

North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority

Community Risk Management Implementation Plan

Well-being and Improvement Objectives
2025 – 2026



Our five principles for keeping communities safe – have your say

PEOPLE

PREVENTION

PROTECTION

RESPONSE

ENVIRONMENT

Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg

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Introduction

One of the key objectives for fire and rescue services in Wales is to continually and sustainably reduce risk and enhance the safety of citizens and communities.

A Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP) aims to identify risks facing the community and describes how the Fire and Rescue Authority will manage those risks, and continue to prevent and respond to fires and other emergencies.

In July 2024 we published our five-year CRMP following public consultation and our 2024-25 Implementation Plan, which contained improvement and well-being objectives to enable us to deliver against our long-term objectives. Both of these plans can be accessed [here](#).

This Community Risk Management Implementation Plan, for 2025-26, is the second annual plan containing objectives that will continue to deliver against the 2024-29 CRMP objectives.

Our Service

The Fire and Rescue Authority comprises 28 elected councillors from the six unitary authorities of North Wales, with the number of representatives determined by the population of the area. Our mission is Making North Wales a safer place to live, work and visit. You can read more about our structure and governance arrangements, including the role of the Fire and Rescue Authority [here](#).

North Wales Fire and Rescue Service is led by a Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive and a Service Leadership Team. This comprises senior officers and managers who are responsible for departments looking after our Service's key operational and corporate functions.

Our Staff

Our firefighters respond to fires, road traffic collisions and other emergencies from 44 fire stations across North Wales. In total we have 54 fire engines. Some of our fire stations have two fire engines. Other stations have specialist vehicles like aerial ladder platforms, incident support vehicles or boats, depending on the risk in their area.

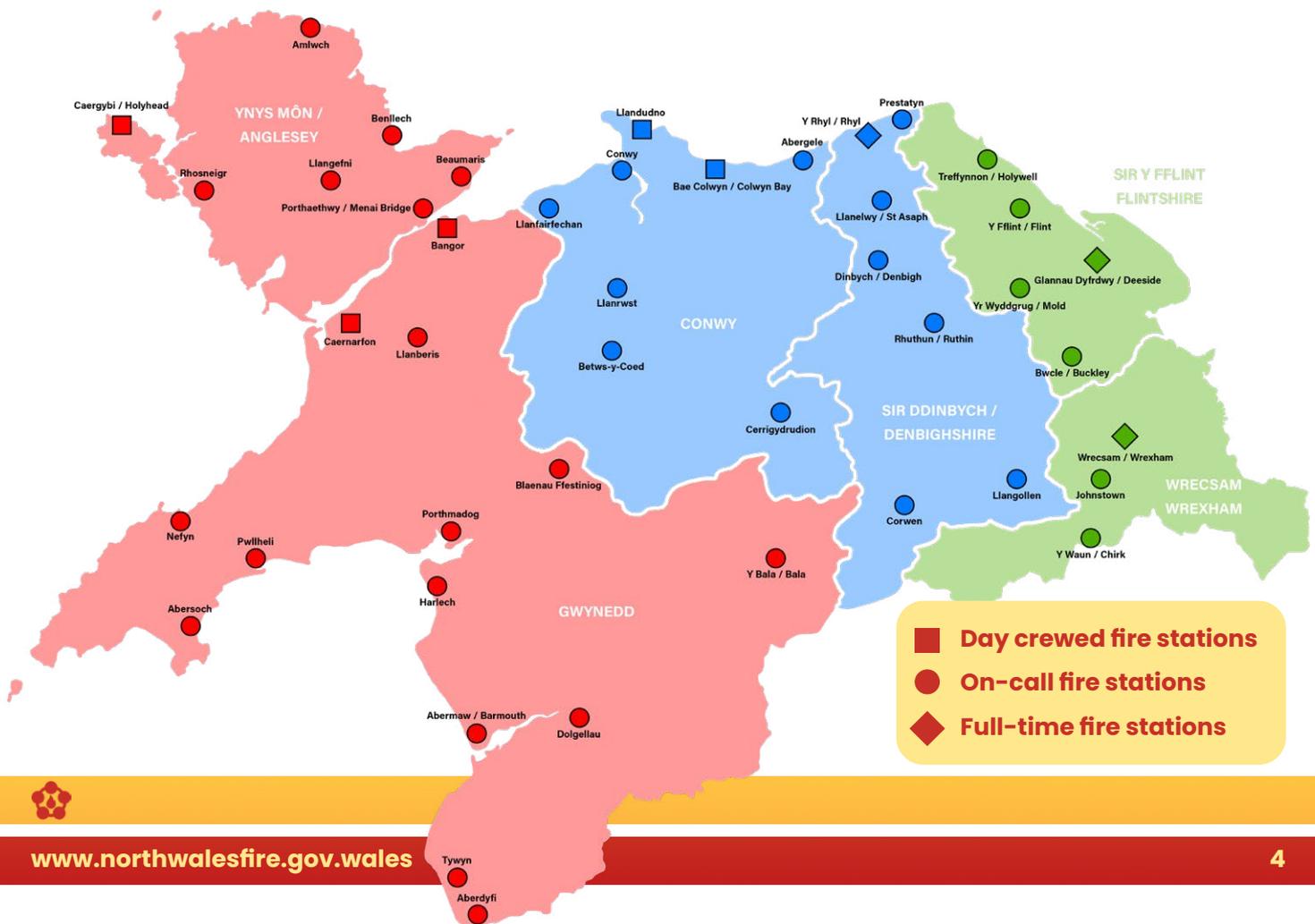
From firefighters to business area specialists, you can read more about the roles of the people that respond to emergencies and the people who keep the Service running [here](#).



