

For Publication

Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Authority
Human Resources Policy and Challenge Group
20 September 2018
Item No. 7

REPORT AUTHOR: HEAD OF RESPONSE

SUBJECT: HEALTH AND SAFETY ANNUAL REPORT 2017/18

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Background Papers: N/A

Implications (tick✓):

LEGAL		✓	FINANCIAL	
HUMAN RESOURCES			EQUALITY IMPACT	
ENVIRONMENTAL			POLICY	
CORPORATE RISK	Known	✓	OTHER (please specify)	
	New		HEALTH AND SAFETY	✓
			CORE BRIEF	

Any implications affecting this report are noted at the end of the report.

PURPOSE:

For Members to consider the Service's Health and Safety Annual report for the year 2017/18.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Members acknowledge the Health and Safety Annual Report for information and comment.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This Health and Safety Annual Report (covering the period 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018) provides an overview of the work undertaken by Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service (BFRS) in the Management of Health, Safety and welfare within. The publication of the Health and Safety Annual Report is a requirement as laid down in the Service's Health and Safety at Work policy.
- 1.2 The Health and Safety Support Team(HSST) provide competent assistance to the Fire and Rescue Authority (FRA) in meeting its statutory health and safety obligations and provide professional and independent advisory support to management at all levels and to employees in meeting their obligations.
- 1.3 As detailed in the body of the report, considerable work has been undertaken in the management of health and safety throughout the Service and particularly in the following areas:
- Health and safety and operational policies;
 - National Operational Guidance and specific activity and specialist risk assessments;
 - Provision of safety critical information;
 - Provision of health and safety related information and training;
 - Technical equipment;
 - Health and safety consultation;
 - The measurement of health and safety performance indicators;
 - Active monitoring and safety management systems audit;
 - Reactive monitoring and accident, near miss and vehicle collision investigation;
 - Management of vehicle mounted CCTV Systems;

- Occupational health provision; and,
- The setting and completion of corporate health and safety objectives.

- 1.4 It is pleasing to report that in 2017/ 18 the Service has seen a significant reduction in the amount of time lost as a result of workplace injuries from 388 in 2016/17 to 104. Data also shows a reduction in injuries during training activities over the last three years.
- 1.5 BFRS strive to improve further and the emphasis will continue to remain a sensible, risk-based balanced approach. It is important that the safety culture within BFRS remains a positive one, ensuring that health and safety is built into our normal way of working, and recognising that people are our key resource and that good health and safety management is vital to prevent injuries, ill health and unnecessary losses.
- 1.6 The Annual Health and Safety Report 2017/18 is attached for Members information and comment.

**STRATEGIC OPERATIONAL COMMANDER GARY JEFFERY
HEAD OF RESPONSE**