



**DORSET & WILTSHIRE  
FIRE AND RESCUE**

2026

Item 26/07 Appendix 7

## Station Review – Hamworthy Fire Station

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# Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service

MEETING	Members Working Group
DATE OF MEETING	10 September 2025
SUBJECT OF REPORT	Hamworthy Fire Station - Station Review
STATUS OF REPORT	For publication
PURPOSE OF REPORT	For decision
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	<p><b>General</b></p> <p>As Members have requested, eight stations have been chosen to be included within their value for money review programme.</p> <p>These reviews are important as they are a potential means of addressing two main strategic risks facing the Authority, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Failure to secure financial sustainability that ensures and maintains effective service provision (Strategic risk 6)</li> </ul> <p>Note: Currently the predicted revenue budget shortfall for financial year 2026-27 is £1.38m rising to £1.76m in 2028/29.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Failure to have a robust and financially sustainable on-call duty system to meet the needs of the Service (Strategic risk 9)</li> </ul> <p>Dependent upon the decisions made by the Authority, the savings may be used to address the financial deficit facing the Authority or to offer an opportunity for alternative reinvestment to further improve frontline delivery, aligned to current and future risk and demand.</p> <p>The methodology, data sets and process undertaken in producing this paper, followed the approach approved by Members at the Member’s Working Group, on the 5 March 2025.</p> <p><b>This station review</b></p> <p>This paper, and the supporting documents, provide Members with a review of Hamworthy Fire Station.</p> <p>This station has one fire appliance, one Land Rover (light off road vehicle) and an Incident Command Vehicle.</p> <p>The station currently has 12 on-call firefighters who provide 70.90% availability and typically respond to a low number of incidents (98 average per year).</p> <p>The annual revenue cost of the station is currently £233k, with capital investment requirements in property and vehicle</p>

	<p>replacement of around £41k per year. The review has identified that the station has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low incident numbers.</li> <li>• Low historic and current station availability.</li> <li>• Recruitment and retention issues.</li> <li>• Low level community risks on its station ground.</li> </ul> <p>On the basis that Hamworthy Fire Station was available 100% of the time (which is a modelled response and not reflecting its current 70.90% availability), if it were to be closed there may be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An increase in response time of 0 minutes 21 seconds to property fires with a sleeping risk.</li> <li>• An increase in response time of 0 minutes 31 seconds to property fires with no sleeping risk.</li> <li>• An increase in response time of 0 minutes 11 seconds to road traffic collisions.</li> </ul> <p>This report evidences that the closure of this station would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have low knock-on operational impacts to surrounding stations.</li> <li>• Present an annual revenue saving of £233k.</li> <li>• Provide a reduction in capital investment requirement across the property and vehicle replacement of around £41k per year.</li> <li>• Present an opportunity for a one-off capital receipt for the sale of the station and site.</li> <li>• Provide an opportunity for savings or more effective and efficient use of resources in areas of greater community need.</li> </ul> <p>As the Authority’s professional advisor, the advice of the Chief Fire Officer is that this station should be the subject of public consultation and considered for closure by the Authority.</p>
<p>RISK ASSESSMENT</p>	<p>The Service has two strategic risks that this review seeks to mitigate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Failure to secure financial sustainability that ensures and maintains effective service provision (Strategic risk 6)</li> <li>• Failure to have a robust and financially sustainable on-call duty system to meet the needs of the Service (Strategic risk 9)</li> </ul> <p>Failure to deliver changes that improve efficiency, effectiveness and productivity could undermine the reputation of the Service, with potential interest from His Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire &amp; Rescue Services and wider stakeholders.</p>

<p>COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT</p>	<p>A comprehensive Stage 2 Impact Assessment has been undertaken, which includes community impact.</p> <p>This has identified a negative impact on communities with an increase in response times based on a modelled 100% station availability.</p>										
<p>PEOPLE IMPACT ASSESSMENT</p>	<p>A comprehensive Stage 2 People Impact Assessment has been undertaken for all affected staff.</p> <p>This has identified negative impacts with the loss of posts due to a probable lack of redeployment opportunities. It is estimated that the total redundancy costs are £39,965.</p>										
<p>ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT</p>	<p>A Stage 1 Impact Assessment has been completed.</p>										
<p>BUDGET IMPLICATIONS</p>	<p>Station reviews present the Fire Authority with the opportunity to potentially reduce capital costs and ongoing revenue budget expenditure from key stations, to either investing in the critical risk and demand areas of the Service or provide an overall saving to support the financial deficit.</p> <p>A full review of Hamworthy Fire Station costs has been identified in the Financial Data section of Appendix A. The potential removal of this station will have the following financial impacts:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="560 1115 1442 1458"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2" style="background-color: #003366; color: white;">Amount (£)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Estimated annual capital budget savings</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£40,880</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Estimated annual revenue budget savings</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£232,829</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Estimated one-off redundancy costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£39,965</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Latest Station Valuation*</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£780,000</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>*Asset valuation used within the Annual Statement of Accounts. A full valuation for sale will be undertaken should Members recommend consideration for closure to the Authority.</p>	Amount (£)		Estimated annual capital budget savings	£40,880	Estimated annual revenue budget savings	£232,829	Estimated one-off redundancy costs	£39,965	Latest Station Valuation*	£780,000
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Latest Station Valuation*	£780,000										
<p>PROFESSIONAL ADVICE</p>	<p>As the Authority’s professional advisor, the advice of the Chief Fire Officer is that this station should be the subject of public consultation and considered for closure by the Authority.</p> <p>Members are asked to consider and approve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hamworthy Fire Station to be included in the public consultation programme and considered for potential closure by the Authority.</li> </ul>										
<p>BACKGROUND PAPERS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Safety Plan 2024-28</li> <li>• Fire Cover Review 2023</li> <li>• Medium Term Financial Plan 2025-29</li> <li>• MWG Decision Report – Station Closures Feb 25</li> </ul>										

