



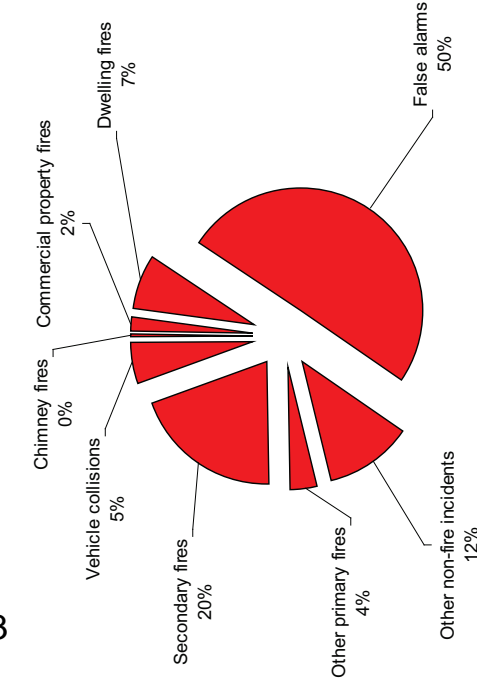
Consultation on changes to fire engine deployment in the boroughs of Epsom & Ewell and Reigate & Banstead.

What does this mean for Epsom & Ewell?

**The issue:** From April 2013, there will no longer be a fire engine based at Horley Fire Station, which is operated by West Sussex. This consultation is about how Surrey Fire and Rescue Service intend to alter the deployment of fire engines in order to maintain effective emergency response arrangements in accordance with the Public Safety Plan<sup>1</sup>.

**Current situation:** We provide emergency response cover with up to 35 fire engines, which are supported by a range of other specialist resources of our own and neighbouring services. Two of these fire engines are currently based at Epsom Fire Station but they are not resources dedicated to the Borough. This means that these fire engines will respond to incidents outside Epsom & Ewell. Similarly we can use resources from across the county to deal effectively with emergencies in the Borough, as we did in 2009 when more than four fire engines attended the fire at the LA Fitness centre.

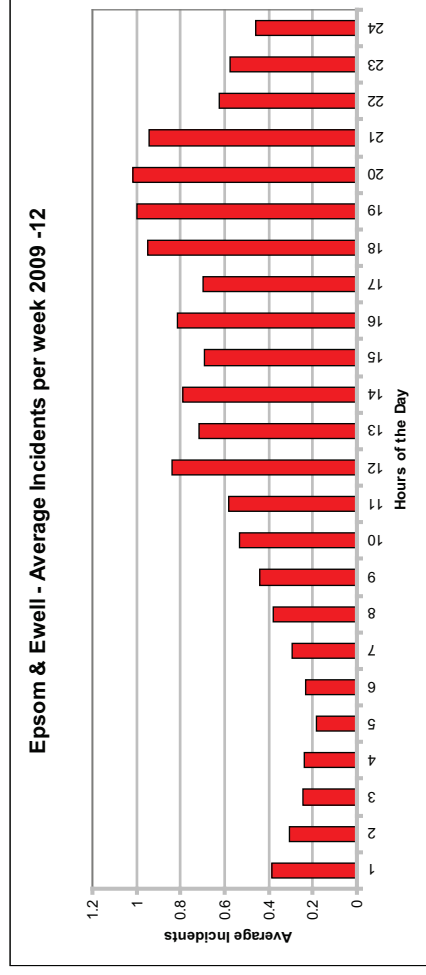
**Average week in Epsom & Ewell**



If there had been such a thing as an average week for Epsom & Ewell in 2011/12, we would have had about 14 incidents, 7 of which would have been false alarms. There would have been about one fire in a dwelling, about one in other property and about three non-property (secondary) fires, such as rubbish or grass alight. We would have needed to deal with about one vehicle collision and 2 other incidents (special services), which could be flooding or animals trapped, etc. The fire engines would also have

been used as required to standby at other locations to maintain emergency response cover across the county as required.

**Demand Profile:** From 2009-12 there were an average of 439 incidents during the day (7am to 7pm); during the evening and overnight there were 286 incidents (7pm to 7am).



The spread of incidents across the 24-hour period in Epsom and Ewell is similar to the Surrey trend and on average about 58% of incidents occur during the day.

As stated in our response standard, we will send the quickest appropriate response to an emergency and for you that may not be a fire engine from Epsom Fire Station. That is current practice and it will not change under the proposals put forward for consultation.

<sup>1</sup> Available at [www.surrey-fire.gov.uk/bsp](http://www.surrey-fire.gov.uk/bsp)



## Consultation on changes to fire engine deployment in the boroughs of Epsom & Ewell and Reigate & Banstead.

### What does this mean for Epsom & Ewell?

**The Proposals:** If implemented, there would be a change to the availability of the fire engines based at Epsom. Currently there are two fire engines crewed by staff to provide an immediate response 24 hours a day. Our proposal is to base only one fire engine at Epsom and base a second fire engine at a new location in the Burgh Heath area with a target date of summer 2014. This will mean that some firefighters currently based at Epsom will need to work from other locations within Surrey. This is linked with other changes at Reigate fire station that will create a chain of single fire engine fire stations running through the boroughs of Epsom & Ewell and Reigate & Banstead.

