



**Northern Ireland
Fire & Rescue Service**

Protecting Our Community

Integrated Risk Management Plan Action Plan 2008/09



1 April 2008

You can obtain a copy of this Plan, on request, in alternative formats such as large print, Braille, disc and audio cassette and in minority languages to meet the needs of those who are not fluent in English.

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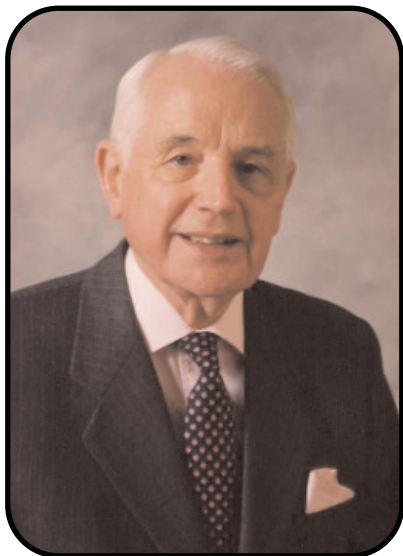
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CHAIRMAN'S FOREWORD



William F Gillespie OBE TD MBA JP DL FCIQB FSCA

Chairman of the Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service Board

On behalf of the Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS) Board, I am pleased to present our Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) Action Plan for 2008/09.

Integrated Risk Management Planning is our approach to providing emergency cover in Northern Ireland and this approach is used by every fire and rescue service in the UK.

IRMP is all about modernising and enhancing emergency cover for the people of Northern Ireland. For example IRMP has already resulted in a decision to enhance emergency cover by providing additional full-time cover at 7 part-time Fire Stations in Portadown, Newtownards, Coleraine, Carrickfergus, Antrim, Omagh and Armagh to ensure that these Fire Stations can achieve the required emergency response times.

We must continually examine, review and demonstrate that we have the right resources in place to ensure both public safety and the safety of our firefighters for all emergency situations including fires, road traffic collisions, wildland fires, flooding and a wide range of other specialist rescue incidents.

For this year's IRMP Action Plan we consulted widely over a 12 week period (1 November 2007-31 January 2008) on 4 key proposals and we received a number of responses from our own staff and from external stakeholders and partner organisations.

The Board has very carefully considered all the responses in developing this year's IRMP Action Plan. The full 'Summary of the Draft IRMP 2008/09 Consultation Exercise' can be found on our website, www.nifrs.org, detailing how we consulted and the analysis of the responses received.

We consulted on 4 key proposals:

1. Analysis of Wildland Fires, Flooding and other Incidents Resulting from Climatic Change Conditions.
2. Heritage Risk Assessment (historic buildings and sites of natural beauty).
3. Road Traffic Collision Response Standards.
4. Provision of Enhanced Medical Skills for NIFRS personnel.

These proposals reflect that emergency cover needs are changing in Northern Ireland and indeed right across the UK and Europe eg, climate change with increasing severity of wildland fires and major flooding incidents. We need to be able to respond to these changing needs and to work closely with the other emergency services and our partner agencies to ensure the safety and well-being of our community.

The tasks now aligned to take each proposal forward will further enhance our close working relationships with key partner agencies in responding to an increasingly wide range of emergency incidents and will ensure that NIFRS is at the forefront of developing best practice operational standards.

Training for our personnel and research into the latest equipment and technologies are at the core of the Action Plan to ensure our fire crews are best equipped to respond quickly, safely and effectively to the full range of emergency incidents.

On behalf of the NIFRS Board I would like to thank everyone who has taken the time to let us know their views during our IRMP consultation period. The comments we received on all 4 proposals have contributed greatly to IRMP Action Plan 2008/09.

If you would like to find out more about Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service please log onto our website www.nifrs.org.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William F Gillespie', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

William F Gillespie
Chairman

BACKGROUND

The NIFRS Board

The NIFRS Board is responsible for steering the future management and operational direction of NIFRS.

The Board is also responsible for providing fire and rescue services across Northern Ireland and is funded by the Department of Health, Social Services & Public Safety.

The Board comprises a non-executive Chair, the Chief Fire Officer as Chief Executive and 10 non-executive Members, 4 of whom are District Councillors nominated by the Northern Ireland Local Government Association.