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MWG Fire Station Review Report Template</li> <li>• MWG Stage 2 People Impact Assessment Template</li> <li>• MWG Station Review Methodology Paper</li> <li>• Over the Border Review</li> <li>• Resourcing and Savings Programme 2024-26 Framework</li> <li>• Station Review Mandate</li> <li>• Strategic Assessment of Risk 2023-25 and 2025-28</li> </ul>
APPENDICES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appendix A – Station Review – Hamworthy Fire Station</li> </ul>
REPORT ORIGINATOR	<p>Name: Cllr Kevin Small, Members Working Group Chair.  Email: <a href="mailto:democratic.services@dwfire.org.uk">democratic.services@dwfire.org.uk</a></p>

## 1. Background

- 1.1. The fire and rescue authorities are legally required under the National Framework for Fire and Rescue Services (England) 2018 to produce a Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP). This requirement is met by the Authority through the production and approval of the Community Safety Plan (CSP).
- 1.2. Within the CSP 2021-2024, the Service made a commitment to develop and deliver a full and comprehensive Fire Cover Review (FCR) for the Service. As Members are aware this was undertaken in 2023.
- 1.3. The FCR supported the delivery of the CSP 2024-2028 and its associated commitments. Through this a number of changes to duty systems and fire appliance numbers have been so far delivered yielding improvement to fire cover, a better use of public money and savings of around £900k. The decisions associated with these changes has been undertaken by the Chief Fire Officer through delegated arrangements.
- 1.4. The Authority however indicated that potential fire station closures should remain a decision for the Authority and subsequently established a Members Working Group.
- 1.5. The inaugural Members Working Group (MWG) took place in November 2024. Through this initial meeting Members tasked Officers to deliver a review to identify the stations for review, using an agreed methodology and approach.
- 1.6. At their subsequent meeting on the 5 March 2025 Members approved eight stations for review, using the following agreed criteria:
  - **Corporate response impact:** The overall percentage contribution to all Service mobilisations assuming the appliance was available 100.00% of the time.
  - **Travel time to next station:** The travel time to the next nearest Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service station.
  - **Proximity to a wholetime duty station.**
  - **Non-removal of two neighbouring stations.**
- 1.7. During this meeting Members also approved the methodology, appendices documentation and report templates required to support a decision for each station reviewed. This report and associated appendices are fully aligned to this direction.

## 2. Hamworthy Fire Station

### 2.1. About Hamworthy Fire Station

- 2.2. Hamworthy Fire Station has one fire appliance, one Land Rover (light off road vehicle) and an Incident Command vehicle.

The station currently has 12 on-call firefighters who provide 70.90% availability and typically respond to a low number of incidents (98 average per year).

2.3. Appendix A - Station Review of Hamworthy Fire Station, provides a full assessment of Hamworthy Fire Station’s performance and existing response arrangements, against the modelled performance of the proposed response arrangements.

**2.4. Financial analysis**

2.5. Table 1, below, provides the annual revenue costs incurred at the station in the period April 2020 to March 2025. This includes the cost of drill nights and operational activity, premises costs including standard maintenance and cleaning, laundry and equipment costs.

Annual revenue costs incurred	
Year	Revenue Costs
2020/21	£213,924
2021/22	£216,517
2022/23	£229,613
2023/24	£264,561
2024/25	£243,320

**Table 1: Analysis of the annual revenue costs incurred at Hamworthy Fire Station in the period April 2020 to March 2025**

2.6. Table 2 provides a breakdown of capital cyclical maintenance costs incurred since April 2016 (each station has a full cyclical review every seven years).

Cyclical maintenance costs	
Type and Period	Cost
Cyclical maintenance	£86,061

**Table 2: Cyclical maintenance costs incurred at Hamworthy Fire Station since April 2016**

2.7. Table 3 provides a breakdown of the estimated annual cost avoidance that would be achieved indirectly across various support service departments should the station be closed by the Authority.

