LOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL FIRE & RESCUE



FIRE AND EMERCENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

Section 26, Fire Services Act, 1981

JANUARY 2013

Comhairle Chontae Lú

Louth 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 Louth this the 21st day of January 2013

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

Signed: _____
Chief Fire Officer

Signed: _____
Director of Services

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

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1.1 Louth County Council Fire & Rescue

1.1.1 *Louth County Council Fire & Rescue*, is tasked with carrying out the functions previously carried out by Louth County, Drogheda, and Dundalk Fire & Rescue Services.

1.1.2 Louth County Council is the fire authority which now undertakes to provide a fire and emergency rescue service to:

- The functional area of Louth County Council (as before)
- The functional areas of the fire authorities of Dundalk Town Council and Drogheda Borough Council, by agreement under Section 85 of the Local Government Act, 2001
- Part of the functional area of Meath County Council, also by agreement under Section 10 of the Local Government Act

Louth County Council also undertakes to provide a coordinated emergency rescue service to certain roads in conjunction with, and in the functional area of, Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service.

1.2 Legal Background

1.2.1 This plan details the designated operational roles of *Louth County Council Fire & Rescue*. It is a legal requirement of the Fire Services Act, 1981, the act under which fire and rescue operations are mandated to fire authorities, to prepare and revise such a plan periodically.

1.2.2 **Section 26 of the Fire Services Act, 1981:**

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

- *Organisation*
- *Appliances*
- *Equipment*
- *Fire Stations*
- *Water supplies and Extinguishing Agents*
- *Training*
- *Operational procedures and such other matters as may be relevant and for dealing with operations of an emergency nature under Section 25 of the Fire Services Act 1981."*

1.2.3 **Section 25 of the Fire Service Act, 1981:**

"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 considers necessary for the purposes of that function."

1.2.4 **Section 85 of the Local Government Act, 2001 states:**

"Where in the opinion of a local authority any function performable by it should be performed, generally or in a particular case, by another local authority, and that other authority is able and willing so to perform the function, then the authorities may enter into an agreement that:

(a) the function shall be so performed on behalf of the first-mentioned authority by the other authority, and

(b) it becomes so performable by that other authority in accordance with the agreement."

1.3 Definitions

Crew:

A wholetime "crew" in *Louth County Council Fire & Rescue* has a total of 5 wholetime personnel. Each wholetime crew consists of one Station Officer, one Sub Officer and 3 fire fighters. Under the 5 Group Duty System (see below), the Sub Officer functions as a fire fighter when the Station Officer is present.

A retained "crew" in Louth County Council Fire & Rescue has a total of either 8 or 9 retained personnel. Each retained crew consists of one Station Officer, one Sub Officer and either 6 or 7 firefighters.

Eastern Regional Control Centre (ERCC):

Call reception and appliance mobilisation centre, operated by Dublin Fire Brigade. ERCC mobilises Louth County Council Fire and Rescue fire appliances to incidents.

Fire Fighter:

"Fire-fighter" (a rank in the fire and rescue service) may refer either to whole-time or part-time (retained) personnel who carry out the fire fighting, emergency rescue and special functions assigned to them by junior and senior fire service management.

Five Group Duty System (5GDS):

A wholetime roster pattern that provides for an immediate response from a fire station 24 hours a day, 365 days a year (see Appendix 7). This system is in place in Dundalk and Drogheda Fire Stations.

Fulltime/Wholetime:

In the fire and rescue service, this refers to staff who are contracted to work a fulltime shift system under the 5 Group Duty System.

Functional Area:

The functional area of the Fire Authority in the case of Louth County Council is the administrative area of Louth County Council as defined in the Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1899, and the Local Government (Re-organisation) Act, 1985. By agreement *Louth County Council Fire & Rescue* provides fire and rescue cover in the functional areas of Dundalk Town Council and Drogheda Borough Council, and for a designated area of East County Meath.

Group:

A *group* in the five group duty system consists of 11 wholetime personnel in Louth County Council Fire & Rescue. Each *group* provides two crews of 5 personnel, supplemented where needed by on-call fulltime personnel.

Incident Commander:

Designated title of the officer in command of an emergency fire, rescue or other incident in accordance with the National Incident Command System. This may be a Sub Officer, Station Officer, or Rostered Senior Fire Officer depending on the nature of the incident.

Junior Officer:

"Sub Officers" and "Station Officers" (both ranks in the fire and rescue service) are together referred to nationally as junior officers.

Major Emergency:

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 requiring the activation of specific additional procedures to ensure effective, co-ordinated response.

National Incident Command System (NICS):

The system of command and control at fire and rescue emergency incidents which is employed by *Louth County Council Fire & Rescue*

Retained Personnel:

This refers to Station Officers, Sub Officers and Fire-fighters who are part time, permanent and non-pensionable employees of the service and who provide 'on-call' cover to the service when alerted.

