce planning, fleet and asset management, environmental management, and financial management in the new CRMP.
- 3.2 Corporate risk implications include potential impacts on all the Risk Register's current corporate risks. Members agreed new aims for our approach to corporate risk at the Audit and Standards Committee meeting on the 14th July 2022. The Member development day on the 22nd November 2022 will be based on integrating CRMP planning with financial planning and corporate risk.
- 3.3 Financial implications include the development of spending proposals and their subsequent consultation.
- 3.4 Policy implications include all functional areas of the Service. The aim is to develop manageable and affordable actions over a 4-5-year period. Previous CRMP action plans contained 63 actions in 2019-20, 44 in 2020-21, in 32 in 2021-22 and 16 in 2022-23.

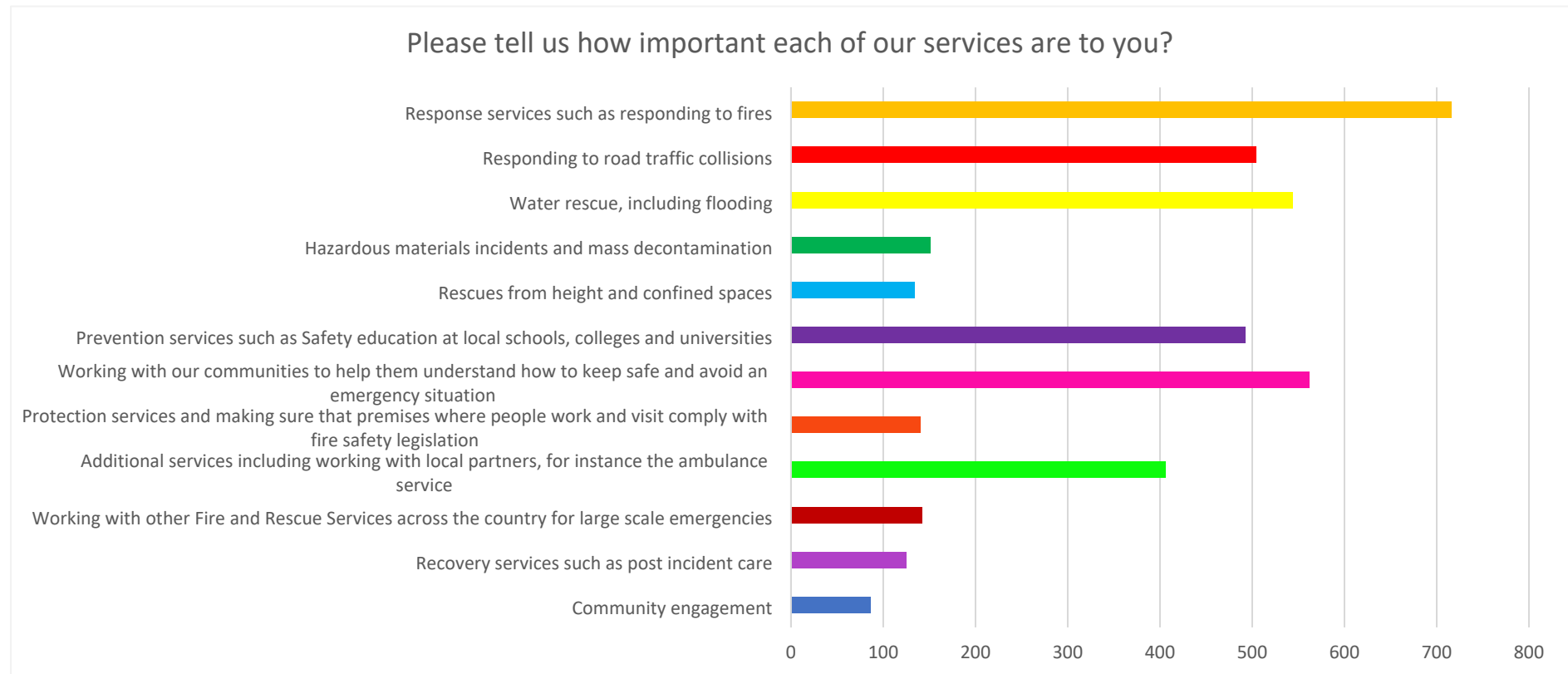
CHRIS BIGLAND
DEPUTY CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