Annual cost avoidance if closed	
Department	Cost
Fleet maintenance cost	£5,998
ICT – licencing, connectivity, printing	£15,918
Treasury – financing cost avoidance	£33,983
Uniform	£4,928
ICT – hardware	£2,876

**Table 3: Annual cost avoidance across support service departments should Hamworthy Fire Station be closed**

2.8. If following public consultation, the Authority decided to close the station, the indicative annual savings, shown in Table 4 may be realised. It should be noted that some of the annual revenue budget savings will not be immediate due existing

contracts for the provision of services and equipment but will be achieved once contract periods end and equipment is returned.

Estimated annual savings and cost avoidance	
Type	Cost
Revenue	£232,829
Capital Expenditure	£40,880

**Table 4: Estimated annual revenue budget savings and capital expenditure cost avoidance at Hamworthy Fire Station**

- 2.9. It is estimated that 100.00% of the stations operational activity will transfer to a neighbouring on-call station, so these costs will not cease and have been excluded from the estimated savings.
- 2.10. Table 5 provides an estimate of expected redundancy costs based on current station personnel.

Estimated redundancy costs	
	Cost
Estimated redundancy costs	£39,965

**Table 5: Estimate of expected redundancy costs based on current station personnel at Hamworthy Fire Station**

### 2.11. Asset ownership and covenants

- 2.12. The station land is owned by the Authority with no covenants in place. At the end of each financial year the Service must value each station for inclusion in the annual Statement of Accounts. This amount has been included for reference only. Table 6 provides a breakdown of the last full station valuation, which was completed in March 2022.

Latest station valuation	
Building Valuation	Land Valuation
£430,000	£350,000

**Table 6: Breakdown of the latest full station valuation for Hamworthy Fire Station**

- 2.13. The actual value which could be achieved via site disposal is likely to vary from this, and a full independent valuation of likely capital receipts will be established if a capital receipt is to be sought.
- ### 2.14. Crewing and operational resources
- 2.15. Current establishment for the station is 12 staff consisting of: one Watch Manager, three Crew Managers and eight Firefighters.
- 2.16. Between 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025 the availability of the appliance was 70.90%. This equates to 119.11 hours of availability per week.

2.17. The current weekly contracted hours are 974.83 (81.24%) from a maximum Full Cover establishment (FCE). For reference a one pump station can utilise ten FCE or 1,200hrs per week.

**2.18. Recruitment and retention profile**

2.19. Between 1 April 2019 and 31 March 2025 there were 11 starters and 13 leavers. As of 1 April 2025, the average length of service of on-call staff at Hamworthy Fire Station was seven years and 11 months.

2.20. According to the Census 2021, approximately 40.58% of the Hamworthy population were aged 15-years or under or aged 65-years and over. Therefore, only a small number of the population has been identified as eligible for recruitment to Hamworthy Fire Station. Should the station remain open this may impact future recruitment to maintain availability of the station's appliance.

**2.21. Operational vehicles**

2.22. The station has the following vehicles:

Resource
Standard pumping appliance
Light off-road vehicle
Incident Command Unit

**Table 7: Existing operational resources at Hamworthy Fire Station**

**2.23. Response performance**

2.24. In line with the agreed methodology, the review has been modelled based on the assumption that all pumping appliances within the Service are 100% available. This removes any bias from historical appliance availability, giving the true demand and impact for each station. Data on the actual number of mobilisations for each station, and actual appliance availability, are also included to ensure a full picture is considered.

2.25. Using modelling software, an overview of response performance, is provided against building fires with sleeping risks, other buildings and road traffic collisions for the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2024.

2.26. **At a Service wide level**, the data shows that the Service would achieve 8,635 (81.60%) of the corporate targets for **first appliance** response standard, before the closure of Hamworthy Fire Station. If Hamworthy Fire Station were to be closed 8,626 (81.50%) of the first appliance response standards would have been met. This would be a reduction of only nine incidents that met the Service response standard over the five-year period.

2.27. The data shows that the Service would achieve 4,703 (82.70%) of the **second appliance** response standards (thirteen-minutes for sleeping risk and fifteen-minutes for other fires) before the closure of Hamworthy Fire Station. If Hamworthy Fire Station were to be closed 4,695 (82.50%) of the second appliance response

standards would have been met. This would be a reduction of eight incidents that met the Service response standard over the five-year period.

2.28. For modelled responses to the 67,561 incidents that occurred across the Service between 1 April 2019 and 31 March 2024, the current average first response time is 9 minutes 6 seconds. If Hamworthy Fire Station were to be closed, the modelled average first response time for the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2024 would have been 9 minutes 6 seconds. There would be no increase in average first appliance response time.

2.29. For modelled responses to the 67,561 incidents that occurred across the Service between 1 April 2019 and 31 March 2024, 12,127 required two or more appliances on the initial response plan. The average second appliance response time to these incidents is 12 minutes 25 seconds. If Hamworthy Fire Station were to be closed, the modelled average second response time to these incidents for the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2024 would have been 12 minutes 26 seconds, with an increase of 0 minutes and 1 second on the average second appliance response time Service wide.

### **2.30. Impact on response**

2.31. This section reviews the change in pumping appliance mobilisations for the surrounding fire stations, based on Appendix A during the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2024.