Rostered Senior Fire Officer (RSFO):

Senior officer on call attends and takes command of designated incidents, in accordance with the Senior Fire Officers Rostering Agreement and the National Incident Command System. A senior officer in Louth (across all three fire authorities) is rostered 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Senior Officer:

The term applied to personnel holding the rank of Assistant Fire Officer, Assistant Chief Fire Officer, Senior Assistant Chief Fire Officer and Chief Fire Officer in Louth County Council Fire & Rescue. Senior Officers manage the service on a day to day basis, as well as having a strategic policy function in the ongoing development of the service.

Station Officer:

Station Officer (a rank in the fire and rescue service) may refer either to whole-time or part-time (retained) personnel whose role is command and control at firefighting, emergency rescue and other emergency incidents in accordance with the National Incident Command System and the management of the daily routines in their stations in the case of fulltime Station Officers. Wholetime and retained Station Officers in *Louth County Council Fire & Rescue* have a combined incident command, crew management and fire service management function.

Sub Officer:

Sub Officer (a rank in the fire and rescue service) may refer either to whole-time or part-time (retained) personnel whose role is command and control at firefighting, emergency rescue and other emergency incidents in accordance with the National Incident Command System. Sub Officers in *Louth County Council Fire & Rescue* have a combined incident command, crew management and firefighting function. This rank may sometimes be referred to as *Sub Station Officer* or *SSO*.

1.4 Purpose & Scope

1.4.1 The purpose of this plan is to fulfil the Fire Authority's Statutory Obligations outlined in Section 26 of the Fire Services Act, 1981.

1.4.2 The plan shall be reviewed as occasion requires from the date of its adoption by Louth County Council.

1.4.3 This plan was last reviewed in 2010. Since that date structural changes in the fire and rescue service has necessitated this review. These structural changes are:

- Cessation of mobilisation by Dundalk and Drogheda **Control Rooms** and migration to appliance mobilisation from the Eastern Regional Control Centre (ERCC) in November 2011. Mobilisation procedures are outlined in Section 10 and Appendix 6 of this plan.

- Changeover to a new **Wholetime Shift** system in Dundalk and Drogheda Fire Stations on 3rd September 2012. Details of the structures are shown in Section 2 and Appendix 7 of this plan.

- **Transfer of responsibility** for fire and rescue operations in the functional areas of Drogheda Borough Council, Dundalk Town Council and part of the functional area of Meath County Council to Louth County Council. All buildings, equipment, and other assets of Drogheda Borough Council's and Dundalk Town Council's fire and rescue services are being transferred to **Louth County Council**.

1.4.4 It should be noted that this plan outlines only the arrangements made with regard to fire, rescue and other emergency operations and does not take account of the substantial volume of fire prevention, fire safety and building control work carried out by the fire service. This includes:

- Advice to the planning authority under Section 13 of Fire Services Act (1981)

- Advice on fire safety and inspections of existing buildings under Section 18 of Fire Services Act (1981 and 2003) and associated Regulations

- Inspections of licensed premises under Section 24 of Fire Services Act (1981) and associated Licensing Acts

- Assessment of Fire Safety Certificates for new buildings and changes to existing buildings under Building Control Act (2007) and associated Regulations

- Inspections of petroleum installations retail and bulk under Dangerous Substances Act (1972) and associated Regulations

- Petroleum licensing (of Petrol Stations) and Bulk Storage licensing under the Petroleum Regulations 1979

- Community Fire Safety which is the encouragement of good fire safety practices in the community, including domestic, community and commercial settings.

It does however include reference to other operational duties imposed on the Council under Section 10 of Fire Service Act.

1.4.5 The Fire Authority has a duty specified in Section 10 (3) of the Fire Services Act (1981), to *'have regard…to the nature of the fire hazards and the probable incidence and extent of fire in its functional area'*. *Louth County Council Fire & Rescue* in this regard carries out an ongoing programme of inspections, in particular to premises which may be considered a high fire risk from a life safety or property protection perspective.

1.4.6 Formal pre-fire planning comprising hazard analysis and risk assessment of specific buildings, prioritisation and carrying out pre fire planning visits and drawing up pre fire plans, is carried out in the three fire authorities in Louth in a structured way. All crews carry out familiarisation visits to these sites.

2.1 General

2.1.1 Since the previous revision of this plan in July 2010 ongoing reform has changed the way fire and rescue services are delivered to the functional areas of Louth County Council, Drogheda Borough Council and Dundalk Town Council. Three main structural changes have occurred in the organisation of the fire and rescue service delivery in Louth, as outlined in 1.4.3 above.

2.1.2 The organisation and management structure of Louth County Council Fire & Rescue is outlined below (in Tables 2.1, 2.2 & Figure 2.1).

