



Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes Fire Authority

MAKING YOU SAFER

PREVENTING PROTECTING RESPONDING

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Presentation to Buckinghamshire County Council



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Financial position and RSG

- Reduction in RSG –
- Between 2013-14 and 2017-18 RSG has decreased by 52%
- Between 2013/14 and 2019/20 reduced by 66%
- Reduced from £6.8 Million to £2.3 Million out of a £28 Million budget



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Council Tax

- Lowest council tax level for any Combined Fire Authority in the country, currently £60.88 per year
- Council tax per year in 2010 - £59.13
- There has been an increase in council tax of 25 pence per year since 2010.
- Buckinghamshire is 18% lower than the national average for CFA's
- Average council tax for CFA is £74.44 per year.



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BE DIFFERENT





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Our Approach to Prevention

- Targeted community visits
- Youth engagement structure
- Wider community support
- Use of BFRS Premises
- All leading to a different public perception of the fire service, helping BFRS to be more diverse and inclusive



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How have we changed?

- Reduction in staff, we have reduced our wholetime establishment from 348 in 2010 to 252 (28%)
- Retained establishment 207 to 116
- Introduction of a bank system and different way of working
- Different employment propositions to attract and retain a flexible, diverse workforce
- Introduction of new skills including medical response



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Results

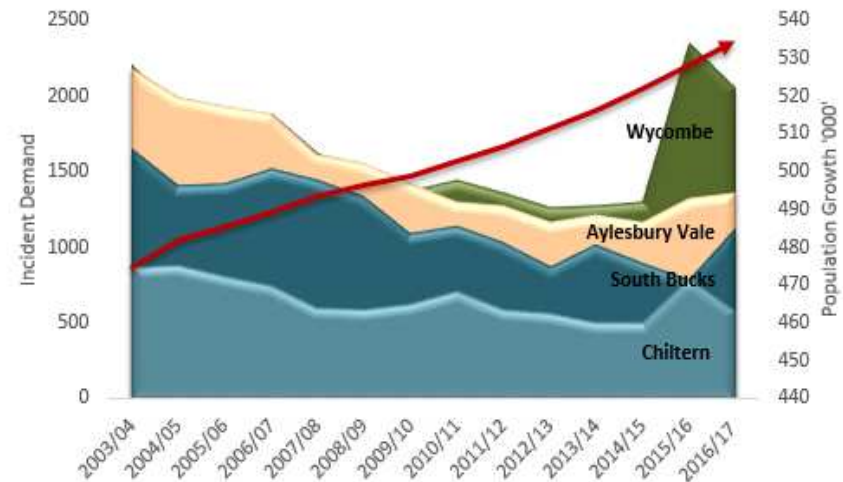


Change in demand within Buckinghamshire

Number of incidents per 10,000 population

	2003/04	2016/17	% Difference 2003/04 to 2016/17	Change in demand year on year between 2015/16 and 2016/17	
Buckinghamshire	163	74	↓ 54%	-4%	Decline
Milton Keynes	201	92	↓ 54%	9%	Increase
Aylesbury	35	15	↓ 56%	7%	Increase
High Wycombe	36	29	↓ 20%	-14%	Decline
Buckingham	5	6	↑ -28%	-1%	Decline
Beaconsfield	18	11	↓ 40%	32%	Increase
Gerrards Cross	17	10	↓ 39%	50%	Increase
Amersham	8	5	↓ 39%	-20%	Decline
Marlow	5	4	↓ 14%	-17%	Decline
Brill	1	1	↓ 50%	-7%	Decline
Chesham	8	4	↓ 53%	-45%	Decline
Great Missenden	3	3	↓ 16%	-6%	Decline
Haddenham	2	1	↓ 37%	-21%	Decline
Princes Risborough	3	3	↓ 15%	-12%	Decline
Stokenchurch	2	2	↑ -14%	-3%	Decline
Waddesdon	2	1	↓ 26%	-16%	Decline
Winslow	2	2	↓ 22%	7%	Increase

