



STATION PLAN OBAN STATION

2010-2013



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INTRODUCTION

Oban Community Fire Station is the only fire station within the north end of Argyll and Bute, which is crewed by fulltime staff on a 24-hour basis. The Station is provided with 2 emergency fire tenders and an off road vehicle. These are crewed by Wholetime and part time, Retained staff. The crews respond to all emergencies within Oban, Lorn and to the islands that surround. The station is seen as the parent station providing support, training and back up during emergency incidents to all Volunteer and Retained Community Fire Stations within the Area. The response provided by the station will be enhanced over the coming months with the introduction of an Arial Ladder Platform (ALP), which is essential for firefighting in the taller building throughout the area.

The Station has 42 operational firefighters, four support staff and is complemented with a Community Fire Safety Section comprising of four Legislative Enforcement Officers.

The Station is an integral part of the community providing excellent facilities that can be utilized by everyone. Partner agencies and local groups conduct meetings, interviews and training using the station's lecture room and conference room facilities. The stations personnel have been involved in providing training to local youth groups in addition to their essential core duties.

Throughout the last year, the hard work, training and dedication shown by all staff has proved invaluable and has allowed most of the incidents which have been attended by Oban fire crews to have a successful outcome. Recent house fires have re-enforced our commitment to driving down unnecessary fires, fire deaths and fire casualties through education and promoting such worthwhile programme's such as the Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSV's). A high percentage of the incidents attended by this station involve road traffic collisions (RTC's), which has resulted in the loss of life or serious injury. The station conducts education through the local area with 'DRIVEsafe' initiative, the 'cut it out' programme based at secondary school leavers who are about to start driving and now with the introduction of the new education programme based at motorcyclists.

The station plan aims to recognise the requirement placed on it by the people who pay and use it but also aiming to provide the service that each and every community would expect from us.

The plan aims to complement the single outcome agreement from Argyll & Bute Council, Argyll & Bute Community Planning Partnership and reflect Strathclyde Fire & Rescue's (SFR's) Corporate Vision, Strategy and values in order to work towards our aim of :

making our communities safer places to work, live and visit



Road Traffic Collision

NATIONAL CONTEXT

The Scottish Government provides an overarching vision for public services that focuses on the creation of a more successful country, with opportunities for all of Scotland through increasing sustainable economic growth.

This direction is supported by Scottish Government Strategic Objectives to make Scotland a wealthier & fairer, smarter, healthier, safer & stronger and greener place. Through a concordat between the Scottish Government and the Convention for Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA), the Strategic Objectives have been expanded into local Single Outcome Agreements which include indicators and targets that provide the framework for how local Authorities and their Community Planning partners will deliver services. Strathclyde Fire and Rescue fully supports this National Performance Framework and works hard, with partners, to provide the best possible service for our communities.

In addition to the performance framework, The Board of Strathclyde Fire and Rescue also seeks to comply with all relevant legislation governing fire and rescue services, such as; The primary legislation, the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 and its accompanying framework document, require Fire & Rescue Services to deliver core services in the areas of firefighting, fire safety prevention and education, enforcement of fire safety legislation, fire investigation and rescue from fire and a range of hazardous situations.

The Civil Contingencies Act (2004) aims to establish a consistent level of civil protection across the United Kingdom. This act provides a framework for planning for local and national emergencies. It explains how organisations and agencies shall work in partnership to assess the risk, develop plans, train staff and deliver critical services within the community.

The Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 places a statutory duty on local authorities, fire and police authorities to work in partnership with other public bodies to improve services to the community by delivering customer-focused outcomes and to provide Best Value in the delivery of their services and functions.

Our Planning Framework has been developed to ensure SFR clearly demonstrates its commitment to comply with statutory requirements, and also help us to achieve our vision of making our communities safe places to live, work and visit.

