		AGENDA ITEM 5	
		AFW/17/10	
Committee:	West Essex Area Forum		
Date:	14 September 2010		

#### Fire Authority

David Johnson, the Chief Fire Officer and Councillor A Hedley, Chairman of the Fire Authority will update the Committee on the Fire Authority and how any financial cut backs will affect the service.



# Meeting the Current and Future Challenges

#### **David Johnson**

Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive, Essex County Fire & Rescue Service
Head of Emergency Planning on Behalf of Essex County Council







Doing more than we have ever done to keep Essex safe



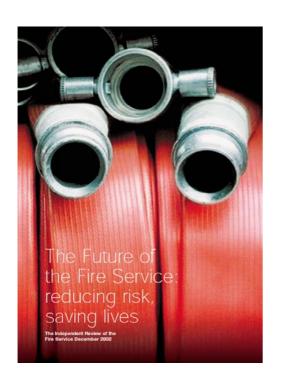
#### Fire Services Act 1947

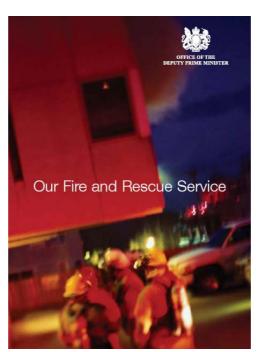
- Provision of fire services
- Fire Authorities
- Supply of water for fire-fighting
- Administrative provisions
- Pensions etc.





The Fire and Rescue National Framework







Doing more than we have ever done to keep Essex safe



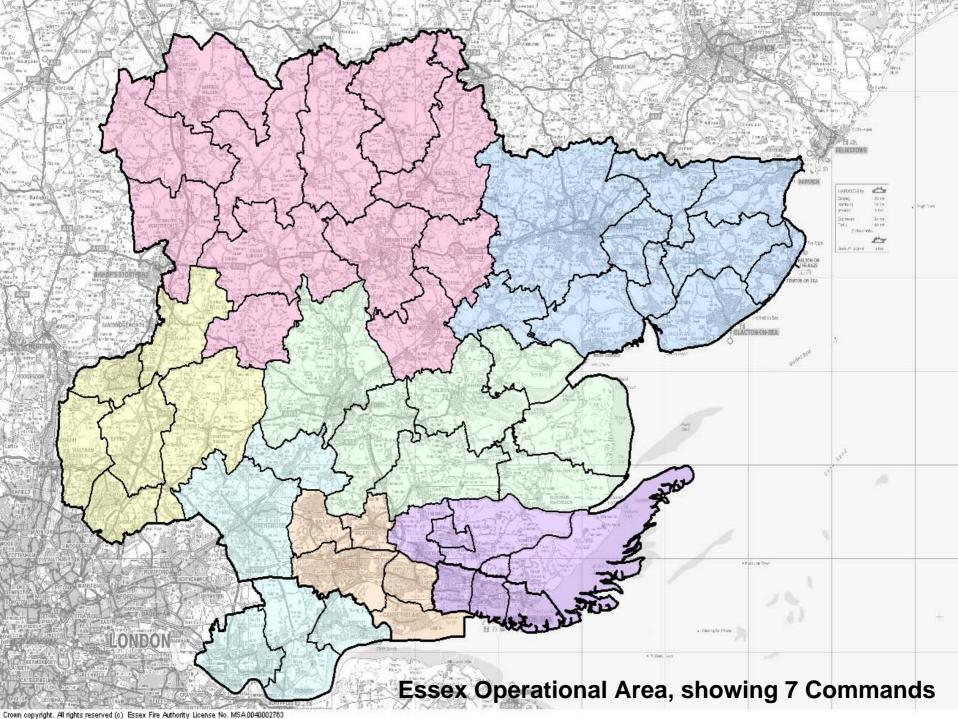
### **Modernisation Agenda**

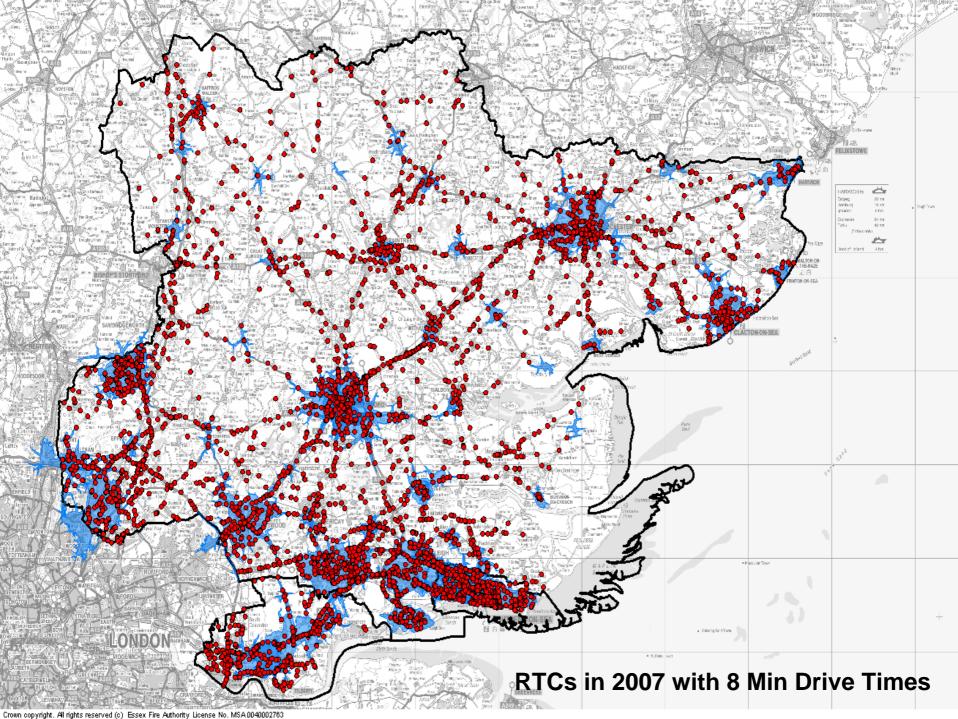
- Removal of National Standards
- Integrated Risk Management Planning
- Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004
  - National Framework
  - Creating Safer Communities
  - Civil Resilience Interoperability
  - -Statutory Powers (RTC's & other emergencies)

