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Sent by email

Date: 6 October 2026
Contact: Consultation and Engagement team
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Dear Partner,

**REFERENCE: CONSULTATION ON HOW WE ASSESS AND MANAGE RISK IN OUR COMMUNITIES**

I hope you are well. I am writing to seek your opinion on our five-year strategic plan for Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service, our draft Community Risk Management Plan.

This plan is a strategic review of the risks that we might face now and in the future. It also considers what actions we need to put in place to mitigate these risks to our communities.

Earlier in the year, we undertook an engagement exercise where we heard from more than 1,000 people as to the risks that they feel we ought to consider and also invited their views as to the role of the fire and rescue service and our focus moving forward. We have incorporated the feedback into our draft plan.

We plan to continue to put people at the centre of our prevention, protection, response and community resilience work, tailoring our services for those most at risk. In developing this plan, we have also considered new and future risks that could affect our services, communities and staff.

Please let us know your views on our draft Community Risk Management Plan, which will run from April 2027 until 2032.

You can let us know your views by filling in the online survey, found on our website, which will remain open until 9am on Monday 4 January 2027. If you or colleagues would prefer to respond in another format or have a further conversation about the

draft plan, please get in touch through the consultation and engagement team. I would be most grateful if you could arrange for this to be completed, please.

We want to hear from a range of people across Devon and Somerset to make sure we're aligning our future plans with the risks in the communities we serve, so please share across your networks.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in helping us continue to provide a fire and rescue service which is focused on preventing incidents from happening but also one able to respond effectively to emergencies when required.

Kind regards,



Gavin Ellis PGDip, MBA
**Chief Fire Officer**