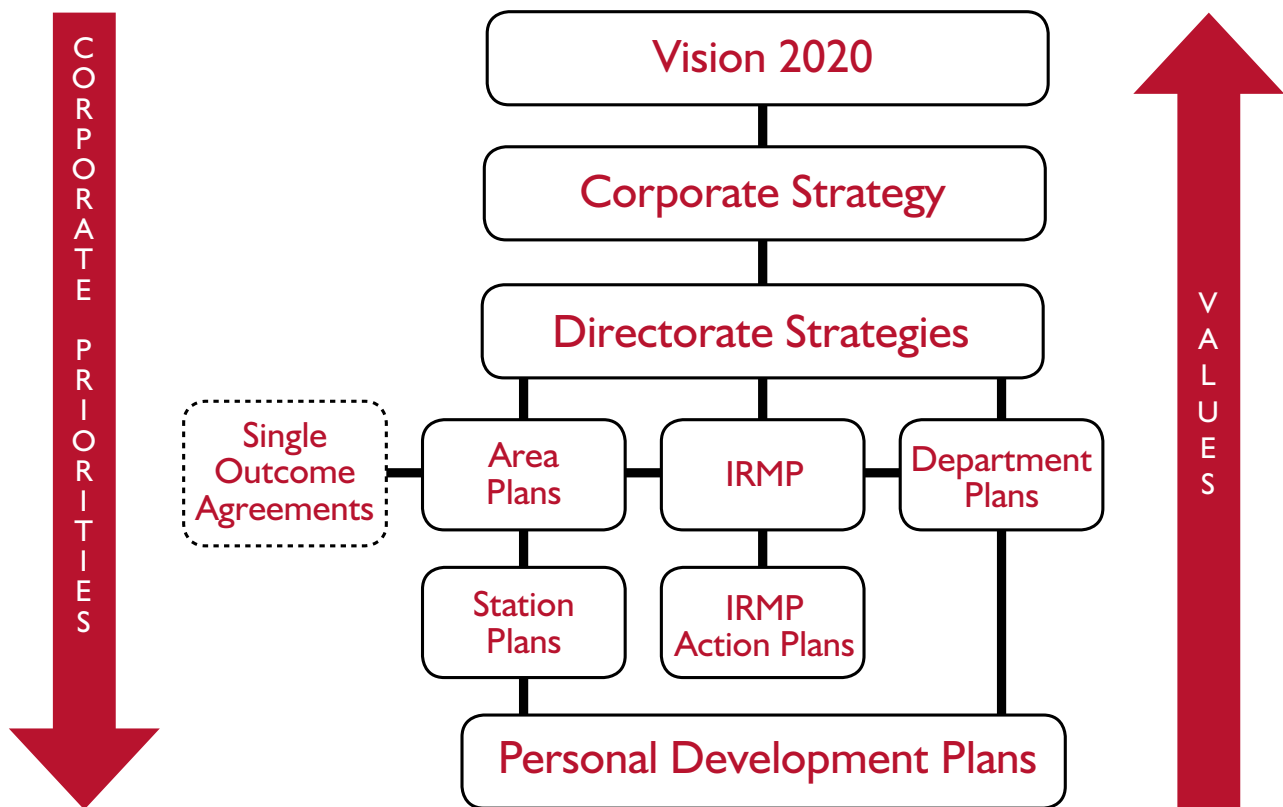


Fireworks awareness

SFR'S CORPORATE VISION, STRATEGY AND VALUES

SFR's corporate planning framework for 2010-13 reflects developments both internally and externally. Our Corporate Strategy provides a single focus for the development and delivery of all corporate improvement activity within the SFR.

The Corporate Strategy has been developed to ensure that corporate improvement activity is prioritised and co-ordinated.

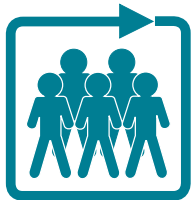


OUR CORPORATE PRIORITIES



Community

We exist to make our communities safe places to live, work and visit. We work closely with the communities we serve to ensure that the service we deliver is tailored to their expectations and is targeted towards areas of greatest need.