2.1.3 Five fire stations provide cover for the functional areas of Louth County Council, Dundalk Town Council and Drogheda Borough Council and also defined areas of east Co Meath. Station locations and their first turnout areas are shown in Part 4 of this plan.

2.1.4 The Service is under the day-to-day supervision of a Senior Assistant Chief Fire Officer, who is assisted by an Assistant Chief Fire Officer, and who reports directly to the Chief Fire Officer for *Louth County Council Fire & Rescue*. They are supported in their management and command functions by ten wholetime Station Officers, three retained Station Officers, ten wholetime Sub-Officers and seven retained Sub-Officers. The full establishment of personnel in the operational service is shown in Table 2.1 below.

2.1.5 Dundalk and Drogheda Fire Stations both have an immediate turnout from the station with sufficient manning for one appliance, either a water tender or special appliance, at all times (24/7). Both stations have sufficient retained personnel on call to man a second appliance, either a water tender or special appliance, at all times. The response time for all retained fire and rescue service staff is five minutes from the time of alert.

2.1.6 A fulltime, non-uniformed heavy goods vehicle mechanic carries out inspection, maintenance and servicing of all fire and rescue service vehicles and heavy equipment. He is assisted in his function by 3 fire service firefighter/mechanics

2.1.7 Equipment is maintained on an ongoing basis by approved contractors and, where possible, by specially trained personnel who carry out equipment 'standard tests' at specified intervals.

2.2 Louth County Council Fire & Rescue Establishment:

2.2.1 Fire & Rescue staff are located in 6 sites (5 Fire Stations and Fire Service HQ at County Hall). The breakdown of Fire Station based staff is as follows:

Station		Wholetime			Retained			*Total*
C.Sign		Station Officer	Sub Officer	Firefighter	Station Officer	Sub Officer	Firefighter	
LH11	Ardee	-	-	-	1	1	7	*9*
LH12	Carlingford	-	-	-	1	1	7	*9*
LH13	Dunleer	-	-	-	1	1	7	*9*
LH14	Drogheda	5	5	18	-	2	6	*36*
LH15	Dundalk	5	5	17	-	2	6	*35*
	Total	*10*	*10*	*35*	*3*	*7*	*33*	***98***

Table 2.1: Louth Co Council Fire & Rescue - Operational Personnel Establishment by Rank

Although there is one additional fire fighter nominally allocated to Drogheda, under the 5 Group Duty System, Drogheda and Dundalk personnel cover each other's stations and are all part of one fire service, Louth County Council Fire and Rescue.

The breakdown of Headquarters staff is as follows:

Chief Fire Officer	1
Senior Assistant Chief Fire Officer	2
Administrative Officer	1
Assistant Chief Fire Officer	2
Executive Engineer - Building Control Officer	1
Major Emergency Management Officer	1
Civil Defence Officer	1
Staff Officer	1
Clerical Officer	1
HGV Mechanic	1
Total:	*12*

Table 2.2: Louth Co Council Fire & Rescue - Headquarters Staff

The HGV mechanic was employed as part of the changeover to the 5 Group Duty System, and is based on a day to day basis in Drogheda station.

2.3 Rostering Arrangements

2.3.1 Altogether 55 wholetime and 43 retained staff work on rostered patterns to provide a 24 hour service.

2.3.2 The wholetime roster system, in place in Drogheda and Dundalk Fire Stations from 03rd September 2012, is referred to as a *five group duty system (5GDS)*. Staff work in crews of 5, working a pattern of:

- 2 x Day Shifts, 2 x Night Shifts, 4 x Days off repeated
- Day shifts are 08.00 – 20.00 hrs
- Night shifts are 20.00 – 08.00 hrs
- Pattern is repeated for 8 weeks
- Weeks 9 and 10 are off duty, including annual leave
- Staff are obliged to be rostered "on call" to provide cover for unexpected or unplanned absences and must also be available for training or other planned activities, during off duty time.

The wholetime duty system is described in detail in Appendix 7.

2.3.3 The retained roster system in Drogheda and Dundalk Fire Stations is based on retained personnel being within 5 minutes of the station at all times while "on call". It is intended that a minimum of 5 retained personnel, including a Sub Officer, are on call at all times.