Our Service area

Covering an area of 6,172 square kilometres and with a population of 687,000, North Wales encompasses a diverse landscape, including the mountains of Eryri National Park, coastal areas, rural communities and major urban areas.

North Wales comprises six counties, Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd, Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire and Wrexham. The A55 runs through five of the six counties and is part of one of the longest European routes, running between Holyhead and eastern Europe. You can read more about our geography and demography [here](#).



Our Governance and Legislation

Like all public-sector bodies, North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority is required to operate in accordance with numerous pieces of legislation. You can read more about the legislation that governs our Service [here](#).

In line with the requirements of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority must make arrangements for continuous improvement in the exercise of its functions, by setting itself improvement objectives in each financial year against at least one of seven functions.

Furthermore, North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority must consult with the public on its proposed improvement objectives. Details of how you can provide feedback on our proposed objectives can be found [here](#).

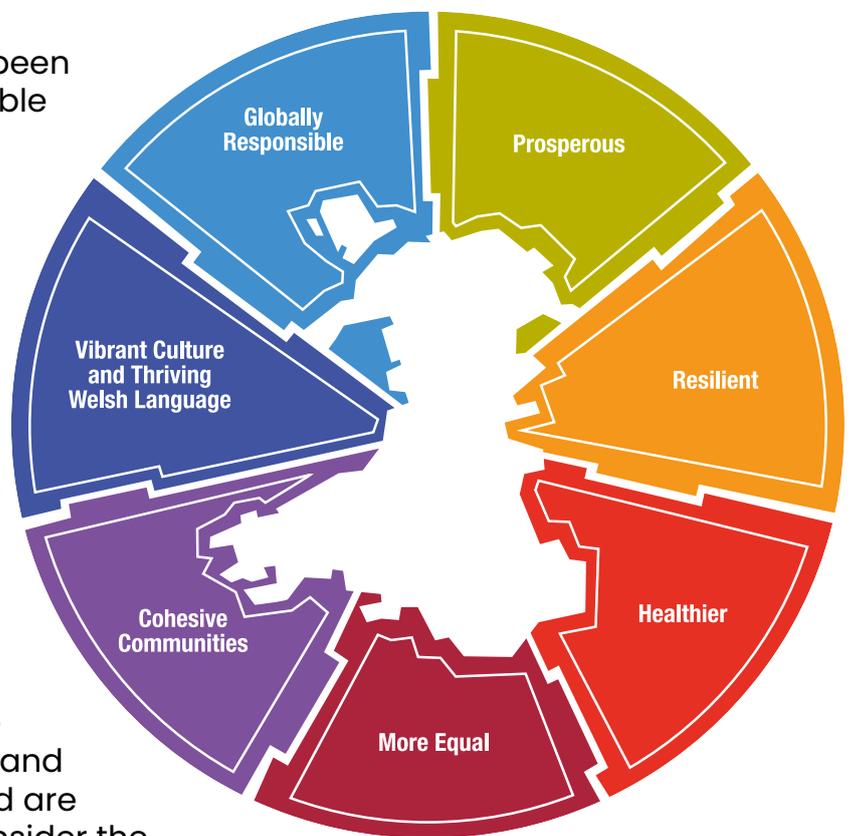
You can read about our assessment of our performance against our previous well-being and improvement objectives in our Annual Performance Assessment 2023-24 [here](#).