People

Our personnel are our greatest asset. We believe that by investing in their future, we can make our organisation stronger, more efficient and more effective. We work hard to maintain our reputation as a good employer and provide a workplace where everyone is treated with dignity, fairness and respect.



Protection

Our role is to protect the communities we serve. We deliver a service that works proactively to reduce the incidence of fire and other emergencies and one that responds with dedication and professionalism whenever and wherever the need occurs.



Partnership

Strong, productive partnerships are central to our service. By co-operating closely with our partner agencies, we are able to deliver an integrated approach to safety in the community and the most effective service possible. We know that by working together, we have much to offer and much to gain.



Environment

We have a duty to protect our environment. We are committed to taking positive steps to reduce the environmental impact of our business. We will strive to reduce our carbon footprint by increasing environmental awareness across all parts of our organisation and by doing all that we can to minimise and mitigate the effects our operations have on the planet.

LOCAL CONTEXT

Oban today has a resident population of 8,500 and is the unofficial capital of the West Highlands and the “Gateway to the Isles”. Oban has developed into Scotland’s most popular west-coast holiday town and on average the population can rise to over 20,000 during the tourist season.

Strathclyde Fire & Rescue’s Corporate Strategy compliments the Single Outcome Agreement produced by Argyll & Bute Council’s community plan and the key outcomes and priorities of the Community planning partners. This shows our aspirations of protecting the communities that we serve and our commitment to strong partnership working to reduce unnecessary death and injuries resulting from emergency incidents.

The Community Planning Partnership’s aim is to agree local outcomes and deliver on the 15 national outcomes but also focused on the three themes of the Single Outcome Agreement which are

- Vibrant Communities
- Outstanding Environment
- Forward Looking



Open Day

The Single Outcome Agreement and the Services Corporate strategy aim to achieve the same goals and this can be seen where both aim to:-

- Protect the environment from contamination as a result of an emergency incident
- Best Value
- Prevention of fires and other emergencies
- Implement an effective community safety strategy
- Reducing CO2 emissions

The local strategies within the Area have been about partnership working and establishing, maintaining links with other agencies from the public, private and voluntary sector’s and addressing some of the fundamental issues that cause destruction within the Area. The requirement to work in partnership is a legal one but within SFR it is seen as a necessary one and one which can have huge benefits to the community with the joined up approach to safety but also on the financial cost incurred by each agency in these difficult times.

The main focus of the station is about prevention and education and SFR strives to conduct this to all members of the public. The staff have been proactive in engaging with partner agencies to access all user groups and have a clear focus on providing information and educating the communities to create safer living environments. We continually look for effective ways of doing this and have been involved with delivering fire safety talks within school, groups, housing complexes and partner agencies to raise their awareness of the signs of someone who may be at risk. The Service remains committed to reducing the incidences of fire and focuses on identifying persons at risk and with partner agencies and reducing the chances of them suffering ill effects from a fire.

LOCAL CONTEXT (continued)

Work has been conducted to establish the main reason for the higher than normal incidencies of Road Traffic Collisions. The research was conducted to determine the user groups most involved in these incidents but also to establish the frequency and the location where these are liable to occur. SFR has been proactive in trying to reduce these incidencies with the police and have been running various programs aimed at all users group and trying to make the communities more aware of this growing problem and the devastating effects its having on our communities. The introduction of the ROADSafe initiative has seen further partnerships with the Police, Ambulance Service, Argyll and Bute Council and local service providers such as garages to promote the problems encountered within Argyll & Bute by road accidents and the devastating effects that it is having on the local communities.

Significant involvement by the Station to promote the values of SFR to the local young people has reaped huge benefits and allows the station to become more proactive and allows us to address the challenges that have been encountered by many other fire stations. There has been various courses run at the station based for the local youth groups in partnership with the local high school, 'Pathways' programme and also with the practical application of risk assessment forming part of the health and well being module being delivered by station staff.