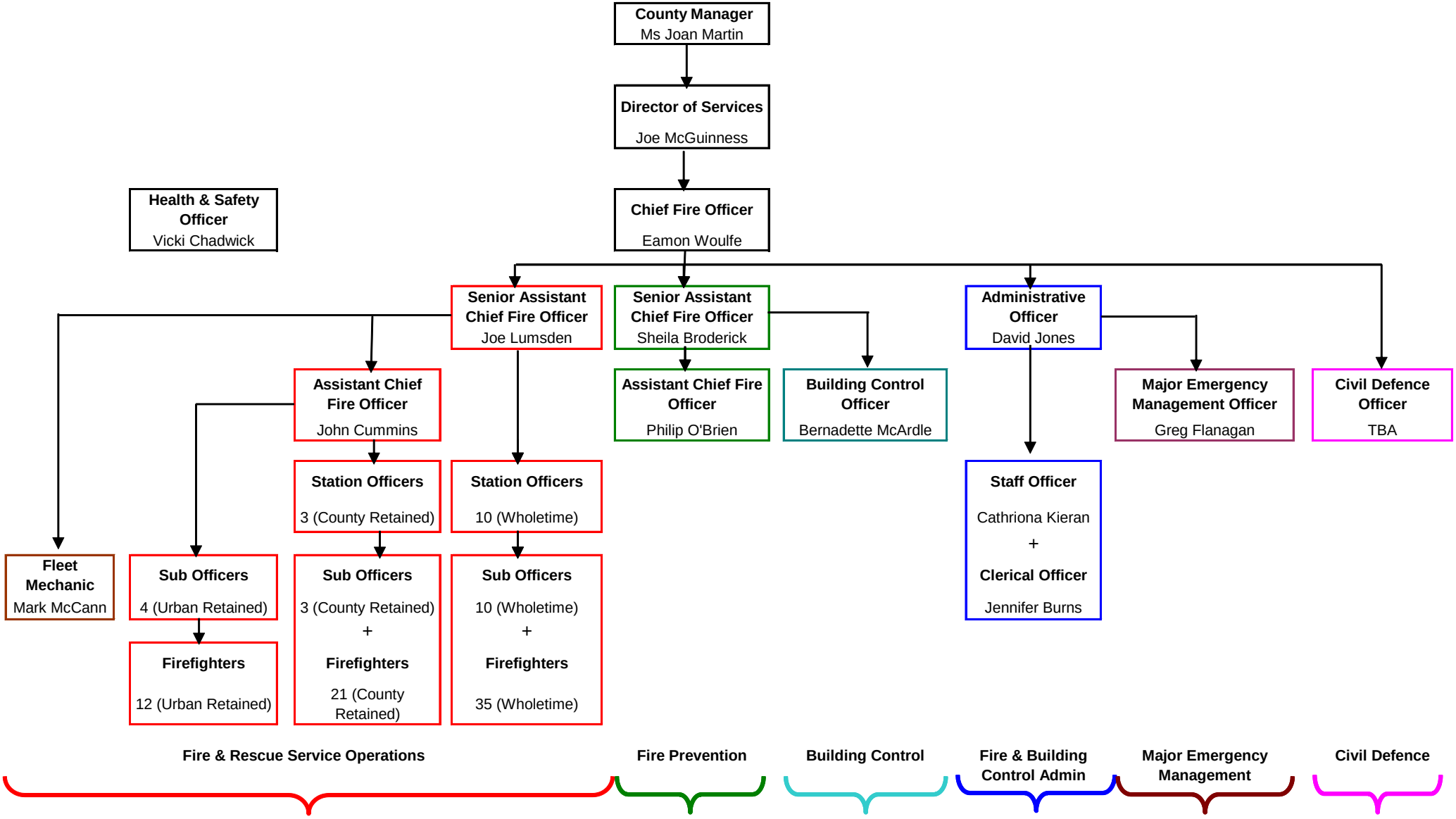
2.3.4 The retained roster pattern in Ardee, Carlingford and Dunleer fire stations is determined locally. Ordinarily a minimum of 6 personnel (out of nine) are on call at any one time.

2.4 Louth County Council Fire & Rescues Management Organisation

2.4.1 The fire and rescue service is managed by a Chief Fire Officer. He has responsibility for fire and rescue operations, as well as Fire Prevention, Building Control and Major Emergency Management. The structure is shown in Figure 2.1 below.

Louth County Council Fire & Rescue Management Organisation

(Correct as of January 2013)



3.1 Appliances

3.1.1 Louth County Council Fire & Rescue currently operates thirteen front-line operational vehicles, eleven spare and operational support vehicles, three training appliances and a number of towed units. Each of these vehicles has a specific function, detailed below. Details of each appliance are shown on Appendix 3.

3.1.2 **Class B Water Tender ("Alpha" Appliance):**

A Class B water tender appliance is a frontline multi-purpose vehicle used for firefighting, emergency rescue and other emergency operations. This is the first response vehicle to all fire and rescue incidents.

Louth Class B water tenders are equipped with an 1800-litre water tank, a fixed centrifugal pump at the rear, a portable pump, ladders, breathing apparatus (BA) sets and a selection of hoses and branches for firefighting. They are also equipped with hydraulic and pneumatic rescue equipment for extrication purposes. For more details on equipment stored on a Louth Class B see Section 3.2 and Appendix 4.

As a minimum a crew of five is carried on a Class B water tender when responding to an incident – an officer, a driver and three firefighters.