2.32. The analysis only looks at the impacts on first and second pumping appliances and does not account for mobilisations for a third pumping appliance, or more, attending make-ups or standby moves, due to the complexity of modelling and increase in time to model all statistics that sit outside of statutory governance requirements.

2.33. Impacts on stations for additional mobilisations have been considered within this report, calculating the difference between mobilisations modelled on Hamworthy Fire Station being available and mobilisations modelled on the closure of the station.

2.34. Summary of Response Impacts:

<b>Incidents located where Hamworthy Fire Station would support the initial response N.B. this assumes 100% availability across the Service</b>			
<b>Incident Category</b>	<b>First Attendance</b>	<b>Second Attendance</b>	<b>Total</b>
Property Fire with Sleeping Risk	23	39	<b>62</b>
Property Fire without Sleeping Risk	11	13	<b>24</b>
Other Fire	80	89	<b>169</b>
Automatic Fire Alarm (AFA)	51	142	<b>193</b>
Road Traffic Collision (RTC)	3	10	<b>13</b>
Non-Statutory with Life Risk	20	47	<b>67</b>
Non-Statutory without Life Risk	109	163	<b>272</b>
<b>All Incidents</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>503</b>	<b>800</b>

**Table 8: Number of incidents located where Hamworthy Fire Station would support the initial response as either the first or second pumping appliance during the five-year period from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2024 (assuming 100% appliance availability across the Service)**

	Property Fire with Sleeping Risk		Property Fire without Sleeping Risk		Road Traffic Collision (RTC)	
<b>Modelled Response inc. Hamworthy Fire Station</b>	<b>First Attendance</b>	<b>Second Attendance</b>	<b>First Attendance</b>	<b>Second Attendance</b>	<b>First Attendance</b>	<b>Second Attendance</b>
Average Response Time (minutes:seconds)	8:23	9:43	9:08	10:24	8:03	9:23
Response Standard Achieved (incidents)	58 of 62 (93.55%)	62 of 62 (100.00%)	18 of 24 (75.00%)	24 of 24 (100.00%)	13 of 13 (100.00%)	Not Applicable
<b>Modelled Response exc. Hamworthy Fire Station</b>	<b>First Attendance</b>	<b>Second Attendance</b>	<b>First Attendance</b>	<b>Second Attendance</b>	<b>First Attendance</b>	<b>Second Attendance</b>
Average Response Time (minutes:seconds)	8:44	11:44	09:39	12:38	8:14	11:14
Response Standard Achieved (incidents)	55 of 62 (88.71%)	55 of 62 (88.71%)	14 of 24 (58.33%)	23 of 24 (95.83%)	13 of 13 (100.00%)	Not Applicable
<b>Impact on Modelled Response Capability</b>	<b>First Attendance</b>	<b>Second Attendance</b>	<b>First Attendance</b>	<b>Second Attendance</b>	<b>First Attendance</b>	<b>Second Attendance</b>
Average Response Time (minutes:seconds)	+ 0:21	+ 2:01	+ 0:31	+ 2:14	+ 0:11	+ 1:51
Response Standard Achieved (incidents)	- 3	- 7	- 4	- 1	No Change	Not Applicable

**Table 9: Modelled response capability for incidents located where Hamworthy Fire Station would support the initial response plan during the five-year period from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2024- Statutory Response (assuming 100% appliance availability across the Service)**

	Accidental Dwelling Fires		Fire Related Injuries	
	First Attendance	Second Attendance	First Attendance	Second Attendance
<b>Modelled Response inc. Hamworthy Fire Station</b>				
Average Response Time (minutes:seconds)	8:22	9:41	8:21	10:11
Response Standard Achieved (incidents)	54 of 55 (98.18%)	55 of 55 (100.00%)	2 of 2 (100.00%)	2 of 2 (100.00%)
<b>Modelled Response exc. Hamworthy Fire Station</b>				
Average Response Time (minutes:seconds)	8:42	11:42	8:21	11:21
Response Standard Achieved (incidents)	51 of 55 (92.73%)	51 of 55 (92.73%)	2 of 2 (100.00%)	2 of 2 (100.00%)
<b>Impact on Modelled Response Capability</b>				
Average Response Time (minutes:seconds)	+ 0:20	+ 2:01	No Change	+ 1:10
Response Standard Achieved (incidents)	- 3	- 4	No Change	No Change

**Table 10: Modelled response capability for incidents located where Hamworthy Fire Station would support the initial response plan during the five-year period from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2024 – Statutory but recorded in other areas such as property fire with sleeping risk (assuming 100% appliance availability across the Service). There were no fire related fatalities during the review period where Hamworthy Fire Station would have provided either the first or second closest response**