Buckinghamshire Snapshot
 April 2003 to March 2017





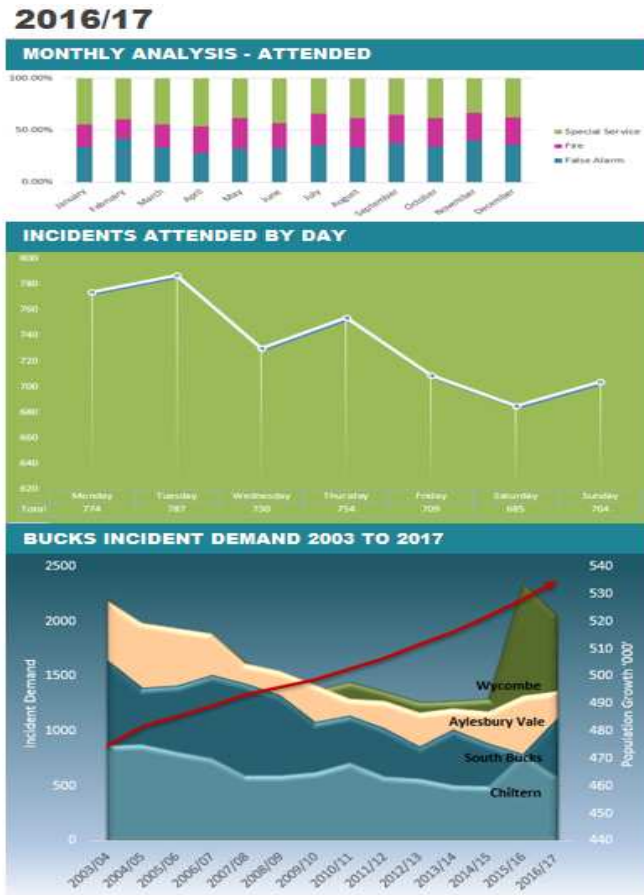
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Buckinghamshire highlights

5138 Incidents attended
1373 Incidents attended in Aylesbury Vale
582 Incidents attended in Chiltern
1126 Incidents attended in South Bucks
2057 Incidents attended in Wycombe
2027 Special Service Incidents Attended
1798 False Alarms Attended
1318 Fires Attended
23/02/2017 Most Incidents Attended In One Day in Bucks
30 Most Incidents Attended In One Day
98% Customer Satisfaction - Very Satisfied