Louth County Council Fire & Rescue has seven front line water tenders as well as two backup appliances (for use during routine maintenance or upgrading). There are two Class B appliances each in Drogheda and Dundalk Fire Stations and one in Ardee, Carlingford and Dunleer Fire Stations.



LH11A1 – Ardee Class B



LH12A1 – Carlingford Class B



LH13A1 – Dunleer Class B



LH14A1 – Drogheda Class B (1st Turnout)



LH14A2 – Drogheda Class B (2nd Turnout)



LH15A1 – Dundalk Class B (1st Turnout)



LH15A2 – Dundalk Class B (2nd Turnout)

Special Appliances

Louth County Council has a number of Special Appliances which are currently located as follows. These vehicles provided specialist support when required.

3.1.3 Emergency Tender ("Bravo" Appliance):

An Emergency Tender (ET) appliance is a frontline specialised vehicle used primarily for emergency rescue operations, particularly at Road Traffic Collisions. It is equipped with a broad selection of light and medium rescue equipment and is used in conjunction with a Class B appliance.

Currently, a crew of four is carried on an Emergency Tender.

Louth County Council Fire & Rescue has two Emergency Tenders in service. One ET is based in Drogheda Fire Station, providing an emergency Road Traffic Collision (RTC) and general rescue service to Drogheda, South Co Louth and East Co. Meath. The other is based in Dundalk Fire Station and provides a similar service to Dundalk, North County Louth and certain roads in Northern Ireland.



LH14B1 – Drogheda Emergency Tender



LH15B1 – Dundalk Emergency Tender

3.1.4 Water Tanker ("Kilo" Appliance):

Water Tankers are frontline specialised appliances used to support firefighting operations where piped or open source water supplies are insufficient (usually in rural areas). They are used as a source of water to supplement the 1800L water tank in Louth Class B appliances.

Louth County Council Fire & Rescue has two Water Tankers in service. One is planned to be



LH14K1 – Drogheda Emergency Tender

based in Ardee Fire Station, serving Drogheda, south Co Louth and east Co. Meath. The other is based in Dundalk Fire Station, has a tank capacity of 20,000 Litres and provides a similar service to Dundalk and north County Louth.



LH15B1 – Dundalk Emergency Tender

3.1.5 **Aerial Appliance ("Echo Appliance"):**

Aerial Appliances are frontline specialised appliances used to support firefighting and rescue operations, and to carry out rescue at height. Aerial platforms are extended on hydraulically powered booms.

Louth County Council Fire & Rescue has two Aerial Appliances in service. One is based in Drogheda Fire Station and has a maximum vertical reach of 32 metres. This appliance can also operate as a Class B appliance, having a 1000 litre water tank and triple pressure pump (it is also referred to as a "combined" appliance"). It is planned to use this appliance as the second turnout appliance in Drogheda.

The other, an "Aerial Ladder Platform" is based in Dundalk Fire Station and also has a maximum vertical reach of 32 metres.



LH14K1 – Drogheda Combined Appliance



LH15K1 – Dundalk Aerial Ladder Platform

3.1.6 **Support Vehicles:**

Support vehicles in the fire service are used to support fire and rescue service operations as well as training, fleet maintenance and community fire safety events.

Louth County Council Fire & Rescue has a total of eleven support vehicles, including:

- **One Command Support Unit (LH14C1)** which is designated as mobile control unit for larger and more complex and protracted incidents



LH15C1 – Command Support Unit

across the county. This vehicle is based in Drogheda Fire Station.

- **One Hazardous Materials Decontamination Unit (LH14G1)** which is used to support firefighting and rescue operations where hazardous chemical or biological agents are present. It is designated as a regional mass decontamination unit.
- **One Operational Support vehicle (LH15N1)** used for transporting foam and spill response materials for environmentally degrading spills.
- **Three 4x4 SUV's ("Juliet" vehicles)** used to support general operations and day to day station management in Dundalk and Drogheda Fire Stations.
- **Two 14 seater minibuses ("Lima" vehicles);** one each in Dundalk and Drogheda Fire Stations
- **One vehicle maintenance van ("Mike" vehicle)** for use across Louth. This vehicle is based in Drogheda Fire Station, where the mechanic is based.
- **One van** to support general operations in Dunleer fire station.
- **One forklift**, primarily for use in mechanical maintenance and for use in Dundalk Fire & Rescue Training Centre.

Additionally Louth County Council Fire & Rescue retains a number of towed units:

- One "Chip Pan Unit" - a trailer mounted community fire safety demonstration unit in Dundalk Fire Station.
- Two general purpose trailers, primarily for use in station maintenance



LH15G1 – Decontamination Unit


Three 4x4 vehicles



LH13J1 – Support Vehicle, Dunleer Fire Station

<u>Note :</u> The assignment of any vehicle or piece of equipment is always based on operational need and consideration of risk. It is therefore always subject to change as both need and risk can change. Vehicle will therefore be re-assigned where necessary, either on a temporary or permanent basis.