Ultimate responsibility for producing this IRMP rests with the NIFRS Board, with the support of the Chief Fire Officer and his staff.

Management of Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service

NIFRS is managed by the Chief Fire Officer who is the Chief Executive, assisted by the Deputy Chief Fire Officer, 2 Assistant Chief Fire Officers and 3 non-uniformed Directors, collectively known as the Principal Officers and Directors Group.

Area Commanders, each responsible for one of the 4 Area Commands in NIFRS, manage operational activity on a day to day basis.

Our 4 Area Commands are supported by 14 Districts, strategically placed across Northern Ireland. District Commands were introduced to create a community focus for NIFRS activities.

Firefighters

The Wholtime firefighters, based at fire stations in the larger towns and cities throughout Northern Ireland, are immediately available to attend an emergency incident. Wholtime firefighters are organised into

watches (shifts) and crew fire stations 24 hours per day.

The Retained (part-time) firefighters based in their own towns go about their daily business in the normal way until they receive an emergency call. They then make their way to the fire station and respond to the incident.

Formerly crewed by entirely Retained personnel, Variable Crewed Stations have 1 appliance crewed by Wholtime personnel for 12 Hours a day from 11.00hrs to 23.00hrs, 7 days a week. The Retained complement will crew the second appliance on a 24 hour basis and will crew the first appliance outside the period of Wholtime cover.

During the period of Wholtime cover, the first appliance will be crewed by 5 personnel. This crew can be made up of the entire Wholtime watch or a combination of Wholtime and Retained personnel from that station.

About Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service

NIFRS provides emergency cover for the whole of Northern Ireland - an area of over 5,500 square miles, with a population of 1.7 million.

NIFRS has 68 fire stations:

- * 8 Wholtime
- * 6 Wholtime / Retained
- * 3 Variable Crewed
- * 1 Wholtime (defined hours)
- * 49 Retained
- * 1 Volunteer

Emergency cover is provided by a current establishment of:

- * 901 Wholtime firefighters
- * 980 Retained firefighters
- * 12 Volunteer firefighters
- * 59 Control staff
- * 208 Support staff (plus 53 part-time Caretakers)

Approach to Consultation

NIFRS employ both quantitative and qualitative research methods in order to fully understand the opinions and requirements of the communities we serve.

Our quantitative research methodologies include using a self-completion questionnaire which was included in our Draft IRMP 2008/09, available for download on our website www.nifrs.org. A statistical breakdown of responses received via the questionnaire is included in this Document.

NIFRS also uses qualitative research methodologies including meetings and presentations to explore and understand people's assumptions, opinions and expectations. Any oral or written responses received during the consultation period are noted, grouped and included in our data analysis.

Consultation on the Draft IRMP 2008/09 commenced on 1 November 2007 and closed on 31 January 2008.

Consultation Methodology

Internal

On 1 November 2007 a Chief's Circular (31/2007) and e-mail was issued to all staff summarising the consultation exercise and inviting comments. Copies of the Draft IRMP 2008/09 were placed on NIFRS public folders and copies were distributed to each fire station, Fire & Rescue Service Training Centre, District, Area and NIFRS Headquarters. Staff were also informed via NIFRS Team Brief 08 in October and NIFRS Team Brief 09 in November 2007.

All representative bodies were provided with a copy of the plan and were given the opportunity to meet with the IRMP Team.

External

The Board placed public notices in 3 major newspapers and the Draft IRMP 2008/09 was made available on the Northern Ireland Consultation Register website. Letters and copies of the draft plan were issued to other stakeholders as detailed below:

- * Members of the Legislative Assembly
- * Department of Health, Social Services & Public Safety
- * Each of the 26 Councils
- * Government Departments
- * Other Emergency Services
- * Partner Agencies
- * Education & Library Boards

All UK and border Fire & Rescue Services were informed of our Draft IRMP 2008/09. In addition, over 200 members of the public who have used our services were invited to comment on the draft proposals.

Upon request, a presentation was given to Antrim Borough Council on 10 January 2008.

E Consultation

The Draft IRMP 2008/09 was made available to the general public on NIFRS website, www.nifrs.org.

Breakdown of Consultation Responses

There were a total of 18 responses to the consultation:

10 Questionnaires

8 Written Responses

The table below gives a breakdown by type of respondent:

| Category of Respondent | Number of Respondents |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| NIFRS Employee | 3 |
| Staff Representative Body | 1 |
| Local Council | 4 |
| Member of the Public | 1 |
| Other Emergency Services | 2 |
| Other Interested Parties | 7 |
| Total | 18 |

The Analysis of Responses

All responses and comments were considered and their analysis followed the 4 steps outlined below:

Step 1: After registration, acknowledgement and categorisation of responses, the key comments made by each respondent were collated.

Step 2: Using the collated comments, the issues being raised were identified and grouped. This generated a number of answer categories in relation to each of the draft proposals and questions asked in the Consultation Document.

Step 3: The Board then assessed the issues and points raised and determined what changes should be made to the draft IRMP 2008/09.

Step 4: Sections of the Draft IRMP 2008/09 were then re-drafted in accordance with the judgements made in Step 3.

Summary of Consultation Responses

A “Summary of the draft IRMP 2008/09 Consultation Exercise” has been produced and includes a summary of all responses received during the consultation exercise, both quantitative and qualitative.

It has been evaluated and formally considered by the Board prior to final decisions about the proposals contained within this IRMP Action Plan for 2008/09.

You can access a copy of the “Summary of the Draft IRMP 2008/09 Consultation Exercise” via our website www.nifrs.org and click on Operations: Your Views Count.

Alternatively you can contact the IRMP Team to request a copy.

Email: irmp@nifrs.org

Write to: IRMP Team
Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service
Headquarters
1 Seymour Street
Lisburn
BT27 4SX

Call on: 028 9266 4221

Introduction

In this section, each proposal is divided into 3 parts:

Original proposal for consultation

Outlines the original proposal as contained within the Draft IRMP 2008/09 - A Consultation Document.

Summary of Consultation Responses to each Proposal

Includes a brief synopsis of the major themes arising during the consultation exercise, in relation to each proposal.

Amendments to proposal following consultation

Provides a summary of the Board's amendments to each of the proposals following the consultation exercise. The finalised IRMP Action Plan for 2008/09 is contained within Section 3 (page 19) of this document.



Proposal 1: Predictive Analysis of Wildland Fires, Flooding and other Incidents Resulting from Climatic Change Conditions

Original Proposal for Consultation:

Background

Increased access to the countryside combined with warmer, longer summers and milder winters is increasing the risk of more severe wildland fires. This problem can be exacerbated as the dry conditions may lead to water required for firefighting being in short supply.

Over the past 5 years NIFRS has attended 19,344 wildland fires resulting in 24,211 mobilisations of fire appliances. This equates to an average of over 10 calls per day, every day. However, as the majority of calls occur in the summer months, it can be seen that wildland fires are a significant draw on resources during those months.

Over the same 5 years, NIFRS has attended 299 flooding incidents involving 516 mobilisations of fire appliances. 2006/07 was a particularly busy period for NIFRS with 171 flooding incidents in comparison to the previous year when we attended 30 incidents.

| Proposed Tasks | Task Manager |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Task 1 - Create and develop partnerships with the rural community to find new ways to respond to incidents of this nature. For example, the 'Safer Mourne Partnership' is attempting to establish a coordinated landscape approach to managing land susceptible to fires with the aim of preventing and limiting the impact of fires on landscape, habitat, stock and users of the mountains, with the help of key stakeholders such as farmers' representatives, Environment & Heritage Service and Department of Agriculture & Rural Development. | Area Commander Southern |
| Task 2 - Identify and consider strategies by other United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland fire and rescue services for tackling wildland fires and develop a new Wildland Fire Strategy. | Area Commander Southern |
| Task 3 - Review training and operational guidance given to crews responding to incidents of this nature. | Area Commander Training & Area Commander Operations |
| Task 4 - Give consideration to new technologies that may assist in dealing with wildland incidents. | Area Commander Southern |
| Task 5 - Consider the wider implications of incidents resulting from climatic change; to include wildland fires, flooding and structural damage caused by extremes of weather. | Area Commander Southern |

Summary of Consultation Responses to Proposal 1

This proposal was broadly welcomed as a positive initiative to address not only current incidents of wildland fires and flooding, but also to highlight the future impact of climatic change. A number of respondents quoted the recent adverse weather conditions, in particular severe flooding and snow, in support of the Board adopting this proposal.

