



Policy statement

Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Fire Authority (the 'Authority') recognises that risk management is a vital activity that underpins and forms part of our vision, values and strategic objectives. This activity includes operating effectively, efficiently and providing confidence to the communities we serve. Risk is present in everything we do and it is therefore our policy to pro-actively identify, assess and manage key areas of risk. We seek to embed risk management into the culture of the Authority and Buckinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service (the 'Service') and the behaviour of all people involved in the governance, management, operation and development of the Authority and Service. Risk management needs to be embedded throughout all processes, projects and strategic decisions, including procurement and contracting which will ensure that the management of partnerships and third-party relationships are included within the scope of our risk management policy.

In order for risk management to be effective and enabling, we must ensure that we have a robust, consistent, communicated and formalised process across the Service. In turn, this approach enables the Authority to consider what levels of risk are acceptable, its 'risk appetite', and for this to be defined.

This risk management policy and associated guidance forms an integrated framework that supports the Authority and Service in the effective management of risk. We will involve all of our staff in the identification and management of risk, and empower them to take necessary action. Management of risk activity will be regularly supported through discussion and appropriate action by the Senior Management Team. The Senior Management Team will review all significant risks, evaluating their mitigation strategies and establishing supporting actions to be taken to reduce them to an acceptable level. Managing risks will be an integral part of both strategic and operational planning and the day-to-day running, monitoring, development and maintaining of the Authority and the services it provides to the public.