Our 2025-26 objectives have also been developed in line with the sustainable development principle of the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 Statement

We are committed to the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, and we have embraced our duties and our role as a statutory partner across three Public Services Boards. We understand the purpose and aim of the Act and are committed to ensuring that we consider the long-term impact our decisions may have on the communities we serve.

We will therefore ensure that when making decisions, we consider the potential impact these decisions could have on the people living their lives in North Wales both now and in the future. We will also remember to consider the rich diversity of people who live, work and visit North Wales and continue to work collaboratively with others to help the Authority achieve its objectives, and, where relevant, help others to achieve theirs.



People

Prevention

Protection

Response

Environment



A Prosperous Wales

Through our **Prevention and Protection Principles** we will work innovatively to keep people safer in their homes and businesses. By reducing the costs associated with fire death, injury damage and disruption we will enhance our support to the local economies of North Wales.



A Resilient Wales

Our **Environment Principle** and underpinning objectives contribute towards a Resilient Wales by adopting eco-friendly practices in our daily operations to cut down on carbon emissions. Through our **Protection Principle**, we will work to reduce wildfires thereby improving air quality and preserving natural habitats and ecosystems.



A More Equal Wales

Through our **People Principle** we will recruit, develop and retain a highly skilled, motivated and bilingual workforce that represents and champions the diversity of the communities we serve. We will also identify and maximise staff potential through effective people management and development, leading to a high-performance culture, where people value and respect each other, thereby contributing to a More Equal Wales. We will continue to consult staff, trades unions and the public on statutory matters and proposals which may have a significant effect upon the services we provide to the public.



A Healthier Wales

We will contribute to a Healthier Wales through our **Prevention Principle** by delivering Safe and Well Checks to our most vulnerable citizens and making every contact count by sharing any health and wellbeing concerns identified with relevant partners.

By delivering intelligence led, multi-agency campaigns targeting those most vulnerable from Road Traffic Collisions and inland drowning incidents, we will reduce the risk of death and serious injury.

Through our **People Principle** we will support our workforce to be physically fit and mentally resilient and through our **Response Principle** we will improve emergency cover in our more rural, less densely populated areas.



A Wales of Cohesive Communities

Through our **Prevention, Protection, Response and Environment Principles** we will contribute to a Wales of Cohesive Communities ensuring fires in homes, businesses or on open land are either prevented or the impact is minimised as far as possible.



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A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language

We will contribute to a Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language, through our **People Principle** by offering access to our services and the ability to communicate with us in Welsh and supporting our staff to speak their preferred language in the workplace and to offer opportunities to staff who wish to learn Welsh.



A Globally Responsible Wales

We will play our part in a Globally Responsible Wales through our **Environment Principle**. We will reduce our own carbon emissions by switching our fleet of diesel fire engines to run on Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil, purchasing only zero or ultralow emissions cars and vans and phasing out gas and Liquid Petroleum Gas heating from our estate.

Through our **Prevention and Protection Principles** we will ensure North Wales is safe through our preventative activities prioritising the most vulnerable in our communities and being prepared to respond to risks identified in the Community Risk Register.

Through our **Protection** work we will seek to avoid or limit the emission of harmful gases into the atmosphere as a result of industrial or environmental waste fires.

Through our **Protection Principle** we will work with local partners to keep heritage sites and buildings safe from fire.

Our Risks and Demand

The delivery of our one-year objectives are designed to mitigate some of the risks identified as part of the development of our Community Risk Management Plan. You can read about how we assess risk and demand [here](#).