Respondents suggested a wide range of partnerships the Board could develop to enhance NIFRS response to future incidents involving wildland fires, flooding and those which may take place due to climatic change. They include, although not an exhaustive list, local Councils, other Fire & Rescue Services, Rivers Agency, Coastguard, Road Service, Northern Ireland Water, Forestry Commission and the Department of Agriculture & Rural Development Forest Service.

Some respondents suggested the Board should utilise historical data to help identify areas most at risk from flooding and wildland fires. This will assist NIFRS to predict and prepare for future incidents.

Respondents also gave suggestions for enhancing operational response to incidents of this type including the use of specialist vehicles and machinery.

The Board was asked to clarify the role of NIFRS at such incidents, in particular its role at the scene of a flood.

Some respondents took the opportunity to highlight research conducted by other agencies in relation to climate change and the impact it may have not only in Northern Ireland, but on fire and rescue services as a whole. They also asked the Board to consider the outcomes from the Wildland Fire Strategy prior to developing training and operational guidance.

Amendments to proposal following consultation:

In light of consultation responses received there have been a number of amendments to this proposal.

Task 3 will now read “Having considered the content and implications of the new strategy, review training and operational guidance given to crews responding to incidents of this nature”.

Task 4 will now read “Give consideration to new technologies that may assist in dealing with wildland incidents and make proposals to introduce a specialist type vehicle in areas identified as most at risk”.

Task 5 will now read “Consider the wider implications of incidents resulting from climatic change; to include wildland fires, flooding and structural damage caused by extremes of weather and clearly define the role of NIFRS response to each of the climatic scenarios”.

Amendments to proposal following consultation continued:

The Fire and Rescue Services (Northern Ireland) Order 2006 makes provision for flooding and other emergencies to be considered under Article 7 of the order. The Department of Health, Social Services & Public Safety has carried out a consultation process relating to the role of NIFRS at emergencies and this will clarify the situation in relation to flooding. As such, Task 5 will now read "Consider the wider implications of incidents resulting from climatic change; to include wildland fires, flooding and structural damage caused by extremes of weather and clearly define the role of NIFRS response to each of the climatic scenarios".

NIFRS already has a number of strategic partnerships in place and actively continues to seek further opportunities for collaborative working. The Board will consider all options to ensure the most cost effective provision of equipment and training.

The Board will ensure that NIFRS takes cognisance of research carried out by other agencies and all information provided by consultees will be forwarded to the Task Manager for consideration.

Proposal 2: Heritage Risk Assessment

Original Proposal for Consultation:

Background

Northern Ireland has many historic buildings and sites of natural beauty. The Environment and Heritage Service (EHS) holds a database of over 9,000 historic buildings and 14,500 archeological sites and historic monuments, whilst the National Trust (NT) holds information on and cares for 63 sites ranging from buildings of major historic importance to locations providing a special habitat for wildlife.

A fire or other emergency, e.g. chemical spill, could have enormous damaging effects on any one of these places. Timely intervention with the correct resources, operational intelligence and training could mitigate the impact.

| Proposed Tasks | Task Manager |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Task 1 - Conduct a targeted review of sites of highest risk during the 'Other Buildings Risk Assessment' which is currently being undertaken as an IRMP 2007/08 task. | Area Commander Operations |
| Task 2 - Develop partnerships with the EHS and NT to conduct inspections/visits to higher risk sites and identify the most effective method for recording heritage incidents to enable statistics to be generated when required. | Assistant Chief Fire Officer Technical Development & Assistant Group Commander South & East Belfast |
| Task 3 - Using data provided by EHS and NT, identify areas where risk is greatest and if necessary, review Pre-determined Attendances. | Assistant Group Commander South & East Belfast |

Summary of Consultation Responses to Proposal 2

This proposal was broadly welcomed as a positive initiative and seen as a logical extension of the ongoing 'Other Buildings' Risk Assessment.