STEVE FRANK
HEAD OF STRATEGIC SUPPORT AND ASSURANCE

Appendix 1 – Results of our CRMP Summer Survey on community concerns based on 786 responses

Key points:

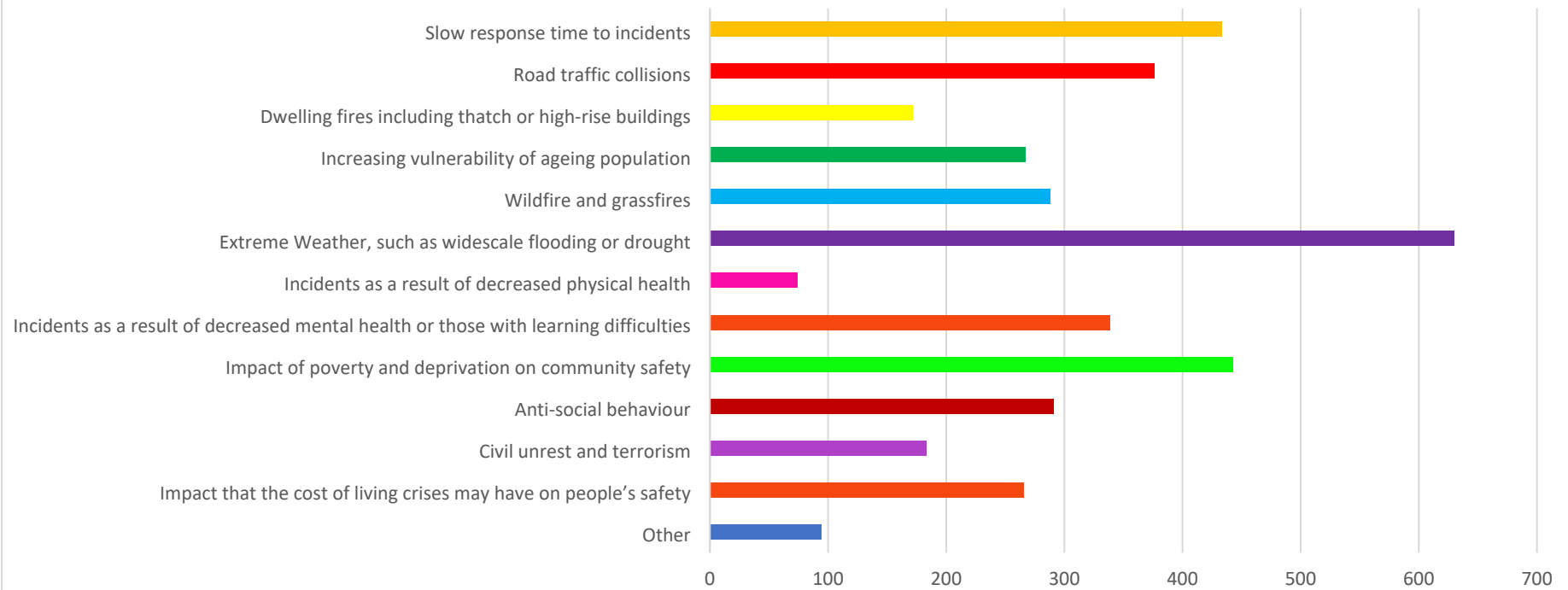
- Response services are the top public priority
- Working with our communities is second
- Water rescue is third although it is worth considering that we launched this survey at the Bedford River Festival and therefore water safety will be on people’s minds
- Local collaboration is rated three times more important than national collaboration



Key points:

- Extreme weather is the public's top concern
- The impact of poverty and deprivation on community safety is second, and a particular concern raised by younger people
- Third is a slow response to incidents
- Decreased mental health is the biggest health concern
- Anti-social behaviour is a high concern, especially to people in the LU1 and MK42 postcode areas
- Concern about the cost of living crises is a concern across all locations, ages, and ethnicity, and more frequently raised by women
- Civil unrest and terrorism is a high concern by older people

