

OXFORDSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

SAFER BY DESIGN

“**Safer by Design**” is our vision for self-reliant safer communities, with enabling actions and resources provided or commissioned by Oxfordshire County Council, working in partnership with a range of third parties. Intelligence led, locality specific approaches will identify practical preventative measures delivered through internal resources and via community based partnerships, which will address many of the emerging societal risks.

The “**Safer by Design**” vision has four main strands of activity which are:

- a) Growing in confidence – a strategy for safer young people
- b) Living in confidence – a strategy for the residents of Oxfordshire
- c) Travelling in confidence – a strategy for those on the move
- d) Working in confidence – a strategy for business.

Growing in Confidence

Activity	Outcome (Output) sought	OFRS Commitment
Early Intervention Service (EIS) (hubs) – supporting CEF	<i>To link a watch/station to each of the OCC proposed locality hubs for Early Intervention Services, with the aim of encouraging improvement in educational outcomes and breaking the cycle of deprivation.</i>	<p>OFRS will adopt all seven hubs and support them by offering a minimum of two learning events per year – which can be developed as the range of associated services increases.</p> <p>The hubs are located at: Abingdon – The Net, Stratton Way Banbury – Banbury Youth centre Hilton road Bicester – Courtyard Youth arts centre, Launton road Didcot – The Vibe, Park road East Oxford – Union Street</p>

		<p>Oxford Littlemore – Oxford Academy campus Sandy Lane Witney – (interim) Unit 8 Thorney Leys.</p> <p>Work is underway with hub managers and the Early Intervention Service (EIS) to deliver tailored practical courses targeted to those who will gain most from this activity.</p>
<p>Fire Cadets – supporting CEF</p>	<p><i>To deliver weekly events for young people following a fire-based curriculum (currently five units in operation across county).</i></p>	<p><i>Although these schemes are well received in the current areas, OFRS may need to move resources into targeting more vulnerable communities and individuals.</i></p> <p>OFRS currently operate 5 Fire Cadet Units, and there is potential to increase the number of units, subject to financial and political support. The Fire Cadet Units have a separate cost centre and remuneration is paid for Cadets instructors.</p> <p>As well as the link to main stream schools, these units are now also linked to the EIS Hub managers to attract a wider ranging audience.</p> <p>In addition our Fire Cadets now have the opportunity to enrol in the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award scheme.</p>
	<p><i>To support OCC looked-after young people, with the aim of encouraging improvement in educational outcomes, our corporate parenting responsibilities and breaking the cycle of deprivation.</i></p>	<p><i>OFRS will examine opportunities to offer a cadet place for every looked-after young person in localities where they operate.</i></p> <p>Children Looked After Update</p> <p>Following detailed investigations, OFRS are unable to guarantee a Cadet place for every looked after child at Cadet units but currently exploring the options (as above)</p>

		for inclusion in the EIS Phoenix style courses which will include and open up opportunities for children looked after (CLA).
Mentoring (Looked-After Young People) - supporting CEF	<i>To increase confidence and improve prospects for OCC looked-after young people, with the aim of encouraging improvement in educational outcomes, our corporate parenting responsibilities and breaking the cycle of deprivation.</i>	OFRS will offer every looked-after young person (Year 11- 12) the opportunity to have a Service Mentor. OFRS has an existing internal mentoring system in place and to develop and widen this further will need to identify a suitable number of skilled personnel at different levels, who are willing to act as external mentors.
Reading Schemes - supporting CEF	<i>To provide positive role modelling and interaction with young children, with the aim of encouraging improvement in educational outcomes and breaking the cycle of deprivation.</i>	OFRS will pilot in partnership with CEF and local schools targeted reading schemes to improve literacy and confidence. Fire Service Staff working with CEF have delivered pilot schemes within the “every child a good reader” programme using the OFRS “Drago the Dragon” series of publications
Phoenix courses - supporting CEF	<i>To provide a minimum of 12 courses per year run in conjunction with OCC Early Intervention Service (EIS), with the aim of encouraging improvement in educational attainment outcomes and breaking the cycle of deprivation.</i>	OFRS will continue to work with disadvantaged young people to help develop their confidence, discipline and team-working skills. The Phoenix Project is a successful collaborative partnership between the OFRS Risk Reduction Team and the OCC Early Intervention Service. It involves staff from both areas working together with children who will benefit from additional support to discourage them from engaging in anti-social behaviour. The project provides an opportunity for young people to obtain an insight into the work of the Fire and Rescue