389 People Rescued

2,570 Home Safety Checks

1,056 Medical Emergencies co-responder

Improving Attendance Times



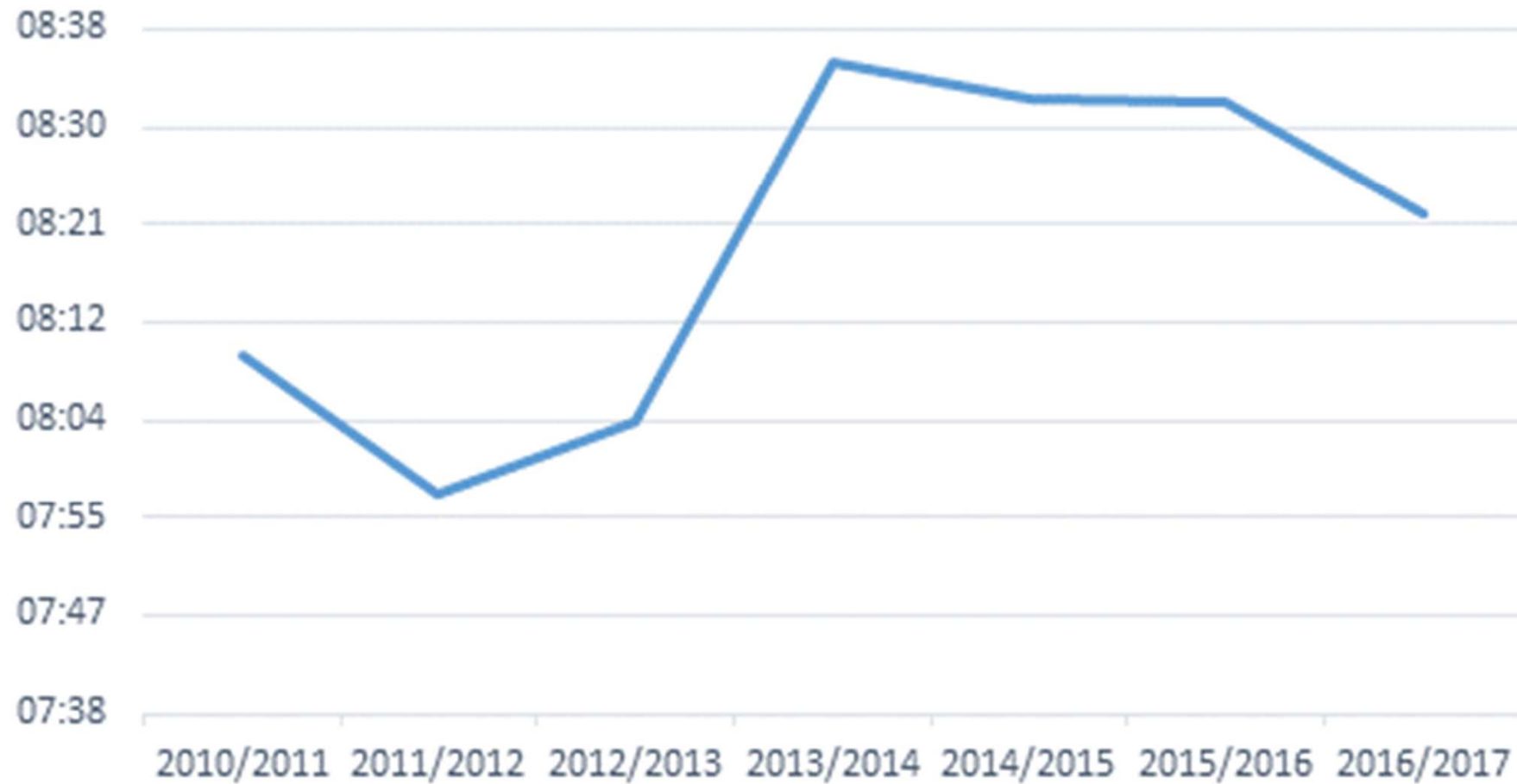
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BFRS Average Attendance Time (exc co-res)





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Replenishing the workforce

- Blended approach, with transferees in.
- Balance skills, improve age profile and diversity
- Continue with our apprenticeship programme, by 2020 nearly 20% of our operational workforce will have come from apprenticeships, largely from your local communities.



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Response to Grenfell

- Joint inspections of high-rise premises by operational crews and inspecting officers
- Re-assurance messages to the public
- Supported other agencies and partners in reviewing fire safety arrangements
- Working with national groups to influence the outcomes of the reviews and changes to regulation and statute
- Using information gained to improve our service delivery



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What have we not done?

- Closed one fire station.
- Removed one fire engine.
- Made one Firefighter redundant.



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Investment - Vehicles

- £4.3m in 17 new pumps/water tenders/driver training vehicles up to 2021
- Recently delivered:
 - 3 no. 4x4's
 - 1 no. 7 Tonne
 - 4 no. Volvo pumps
- 4 more Volvo pumps due next month



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Investment - Property

- £500k spend every year on infrastructure improvements
- New £12m Blue Light Hub to be developed in Milton Keynes – opening due summer 2019
- Major aerials contracts currently agreed or under discussion – worth up to £180k p.a.
- Collaborative opportunities in hand at Princes Risborough, Winslow and Waddesdon



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Issues for the future

- Retention issues regarding on-call staff
- Further burdens following the incident at Grenfell Tower
- Increased housing leading to increased community safety activity
- Financial challenges in light of potential national pay award



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Financial performance

- Lowest council tax for any combined fire authority at £60.88 per year.
- Average council tax for parish councils is £61.03.
- Capping council tax by percentage terms disadvantages the most efficient.
- Currently lobbying government to relax the council tax referendum limits.
- Looking to raise council tax by £10 per year.



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“We look to the future as that is where we will spend the rest of our lives”