The local Area and station are in partnership with the local housing associations and have an agreements in place to provide Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSV's) and this has been successful and continues to be one of the most used services provided by SFR. The use of staff on the various duty systems has allowed for the greatest impact to be seen and this is with the assistance of the Home Safety Unit within Argyll & Bute Council.

During the last few months has seen the introduction of the familiarisation visits being conducted on local businesses. These visits are a positive move to increase the safety of staff and

customers within the shops and businesses in the town and will continue to be conducted targeting the premises seen as higher risk should a fire occur. The visits also allow the crews to pass on essential fire safety messages and promote safety in these buildings. The station staff providing this information also get to audit the building and assists in raising there awareness of the building within the town and providers us with a greater knowledge of how to fire fight in the various building types there is within Oban.



Grass Fire

OUR OBJECTIVES FOR THE COMING 3 YEARS



Community

- Protection of our communities
- Prevention of fires and other emergencies
- Consultation
- Engagement

SFR takes its responsibilities for the protection of the communities we serve very seriously, and strives to deliver the highest possible service.

On every occasion we will deliver a comprehensive and swift professional response to all emergencies. This will be enhanced by enforcing fire safety legislation and having a community safety engagement programme which can reduce and prevent emergency situations starting in the first instance. The Area will continue to offer specialist advice to partner agencies and education to the communities to aid keeping their families safe.

Our key focus is on reduction of fires, road traffic collisions and other emergencies where people are injured or killed. We will continue to develop and deliver effective initiatives which will reduce the number of house fires, the number of road traffic collisions.

We recognize the importance of consultation and will continue to develop our communications to allow us to engage fully with our stakeholders and members of the communities that we serve. The consultation and communication will allow for all members of the communities to voice their opinion on the service that is provided and to inform us of any issues which are relevant to them. The use of the service website will be improved to assist in meeting the needs of anyone who should need to use it from our diverse community.

In the next 3 years we will:

- Ensure that the communities of Argyll and Bute fully understands and supports the completely free, Home Fire safety Visit Initiative and the change of emphasis from reactive response to proactive demand reduction.
- Engage fully with all relevant stakeholders within the community to gain support for the provision of automatic life safety fire suppression systems in buildings where people are at risk from fire.
- Continue to develop and deliver road safety awareness with partner agencies to reduce deaths and injuries resulting from road traffic collisions
- Achieve competence and commitment from all our staff in delivering programmed community safety engagement activities.
- Effectively discharge Strathclyde's legal responsibilities for legislative fire safety and engage in appropriate partnerships across Argyll and Bute.

We will have succeeded if, by 2013:

- Our public communications strategies are found to be successful and as a result of this and our staff are engaging fully with all partners and our activities are achieved.
- We are fully engaged in activities that provide a coherent and structured approach to improving building fire safety through the promotion of the benefits of installing automatic suppression systems.
- We are fully engaged, lead and support in road safety partnerships thus contributing to an overall reduction in incidences of traffic collisions
- All our staff are effectively engaging with the population at every level allowing them to understand the changes on emphasis from reaction to prevention.
- A programme of audits is targeted to address risk, with premises that pose the greatest risk to people from fire, receiving the highest priority.



People

- Training
- Development
- Advance our Health, Safety & Welfare Culture
- Promote Equality & Diversity
- RDS & Volunteer Crews

The most important asset of the station is its people. Without their commitment and dedication our vision would not be achieved. We know that without a well trained, professional workforce we wouldn't be able to achieve the high quality of service expected of us. Our aims are to ensure that our staff is fully equipped with the skills and resources they need to deliver our service in a safe and professional manner.

We will strive to further advance our already successful health, safety and welfare culture to reduce injury and illness involving our staff. As emergency responders, our staff faces considerable potential danger and we will continue to focus our efforts on ensuring safe systems of work.