		<p>Service through an intensive week of educational sessions in Fire Prevention and Road Safety, combined with practical hose and ladder training drills similar to those undertaken by fire fighters.</p> <p>The scheme currently operates on a monthly basis and is delivered at selected Fire Stations. Each course runs for 5 days and on average caters for ten 11-14 year olds who use equipment provided by OFRS.</p> <p>During 2011, whilst the EIS was being fully established, the collaborative project delivered 4 courses, providing education for a total of 41 students, which were conducted at Deddington x 2, Eynsham and Goring Fire Stations.</p> <p>At the completion of each week long course the students take part in a pass out “drill”, where they have the opportunity to demonstrate the practical skills they have acquired to invited parents and guardians and is followed by the presentation of a certificate of attendance.</p> <p>Adaption of this programme is being considered to assist ‘children looked after’ to form relationships, build trust and provide a positive role model. Further explorations with CEF are also in place to deliver a ‘phoenix style’ course to children from troubled families.</p>
<p>Oxfordshire Business Education Alliance (OBEA) – supporting CEF</p>	<p><i>To provide support to the 6 schools who form the alliance, with the aim of encouraging improvement in educational attainment outcomes and future opportunities through acquired skills.</i></p>	<p><i>OFRS continues to work with the alliance and the schools young people, helping to develop their confidence, discipline and team-working skills.</i></p>

<p>Takeover days - supporting CEF</p>	<p><i>To increase awareness for young people of the activities in the Fire and Rescue Service.</i></p>	<p>OFRS continue to support OCC Takeover Days on an annual basis.</p>
<p>Junior Citizens Trust – OFRS lead partner supporting CEF</p>	<p><i>To assist in the delivery of Junior Citizens Trust events to around 5000 KS2 children (Yr6) each year.</i></p>	<p>OFRS will maintain the current levels of support for the Junior Citizens Trust programme, where children across Oxfordshire benefit from attending multi-agency, multi-scenario educational health & safety skills events.</p> <p>OCC provide the corporate trustee role to the Junior Citizens Trust (JCT) The JCT is made up from a number of partner agencies with OFRS acting as the lead partner. OFRS provides the Safety Centre for 65 days per year and will continue to provide resources to assist in delivery and form an active part of the JCT management committee.</p> <p>The Junior Citizens Trust mission statement is “to provide education to children and young persons who are residents of the County of Oxfordshire on a wide range of health and safety issues”.</p> <p>The Junior Citizens Trust operates at the Franklin Vermeulen Safety Centre, which forms part of the Rewley Road Fire Station in Oxford.</p>
<p>Franklin – Vermeulen Safety Centre – supporting communities and other agencies</p>	<p><i>To support OCC in providing a safer Oxfordshire through Fire Prevention and Community Safety education.</i></p>	<p>The Safety centre is managed by the Risk Reduction team and OFRS will continue to deliver, explore and expand the use of the Franklin-Vermeulen Safety Centre for use by :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adults with learning disabilities • SHIFA Trust (Banbury Black and Minority Ethnic groups) • Other community Groups including groups working within the drugs and alcohol, domestic violence and

		<p>antisocial behaviour fields.</p> <p>The safety centre provides a number of 'scenario rooms' where participants can practically explore and identify hazards and risks within a safe and controlled environment. The educational scenario rooms are staged and set up as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• home safety• fire safety• railway safety• road safety• water safety• personal protective safety• Internet safety. <p>These scenarios and are operated by a mixture of volunteers and staff. Over 5000 children attend the Junior Citizen programme each year.</p>
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Living in Confidence

Activity	Outcome (Output) sought	OFRS Commitment
<p>Empowerment, Self-help and taking own Responsibilities for Fire Prevention – supporting OCC and the Oxfordshire economy</p>	<p><i>To help and encourage the county's residents to take a degree of responsibility for the own safety from fire and manage family safety in their homes.</i></p>	<p><i>OFRS will continue to encourage all of the county's residents to take responsibility for their own safety through effective Fire Prevention and Safety messages using a variety of communication media and the 365alive initiative as the promotional banner.</i></p> <p>OFRS will continue to develop communication methods via many different strategies. The 365alive website will be widely used, with residents encouraged to visit this in the first instance. An electronic self-help Home Fire Risk Check (HFRC) form has been provided, which allows residents to complete their own HFRC and be provided with a result outcome, plus direction to areas which may require further review. 365alive</p>
<p>Fire Investigation and Arson Reduction – supporting OCC and the Oxfordshire economy</p>	<p><i>To investigate all fires and support the Police in their endeavours of bringing to justice those who commit crime using fire as a tool, thus making Oxfordshire a fire safer county.</i></p>	<p><i>OFRS will continue to investigate all fires and report to the Police those suspected to be crime related</i></p> <p>A jointly funded specialist liaison officer is employed to ensure collaborative opportunities are exploited. Funding is provided by Royal Berkshire and Buckinghamshire FRSs and the Thames Valley Police (TVP). The role focuses on fire related crime and is regulated by a memorandum of understanding reflecting the joint requirements of all those involved.</p>
<p>Major Incidents / Events - effective planning and preparation (including partnership working and co-ordination of category</p>	<p>To continuously improve in the preparation and response activities of the Local Resilience Forum partners, in relation to major incidents/events.</p>	<p><i>As both a key emergency service – and the organisation responsible for managing emergency planning for OCC – OFRS will take regular opportunities to exercise its response arrangements for major incidents, so that can maintain and improve its performance.</i></p>

<p>1 & 2 responders under the Civil Contingencies Act) - supporting E & E, SCS and CEF, as well as District, Town & Parish Councils</p>		<p>Extensive work has been undertaken both prior and during the Olympic period which will have long term benefits.</p>
<p>Business and Community Continuity Planning – recovery planning for major incidents - supporting E & E, SCS and CEF, as well as District, Town and Parish Councils</p>	<p>To continuously improve in the support and guidance to local businesses and communities – to help them mitigate the effects of future major incidents / events, such as snow or flooding.</p>	<p><i>As both a key emergency service – and the organisation responsible for managing emergency planning for OCC – OFRS will take regular opportunities to support and exercise local community and business continuity plans.</i></p>
<p>Data Sharing - supporting SCS and CEF</p>	<p><i>To reduce fires and accidents in and around the home (helping to break the cycle of deprivation), as well as promote safeguarding of citizens (including vulnerable children and adults), by implementing effective data sharing protocols with OCC Social and Community Services (SCS) (including Trading Standards).</i></p>	<p><i>OFRS will continue to target the safety of citizens (including vulnerable people) across the county - by working with its partners to establish integrated and proactive intervention programmes using their shared information.</i></p> <p>Targeted home fire risk assessments are being undertaken on a daily basis using information supplied by partners.</p>
<p>Future Promotion of Improvements in Public Health - supporting SCS and CEF</p>	<p><i>To help improve the overall public health outcomes of the people of Oxfordshire, taking into account the potential transfer of this responsibility to local government in 2013.</i></p>	<p><i>OFRS will offer its support and locality-based resources to work with OCC and its partners in the promotion and implementation of healthy living initiatives across the county.</i></p>

<p>Supporting Crime Reduction Initiatives- supporting County & District Safer & Stronger Partnerships – as well as, Neighbouring Action Groups and OCC Trading Standards</p>	<p><i>To help reduce the levels of crime and anti-social behaviour across the county.</i></p>	<p><i>OFRS will continue to support and help develop the work of local Safer & Stronger Partnerships, by tasking its District Fire Risk Managers and Locality-based Retained Support Officers to proactively look for opportunities to use their resources to benefit these wider community safety areas.</i></p>
		<p><i>OFRS will signpost potential issues to the relevant authorities, as part of its regular community engagement work (such as doorstep crime, working with Trading Standards).</i></p>
		<p><i>OCC Non School Premises - Joint Inspection Scheme HSW Team / OFRS</i></p> <p>To ensure the effective and efficient delivery of scarce resources, OFRS have entered into a joint inspection scheme with the HSW of the OCC. This will enable inspection Officers of the OFRS to act as the “eyes and ears” for HSW in relation to Health, Safety and Welfare matters and for HSW Officers to act as the “eyes and ears” for OFRS in relation to Fire Safety matters. This scheme is similar to the existing Care Homes Joint Inspection Scheme.</p>
		<p><i>Care Homes - Joint Inspection Scheme SCS / OFRS</i></p> <p>To ensure the effective and efficient delivery of scarce resources, OFRS have entered into a joint inspection scheme with the SCS of the OCC. This will enable inspection Officers of the OFRS to act as the “eyes and ears” for SCS in relation to Health, Safety and associated matters and for SCS Officers to act as the “eyes and ears” for OFRS in relation to Fire Safety matters. This scheme is similar to the existing Oxfordshire’s Smarter Inspection Scheme.</p>

Life Skills for adults with learning difficulties – supporting CEF and SCS	<i>To help adults with learning difficulties live independently.</i>	OFRS will provide tailored courses at our Life Skills Centre focussed on adults with learning difficulties. OFRS has on-going development and engagement with these groups to expand their use at the safety centre in Oxford
Life Skills for young parents – supporting CEF	<i>To help young/new parents manage family safety in their homes.</i>	OFRS will provide tailored courses at our Life Skills Centre focussed on home safety for young / new parents.

Working in Confidence

Activity	Outcome (Output) sought	OFRS Commitment
Minimise the burden on new businesses – supporting E & E, as well as District, Town & Parish Councils	<i>To support new and established SME businesses relating to their duties under the Fire Safety Order.</i>	OFRS will provide advice on request to new and established SME businesses relating to their duties under the Fire Safety Order.
OCC Apprenticeships - supporting E & E	<i>To actively promote and develop apprenticeship opportunities within our workforce, the community and our supply chain.</i>	OFRS will support the county council's commitment to increase the opportunities for apprenticeships within its organisation.
Promote the benefits to local businesses by supporting the Retained Duty System - supporting E & E, as well as District, Town & Parish Councils	<i>To develop the safety culture of local businesses by benefitting from the transferable skills of staff who are also Retained Duty System firefighters.</i>	OFRS will continue to develop relationships with local businesses, highlighting the wider safety benefits of supporting staff to become Retained Duty System firefighters.

Travelling in Confidence

Activity	Outcome (Output) sought	OFRS Commitment
<p>Integrate the OCC Road Safety Education Team into OFRS - supporting E & E</p>	<p><i>To continue to reduce the number of people killed and seriously injured on Oxfordshire's roads.</i></p>	<p><i>OFRS will help to develop a new delivery programme of road safety education that is focused not only on pre-school and school aged children but also new drivers, older motorists and motorcyclists.</i></p> <p>The Road Safety Team transferred to OFRS in April 2011 and consists of 3 x Road Safety Officers (RSO's) Child Footsteps, Cycle examining staff and a network of volunteers (over 1000 parents and teachers) to provide support to Fire Risk areas for a wide range of road safety education.</p> <p>The road safety programme provides a catalogue of 'off the shelf options' for solutions based on area and locality needs.</p> <p>The priority focus for road safety education will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Car occupants • Male drivers (17-24) • Motorcyclists • Drinking and drugs • Pedestrians (Children – Footsteps) • Cyclists (children) • Speeding. <p>Integration with E&E road safety engineers will continue as they provide current and historic trend analysis on road traffic collisions and are designing new road schemes and surfaces which are part of overall road safety measures.</p>
<p>Provide resources to help</p>	<p><i>To assist in the prioritisation of</i></p>	<p><i>OFRS will help to develop a system where locality-based</i></p>

'Signpost' Highways defects (e.g. pot holes) - supporting E & E	<i>highways defects and, as a consequence, reduce both their repair time and the potential risk of vehicle damage and/or injury to the public.</i>	staff can effectively signpost defects (such as potholes, damaged road furniture, blocked drains) to the relevant OCC Area Stewards.
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