### **3. Impacts of closure**

- 3.1. If Hamworthy Fire Station were to be available 100% of the time, the closure of the station would require responses from surrounding stations to 62 property fires with sleeping risk incidents over five years. This equates to approximately 12.4 incidents of this type a year. This would increase the modelled first in attendance time by 0 minutes 21 seconds and the second attendance time by 2 minutes 1 second.
- 3.2. It should be noted that in reality the Service has struggled to recruit and retain on-call firefighters at this station and it is therefore only available around 70.90 % of the time. Hamworthy were available and mobilised to 31 of these incidents over this five year period.
- 3.3. Hamworthy Fire Stations appliance availability has slightly improved in the last year, if over the previous five years availability had been the same as this year it could have been available for 44 of the 62 incidents.
- 3.4. If the station were to be closed it would require responses from the surrounding stations to 24 property fires without sleeping risk incidents over five years (4.8 per year). This would increase the modelled first in attendance time by 0 minutes 31 seconds and the second attendance time by 2 minutes 14 seconds. It should be noted however that Hamworthy Fire Station was only available and mobilised to 12 of these incidents due to its actual availability.
- 3.5. As with property fires with sleeping risk, if the appliance availability had been the same as the past year over the previous five years, the appliance could have been available for 17 of the 24 incidents.
- 3.6. The closure of the station would require responses from surrounding stations to the 13 road traffic collision incidents over five years (2.6 per year). This would increase the modelled first in attendance time by 0 minutes 11 seconds. There is no response standard for second appliances at road traffic collisions. Based on the appliance availability over the last year the appliance could have been available for nine of the 13 incidents.
- 3.7. There were seven modelled incidents over the five-year period falling within these categories where the first appliance attendance would not meet the response standard, should the station be closed. There were also eight modelled incidents where the second appliance attendance would not meet the response standard should the station be closed.
- 3.8. The closure of the station would require responses from surrounding stations to the 55 accidental dwelling fire incidents over five years (11 per year). This would increase the modelled first in attendance time by 0 minutes 20 seconds and the second attendance time by 2 minutes 1 second. Hamworthy Fire Station were only available and mobilised to 28 of these incidents.

#### 4. Impact on neighbouring fire stations (DWFRS stations only)

Summary of response impacts on neighbouring fire stations			
Fire Station	Current modelled number of response	Modelled number of responses with Hamworthy Fire Station closed	Impact (Over 5 years)
Poole Fire Station	800	1600	+800

Table 11: Modelled responses of impacted DWFRS Fire Stations to support or provide resilience to the initial response plan to incidents during the five-year period from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2024, located where Hamworthy Fire Station would provide the first or second nearest response, with and without availability of Hamworthy Fire Station's pumping appliance

4.1. Should it be decided by Members to close Hamworthy Fire Station, over the modelled five-year period:

- Poole Fire Station would see the highest increase of incidents with 800 (160 per year/3 per week) modelled responses, acting as the nearest or second nearest response to support or provide resilience. Poole Fire Station's two appliances were available for 100% and 83.21% respectively for the period between 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025.

#### 5. Operational resilience

5.1. This section considers the existing on-call section at the nearest stations and the availability percentages of the nearest ten pumping appliances to Hamworthy Fire Station. The response time consists of the appropriate turn out time added to the travel time from station to station, based on the travel time matrix used within the Service.

Nearest pumping appliances to Hamworthy Fire Station				
Appliance	Fire station	Crewing model	Response time	Availability
P1	Poole	Wholetime	8 minutes	N / A
P4	Poole	On-Call	11 minutes	83.21%
P1	Wareham	On-Call	21 minutes	88.29%
P1	Bere Regis	On-Call	22 minutes	35.44%
P1	Redhill Park	Wholetime	22 minutes	N / A
P1	Westbourne	Wholetime	22 minutes	N / A
KP1	Wimborne	On-Call	23 minutes	96.38%
P4	Wimborne	On-Call	23 minutes	38.28%
P1	Ferndown	On-Call	27 minutes	65.78%
P1	Blandford	On-Call	28 minutes	98.79%

Table 12: Nearest ten pumping appliances within DWFRS to Hamworthy Fire Station by response time to fire station (response time incorporates turn-out time plus travel time) with on-call appliance availability for period 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025.

- 5.2. Travel distances from the Service’s closest stations to Hamworthy Fire Station for the first three appliances mean that attendance times range from 8 minutes to 21 minutes. Although attendance times will vary depending upon the incident location as the times detailed in Table 12 are for station to station and include the appropriate turnout time.
- 5.3. Whilst over the border resources can be utilised, the Service cannot rely upon these arrangements within our CRMP. Are no over the border resources within 28 minutes of Hamworthy Fire Station.
- 5.4. It is worth noting that the appliance availability at the key surrounding stations, over the review period, was generally high. Should this reduce however then resilience in the area may provide future challenges.

**6. Current and emerging operational risk**

- 6.1. The review has highlighted that there are future developments proposed within the immediate area within the next three years.
- 6.2. Table 13 below, provides a RAG summary of the future developments for Hamworthy Fire Station area.

Summary of known future developments for Hamworthy Fire Station area		
Type of development	Community impact	Risk to Service
Critical Infrastructure	N/A	N/A
Non-Critical Infrastructure	N/A	N/A
Housing Developments	+ 0 minutes 21 seconds	Minor
Commercial Developments	+ 0 minutes 31 seconds	Minor

Table 13: Summary of known future developments for Hamworthy Fire Station area

- 6.3. The modelled increase in response times for the first appliance in attendance has highlighted increases in the attendance times for both property fires with and without sleeping risks. These increases are considered, from a professional advice perspective, to be tolerable with a minor impact on response targets.
- 6.4. Seven existing operational risks have been identified within the Hamworthy Fire Station area risk profile that qualify as a level 3 or higher risk site (which is defined as a medium, high or very high level of risk determined by the Services’ Provision of Risk Information System). The highest level of risk identified is a high risk and is considered tolerable from a professional perspective. (see section: Current and emerging operational risk (pg. 49) in Appendix A).
- 6.5. **Response capability to risk sites**
- 6.6. The closure of Hamworthy Fire Station would mean that a primary response to the incidents at the risk sites, highlighted in Table 14, would transfer to a neighbouring station.

6.7. As the majority of neighbouring stations are all on-call, familiarisation times for these sites will need to be planned as part of quarterly training schedules. This will be a minimal impact on workloads for these stations, within the capacity of those stations.

Response capability to risk sites			
Risk Category	Number of sites	Current sites reached in response standard	Change in number of sites reached in response standard
High Rise	0	N/A	N/A
Care Homes	1	1	No Change
Hospitals	0	N/A	N/A
Wildfires	2	0	-2
Heritage	0	N/A	N/A
Thatch	2	2	No Change
COMAH and MACR	0	N/A	N/A
Flooding	6	6	No Change
High Risk Safe & Well	158	142	-16

Table 14: Modelled response capability for risk sites located where Hamworthy Fire Station would provide the nearest response. COMAH (Control of Major Accident Hazards) and MACR (Major Accident Control Regulations).

6.8. Response times to these risk sites are likely to increase, should an incident occur. However, Table 15 shows at present that response standards would be met on most occasions.

6.9. The data suggests the highest risk area in terms of site numbers is that of High Risk Safe & Well properties. Should the station be closed, these should be an area of continued focus for our prevention teams and their activities.

6.10. As at present, should an incident occur in any of these risks, resources will be drawn from across the Service and our partners, as incidents for these risks are inherently resource intensive.

## 7. Cross border mobilisations

7.1. Cross border mobilisations are where appliances from one fire and rescue service are mobilised into another fire and rescue service area.

7.2. Table 15 provides the number of cross border mobilisations over the past five years.

Number of cross border mobilisations		
Fire and rescue service	Number of neighbouring service mobilisations into Hamworthy Fire Station area	Number of Hamworthy Fire Station mobilisations to neighbouring FRS
Hampshire & Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service	2	0

Table 15: Number of cross border mobilisations between 1 April 2019 and 31 March 2024

- 7.3. Across the five years cross border resources were not mobilised from Hamworthy Fire Station Area into neighbouring fire and rescue service areas. Hampshire & Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service were mobilised an average of 0.4 times per year into Hamworthy's Fire Station area.
- 7.4. The closure of Hamworthy Fire Station has a very small potential to increase the likelihood of neighbouring services being required to respond into the Hamworthy Fire Station area, depending on the location of the incident. Based on the number of mobilisations, during the review period, the future number of mobilisations is likely to remain very low.

## 8. Special appliances

- 8.1. Hamworthy Fire Station provided the following Special Appliances over the review period.

Mobilisations of Hamworthy Fire Station's special appliances	
Vehicle	Mobilisations
Light Off Road Pumping Appliance	87
Incident Command Vehicle	255
<b>Total mobilisations</b>	<b>342</b>

Table 16: Mobilisations of Hamworthy Fire Station's special appliances during the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2024

## 9. Area profile summary and impact assessments summary

- 9.1. The Stage 2 Impact Assessments were undertaken to provide an overview of the current make-up of the staff at Hamworthy Fire Station, along with the demographic of the communities that are served by the station.
- 9.2. The key finding from this Impact Assessment identifies that Hamworthy Fire Station administration area has an age profile broadly similar to that seen within the local authority and national areas.
- 9.3. Should Hamworthy Fire Station be approved for closure; the Service will continue to deliver prevention activities prioritising high risk sections of the community.
- 9.4. As highlighted earlier within the report, Impact Assessments have highlighted that, according to the Census 2021, approximately 40.58 % of the Hamworthy

population were aged 15-years or under or aged 65-years and over. Therefore, only a small number of the population has been identified as eligible for recruitment to Hamworthy Fire Station. Should the station remain open this may impact future recruitment to maintain availability of the Hamworthy Fire Station appliance.