Our Principles

Our Core Values have guided us towards adopting five Principles, through which we will deliver innovative and high-quality services to our communities and the people who visit and work in North Wales. Our Principles were developed following internal consultation and they will assist us to mitigate the risks to our communities and help us to focus on improvement within our Service over the next five years. You can read more about our Principles [here](#).



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Our 2025–26 Community Risk Management Implementation Plan objectives

Our People Principle



Being in the right place, at the right time, with the right skills.

Ensuring a highly skilled workforce by recruiting, developing and retaining a motivated and bilingual workforce that represents and champions the diversity of the communities we serve.

What do we intend to do during 2025–26?

- Ensure compliance with the Welsh language standards, including providing opportunities for learning Welsh and promotion of activities in line with our commitment to being a bilingual organisation.
- Support the delivery of an action plan for improvement following the 2023 Fire Family Staff Survey.
- Plan for and deliver the 2025 Fire Family Staff Survey.
- Communicate the recommendations and resulting actions stemming from the CREST, independent culture review.
- Continue a positive and supportive process to improve attendance by providing excellent occupational health and welfare support.
- Transform the Service and its resources to inform future demand for people and skills and enable the Service to efficiently develop and build on the existing workforce and platforms to meet that demand.
- Address and maintain the cyber security profile of the Service systems, aligning with evolving cyber threats.
- Deliver technical training, which includes the introduction of a phishing campaign, cyber training, and bespoke IT training.
- Write a Social Partnership Report to comply with the requirements of Welsh Government, which meets approval of the Fire Authority.
- Continue work undertaken by the Contaminants Group in relation to fire contaminants from all fires, and to progress best practices from Regional and National learning.



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- Develop a 2026–29 Training and Development Strategy.
- Continue to foster an inclusive workplace culture that empowers all staff members to excel and effectively address the diverse needs of our communities.
- Develop and deliver the requirements of the Procurement Act 2023.
- Identify and implement digital improvements to the efficiency of the payroll function.
- Develop the financial planning process.
- Monitor transformation and change management outcomes.

These actions will satisfy the following 2009 Measure Improvement Objectives;

- Strategic Effectiveness, Fairness, Efficiency and Innovation



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Our Prevention Principle



Working with partners to help make communities safer.

Reducing risks to our communities, especially for those people who may be more vulnerable, through our established intervention programmes such as Safe and Well Checks and the Phoenix Project.

What do we intend to do during 2025–26?

- Utilise quality data to support fire safety activities, in particular the new risk-based approach to identify and conduct a minimum of 17,500 high level Safe and Well Checks.
- Deliver intelligence led home safety interventions targeting the most vulnerable residents in our communities. We will deliver 12 targeted multi agency campaigns across North Wales.
- Develop localised area plans in line with the 2025–29 Community Risk Management Plan.
- Deliver 12 intelligence led multi-agency campaigns targeting those most vulnerable from Road Traffic Collisions and inland drowning incidents.
- Deliver bespoke, early intervention packages accredited through the Prince's Trust, adopting a trauma informed approach to develop safer, stronger, and more resilient children and young people.
- Provide staff with 12 Continuous Professional Development events throughout the year to build knowledge and understanding to better serve local communities.

These actions will satisfy the following 2009 Measure Improvement Objectives;

- Strategic Effectiveness, Service Quality, Fairness, Efficiency and Innovation



People

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Our Protection Principle



Making businesses safer together.

Providing businesses with expert guidance on fire protection to help ensure the safety of buildings, employees, and customers, thereby supporting businesses to grow. High-risk buildings are prioritised for inspections, contributing to overall public safety

What do we intend to do during 2025–26?

- Develop all supervisory and flexi-duty system officers to Level 2 in Business Fire Safety
- Undertake an intelligence-led approach to our Risk Based Inspection Programme, to reduce injury and death from fire in domestic and non-domestic premises.
- Undertake monthly business fire safety reassurance campaigns to promote safety in commercial premises.
- Work with partner agencies and deliver seasonal interventions and engagements to manage our landscape and reduce wildfires.