We will continue to recognise and advance the cause of equality and diversity in the manner in which we deliver our service to the community. We believe that everyone has the right to be treated with dignity and respect, and this commitment to equality and diversity underpins the strategic objectives set out in this Corporate

In the next 3 years we will:

- Carry out an individual needs analysis of all personnel
- Review and improve upon all Maintenance Phase Development programmes
- Develop robust recording systems and ensure our managers are competent in their use
- Ensure priority is given to maintaining and improving upon Risk Critical skills.
- Implement and monitor Managing Attendance policy
- Conduct a diversity impact review on existing station initiatives culminating in an action plan
- Implement measurable equality and diversity objectives
- Expose our personnel to the relevant level of training and development within this subject area
- Review the actual utilisation of RDS personnel's committed weekly time

We will have succeeded if, by 2013:

- We are providing all of our personnel with the exact training and development they require as individuals and as teams
- All our personnel are achieving the outcomes of all Maintenance Phase Development programmes
- We have a competent pool of Firefighters and Officers capable of taking control at incidents
- Our personnel are competent in the handling of all equipment.
- Our managers are competent in utilising the chosen tool for objective prioritisation
- All our operational equipment is current and fit for purpose
- Our attendance policy has improved attendance figures
- All our actions, policies and training take account of all issues regarding Equality and Diversity.
- We have achieved an efficient and effective balance of work hours available and achievability of work requirements



Protection

- Resources
- Preparedness
- Response
- Performance

Argyll and Bute is required to plan for and attend many varied types of incidents including, Fires, Road Traffic Collisions and many other types of emergency. We attend various training and inter agency meetings to ensure a common approach to dealing with any potential emergency is anticipated. We work closely with Argyll and Bute's emergency planning department, our police, airports, RNLI and Royal Navy colleagues to achieve a coordinated plan for all potential incidents that may occur.

We aim to provide the right resources at the right location to deal with any incident that we may be faced with. We will continue to provide 24/7 cover from our strategically positioned community fire stations, with staff receiving on going training to meet the demands placed on the service. The staff are highly trained and continue to develop their competence in core firefighting duties and to the additional responsibilities being placed on the service such as water rescue.

To ensure our performance continually improves, we have introduced performance management strategies. We will continually improve and seek to ensure best value in the provision of our service through ongoing audits, evaluation and assessment. SFR's improvements seek to balance quality and cost considerations, and is achieved with regard to economy, efficiency, effectiveness, equal opportunities and sustainable development.

In the next 3 years we will:

- Implement corporate and Area level decision on improved Water Rescue capabilities
- Acquire a high reach capability for Oban Community Fire Station
- Review our existing Pre Determined Attendances (PDA's) with a view for improvements
- Ensure representation at all inter agency and internal partner meetings
- Carry out regular Audits of all our properties, fleet and personnel
- Ensure a programme of Ticket to Ride(TTR) is in place for all uniform personnel within the station
- Monitor closely the implementation of the Retained Availability System
- Review fully all aspects of service delivery throughout the station

We will have succeeded if, by 2013:

- Water rescue provision is now part of Argyll and Bute and strategically sited to provide the most effective cover.
- The high reach capability is in place at Oban.
- Our PDA's are accurate and suitable for the risks they protect.
- We are key players within the communities inter agency meeting process
- We have identified and improved upon any failures in policy, training or Health and safety within our stations, fleet and the development of our personnel.
- A programme exists whereby fifty percent of all the station uniform staff are exposed to Incident Command training thus gaining them the TTR Qualification
- All our RDS personnel are utilising the availability system as per the procedure
- A report with recommendations has been supplied to the Area Management Team with recommendations for effective improvements for the station.



Partnership

- Information Sharing
- Joint Working
- Demand Reduction

This station is committed to developing and improving its existing partnerships. All our efforts are concentrated on making a difference. In isolation this would be impossible but through excellent joint initiatives and programmes the communities of Argyll and Bute will thrive and enjoy improvements in safety. We are active contributors to the Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) which Argyll & Bute Council is required to produce. The SOAs ensure that all agencies work together to achieve the national outcome to better our communities and this is done through the Community Planning Partnership.

