



Bedfordshire

Fire and Rescue Service



Kempston Community Fire Station

Plan 2019-20

Introduction

This Station Action Plan outlines how Kempston Community Fire Station will contribute towards protecting our local communities, responding to emergencies and preventing fires and other incidents. The risks our communities face are set out in the Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP) which also details how we plan to ensure that your Fire and Rescue Service contributes, in a co-ordinated and meaningful way, towards keeping our communities safe. The document is available to view at www.bedsfire.gov.uk

Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue service is committed to providing services that meet the differing needs of our diverse communities. This will ensure that all our communities are equally protected from the risk of fire and other incidents. Actions identified within this station plan contribute to this commitment and helps to ensure that the Service supports all communities.

Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service has a simple key strategic service mission:

To provide outstanding fire and rescue services that help make Bedfordshire safer and we are committed to doing everything we can to achieve this within the resources we have available to us.

To deliver on this mission we will focus on the following Service aims:

- **PREVENTING** fires and other emergencies from happening;
- **PROTECTING** people and property when fires happen;
- **RESPONDING** to fires and other emergencies promptly & effectively;
- **EMPOWERING** our people as we work together to make Bedfordshire safer;
- **UTILISING** our assets & resources efficiently & effectively;
- **MAXIMISING** use of data analytics and digital solutions to drive improvements.

This Station Plan sets out how Kempston Community Fire Station will deliver on our strategic mission during 2019/20.

Our Community

Kempston is divided into four wards with an estimated total population of 21,111.

Kempston Central and East

The estimated population of Kempston Central and East is 7,179 and is made up of approximately 50.3% females and 49.7% males.

Communities who have settled in the area include those from India, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, Kenya, Bangladesh, Zimbabwe, Jamaica, and Pakistan.

Top languages spoken are Punjabi, Polish, Italian, Lithuanian, Bengali, Gujarati, Tamil, Urdu, and Romanian.

Kempston North

Kempston North has an estimated population of 3,690 and is made up of approximately 50.5% females and 49.5% males.

Communities who have settled in the area include those from India, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, Kenya, Bangladesh, Jamaica, Ghana, and Pakistan.

Top languages spoken are Punjabi, Polish, Lithuanian, Italian, Serbian/Croatian/Bosnian, Bengali, French, Tamil, and Chinese.

Kempston South

Kempston South has an estimated population of 4,007 and is made up of approximately 51.3% females and 48.7% males.

Communities who have settled in the area include those from India, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, Kenya, Jamaica, Ghana, Pakistan, and Zimbabwe.

Top languages spoken are Punjabi, Polish, Malayalam, Italian, Serbian/Croatian/Bosnian, French, Urdu, Russian, and Slovak.

Kempston West

Kempston West has an estimated population of 6,235 and is made up of approximately 51.8% females and 48.2% males.

Communities who have settled in the area include those from India, Scotland, Ireland, Zimbabwe, Wales, Pakistan, Northern Ireland, Ghana, and Kenya.

The other top languages spoken are Polish, Punjabi, Italian, Persian/Farsi, Urdu, French, Bengali, Lithuanian, and Portuguese.

Our Risks

The number of domestic dwellings in Kempston is growing rapidly. The number of business related premises is also expanding. There are a large number of structural buildings and premises that may present a significant risk should they become involved in fire. These premises are regularly inspected as part of a risk based inspection programme, with Site Specific Risk Information (SSRI) being collated and updated. This information is readily available to all crews responding to incidents involving these identified premises. Such premises include:-

- Bedford Prison;
- Bedford Hospital;
- Infinos Power Station Brogbrough;
- Marston's PLC;
- European Oat Millers;
- Veolia Environmental Services;
- Yarlswood Detention Centre.

Our community also has a significant road risk, specifically:

- M1 Motorway;
- A421 running though Kempston from east to west linking A1 and M1 motorway;
- A6 running through Kempston towards Luton;
- Various rural B roads to adjoining villages within the Kempston area;
- Various High Rise Accommodations.

The number of casualties killed or seriously injured from RTC's within our community is rising. This could be due to a larger volume of traffic on our roads. Kempston Community Fire Station will attempt to educate our communities about the dangers associated with travelling by road. This will be done in collaboration with the police.