These actions will satisfy the following 2009 Measure Improvement Objectives;

- Strategic Effectiveness, Service Quality, Fairness, Efficiency and Innovation



Our Response Principle



Providing an effective emergency response.

Being ready to respond when you need us: to protect what matters to you, to save lives, reduce harm, and protect homes and businesses.

What do we intend to do during 2025–26?

- Design, procure, and deliver firefighting appliances with enhancements that will provide a clean cab solution, eliminating contaminants exposure to crews.
- Install Flow Meters on pumping appliances, as a response to learning outcomes from Grenfell and, a recommendation from the Chief Fire & Rescue Advisor in Wales.
- To lead and coordinate the upgrade of technology systems across the Service to ensure they are cyber-secure and fit for purpose.
- Support and implement the delivery of decisions and recommendations from the Fire Authority Emergency Cover Working Group.
- Increase the on-call establishment to facilitate an improvement in appliance availability across the region.
- Create a schedule of exercises in line with the Local Resilience Forum risk profile of North Wales.
- Conduct a review of our fleet of special appliances to ensure they remain suitable to meet the current and future risk/demand profile.
- Continue multiagency consultation response and risk management of large battery and energy storage systems.
- We will continue to develop the business case for a new Training and Development Centre.
- Review and implement relevant recommendations of the Grenfell Tower inquiry phase 2 report, to improve operational preparedness and response, firefighter training and firefighter safety.
- Continue with the Training Towers replacement programme.

These actions will satisfy the following 2009 Measure Improvement Objectives;

- Strategic Effectiveness, Service Quality, Service Availability, Fairness, Efficiency and Innovation



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Our Environment Principle



Protecting and preserving our natural environment for future generations.

Adopting eco-friendly practices in our daily operations to cut down on carbon emissions and other environmental impacts and raise environmental awareness amongst our staff and our communities.

What do we intend to do during 2025–26?

- Review stock items and develop best working practices in order to improve efficiency and management of stock levels.
- Expand the existing Electric Vehicle Charging Points (EVCP) network across the Service.
- Procure light vehicles in order to maintain the age profile at a reasonable level and ensure that our light vehicle fleet is reliable, with the latest safety standards for our staff and as environmentally efficient as possible.
- To transition existing diesel use vehicles to Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) use vehicles.
- Upgrade the Building Management System to negate the impact of terminated BT copper lines.
- Monitor and report on energy, water, and waste data including reporting to Welsh Government on carbon reporting.

These actions will satisfy the following 2009 Measure Improvement Objectives;

- Strategic Effectiveness, Sustainability, Efficiency and Innovation



Wales' Well-being Goals – How we contribute

Examples of how North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority contributes to the seven national Well-being goals includes;



A Prosperous Wales

- Implementation of the Emergency Cover Review aims to improve the provision of emergency cover in rural areas, creating new employment opportunities.
- Increase the on-call establishment across North Wales presenting pathways to full-time employment.
- Training all staff to use Microsoft 365 and to be cyber aware.



A Resilient Wales

- We already ensure that no mowing takes place on our estate between May & September each year.
- We will continue to actively educate landowners in responsible land use including use of natural grazing and other measures which mitigate wildfires.
- We are installing swift nesting boxes at appropriate locations around our estate.
- We aim to transition from Diesel fuel to Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) for our heavy vehicle fleet.
- We will be working to transition our estate away from hydrocarbon heating systems.
- We aim to install solar photovoltaic panels at the majority of our sites by 2030.



A More Equal Wales

- We will develop a 2026–29 training and development strategy based on a training needs analysis, enabling our staff to develop the skills and knowledge to be fulfilled.
- We will give people the opportunity to participate in decision making through our public consultations, the Social Partnership Duty and biennial Fire Family Surveys.
- Equality of Health Outcomes – fire and road safety – ACE & Youth interventions.



People

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A Healthier Wales

- We will continue to embed positive and supportive processes to improve attendance by providing excellent occupational health and welfare support.
- We will continue to support community green spaces by participating in events such as litter picks, in partnership with housing associations and local councils.
- We will create high-quality analysis to support an enhanced risk-based approach to proactive Safe and Well Checks.
- Work in partnership to understand the evolving threat of Battery Energy Storage Systems and deliver publicity campaigns to inform the public.
- We actively promote the cycle to work scheme and other healthy and active lifestyles campaigns. Our people are encouraged to maintain an active and healthy lifestyle through promoted nutritional plans and allocated time to use our fitness suites.