We aim to improve our data collection and sharing with partner agencies to allow for better targeting of resources and to increase the response provided by the fire station to reducing deaths and injuries resulting from emergencies. We will strive to act swiftly and appropriately when dealing with vulnerable individuals or groups and identify preventative measures that we can take to protect them from harm.

In the next 3 years we will:

- Work collaboratively at all levels to deliver effective performance management and best value in delivery of our statutory enforcement activities
- Engage with the communities by utilising all staff, to establish competent communications links and build relationships
- Endeavour to provide and develop new partnerships with all relevant stakeholders
- Identify all possibilities for shared services with all our relevant key partners through the appropriate committees.
- Fully engage in activities and if required lead and support a coherent and structured approach to improving building fire safety.

- Demonstrate our commitment to the promotion and recommendation for the installation of automatic suppression systems utilising existing and new partnership networks.
- Work collaboratively at all levels to maximise funding opportunities to deliver joint initiatives.
- Fully engage in road safety partnership activities
- Implement a structured review of all our partnership working
- Work even more closely with our existing partners to identify new demand reduction initiatives
- Engage effectively with the communities we protect thus ensuring they are aware of our proactive demand reduction initiatives

We will have succeeded if, by 2013:

- Our partners are fully involved in the achievement of a coordinated process of statutory enforcement
- An engagement strategy is in place
- Our portfolio of relevant partnerships has increased
- Our involvement on the councils Executive Sub Group has produced effective outcomes for sharing services
- Significant improvements in building fire safety have been achieved
- New partnerships have been achieved and are committed to the installation of automatic suppression systems
- Joint initiatives are effectively funded
- A reduction in road traffic collisions, casualties and fatalities is realised.
- Our staff are attending and contributing to the relevant levels of partnership meetings and initiatives thus providing best value.
- Our portfolio of demand reduction initiatives has increased effectively in line with our own and partner needs
- We are providing effective demand reduction initiatives.
- Station briefing sessions take place, strengthening operational intelligence and assisting fire crews.



Environment

- Carbon Management
- Operational Response
- Sustainable Development
- Environmental Management System

In the next 3 years we will:

We will have succeeded if, by 2013:

CONTACT US

Feedback

We provide a vital public service for the people of Strathclyde. The impact our activities have on the local community is enormous and we know that if we are to meet our goal of continuous improvement, we need to keep in touch with the public we serve.

If you have something you'd like to share with us, you can get in touch in a number of ways:

- Use the feedback form on our website to send an email.

- **Contact us at:**

Oban Community Fire station
Soroba Road
Oban PA34 4SB

Tel. 01631 569995

- Contact your local Area HQ

North

Oban: Soroba Road Oban PA34 4SB

Telephone 01631 569995

Fire Safety 01631 569997

Fax 01631 563953

South

Helensburgh Fire Station

South King Street, Helensburgh G84 7DX

Telephone 01436 655918 or 01436 655922

Fax 01436 655924

- Or contact Strathclyde Fire & Rescue Headquarters at:

Strathclyde Fire & Rescue,

Connect,

Bothwell Road, Hamilton ML3 0EA

Tel 01698 300999 Fax 01698 338444

or alternatively visit our website at
www.strathclydefire.org

Your comments will be appreciated and treated in confidence.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format or a version in another language please contact:

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אם ברצונכם לקבל עותק של מסמך זה בפורמט שונה או גרסה מתורגמת שלו בשפה אחרת, אנא צרו עמנו קשר לפי הפרטים הבאים:

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اگر آپ کو اس دستاویز کی کاپی کسی دیگر شکل میں یا کسی دوسری زبان میں اس کا ترجمہ درکار ہے تو براہ کرم رابطہ کریں:

Strathclyde Fire & Rescue, Corporate Development, Bothwell Road, Hamilton ML3 0EA.
Tel 01698 300999



making our communities safe places to live, work and visit



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