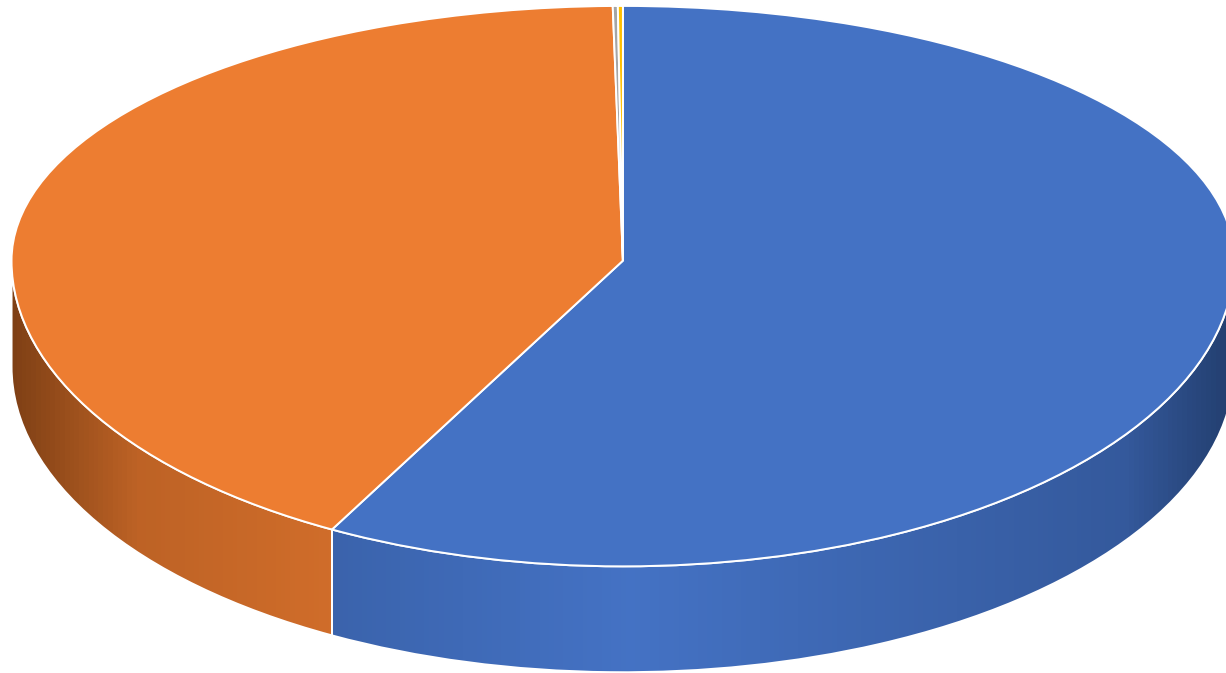
What concerns you the most when thinking about your safety?



The most frequently named issues in the 'other' category in order of frequency are:

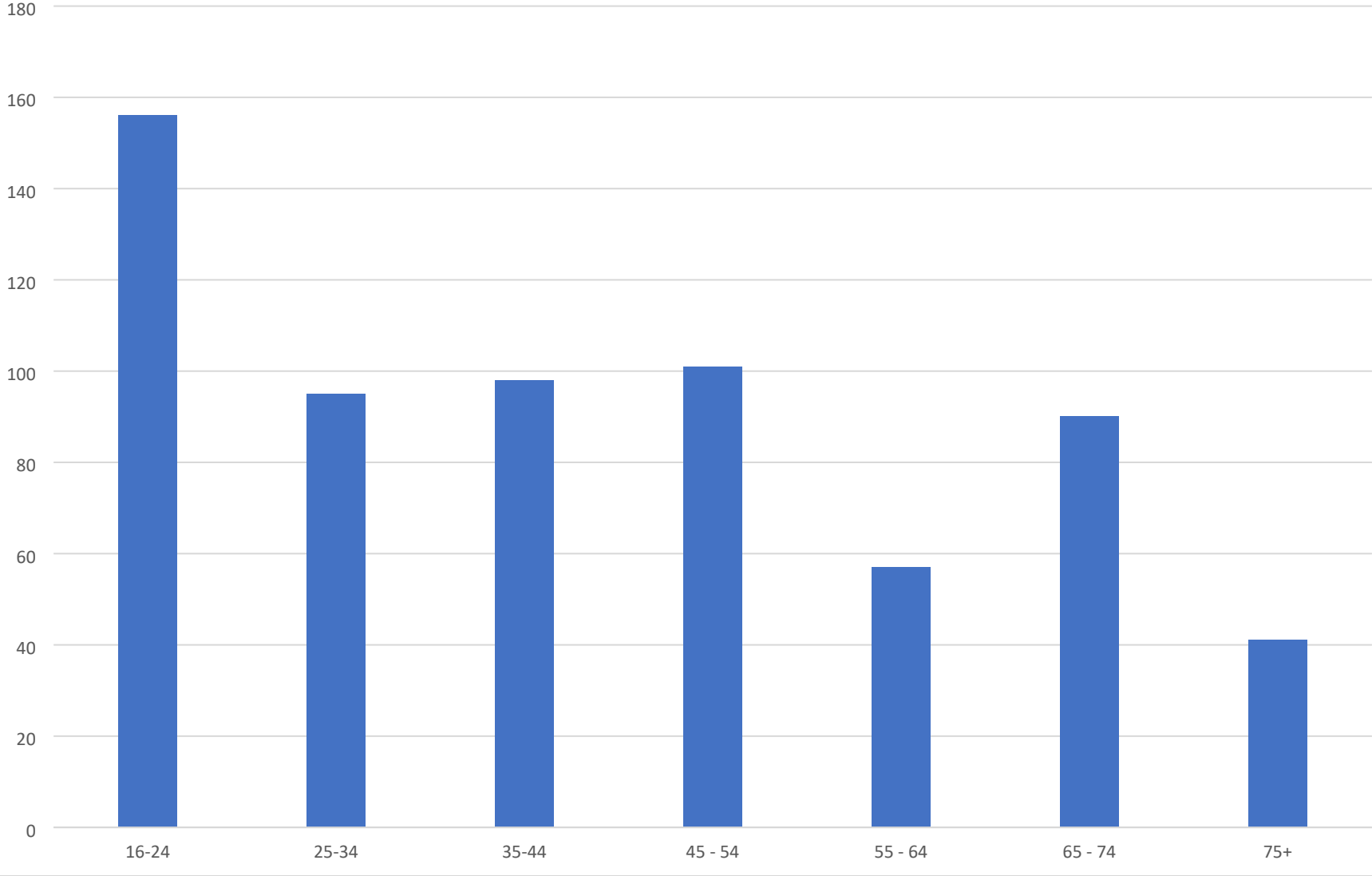
1. Domestic violence and abuse
2. Cyber-attack and online security
3. Safety when cycling
4. Further pandemic

What gender do you identify with?