3.2 Fire & Rescue Equipment

3.2.1 Typically operational fire and rescue equipment is stored on appliances ready for rapid deployment. Each appliance has its own equipment inventory which is checked on an ongoing basis. Appendix 4 itemises equipment stored on each appliance.

3.2.2 The following are the main types of general and specialist equipment stored on each appliance:

- **Class B Water Tenders:** Portable pump, assorted hose, generator, RTC rescue hydraulic cutting equipment, thermal imaging camera, Breathing Apparatus sets and cylinders, assorted ladders, first stage decontamination shower unit, fire fighting foam, portable lighting etc.

Each front line Water Tender Ladder carries six Draeger PA90 or PSS 7000 Breathing Apparatus (BA) sets complete with spare cylinders.

A total of four full protection gas tight suits and eight protective 'splash' suits are provided on both water tenders.

- **Emergency Tender:** Full complement of RTC rescue cutting equipment including, spreaders, combi-tools, rams, cutters, hydraulic pumps and airbags; heavy rescue equipment such as ropes, winches, working platform; generator and mobile lighting; and medical rescue equipment such as spinal boards, oxygen and first responder bags. Also carries four BA sets complete with spare cylinders.

- **Decontamination Vehicle:** Mass decontamination shower assemblies, generator, various gas tight and liquid tight suits, etc.

3.2.3 Station based equipment is used for maintenance and testing of appliance stored operational equipment. Examples of general and specialist station based equipment are:

- **Breathing Apparatus (BA) Air Compressor:** These items are used to fill BA cylinders with compressed air. Dundalk and Drogheda Fire Stations both have Bauer PE 500 VE compressors.

- **Vehicle Lift:** Hydraulic hoist mounted in the garage used to raise fire service appliances for maintenance and repair located in Drogheda Fire Station

- **Communication Equipment and Software:** Radio and IT solutions for maintaining contact with appliances on the fireground as well as with the Eastern Regional Control Centre other. System for alerting retained personnel to calls?.

- **Vehicle Maintenance Tools & Equipment:** Assorted items used by fire service vehicle maintenance personnel. Most of this is located in Drogheda Fire Station vehicle maintenance workshop.

- Station cleaning, maintenance and repair equipment and tools.

Part 4: Fire Service Locations

4.1 Location & Facilities

4.1.1 Louth County Council Fire & Rescue operates from five fire stations, a regional fire & rescue training centre and a headquarters office. Fire Station locations are shown in figure 4.1 below. ()



Figure 4.1: Location of Fire Stations in Co Louth

4.1.2 **Ardee Fire Station** is located on the Carrickmacross Road on the northern end of Ardee town. The station was completed in 2000, and consists of a 2 bay appliance hall, station office, maintenance room, muster bay, kitchen, store and toilets. A four storey reinforced concrete training tower is attached to the rear of the station.



Figure 4.2: Ardee Fire Station

4.1.3 **Carlingford Fire Station** is located on the Greenore Road. The station was completed in 1996, and consists of a 1 bay appliance hall, station office, maintenance room, muster bay, kitchen, store and toilets. A four storey reinforced concrete training tower is sited at the rear of the drill yard.



Figure 4.3: Carlingford Fire Station

4.1.4 **Dunleer Fire Station**, located on the Barn Road in Dunleer, was converted to a fire station in 1978, having previously been a Co Council maintenance depot. It consists of a 1 bay appliance hall, toilets and station office/ kitchen.



Figure 4.4: Dunleer Fire Station

4.1.5 **Drogheda Fire Station** is located on the Rathmullan Road in Drogheda.



Figure 4.5: Location Drogheda Fire Station, Drogheda, Co. Louth

4.1.6 The station was completed in 2008, replacing a much smaller building in Scarlett Street. The building consists of a 7 bay appliance hall, a control room, administrative and training offices, maintenance areas, locker rooms, kitchen, a gym, a lecture room and various stores. A vehicle maintenance workshop is also included.

Externally there is a 6 storey drill tower, drill yard and carpark.

4.1.7 In 2010 a 4-bay vehicle shed was completed at the rear of the drill yard. This is used for vehicle storage.



Figure 4.6: Drogheda Fire Station

4.1.8 **Dundalk Fire Station** is located in Meadow Grove in Dundalk.