A Wales of Cohesive Communities

- Internal staff networks and resource groups create safe and inclusive platforms for people to access advice, raise concerns, share ideas and to provide feedback.
- Through inclusive design, our people minimise their environmental footprint by agile, remote and flexible working. Car share initiatives are effective and help our people to minimise fuel costs and reduce the environment impact.
- By the very nature of our prevention work, our service add huge value to the North Wales community through safe and well advice which include safety, health and wellbeing. In addition, active engagement in the community during 2025-26, our service will deliver programmes, projects and campaigns to promote healthier and safer communities. Advice and information is communicated through a range of communication methodology to widen access for different stakeholders, particularly those who are most at risk.
- We add significant value to the North Wales community through Safe and Well Checks, positively impacting personal safety, health and wellbeing.
- We are active members of various networks and forums that have been established by community anchor organisations. For example, The North Wales Community Cohesion Team established the North Wales Interfaith Forum.





A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language

- We will continue to provide opportunities for learning Welsh and promotion of activities in line with our commitment to being a bilingual organisation, offering work based Welsh courses to staff at levels 2 and 3.
- We ensure front-line staff, such as our Control room operators and our Home Safety Support Workers, who deal directly with vulnerable people, are all fluent Welsh speakers. This allows us to commit to offering a proactive language choice in line with the values found in the Welsh Government's 'More than Words' framework.
- By promoting the services we provide bilingually, all residents or visitors to North Wales that may need to use them can do so in the language of choice.
- We will continue to collaborate with 'Mentrau Iaith' initiatives across North Wales to ensure we are at the forefront of any cultural celebrations or events that will be happening and that we can engage with as a Service.



A Globally Responsible Wales

- We will review stock items in our Stores and develop working practices to minimise waste.
- We will continue to migrate our light vehicle fleet to hybrid and electric vehicles.
- We will continue supplier analysis on development of Sustainability scoring & development of Carbon intensity scoring.
- There is on-going supplier due diligence checks including; tax and legal compliance, modern slavery & adherence with National or Minimum Living Wage legislation to ensure suppliers are acting in an ethical manner.
- Utilisation of suppliers within frameworks with predetermined ethical and sustainable Key Performance Indicators.
- We have published a Modern Slavery statement.
- We undertake DBS checks on all staff as part of our safeguarding measures, ensuring we maintain a safe and secure working environment for both employees and the communities.



How to Provide Feedback

We are undertaking a comprehensive consultation to seek views on the proposals set out in this draft CRMIP before we make any final decisions. We would like you to get involved and have your say.

There are a number of ways in which you can do this. The main way is through an online survey, which you can access [here](#) or scan the QR code to take part.



ALTERNATIVE VERSIONS

If you do not have access to the internet

Call or text us on **07717 516 187**; or E-mail us at OurFivePrinciples@northwalesfire.gov.wales - we can send you a paper copy of the questionnaire, which you can return to us free of charge.

An easy read format is available on our website - which also offers information in English and Welsh and provides a user-friendly assistive toolbar, including a read aloud function, larger text and the ability to view the information in a wide range of additional languages.

We welcome your comments or suggestions. Our consultation runs from **21 October to 16 December 2024**.

Alternatively, you can provide your feedback, by contacting us via our website www.northwalesfire.gov.wales, telephone us on **01745 535250** or write to us at;

Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters
Ffordd Salesbury
St Asaph Business Park
St Asaph
Denbighshire
LL17 0JJ

Following the consultation, a report containing all feedback received will be presented to members of North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority for consideration at the meeting scheduled on **17 March 2025**.

All feedback received will be considered and subject to approval of the Fire and Rescue Authority. The Community Risk Management Implementation Plan 2025-26 will take effect from 1 April 2025 and will be published on our website.

Request a Safe and Well Check

You can request A safe and well check for yourself or on behalf of someone else by contacting the Service on **0800 169 1234**.

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