



## CRP quarterly briefing - the journey so far

### Issue 01

It has been a year since the launch of the Community Risk Programme (CRP), this presents a great opportunity to share the progress the Programme has made to date and its plans for the future. One of three programmes run by the NFCC Central Programme Office, the CRP is tasked with reviewing the broad subject of community risk to drive improvement in this area.

The Programme Board, led by the Vice Chair of the National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC), Phil Loach, agreed three main aims for the CRP:

1. To produce a set of standardised tools for fire and rescue services, enabling consistent identification, assessment and mitigation strategies for community risks
2. To carry out ongoing research that is up to date and relevant to help manage community risk across the UK
3. To enable fire and rescue services to show the value of CRP activities to their stakeholders and the communities they serve.

### Building an evidence base

Understanding what fire and rescue services do when it comes to developing community risk management is critical to the delivery of the CRP. The Programme Board commissioned Nottingham Trent University (NTU) to carry out research to develop a baseline of the methodologies in use in individual fire and rescue services.

NTU reviewed each stage of the community risk management process and was able to determine current practice, identify good practice as well as gaps and put forward recommendations to assist in the development of a national approach to risk management planning.

In response to its call for data and intelligence as part of the research, the NTU team received submissions from 43 of the UK's 50 fire and rescue services as well as many responses from non-UK organisations. As a result, the report's findings and recommendations are robust and reliable, as the team were able to build a clear picture of the current approach to community risk.

In terms of the report's findings, there are three key areas: the first is focused on agreeing a national definition of risk that will provide a firm foundation on which to develop risk management plans (RMP). The second area looks at the value of data and evidence to underpin RMPs and emphasises that staff need access to national datasets based on meaningful data standards to build a robust evidence base. The third area is about making sure fire and rescue services have staff with the training and skills to develop robust PMPs. All of this aligns with the findings of phase one and two HMICFRS inspection reports.

## Forward look

All UK FRSs were contacted to establish levels of awareness about the CRP, risk management leads completed a short survey and nominated a point of contact within each service to engage with the work of the Programme. This network of experts will form a key feature of this Programme moving forward.

The CRP Board have now agreed eight projects to take forward aligned to NFCC's strategic objective related to risk, the findings of the independent review carried out by NTU and the findings of the HMICFRS reports. The mandate for each project is yet to be agreed and there are varying timescales for each project as some are dependent on the outcomes of others, and some require more time and resource and so a phased approach will be adopted for projects.

The first four projects are set out below:

1. Definition of risk
2. Review existing guidance on risk
3. Economic cost of fire
4. Data projects

More information about the scope of the projects will be provided in the near future.

Adverts for the role of project lead for the first three projects have now been published, these can be viewed here: <https://www.nationalfirechiefs.org.uk/NFCC-Committee-vacancies>

Quarterly briefings on the CRP will be provided through the NFCC website to inform partners and stakeholders of updates and developments in the Programme:

<https://www.nationalfirechiefs.org.uk/CRP>

Please forward any questions or comments you may have to the CRP Programme team:  
[CommunityRiskProgramme@ukfrs.com](mailto:CommunityRiskProgramme@ukfrs.com)

The CRP team will be at the NFCC stand at the Emergency Services Show on 18 and 19 September at the NEC in Birmingham.