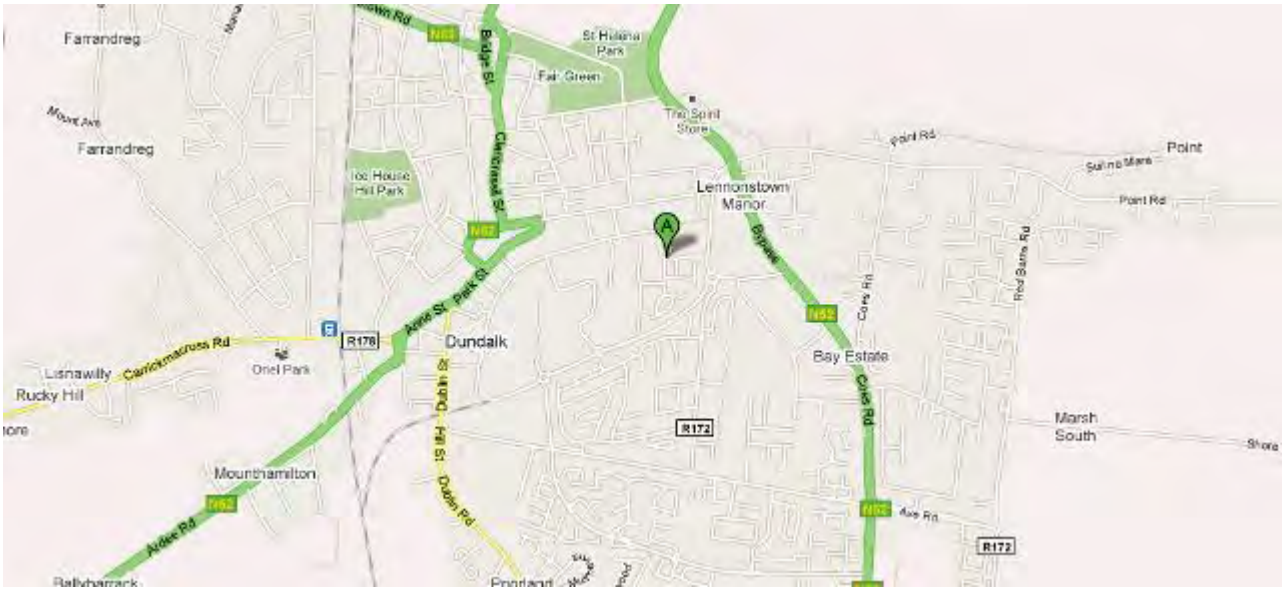


Figure 4.7: Location Dundalk Fire Station, Meadow Grove, Dundalk, Co. Louth

4.1.9 The station was opened in 1981, and consists of a 4 double bay appliance hall, control room, administrative and training offices, maintenance areas, locker rooms, kitchen, rec. room, a gym and various stores. A vehicle maintenance workshop is also included.

4.1.10 Externally there is a 5 storey drill tower, drill yard and carpark.

4.1.11 Attached to the main station is Dundalk Fire & Rescue Training Centre. This consists of three syndicate rooms, a lecture room, office and stores.



Figure 4.8: Dundalk Fire Station

4.1.12 A two storey Breathing Apparatus (BA) Building is also located on site, as are 2 portacabin assemblies used for instruction and storage for training courses.

4.1.13 A refurbishment and extension of the Training Centre, as well as the Breathing Apparatus Building, has received Part 8 Planning approval and DECLG approval has been sought to procure a contractor to build it.

5.1 Water Supplies

5.1.1 Each Class B Water Tender carries 1800 litres of water in an on-board tank. This provides a 20 minute supply to one high pressure hose-reel, and is generally capable of providing enough water to extinguish:

- Room fires
- Vehicle fires
- Small out-house fires,
- Rubbish fires
- Chimney or roof space fires
- Small vegetation fires (grass, gorse, etc)

5.1.2 Where water mains, open source supplies or stored water supplies are available, each Water Tender has a Godiva fire pump capable of pumping 2750 litres of water per minute at 7 Bar from the low pressure side and 225 litres per minute at 23 Bar from the high pressure side. They are also equipped with a round the pump proportioning foam system, which allows the AFFF (Aqueous Film Forming Foam) or Low Expansion foam solution to be supplied to the main delivery outlets or the first aid reel hoses. Two types of portable pump are stowed on both appliances which are capable of supplying water at 360 litres/min at 5.5 Bar and 1130 litres/min at 7 Bar.

5.1.3 Louth County Council Fire & Rescue surveys the condition of public and private hydrants, assessing accessibility, usability, water flow, pressures and markings in the services' functional area on an ongoing basis, as required by Section 10(10) of the Fire Services Act, 1981 and 2003.

5.1.5 A Water Tanker is planned to be based at Ardee Fire Station and a tanker with a capacity of 20,000 litres based in Dundalk Fire Station are capable of supporting fireground operations in locations without hydrants or open sources of water.