In support of this proposal a number of respondents proposed types of properties to be taken into account during the risk assessment, including National Trust properties, museums and libraries.

Respondents suggested a number of key organisations the Board may consider working with including, although not an exhaustive list, National Museums of Northern Ireland, Northern Ireland Museums Council, Public Record Office of Northern Ireland, Ulster Architectural Heritage Society, Library Information Services Council for Northern Ireland and local Government.

Some respondents also suggested the Board consider an over-arching relationship with the Department of Culture, Arts & Leisure.

A number of respondents provided details of data sources that may be useful for NIFRS when conducting the heritage risk assessment, including the Health & Safety Executive, Building Control, Divisional Planning Offices and the Rivers Agency.

A full range of comments were received during the consultation period suggesting additional factors to be taken into consideration including site protection, training, partnership working, operational response, site specific planning and recovery.

Also in relation to training a number of respondents asked the Board to consider the specialist salvage procedures associated with historic buildings, artefacts and archives. Some suggested a targeted review of sites of highest risk and suggests that the review extends to collections as well as buildings. Respondents encouraged NIFRS to produce site specific plans for sites identified as high risk.

Amendments to proposal following consultation:

In light of the consultation responses received the Board will research the use of salvage equipment and associated training to assist with the protection of our national heritage.

The Board are pleased to note that NIFRS are already working in partnership with some of the organisations suggested by respondents. To further develop partnership working, the Board will include a new task within this project, namely "Develop a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Culture, Arts & Leisure to ensure effective co-operation in dealing with incidents that involve or potentially involve risk to heritage".

Consequently Task 3 becomes Task 4 and has been updated to read "Using data provided by EHS and NT, identify areas where risk is greatest and if necessary, review Pre-determined Attendances and develop site specific plans".

Proposal 3: Road Traffic Collision Response Standards

Original Proposal for Consultation:

Background

The Fire and Rescue Services (Northern Ireland) Order 2006, in article 6(1) states:
The [Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service] Board shall make provision for the purpose of –
(a) rescuing persons in the event of road traffic accidents; and
(b) protecting persons from serious harm, to the extent that it considers it reasonable to do so, in the event of road traffic accidents.

NIFRS recognises that having an effective intervention system at the scene of road traffic collisions (RTCs) is essential to saving lives and reducing the severity of injury. Rapid notification of incidents, the provision of the right equipment and trained personnel will continue to ensure a flexible, practical response. The importance of this approach was also recognised by the World Health Organisation which stated: “Early intervention by firefighters is critical where people are trapped in a vehicle, particularly if it is on fire, or submerged in water”.

In dealing with incidents and trauma care in road traffic collisions, the ‘Golden Hour’* philosophy is a useful benchmark against which performance can be measured and to this end NIFRS would seek to ensure that appropriate response standards are adopted.

This Philosophy was developed by Dr R Adams Cowley who found that if a seriously injured person was in a specialist operating theatre within an hour of the time of injury, the highest survival rate is obtained (85%). With this in mind a 15 minute time period between the collision and fire and rescue service attendance and a further 15 minutes allocated to extricate the casualties, is contained within the Golden Hour. This is something that NIFRS would strive to achieve where possible in our training and operational activities.

| Proposed Tasks | Task Manager |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Task 1 - Consider national best practice in relation to speed and weight of response of Fire & Rescue Service resources to the scene of a RTC. | Area Commander Operations |
| Task 2 - Examine outcomes and recommendations of the Special Service Risk Assessment conducted as part of 2006/07 IRMP and associated statistical incident data. | Area Commander Operations |
| Task 3 - Propose standards of response to RTCs; specifically in relation to the number and type of appliances which attend and the time within which they are required to attend on 75% of occasions. | Area Commander Operations |

* R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Centre.

Summary of Consultation Responses to Proposal 3

All respondents were in agreement with this proposal, but a number of respondents emphasised the need to ensure that this initiative must not be at the expense of NIFRS ability to deal with fire and other emergencies within the context of Emergency Response Standards.

A number of respondents asked the Board to consider information contained within NIFRS Draft Road Safety Strategy when setting standards of response, in particular the Golden Hour Philosophy.