The Great River Ouse which runs through the centre of Bedford and Kempston presents a significant local risk of drowning and hyperthermia. Kempston Community Fire Station will deliver education to our community on water safety.

National Rail Midland Mainline services from Sheffield to London and Thameslink services from Bedford to London pass through Kempston.

Community Risk Profiling

Working with Experian, the UK's leading provider of consumer measurement and analytical services, Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service has utilised Customer Insight Profiling and has identified the following 7 Risk Groups within Kempston Station Ground:

Risk Group	Most at risk of:	Action:
Group 1 - Less affluent social renters with high fire risk.	High risk of accidental dwelling fires. Cooking, electrical or smoking related fires.	Targeted safe and well visits. Use of Social Media.
Group 2 - High risk, elderly singles reliant on state support.	High risk of accidental dwelling fires. Cooking fires.	Targeted safe and well visits and promoting Beds Fire Alert.
Group 3 - Transient young singles with high risk and few interventions.	Highest risk of accidental dwelling fires. Cooking and smoking related fires.	Targeted safe and well visits. Use of Social Media. Student Safety Week.
Group 4 – Independent affluent seniors with low fire risk.	Low fire risk.	Local engagement through national campaign initiatives. Use of Social Media.
Group 5 – Young, urban, mixed ethnicity families with moderate fire risk.	Moderate fire risk.	Local engagement through national campaign initiatives. Use of Social Media.
Group 6 – Rural families and couples with moderate risk.	Moderate fire risk. Chimney fires. Road Traffic Collision.	Local engagement. Use of Social Media. Reduce RTC risk through targeted initiatives.
Group 7 – Affluent families in suburban locations with very low risk.	Very low fire risk. Electrical fires. Road Traffic Collision.	Local engagement. Use of Social Media. Reduce RTC risk through targeted initiatives.

Statistically, residents within groups 1 – 3 are most at risk regarding accidental dwelling fires. A targeted programme of 600 Safe & Well visits will attempt to reduce this risk during 2019/20.

Customer insight has also identified that residents within groups 6 & 7 are most likely to own a car, van or motorcycle and drive over 12,500 miles per year. As a consequence members of these groups as well as young adults are statistically more at risk of being involved in a Road Traffic Collision.

Further evidence also shows that drivers who speed, drink drive, drive under the influence of drugs or drive whilst on mobile phones not only put themselves at greater risk but other road users also.

Kempston Station will attempt to mitigate this risk in collaboration with the police as part of their National campaigns with regard the possible consequences of speeding and using a mobile phone whilst driving.

Kempston Community Fire Station will interact with all of the above groups by providing fire safety information and promote National safety campaigns via our social media platforms – Facebook, Twitter and BedsFireAlert.

www.facebook.com/kempstonfirestation

www.facebook.com/bedsfire

www.twitter.com/bedsfire

www.bedsfirealert.co.uk

Fire Fighter Safety & Development

In order to ensure the ongoing Safety of our Fire Fighters our crews will undertake courses and training exercises throughout the year. Classroom sessions and practical drill will be supplemented with the Services E-learning service which ensures continuing competency across a Fire Fighters skills set. The service appraisal system will be used to identify training and development needs. Fire Fighter training will be monitored and reviewed through the services electronic personal development tracking tool.

Response

At Kempston Community Fire Station there are 4 Watches on a 24 hour shift pattern who are supported by a Retained Duty (On-Call) Fire Fighter section. Between them they crew two rescue pumps, one Specialist Recue Unit and a Water Carrier.

In addition to normal day to day training and development activities, Kempston Community Fire station will organise and participate in additional service exercises. These exercises will be conducted at a chosen special or very high risk premise as determined by the station risk information programme:

Exercise	Period/Dates	Watch Allocated to:
Bedford Hospital	Quarter 1	Blue
Cranfield Airport	Quarter 2	Red
Bedford Prison	Quarter 3	White
Cranfield University	Quarter 4	Green
Marstons PLC	Quarter 3	RDS Kempston
High Rise	Every 6 months	All

Cross Border Exercises

Kempston station ground shares a border with Buckinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service. Our appliances can also attend incidents within Cambridgeshire. A number of joint exercises will be programmed in conjunction with both Buckinghamshire and Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Services to test arrangements for cross-border incidents and demonstrate our commitment to collaborative working.

