Comhairle Contae an Chláir
Clare County Council

FIRE & EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

(2014 – 2019)

CLARE COUNTY COUNCIL

FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

Title	Fire & Emergency Operations Plan
Version	Version 2.0
Date	14th April 2014
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Approved by	Adrian Kelly, Chief Fire Officer

Promulgation

Comhairle Contae an Chláir
Clare County Council

Fire and Emergency Operations Plan
Section 26, Fire Services Act 1981 & 2003

Made and adopted under the Common Seal of the County Council of the County of Clare this 14th day of April 2014

Present when the Common Seal of the County Council of the County of Clare was affixed hereto:

Signed: Adrian Kelly
Chief Fire Officer
Clare County Council

Signed:
Director of Services
Clare County Council

Signed:
Mayor
Clare County Council

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Section 1: Purpose & Scope

The purpose of this Fire & Emergency Operations Plan is to fulfil Clare County Council's statutory obligation as a Fire Authority as outlined in **Section 26 of the Fire Services Act, 1981 & 2003**.

Section 26 of the Fire Services Act, 1981 & 2003, states:

"*Each Fire Authority which maintains a Fire Brigade shall prepare (and, as occasion requires, revise) plans for fire and emergency operations showing the provision made by it in respect of:*

- *Organisation*
- *Fire Stations*
- *Appliances*
- *Equipment*
- *Water supplies and extinguishing agents*
- *Training*
- *Operational procedure and such other matters as may be relevant for dealing with operations of an emergency nature under Section 25*

Section 25 of the Fire Services Act, 1981 & 2003, states:

"A Fire Authority **may** *carry out or assist in any operations of an emergency nature, whether or not a risk of fire is involved, and a Fire Authority may accordingly make such provision for the rescue or safeguarding of persons and protection of property as it considered necessary for the purposes of that function."*

The Fire & Emergency Operations Plan also includes reference to operational duties imposed on the Fire Authority by Sections 10(2) and 10(3) of the Fire Services Act, 1981 & 2003.

Section 10(2) of the Fire Services Act, 1981 & 2003, states

A Fire Authority shall

(a) make provision for the prompt extinguishing of fires in buildings and other places of all kinds in it's functional area and for the protection and rescue of persons and property from injury by fire, and

(b) establish and maintain a fire brigade, provide premises and make other provisions as it considers necessary or desirable for such purposes and

(c) make adequate provision for the reception and response to calls for assistance of the fire brigade

Section 10(3) of the Fire Services Act, 1981 & 2003, states:

"A Fire Authority shall, in exercise of its functions under subsection (2), have regard (in addition to all other relevant considerations) to the nature of the fire hazards and the probable incidence and extent of fires in it's functional area, the character of the area and the value of the property liable to be damaged by fires."

In addition to the specific areas listed under Section 26, this plan will also take into consideration other relevant areas including the substantial volume of work carried out by the Fire & Building Control Section in Fire Safety & Prevention, Building Control and Dangerous Structures areas, along with the contribution the Fire Authority makes to Major Emergency Management both within Co. Clare and the region.

This plan details current arrangements within the Fire Authority, but it also sets out strategic plans and targets for the Fire Authority for the next 5 years. This plan shall be reviewed from time to time as deemed appropriate, but in any case it shall be reviewed at least once every 5 years. It should be noted that the making and revision of the Fire and Emergency Operations Plan is a reserved function under Section 26(3) of Fire Services Act 1981 & 2003.

Definitions

Fire Authority as per Fire Services Act 1981 & 2003

"A Fire Authority means a Fire Authority to which Section 9 of the Fire Services Act 1981 & 2003 applies. Clare Local Authorities Fire & Rescue Service is the Fire Authority for all of County Clare – "Clare County Fire & Rescue Service" is the common name the Fire Authority is known by and is used throughout this document.

Fire Brigade as per Fire Services Act 1981 & 2003

"A Fire Brigade means an organised body of persons trained and equipped for extinguishing fires occurring in buildings and other places and for rescuing persons and property from such fires and includes the vehicles and equipment with which that body is equipped"

Extinguishing of a fire as per Fire Services Act 1981 & 2003

"Extinguishing of a fire shall be construed as including the prevention of a fire from spreading"

Senior Fire Officer

"Fire Service personnel in Clare at the following grades – Chief Fire Officer, Senior Assistant Chief Fire Officer, Assistant Chief Fire Officer, Assistant Fire Officer & Graduate, in accordance with the provisions laid out in the Fire Fighters Handbook"

Junior Fire Officer

"Fire Service personnel at the following grades – Wholetime / Retained Station Officer, Retained Sub Station Officer and Retained Driver Mechanic"

Retained Fire Fighter

"Officer and Fire-fighters of fire brigades who are part-time and permanent employees of Clare County Fire & Rescue Service. They are employed in accordance with the conditions, duties, pay, disciplinary code, etc relating to part-time fire fighters in Clare County Fire & Rescue Service

Major Emergency as defined by "A Framework for Major Emergency Management"

A Major Emergency is any event which, usually with little or no warning, causes or threatens death or injury, serious disruption of essential services or damage to property, the environment or infrastructure beyond the normal capabilities of the principal emergency services (An Garda Siochána, Health Service Executive and Clare County Fire & Rescue Service) in the area in which the event occurs, and requires the activation of specific additional procedures and the mobilisation of additional resources to ensure an effective, co-ordinated response.

National Directorate for Fire & Emergency Management (NDFEM)

"Body established on the 22 June 2009, the mandate of which is to create an effective model of integrated leadership, development support and oversight by central government of local authority's provision of consistently effective, safe and value-for-money fire and emergency services in Ireland. This body also incorporates the work previously carried out by the Fire Services Council. The Directorate operates under the aegis of the Community Division of the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government."

Keeping Communities Safe – A Framework for Fire Safety in Ireland (KCS)

'Keeping Communities Safe' is the output from a review in 2012 of fire services and fire safety in Ireland. It aims to provide a comprehensive, balanced strategy to ensure the safety of the public in their homes and other locations, as well as worker safety in providing emergency services. It is an integrated blue-print for further development of the critical public safety roles performed by local authority fire services, to be implemented in the period 2013 – 2015. 'Keeping Communities Safe' is about managing risk, addressing public safety improvement, incident reduction, response standards and service delivery structures for the decade ahead. 'Keeping Communities Safe' is an evidence-led plan, based on international best practice and with international expert validation.

Section 2: Summary of the Main Objectives of this Plan

It can be seen from the Contents Page that there are 12 further Chapters in this Document after this Chapter. Each Chapter contains information that is relevant to the Chapter. The main objectives that Clare County Council wishes to achieve during the life of this Plan (2014 – 2019) for a particular Chapter are summarised at the end of that Chapter. The following is a collection of these main objectives under the relevant Chapter Headings;

Section 3 - Organisation

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will aim to retain its' current staffing complement of Senior Fire Officers, Administration Personnel and Maintenance Personnel. Proposed restructuring of Operational Personnel is outlined in further detail below in Operational Standards.

It is intended to continue with the current agency arrangements for the provision of Fire Cover that are in place with Limerick, Tipperary and Galway Councils.

Due to restructuring within the Local Authority, it is envisaged that the Civil Defence Officer will report to the Chief Fire Officer in the future.

Section 4 - Fire Stations

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will continue to seek Capital Grant Aid Funding to carry out substantial development works at Ennis and Ennistymon Fire Stations during the period of this plan. It also intends to carry out development works at Kilkee Fire Station using Clare County Fire & Rescue Service's own financial resources, along with carrying out ongoing maintenance at all Fire Stations.

Section 5 - Fire Appliances

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will apply for Capital Grant Aid for the replacement of a Class B Fire Appliance in 2015 and will meet with neighbouring Fire Authorities to discuss the disposition of and the arrangements for the use of Special Appliances with neighbouring Fire Authorities.

Specialist Appliances, in particular Water Tankers have also provided added value to the Local Authority in distributing drinking water supplies during periods of Severe Weather and periods of Water Shortages.

Section 6 - Equipment

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will maintain all equipment in accordance with its' Equipment Maintenance Policy which outlines the frequency and type of inspection for all equipment. It is not intended at this time to apply for any Capital Aid Grant Funding for any major replacement programme of equipment in the next 5 years.

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will continue to provide the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to all personnel and to procure this PPE to the highest standards. All PPE will be maintained in accordance with the Clare County Fire & Rescue Service Personal Protective Equipment Maintenance Policy. The Policy outlines the frequency and type of inspection for all PPE. It is not intended at this time to replace any significant items of PPE within the life of this Plan.

Section 7 - **Water Supplies**

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service intends to maintain Water Tankers at 5 of its' Fire Stations for the period of this plan and to work with the relevant Water Authorities to develop access to available Water Supplies for Fire-fighting purposes in County Clare. Water Tankers have also provided added value to the Local Authority in distributing drinking water supplies during periods of Severe Weather and periods of Water Shortages. In addition, the Water Tankers at Ennis & Shannon Brigades are fitted with variable message signs to the rear to assist with traffic management at motorway incidents.

Section 8 -Training

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service intends delivering training in accordance with its' Training Policy Document for the period of this plan and to take account of and where appropriate implement guidance from the NDFEM in relation to training during the life of this Plan.

In addition to Training Courses it is the policy of Clare County Fire & Rescue Service to provide 104 hours On-Station training with an additional 28 hours Quarterly Testing in each station annually.

Section 9 -Health & Safety

Clare Local Authorities are committed to safeguarding, as far as is reasonably practicable the Safety, Health and Welfare of all employees, contractors and visitors. Clare County Fire & Rescue Service having attained OHSAS 18001 Accreditation in 2014, will aim to maintain that accreditation during the life of this plan.

Section 10 - Communications

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will remain a Fire Authority within the Munster Regional Communications Centre Shared Services Group and will implement new communications technology, in particular Tetra, during the life of this Plan, subject to funding being provided. The upgrading of the Computer Aided Mobilisation System, together with introduction of Tetra Radio Systems is likely to result in an increased financial contribution from Clare County Council to the Munster Regional Communications Centre on an annual basis.

Section 11 - Operational Roles and Procedures

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will attend all incident types detailed as core incident types in Keeping Communities Safe (KCS). It will also attend all discretionary incident types detailed in KCS, with specific arrangements relating to Road Hazard Incidents, in particular those normally dealt with by the Roads Section of Clare County Council or the Area Office during normal working hours or by the National Road Authority on Motorways at all times – the Fire Service will assist in these operations if requested by an Area or Road Engineer, by An Garda Síochána or the National Roads Authority. It is also intended to put arrangements in place to apportion the cost of attendance at these incidents to the appropriate Road Authority. It is intended to carry out a review with regard to the delivery of specialist response to Hazardous Materials Incidents, Rescues from Heights and River Rescue incidents.

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will generally not attend incidents that are listed in KCS as being inappropriate to attend.

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will continue to work in accordance with Operational Guidance Documents that have been prepared by the National Directorate for Fire and Emergency Management (NDFEM).

It is intended to continue to develop 7 Pre-incident plans per annum, giving a total of 45 by the end of 2019.

Section 12 - **Operational Standards**

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will aim to put arrangements in place during the life of this plan to maintain the current crewing complements at Ennis, Ennistymon, Scarriff & Kilrush Fire Stations. It intends to increase the crew complement at Shannon Fire Station from 12 to 15 personnel and to reduce the crew complement at Killaloe and Kilkee Fire Stations from 10 to 9 personnel in accordance with the guidance in KCS and other NDFEM documentation, in particular a Task Analysis Document that sets out the roles various personnel may carry out at an incident.

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will aim to put arrangements in place to guarantee the following number of personnel to be available for Call-Outs at each station:- Ennis (10), Shannon (10), Ennistymon (7), Scarriff (7), Killaloe (6), Kilrush (7) & Kilkee (6).

It is intended to regrade one of the positions at Ennis Fire Station from Retained Fire-fighter to Retained Sub-Station Officer and that in general there will be either a Retained Station Officer or a Retained Station Sub-Officer available for Call-Out at all times in each Fire Station.

Station Fire Ground boundaries will be reviewed when Phase 2 of the Risk Based Approach Project is released by the NDFEM (data set that will advise the quickest travel time for initial and subsequent Fire Service Responses into each addressable location) and in conjunction with analysis from the Munster Regional Communications Centre to ensure that the Fire Appliances that can respond to an address in the shortest period of time are mobilised.

The first Clare County Fire & Rescue Service Class B Appliance is currently attending Incidents well within the Target Travel Times set out in KCS. As more data becomes available from the NDFEM, Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will review the data and make changes to the current arrangements if appropriate.

There are no concerns at this time with the capability of Clare County Fire & Rescue Service to meet the KCS Targets for Travel Time for Special Appliances.

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service aims to increase the percentage of incidents attended within 10 minutes and to decrease the percentage in the other 2 categories. These trends will be monitored during the life of this plan.

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service has reviewed the guidance in KCS in relation to responding to Large Scale Incidents, and having considered its' own fleet availability and those of neighbouring Fire Authorities is satisfied that it can mobilise Class B appliances, Special Appliances and an Incident Command Unit in accordance with the guidance provided in Chapter 8 of KCS regarding Large Scale Incidents.

Section 13 - **Fire Safety – Fire Prevention and Building Control**

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service intends to comply with all relevant Fire Prevention and Building Control Legislation and Regulations during the life of this Plan. There is a sharing of information between Fire Prevention and Operations, particularly for high risk premises.

It will continue to introduce initiatives to reduce the Fire Fatality rate in County Clare along with reducing various Incident types. It is intended that Clare County Fire & Rescue Service would work with other sections in Clare County Council, in particular the Housing Section and the Community & Enterprise Section, to develop initiatives to work with the general public and Community Groups to reduce the exceptionally high number of Chimney Fires in the County.

Ongoing public messaging campaigns will be maintained to encourage members of the public to install smoke alarms and to test their smoke alarms once a week to ensure that they are in working order.

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will also work with the Community Section of Clare County Council with the aim of having a working smoking alarm fitted to 90% of Domestic Dwellings by the end of 2017. It will also continue to deliver the Primary Schools Fire Safety Programme and carry out During Performance Inspections along with targeting specific high

risk areas identified through the Risk Based Approach to Emergency Cover when delivering Community Fire Safety Programmes.

Section 14 - Major Emergency Management

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will prepare itself for large scale and inter-agency operations through participation in appropriate training and exercises. The Fire Service will also further develop relationships with the Civil Defence as appropriate, in particular in preparation for joint assistance in the event of a Major Emergency occurring.

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will continue to participate on the Clare County Council Major Emergency Management Committee along with the participating on the Regional Working and Steering Groups as appropriate. It is intended that during the life of this Plan the Major Emergency Management Committee would examine the feasibility of and put in place protocols for using social media outlets to update the public during severe weather events.

Section 3: Organisation

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service is the Fire Authority & Building Control Authority for the total County of Clare including the Town Councils of Ennis, Shannon, Kilrush & Kilkee operating generally under the Fire Services Act, 1981 & Building Control Act 1990.

The Fire Authority in Clare County Council forms part of the Environment, Water, Transportation and Emergency Services Directorate under the direction of the Director of Services. The Director of Services for Environment, Water, Transportation and Emergency Services and the Chief Fire Officer are the designated officers for the executive functions under the Fire Services Act 1981 & 2003 and the Building Control Act 1990 & 2007.

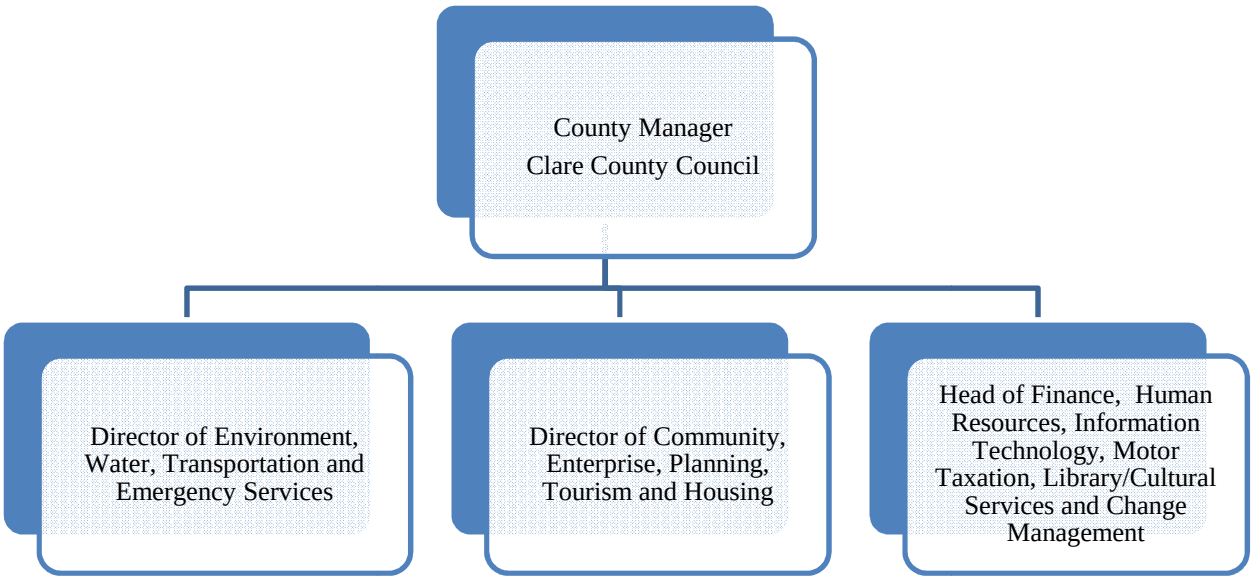
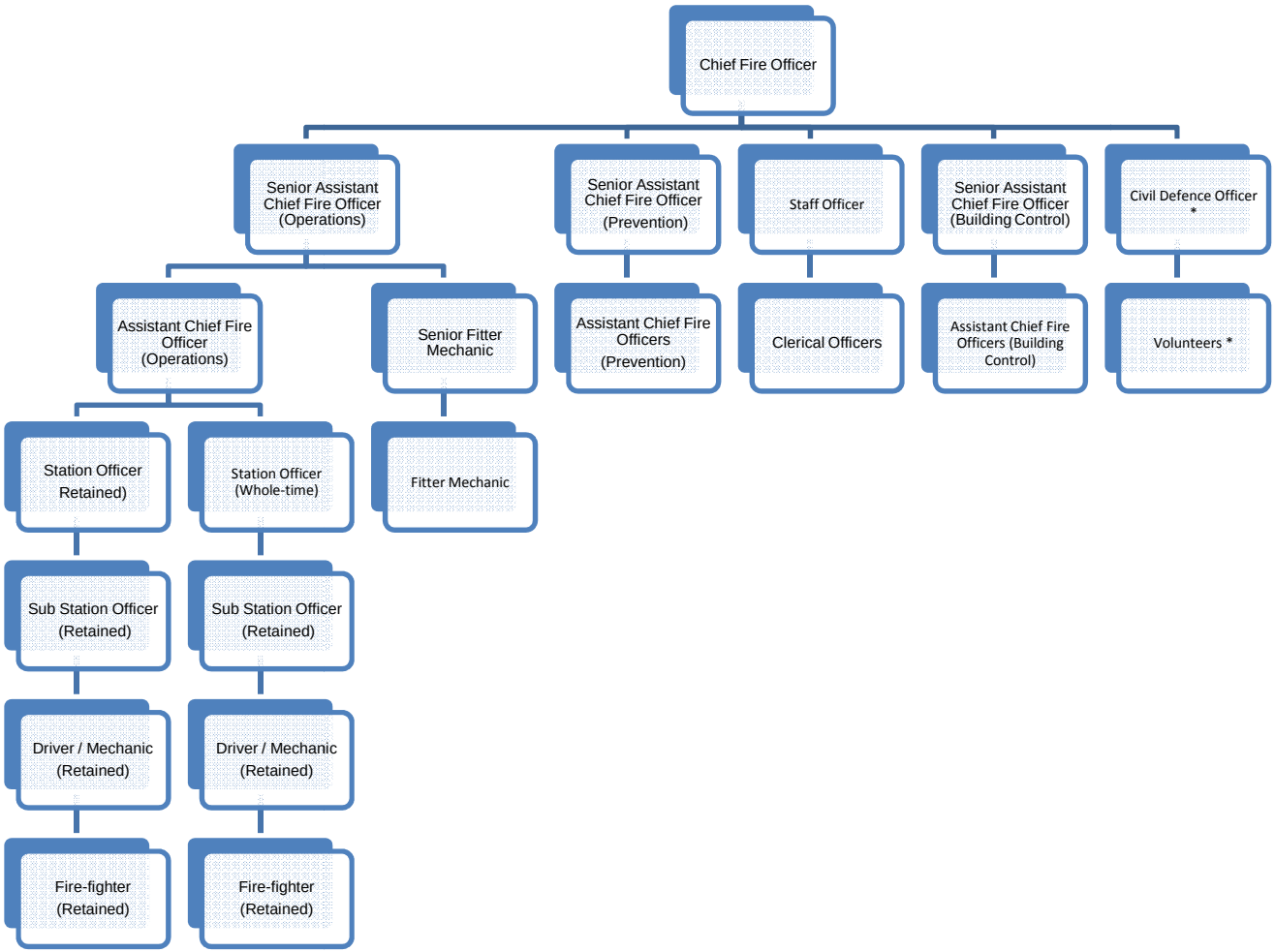


Figure 3:1 Senior Management Organisational Structure of Clare County Council

The Fire Services are organised under the Chief Fire Officer who is a professional technically qualified officer. The Chief Fire Officer has primary responsibility for the delivery of Fire Services. Figure 3.2 below gives an overview of the Organisational Structure within Clare County Fire & Rescue Service.



* Probable Re-Structure

Figure 3:2 Organisational Structure of Clare County Fire & Rescue Service and Civil Defence

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service Staffing Arrangements

The Chief Fire Officer is assisted by the following personnel (note, the Chief Fire Officer, Senior Assistant Chief Fire Officers and the Assistant Chief Fire Officers are professional technically qualified officers);

1. Fire Prevention & Fire Safety:

1 No. Senior Assistant Chief Fire Officer
2 No. Assistant Chief Fire Officers

The fire prevention officers are generally engaged in inspections of buildings under the Fire Services Act 1981 & 2003; assessment and provision of reports on Planning; the processing of Fire Safety Certificates and carrying out Licensing Inspections in relation to Dance & Liquor Licence Applications.

2. Building Control & Dangerous Structures:

1 No. Senior Assistant Chief Fire Officer
2 No. Assistant Chief Fire Officers

The Building Control Section inspects and monitors new developments for compliance with the Building Regulations 1997 to 2013. They are also involved in processing Disability Access Certificates and deal with Dangerous Structure Complaints for all of County Clare.

3. Operational Fire Service & Major Emergency Management:

1 No. Senior Assistant Chief Fire Officer
1 No. Assistant Chief Fire Officer (MEM)
1 No. Whole-time Station Officer
6 No. Retained Station Officers
7 No. Retained Station Sub-Officers
7 No. Driver Mechanics
57 No. Retained Fire-fighters

Following the completion of an Area Risk Categorisation Process as detailed in the Keeping Communities Safe (KCS) Document (2013) and the Task Analysis & Crewing Levels Guidance (2014), the proposed complement of personnel will increase by one from the current arrangement detailed above (one additional Retained position). Further details on the proposed arrangements are outlined below.

The crews in stations are provided by Retained Fire-fighters reporting to a Retained Station Officer (with the exception of Ennis station where there is a Whole-time Station Officer). The Station Officers in turn report to the Senior Assistant Chief Fire Officer (Operational), whom is assisted in the day to day management of the Operational Service by the Assistant Chief Fire Officer (MEM). Fire-fighters carry a pager and are expected to report to the Fire Station and go mobile to the incident within 5 minutes as is the norm for rural counties in Ireland at present. In addition, a Senior Fire Officer is Rostered on call each week to assist in the handling of more serious emergency incidents.

There are 7 number Fire Stations in County Clare located as follows: -

- Ennis (Central Fire Station)
- Shannon
- Ennistymon
- Scarriff
- Killaloe
- Kilrush
- Kilkee

Fire cover is provided on an agency basis by Limerick Fire Service to parts of South East Clare including Shannon Banks, Westbury, Parteen, Adrnacrusha and Meelick and surrounding townlands. Fire cover is also provided on an agency basis by Galway Fire Service to parts of North East Clare around Tubber and Ballinruan.

Fire Cover is provided by Clare County Fire & Rescue Service on an agency basis into North Tipperary in Ballina and the surrounding area.

Limerick Council provides the statutory obligation as regards call-out of the Fire Service for Clare County Fire & Rescue Service on an agency basis through the Munster Regional Communications Centre attached to Limerick City Fire Station.

The Keeping Communities Safe (KCS) Document (2013) provides a mechanism for determining a Risk Category for each station ground. This in turn is linked to guidance in relation to the crew required to mobilise to incidents. Further information on this is provided in Chapter 12 of this document, along with the associated recommended future crew complements and crewing arrangements for each station.

4. Administration Personnel

The Technical and Operational personnel are currently supported by the following Administration personnel;

1 No. Staff Officer
2 No. Clerical Officers

These personnel carrying out Administration Duties in accordance with the Building Control Regulations 1997 to 2014, arrange for payment of Wages and Invoices, issuing of Bills and general administration duties.

5. Maintenance Personnel

Due to the extent, variety and complexity of fire appliances and equipment used by Clare County Fire & Rescue Service, there is a continuing ongoing requirement to service and maintain fire appliances and equipment to the highest standards. Some specialist equipment is maintained by external contractors, but the bulk of the equipment is maintained by the following Clare County Fire & Rescue Service maintenance personnel;

- Senior Fitter Mechanic
- Fitter Mechanic

6. Arrangements with other Fire Services

Due to the nature and extent of training, procurement and technical expertise requirements of a modern Fire Service, all the capabilities required will generally not be available within a particular Fire Service. Accordingly, expertise is shared between various Fire Services, generally on a reciprocal arrangement. This results in personnel from Clare County Fire & Rescue Service instructing for other Fire Services, and personnel from other Fire Services instructing on Clare County Fire & Rescue Service courses.

Personnel from Clare County Fire & Rescue Service have also worked on secondment from time to time for the National Directorate for Fire & Emergency Management on National Projects and delivering national training courses.

7. Civil Defence

Due to restructuring within the Local Authority, it is envisaged that the Civil Defence Officer will report to the Chief Fire Officer in the future. The arrangements for the delivery of Civil Defence are not included in this plan.

Objectives for the Period of this Plan:

Clare County Fire & Rescue will aim to retain its' current staffing complement of Senior Fire Officers, Administration Personnel and Maintenance Personnel. Proposed restructuring of Operational Personnel is outlined in further detail in Chapter 12.

It is intended to continue with the current agency arrangements for the provision of Fire Cover that are in place with Limerick, Tipperary and Galway Councils.

Due to restructuring within the Local Authority, it is envisaged that the Civil Defence Officer will report to the Chief Fire Officer in the future.

Section 4: Fire Stations

Clare County operates 7 Fire Stations in the following locations:

- Ennis (Central Fire Station)
- Shannon
- Ennistymon
- Scarriff
- Killaloe
- Kilrush
- Kilkee

Figure 4:1: Location of Clare County Fire & Rescue Service Fire Stations

All major construction projects, including major refurbishment projects at Fire Stations received Capital Funding from the NDFEM. Ongoing day to day maintenance of Fire Stations is funded from the Fire Authorities own Revenue Budget. A brief description of all Fire Stations is outlined below.

1. Ennis (Central Fire Station) (Call Sign CE11)

Figure 4:2: Ennis Fire Station

Figure 4:3: Ennis Fire Station Fireground Area

Station Address:	New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare.
Fireground Population:	42,793 (per NDFEM Risk Based Approach Report 04/05/2011)
Fireground Area:	693.59 Km^2
Total number of call-outs/annum:	2009: 520 2010: 514 2011: 329 2012: 315 2013: 349

The Central Station in Ennis was completed in 1979. It originally contained;

- A Retained Fire Station for Ennis Fire Brigade
- Fire Authority Headquarters
- Maintenance Headquarters

The building was upgraded in 2001 with the provision of upgraded facilities for the Fire Authority Headquarters and a shed for storing spare appliances and equipment.

The Retained Station accommodation and facilities consists of;

- A 4 bay appliance room housing 2 No. standard Class B appliances, 1 No. Emergency Tender appliance, 1 No. Aerial Appliance, and 1 No. 4 Wheel Drive Appliance
- The Spare Appliance shed stores 1 No. Water Tanker and 1 No. Spare Appliance along with other spare equipment. (*Note, an arrangement is in place to store 2 other spare appliances off site*).
- Parking Spaces
- Muster Bay
- Locker Room
- Watch Room
- Lecture Room
- Station Officer's Office
- Kitchenette
- Breathing Apparatus Servicing Room
- Breathing Apparatus Compressor Room
- Drying Room
- Female Toilet & Shower facilities
- Male Toilet & Shower facilities
- Drill Yard
- Drill Tower
- Storerooms
- Filing Rooms
- Maintenance Bay
- Separate store for mechanics
- Boiler Room

Administration Section

The administration section of the building accommodates the Chief Fire Officer as well as the full time Operational, Fire Prevention, Building Control, and Administrative staff and consists of;

- 1 No. Open Plan Office
- 9 No. Offices
- Female Toilet & Shower facilities
- Male Toilet & Shower facilities
- Store
- Meeting Room
- Canteen / Kitchenette

Training Centre

There is a separate Training Centre Accommodation which was completed in 2011. This building is utilised for training delivery of Clare County Fire & Rescue Service Courses such as Road Traffic Accident Techniques, Pump Operator, Hazardous Materials, Emergency Fire Appliance Driving, Wildland Fire-fighting etc. The building is also used by Clare County Council to deliver Manual Handling, Line Manager, Health and Safety training etc. In addition, the training facilities are hired on occasion by the NDFEM and other Fire Authorities to deliver training courses.

Figure 4:4: Training Centre at Ennis Fire Station

The Training Centre consists of;

- Lecture Room
- Workbench Lecture Room
- Muster Bay
- Female Toilet, Shower & Locker Room facilities
- Male Toilet, Shower & Locker Room facilities
- Instructors Toilet, Shower & Locker Room facilities
- Breathing Apparatus Servicing Room
- Instructors Office
- Interview Room
- Canteen

When Capital Funding becomes available again from the NDFEM for Fire Station Development Projects, it is planned to seek Capital Grant Aid Funding to convert the existing stores area and the existing Maintenance Bay into 2 operational appliance bays and to construct a new 2 Bay Maintenance Facility. It is also intended to upgrade the older parts of the existing buildings. It is anticipated that these works could cost in the region of €1,750,000. In the interim, ongoing maintenance works will be carried out from Clare County Fire & Rescue Service's own financial resources.

2. Shannon (Call Sign CE12)

Figure 4:5: Shannon Fire Station

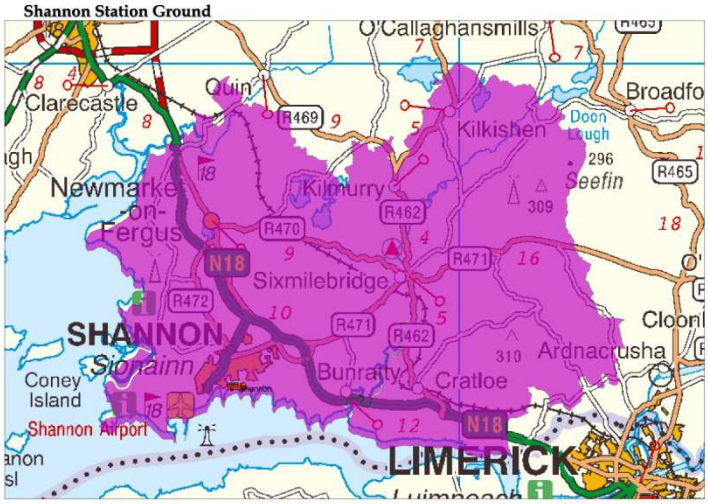


Figure 4:6: Shannon Fire Station Fireground Area

Station Address:	Tullyglass, Shannon, Co. Clare.
Fireground Population:	22,775 (per NDFEM Risk Based Approach Report 04/05/2011)
Fireground Area:	257.46 Km^2
Total number of call-outs/annum:	2009: 227 2010: 294 2011: 192 2012: 179 2013: 190

A new Fire Station was completed at Shannon in 2009. The Retained Station accommodation and facilities consists of:

- A 6 bay appliance room housing 2 No. standard Class B appliances, 1 No. Emergency Tender appliance, 1 No. Aerial Appliance, 1 No. Water Tanker, 1 No. Incident Command Unit and 1 No. 4 Wheel Drive Appliance
- Parking Spaces
- Muster Bay
- Watch Room
- Lecture Room
- Station Officer's Office
- Kitchenette
- Breathing Apparatus Servicing Room
- Breathing Apparatus Compressor & Generator Room
- Drying Room
- Female Toilet & Shower facilities
- Male Toilet & Shower facilities
- Drill Yard
- Drill Tower

There are no significant development works planned for Shannon Fire Station during the life of this Plan. Ongoing maintenance works will be carried out from Clare County Fire & Rescue Service's own financial resources.

3. Ennistymon (Call Sign CE13)

Figure 4:7: Ennistymon Fire Station

Figure 4:8: Ennistymon Fire Station Fireground Area

Station Address:	Circular Rd., Ennistymon, Co. Clare.
Fireground Population:	14,432 (per NDFEM Risk Based Approach Report 04/05/2011)
Fireground Area:	804.92 Km^2
Total number of call-outs/annum:	2009: 141 2010: 158 2011: 82 2012: 88 2013: 96

The Fire Station at Ennistymon was completed in 1981. The Retained Station accommodation and facilities consists of;

- A 2 bay appliance room housing 2 No. standard Class B appliances, 1 No. Water Tanker and 1 No. 4 Wheel Drive Appliance – (*note, alternative storage arrangements for the Water Tanker and the 4 Wheel Drive appliance are currently being explored)*
- Muster Bay
- Watch Room
- Lecture Room
- Kitchenette
- Breathing Apparatus Servicing & Compressor Room
- Store Room
- Female Toilet & Shower facilities
- Male Toilet & Shower facilities
- Drill Yard
- Drill Tower

Application was made to the NDFEM in 2010 to carry out major development works at Ennistymon Fire Station at an estimated cost of €899,000. This included the following works;

a) Addition of a 3rd Bay to the side of the existing bay.
b) Construction of a new BA Maintenance Room and Standby Generator Room, note this new BA Maintenance Room may also be used as a store.
c) Securing the embankment at the rear and side of the station.
d) Extension of the existing drill yard including security fencing.
e) Inclusion of female toilet and shower facilities.
f) Construction of a New Drying Room
g) Upgrading of the current Watchroom & Kitchenette
h) Upgrading of Electrical works
i) Creation of Parking Spaces
j) Re-surfacing of the Drill Yard
k) Re-configuration of a number of small rooms at the rear of the current Appliance Bays to maximise the utilisation of the available space for storage.

l) Repair the leaking flat roof

m) Enhanced station security.

It appears unlikely that any Capital Grant Aid Funding will become available for this project in the coming years. Clare County Fire & Rescue Service intends committing money from it's own financial resources in 2014 to carry out the following interim works;

i. Intermediate works on securing the embankment at the rear of the station

ii. Installation of an electric gate to allow personnel to park in the rear yard as required

iii. Improved Heating facilities in the appliance bays

As stated above, it is also intended to re-locate the Water Tanker and the 4 Wheel Drive appliance to an alternate nearby storage facility.

4. Scarriff (Call Sign CE14)

Figure 4:9: Scarriff Fire Station

Figure 4:10: Scarriff Fire Station Fireground Area

Station Address:	Connacht Rd., Scarriff, Co. Clare.
Fireground Population:	7,470 (per NDFEM Risk Based Approach Report 04/05/2011)
Fireground Area:	451.65 Km^2
Total number of call-outs/annum:	2009: 80 2010: 107 2011: 96 2012: 48 2013: 93

A new Fire Station was completed at Scarriff in 2002. The Retained Station accommodation and facilities consists of;

- A 2 bay appliance room housing 2 No. standard Class B appliances
- Parking Spaces
- Muster Bay
- Watch Room
- Lecture Room
- Station Officer's Office
- Kitchenette
- Breathing Apparatus Servicing Room
- Breathing Apparatus Compressor Room
- Store
- Drying Room
- Female Toilet & Shower facilities
- Male Toilet & Shower facilities
- Drill Yard
- Drill Tower

There is also a storage building (old Fire Station) which houses 1 No. Water Tanker and 1 No. 4 Wheel Drive appliance.

There are no significant development works planned for Scarriff Fire Station during the life of this Plan. Ongoing maintenance works will be carried out from Clare County Fire & Rescue Service's own financial resources.

5. Killaloe (Call Sign CE15)

Figure 4:11: Killaloe Fire Station

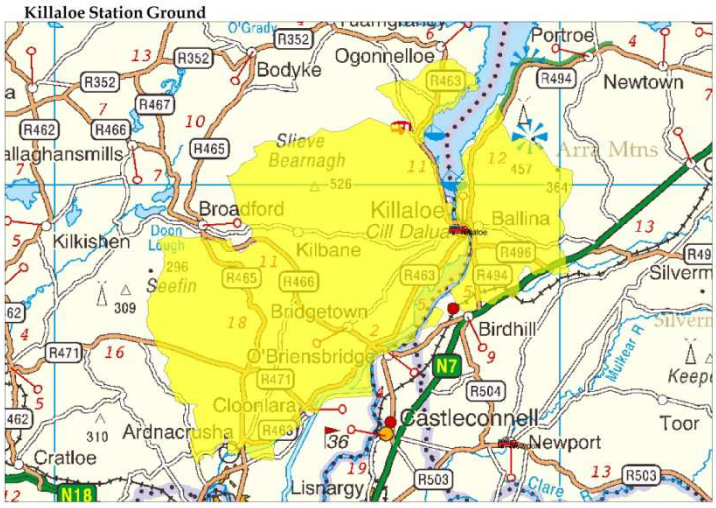


Figure 4:12: Killaloe Fire Station Fireground Area

Station Address:	New Street, Killaloe, Co. Clare.
Fireground Population:	9,373 (per NDFEM Risk Based Approach Report 04/05/2011)
Fireground Area:	216 Km^2
Total number of call-outs/annum:	2009: 86 2010: 87 2011: 66 2012: 44 2013: 74

Major redevelopment works were completed at Killaloe in 2008. The Retained Station accommodation and facilities consists of;

- An appliance bay room housing 1 No. standard Class B appliances and 1 No. 4 Wheel Drive appliance
- Parking Spaces
- Muster Bay
- Watch Room
- Lecture Room
- Kitchenette
- Breathing Apparatus Compressor and Servicing Room
- Store
- Drying Room
- Female Toilet & Shower facilities
- Male Toilet & Shower facilities
- Drill Yard

There are no significant development works planned for Killaloe Fire Station during the life of this Plan. Ongoing maintenance works will be carried out from Clare County Fire & Rescue Service's own financial resources.

6. Kilrush (Call Sign CE16)

Figure 4:13: Kilrush Fire Station

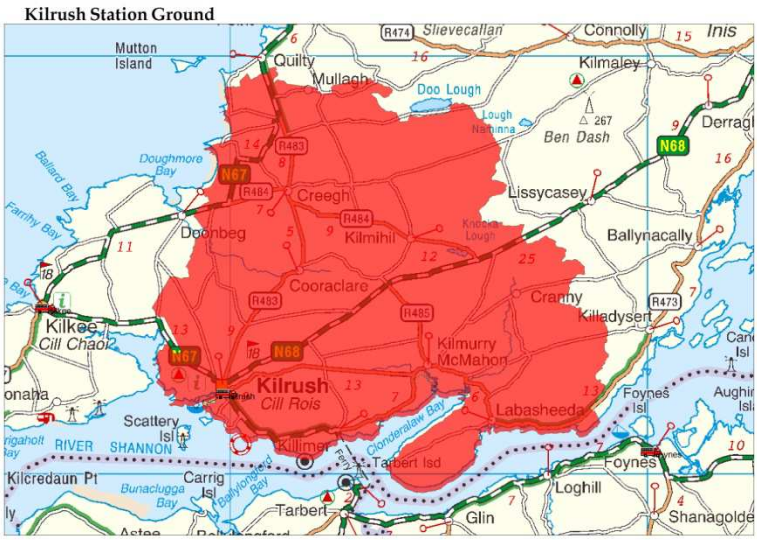


Figure 4:14: Kilrush Fire Station Fireground Area

Station Address:	Stewart Street, Kilrush, Co. Clare.
Fireground Population:	9,964 (per NDFEM Risk Based Approach Report 04/05/2011)
Fireground Area:	447.23 Km^2
Total number of call-outs/annum:	2009: 123 2010: 125 2011: 101 2012: 83 2013: 100

A new Fire Station was completed at Kilrush in 1998. The Retained Station accommodation and facilities consists of;

- A 3 bay appliance room housing 1 No. standard Class B appliances, I No. Combination Pumping & Aerial Appliance, 1 No. Water Tanker and 1 No. 4 Wheel Drive appliance
- Parking Spaces
- Muster Bay
- Watch Room
- Lecture Room
- Station Officer's Office
- Kitchenette
- Breathing Apparatus Servicing Room
- Breathing Apparatus Compressor Room
- Store
- Drying Room
- Female Toilet & Shower facilities
- Male Toilet & Shower facilities
- Drill Yard
- Drill Tower

There are no significant development works planned for Kilrush Fire Station during the life of this Plan. Ongoing maintenance works will be carried out from Clare County Fire & Rescue Service's own financial resources.

7. Kilkee (Call Sign CE17)

Figure 4:14: Kilkee Fire Station

Figure 4:15: Kilkee Fire Station Fireground Area

Station Address:	Erin Street, Kilkee, Co. Clare.
Fireground Population:	3,916 (per NDFEM Risk Based Approach Report 04/05/2011)
Fireground Area:	192.83 Km^2
Total number of call-outs/annum:	2009: 55 2010: 70 2011: 42 2012: 38 2013: 47

The Fire Station in Kilkee was built in 1964. The Retained Station accommodation and facilities consists of;

- A 1 bay appliance room housing 1 No. standard Class B appliances
- An adjoining garage housing 1 No. 4 Wheel Drive appliance
- Parking Spaces
- Muster Bay
- Watch Room
- Breathing Apparatus
- Breathing Apparatus Compressor & Servicing Room
- Male Toilet & Shower facilities

It is intended to carry out the following works in the coming years from Clare County Fire & Rescue Service's own financial resources;

- Construction of a lecture room and kitchenette in the rear Yard
- Construction of Female Toilet & Shower Facilities
- General Upgrade works to the existing station

Objectives for the Period of this Plan:

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will continue to seek Capital Grant Aid Funding to carry out substantial development works at Ennis and Ennistymon Fire Stations during the period of this plan. It also intends to carry out development works at Kilkee Fire Station using Clare County Fire & Rescue Service's own financial resources, along with carrying out ongoing maintenance at all Fire Stations.

Section 5: Appliances

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service maintains fire appliances in 7 Stations throughout the county.

There are a variety of different types of appliances in operation, i.e. Standard Class B Pumping Fire Appliance (normal fire appliance), Emergency Tenders, Aerial Appliances, Combined Aerial & Pumping Appliances, Water Tankers, Incident Command Units, Hazardous Materials Unit and 4 Wheel Drive Vehicles with off road capabilities. The following Tables show the Fire Authority vehicles based at each station;

Ennis (Central Fire Station)

Appliance Type: *Appliance Call Sign:* *Year of First Registration:*	Class B Pumping Fire Appliance CE11A1 2013	
Appliance Type: *Appliance Call Sign:* *Year of First Registration:*	Class B Pumping Fire Appliance CE11A2 2003	
Appliance Type: *Appliance Call Sign:* *Year of First Registration:*	Emergency Tender CE11B1 2003	
Appliance Type: *Appliance Call Sign:* *Year of First Registration:*	Aerial Appliance CE11E1 2005	
Appliance Type: *Appliance Call Sign:* *Year of First Registration:*	Water Tanker CE11K1 2010	

Appliance Type: *Appliance Call Sign:* *Year of First Registration:*	4 Wheel Drive CE11J1 2002	

Shannon

Appliance Type: *Appliance Call Sign:* *Year of First Registration:*	Class B Pumping Fire Appliance CE12A1 2008	
Appliance Type: *Appliance Call Sign:* *Year of First Registration:*	Class B Pumping Fire Appliance CE12A2 2003	
Appliance Type: *Appliance Call Sign:* *Year of First Registration:*	Emergency Tender CE11B1 2010	
Appliance Type: *Appliance Call Sign:* *Year of First Registration:*	Aerial Appliance CE12E1 2002	
Appliance Type: *Appliance Call Sign:* *Year of First Registration:*	Water Tanker CE12K1 2010	
Appliance Type: *Appliance Call Sign:* *Year of First Registration:*	Incident Command Unit CE12C1 2012	
Appliance Type: *Appliance Call Sign:* *Year of First Registration:*	4 Wheel Drive CE12J1 2005	

Ennistymon

Appliance Type: *Appliance Call Sign:* *Year of First Registration:*	Class B Pumping Fire Appliance CE13A1 2004	
Appliance Type: *Appliance Call Sign:* *Year of First Registration:*	Class B Pumping Fire Appliance CE13A2 1999	
Appliance Type: *Appliance Call Sign:* *Year of First Registration:*	Water Tanker CE13K1 2006	
Appliance Type: *Appliance Call Sign:* *Year of First Registration:*	4 Wheel Drive CE13J1 2005	

Scarriff

Appliance Type: *Appliance Call Sign:* *Year of First Registration:*	Class B Pumping Fire Appliance CE14A1 2003	
Appliance Type: *Appliance Call Sign:* *Year of First Registration:*	Class B Pumping Fire Appliance CE14A2 1995	
Appliance Type: *Appliance Call Sign:* *Year of First Registration:*	Water Tanker CE14K1 2009	

Appliance Type: *Appliance Call Sign:* *Year of First Registration:*	4 Wheel Drive CE14J1 2008	

Killaloe

Appliance Type: *Appliance Call Sign:* *Year of First Registration:*	Class B Pumping Fire Appliance CE15A1 2001	
Appliance Type: *Appliance Call Sign:* *Year of First Registration:*	4 Wheel Drive CE15J1 2008	

Kilrush

Appliance Type: *Appliance Call Sign:* *Year of First Registration:*	Class B Pumping Fire Appliance CE16A1 2006	
Appliance Type: *Appliance Call Sign:* *Year of First Registration:*	Class B Combination Aerial Pumping Fire Appliance CE16A2 2003	
Appliance Type: *Appliance Call Sign:* *Year of First Registration:*	Water Tanker CE16K1 2009	
Appliance Type: *Appliance Call Sign:* *Year of First Registration:*	4 Wheel Drive CE16J1 2010	

Kilkee

Appliance Type: *Appliance Call Sign:* *Year of First Registration:*	Class B Pumping Fire Appliance CE17A1 2003	
Appliance Type: *Appliance Call Sign:* *Year of First Registration:*	4 Wheel Drive CE17J1 2007	

Other Appliances / Vehicles

Appliance Type: *Purpose:* *Year of First Registration:*	Class B Pumping Fire Appliance Spare & Training 2001	
Appliance Type: *Purpose:* *Year of First Registration:*	Class B Pumping Fire Appliance Spare & Training 1991	
Appliance Type: *Purpose:* *Year of First Registration:*	Class B Pumping Fire Appliance Spare & Training 1989	
Appliance Type: *Purpose:* *Year of First Registration:*	Van Maintenance 2010	
Appliance Type: *Purpose:* *Year of First Registration:*	Forklift Training & Unloading Equipment 1997	

In terms of fleet management, the life span of all vehicles would be generally 20 years. This is normally achieved by using the standard Class B Pumping Fire Appliances as first response vehicle for 15 years and as second response vehicle for a further 5 years. A number of spare and training appliances may be older than this.

The above criteria would mean that the following appliance will need to be changed during the life of this plan:

- Alpha 2 Class B Pumping Appliance at Scarriff Fire Station

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service intends seeking Capital Grant Aid Assistance from the NDFEM to replace this appliance when it is due for renewal.

Special Appliances are appliances such as Emergency Tenders, Aerial Appliances, Water tankers and Incident Command Units. The age profile of Special Appliances in Clare County Fire & Rescue Service is relatively new at this stage and it is not expected that any such vehicles will reach their end of life within the life of this Plan. In accordance with KCS, Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will meet with neighbouring Fire Authorities to discuss the disposition of and the arrangements for the use of Special Appliances with neighbouring Fire Authorities. Water Tankers have also provided added value to the Local Authority in distributing drinking water supplies during periods of Severe Weather and periods of Water Shortages.

All appliances are maintained by the Brigade Mechanics. All appliances are serviced on an annual basis and ongoing repairs are carried out as required. Although exempt from testing, in order to get an independent assessment on the Roadworthiness of each appliance, all appliances are tested to a Roadworthiness Standard by an external agent on an annual basis.

In addition, all fire appliances are checked weekly by the Driver Mechanic outside of normal call-out and training hours as part of their Duties. These checks are recorded in an Appliance Weekly Check Log Book.

Objectives for the Period of this Plan:

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will apply for Capital Grant Aid for the replacement of a Class B Fire Appliance in 2015 and will meet with neighbouring Fire

Authorities to discuss the disposition of and the arrangements for the use of Special Appliances with neighbouring Fire Authorities.

Specialist Appliances, in particular Water Tankers have also provided added value to the Local Authority in distributing drinking water supplies during periods of Severe Weather and periods of Water Shortages.

Section 6: Equipment & PPE

6.1 Introduction

Due to the large variety of incident types the Fire Services is Clare attend, it is necessary to carry an extensive range of equipment & Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Much of the equipment & PPE is used on a regular basis, however some of the more specialised equipment is only occasionally used for specific fires or rescues.

6.2 Equipment

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service has the core equipment on each Class B Pumping Appliance to deal with all normal incidents. Equipment for dealing with Specialist Heavy Rescue and Hazardous Materials incidents is carried on the Emergency Tender Appliances in Ennis & Shannon. Water Tankers also carry a limited amount of equipment to allow for the operation of these appliances. Appendix A contains a non-exhaustive lists of typical items of equipment that are carried on these appliances. Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will continue to research the latest technologies and equipment that are available and to procure and introduce new equipment as appropriate subject to funding being made available by Clare County Council.

The ongoing preventative maintenance and standard testing of this equipment is a major role of the Operations Section of Clare County Fire & Rescue Service. The Clare County Fire & Rescue Service Equipment Maintenance Policy outlines the frequency and type of inspection for all equipment. It also outlines who carries out each type of maintenance and inspection, e.g. Fire-fighters, Mechanics, External Contractors etc. A summary of the inspection periods are included in Appendix B.

There is equipment reaching its' end of life on an ongoing basis. This equipment is generally replaced using Revenue Financial Resources within Clare County Council. Some major items of equipment will also be Grant Aided by the NDFEM. It is not intended at this time to apply for any Capital Aid Grant Funding for any major replacement programme of equipment in the next 5 years.

6.3 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Due to the hazards associated with many aspects of operational activity, wearing appropriate PPE is one of the main control measures utilised to reduce the risk. The standard PPE issued to all personnel for normal operations (Attendance at Call-Outs and Training) is as follows;

- 2 No. Fire fighting tunics to BS EN 469
- 2 No. Fire fighting leggings to BS EN 469
- 1 No. Fire Helmet BS EN 443.
- 2 pairs of Water-proof gloves with thermal lining to BS EN 659,
- 2 No. Anti-Flash hoods (shoulder length) to BS EN 13911,
- 1 Pair of Firefighters' boots to BS EN 15090

In addition to the above, the following PPE is also available for specialist operations;

- Chemical Protective Clothing Suits
- Chainsaw PPE
- Swiftwater Rescue Drysuits
- Flooding Response Drysuits
- Buoyancy Aids (Lifejackets, Personal Flotation Devices)
- Working at Heights Fall Arrest Protection

All PPE is maintained in accordance with the Clare County Fire & Rescue Service Personal Protective Equipment Maintenance Policy. The Policy outlines the frequency and type of inspection for all PPE. It also outlines who carries out each type of maintenance and inspection. A summary of the inspection period is included in Appendix C.

It is not intended at this time to replace any significant items of PPE within the life of this Plan.

Objectives for the Period of this Plan:

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will maintain all equipment in accordance with its' Equipment Maintenance Policy which outlines the frequency and type of inspection for all equipment. It is not intended at this time to apply for any Capital Aid Grant Funding for any major replacement programme of equipment in the next 5 years.

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will continue to provide the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to all personnel and to procure this PPE to the highest standards. All PPE will be maintained in accordance with the Clare County Fire & Rescue Service Personal Protective Equipment Maintenance Policy. The Policy outlines the frequency and type of inspection for all PPE. It is not intended at this time to replace any significant items of PPE within the life of this Plan.

Section 7: Water Supplies

Each standard Class B Pumping appliance carries 1,800 Litres of water in an on-board tank. This generally provides a 20 minute supply to one high pressure hose-reel and is likely to be capable of extinguishing room fires, vehicle fires, small out-house fires, rubbish fires, chimney fires or roof space fires etc.

In addition Clare County Fire & Rescue Service has 5 Water Tankers based at the following stations with the following capacities;

Water Tanker Location	Water Tanker Capacity
Ennis	9,000 Litres
Shannon	9,000 Litres
Ennistymon	9,000 Litres
Scarriff	9,000 Litres
Kilrush	9,000 Litres

Table 7.1 Water Tanker Locations and Capacities in County Clare

These Water Tankers assist at rural fires/incidents where local water supplies may be deficient and also assist to augment Mains Supplies in urban areas. In recent times, these Water Tankers have also proved invaluable in distributing drinking water supplies during periods of Severe Weather and periods of Water Shortages. In addition, the Water Tankers at Ennis & Shannon Brigades are fitted with variable message signs to the rear to assist with traffic management at motorway incidents.

Where water mains, open source supplies or stored water supplies are available, each Class B Pumping appliance has the capability to pump between 2,000 and 3,000 litres per minute depending on the supply / source.

Each Fire Brigade surveys the condition, accessibility, water flow and marking, of a selection of fire hydrants in its operational area on a regular basis. Feedback is provided to the

appropriate Water Authority. Each Fire Brigade is familiar with the public piped water supply in each area and is familiar with main open sources in its' Operational Fire Ground.

GIS Maps are available of the network and many of the hydrant locations are Geo-Coded. It is intended to work with the relevant Water Authorities as requested in order to carry out a comprehensive survey "to examine the location and adequacy of water supplies for fire fighting purposes" as required by Section 10 (10) of the Fire Services Act 1981. Maps are available in the Class B Pumping Fire Appliances of the Water Network and the location of hydrants. These maps are also available in digital format in appliances fitted with Mobile Data Terminals.

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service also advise on requirements for water supply for commercial and housing developments when dealing with planning referrals.

Under Section 29 of the Fire Services Act 1981, the

> *(1) The functions of a sanitary authority for the provision of a supply of water shall extend to the supply of water for fire-fighting purposes and the provision and maintenance of fire hydrants at such places as the fire authority requires.*
>
> *(2) Where a fire authority represents to a sanitary authority that reasonable provision has not been made for a supply of water for fire-fighting purposes, the sanitary authority shall consult with the fire authority as to the measures required and shall take such measures as may be agreed.*

With respect to commercial developments the following requirements apply:

> "Adequate water supply shall be provided for fire fighting purposes in accordance with the requirements of the Fire Authority and the "National guidance document on the provision of water for fire fighting" as published by Local Government Association and Water UK.
>
> Buildings or groups of buildings on the same site having a ground floor area exceeding 1,000m^2 shall be provided with fire hydrants at a distance of not less than 6m or not more than 46m from the building. Hydrants shall be provided within 30m

of a vehicle access roadway if required. Hydrants shall be provided on the scale of 1 hydrant to every 1,000m^2 of ground floor area. The hydrants shall comply with BS 750: 1984

As part of the Planning Referral Process, the Fire Authority provide advice to the Planning Authority where a need is identified for additional water supplies for firefighting purposes is required

With respect to Fire Brigade access the site shall comply with Section 5.2 of Technical Guidance Document B to the 2006 Building Regulations and the Department of the Environment & Local Government "Recommendations for Site Development Works for Housing Areas 1998"

Objectives for the Period of this Plan:

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service intends to maintain Water Tankers at 5 of its' Fire Stations for the period of this plan and to work with the relevant Water Authorities to develop access to available Water Supplies for Fire-fighting purposes in County Clare. Water Tankers have also provided added value to the Local Authority in distributing drinking water supplies during periods of Severe Weather and periods of Water Shortages. In addition, the Water Tankers at Ennis & Shannon Brigades are fitted with variable message signs to the rear to assist with traffic management at motorway incidents.

Section 8: Training

8.1 Introduction

Fire Authorities are obliged under both the Fire Services Act 1981 & 2003 and the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005 to ensure that their Fire fighters and Officers are adequately trained and competent to deal with tasks and varying roles they may encounter in the performance of their duties.

Chapter 4 of KCS defines what are the core and discretionary roles for the Fire Service (see further details in Section 11 of this Plan). All personnel responding to Fire Service Incidents require a minimum level of training to meet core requirements. In addition many personnel will also require further training for specialist or supervisory roles. Furthermore a number of Fire Service personnel will complete Instructor courses in order that they in turn can instruct and direct delivery of training sessions/ courses. Personnel also require appropriate refresher training in all of the above throughout their careers, generally delivered either through on-station training or through specific refresher courses.

Training has traditionally been delivered at varying levels (e.g. local station, fire authority, region, national and international) and through a variety of arrangements.

8.2 On-Station Training

Regular On-Station Training is seen as the key to ensuring equipment is regularly checked and skills are continually kept up to date. Guidance is provided in the NDFEM Training Policy Document that a minimum of 80 hours On-Station Training is carried out annually. It is the policy of Clare County Fire & Rescue Service to provide 104 hours On-Station training with an additional 28 hours Quarterly Testing in each station annually.

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service currently follows the guidance provided by the Department of the Environment in relation to the delivery of On-Station Training. This

guidance is currently being updated by the NDFEM. It is intended to follow the revised guidance in relation to On-Station Training when such guidance has been published.

8.2 Core & Specialist Training

Based on the guidance provided in the NDFEM, Clare County Fire & Rescue Service has generated a Training Policy Document. This document outlines details of the following in the Sections listed below;

1 Background
- 1.1 Legislation
- 1.2 Training Strategy – National Perspective
- 1.3 Current Training Provision

2 Developing a Common Framework
- 2.1 National Training Support
- 2.2 Training Needs Analysis
- 2.3 Competency Based
- 2.4 Training Management

3 Training for Rank and Other Roles
- 3.1 Fire-fighters
- 3.2 Officers
- 3.3 Instructors
- 3.4 Personnel – Maintenance
- 3.5 Training for Support & Administration Personnel

4 Training Records

The Training Policy document contains a Training Management Template for delivering a course. It also outlines the Core Training Requirements for each rank and Role (Fire-fighters, Driver Mechanics, Junior Officers, Senior Officers, Administration and Maintenance Personnel), along with the appropriate Refresher Period for each course as applicable. Details on Core Training Provision are shown in Appendix D of this document.

The Training Policy Document outlines a range of specialist courses that Fire-fighters and Officers may attend.

It is recognised in the NDFEM Training Policy Document that, although ideally all personnel should be trained as soon as possible in all of the relevant courses listed, it is not always possible to deliver all training required in a short time frame due to budgetary and operational constraints. Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will take account of this and where appropriate implement guidance from the NDFEM in relation to training during the life of this Plan.

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will develop a Training Plan on an annual basis based on the guidance provided in the Training Policy Document. The provision of training will be prioritised based on a Training Needs Analysis and on the available Revenue Expenditure Budget.

Objectives for the Period of this Plan:

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service intends delivering training in accordance with its' Training Policy Document for the period of this plan and to take account of and where appropriate implement guidance from the NDFEM in relation to training during the life of this Plan.

In addition to Training Courses it is the policy of Clare County Fire & Rescue Service to provide 104 hours On-Station training with an additional 28 hours Quarterly Testing in each station annually.

Section 9: Health & Safety

Clare Local Authorities are committed to safeguarding, as far as is reasonably practicable the Safety, Health and Welfare of all employees, contractors and visitors. Health and Safety underpins all aspects of Fire Service response. Clare County Fire & Rescue Service operates in accordance with the Clare County Council Safety Management System. Clare County Fire & Rescue Service has a current Safety Statement in place for the Fire & Building Control Section, along with a Safety Statement for the Training Centre.

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service has adopted the Standard Operating Guidance produced by the NDFEM and is localising it as required. Risk Assessments are in place for all incident types. Risk Assessments are also available for all Fixed Workplaces, Temporary Workplaces for Training Purposes, Equipment, PPE & Generic activities.

Health & Safety Representatives have been elected in all Fire Stations, the Central Headquarters and the Workshop. A representative from this group also attends the Clare County Council Safety Monitoring Committee.

Health & Safety Representatives have been trained in the delivery of their role. They carry out monthly inspections within their own stations, and identify issues as they arise. Any issues arising are tracked to closure. All Health & Safety Representatives meet with Fire Service Management and the Local Authority Health and Safety Officer twice a year.

All contractors and Service Providers have been assessed as to their Health & Safety competency in providing service to Clare County Fire & Rescue Service.

In addition, Senior Fire Officers and the Health & Safety Officer for the Fire Service carry out inspections of workplaces throughout the year. An audit of the Fire Service is also carried out on an annual basis.

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service having attained OHSAS 18001 Accreditation in 2014, will aim to maintain that accreditation during the life of this plan.

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service uses the National Incident Command System to manage Safety on the Incident ground and on Training Courses. It provides for managing risk using a Dynamic Risk Assessment Process.

Due to the nature of activities carried out by Fire Services, Clare County Fire & Rescue Service is very conscious of continually striving to make the workplace as safe as possible. The continual improvement in all aspects of the Fire Service enhances Health and Safety for Fire Service employees. The ongoing developments are reflected throughout this document and are reflected in the following areas (note this is not an exclusive list);

- Organisation and Structure
- Crewing Arrangements
- Fire Station Infrastructure
- Fire Appliance Fleet
- Equipment and PPE
- Water Supplies
- Training
- Communications
- Operational Procedures
- Operational Standards
- Fire Safety
- Preparation for Major Emergencies

Objectives for the Period of this Plan:

Clare Local Authorities are committed to safeguarding, as far as is reasonably practicable the Safety, Health and Welfare of all employees, contractors and visitors. Clare County Fire & Rescue Service having attained OHSAS 18001 Accreditation in 2014 will aim to maintain that accreditation during the life of this plan.

Section 10: Communications

10.1 Response to Calls

Section 10(2)(c) of the Fire Services Act, 1981, requires the Fire Authority to make adequate provision for the reception of and response to calls for the assistance of the Fire Brigade. In order to fulfil this function Clare County Fire & Rescue Service, similar to other Fire Authorities in Munster, has entered into agreement with Limerick City Council under Section 85 of the Local Government Act, 2001 for the provision of a mobilisation facility for fire services in County Clare. This facility is known as the Munster Regional Communications Centre and is located at Limerick City Fire Station.

Prior to the introduction of the Regional Communications Centre, calls were routed directly by the Telephone Exchange to the Station Officers' house. The Regional Communications Centre was created to improve the overall speed of response and efficiency of the Call-Out System for the Fire Authorities in the Munster Region and became operational in 1992. Clare County Fire & Rescue Service joined the Regional Communications Centre in January 1993.

The Munster Regional Communications Centre presently mobilises 65 Retained Stations and 4 full time stations. The system is financed by the participating local authorities through a process known as the average of averages formula where the level of contribution is determined by the total average of the population, number of fire calls and rateable evaluation for each authority. The Munster Regional Communications Centre was awarded the ISO 9001 Certification on 3rd February 2006 and continues to maintain this standard.

The service is provided on an agency basis by Limerick City Council and is managed by a committee including representatives from NDFEM and County & City Managers from each of the participating authorities (or their representatives).

The Management Committee is supported by the Executive Committee for the Munster Regional Communications Centre that consists of Chief Fire Officers from the participating authorities, the Communications Centre Manager, a representative from NDFEM, and a member of the Management Committee (Chairman).

All requests for the attendance of the Fire Brigade are directed via the 999/112 Emergency Call Answering System (ECAS) to the Regional Communications Centre ('Control'). 'Control' uses a computerised system (involving an address database, a log of all available appliances and a pre-determined attendance for each address) to determine the appropriate response and agreed weight of initial response. The appropriate Fire Service Crews are then alerted by 'Control'. Retained Fire Service personnel are notified of call-outs by means of personal alerters (pagers). A printed message with the call details is sent to the Station.

It is important to note that while 'Control' offers a mobilisation service, it has no command function. Command is always exercised by the Officer in Charge as defined by the Fire Services Act, 1981 & 2003.

A major technical review of the provision of Computer Aided Mobilisation is currently underway by the NDFEM. This project is addressing issues such as major software updates including a common operating Command & Control Software Package in all 3 Fire Service Regional Communications Centres in Ireland, changeover to Tetra mobilisation and radio systems, inter-operability between the 3 Communications Centre and a link to the new proposed Post Coding Database. This will allow for enhanced resilience and additional technical capabilities in each of the Regional Communications Centres. Apart from the potential introduction of Tetra Radio Handsets, this project will have minimal visual impact on day to day operations in Clare County Fire & Rescue Service, however, it is likely to result in an increased financial contribution from Clare County Council to the Munster Regional Communications Centre on an annual basis.

10.2 Communications Equipment

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service utilises a broad range of communications equipment in order to deliver effective and efficient service (see figure 10.1). The equipment utilised and the location of such equipment is detailed below.

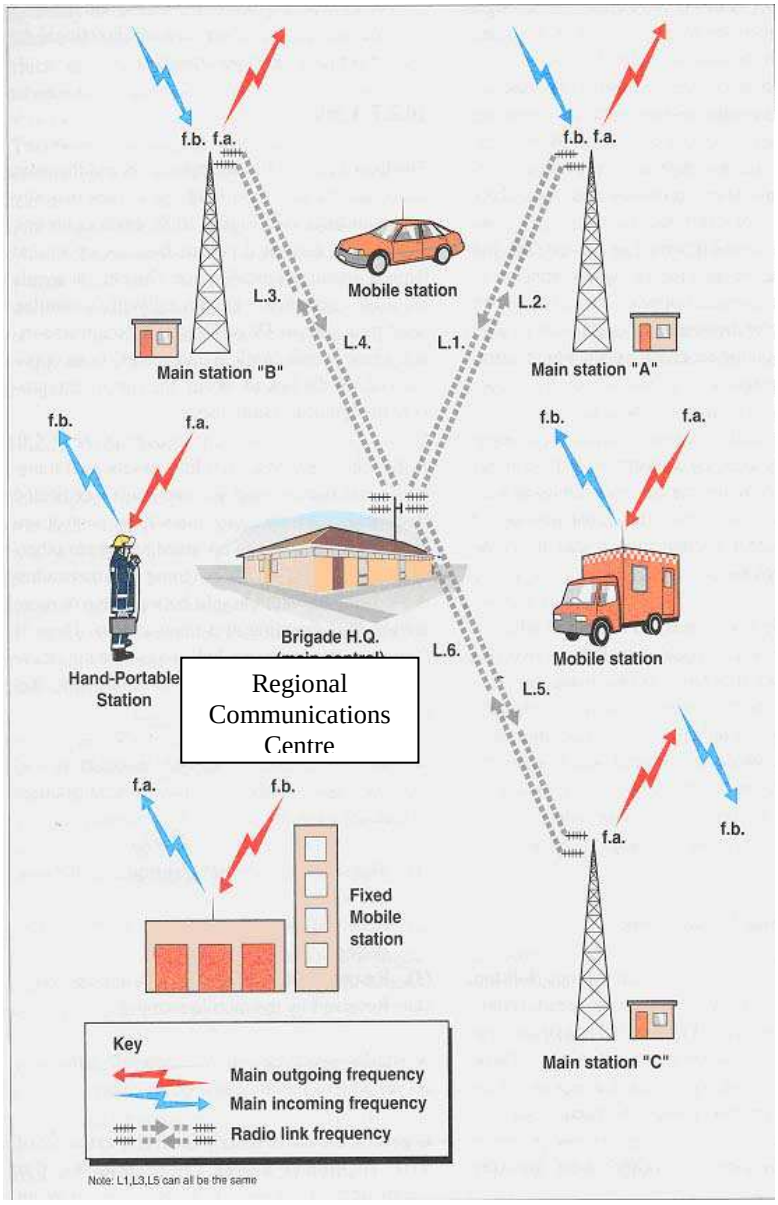


Figure 10.1: Communications Links and Equipment

10.2.1 Equipment located in Fire Stations

- **<u>Base VHF Radio</u>**

  This is a mains operated radio in the Station. This radio can be used to communicate with both the appliances on the road as well as 'Control'. A project is currently being rolled out by the NDFEM which is examining the feasibility of using Tetra Radios instead of the traditional VHF Radios. Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will consider and where feasible and appropriate implement guidance that will issue in relation to the introduction of Tetra Radios.

- **GD-92 Receiver**

  This radio receives notification of an incident from 'Control' and its function is to convert the signalling and relay this to the MG4 transmitter. The first Fire Fighter to arrive at the Station will press the *acknowledge* button on this box to confirm to 'Control' that the message has been received in the station.

- **MG4 Transmitter**

  The MG4 transmitter will set off the Fire Fighter's alerters on receipt of communication from the 'Control' radio in the event of an incident.

- **UHF/VHF Repeaters**

  There are UHF/VHF repeaters in Ennis & Shannon. Their function is to boost the strength of the signal to enable Officers to talk directly to 'Control' when attending an incident.

- **Fax Machine**

  The fax machine is used primarily for administration purposes but will also be used in the event that chemical data is requested from 'Control' in the event of an incident. 'Control' will fax the relevant chemical data to the Station and this will then be relayed by radio to the appliance.

- **Telephone**

  The telephone is used for administration purposes as well as for communication with those who have mobile phones at incident e.g. Senior Fire Officers.

10.2.2 Equipment located in Appliances

10.2.1.1 Class B Pumping Appliances

- **VHF Mobile Radio**

  These radios are used to relay messages through the repeaters on the Regional Communications Systems radio network back to 'Control. A project is currently being rolled out by the NDFEM which is examining the feasibility of using Tetra Radios instead of the traditional VHF Radios. Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will consider and

where feasible and appropriate implement guidance that will issue in relation to the introduction of Tetra Radios.

- **VHF/UHF Repeater**

  This repeater is used to relay communication from the fireground to the appliances to repeater for extended communication distance.

- **Mobile Phone**

  The mobile phone is used to compliment the radio system in areas of poor coverage and also in the relaying of sensitive communication.

- **Hand-Held UHF**

  These mobile radios are used by the Fire Fighters for fireground communication. A project is currently being rolled out by the NDFEM which is examining the feasibility of using Tetra Radios instead of the traditional UHF Radios. Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will consider and where feasible and appropriate implement guidance that will issue in relation to the introduction of Tetra Radios.

- **Mobile Data**

  The Alpha 1 and Alpha 2 appliances in Ennis and Shannon are fitted with Mobile Data Terminals. These terminals are effectively touch screen computer screens fitted in the cabs of the Fire Appliances that have been pre-loaded with information such as GPS Maps, Hazardous Materials Data, Data in relation to various premises and cars etc. Information can also be transmitted to these Data Terminals directly from 'Control'.

- **Electronic Tablets**

  Clare County Fire & Rescue Service is currently preparing to run a pilot feasibility trial of the use of Electronic Tablets in the Fire Service. It is envisaged that these Tablets will serve as an electronic document library at an incident for the vast array of documentation that can potentially be required along with being a practical simpler system for recording information at an incident, in particular Health & Safety Information based on the use of the National Incident Command System.

10.2.1.2 Emergency Appliances

- **UHF/UHF Repeater**

  As well as the communications equipment detailed for Class B Pumping appliances, the Emergency Tender appliance will have a UHF/UHF repeater. This repeater can be used for extended fireground communications between the Fire Fighters during the course of the incident.

- **Satellite Telephone**

  A Satellite Telephone is available on each Emergency Tender in the event of a failure of the Mobile Phone Network.

10.2.1.3 Other Appliances

- **VHF Mobile Radio**

  These radios are used to relay messages through the Regional Communications Systems Radio Network. As above, a project is currently being rolled out by the NDFEM which is examining the feasibility of using Tetra Radios instead of the traditional UHF Radios. Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will consider and where feasible and appropriate implement guidance that will issue in relation to the introduction of Tetra Radios.

- **Hand-held UHF**

  These mobile radios are used by the Fire Fighters for fireground communication. As above, a project is currently being rolled out by the NDFEM which is examining the feasibility of using Tetra Radios instead of the traditional UHF Radios. Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will consider and where feasible and appropriate implement guidance that will issue in relation to the introduction of Tetra Radios.

10.2.3 Equipment used by Fire Fighters

- **Alerters (Pagers)**

  The alerter is carried by all Fire Fighters and is the means by which the Fire Fighter is informed of an incident. The MG4 transmitter relays the message from the 'Control' radio

to the alerter. The alerters are programmed to recognise only the signal from the MG4 transmitter in their home Station.

10.2.4 Equipment used by Senior Officers

- **Mobile Phones**

  All Senior Fire Officers carry mobile phones. These can be used for communication with the appliances as well as with the Stations.

- **Landline Telephones**

  All Senior Fire Officers have land line telephones in their homes. These can be used for communication with the appliances as well as with the Stations, particularly in the event of a failure of the Mobile Phone Network.

- **Satellite Telephone**

  A Satellite Telephone is available for the Rostered Senior Fire Officer in the event of a failure of the Mobile Phone.

- **Electronic Tablets**

  Clare County Fire & Rescue Service is currently preparing to run a pilot feasibility trial of the use of Electronic Tablets in the Fire Service. It is envisaged that these Tablets will serve as an electronic document library at an incident for the vast array of documentation that can potentially be required along with being a practical simpler system for recording information at an incident, in particular Health & Safety Information based on the use of the National Incident Command System.

Objectives for the Period of this Plan:

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will remain a Fire Authority within the Munster Regional Communications Centre Shared Services Group and will implement new communications technology, in particular Tetra, during the life of this Plan, subject to funding being provided. The upgrading of the Computer Aided Mobilisation System, together with introduction of Tetra Radio Systems is likely to result in an increased financial contribution from Clare County Council to the Munster Regional Communications Centre on an annual basis.

Section 11: Operational Procedures

11.1 Fire Authority Operations

Traditionally Fire Services were formed to attend at incidents involving fires. However, the role of Fire Services has expanded considerably over the years. Section 25 of the Fire Services Act, 1981 & 2003 empowers Fire Authorities to attend emergency incidents other than those involving fires. Section 25 of the Fire Services Act, 1981 & 2003, states:

"A Fire Authority may carry out or assist in any operations of an emergency nature, whether or not a risk of fire is involved, and a Fire Authority may accordingly make such provision for the rescue or safeguarding of persons and protection of property as it considered necessary for the purposes of that function."

KCS provides guidance on the incident types that all Fire Authorities should attend and Clare County Fire & Rescue Service conforms to this guidance by attending the following incident types;

- Aircraft (Emergency Standby / Incident)
- Automatic Fire Alarm
- Boat Fire – Moored
- Boat Incident with Persons Reported – Moored
- Bog / Gorse / Forestry Fire
- Building Collapsed – Persons Reported
- Caravan Fire
- Chimney Fire
- Electrical Incident (Wires Down / Electrocution)
- Explosion
- Fire Dwelling House / Apartment (including reports of smoke from buildings and warm walls)
- Fire Industrial / Institutional / Harbour / Tunnel & Underground Structure / Explosive Store / Prison & Secure Accommodation / Multi – Residential Building / High-Rise Building / Underground Car Park / Multi-Storey Car Park / Public Assembly Building / Vacant Building / Sandwich Panel Building / Basements (including reports of smoke from buildings and warm walls)

- Flooding – Life at Risk – rescue and warning roles
- An Garda Siochána Request for Attendance
- Gas (Smell / Leak)
- Haybarn & Farm Fire
- Hazardous Material Incident, including Acetylene *
- Ice & Unstable Ground
- Lock In – Life at Risk
- Lock Out – Life at Risk
- Outdoor Fire (Bonfire / Fence / Hedge / Grass / Tree / Rubbish / Skip / Tiphead / Oil / Petrol)
- Radiation Hazard
- Railway Incident
- Rescue General – Persons Reported
- Road Traffic Accident – persons reported (other than Road Cleanup)
- Sewer / Trench Collapse - Person Trapped
- Ship Fire – Docked
- Ship Fire at Sea – Coastguard requests to Dublin Fire Brigade Marine Emergency Response
- Vehicle Fire (Motorcycle / Car / Truck / Bus / Coach / Dangerous Goods Vehicle)

** Note, it is intended to carry out a review with regard to the delivery of specialist response to Hazardous Materials incidents – this may result in a two tier capability for stations to respond to Hazardous Materials Incidents.*

In addition KCS lists discretionary incident types that individual Local Authorities are required to make a local decision on whether or not to attend these incident types. Clare County Council has considered this list, taken into account response capabilities of other sections of the Local Authority and other agencies, (Irish Coast Guard – IRCG; An Garda Síochána – AGS; Health Services Executive National Ambulance Service – HSE NAS; Defence Forces Ordnance Corp – EOD; Mountain & Cave Rescue Services – MCR; Royal Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals – RSPCA) along with reviewing historical data and particular specific local hazards and has decided that Clare County Fire & Rescue Service shall respond to the following incident types;

- Body Recovery (other than from Water)
- Building Collapsed – No Persons Reported
- Confined Space Rescue (Sewers / Silos)
- Mine and Cave Rescue (requests to assist)
- Flooding - No Life at Risk (e.g. pumping out)
- Lift – Person(s) trapped
- Rescue from heights *
- Oil Spillage
- River Rescue (in association with IRCG) *
- Request for the provision of water to buildings
- Road Hazard (Cleanup after Road Traffic Accidents, Tress Down, Oil or Other Substance, Flooding on road, Dangerous Building at the side of the road etc.)**

** Note, it is intended to carry out a review with regard to the delivery of specialist response to Rescues from Heights and River Rescue incidents – this may result in a two tier capability for stations to respond to these Incident Types.*

*** Note, Road Hazard incidents are normally dealt with by the Roads Section of Clare County Council or the Area Office during normal working hours or by the National Road Authority on Motorways at all times – the Fire Service will assist in these operations if requested by an Area or Road Engineer, by An Garda Síochána or the National Roads Authority. It is also intended to put arrangements in place to apportion the cost of attendance at these incidents to the appropriate Road Authority.*

KCS also details a list of incident types that are considered inappropriate for Fire Service Response. Accordingly, Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will generally not respond to the following incident types (note the agency with responsibility for these responses is shown in brackets);

- Ambulance Assist (HSE NAS)
- Boat – Not Moored (IRCG)
- Body Recovery from Water (IRCG AGS)
- Bomb Alert (AGS)
- Burglar Alarm (AGS)

- Cave Rescue (AGS)
- Civil Disturbance (AGS)
- Incidents involving Explosives / Suspect Devices or Cylinders – unless requested by the An Garda Síochána to attend on standby in the event of a fire (AGS/ EOD)
- Lock In – No Life at Risk
- Lock Out – No Life at Risk
- Medical Emergencies (HSE NAS)
- Missing Person, unless requested by the Gardai to attend for specific role (AGS/ Civil Defence)
- Mountain Rescue, unless requested by the Gardai to attend in support (AGS/ MCR Voluntary Sector)
- Rescue of Animals (RSPCA)
- Ship – Not Moored (IRCG)

Operational Procedures on how to deal with the above incident types are provided by the NDFEM in various Procedural and Guidance Documents. A number of these documents require local consideration and adoption. The following is a list of documents currently in use by Clare County Fire & Rescue Service to provide procedures and guidance on dealing with these incidents;

- Firefighter Handbook – Fire Services Council (2001)
- Junior Officer Handbook – Fire Services Council (2001)
- Senior Officer Handbook – Fire Services Council (2001)
- National Incident Command System – DoEHLG (2007)
- Fire Service Ancillary Safety Statement Template - DoEHLG (2007)
- The Use of Breathing Apparatus in the Fire Service – DoEHLG (2007)
- Road Traffic Accident Handbook (2009)
- Guidance on the Provision and Assessment of BA Training (2010)
- Guidance for Compartment Fire Behaviour Training (2010)
- Guidance on Emergency Traffic Management (ETM) by the Fire Service at Road-based Incidents (2011)
- Standard Operating Guidance (SOGs) (2010 – 2011)
- Common Specification for Fire Appliances (2011)
- List of Brigade Instructions (2014)

In addition, Pre-incident Planning is carried out by Clare County Fire & Rescue Service on premises / facilities that are deemed to be a specific risk. Pre-incident Plans are prepared in advance of an incident and contain an overview of the facility and tabulated information about the risk summarising the critical aspects of a building from a Fire Service response. Pre-incident Plans are currently available for 10 premises / facilities in County Clare.

It is intended to continue to develop 7 Pre-incident plans per annum, giving a total of 45 by the end of 2019.

Objectives for the Period of this Plan:

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will attend all incident types detailed as core incident types in Keeping Communities Safe (KCS). It will also attend all discretionary incident types detailed in KCS, with specific arrangements relating to Road Hazard Incidents, specifically, Road Hazard incidents normally be dealt with by the Roads Section of Clare County Council or the Area Office during normal working hours or by the National Road Authority on Motorways at all times – the Fire Service will assist in these operations if requested by an Area or Road Engineer, by An Garda Síochána or the National Roads Authority. It is also intended to put arrangements in place to apportion the cost of attendance at these incidents to the appropriate Road Authority. It is intended to carry out a review with regard to the delivery of specialist response to Hazardous Materials Incidents, Rescues from Heights and River Rescue incidents.

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will generally not attend incidents that are listed in KCS as being inappropriate to attend.

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will continue to work in accordance with Operational Guidance Documents that have been prepared by the National Directorate for Fire and Emergency Management (NDFEM)

It is intended to continue to develop 7 Pre-incident plans per annum, giving a total of 45 by the end of 2019.

Section 12: Operational Standards

Guidance has been provided by the NDFEM in relation to Operational Standards.

12.1 Area Categorisations

Guidance from the NDFEM provides a methodology for applying a Risk Categorisation to each Fire Station Ground. The following documents provide the guidance and data that have been used by Clare County Fire & Rescue Service when preparing a report setting out the Risk Categorisation of each Station Ground:

- NDFEM Keeping Communities Safe – Chapter 7 & Appendix C
- NDFEM Risk Based Approach Report Version 1, 4th May 2012
- NDFEM Risk Based Approach Phase 1 – Supplementary Report, 5th June 2013

The guidance has been provided taking cognisant of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005.

Each station ground in the County has been analysed in accordance with the above Guidance to determine what the Area Risk Categorisation is for that area. A report has been prepared by the Chief Fire Officer (dated 16th July 2013) to the Director of Services setting out the determined Area Risk Categorisation for each Station Ground. The following Table is a Summary of the overall Risk Grading Categorisation of each Station Ground;

Station Area	Risk Grading Categorisation
Ennis (HQ)	C1
Shannon	C2
Ennistymon	D1
Scarriff	D2
Killaloe	D2
Kilrush	D1
Kilkee	D2

Table 12.1 Risk Grading Categorisation for Fire Stations in County Clare

The following details outline the current crew complements and staffing arrangements for the various Fire Stations in County Clare and any changes that are proposed to these arrangements following the Risk Categorisation Process as a consequence of guidance in KCS and other NDFEM Circulars, in particular a KCS Research Document – Fire Services Task Analysis and Crewing Levels (Version 2.2 December 2013) that sets out the roles various personnel may carry out at an incident:

12.1.1 Ennis Fire Station (Central Fire Station)

Ennis Fire Station Ground is deemed to have an overall area Risk Categorisation of C1 in accordance with the Risk Categorisation Table provided in Chapter 7 of the Keeping Communities Safe (KCS) Document (2013).

Ennis Fire Station can mobilise 2 No. Class B Pumping Appliances and this is deemed appropriate for the Risk Categorisation for their station ground.

The full crew compliment for the station, (other than Senior Fire Officers, the Whole-time Station Officer, Administration or Maintenance personnel based at the Central Fire Station) in accordance with the Guidance provided in the KCS Document for a C1 Risk Category Station is 15 retained personnel. The current crew complement at Ennis Fire Station is already 15 personnel as follows;

- 1 No. Retained Station Sub-Officer
- 1 No. Retained Driver Mechanic
- 13 No. Retained Fire-fighters

The current crewing arrangement for these personnel is as follows:

- An arrangement is in place to provide for a minimum number of 9 retained personnel to respond for call-outs at Ennis Fire Station
- In general at least one officer must respond (either the Whole-time Station Officer, or the Retained Station Sub-Officer)

It is proposed to alter the current crew complement arrangement at Ennis Fire Station to the following:

- 2 No. Retained Station Sub-Officers
- 1 No. Retained Driver Mechanic
- 12 No. Retained Fire-fighters

This effectively keeps the crew complement at 15 but allows for an extra Retained Station Sub-Officer post to guarantee an Officer is mobilised to all incidents.

In addition, it is proposed to change the crewing arrangement for these personnel as follows:

- A minimum number of 10 retained personnel to be available to respond for call-outs at Ennis Fire Station
- In general, at least one officer must respond (from the Whole-time Station Officer and the 2 No. Retained Station Sub-Officers)

This will guarantee 9 personnel to crew the two Alpha (standard Class B Fire Appliances) in accordance with the KCS Guidance along with one other person to drive a Special Appliance to call-outs.

12.1.2 Shannon Fire Station

Shannon Fire Station Ground is deemed to have an overall area Risk Categorisation of C2 in accordance with the Risk Categorisation Table provided in Chapter 7 of the Keeping Communities Safe (KCS) Document (2013).

Shannon Fire Station can mobilise 2 No. Class B Pumping Appliances and this is deemed appropriate for the Risk Categorisation for their station ground.

The full crew compliment for the station in accordance with the Guidance provided in the KCS Document for a C2 Risk Category Station is 15 retained personnel. The current crew complement at Shannon Fire Station is 12 personnel as follows:

- 1 No. Retained Station Officer
- 1 No. Retained Station Sub-Officer
- 1 No. Retained Driver Mechanic
- 9 No. Retained Fire-fighters

The current crewing arrangement for these personnel is as follows:

- An arrangement is in place to provide for a minimum number of 8 retained personnel to respond for call-outs at Shannon Fire Station
- In general at least one officer must respond (either the Retained Station Officer or the Retained Station Sub-Officer)

It is proposed to alter the current crew complement arrangement at Shannon Fire Station to the following:

- 1 No. Retained Station Officer
- 1 No. Retained Station Sub-Officer
- 1 No. Retained Driver Mechanic
- 12 No. Retained Fire-fighters

This effectively provides for an additional 3 Retained Fire-fighters.

In addition, it is proposed to change the crewing arrangement for these personnel as follows:

- A minimum number of 10 retained personnel to be available to respond for call-outs at Shannon Fire Station
- In general, at least one officer must respond (either the Retained Station Officer or the Retained Station Sub-Officer)

This will guarantee 9 personnel to crew the two Alpha (standard Class B Fire Appliances) in accordance with the KCS Guidance along with one other person to drive a Special Appliance to call-outs.

12.1.3 Ennistymon Fire Station

Ennistymon Fire Station Ground is deemed to have an overall area Risk Categorisation of D1 in accordance with the Risk Categorisation Table provided in Chapter 7 of the Keeping Communities Safe (KCS) Document (2013).

Ennistymon Fire Station can mobilise 1 No. Class B Pumping Appliance but also have a second Class B Appliance available in the Fire Station. This is deemed appropriate for the Risk Categorisation for their station ground.

The full crew compliment for the station in accordance with the Guidance provided in the KCS Document for a D1 Risk Category Station is 9 retained personnel. The current crew complement at Ennistymon Fire Station is 10 personnel as follows:

- 1 No. Retained Station Officer
- 1 No. Retained Station Sub-Officer
- 1 No. Retained Driver Mechanic
- 7 No. Retained Fire-fighters

The current crewing arrangement for these personnel is as follows;

- An arrangement is in place to provide for a minimum number of 7 retained personnel to be available to respond for call-outs at Ennistymon Fire Station
- In general, at least one officer must respond (either the Retained Station Officer or the Retained Station Sub-Officer)

It is proposed to leave the current crew complement and the crewing arrangement at Ennistymon Fire Station unaltered.

This will guarantee 5 personnel to crew the first Alpha (standard Class B Fire Appliance) in accordance with the KCS Guidance with a minimum of 2 personnel remaining to transport the second Alpha appliance (for water supplies, fending off of incidents, additional equipment etc.) and the Water Tanker to call-outs if required.

12.1.4 Scarriff Fire Station

Scarriff Fire Station Ground is deemed to have an overall area Risk Categorisation of D2 in accordance with the Risk Categorisation Table provided in Chapter 7 of the Keeping Communities Safe (KCS) Document (2013).

Scarriff Fire Station can mobilise 1 No. Class B Pumping Appliance but also have a second Class B Appliance available in the Fire Station. This is deemed appropriate for the Risk Categorisation for their station ground.

The full crew compliment for the station in accordance with the Guidance provided in the KCS Document for a D2 Risk Category Station is 9 retained personnel. The current crew complement at Scarriff Fire Station is 10 personnel as follows:

- 1 No. Retained Station Officer
- 1 No. Retained Station Sub-Officer
- 1 No. Retained Driver Mechanic
- 7 No. Retained Fire-fighters

The current crewing arrangement for these personnel is as follows;

- An arrangement is in place to provide for a minimum number of 7 retained personnel to be available to respond for call-outs at Scarriff Fire Station
- In general, at least one officer must respond (either the Retained Station Officer or the Retained Station Sub-Officer)

It is proposed to leave the current crew complement and the crewing arrangement at Scarriff Fire Station unaltered.

This will guarantee 5 personnel to crew the first Alpha (standard Class B Fire Appliance) in accordance with the KCS Guidance with a minimum of 2 personnel remaining to transport the second Alpha appliance (for water supplies, fending off of incidents, additional equipment etc.) and the Water Tanker to call-outs if required.

12.1.5 Killaloe Fire Station

Killaloe Fire Station Ground is deemed to have an overall area Risk Categorisation of D2 in accordance with the Risk Categorisation Table provided in Chapter 7 of the Keeping Communities Safe (KCS) Document (2013).
Killaloe Fire Station can mobilise 1 No. Class B Pumping Appliance. This is deemed appropriate for the Risk Categorisation for their station ground.

The full crew compliment for the station in accordance with the Guidance provided in the KCS Document for a D2 Risk Category Station is 9 retained personnel. The current crew complement at Killaloe Fire Station is 10 personnel as follows:

- 1 No. Retained Station Officer
- 1 No. Retained Station Sub-Officer
- 1 No. Retained Driver Mechanic
- 7 No. Retained Fire-fighters

The current crewing arrangement for these personnel is as follows;

- An arrangement is in place to provide for a minimum number of 7 retained personnel to respond for call-outs at Killaloe Fire Station
- In general, at least one officer must respond (either the Retained Station Officer or the Retained Station Sub-Officer)

It is proposed to alter the current crew complement arrangement at Killaloe Fire Station to the following:

- 1 No. Retained Station Officer
- 1 No. Retained Station Sub-Officer
- 1 No. Retained Driver Mechanic
- 6 No. Retained Fire-fighters

This effectively provides for a reduction of 1 Retained Fire-fighter.

In addition, it is proposed to change the crewing arrangement for these personnel as follows:

- A minimum number of 6 retained personnel to be available to respond for call-outs at Killaloe Fire Station
- In general, at least one officer must respond (either the Retained Station Officer or the Retained Station Sub-Officer)

This will guarantee 5 personnel to crew the Alpha Appliance (standard Class B Fire Appliance) in accordance with the KCS Guidance along with one other person to drive the 4 Wheel Drive appliance (for fending off of incidents, additional equipment etc.).

12.1.6 Kilrush Fire Station

Kilrush Fire Station Ground is deemed to have an overall area Risk Categorisation of D1 in accordance with the Risk Categorisation Table provided in Chapter 7 of the Keeping Communities Safe (KCS) Document (2013).

Kilrush Fire Station can mobilise 1 No. Class B Pumping Appliance but also have a second Class B Appliance available in the Fire Station. This is deemed appropriate for the Risk Categorisation for their station ground.

The full crew compliment for the station in accordance with the Guidance provided in the KCS Document for a D1 Risk Category Station is 9 retained personnel. The current crew complement at Kilrush Fire Station is 10 personnel as follows:

- 1 No. Retained Station Officer
- 1 No. Retained Station Sub-Officer
- 1 No. Retained Driver Mechanic
- 7 No. Retained Fire-fighters

The current crewing arrangement for these personnel is as follows;

- An arrangement is in place to provide for a minimum number of 7 retained personnel

to be available to respond for call-outs at Kilrush Fire Station

- In general, at least one officer must respond (either the Retained Station Officer or the Retained Station Sub-Officer)

It is proposed to leave the current crew complement and the crewing arrangement at Kilrush Fire Station unaltered.

This will guarantee 5 personnel to crew the first Alpha (standard Class B Fire Appliance) in accordance with the KCS Guidance with a minimum of 2 personnel remaining to transport the second Alpha appliance (for water supplies, fending off of incidents, additional equipment etc.) and the Water Tanker to call-outs if required.

12.1.7 Kilkee Fire Station

Kilkee Fire Station Ground is deemed to have an overall area Risk Categorisation of D2 in accordance with the Risk Categorisation Table provided in Chapter 7 of the Keeping Communities Safe (KCS) Document (2013).

Kilkee Fire Station can mobilise 1 No. Class B Pumping Appliance. This is deemed appropriate for the Risk Categorisation for their station ground.

The full crew compliment for the station in accordance with the Guidance provided in the KCS Document for a D2 Risk Category Station is 9 retained personnel. The current crew complement at Kilkee Fire Station is 10 personnel as follows:

- 1 No. Retained Station Officer
- 1 No. Retained Station Sub-Officer
- 1 No. Retained Driver Mechanic
- 7 No. Retained Fire-fighters

The current crewing arrangement for these personnel is as follows;

- An arrangement is in place to provide for a minimum number of 7 retained personnel

to respond for call-outs at Kilkee Fire Station

- In general, at least one officer must respond (either the Retained Station Officer or the Retained Station Sub-Officer)

It is proposed to alter the current crew complement arrangement at Kilkee Fire Station to the following:

- 1 No. Retained Station Officer
- 1 No. Retained Station Sub-Officer
- 1 No. Retained Driver Mechanic
- 6 No. Retained Fire-fighters

This effectively provides for a reduction of 1 Retained Fire-fighter.

In addition, it is proposed to change the crewing arrangement for these personnel as follows:

- A minimum number of 6 retained personnel to be available to respond for call-outs at Kilkee Fire Station
- In general, at least one officer must respond (either the Retained Station Officer or the Retained Station Sub-Officer)

This will guarantee 5 personnel to crew the Alpha Appliance (standard Class B Fire Appliance) in accordance with the KCS Guidance along with one other person to drive the 4 Wheel Drive appliance (for fending off of incidents, additional equipment etc.).

Further details are provided in Chapters 3 (Organisation) and 5 (Fire Appliances) of this document regarding the Organisational Structure and the Fire Appliances that are available in each Fire Station.

12.2 Pre-Determined Attendances

Chapter 11 of this document (Operational procedures) identified the incidents that Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will normally respond to. KCS identifies the normal Pre-Determined Attendance for each of these incidents (number and type of Fire Appliances that will respond). Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will work with other Fire Authorities in the Munster Regional Communications Centre to mobilise Fire Appliances for County Clare in accordance with these Pre-Determined Attendances that are set out in KCS.

Station boundaries will be reviewed when Phase 2 of the Risk Based Approach Project is released by the NDFEM (data set that will advise the quickest travel time for initial and subsequent Fire Service Responses into each addressable location) and in conjunction with analysis from the Munster Regional Communications Centre to ensure that the Fire Appliances that can respond to an address in the shortest period of time are mobilised.

12.3 Mobilising Times

KCS provides guidance regarding expected and target times for the first fire appliance to mobilise to an incident. It is expected that the average time for the first fire appliance to mobilise from any Fire Station should be less than 6 minutes, however the target is 5 minutes. The following Table shows that current average time to mobilise from each Fire Station in the Fire Authority as follows;

Station	**Current Average Time to Mobilise (Mins) (Average for 5 Year Period 2009 to 2013)***
Ennis (HQ)	5 minutes 59 seconds
Shannon	4 minutes 56 seconds
Ennistymon	5 minutes 01 second
Scarriff	4 minutes 16 seconds
Killaloe	6 minutes 10 seconds
Kilrush	4 minutes 29 seconds
Kilkee	5 minutes 14 seconds

** Data from Munster Regional Communications Centre*

Table 13.1 Average times to Mobilise for Fire Stations in County Clare

12.4 Travel Times

KCS provides guidance on target travel times for the first and subsequent Class B Fire Appliances (Standard Fire Appliances) for Primary and Secondary incidents. The targets are for a 75% confidence level of Primary and Secondary Call-Outs (i.e. the target is only applicable to 75% of Call-Outs).

Currently data is only available from the Munster Regional Communications Centre for the travel time for the first attending Class B Fire Appliance (Standard Fire Appliance) for all call-outs (i.e. Primary, Secondary & Tertiary Incidents). When Data becomes available for subsequent Class B appliances and Special Appliances, the Data will be analysed to determine if Clare County Fire & Rescue Service conforms with this guidance.

In addition, guidance is also provided in relation to the travel times for special appliances, specifically Aerial Appliances, Emergency Tender Appliances, Incident Command Units and Water Tankers.

The following Tables summarise the target travel time for various appliance types and the average Travel Time for the first Class B Fire Appliance for all incident types in shown as an indicator of current travel times.

12.4.1 Ennis Fire Station - Overall Station Risk Categorisation C1

The following appliances are currently based at Ennis Fire Station (further details are available in Chapter 5):

- 2 No. Class B Appliances;
- 1 No. Emergency Tender Appliance;
- 1 No. Aerial Appliance;
- 1 No. Water Tanker;
- 1 No. 4 Wheel Drive Appliance;

The following Table summarises the guidance in KCS regarding Travel Times for Class B Appliances:

Number of Class B Appliances	KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time to primary and secondary incidents (for 75% of Call-outs)
1 Appliance	10 minutes
2 Appliances	20 minutes
3 Appliances	30 minutes

The current Average Travel Time (based on data from the Munster Regional Communications Centre for Average Travel Time for the 5 Year Period 2009 to 2013) for the First Class B Appliance from Ennis Fire Station for all Call-Out Types is **7 minutes 45 seconds,** so it is not envisaged that there will be any issues achieving the KCS Target Travel Times for Class B Appliances.

The following guidance is also provided in relation to the travel times for special appliances, specifically Aerial Appliances, Emergency Tender Appliances, Incident Command Units and Water Tankers for Ennis Fire Station:

Appliance Type	KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time
Aerial Appliance	30 minutes
Emergency Tender Fire Appliance	45 minutes
Incident Command Unit	75 minutes
Water Tanker Appliance	75 minutes

Currently all of the above special types are based at Ennis Fire Station other than an Incident Command Unit which is based at Shannon Fire Station. Accordingly, it is not envisaged that there will be any issues achieving the KCS Target Travel Times for Special Appliances.

12.4.2 Shannon Fire Station - Overall Station Risk Categorisation C2

The following appliances are currently based at Shannon Fire Station (further details are available in Chapter 5):

- 2 No. Class B Appliances;
- 1 No. Emergency Tender Appliance;
- 1 No. Aerial Appliance;
- 1 No. Water Tanker;
- 1 No. Incident Command Unit;
- 1 No. 4 Wheel Drive Appliance;

The following Table summarises the guidance in KCS regarding Travel Times for Class B Appliances:

Number of Class B Appliances	**KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time to primary and secondary incidents (for 75% of Call-outs)**
1 Appliance	10 minutes
2 Appliances	20 minutes
3 Appliances	30 minutes

The current Average Travel Time (based on data from the Munster Regional Communications Centre for Average Travel Time for the 5 Year Period 2009 to 2013) for the First Class B Appliance from Shannon Fire Station for all Call-Out Types is **7 minutes 43 seconds,** so it is not envisaged that there will be any issues achieving the KCS Target Travel Times for Class B Appliances.

The following guidance is also provided in relation to the travel times for special appliances, specifically Aerial Appliances, Emergency Tender Appliances, Incident Command Units and Water Tankers for Shannon Fire Station:

Appliance Type	KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time
Aerial Appliance	30 minutes
Emergency Tender Fire Appliance	45 minutes
Incident Command Unit	75 minutes
Water Tanker Appliance	75 minutes

Currently all of the above special types are based at Shannon Fire Station. Accordingly, it is not envisaged that there will be any issues achieving the KCS Target Travel Times for Special Appliances.

12.4.3 Ennistymon Fire Station - Overall Station Risk Categorisation D1

The following appliances are currently based at Ennistymon Fire Station (further details are available in Chapter 5):

- 2 No. Class B Appliances;
- 1 No. Water Tanker;
- 1 No. 4 Wheel Drive Appliance;

The following Table summarises the guidance in KCS regarding Travel Times for Class B Appliances:

Number of Class B Appliances	KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time to primary and secondary incidents (for 75% of Call-outs)
1 Appliance	20 minutes
2 Appliances	40 minutes

The current Average Travel Time (based on data from the Munster Regional Communications Centre for Average Travel Time for the 5 Year Period 2009 to 2013) for the First Class B Appliance from Ennistymon Fire Station for all Call-Out Types is **12 minutes 19 seconds,** so it is not envisaged that there will be any issues achieving the KCS Target Travel Times for Class B Appliances.

The following guidance is also provided in relation to the travel times for special appliances, specifically Aerial Appliances, Emergency Tender Appliances, Incident Command Units and Water Tankers for Ennistymon Fire Station:

Appliance Type	KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time
Aerial Appliance	60 minutes
Emergency Tender Fire Appliance	60 minutes
Incident Command Unit	90 minutes
Water Tanker Appliance	90 minutes

Currently a Water Tanker is based at Ennistymon Fire Station. An Aerial Appliance and an Emergency Tender are based at Ennis Fire Station and an Incident Command Unit is based at Shannon Fire Station. Accordingly, it is not envisaged that there will be any issues achieving the KCS Target Travel Times for Special Appliances.

12.4.3 Scarriff Fire Station - Overall Station Risk Categorisation D2

The following appliances are currently based at Scarriff Fire Station (further details are available in Chapter 5):

- 2 No. Class B Appliances;
- 1 No. Water Tanker;
- 1 No. 4 Wheel Drive Appliance;

The following Table summarises the guidance in KCS regarding Travel Times for Class B Appliances:

Number of Class B Appliances	KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time to primary and secondary incidents (for 75% of Call-outs)
1 Appliance	20 minutes
2 Appliances	40 minutes

The current Average Travel Time (based on data from the Munster Regional Communications Centre for Average Travel Time for the 5 Year Period 2009 to 2013) for the First Class B Appliance from Scarriff Fire Station for all Call-Out Types is **14 minutes 37**

seconds, so it is not envisaged that there will be any issues achieving the KCS Target Travel Times for Class B Appliances.

The following guidance is also provided in relation to the travel times for special appliances, specifically Aerial Appliances, Emergency Tender Appliances, Incident Command Units and Water Tankers for Scarriff Fire Station:

Appliance Type	KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time
Aerial Appliance	60 minutes
Emergency Tender Fire Appliance	60 minutes
Incident Command Unit	90 minutes
Water Tanker Appliance	90 minutes

Currently a Water Tanker is based at Scarriff Fire Station. An Aerial Appliance and an Emergency Tender are based at Ennis Fire Station and an Incident Command Unit is based at Shannon Fire Station. Accordingly, it is not envisaged that there will be any issues achieving the KCS Target Travel Times for Special Appliances.

12.4.3 Killaloe Fire Station - Overall Station Risk Categorisation D2

The following appliances are currently based at Killaloe Fire Station (further details are available in Chapter 5):

- 1 No. Class B Appliance;
- 1 No. 4 Wheel Drive Appliance;

The following Table summarises the guidance in KCS regarding Travel Times for Class B Appliances:

Number of Class B Appliances	KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time to primary and secondary incidents (for 75% of Call-outs)
1 Appliance	20 minutes
2 Appliances	40 minutes

The current Average Travel Time (based on data from the Munster Regional Communications Centre for Average Travel Time for the 5 Year Period 2009 to 2013) for the First Class B Appliance from Killaloe Fire Station for all Call-Out Types is **12 minutes 06 seconds.** A second Class B Fire Appliance is also available at either Scarriff, Newport or Limerick City Fire Stations depending on the location of an incident. Accordingly, it is not envisaged that there will be any issues achieving the KCS Target Travel Times for Class B Appliances.

The following guidance is also provided in relation to the travel times for special appliances, specifically Aerial Appliances, Emergency Tender Appliances, Incident Command Units and Water Tankers for Killaloe Fire Station:

Appliance Type	KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time
Aerial Appliance	60 minutes
Emergency Tender Fire Appliance	60 minutes
Incident Command Unit	90 minutes
Water Tanker Appliance	90 minutes

A Water Tanker is based at Scarriff and Limerick City Fire Stations. An Aerial Appliance and an Emergency Tender are based at Limerick City and Shannon Fire Stations and an Incident Command Unit is based at Shannon Fire Station. Accordingly, it is not envisaged that there will be any issues achieving the KCS Target Travel Times for Special Appliances.

12.4.3 Kilrush Fire Station - Overall Station Risk Categorisation D1

The following appliances are currently based at Kilrush Fire Station (further details are available in Chapter 5):

- 1 No. Class B Appliances;
- 1 No. Combined Class B / Aerial Appliance;
- 1 No. Water Tanker;
- 1 No. 4 Wheel Drive Appliance;

The following Table summarises the guidance in KCS regarding Travel Times for Class B Appliances:

Number of Class B Appliances	KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time to primary and secondary incidents (for 75% of Call-outs)
1 Appliance	20 minutes
2 Appliances	40 minutes

The current Average Travel Time (based on data from the Munster Regional Communications Centre for Average Travel Time for the 5 Year Period 2009 to 2013) for the First Class B Appliance from Kilrush Fire Station for all Call-Out Types is **8 minutes 41 seconds,** so it is not envisaged that there will be any issues achieving the KCS Target Travel Times for Class B Appliances.

The following guidance is also provided in relation to the travel times for special appliances, specifically Aerial Appliances, Emergency Tender Appliances, Incident Command Units and Water Tankers for Kilrush Fire Station:

Appliance Type	KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time
Aerial Appliance	60 minutes
Emergency Tender Fire Appliance	60 minutes
Incident Command Unit	90 minutes
Water Tanker Appliance	90 minutes

Currently a Water Tanker and an Aerial Appliance are based at Kilrush Fire Station. An Emergency Tender Appliance is based at Ennis Fire Station and an Incident Command Unit is based at Shannon Fire Station. Accordingly, it is not envisaged that there will be any issues achieving the KCS Target Travel Times for Special Appliances.

12.4.3 Kilkee Fire Station - Overall Station Risk Categorisation D2

The following appliances are currently based at Kilkee Fire Station (further details are available in Chapter 5):

- 1 No. Class B Appliance;
- 1 No. 4 Wheel Drive Appliance;

The following Table summarises the guidance in KCS regarding Travel Times for Class B Appliances:

Number of Class B Appliances	KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time to primary and secondary incidents (for 75% of Call-outs)
1 Appliance	20 minutes
2 Appliances	40 minutes

The current Average Travel Time (based on data from the Munster Regional Communications Centre for Average Travel Time for the 5 Year Period 2009 to 2013) for the First Class B Appliance from Kilrush Fire Station for all Call-Out Types is **6 minutes 02 seconds.** A second Class B Fire Appliance is also available at Kilrush Fire Station. Accordingly, it is not envisaged that there will be any issues achieving the KCS Target Travel Times for Class B Appliances.

The following guidance is also provided in relation to the travel times for special appliances, specifically Aerial Appliances, Emergency Tender Appliances, Incident Command Units and Water Tankers for Kilkee Fire Station:

Appliance Type	KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time
Aerial Appliance	60 minutes
Emergency Tender Fire Appliance	60 minutes
Incident Command Unit	90 minutes
Water Tanker Appliance	90 minutes

A Water Tanker and an Aerial Appliance are based at Kilrush Fire Stations. An Emergency Tender is based at Ennis Fire Station and an Incident Command Unit is based at Shannon Fire

Station. Accordingly, it is not envisaged that there will be any issues achieving the KCS Target Travel Times for Special Appliances.

12.5 Attendance Time at Incidents

Chapter 9 of KCS recommends that Fire Services should continue to record the percentage of cases, both fires and other emergencies, by station and for the overall Fire Authority where the Fire Authorities attend incidents within 10 minutes, between 11 and 20 minutes and greater than 20 minutes. The current times are as follows;

Station	Current % of Incidents attended in within 10 Minutes	Current % of Incidents attended between 11 and 20 Minutes	Current % of Incidents attended greater than 20 Minutes
Ennis (HQ)	46.32	40.85	12.82
Shannon	42.64	46.20	11.16
Ennistymon	28.63	40.25	31.12
Scarriff	29.29	37.28	33.43
Killaloe	33.73	43.53	22.75
Kilrush	52.21	29.37	18.41
Kilkee	55.95	34.81	9.25

Table 13.2 Percentage of Incidents Attended for specified time frames

The above Data is generated by the Munster Regional Communications Centre for the 5 Year Period 2009 to 2013.

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service aims to increase the percentage of incidents attended within 10 minutes and to decrease the % in the other 2 categories. These trends will be monitored during the life of this plan.

12.6 Large Scale Incidents.

Guidance is provided in KCS regarding a response to Large Scale Incidents (these are incidents other than Major Emergencies which require large resources or a proliferation of smaller incidents). Depending on the designated Risk Categorisation of an area / station

ground, Fire Authorities are required to consider their ability to respond to a Large Scale Incident in accordance with the guidance provided. Clare County Fire & Rescue Service has considered this guidance and having considered its' own availability of Class B appliances and those of neighbouring Fire Authorities is satisfied that it can mobilise Class B appliances, Special Appliances and an Incident Command Unit in accordance with the guidance provided in Chapter 8 of KCS regarding Large Scale Incidents.

Note, other standards such as Crewing Levels, Safety Standards etc. are referred to in separate chapters of this document.

Objectives for the Period of this Plan:

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will aim to put arrangements in place during the life of this plan to maintain the current crewing complements at Ennis, Ennistymon, Scarriff & Kilrush Fire Stations. It intends to increase the crew complement at Shannon Fire Station from 12 to 15 personnel and to reduce the crew complement at Killaloe and Kilkee Fire Stations from 10 to 9 personnel in accordance with the guidance in KCS and other NDFEM documentation, in particular a Task Analysis Document that sets out the roles various personnel may carry out at an incident.

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will aim to put arrangements in place to guarantee the following number of personnel to be available for Call-Outs at each station:- Ennis (10), Shannon (10), Ennistymon (7), Scarriff (7), Killaloe (6), Kilrush (7) & Kilkee (6).

It is intended to regrade one of the positions at Ennis Fire Station from Retained Fire-fighter to Retained Sub-Station Officer and that in general there will be either a Retained Station Officer or a Retained Station Sub-Officer available for Call-Out at all times in each Fire Station.

Station Fire Ground boundaries will be reviewed when Phase 2 of the Risk Based Approach Project is released by the NDFEM (data set that will advise the quickest travel time for initial and subsequent Fire Service Responses into each addressable location) and in conjunction with analysis from the Munster Regional Communications

Centre to ensure that the Fire Appliances that can respond to an address in the shortest period of time are mobilised.

The first Clare County Fire & Rescue Service Class B Appliance is currently attending Incidents well within the Target Travel Times set out in KCS. As more data becomes available from the NDFEM, Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will review the data and make changes to the current arrangements if appropriate.

There are no concerns at this time with the capability of Clare County Fire & Rescue Service to meet the KCS Targets for Travel Time for Special Appliances.

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service aims to increase the percentage of incidents attended within 10 minutes and to decrease the % in the other 2 categories. These trends will be monitored during the life of this plan.

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service has reviewed the guidance in KCS in relation to responding to Large Scale Incidents, and having considered its' own availability of Class B appliances and those of neighbouring Fire Authorities is satisfied that it can mobilise Class B appliances, Special Appliances and an Incident Command Unit in accordance with the guidance provided in Chapter 8 of KCS regarding Large Scale Incidents.

Section 13: Fire Safety - Fire Prevention & Building Control

In addition to the specific areas listed under Section 26 of the Fire Services Act 1981x &2003, this plan will also take into considerations other relevant areas including the substantial volume of work carried out by the Fire & Building Control Section in Fire Safety & Prevention, Building Control and Dangerous Structures areas.

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service Fire Prevention personnel advise on current fire safety standards required for proposed and existing developments, with Building Control personnel monitoring and enforcing compliance with the Building Control Regulations and in addition carrying out the Dangerous Structures & Places function of the Local Government (Sanitary Services) 1964 Act for Clare Local Authorities.

13.1 Fire Prevention

The following are discretionary functions under Fire Services Act 1981 & 2003:

13.1.1 Providing advice to Clare County Council Planning Authority

Under Section 13 of the Fire Services Act, 1981, the Fire Authority provide advice on Commercial & Multiple Housing Planning Applications. The number of commercial & multiple housing applications dealt with by the Fire Department under Planning Acts for the past 5 years was as follows;

Year	Number of Planning Referrals Received
2009	184
2010	271
2011	159
2012	106
2013	54

Table 13.1 Number of Planning Referrals Received

13.1.2 Provision of advice under Section 18 of the Fire Service Act 1981 & 2003

The Fire Authority provides advice on Fire Safety and inspection of existing public premises under Section 18 of the Fire Services Act, 1981 & 2003, and associated Regulations. Existing public premises include Places of Public Assembly, Nursing Homes, Hostels and other high-risk premises in the County. Inspections are prioritised, particularly nursing homes and other premises providing residential care in County Clare on an ongoing cyclical basis.

To ensure that there is a sharing of information between Fire Prevention and Operations, particularly for high risk premises, there are linkages in place, e.g. the process recently followed when dealing with Nursing Homes included:

- Seminar provided for Nursing Home operators;
- Inspections carried out by Fire Prevention staff or qualified Fire Safety Consultant;
- Presentation to Fire Stations on Nursing Homes in their area including
    - procedures to be followed in the event of a fire
    - fire safety features in nursing homes and
    - a case study on a nursing home fire;
- Visit by the local Fire Brigade to a local Nursing Home;
- Promote visits to any other Nursing Homes in the brigade's area;

13.1.3 Inspections under Section 24 of the Fire Service Act 1981 & 2003

The Fire Authority carry out inspections of licensed premises under Section 24 of Fire Services Act, 1981 & 2003, and associated Licensing Acts. The number of Licence Applications dealt with by Clare County Fire & Rescue Service in the past 5 years is as follows – these include renewal of public licences, dance licences, transfer of publican licences, Club, Gaming/Lottery, Ad Interim, Occasional, Hotel and Restaurant licences;

Year	Number of Licence Applications Received	Number of Licence Applications Dealt with
2009	124	124
2010	106	106
2011	102	102
2012	103	103
2013	100	100

Table 13.2 Number of Licence Applications Received and Dealt with

13.1.4 Inspections under Dangerous Substance Act 1972

The Fire Authority carry out inspections of petroleum installations, retail and bulk, under Dangerous Substances Act, 1972, and associated Regulations;

Year	Number of Licence Applications Received
2009	6
2010	3
2011	1
2012	7
2013	2

Table 13.3 Number of Dangerous Substance Licence Applications Received

Fire Officers also carry out inspections of Places of Public Assembly, Hostels and other high-risk premises in the County. Inspections are prioritised, particularly nursing homes and other premises providing residential care in County Clare on an ongoing cyclical basis.

13.1.5 During Performance Inspections on Places of Public Assembly

During Performance Inspections are carried out by Fire Service personnel under the Fire Safety in Places of Assembly (Ease of Escape) Regulations 1985 and on an interagency basis with An Garda Síochána. Initially during performance inspections were carried out in all main places of assembly in Clare, currently they are carried out on a risk basis and in consultation with An Garda Síochána.

13.1.6 Large Crowd Events

Fire Service personnel work with other agencies (An Garda Síochána, Health Services Executive, Local Authority, etc.) in pre-planning for large crowd events. In the absence of national guidance, local arrangements are in place for such meeting to take place either at An Garda Síochána HQ or at Local Authority HQ, depending generally on the type of event and number attending.

Fire Prevention Inspection of Buildings, the number of Inspections carried out in the past 5 years is shown below:

Year	Number of Inspections Carried Out
2009	200
2010	287
2011	240
2012	270
2013	230

Table 13.4 Number of Fire Prevention Inspections Carried Out

13.2 Building Control

13.2.1 Fire Safety Certificates

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service Building Control Staff advise on current Building Regulations including fire safety standards required for proposed developments. The statistics for Fire Safety Certificates for the past 5 years are as follows:

Year	Fire Safety Certificates	Deemed Invalid	Granted	Refused
2009	136	2	137	0
2010	123	11	102	0
2011	104	8	90	0
2012	87	5	84	0
2013	83	6	86	0

Table 13.5 Fire Safety Certificates Statistics

13.2.2 Inspection of New Works

The Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government has set a target of 15% random monitoring of new works with regards implementation of the Building Regulations. The following Table shows compliance with this requirement for the past 5 years.

Year	No of buildings notified by Commencement Notice	No of buildings Inspected	% Inspected
2009	614	94	15.3
2010	440	89	20.2
2011	300	50	16.6
2012	256	58	22.6
2013	223	51	22.8

Table 13.6 Building Control Inspection Statistics

13.2.3 Disability Access Certificates

All new buildings since 1st January 2010 also now require a Disability Access Certificate under the Building Control Regulations. It is a certificate granted by the Building Control Authority which certifies compliance at design stage of non–domestic buildings and apartment blocks with the requirements of Part M of the Building Regulations (Disabled Access) 1997 to 2013. The Statistics for the past 4 years are as follows:

Year	Disability Access Certificates Received	Deemed Invalid	Granted	Refused
2010	45	2	43	0
2011	56	4	52	0
2012	55	3	52	0
2013	50	3	47	0

Table 13.7 Disability Access Certificate Statistics

13.2.4 Dangerous Structures

In recent years, Building Control Personnel have taken on the Dangerous Structures & Places function of the Local Government (Sanitary Services) 1964 Act for Clare Local Authorities. The Senior Fire Officers use their professional experience and judgement to respond to complaints made under this legislation. A typical Dangerous Structure or Dangerous Place complaint involves carrying out thorough inspections, documenting photographs and findings, writing reports, researching property titles, performing a design function for required remedial works and serving notices. Once the notices have been served the Fire Officers generally take on the responsibility of project managing the remedial works which includes organising the Health and Safety documentation and Construction Files, assessing competency and selecting competent contractors, making the relevant appointments and overseeing the remedial works to completion. This has resulted in an increase in workload for the Section, and additional costs associated with the delivery of this function on behalf of the Local Authority.

13.3 Fire Safety Roles

In accordance with KCS, the **primary role of Cla**re County Fire & Rescue Service in relation to Fire Safety is to reduce the number of Fire Incidents occurring in this functional area, limit damage and prevent escalation and extinguish fires where fires occur. KCS provided guidance in relation to objectives and targets for Fire Safety. Table 13.7 outlines these objectives and targets that apply at National level, and how Clare County Fire & Rescue Service is currently performing in relation to these – note, the latest available statistics from NDFEM is for the period 1st January 2008 – 1st January 2011.

National Objective / Target	National Target	Clare County Fire & Rescue Service Current Performance
Fire Fatality Rate	1 / 100,000 Population (averaged over 5 years)	0.684 / 100,000 Population (from 2009 to 2013)
Domestic Dwelling Fire Rate	80 Fires / 100,000 Population	79.78 (from 1/1/2008 – 1/1/2011)*
Chimney Fire Rate	75 Fires / 100,000 Population (by 2015)	221 (from 1/1/2008 – 1/1/2011)*
Overall Fire Rate	600 Fires / 100,000 Population (by 2018)	753 (from 1/1/2008 – 1/1/2011)*
Overall Incident Rate	1000 Incidents / 100,000 Population (by 2018)	1062 (from 1/1/2008 – 1/1/2011)*

*Statistics from the NDFEM Risk Based Approach Phase 1 report (latest statistics available from the NDFEM)

Table 13.8 Safety Objectives, Targets and Current Performance

Two additional targets have been set as follows;

- 22% Reduction in Tertiary Fires over 5 Years
- 30% Decrease in Chimney Fires over 3 Years

The following Table highlights the required improvement in relation to these targets with Clare County Fire & Rescue Service;

Target	Current Number of Fires within Clare County Fire & Rescue Service	Target Number of Fires within Clare County Fire & Rescue Service
22% Reduction in Tertiary Fires over 5 Years	558 (from 1/1/2008 – 1/1/2011)*	435 (by end of 2018)
30% Decrease in Chimney Fires over 3 Years	258 (from 1/1/2008 – 1/1/2011)*	180 (by end of 2016)

*Statistics from the NDFEM Risk Based Approach Phase 1 report (latest statistics available from the NDFEM)

Table 13.9 Targets for Specific Reductions

There is a very high number of Chimney Fires in County Clare compared to the National average and particularly the National Target, as seen in Table 13.8 above. This has also the main reason that the Overall Fire Rate and the Overall Incident Rate in County Clare exceeds the National Target currently. It is anticipated that the increased usage of gas as a fuel in homes in County Clare will have a positive impact on the reduction of Chimney Fires. It is intended that Clare County Fire & Rescue Service would work with other sections in Clare County Council, in particular the Housing Section and the Community & Enterprise Section, to develop initiatives to work with the general public and Community Groups to reduce the number of Chimney Fires in the County.

13.4 Community Fire Safety (CFS)

Apart from the Fire Safety objectives and targets outlined above, a number of specific Community Fire Safety (CFS) Initiatives have been outlined in KCS.

The main initiative and most cost effective method of reducing fire deaths is to have working smoke alarms fitted to domestic dwellings. KCS advises that there should be a minimum of

90% of domestic dwellings fitted with working smoke alarms by 2017. Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will work with the Community & Enterprise Section of Clare County Council to assist it in achieving this target. Ideally, there should be two smoke alarms fitted to all single storey dwellings and four fitted to two-storey dwellings. Where opportunities exist, operational crews will check for working smoke alarms in neighbourhoods after attending incidents. Ongoing public messaging campaigns will be maintained to encourage members of the public to install smoke alarms and to test their smoke alarms once a week to ensure that they are working. Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will target specific high risk areas identified through the Risk Based Approach to Emergency Cover when delivering Community Fire Safety Programmes.

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service also delivers the NDFEM Schools Programme. It is targeted at all 3rd Class Primary School children. The arrangements for delivering this Programme vary between Fire Station Ground Areas but in general the programme is delivered to all children in County Clare between the ages of 8 and 10.

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will continue to carry out structured During Performance Inspections, both on its' own right and in conjunction with An Garda Síochána.

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will also respond positively to requests for presentations on fire safety from community groups along with distributing and making available fire safety promotional material in County Clare.

Objectives for the Period of this Plan:

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service intends to comply with all relevant Fire Prevention and Building Control Legislation and Regulations during the life of this Plan. There is a sharing of information between Fire Prevention and Operations, particularly for high risk premises.

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will continue to introduce initiatives to reduce the Fire Fatality Rate in County Clare along with reducing various Incident types. It is intended that Clare County Fire & Rescue Service would work with other sections in Clare County Council, in particular the Housing Section and the Community & Enterprise Section, to develop initiatives to work with the general public and

Community Groups to reduce the exceptionally high number of Chimney Fires in the County.

Ongoing public messaging campaigns will be maintained to encourage members of the public to install smoke alarms and to test their smoke alarms once a week to ensure that they are working.

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will also work with the Community Section of Clare County Council with the aim of having a working smoking alarm fitted to 90% of Domestic Dwellings by the end of 2017. It will also continue to deliver the Primary Schools Fire Safety Programme and carry out During Performance Inspections along with targeting specific high risk areas identified through the Risk Based Approach to Emergency Cover when delivering Community Fire Safety Programmes.

Section 14: Major Emergency Management

As previously outlined in Section 1 above, in addition to the specific areas listed under Section 26, this plan will also take into considerations the substantial volume of work carried out and contribution the Fire Authority makes to Major Emergency Management both within Co. Clare and the region.

14.1 Definition

A Major Emergency is defined as any event which, usually with little or no warning, causes or threatens death or injury, serious disruption of essential services or damage to property, the environment or infrastructure beyond the normal capabilities of the principal emergency services in the area in which the event occurs, and requires the activation of specific additional procedures and the mobilisation of additional resources to ensure an effective, co-ordinated response.

14.2 Background to Major Emergency Planning

The National Framework for Major Emergency Management (2006) replaced the Framework for Co-Ordinated Response to Major Emergency, which underpinned Major Emergency preparedness and response capability since 1984. The 2006 Framework was prepared under the aegis of the Inter-Departmental Committee on Major Emergencies and was approved by Government decision. It enables the three principal emergency response agencies, An Garda Síochána, the Health Service Executive and the Local Authority to prepare and make a co-ordinated response to Major Emergencies including fires, transport accidents, hazardous substances and severe weather.

In 2006 the government approved a two-year Major Emergency Development Programme 2006-2008 (MEDP) to allow for the structured migration from existing arrangements to an enhanced level of preparedness via the new emergency management process. The production of a new Major Emergency Plan was overseen by Clare County Council Major Emergency Development Committee - with representation from all sections within the Local Authority, marking the culmination of an extensive process of development. In 2008 a new Major

Emergency Plan was released consistent with 'A Framework for Emergency Management' (2006) as issued by the Department of the Environment Heritage and Local Government and in accordance with the guidance provided by the Department in relation to Major Emergency Management. This Plan is reviewed on a regular basis.

The purpose of the Major Emergency Plan is to put in place arrangements that will enable Clare County Council to effectively manage a Major Emergency in co-operation with other Principal Response Agencies, An Garda Síochána and the Health Service Executive. The document sets out mechanisms for co-ordination of the Principal Response Agencies at all levels of Major Emergency Management - on site, at local level and at regional level. In addition it defines a common language and terminology to facilitate inter-agency working. It also provides for linking to national level emergency management. Major Emergency Management continues to be a priority issue for Clare County Council.

14.3 Inter-Agency Arrangements

Any one of the principal response agencies may declare a major emergency and the mobilisation procedures of the Major Emergency Plans of the three relevant agencies will be activated immediately they are notified of the declaration. The Major Emergency Plan of each agency sets out that agency's response, as well as its contribution to the combined response of all agencies.

The other Principal Response Agencies responsible for Emergency Services in this area are:-

- Health Service Executive West
- Clare Garda Division

Additionally due to the positioning of Shannon Airport in the county, there is a Site Specific Group in place consisting of the Principal Response Agencies, Shannon Airport Authority, Irish Aviation Authority, Irish Coast Guard and Shannon Foynes Port Company. This group meet on a regular basis to ensure that ongoing communications are maintained between the members of the group together with co-ordinating training & exercising an interagency response to airport incidents.

14.4 Clare County Council Response to a Major Emergency in County Clare

In the event of a major emergency, the primary role of Clare County Council is to ensure life safety by providing a suitably trained and equipped emergency service in the form of the Fire Service and Civil Defence. In general, the Fire Service will be the first section of the Local Authority to respond to any Major Emergency.

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service main roles in the event of a Major Emergency occurring County Clare are as follows;

- Immediate Response
- Extinguishing Fires
- Rescue
- Dealing with Flooding Incidents
- Dealing with Spillages / Hazardous Materials
- Storm / Severe Weather Response
- Provision of Water Tankers
- Provision of an On-Site Controller of Operations / On-Site Co-Ordinator
- Provision of On-Site Co-Ordination Facilities (including an Incident Command Unit vehicle)
- Facilitating and Participating in the Crisis Management Team

The Fire Service will prepare itself for large scale and inter-agency operations through participation in appropriate exercises. The Fire Service will also further develop relationships with the Civil Defence as appropriate, in particular in preparation for joint assistance in the event of a Major Emergency occurring. The fire service will also work with local community and voluntary groups as appropriate in the event of a Major Emergency occurring as appropriate.

14.5 Clare County Council's Major Emergency Management Committee

Following the two year development phase and the production of a New Major Emergency Plan 2008, the role of the Major Emergency Development Committee was changed to a

Management Committee with responsibility for the ongoing overview of Major Emergency Management within the Local Authority. The group has membership from all sections of Clare County Council including the Fire Service and secretariat to the group is provided by the Fire Service. The group reviews the Major Emergency Plan and associated Sectional plans as appropriate, arranges site visits and arranges and participates in Major Emergency Exercises. It is intended that during the life of this Plan the MEDC would examine the feasibility of and put in place protocols for using social media outlets to update the public during severe weather events. The group meets on a quarterly basis.

14.6 Co-Ordination Roles and Facilities

The designated on-site Co-Ordinator of Operations for Clare County Council is the Chief Fire Officer. A number of alternates are also identified in the Major Emergency Plan. The On-Site Co-Ordinator is alerted in the event if an incident by the Munster Regional Communications Centre. Depending on the nature of the incident, Clare County Council may assume the role of Lead Agency (the agency with overall responsibility for Co-Ordinating a response to the incident) and the On-Site Co-Ordinator may assume the role of the On-Site Controller of Operations. An Incident Command Unit based at Shannon Fire Station is available for the On-Site Co-Ordination Team.

Clare County Council participates in the Local Co-Ordination Group. The County Manager or alternate shall represent Clare County Council on the Local Co-Ordination Group. The Boardroom at the Clare County Council Headquarters has been set up with communication and other facilities to enable the Local Co-Ordination Group to operate from this room.

Both the On-Site and Local Co-Ordination groups shall be assisted by the Crisis Management Team. This team shall meet as required at the Training Room in the Clare County Council Headquarters in the event of a Major Emergency and shall provide technical and administration support to both the On-Site and Local Co-Ordination groups. Members of the Fire Service will also participate in this group as appropriate. Telecommunications facilities (laptops with emergency e-mail addresses, telephone conferencing etc.) and other facilities (e.g. Whiteboards, stationary etc.) are available for the Crisis Management Team. A facility is available to implement a Helpline (Call Handling Service) should the need arise during severe weather or other emergency. It is staffed by Local Authority personnel, whom have

been trained by the Fire Service. Further details regarding the above are provided in the Major Emergency Plan for Clare County Council.

14.7 Major Emergency Management in the Mid-West MEM Region & National Groups

Clare County Council is part of the Mid-West Region for Major Emergency Planning. The Principle Response Agencies responsible for Emergency Services in the Mid-West MEM Region are as follows;

Local Authorities

- Clare
- Limerick
- Tipperary

Health Services Executive

- HSE West

An Garda Síochána

- Clare Garda Division
- Limerick Garda Division
- Tipperary Garda Division

Other members include the Irish Coast Guard, Defence Forces and the Shannon Foynes Port Company.

There is both a Steering Group and a Working Group for Major Emergency Management in the Mid-West Region. Clare County Council is represented on the Mid-West Regional Steering Group by the Director of Services or their alternate and is represented on the Regional Working Group by the Chief Fire Officer or their alternate.
These Regional Groups in turn report into the National Working Groups. The National Working Groups have membership from the three Principle Response Agencies and the NDFEM.

Objectives for the Period of this Plan:

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will prepare itself for large scale and inter-agency operations through participation in appropriate training and exercises. The Fire Service will also further develop relationships with the Civil Defence as appropriate, in particular in preparation for joint assistance in the event of a Major Emergency occurring.

Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will continue to participate on the Clare County Council Major Emergency Management Committee along with the participating on the Regional Working and Steering Groups as appropriate. It is intended that during the life of this Plan the Major Emergency Management Committee would examine the feasibility of and put in place protocols for using social media outlets to update the public during severe weather events.

REFERENCES

1. Fire Services Act 1981 & 2003

2. Keeping Communities Safe – A Framework for Fire Safety in Ireland (February 2013) – *National Directorate for Fire and Emergency Management*

3. Keeping Communities Safe – Research Document – Fire Services Task Analysis and Crewing Levels Version 2.2 (December 2013) – *National Directorate for Fire and Emergency Management*

4. Keeping Communities Safe – Fire Services Training Version 3.5 (December 2013) – *National Directorate for Fire and Emergency Management*

5. Keeping Communities Safe – Managing Safety in Fire Services Version 2.7 (December 2013) – *National Directorate for Fire and Emergency Management*

6. A Framework for Major Emergency Management – *Department of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government*

7. Risk Based Approach Report Version 1, 4th May 2012 – *National Directorate for Fire and Emergency Management*

8. Risk Based Approach Report Phase 1 – Supplementary Report, 5th June 2013 – *National Directorate for Fire and Emergency Management*

9. Equipment Maintenance Policy - *Clare County Fire & Rescue Service*

10. Personal Protective Equipment Maintenance Policy - *Clare County Fire & Rescue Service*

11. Training Policy - *Clare County Fire & Rescue Service*

Appendix A

Summary of the Equipment carried on various appliance Types

Class B Pumping Appliance

Note, not all equipment detailed below will be carried on all Alpha 2 appliances, but the equipment will generally be carried on at least the Alpha 1 appliance

- Air Lifting Mats
- Automatic External Defibrillators (AED's)
- Basket Stretcher
- Bolt Cutters
- Branches – Foam
- Branches – Water
- Breaches – Collecting
- Breaches – Dividing
- Breathing Apparatus Sets
- Buoyancy Aids
- Carrying Sheet
- Chains
- Chainsaws
- Consaws
- Fire Extinguishers
- First Responder Bags
- Floating Rescue Throw Line
- General Purpose Line
- Generators – Portable
- Glass Management Kit (Packex)
- Grinder
- Hearth Kit & Hand Tools
- Hose Reel Equipment (incl. Hoses)
- Hoses – Delivery
- Hoses – Suction
- Hydraulic Combi-Tools
- Hydraulic Cutters
- Hydraulic Door Opener
- Hydraulic Duo Pumps
- Hydraulic Foot Pumps
- Hydraulic Hand Pumps
- Hydraulic Hoses
- Hydraulic Mini Combi-Tools
- Hydraulic Mini Cutters
- Hydraulic Pedal Cutters
- Hydraulic Pumps
- Hydraulic Rams
- Hydraulic Spreaders
- Inflatable Rescue Hose System
- Ladders – 10.5m
- Ladders – 13.5m
- Ladders – Double / Triple Extension
- Ladders - Roof

- Ladders – Telescopic
- Lowering Lines
- Oxygen Cylinders
- Pneumatic Tools
- Portable Flood Lighting
- Positive Pressure Ventilation (PPV) Fans
- Pumps - Floating
- Pumps – Light Weight Portable (LPP)
- Pumps – Main
- Pumps – Submersible Bilge
- Reach & Rescue Poles
- Radios
- Reciprocating Saws
- Road Lights
- Road Signs
- RTC Ancillary Equipment – Airbag Restraint Kits
- RTC Ancillary Equipment – Blocks
- RTC Ancillary Equipment – Chains
- RTC Ancillary Equipment – Sill Supports
- RTC Ancillary Equipment – Step Chocks
- RTC Ancillary Equipment - Wedges
- Shackles
- Slings
- Small Gear
- Spill Management Kit
- Stabfast Stabilisation Equipment
- Standpipes (incl. Extensions, Keys & Bars)
- Stirrup Pump
- Stretcher
- Thermal Imaging Camera
- Torches / Lamps
- Working at Heights Equipment

Emergency Tender Appliance

- Air Lifting Mats
- Backpack Sprayer
- Basket Stretcher
- Body Bags
- Bolt Cutters
- Breathing Apparatus Cylinders
- Breathing Apparatus Sets
- Buoyancy Aids
- Chains
- Chainsaws
- Chemical HazMat Bags

- Chemical Overspill Drums
- Consaws
- Dosimeters
- Fire Extinguishers (on Fire Appliances)
- First Responder Bags (First Aid Equipment)
- First Aid Sharps Boxes & Clinical Waste Bags
- Floating Rescue Throw Line
- Gas Monitors
- Generators – Portable
- Glass Management Kit (Packex)
- Grinder
- Halligan Tool
- Hearth Kit & Hand Tools
- Hiab Crane
- Hydraulic Combi-Tools
- Hydraulic Cutters
- Hydraulic Door Opener
- Hydraulic Duo Pumps
- Hydraulic Foot Pumps
- Hydraulic Hand Pumps
- Hydraulic Hoses
- Hydraulic Mini Combi-Tools
- Hydraulic Mini Cutters
- Hydraulic Pedal Cutters
- Hydraulic Pumps
- Hydraulic Rams
- Hydraulic Spreaders
- Hydraulic Telescopic Ram Jack
- Inflatable Rescue Hose System
- Inflatable Rescue Path
- Life Buoys
- Lowering Lines
- Pneumatic Tools
- Portable Flood Lighting
- Positive Pressure Ventilation (PPV) Fans
- Reach & Rescue Poles
- Radios
- Reciprocating Saws
- Rescue Platform (HGV Platform)
- Rim Adaptor
- Road Lights

- Road Signs
- RTC Ancillary Equipment – Airbag Restraint Kits
- RTC Ancillary Equipment – Blocks
- RTC Ancillary Equipment – Chains
- RTC Ancillary Equipment – Packex Glass Mangt
- RTC Ancillary Equipment – Sill Supports
- RTC Ancillary Equipment – Step Chocks
- RTC Ancillary Equipment - Wedges
- Shackles
- Slings
- Small Gear
- Spill Management Kit
- Stabfast Stabilisation Equipment
- Stretcher
- Torches / Lamps
- Winch - Tirfor
- Winch – Vehicle Mounted
- Working at Heights Equipment

Aerial Appliance

- Basket Stretcher
- Fire Extinguishers
- First Aid Boxes
- High Rise Packs
- Hoses – Delivery
- Positive Pressure Ventilation (PPV) Fans
- Radios
- Road Lights
- Road Signs

Water Tanker

- Fire Extinguishers
- First Aid Boxes
- Hoses – Delivery
- Hoses – Suction
- Radios
- Road Lights
- Road Signs
- Standpipes (incl. Extensions, Keys & Bars)
- Water Dam

Appendix B

Summary of the Frequency of the Maintenance of Equipment (excerpt from Clare County Fire & Rescue Equipment Maintenance Policy)

(Version 1.1 6th December 2013)

Equipment / Maintenance Frequency	Before Use Visual Check (2)	After Use Visual Check (2)	After Use Test / Replenish	Weekly Test / Inspection - Drill Night (3)	Weekly Test / Inspection - Driver Mechanic (3)	Quarterly Inspection – External Contractor	Quarterly Standard Test - Crews	Bi-Annual Inspection – Insurance Company	Bi-Annual Inspection – External Contractor	Annual Service – SO Ennis	Annual Test - Crews	Annual Inspection / Service - Fitter Mechanics	Annual Service - External Contractor	Annual PAT Testing (4)	4 Year Service – External Contractor	5 Year Inspection – External Contractor
Acetylene Cylinders	Y	Y														Y
Air Lifting Mats	Y	Y					Y	Y					Y			
Air Lifting Mat Controllers	Y	Y					Y	Y					Y			
Air Lifting Mat Regulators	Y	Y					Y	Y					Y			
Alerters				Y												
Automatic External Defibrillators (AED's)	Y	Y			Y											
Axle Stands	Y	Y						Y								
BA Guidelines							Y									
Backpack Sprayer	Y	Y														
Basket Stretcher	Y	Y					Y									
Boilers													Y			

Equipment / Maintenance Frequency	Before Use Visual Check (2)	After Use Visual Check (2)	After Use Test / Replenish	Weekly Test / Inspection - Drill Night (3)	Weekly Test / Inspection - Driver Mechanic	Quarterly Inspection – External Contractor	Quarterly Standard Test - Crews	Bi-Annual Inspection – Insurance Company	Bi-Annual Inspection – External Contractor	Annual Service – SO Ennis	Annual Test - Crews	Annual Inspection / Service - Fitter Mechanics	Annual Service - External Contractor	Annual PAT Testing	4 Year Service – External Contractor	5 Year Inspection – External Contractor
Body Bags	Y															
Bolt Cutters	Y	Y					Y									
Bottle Jacks	Y	Y						Y								
Branches – Foam	Y	Y					Y									
Branches – Water	Y	Y					Y									
Breaches – Collecting	Y	Y					Y									
Breaches – Dividing	Y	Y					Y									
Breathing Apparatus Compressors				Y									Y			
Breathing Apparatus Cylinders	Y	Y	Y													Y
Breathing Apparatus Sets	Y	Y	Y	Y						Y						
Bronto Aerial Appliance	Y	Y	Y		Y			Y				Y	Y			
Buoyancy Aids							Y									
Carrying Sheet	Y	Y														
Chains	Y	Y						Y								

Equipment / Maintenance Frequency	Before Use Visual Check (2)	After Use Visual Check (2)	After Use Test / Replenish	Weekly Test / Inspection - Drill Night (3)	Weekly Test / Inspection - Driver Mechanic	Quarterly Inspection – External Contractor	Quarterly Standard Test - Crews	Bi-Annual Inspection – Insurance Company	Bi-Annual Inspection – External Contractor	Annual Service – SO Ennis	Annual Test - Crews	Annual Inspection / Service - Fitter Mechanics	Annual Service - External Contractor	Annual PAT Testing	4 Year Service – External Contractor	5 Year Inspection – External Contractor
Chainsaws	Y	Y	Y	Y			Y						Y			
Chargers for Appliances (Portable)	Y	Y												Y		
Chemical HazMat Bags	Y															
Chemical Overspill Drums	Y	Y														
Compressors on Board an Appliance												Y				
Consaws	Y	Y		Y			Y						Y			
Dehumidifier														Y		
Dosimeters	Y	Y														
Drills - Battery	Y	Y					Y									
Fire Extinguishers (on Fire Appliances)	Y	Y					Y						Y			
First Responder Bags (First Aid Equipment)			Y				Y									
First Aid Boxes	Y	Y	Y													
First Aid Sharps Boxes & Clinical Waste Bags	Y															

Equipment / Maintenance Frequency	Before Use Visual Check (2)	After Use Visual Check (2)	After Use Test / Replenish	Weekly Test / Inspection - Drill Night (3)	Weekly Test / Inspection - Driver Mechanic	Quarterly Inspection – External Contractor	Quarterly Standard Test - Crews	Bi-Annual Inspection – Insurance Company	Bi-Annual Inspection – External Contractor	Annual Service – SO Ennis	Annual Test - Crews	Annual Inspection / Service - Fitter Mechanics	Annual Service - External Contractor	Annual PAT Testing	4 Year Service – External Contractor	5 Year Inspection – External Contractor
Floating Rescue Throw Line	Y	Y					Y									
Floor Cleaner	Y	Y												Y		
Foam Generator – Maxi Turbex	Y	Y					Y									
Foam Generator – Mini Turbex	Y	Y					Y									
Foam Inductor	Y	Y					Y									
Forklift (See Note 3)	Y	Y			Y			Y				Y				
Gas Monitors	Y	Y							Y				Y			
General Purpose Line	Y	Y					Y									
Generators – Fixed to Buildings												Y				
Generators – Fixed to an Appliance					Y							Y				
Generators – Portable	Y	Y		Y								Y		Y		
Glass Management Kit (Packex)	Y	Y					Y									
Grinder	Y	Y		Y			Y									

Equipment / Maintenance Frequency	Before Use Visual Check (2)	After Use Visual Check (2)	After Use Test / Replenish	Weekly Test / Inspection - Drill Night (3)	Weekly Test / Inspection - Driver Mechanic	Quarterly Inspection – External Contractor	Quarterly Standard Test - Crews	Bi-Annual Inspection – Insurance Company	Bi-Annual Inspection – External Contractor	Annual Service – SO Ennis	Annual Test - Crews	Annual Inspection / Service - Fitter Mechanics	Annual Service - External Contractor	Annual PAT Testing	4 Year Service – External Contractor	5 Year Inspection – External Contractor
Grinder	Y	Y		Y			Y									
Ground Monitor	Y	Y					Y									
Halligan Tool	Y	Y					Y									
Hearth Kit & Hand Tools	Y	Y					Y									
Heat Gun	Y	Y												Y		
Hiab	Y	Y			Y			Y							Y	
High Rise Packs	Y	Y					Y									
Hose Reel Equipment (incl. Hoses)	Y	Y			Y		Y					Y				
Hoses – Delivery	Y	Y									Y					
Hoses – Suction	Y	Y					Y									
Hydraulic Combi-Tools	Y	Y		Y			Y						Y			
Hydraulic Cutters	Y	Y		Y			Y						Y			
Hydraulic Door Opener	Y	Y		Y			Y						Y			
Hydraulic Duo Pumps	Y	Y		Y			Y						Y			

Equipment / Maintenance Frequency	Before Use Visual Check (2)	After Use Visual Check (2)	After Use Test / Replenish	Weekly Test / Inspection - Drill Night (3)	Weekly Test / Inspection - Driver Mechanic	Quarterly Inspection – External Contractor	Quarterly Standard Test - Crews	Bi-Annual Inspection – Insurance Company	Bi-Annual Inspection – External Contractor	Annual Service – SO Ennis	Annual Test - Crews	Annual Inspection / Service - Fitter Mechanics	Annual Service - External Contractor	Annual PAT Testing	4 Year Service – External Contractor	5 Year Inspection – External Contractor
Hydraulic Foot Pumps	Y	Y		Y			Y						Y			
Hydraulic Hand Pumps	Y	Y		Y			Y						Y			
Hydraulic Hoses	Y	Y		Y			Y						Y			
Hydraulic Mini Combi-Tools	Y	Y		Y			Y						Y			
Hydraulic Mini Cutters	Y	Y		Y			Y						Y			
Hydraulic Pedal Cutters	Y	Y		Y			Y						Y			
Hydraulic Pumps	Y	Y		Y			Y						Y			
Hydraulic Rams	Y	Y		Y			Y						Y			
Hydraulic Spreaders	Y	Y		Y			Y						Y			
Hydraulic Telescopic Ram Jack	Y	Y		Y			Y	Y					Y			
Inflatable Rescue Hose System	Y	Y		Y			Y	Y								
Inflatable Rescue Path	Y	Y					Y	Y								

Equipment / Maintenance Frequency	Before Use Visual Check (2)	After Use Visual Check (2)	After Use Test / Replenish	Weekly Test / Inspection - Drill Night (3)	Weekly Test / Inspection - Driver Mechanic	Quarterly Inspection – External Contractor	Quarterly Standard Test - Crews	Bi-Annual Inspection – Insurance Company	Bi-Annual Inspection – External Contractor	Annual Service – SO Ennis	Annual Test - Crews	Annual Inspection / Service - Fitter Mechanics	Annual Service - External Contractor	Annual PAT Testing	4 Year Service – External Contractor	5 Year Inspection – External Contractor
Ladder Gantries	Y	Y					Y					Y	Y			
Ladders – 10.5m	Y	Y					Y						Y			
Ladders – 13.5m	Y	Y					Y						Y			
Ladders – Double / Triple Extension	Y	Y					Y						Y			
Ladders - Roof	Y	Y					Y						Y			
Ladders – Telescopic	Y	Y					Y									
Ladders - WAKU	Y	Y					Y									
Life Buoys	Y	Y					Y									
Lowering Lines	Y	Y					Y									
Overhead Doors	Y	Y											Y			
Oxygen Cylinders			Y													Y
Oxylators	Y	Y	Y				Y						Y			
Pest Control						Y										
Pneumatic Tools	Y	Y					Y						Y			

Equipment / Maintenance Frequency	Before Use Visual Check (2)	After Use Visual Check (2)	After Use Test / Replenish	Weekly Test / Inspection - Drill Night (3)	Weekly Test / Inspection - Driver Mechanic	Quarterly Inspection – External Contractor	Quarterly Standard Test - Crews	Bi-Annual Inspection – Insurance Company	Bi-Annual Inspection – External Contractor	Annual Service – SO Ennis	Annual Test - Crews	Annual Inspection / Service - Fitter Mechanics	Annual Service - External Contractor	Annual PAT Testing	4 Year Service – External Contractor	5 Year Inspection – External Contractor
Portable Electric Transformer	Y	Y												Y		
Portable Flood Lighting	Y	Y					Y							Y		
Positive Pressure Ventilation (PPV) Fans	Y	Y		Y			Y					Y				
Power Washer	Y	Y												Y		
Pumps - Floating	Y	Y		Y			Y					Y				
Pumps – Light Weight Portable (LPP)	Y	Y		Y			Y					Y				
Pumps – Main	Y	Y			Y		Y					Y				
Pumps – Submersible Bilge	Y	Y					Y							Y		
Reach & Rescue Poles	Y	Y					Y									
Regulator (Compressed Air)	Y	Y					Y	Y					Y			
Radios – Appliance					Y											
Radios - Handheld	Y	Y														
Reciprocating Saws - Battery	Y	Y					Y									
Reciprocating Saws – 110V	Y	Y					Y									

Equipment / Maintenance Frequency	Before Use Visual Check (2)	After Use Visual Check (2)	After Use Test / Replenish	Weekly Test / Inspection - Drill Night (3)	Weekly Test / Inspection - Driver Mechanic	Quarterly Inspection – External Contractor	Quarterly Standard Test - Crews	Bi-Annual Inspection – Insurance Company	Bi-Annual Inspection – External Contractor	Annual Service – SO Ennis	Annual Test - Crews	Annual Inspection / Service - Fitter Mechanics	Annual Service - External Contractor	Annual PAT Testing	4 Year Service – External Contractor	5 Year Inspection – External Contractor
Rescue Platform (HGV Platform)	Y	Y					Y									
Rim Adaptor	Y	Y					Y									
Road Lights	Y	Y		Y			Y									
Road Signs	Y	Y					Y									
RTC Ancillary Equipment – Airbag Restraint Kits	Y	Y					Y						Y			
RTC Ancillary Equipment – Blocks	Y	Y					Y									
RTC Ancillary Equipment – Chains	Y	Y					Y	Y								
RTC Ancillary Equipment – Packex Glass Mangt	Y	Y					Y									
RTC Ancillary Equipment – Sill Supports	Y	Y					Y									
RTC Ancillary Equipment – Step Chocks	Y	Y					Y									
RTC Ancillary Equipment - Wedges	Y	Y					Y									
Shackles	Y	Y					Y	Y								

Equipment / Maintenance Frequency	Before Use Visual Check (2)	After Use Visual Check (2)	After Use Test / Replenish	Weekly Test / Inspection - Drill Night (3)	Weekly Test / Inspection - Driver Mechanic	Quarterly Inspection – External Contractor	Quarterly Standard Test - Crews	Bi-Annual Inspection – Insurance Company	Bi-Annual Inspection – External Contractor	Annual Service – SO Ennis	Annual Test - Crews	Annual Inspection / Service - Fitter Mechanics	Annual Service - External Contractor	Annual PAT Testing	4 Year Service – External Contractor	5 Year Inspection – External Contractor
Slings	Y	Y					Y	Y								
Small Gear - Axes	Y	Y					Y									
Small Gear - Brush	Y	Y					Y									
Small Gear – Bushman Saw	Y	Y					Y									
Small Gear – Pick Axe / Mattock	Y	Y					Y									
Small Gear – Shovel	Y	Y					Y									
Small Gear – Sledge	Y	Y					Y									
Small Gear – Wrecking Bar (Nail / Crow Bar)	Y	Y					Y									
Smoke Generator (Engine)	Y	Y										Y				
Smoke Generator (Electric)	Y	Y												Y		
Snorkell Aerial Appliance	Y	Y	Y		Y			Y				Y	Y			
Snow Socks	Y	Y														
Soldering Iron	Y	Y												Y		
Spill Management Kit	Y	Y														

Equipment / Maintenance Frequency	Before Use Visual Check (2)	After Use Visual Check (2)	After Use Test / Replenish	Weekly Test / Inspection - Drill Night (3)	Weekly Test / Inspection - Driver Mechanic	Quarterly Inspection – External Contractor	Quarterly Standard Test - Crews	Bi-Annual Inspection – Insurance Company	Bi-Annual Inspection – External Contractor	Annual Service – SO Ennis	Annual Test - Crews	Annual Inspection / Service - Fitter Mechanics	Annual Service - External Contractor	Annual PAT Testing	4 Year Service – External Contractor	5 Year Inspection – External Contractor
Stabfast Stabilisation Equipment	Y	Y					Y									
Standpipes (incl. Extensions, Keys & Bars)	Y	Y					Y									
Stirrup Pump	Y	Y		Y			Y									
Stretcher	Y	Y														
Thermal Imaging Camera	Y	Y		Y			Y									
Torches / Lamps (other than BA Sets)	Y	Y					Y									
Trolley Jacks	Y	Y						Y								
Vehicles	Y	Y			Y							Y				
Water Dam	Y	Y					Y									
Water Drinking Machines									Y							
Welder - Electric	Y	Y												Y		
Welder – Gas (Regulator)	Y	Y											Y			
Winch - Tirfor	Y	Y			Y		Y	Y								
Winch – Vehicle Mounted	Y	Y			Y		Y	Y								

Equipment / Maintenance Frequency	Before Use Visual Check (2)	After Use Visual Check (2)	After Use Test / Replenish	Weekly Test / Inspection - Drill Night (3)	Weekly Test / Inspection - Driver Mechanic	Quarterly Inspection – External Contractor	Quarterly Standard Test - Crews	Bi-Annual Inspection – Insurance Company	Bi-Annual Inspection – External Contractor	Annual Service – SO Ennis	Annual Test - Crews	Annual Inspection / Service - Fitter Mechanics	Annual Service - External Contractor	Annual PAT Testing	4 Year Service – External Contractor	5 Year Inspection – External Contractor
Working at Heights Equipment	Y	Y					Y	Y					Y			

Appendix C

Summary of the Frequency of the Maintenance of PPE (excerpt from Clare County Fire & Rescue PPE Maintenance Policy)

(Version 1.1 6th December 2013)

PPE / Maintenance Frequency	Before Use Visual Check (2)	After Use Visual Check (2)	After Use Test / Replenish	Quarterly Standard Test - Crews	Annual Service - External Contractor
Anti-Flashood	Y	Y			
Chainsaw PPE	Y	Y			
Buoyancy Aids	Y	Y		Y	
Chainsaw Boots	Y	Y			
Chainsaw Gloves	Y	Y			
Chainsaw Helmet	Y	Y			
Chainsaw Jacket & Trousers	Y	Y			
Chemical Protective Clothing (CPC) Suit	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Dry Suits & Wooly Bear Suits	Y	Y		Y	
Dust Masks	Y	Y			
Fire-fighter Gloves	Y	Y			
Fire-fighter Helmet	Y	Y			
Fire-fighter Tunic & Leggings	Y	Y			Y
High Visibility Jackets (Class 2 & 3)	Y	Y			
Hearing Protection Equipment	Y	Y			
Leather Fire Boots	Y	Y			
Lifejackets	Y	Y		Y	Y
Medical Gloves	Y				
Safety Glasses	Y	Y			

Appendix D

Training for Rank and other Roles (excerpt from Clare County Fire & Rescue Service Training Policy)

(Version 1.1 6th December 2013)

All Operational Personnel (up to and including the Rank of Station Officer) – Core Training & Refresher Courses
The following courses cover the initial Core Training to be undertaken by all Operational Personnel in the relevant disciplines, along with Refresher Intervals and the appropriate duration for these courses:-

Course	Appropriate Period after Joining to complete the Initial Course Within	Duration of Initial Course (Days)[4]	Refresher Interval	Duration of Refresher Course (Days)[4]
On Station Training	Each Week	N/A	Weekly	2 Hours
Recruit Foundation Induction[1]	Prior to any operational activity	10	5 years	2 (to be known as a Firemanship Refresher Course)
Working at Heights	Prior to any operational activity	1	5 years	To Be incorporated into Firemanship Refresher Course detailed above
Critical Incident Stress Management[1]	1 Year	½	3 Years	2 hours
Manual Handling[1]	Prior to any operational activity	½	3 Years	2 hours
Breathing Apparatus Initial Wearers[1]	1 Year	10	2 Years	2
Compartment Fire Behaviour	1 Year	2 ½	4 Years	1
NICS – Introduction	1 Year	1	5 Years	To Be incorporated into Firemanship Refresher Course detailed above

Local Authority Induction	1 Year	1	5 Years	1
Water Awareness	2 years	1	4 Years	1
Road Traffic Collision	2 Years	4	5 Years	1
Hazardous Material – Awareness	2 Years	1	4 Years	1
Hazardous Material – Wearer[2]	3 years	3	4 Years	2
Pump Operator	5 years	3	5 Years	1
Emergency Fire Appliance Driving[3]	5 Years	2	5 Years	1
Breathing Apparatus Cylinder Filling	2 Years	2 hours	5 Years	2 hours
SOGs Familiarisation (& Related Courses such as Wildland Fire-fighting)	2 Years for New Entrants & Roll Out Schedule for Current Personnel	Varies	3 Years	Varies
Appliance Checks & Basic Maintenance[5]	1 Year	½	3 Years6	½

Notes

1. The initial recruit induction may include Manual Handling and Critical Incident Stress Management. Refer to Section 3.1 regarding successful completion of this course.
2. This is for personnel in stations equipped with Chemical Protective Suits
3. For all personnel that joined since 01/01/2004 and any personnel that had a full C Licence prior to that date. Work is ongoing at national level with the RSA which may make recommendations on emergency service driving standards that supersedes this guidance.
4. The duration for courses shown is a minimum duration and in many cases this duration shall be exceeded
5. Although Appliance Weekly Checks are generally carried out by Driver Mechanics, personnel at Fire-fighter level may be trained in this discipline in order that they can Act up to the role of Driver Mechanic when required.

Driver Mechanics

The following courses cover the initial training to be undertaken by Driver Mechanics along with Refresher Intervals and the appropriate duration for these courses. These courses are in addition to those in Section B1 above.

Course	Appropriate Period after Permanent Appointment to complete the Initial Course Within	Duration of Initial Course (days)[9]	Refresher Interval	Duration of Refresher Course (Days)[9]
Appliance Checks & Basic Maintenance	1 Year	½	3 Years[6]	½
National Incident Command System for Junior Officers[5 7]	Prior to taking charge of Incidents	3	5 Years	1
NDFEM Sub-Officer Course[8]	At the earliest opportunity for personnel permanently appointed to the rank of Driver Mechanic (subject to availability of places on NDFEM accredited courses)	10	As advertised by NDFEM & subject to allocation of positions on Courses	5

Notes

5. The above guidance also applies to personnel acting in the role of Driver Mechanic
6. It may be necessary to run a Course more frequent than every 3 years if a new appliance type is assigned to a particular station
7. It is not necessary to complete this course if a Driver Mechanic attends a NDFEM Sub-Officer Course within this timeframe
8. Driver Mechanics will be considered for attendance on NDFEM Sub-Officer Courses subject to availability of places on these courses
9. The duration for courses shown is a minimum duration and in many cases this duration shall be exceeded

Junior Officers (Sub-Station Officers and Station Officers)

The following courses cover the initial training to be undertaken by all Junior Officers along with Refresher Intervals and the appropriate duration for these courses. These courses are in addition to those in Section B1 above.

Course	Appropriate Period after Permanent Appointment to complete the Initial Course Within	Duration of Initial Course (days)[12]	Refresher Interval	Duration of Refresher Course (Days)[12]
National Incident Command Junior Officer Course[10 11]	Prior to taking charge of Incidents	3	5 Years	1
NDFEM Sub-Officer Course	1 Year after Permanent Appointment to the Rank of Sub-Station Officer or Station Officer	10	As advertised by NDFEM & subject to allocation of positions on Courses	TBC
NDFEM Station Officer Course	2 Years after Permanent Appointment to the Rank of Station Officer and 5 Years after Permanent appointment to the rank of Sub-Station Officer	10	As advertised by NDFEM & subject to allocation of positions on Courses	TBC
Wildland Fire-fighting Course	2 Years after Permanent Appointment to the Rank of Sub-Station or Station Officer	3	5 Years	1
NDFEM Junior Officer Seminars	As advertised by NDFEM & subject to allocation of positions on Courses	1	As advertised by NDFEM & subject to allocation of positions on Courses	1

NDFEM Instructor Course	3 Years after Permanent Appointment to the Rank of Station Officer and 5 Years after Permanent appointment to the rank of Sub-Station Officer	5	As advertised by NDFEM & subject to allocation of positions on Courses	TBC
IOSH or equivalent Health & Safety Course for Line Managers	1 Year after Permanent Appointment to the Rank of Sub-Station or Station Officer	3	5 Years	1
IPA or equivalent Line Managers Course	2 Years after Permanent Appointment to the Rank of Sub-Station or Station Officer	5	5 Years	1
Other Instructor Courses	Subject to decision by CFO as courses are advertised by the NDFEM or other and subject to the successful completion of the NDFEM Instructor Course	As Applicable	As Applicable	As Applicable

Notes

10. The above guidance also applies to personnel acting in the role of a Junior Officer
11. It is not necessary to complete this course if a Junior Officer attends a NDFEM Sub-Officer Course within this timeframe
12. The duration for courses shown is a minimum duration and in many cases this duration shall be exceeded

All Senior Fire Officers – Core Training & Refresher Courses

The following courses cover the initial training to be undertaken by all Senior Fire Officers in the relevant disciplines, along with Refresher Intervals and the appropriate duration for these courses, note, as outlined in 3.2.2, Senior Officers require a Level 8 Technical Qualification prior to commencement in the role of Senior Officer, and are accordingly deemed competent to carry out their duties in the area of Technical Fire Safety upon commencement into a Senior Fire Officer role. The following courses are also for consideration in order to augment the operational and other skills of a Senior Fire Officer as part of their Continuing Professional Development.

Course	Appropriate Period after Permanent Appointment to complete the Initial Course Within	Duration of Initial Course (Days)[14]	Refresher Interval	Duration of Refresher Course (Days)[14]
Recruit Foundation Induction[13]	1 Year after Permanent Appointment or Prior to any operational activity	10	N/A	N/A
Critical Incident Stress Management[13]	Within 1 Year of commencing operational activity	½	3 Years[16]	2 hours
Manual Handling[13]	1 Month after Permanent Appointment or Prior to any operational activity	½	3 Years	2 hours
Local Authority Induction	1 Year after Permanent Appointment or Prior to any operational activity	1	5 Years	1
Breathing Apparatus Initial Wearers	1 Year after Permanent Appointment or Prior to any operational activity	10	2 Years[16]	2
Compartment Fire Behaviour	1 Year after Permanent Appointment or Prior to any operational activity	2.5	4 Years[16]	1

NDFEM Senior Command Course (including NICS)	Prior to any operational activity	10	As advertised by NDFEM & subject to allocation of positions on Courses	1 Day NICS Refresher
NDFEM Media Management Course	As advertised by NDFEM & subject to allocation of positions on Courses	2	As advertised by NDFEM & subject to allocation of positions on Courses	TBC
NDFEM Senior Command Development Course	As advertised by NDFEM & subject to allocation of positions on Courses	10	As advertised by NDFEM & subject to allocation of positions on Courses	TBC
NDFEM Senior Command Seminars	Annual for all Senior Officers working in an Operational Role	1	1 Year	1
IOSH or equivalent Health & Safety Course for Line Managers	1 Year after Permanent Appointment to a Senior Officer Rank	3	5 Years[16]	1
IPA or equivalent Line Managers Course	2 Years after Permanent Appointment to a Senior Officer Rank (if supervising personnel)	5	5 Years	1
Safe Pass	Prior to visiting any Building Site	1	3 Years	1
Water Awareness	Within 2 Years of commencing operational activity	1	4 Years[16]	1
SOG Awareness	Prior to any operational activity	Varies	TBC	TBC
MEM Awareness (Information Management System, LA Controller of Operations & MEM On-Site Co-Ordination)	Prior to any operational activity	½	5 Years[16]	½

Road Traffic Collision	Subject to availability of places on courses & CFO Discretion	4	Subject to availability of places on courses & CFO Discretion	1
Hazardous Material – Awareness	Within 2 Years of commencing operational activity	1	Subject to availability of places on courses & CFO Discretion	1
Hazardous Material – Wearer	Subject to availability of places on courses & CFO Discretion	3	Subject to availability of places on courses & CFO Discretion	2
Pump Operator	Subject to availability of places on courses & CFO Discretion	3	Subject to availability of places on courses & CFO Discretion	1
Emergency Driving	Within 2 Years of commencing operational activity	2	Subject to availability of places on courses & CFO Discretion	1
Other Instructor Courses	Subject to decision by CFO as courses are advertised by the NDFEM or other and subject to the successful completion of the NDFEM Instructor Course	As Applicable	As Applicable	As Applicable
NDFEM Technical Fire Safety new Entrants Course	As advertised by NDFEM & subject to allocation of positions on Courses	5	As advertised by NDFEM & subject to allocation of positions on Courses	TBC
NDFEM Fire Safety Engineering Seminars	Annual for all Senior Officers working in Technical Fire Safety	1	1 Year	1
Other Technical Fire Safety Courses[15]	As advertised by NDFEM and internally advertised courses & subject to allocation of positions on Courses	As Applicable	As Applicable	As Applicable

Legal Training Courses	As advertised by NDFEM and internally advertised courses & subject to allocation of positions on Courses	As Applicable	As Applicable	As Applicable

Notes

13. The initial recruit induction may include Manual Handling and Critical Incident Stress Management
14. The duration for courses shown is a minimum duration and in many cases this duration shall be exceeded
15. Senior Fire Officers who are expected to carry out functions in relation to Technical Fire Safety should undergo additional training in the following areas:-

- Fire Safety Legislation
- Building Control Legislation
- Design Strategies
- Fire Risk Assessment
- Passive Fire Protection
- Active Fire Protection Systems
- Fire Safety Engineering
- Fire Safety Management

The NDFEM intends to review the area of Technical Fire Safety to provide guidance on the continuing professional development and enhancing the competence of the officers working in this area. Clare County Fire & Rescue Service will implement this guidance when published as appropriate.

The refresher period for non Rostered Senior Fire Officers will be at the discretion of the Chief Fire Officer.

Training for Maintenance Personnel

Fire service equipment is maintained in accordance with the manufacturers/suppliers recommendations. In general, the majority of in-house maintenance, other than routine maintenance and checks, is carried out by Clare County Fire & Rescue Services' Fitter Mechanics. These Fitter Mechanics are full qualified and experienced in the area of heavy vehicle maintenance and regularly attend appropriate training in relevant areas of maintenance.

Training for Support & Administration Personnel

Non-operational Support Staff generally fulfill clerical and administrative duties within Fire Services. They require ongoing development in areas such as computer skills, legal governance, time management, financial management etc. It may also be necessary to train up a minimum number of Occupational First Aiders. The training needs of Support and Administration personnel is identified as part of the PMDS process. The provision of any identified courses should be in accordance with the PMDS process and other parameters outlined in this document.

Appendix E

Specialist Training for Fire-fighters and Officers (excerpt from Clare County Fire & Rescue Service Training Policy)

(Version 1.1 6th December 2013)

This Appendix contains a non-exhaustive list of specialist courses and guidance regarding the delivery of these and appropriate Refresher Courses. It is recognised that the list of courses and the guidance provided in relation to each may change. Personnel will be nominated to these courses at the discretion of the Chief Fire Officer.

Course	Anticipated Relevant Rank(s)	Personnel Requiring Course	Duration (days) [15]	Refresher Interval	Duration of Refresher Course (Days)[15]
Abrasive Wheels Operator Course	FF	Any personnel that operate abrasive wheels equipment	2	3 Years	1
Aerial Appliance Operator Course	FF, D/M, SSO & SO (Ennis, Shannon & Kilrush)	Any personnel that operate an aerial appliance	As recommended by the supplier / manufacturer of the Aerial Appliance	As recommended by the supplier / manufacturer of the Aerial Appliance, otherwise every 3 years	As recommended by the supplier / manufacturer of the Aerial Appliance, otherwise 3 days
Airport Familiarisation Training	FF, D/M, SSO & SO (Ennis & Shannon) & Rostered Senior Fire Officers	Personnel that may be mobilised to an Incident at Shannon Airport – personnel should complete this course within 5 years of joining	2	5 Years	1
Compressed Air Foam System (CAFS) Operator Course	FF, D/M, SSOs, SOs & RSFO's	Any personnel that operate a CAFS Pump, uses a CAFS Branch or takes charge of an incident where CAFS is used	As recommended by the supplier / manufacturer of the CAFS Pump, otherwise 1 Day	As recommended by the supplier / manufacturer of the CAFS Pump, otherwise every 5 years	As recommended by the supplier / manufacturer of the CAFS Pump, otherwise 1 day

Chainsaw Operator Course	FF & D/M (Ennis, Shannon, Ennistymon, Scarriff & Killaloe)	Any personnel that operate a Chainsaw	5 Day Local Authority Chainsaw Operator Course (Coillte or equivalent)	3 Years	2
Hiab Crane	FF & D/M (Ennis & Shannon)	Any personnel that operate a Hiab Crane	As recommended by the supplier / manufacturer of the Hiab Crane, otherwise 2 Days	As recommended by the supplier / manufacturer of the Hiab Crane, otherwise every 3 years	As recommended by the supplier / manufacturer of the Hiab Crane, otherwise 1 day
Cardiac First Responder (CFR)	FF & D/M	Any personnel that administer CPR or operate a Defibrillator	1	In accordance with most up to date PHECC Guidelines, currently 90 Days	In accordance with most up to date PHECC Guidelines, currently 2 hours
Emergency First Responder (EFR) [15]	FF & D/M	Any personnel that administer First Aid	5	In accordance with most up to date PHECC Guidelines	In accordance with most up to date PHECC Guidelines
Forklift Operator	FF, D/M, SSO or SO Ennis Fire Brigade & Brigade Mechanics	Any personnel that operate the Forklift	3	3 Years	1
Line Rescue	FF, D/M, SSO & SO (Shannon & Kilrush)	Any personnel that carry out Line Rescue	5	3 Years	1
Cliff Rescue	FF, D/M, SSO & SO (Kilkee)	Any personnel that carry out Cliff Rescue	5	3 Years	1
Safe Pass	FF, D/M, SSO, SO or Senior	Any personnel that visit building sites for	1	3 Years	1

	Officers	familiarisation visits			
Rail Familiarisation Training	FF, D/M, SSO & SO (Ennis, Shannon & Killaloe) & Rostered Senior Fire Officers	Personnel that may be mobilised to an Incident at Shannon Airport – personnel should complete this course within 5 years of joining	½	5 Years	½
Ship Fire-fighting Operator Course	FF, D/M, SSOs, SOs & RSFO's	Any personnel going on board a ship for Fire-fighting purposes	5	3 Years	1
Swift Water Rescue Technician	FF, D/M & SSO Ennis Fire Brigade	Any personnel entering water deeper than knee depth to carry out a rescue	5	TBC	TBC
Tactical Ventilation Operator (Defensive Fire-fighting)	FF, D/M, SSO & SO	Any Junior or Rostered Officers using Tactical Ventilation Fans for Defensive Fire-fighting	2	5 Years	1
Tunnel Fire-fighting Operator	FF, D/M, SSO & SO (Ennis, Shannon & Killaloe)	Personnel that may be mobilised to an Incident in the Shannon Tunnel - personnel should complete this course within 3 years of joining	3	5 Years	1
Winch	FF, D/M, SSO & SO	Any personnel that operate a Winch	2 Days	5 Years	1

Other Miscellaneous Training	As Applicable & at the discretion of the CFO	As Applicable & at the discretion of the CFO	As Applicable	As Applicable	As Applicable

Notes

16. The duration for courses shown is a minimum duration and in many cases this duration shall be exceeded
17. In the event that there is an insufficient number of Emergency First Responders in a station, a core number of personnel will be trained up as Occupational First Aiders.