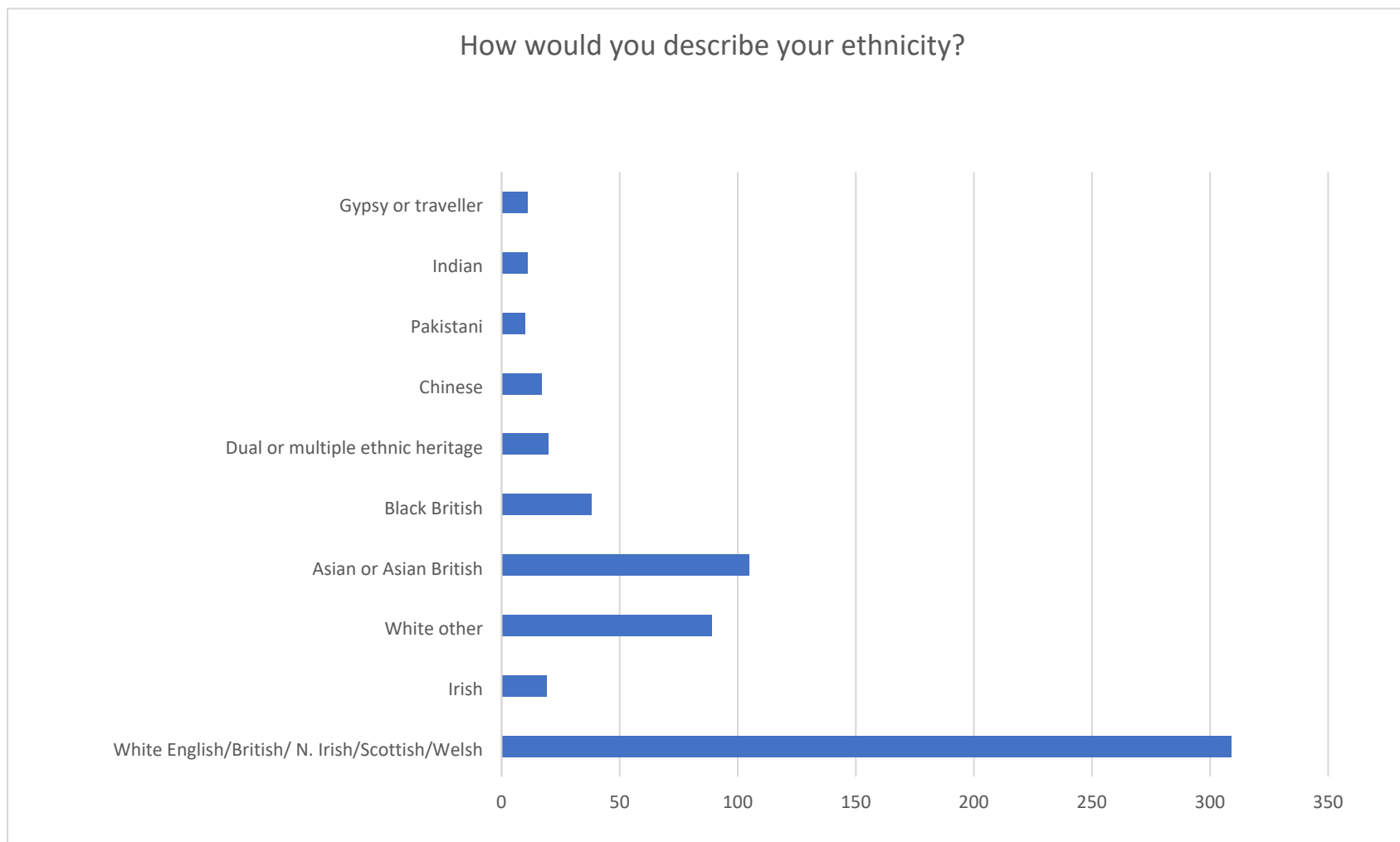


■ Woman ■ Man ■ Non-binary ■ Transgender

What is your age?



The reason for so many younger respondents is because most of our cadets responded and we worked hard to share information with university and college campuses across Bedfordshire. We also asked about religion and ethnicity. We have had a much more diverse response....



Appendix 2 - Analysis of recent FRS Community Risk Management Plans

Fire Standard/ Fire and Rescue Service	East Sussex 2021-25	Durham and Darlington 2021-25	Essex 2021-24	Northants 2022-25	Norfolk 2021-24	Notts 2022-25	Glosfire 2022-26	Oxfordshire 2022-26
Based on evidence of accurate data and business intelligence	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Includes results of ongoing engagement consultation processes	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Supports equality, diversity, inclusivity (not just an EIA/PIA)	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	X	✓

Shows clear governance requirements of FRA and CRMP performance reporting	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	X	✓
Evidences its external and internal operating environment	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Describes the existing and emerging local, regional and national hazards	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Analyses risk, considers its <u>risk appetite</u> , and <u>prioritises</u> risk accordingly	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X	X

Shows how it matches operational capabilities with community risks.	✓	✓	X	✓	X	X	X	X
Includes decisions about the deployment of resources	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓

Summary of findings

- No one FRS has a perfectly compliant Community Risk Management Plan
- Most FRS have 4-year CRMPs
- Oxfordshire's CRMP is strong on long term horizon scanning
- Notts, East Sussex and Essex all referenced detailed fire cover reviews
- Links to bottom-up station planning in East Sussex is strong
- What the community risks are in Durham and Darlington are very clear in their CRMP
- Supporting Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) and showing results of ongoing engagement consultation processes are the weakest areas. Asking the 'so what' question was enlightening
- Consideration of risk appetite is a weaker area
- Matching operational capabilities with community risks is generally poor
- No community engagement survey had over 250 responses, but focus groups were used extensively