A few respondents made specific comments on setting response times and took the opportunity to highlight that the response times to road traffic collisions from a Retained Station would be higher.

Respondents also asked the Board to consider the proximity of the nearest accident and emergency services.

Some respondents suggested the introduction of a purpose built RTC response vehicle rather than mobilising larger vehicles.

Additional comments were received from Northern Ireland Ambulance Service (NIAS) expressing their concerns on the speed of extrication of casualties at RTCs and the level of training NIFRS personnel will receive.

Amendments to proposal following consultation:

There are no changes to this proposal. However, the Board acknowledges as an organisation we do not wish to be tied to prescribed targets contained within the Golden Hour Philosophy and undertake to carefully consider the medical needs of casualties in relation to the intervention at such incidents. The Board recognises that the time spent extricating people from RTCs should not be at the expense of effective casualty handling and stabilisation.

The Board also acknowledge NIAS's concerns in relation to extrication times. The Board would reiterate that the Golden Hour Philosophy is a useful benchmark for performance and not a definitive target.

The Board would like to assure respondents that the speed and weight of response of NIFRS to a RTC will take into consideration all valid responses received during the consultation exercise including those relating to training, extrication, equipment appliance allocation and partnership working.

Proposal 4: Provision of Enhanced Medical Skills for NIFRS personnel

Original Proposal for Consultation:

Background

While the primary responsibility for attending medical emergencies rests with NIAS, there are instances when NIFRS personnel are in attendance at the scene of a RTC before the arrival of NIAS resources or there are circumstances whereby NIFRS personnel are required to assist NIAS personnel in the treatment of casualties on scene. This is consistent with the Golden Hour philosophy, in treating the patient on scene and preparing them for transportation to a location which can provide definitive care.

To ensure that the best possible contribution can be made by NIFRS personnel, we wish to provide our staff with enhanced medical skills, to help them assist and stabilise casualties either in advance of professionally qualified medical assistance or to compliment such work when in attendance.

| Proposed Tasks | Task Manager |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Task 1 - Consult with NIAS to establish protocols for joint working and an identification of required skills. | Area Commander Operations |
| Task 2 - Identify a framework within which the number and base locations of NIFRS personnel can be identified for training in enhanced medical skills and specify the standard to which they should be qualified. | Group Commander Operations, Western Area Command |
| Task 3 - Consider the outcomes of the pilot scheme to train 38 NIFRS personnel to the identified standard. | Group Commander Operations, Western Area Command |

Summary of Consultation Responses to Proposal 4

This proposal was cautiously welcomed by respondents. While respondents agreed that enhanced medical skills would be of benefit to casualties requiring immediate medical intervention at RTCs, there was concern that newly trained personnel would be utilised as a substitute for paramedic care.

Respondents provided a number of suggestions for partnership working including the British Association for Immediate Care, Mountain Rescue, the Coastguard, United Kingdom Rescue Organisation and the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents.

A number of responses were received concerning the location of personnel who receive training in enhanced medical skills, suggesting particular attention be given to remote rural areas.

Respondents asked the Board to consider suitable medical equipment for NIFRS personnel.

The NIAS provided a detailed response to this proposal addressing their concerns regarding standards of medical training, first aid skills and consistency of pre-hospital and in-hospital care.

Amendments to proposal following consultation:

The Board would like to assure respondents it is not our intention to seek to replace any existing medical response. We recognise that sustained medical care should be delivered at RTCs by medically trained personnel including doctors and ambulance personnel. We also recognise, however, that this level of care may not be immediately available to us at the scene of a RTC.

As respondents recognised, and as part of this project, the Board acknowledges the need to consider the provision of training in enhanced medical skills to personnel who are based at remote station locations, in addition to those stations who historically attend a high number of RTCs. As such Task 2 seeks to address these issues.

Once again, the Board welcomes the comments of NIAS regarding skills and training of NIFRS personnel and as such would highlight Task 1 "Consult with NIAS to establish protocols for joint working and an identification of required skills".

In addition, and in light of the consultation responses received, the chronological order of Task 2 and Task 3 will be amended i.e. Task 2 will now commence after Task 3 once the standard to which personnel should be trained is identified.

