



HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY



STATEMENT OF INTENT

County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Authority (CDDFRA) recognise its duties under the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 and the Regulations made under it and accept its responsibilities for the health, safety, and welfare of its employees and those who may be affected by their operations and activities.

The Chief Fire Officer, representing the Fire Authority, is committed to the prevention of all workplace risks that could result in accidents, dangerous occurrences, personal injury, or ill-health.

In order to achieve the above objective CDDFRA will comply with all statutory requirements and seek, so far as is reasonably practicable, to ensure that safe systems of work are in place and will provide the necessary resources to be able to implement the requirements of the Act. Health and Safety will be given the highest priority with adequate resources allocated to it, and everything, as far as is reasonably practicable, will be done to:

- (i) Provide and maintain safe plant, conditions, equipment, and systems of work.
- (ii) Make safe arrangements for the use, handling, storage and transportation of the organisation's articles and equipment.
- (iii) Provide such information, instruction, training, and supervision as is necessary to ensure the health and safety of employees.
- (iv) Monitor and manage work environments to support the good health and welfare of employees.
- (v) Provide safe access to, and egress from, premises under the organisation's control.
- (vi) Ensure risks are suitably and sufficiently assessed and the significant results recorded.
- (vii) Ensure that all adverse safety events are investigated, the cause established, and remedial measures implemented.
- (viii) Ensure appropriate personal protective equipment is provided, used, and maintained.
- (ix) Endeavour to secure the co-operation of all concerned to achieve the highest possible standards in all aspects of health and safety at work.
- (x) Provide adequate arrangements and facilities to enable employees and their representatives to raise issues of health and/or safety.
- (xi) Maintain a system of audit and review to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of employees is maintained in line with experience and new developments or legislation.
- (xii) To provide an Occupational Health Scheme staffed by professional Occupational Health practitioners, who will monitor the fitness for role of all employees by a program of health screening and in conjunction with the Service Medical Advisor.
- (xiii) When reasonably practicable, health and safety to be given equal priority with financial matters.

	
Chief Fire Officer Date: 9 June 2025	Chair of Combined Fire & Rescue Authority Date: 9 June 2025

Review date: 01/06/26