

**EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE INTEGRATED RISK
MANAGEMENT TOPIC GROUP - 20 FEBRUARY 2004****Conclusions:**

- 2.9 In respect of Automatic Fire Alarm response policy, the Group recommended that:
1. The option of no change to current policy was not supported.
 2. The following proposals for change contained within the report be supported:
 - No change to attendance to private dwellings.
 - No automatic attendance to commercial premises during operating hours.
 - Reduced attendance i.e. a single fire appliance, to commercial premises outside of operating hours.
 - Reduced attendance i.e. a single appliance, to sleeping and current 'special' risk premises during office hours.
 - Appropriate level of attendance to sleeping and 'special' risk premises outside of office hours.
 - Full current attendance to any premises following a 999 call and confirmation of a fire situation.
 - Control operators to challenge 999 calls to commercial premises during the premise's operating hours in order to confirm the existence of a fire situation.
 - Maintenance of the current first appliance standard for that area whether whole-time or retained.
 - Follow up visits to premises that have three or more unwanted AFA calls.
- 2.10 In relation to proposals for the day duty shift system, Members recommended that the proposal be supported in principle and noted that detailed work on the options below would be carried out prior to the April 2005 implementation date:
- The establishment be increased to provide a day duty shift system.
 - Changes are initiated to establishment to provide a core of day duty personnel.
 - Changes are implemented in the retained establishment to support the introduction of part-time fire fighters.
 - Overtime is used to provide a day duty shift system.
 - The use of whole-time retained to provide day duty cover be reviewed.
- 2.11 Members welcomed the proposals for building risk profiles and home fire safety risk assessments as a move forward for the safety of residents of Hertfordshire and recommended that the following proposals be supported in principle:

- Research is carried out and an appropriate building risk profile policy is adopted for Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service.
- Creation of a building risk database.
- A programme is created to categorise buildings within the County into risk grades.
- A risk based inspection regime be introduced following the building risk profiling.
- Training is carried out for staff who will be conducting the risk assessments and that, in order to free up time for this training, the amount of FPA work is reduced to a minimum some months before the introduction of RRO.
- The Home Risk Assessment (HRA) is introduced as a means of providing a more focussed and proactive fire prevention strategy that is designed to prevent fire deaths and injuries in the home.
- Home Risk Assessments are also used as a means of data collection for identification of the risk for emergency response purposes; provision of site specific information for operational purposes; the refinement of prevention campaign activity through identification of the issues of greatest concern; and information sharing with partner organisations.

2.12 The Group agreed that a report detailing their recommendations on the proposals should go to the Community Services Scrutiny Committee, and their recommendations be reported to the Executive.