## 10. Station impact, realisation and cost analysis

10.1. Table 17 provides an overview of the impact and benefit if the decision was to close Hamworthy Fire Station.

Project analysis for Hamworthy Fire Station	
Project impact	Project realisation
1. Average response time increase of 21 seconds for first appliance to property fire with sleeping risk.	1. Estimated annual Revenue saving of £232,829.
2. Average response time increase of 31 seconds for first appliance to property fire without sleeping risk.	2. Estimated Capital saving of £40,880 per year.
3. Average response time increase of 11 seconds for first appliance to road traffic collision (RTC).	3. Additional mobilisations may support the motivation and retention of surrounding stations.
4. Seven (1.4 per year) first appliance mobilisations may not meet Service response standards.	4. Stations will become familiar with additional risks.
5. Eight (1.6 per year) second appliance mobilisations may not meet Service response standards.	5. When compared to the DWFRS average, all incident average attendance time would not increase if Hamworthy Fire Station were to be closed.
6. Overall, 37 (7.4 per year) mobilisations may impact first in attendance appliance mobilisations.	6. When compared to the DWFRS average, the two pump all incident average would increase by 0 minutes and 1 second.
7. Overall, 62 (12.4 per year) mobilisations may impact second appliance attendance mobilisations.	
8. Possible impact on surrounding stations: Poole 800 (160 per year/3 per week), modelled responses.	
9. With Poole offering a wholetime/on-call support this adds to the resilience in the region although it should be noted that the second wholetime appliance from Poole was removed in a prior workstream, so call numbers have already increased for both wholetime and on-call staff members.	
10. The closure of the station would mean that a primary response to any of these incidents would transfer to a neighbouring station.	

11. As mainly on-call stations, familiarisation time will take longer and will need to be planned as part of the quarterly training schedule.	
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Table 17: Impacts and benefits of closing Hamworthy Fire Station

## 11. Decision rationale summary

11.1. Table 18 gives a summary of the key data used to support the decision rationale, including the current performance, proposed performance and the impact of the proposed change.

Decision rationale summary: Hamworthy Fire Station					
Criteria	Current	Proposed	Change	Commentary	
<b>Demand and Risk</b>					
<b>Number of modelled incidents where station is closest</b>	397	N/A	N/A	Other DWFRS stations would attend these incidents	
<b>Number of modelled incidents where station is second closest</b>	503	N/A	N/A	Other DWFRS stations would attend these incidents	
<b>First Appliance Response Standard</b>	Property Fire with Sleeping Risk (10-minute response standard)				
	8 minutes 23 seconds  58 met / 4 not met	8 minutes 44 seconds  55 met / 7 not met	+ 0 minutes 21 seconds	Additional three incidents would not have met response standard	
	Property Fire without Sleeping Risk (10-minute response standard)				
	9 minutes 8 seconds  18 met / 6 not met	9 minutes 39 seconds  14 met / 10 not met	+ 0 minutes 31 seconds	Additional four incidents would not have met response standard	
	Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs) (15-minute response standard)				
	8 minutes 3 seconds  13 met / 0 not met	8 minutes 14 seconds  13 met / 0 not met	+ 0 minutes 11 seconds	No change in the number of incidents meeting response standard	
	Accidental Dwelling Fires (10-minute response standard)				
	8 minutes 22 seconds  54 met / 1 not met	8 minutes 42 seconds  51 met / 4 not met	+ 0 minutes 20 seconds	Additional three incidents would not have met response standard	
	<b>Second Appliance Response Standard</b>	Property Fire with Sleeping Risk (13-minute response standard)			
		9 minutes 43 seconds	11 minutes 44 seconds	+ 2 minutes 1 second	Additional seven incidents would not have met response standard

	62 met / 0 not met	55 met / 7 not met		
<b>Property Fire without Sleeping Risk (15-minute response standard)</b>				
	10 minutes 24 seconds	12 minutes 38 seconds	+ 2 minutes 14 seconds	Additional one incident would not have met response standard
	24 met / 0 not met	23 met / 1 not met		
<b>Accidental Dwelling Fires (13-minute response standard)</b>				
	9 minutes 41 seconds	11 minutes 42 seconds	+ 2 minutes 1 second	Additional four incidents would not have met response standard
	55 met / 0 not met	51 met / 4 not met		
<b>Station full cover equivalent (FCE) (Max 10)</b>	11 members of staff providing 81.24 % of the required contracted hours for a one pump on-call station			
<b>Financial</b>				
<b>Financial (To include land ownership, covenants and MOUs if applicable)</b>	£232,829 annual revenue budget saving £40,880 annual capital expenditure cost avoidance			
<b>Impact Assessments</b>				
<b>People Impact Assessment – with mitigations</b>	Negative impact due to loss of earnings and morale.			
<b>Community Impact Assessment</b>	Negative impact due to increased response times, mitigations are listed in Table 19.			

Table 18: Hamworthy Fire Station summary table

11.2. The impact of removing Hamworthy Fire Station may see an overall increase in response times, which may mean that the first appliance is waiting longer for additional resources. The Service impacts and mitigating the consequences posed by this increase, should Hamworthy Fire Station be closed, can be seen in Table 19.

<b>Service impacts and mitigations</b>			
<b>Service Impact</b>	<b>RAG</b>	<b>Service Mitigations</b>	<b>RAG with Mitigations</b>
<b>Response time for first appliance at property fires with sleeping risk</b>		<p>Continue Service community engagement and Safe &amp; Well visits in Hamworthy, with particular focus high risk sections of the community.</p> <p>Continue Service business fire safety engagement and inspections in Hamworthy.</p> <p>Continue recruitment to surrounding stations to ensure their appliance availability increases, with a focus on achieving five people available for each appliance.</p>	
<b>Response time for second appliance at property fires with sleeping risk</b>		<p>Continue Service community engagement and Safe &amp; Well visits in Hamworthy, with particular focus high risk sections of the community.</p> <p>Continue Service business fire safety engagement and inspections in Hamworthy.</p> <p>Continue recruitment to surrounding stations to ensure their appliance availability increases, with a focus on achieving five people available for each appliance.</p>	
<b>Response time for first appliance at property fires without sleeping risk</b>		<p>Continue Service business fire safety engagement and inspections in Hamworthy.</p> <p>Continue recruitment to surrounding stations to ensure their appliance availability increases, with a focus on achieving five people available for each appliance.</p>	
<b>Response time for second appliance at property fires without sleeping risk</b>		<p>Continue Service business fire safety engagement and inspections in Hamworthy.</p> <p>Continue recruitment to surrounding stations to ensure their appliance availability increases, with a focus on achieving five people available for each appliance.</p>	
<b>Response time for first appliance at road traffic collision (RTC)</b>		Local staff management, succession planning and recruitment.	
<b>Response time for first appliance all incidents</b>		Local staff management, succession planning and recruitment.	
<b>Revenue Budget</b>		Money saved or reinvested to meet Service risk and demand.	
<b>Capital Programme (over 15-years)</b>		Money saved or reinvested to meet Service risk and demand.	
<b>Impact on surrounding stations</b>		Local staff management, succession planning and recruitment.	

Table 19: Hamworthy Fire Station impacts and mitigations

## 12. Summary

- 12.1. To achieve a sustainable and balanced budget for future years Hamworthy Fire Station was shortlisted, at the MWG in March 2025, for a detailed review of its current response arrangements and performance, to enable Members to make a decision on its future viability.
- 12.2. Availability has varied from 70.11% averaged between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024 to 70.90 % averaged between 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025.
- 12.3. Over the five-year review period, Hamworthy Fire Station responded to 193 (64.98%) incidents where they were modelled as the closest appliance out of a possible 297 incidents, averaging 38.6 incidents per year, with 20.8 incidents on average per year being responded to by a neighbouring station instead of Hamworthy Fire Station.
- 12.4. Across all incidents over the five-year period Hamworthy Fire Station had a modelled 800 incidents (160 per year). However, they were actually mobilised 490 times to Service incidents over the same period (98 per year).
- 12.5. Should the station be closed, the average response times for incidents where Hamworthy Fire Station would be part of the initial response, and where there is a response standard, would see an increase by between 0 minutes 11 seconds and 0 minutes 31 seconds, for first appliance attendance.
- 12.6. Furthermore, the average response times for incidents where Hamworthy Fire Station would be part of the initial response, and where there is a response standard, would increase by between 1 minute 51 seconds and 2 minutes 14 seconds, for second appliance attendance, should the station be closed.
- 12.7. Annual revenue savings for Hamworthy Fire Station are £232,829 and annual estimated capital costs are £40,880. The latest land valuation costs are £780,000 with estimated redundancy costs totalling £39,965.
- 12.8. The review has identified that there are future developments proposed within the next three years in the Hamworthy Fire Station administration area.
- 12.9. Analysis of the community demographics indicates that should Hamworthy Fire Station close, the Service will continue prevention activities prioritising Hamworthy's high risk sections of the community and High Risk Safe & Well sites.
- 12.10. Hamworthy Fire Station currently has limited appliance availability, which has decreased over the review period. With limited operational demand, a small resident population and no current or likely future significant risks, this suggests the costs of resourcing the station outweigh the benefits currently provided.
- 12.11. With the above in mind the risk benefit analysis focuses upon resilience within the area. Whilst appliance mobilisation is low, all incident data suggests attendance times will be increased should a decision to close Hamworthy Fire Station be made.
- 12.12. The increase in response time risks that could be created by closure can be mitigated to a tolerable level through existing prevention measures, such as, Safe &

Well visits, business fire safety inspections and a focus on recruitment and retention to surrounding stations.

- 12.13. The benefits of any closure will see a revenue and capital saving to the Service, which will support the future sustainability of the Service and, where appropriate, enable investment into areas of the Service requiring strengthening due to risk, demand and vulnerabilities.
- 12.14. Taking account of this report, and both supporting appendices, the advice of the Chief Fire Officer, as the Authority's professional advisor, is that Members are asked to consider and recommend that Hamworthy Fire Station should be the subject of public consultation and considered for closure by the Authority.

### **13. Next steps**

- 13.1. The Member Working Group are currently reviewing all eight stations within their review programme. Once they have agreed which stations may be subject to public consultation, and approved a public consultation exercise, Members will report their recommendations to the Authority in February 2026.
- 13.2. It is anticipated that a final decision paper will need to be presented to the Authority in June 2026.