This section details our finalised IRMP Action Plan for 2008/09. It outlines the Project Tasks, Task Managers and due dates for each of the 4 Projects.

Progress on these 4 Projects will be reported in NIFRS Business Plan Priorities & Targets document and Annual Report.



Project 1

| Project Title | Project Tasks | Task Manager | Task Date |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Predictive Analysis of Wildland Fires, Flooding and other Incidents Resulting from Climatic Change Conditions | Task 1 Create and develop partnerships with the rural community to find new ways to respond to incidents of this nature. | AC Southern | 1 April 08 - 30 Sept 08 |
| | Task 2 Identify and consider strategies by other United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland fire and rescue services for tackling wildland fires and develop a new Wildland Fire Strategy. | AC Southern | 1 April 08 - 30 Sept 08 |
| | Task 3 Having considered the content and implications of the new strategy, review training and operational guidance given to crews responding to incidents of this nature. | AC Training & Development / AC Operations | 1 Oct 08 - 31 Nov 08 |
| | Task 4 Give considerations to new technologies that may assist in dealing with wildland incidents and make proposals to introduce a specialist type vehicle in areas identified as most at risk. | AC Southern | 1 Oct 08 - 31 Dec 08 |
| | Task 5 Consider the wider implications of incidents resulting from climatic change; to include wildland fires, flooding and structural damage caused by extremes of weather and clearly define the role of NIFRS response to each of the climatic scenarios. | AC Southern | 1 Oct 08 - 31 Dec 08 |

KEY:

ACFO - Assistant Chief Fire Officer

AC - Area Commander

GC - Group Commander

Project 2

| Project Title | Project Tasks | Task Manager | Task Date |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Heritage Risk Assessment | Task 1 Conduct a targeted review of sites of highest risk during the 'Other Buildings Risk Assessment' which is currently being undertaken as an IRMP 2007/08 task. | AC Operations | 1 April 08 - 31 May 08 |
| | Task 2 Develop partnerships with the EHS and NT to conduct inspections/visits to higher risk sites and identify the most effective method for recording heritage incidents to enable statistics to be generated when required. | ACFO Technical Development / GC Community Development (Eastern Area Command) | 1 June 08 - 28 Feb 09 |
| | Task 3 Develop a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Culture, Arts & Leisure to ensure effective co-operation in dealing with incidents that involve or potentially involve risk to heritage. | GC Operations Policy / GC Community Development (Eastern Area Command) | 1 Jan 09 - 31 March 09 |
| | Task 4 Using data provided by EHS and NT, identify areas where risk is greatest and if necessary, review Pre-determined Attendances. | GC Community Development (Eastern Area Command) | 1 Jan 09 - 28 Feb 09 |

Project 3

| Project Title | Project Tasks | Task Manager | Task Date |
|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|------------------------|
| Road Traffic Collision Response Standards | Task 1 Consider national best practice in relation to speed and weight of response of Fire & Rescue Service resources to the scene of a RTC. | AC Operations | 1 May 08 - 30 June 08 |
| | Task 2 Examine outcomes and recommendations of the Special Service Risk Assessment conducted as part of the IRMP 2006/07 and associated statistical incident data. | AC Operations | 1 May 08 - 30 June 08 |
| | Task 3 Propose standards of response to RTCs; specifically in relation to the number and type of appliances which attend and the time within which they are required to attend on 75% of occasions. | AC Operations | 1 June 08 - 30 Sept 08 |

Project 4

| Project Title | Project Tasks | Task Manager | Task Date |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Provision of Enhanced Medical Skills for NIFRS personnel | Task 1 Consult with NIAS to establish protocols for joint working and an identification of required skills. | AC Operations | 1 April 08 - 31 May 08 |
| | Task 2 Consider the outcomes of the pilot scheme to train 38 NIFRS personnel to the identified standard. | GC Operations (Western Area Command) | 1 April 08 - 30 April 08 |
| | Task 3 Identify a framework within which the number and base locations of NIFRS personnel can be identified for training in enhanced medical skills and specify the standard to which they should be qualified. | GC Operations (Western Area Command) | 1 May 08 - 30 June 08 |