Exercise	Period/Dates	Watch Allocated to:
Aircraft Incidents	Quarter 4	Blue
Hazardous Materials	Quarter 2	White

Protection

Business premises and public buildings, such as schools are highly important to our local community as they provide both local services and employment opportunities. The majority of businesses affected by a fire never fully recover as customers are lost to competitors.

In order to protect these buildings and ensure the safety of building users, Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service delivers a risk based inspection programme to ensure compliance with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 on those premises to which it applies.

Kempston Community Fire Station will complete Fire Safety Inspections during 2019/20 as required as part of the service risk based audit programme.

The Service will concentrate its Fire Safety resources on determining and reducing the levels of fire risk in the community by undertaking a series of fire safety audits and inspections of premises. This will focus primarily on those premises, workplaces and activities giving rise to the most serious risk to life, regardless of their race, ethnicity, gender, disability, sexual orientation, religion and age.

Fire safety audits will grade premises into one of five categories: very high, high, medium, low and very low risk. This audit process determines the future audit frequency, ranging from 1 year for very high / high risk to 5 years for low risk.

Fire Safety Inspection Officers (FSIO) will focus their audits on very high and high risk premises whilst Fire Crews will audit medium and low risk premises.

Other types of Inspections carried out by Fire Crews:

Follow-up inspections - These are carried out to check whether the required or requested works on premises have been completed.

Specific inspections - These may be generated to check on a specific item or items e.g. overstocked stock rooms, the purpose of all these inspections is to ascertain that the fire safety arrangements are being maintained and adequate.

Risk Activity inspections - These are carried out on a whole host of premises that are either:

- Used extensively by large numbers of the public;
- Staffing capacities are below optimum levels;
- Where activities vary from the norm.

The purpose of the inspection is to ascertain that the fire safety arrangements are adequate, that sufficient numbers of staff are present and those staff on duty are aware of the fire safety measures within the premises and of the fire routines and evacuation procedures.

Risk activity inspections may be undertaken:

- On routinely programmed premises such as nursing homes and care homes;
- 'One off' events (including Scout, Guide camps and other types of sleeping and activity events involving children);
- Licensed premises whilst it is anticipated that occupancy levels are high e.g. Night Clubs, Outdoor concerts;
- Christmas inspections of retail premises where it is anticipated that stock levels in shops are high.

Fact finding visits – Fire Crews may be asked to visit a specific location to establish the current occupants of premises e.g. a specific industrial estate. This provides the Service with up to date information on whether a new occupier requires auditing.

All inspections should be completed by the last day of the month in which they were allocated.

For further information on Business & Commercial Fire Safety please refer to our website www.bedsfire.gov.uk under Community/Business Safety, Business Fire Safety or follow the link:

<http://www.bedsfire.gov.uk/CommunitySafety/BusinessFireSafety/Pages/default.aspx>

Prevention Activity

Fire Crews at Kempston Community Fire Station will undertake a range of Prevention Activities to reduce the number of incidents we attend based upon the local risks and incident trends identified within our Community Risk Analysis. Where possible, these activities will coincide with NPCC initiatives to promote collaborative working to make our community safer.

Specifically due to the following:-

- High risk from drowning / hypothermia in the Great River Ouse;
- High risk of cooking fires within the community;
- Significant road risk;
- Child safety and protection in collaboration with our local authority;
- Overall increase in accidental dwelling fires.

Kempston Community Fire Station will engage with our community and provide education on the following:

Activities	Period/Dates	Target Audience	Watch Allocated to:
Water Safety	May 2019	All Groups	White Watch
Cooking	July 2019	Groups 1,2 and 3	Green Watch
Speed Kills (NPCC)	August 2019	All Road Users	Blue Watch
Mobile Phone Use Whilst Driving (NPCC)	November 2019	All Road Users	Red Watch
Child Safety / Safeguarding Children	June 2019	All	RDS On Call
'Hot Strike' after incident response	All Year	All	All

All activities will be reviewed for effectiveness and will utilise service activity management plans. This will enable us to effectively plan activities for 2020/21.