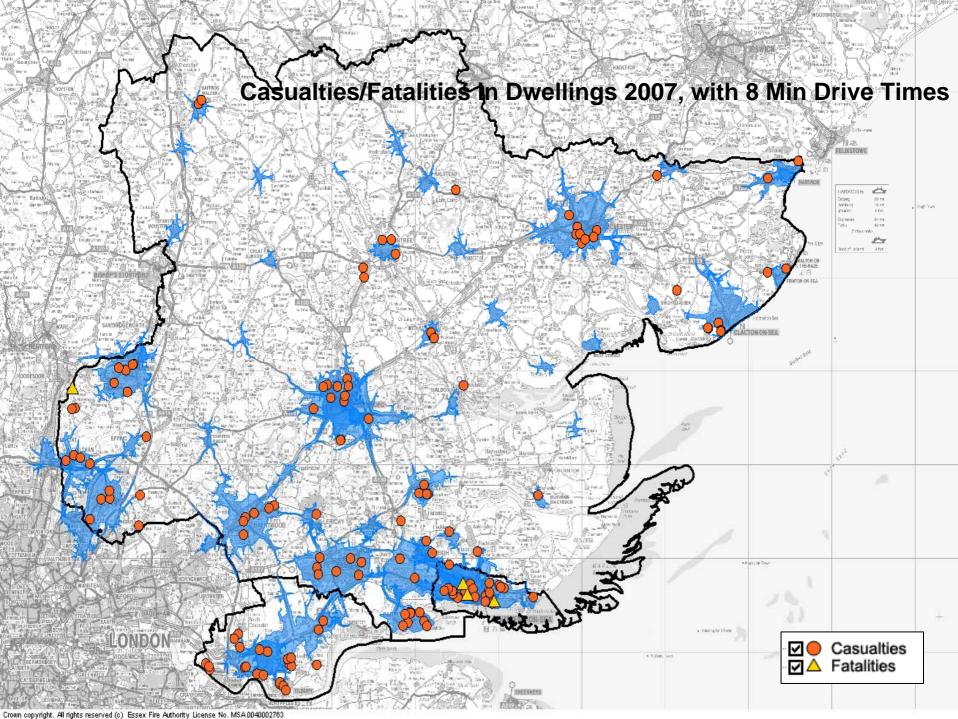


#### Service Profile

- Circa 2000 employees
- 51 fire stations
- £76 million budget
- 35,000+ emergencies a year
- 20,000+ smoke detectors
- FireBreak, Fire Smart, 'vicar in a van', RTC schemes etc









# **Appliances and Personnel**

	<b>Appliances</b>	Specials	Operational	Retained	Support	Total
Brentwood	2	CONTROL UNIT	52		1	53
Dunmow	1	PINZ		20		20
<b>Epping</b>	1	FOAM		14		14
Harlow Central	2	AERIAL & RESCUE TENDER	60		2	<b>62</b>
Ingatestone	1			11		11
Leaden Roding	1			8		8
Loughton	2		52			<b>52</b>
Newport	1			11		11
Old Harlow	1			15		15
Ongar	1			8		8
Saffron Walden	2			18		18
Stansted	1	UNIMOG		14		14
Thaxted	1			14		14
Waltham Abbey	1		14			14
Grand Total	18	6	178	133	3	314



#### 2009/10

- Primary Fires 610
- False Alarms 886
- Accidental Dwelling Fires 207
- Fire (Killed or Seriously injured) 1
- RTC (Killed or Seriously Injured) 178







#### Future Challenges

- Economic growth?
- Environmental change
- Terrorism
- Civil Contingencies Act
- Financial Pressure & Industrial Relations



#### **Economic Growth**





### **Environmental Change**

- Larger more frequent fires (1° = 28%-54% increase)
- Airborne particulates
- Economic impact, particularly in rural communities
- Impact on communities & commerce
- Critical national infrastructure
- More frequent flooding, fluvial, pluvial, groundwater &Coastal





- 'Normal' attack
- Covert attack
- Threat migration
- Eco-terrorism
- Transport infrastructure safety
- Critical national Infrastructure



## **Civil Contingencies Act**

- Wide spread flooding along the length of the coastline
- 20,000 people evacuated or displaced
- Massive disruption to critical local infrastructure including loss of electricity, fresh water, effluence containment and communications
- Severe disruption to transport network
- 7 x 24 hour period continuous event



#### **Financial Pressure**

- Global Economic downturn
- CSR ~ The known unknown
- Government review of firefighters pension scheme
- Budget cuts between 25 & 40%?
  - Review what we do and how we do it
  - Fire Cover Review



# The priority will remain the same:

Keeping our communities safe and protecting the safety of our workforce



# David Johnson Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive

