ESSEX POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY

Essex County Fire & Rescue Service



Classification	Official			
Meeting	Service Leadership Team		Agenda no.	6a
	Performance and Resource	s Board		8
Meeting Date	30 April 2024			
	20 May 2024			
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Presented By	Moira Bruin			
Subject	Performance Framework and Target Setting 2024-25			
Type of Report	Decision			
Action Point No.	1	For Publicatio	n Yes	

RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 1. Review the Performance Framework
- 2. Note the methodology used to create targets set out in the paper.
- 3. Agree the targets set out in this paper.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report sets out the Performance Framework with proposed targets to be used for the Service's performance measures for 2024-25. The performance measures and targets have been developed by the Performance and Analytics team, in conjunction with the Extended Leadership Team.

The performance framework has been created to ensure that the service is delivering against the key service strategies, targets tolerances have then been set to drive continuous improvement throughout the service. This allows for the service to have robust performance conversations whilst ensuring that resources are in the right place to deliver them.

This report also details the methodology used to develop and set the targets for the services performance measures as identified within the Performance Framework. The Performance Framework aligns to the Fire and Rescue Plan.

Unless explicitly identified within either the Fire and Rescue Plan and the Integrated Risk Management Plan, targets have been agreed with the business owner and are to be signed off by the Service Leadership Team.

BACKGROUND

The Service's Performance Framework and Targets are reviewed on an annual basis.

Working with the Service we have identified several measures which are now obsolete from the framework due to changing priorities within the Service's key strategies. These will be replaced by new measures which allow us to track performance more efficiently.

OPTIONS AND ANALYSIS

Performance Framework

Working with conjunction to the Extended Leadership Team the following Performance Framework metrics and targets have been proposed:

Targets

Performance Measure	Target Owner	Red	Amber	Green	Blue	
Rate of primary fire injuries per	lan	46+	27-45	18-26	0-17	
1,000 fires	Adams	Rate per month				
Number of primary fire injuries	lan	8+	5-7	2-4	0-1	
Number of primary life injuries	Adams	Number per month				
Rate of Accidental Dwelling	lan	69+	36-68	20-35	0-19	
Fire Injuries per 1,000 fires	Injuries per 1,000 fires Adams		Rate per month			
Number of Accidental Dwelling	lan	6+	4-5	2-4	0-1	
Fire Injuries	Adams		Number	per month		
Number of Deliberate Fines	lan	115+	99-114	40 - 98	0 - 39	
Number of Deliberate Fires	Adams	Number per month				
Number of Accidental Dwelling	lan	68+	61-66	43-60	0 - 42	
Fires Adams		Number per month				
Number of fires in Non-	lan	40+	34 - 39	12 - 33	0 - 11	
Residential Properties	Adams	Number per month				
Reduction in the number of	lan	114+	101 - 113	72 - 100	0 - 71	
Unwanted Fire Signals	Adams	Number per month				
Number of Audits against the	lan	0-62	63-73	74-83	84+	
High Risk Premises in RBIP	Adams Variable target to be adjusted m		monthly.			
		Targets set as of Feb 2024)24	
Number of Audits against the V	lan					
High Risk Premises in RBIP	Adams	0-15	16-25	26-35	36+	
	Variable target to be adjusted monthly.					
	Targets set as of Feb 2024					

Performance Measure	Target Owner	Target
Fire Cover at Strategic	James Palmer	97%
Locations		Monthly
Service wide first pump availability	James Palmer	80%
		Monthly
To get our first attendance to a potentially life-threating incident within an average of	James Palmer	10 Minute Average
10 minutes		Monthly
Percentage of incidents attended within 15 minutes	James Palmer	90%
		Monthly
Number of Home Fire Safety Visits Delivered	lan Adams	604
		Variable target to be adjusted monthly
Number of Home Fire Safety Visits by operation staff	James Palmer	438
		Monthly
Freedom Of Information Response Rates	Karl Edwards	90%
Complaint Response Rates	Karl Edwards	90%
Percentage of working time	Colette Black	Below national average
lost per person per employee		Monthly

Protection and Prevention – Dynamic/Variable targets.

It is proposed that ECFRS moves towards a more flexible and dynamic method of monitoring audit and Prevention visits.

Currently the targets are generated at the start of the reporting period, by dividing the total number of targeted visits by the number of months in the reporting period. This creates a fixed number of visits that require to be completed each month, and performance is measured against this static target. However, it is acknowledged that this static approach doesn't accurately reflect output.

The new variable targets will be based on the cumulative number of visits completed, distributing them across the remaining months of the reporting period. Staffing levels and potential reductions in working days due to holiday periods will also be factored in.

The Prevention management team will review the forecasts each month prior to the publication of the Performance Report, providing narrative to explain the performance of the team against the variable target.

We anticipate that this approach will provide a better assessment of the department's performance and set more realistic and achievable targets. Additionally, this method will allow for targets to reflect the performance over the preceding months, and account for potential adjustments to future staffing levels.

This approach is also proposed to be used for the Protection arena and the reporting of Audit visits.

Table 1 illustrates the current static target measures. In this example, the target is for 12,000 visits to be completed over a 12-month period. This equates to a static target of 1,000 visits a month.

Table 2 illustrates the variable target. As can be seen, the target fluctuates depending on the previous number of visits completed. The higher the number of visits, the lower the target. In April, where the number of visits were below the target, the target to the following month has increased. If the visits then exceed the new target, then the target for the next month is decreased.

Charts 1 illustrates how the variable targets will increase if the expected number of visits are not completed. Chart 2 illustrates how this appears over the RBIP cycle for Very High audits. As shown, the number expected visits are set to increase over time as more officers become qualified and therefore more audits are expected to be completed. This is based on a number of factors, including the number of audits completed per FTE, the fact that available FTE may decline during holiday periods, and the length of time that officers take to complete their relevant qualifications. Therefore, the performance will be measured against what has been competed versus what was expected.

Month	Target	Actual	
WIOTILIT	Visits	Visits	
April	1,000	550	
May	1,000	1,020	
June	1,000	1,100	
July	1,000	1,200	
August	1,000	850	

Table 1: Static Target

Month	Target Visits	Actual Visits	
April	1,000	550	
May	1,043	1,020	
June	1,037	1,100	
July	1,016	1,200	
August	1,040	850	

Table 2: Variable Target

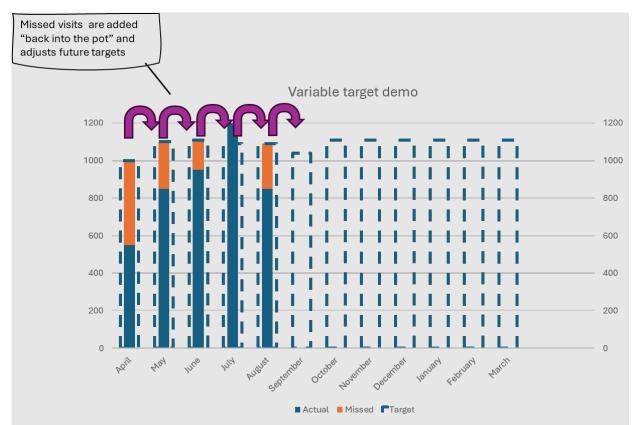


Chart 1: Visual representation of variable target with pseudo data

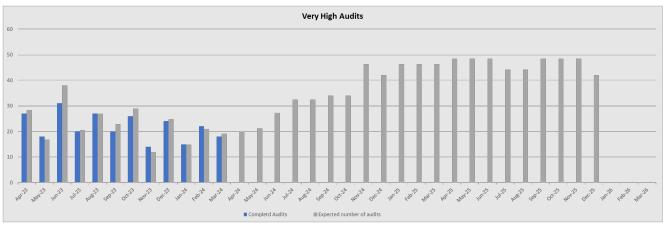
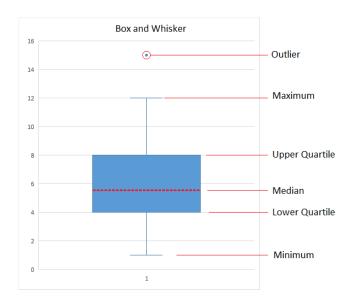


Chart 2: Expected/planned audits vs Actual audits

Identifying the tolerance

When a performance metric has met its target consistently over the course of a year it is important to reset the target to make it challenging target so that positive performance against it ensures continuous improvement.

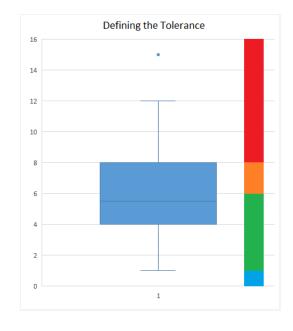


To identify the tolerance for a measure we looked back at three years' work of performance data and plot it in **Box and Whisker Chart**.

This is a standard statistical way of displaying the data set. This then establishes:

- Outliers
- Maximum: the largest number excluding any outliers
- Minimum: the smallest number excluding any outliers
- Median: The middle value of the dataset
- Upper Quartile and Lower Quartiles (based on the distribution of the data excluding outliers)

From this we can establish performance tolerances.



Red performance: Any performance that falls above the Upper Quartile

Amber performance: Any performance that falls above the Median and within the upper quartile.

Green performance: Any performance that falls below the Median and above the Minimum.

Blue Performance: Any performance that falls below the minimum.

RISKS AND MITIGATIONS

None in relation to this report

LINKS TO FIRE AND RESCUE PLAN

None in relation to this report

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None in relation to this report

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

None in relation to this report

STAFFING IMPLICATIONS

None in relation to this report

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

The actions being taken will not have a disproportionate impact on individuals with protected characteristics (as defined within the Equality Act 2010), when compared to all other individuals and will not disadvantage people with protected characteristics.

Race	N	Religion or belief	N
Sex	N	Gender reassignment	N
Age	N	Pregnancy & maternity	N
Disability	N	Marriage and Civil Partnership	N
Sexual orientation	N	·	

The Core Code of Ethics Fire Standard has been fully considered and incorporated into the proposals outlined in this paper.

HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

None in relation to this report

CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Performance and Analytics have worked closely with the Extended Leadership Team, Continuous Improvement Board and the Office of the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner in the creation of these targets.

FUTURE PLANS

To be reviewed on an annual basis

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS AND APPENDICES

Appendix A: Performance framework