National Fire and Rescue Campaign Calendar

The National Fire and Rescue Campaign Calendar provides an annual series of National Fire and Road Safety campaigns and initiatives. Kempston Community Fire Station will specifically support the following campaigns because of the:-

- Associated risk of drowning / hypothermia in the river Ouse;
- Link to greater fire risk in elderly persons;
- Dramatic increase in business premises within the community;
- High risk of accidental fires in local student accommodation;
- Rural areas of Kempston at risk of chimney fires.

Campaign	Date	Target Audience	Watch Allocated to:
Drowning Prevention	April 29 th – May 5 th	All	Red Watch
Dementia Action Week	May 20 th – 26 th	Groups 2 & 4	White Watch
Business Safety Week	September 9 th – 15 th	All	Blue Watch
Student Safety Week	October 21 st – 27 th	Group 3	Green Watch
Chimney Fire Safety Week	September 2 nd – 8 th	Group 6	RDS On Call

Kempston Community Fire Station will also engage with the local community during Eid, Diwali, Bonfire Night and Christmas celebrations.

Home Safe & Well Visits

We will make people safer by educating them in their home by delivering a targeted programme of Safe and Well Visits. Acting on referrals from partner agencies, Kempston Community Fire Station will deliver a minimum of 600 Safe & Well Visits to vulnerable households in the community identified as being most at risk from fire as per our Community Risk Analysis (Groups 1, 2 and 3). A Safe & Well visit may include any of the following elements:

- Home fire safety advice;
- Installation of smoke alarms and safety equipment;
- Crime Prevention Advice;
- Falls Risk Assessment;
- Smoking Cessation; and,
- Alcohol Audit.

The elements that will be included in each individual Safe and Well visit will be determined by risks present in the household and the agreement of the occupier to engage in each element of the visit.

Fire Cadets

Fire Cadets is a free, nationally recognised programme offering young people, between the ages of 13 and 18 the opportunity to gain a unique insight into Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service.

Through a structured yearly course, Cadets will gain the confidence to interact with their community and become local safety and prevention ambassadors and are able to play a supportive role at station open days, campaign initiatives and charity events. The programme also encourages the development of teamwork, problem solving and communication skills through a range of Fire and Rescue Service led activities.

Cadets are given opportunity to take advantage of various nationally recognised qualifications including the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

Fire Cadets is 19:00 – 21:00 during school term time on a Monday.

Fire Cadets will assist with the running of the open day.

Schools

Children can be especially at risk in a fire situation. Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service runs a county wide education programme for Year 2 students that educates them about fire safety in the home. Crews from Kempston Community Fire Station will support this programme by completing allocated Year 2 visits throughout the year.

Station Open Day

Green Watch will be responsible for organising the Station Open Day during quarter 2, on Sunday 4th August 2019. The theme of the open day will be Road Traffic Collision Reduction specifically targeting speeding. This will also align with the start of the National Police Chiefs Council 'Speed Kills' Campaign commencing that week.

Period/Dates	Theme	Key Activities
4 th August 2019	RTC Reduction in conjunction with NPCC 'Speed Kills' campaign	RTC Activities and demonstrations with SRU Fire Bikes hosted by our RTC Reduction Officers
	Target Audience	Service Appliance – 'Show and Tell'
	All	Themed static displays

Recruitment

Recruitment is major part of the work that all employees of BFRS will promote. It is important to engage with the community at every chance and communicate how Bedfordshire FRS is the choice employer. Stations with a Retained Duty System section will plan and run specific engagement activities, ensuring they target the cover times that they require. During these activities we will advise the community on support staff roles such as Information Technology, Procurement and finance. BFRS support apprenticeships and have actively been involved in the continued drive to utilise alternative educational programmes.

Kempston Community Fire Station
Southfields Road, Kempston, Bedford MK42 7NR

Visit our website for fire and home safety advice: www.bedsfire.gov.uk

Follow us on Twitter: [@bedsfire](https://twitter.com/bedsfire)

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