**Emergency response cover:** Epsom and Ewell is surrounded by many other fire service resources based at Reigate and Leatherhead fire stations in Surrey, plus others based in London. We have modelled<sup>2</sup> the effects of our proposals and identified their potential impact. We predict that there would be a slight increase in the average response times for the first fire engine to arrive at an incident in Epsom and Ewell if the proposals are implemented. It would also mean that the second fire engine is likely to take longer to arrive at an incident in the Burgh Heath area, but the average would still be well within the Surrey emergency response standard.

**The benefits** of the proposals would create a more efficient use of resources across the county. In Epsom & Ewell, the first fire engine will be attending incidents on average in about six minutes and in many cases that will be sufficient to deal with the emergency safely and effectively. For life and property risk incidents, additional resources will be on their way to provide the required support for the first crew attending. The first fire crew on scene will assess the scale of the incident and can request more resources if they are needed.

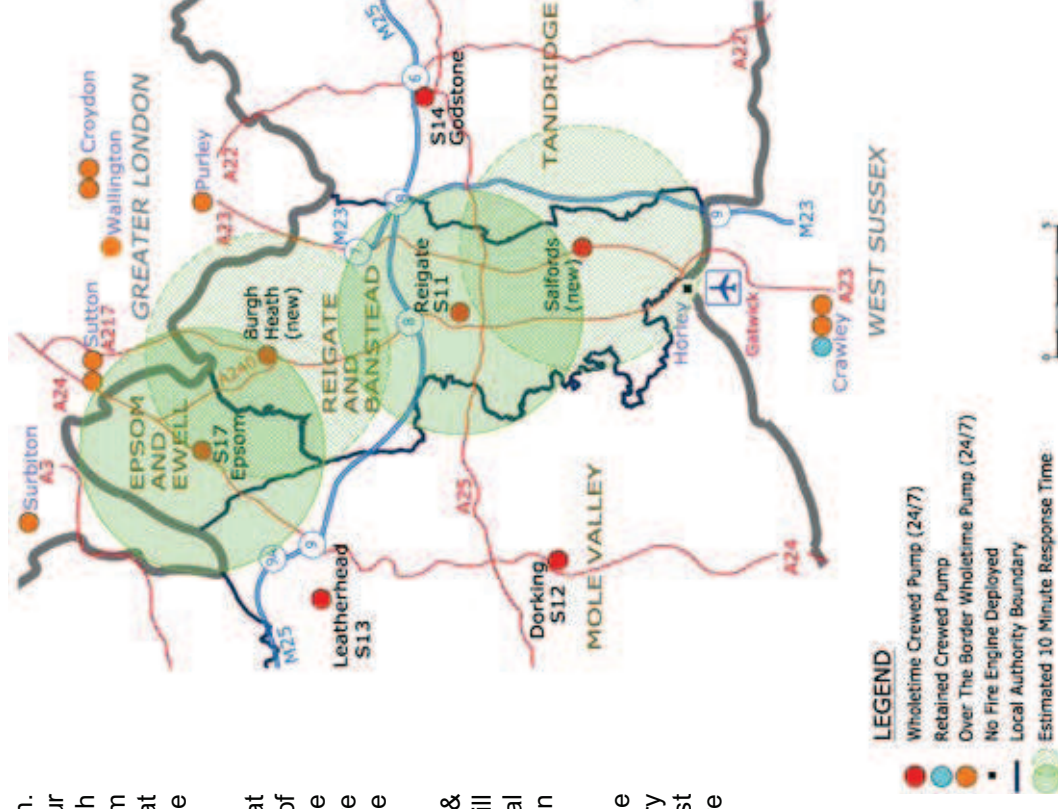
**Have your say:** We encourage residents to have their say on how fire and rescue services are provided. These proposals, along with further information, are detailed in an [online questionnaire](#) which runs until 1 February 2013. The consultation relates to Surrey PSP which focuses on preventing emergencies occurring in the first place, ensuring that an effective and well-balanced emergency response is provided across Surrey, and that fire and rescue resources are matched to demand.

#### How can I take part in the consultation process?

- By completing the online questionnaire at [www.surrey-fire.gov.uk/psp](http://www.surrey-fire.gov.uk/psp)
- By emailing comments to [psp@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:psp@surreycc.gov.uk)
- By writing to: PSP Team, Surrey Fire and Rescue Service, Croydon Road, Reigate, Surrey, RH2 0EJ  
SMS: 07527 182 861  
Minicom: 020 8541 9698
- By telephone: 03456 009 009
- By fax: 01737 222857

If you would like this information in large print, Braille, on tape or in another language please contact us.

**Making a decision:** On 26 February 2013, we will be asking Surrey County Council's Cabinet, as Fire and Rescue Authority, to approve our proposal based on our analysis and your feedback.



<sup>2</sup> For further information on emergency response modelling, visit [www.surrey-fire.gov.uk/psp](http://www.surrey-fire.gov.uk/psp)