5.1.6 The fire flow requirement for different categories of risks must be determined from Irish and UK guidance documents and this guidance is as follows:-

Rural, housing	8 - 20 L/sec @ 2.0 – 3.0 bar
Larger residential, retail, properties in small towns.	20 - 35L/sec @ 2.0 – 3.0 bar
Factories, larger shops, industrial estates, schools, shopping centres, hospitals and similar risks.	35–75 L/sec @ 2.0 – 3.0 bar
Special risks, docks, warehouses, oil refineries, oil depots	75-150 L/sec @ 2.0 – 3.0 bar

5.2 Foam Supplies

5.2.1 Each Water Tender carries approximately 50 litres of foam and a low expansion foam branch pipe. In reserve in the station is a Turbex High Expansion Foam generator/Smoke Extractor, a Medium Branch Expansion Pipe, 500 litres of low expansion foam and 400 litres of high expansion foam compound.

5.2.2 Additional foam stocks are held in the Fire Stations, are kept under continuous review and are replaced/altered from time to time in accordance with the operational needs of the service.

5.2.3 LH12A1, a Class B appliance stationed in Carlingford Fire Station, is equipped with a Compressed Air Foam System (CAFS) for use in extinguishing all external fire types.

6.1 General

6.1.1 Training occurs at three levels:

- National training courses provided for firefighters and officers by the National Directorate of Fire & Emergency Management (NDFEM), set up as part of the Department of Environment, Community & Local Government on 22nd June 2009, to provide for enhanced national co-ordination and leadership. Centralised training courses provided at county level.
- Louth County Council Fire & Rescue Training Courses
- Ongoing drills at station level.

6.2 National Training Courses

6.2.1 Training courses are arranged at national level for the following subject areas by the National Directorate for Fire & Emergency Planning. Courses provided are listed in Appendix 5.

- Breathing Apparatus (BA) Instructor courses
- Road Traffic Collision (RTC) Instructor courses
- Hazardous Materials Instructor courses
- Fire Service Instructor courses
- Senior Officer Command & Control courses
- Ship & Port Fire courses
- Sub Officer (Unit One) courses
- Station Officer (Unit Two) courses

6.2.2 It is the policy of Louth County Council Fire & Rescue that all junior officers complete the Sub Officers Course (also referred to as the "Unit One" course), while all sub officers and station officers should complete the Station Officers Course (also referred to as the "Unit Two" course). All senior officers in the county have completed the Operational Command Course. The Sub Officer course qualifies personnel to take command at emergency fire and rescue incidents.

6.2.3 Louth County Council Fire & Rescue has a complement of of personnel qualified in specialised instructor courses such as Breathing Apparatus (BA) and Road Traffic Collision (RTC) training.

6.3 Louth County Council Fire & Rescue Training Courses

6.3.1 Training courses at county level are run by instructors from within the service or, where required, by external agencies. A list of courses in given in Appendix 5.

6.3.2 Recruit Induction Courses are run as and when required using a syllabus issued by National Directorate of Fire & Emergency Management. Only when recruits have successfully completed the two week course are they subsequently employed.

6.3.3 Breathing Apparatus Wearers Courses and refresher courses are held at Dundalk Fire & Rescue Training Centre. The successful completion of such a course during their probationary period (normally 2 years) is a pre-requisite to a permanent appointment as fire-fighters.

6.3.4 Other, specialised, training is run on an ongoing basis, including course such as Cardiac and Emergency First Responder, Wildland Firefighting, Breathing Apparatus Maintenance, Aerial Appliance Operator, etc. A full list of courses is detailed on Appendix 5.

6.3.5 Training on the national Standard Operational Guidelines (SOGs) is ongoing as of January 2013. Five SOGs are issued quarterly on an ongoing basis and the associated training of all personnel will ensure best practice.

6.3.6 Louth County Council Fire and Rescue now provides a single consolidated recruits course comprising recruit induction, BA wearers, compartment fire behaviour, hazardous materials, SOGs and other modules.

6.2.1 It is also the policy of Louth County Council Fire & Rescue Services that all Junior and Senior Officer complete a Bronze Incident Command Course which has its origins in the UK, in order to develop decision making skills on the fireground.

6.3.7

6.4 Ongoing Drill Training

6.4.1 The programme for training carried out weekly at station level is drawn from the Fire Services Council Document *'Guideline on Fire Station Training Programmes'* and is customised by the Training Officers on an ongoing basis. The amount of training being provided is increasing with the implementation of the wholetime 5 Group Duty System. All of the drills in the Fire Services Council Guideline Document are now being delivered annually to wholetime personnel.



7.1 General

7.1.1 Section 10 (2c) of the Fire Services Act 1981 requires fire authorities to make adequate provision for the reception of and the response to calls for assistance of the Fire Service.

7.1.2 Louth County Council Fire & Rescue entered into an agreement to procure Control Room and mobilisation services from the East Region Control Centre and Dublin Fire Brigade from November 2011. This agreement has been made under Section 85 of the Local Government Act 2001.

7.1.3 The Eastern Regional Control Centre (ERCC) provides a Fire Service Control and mobilisation service to fire authorities in the East of the country.

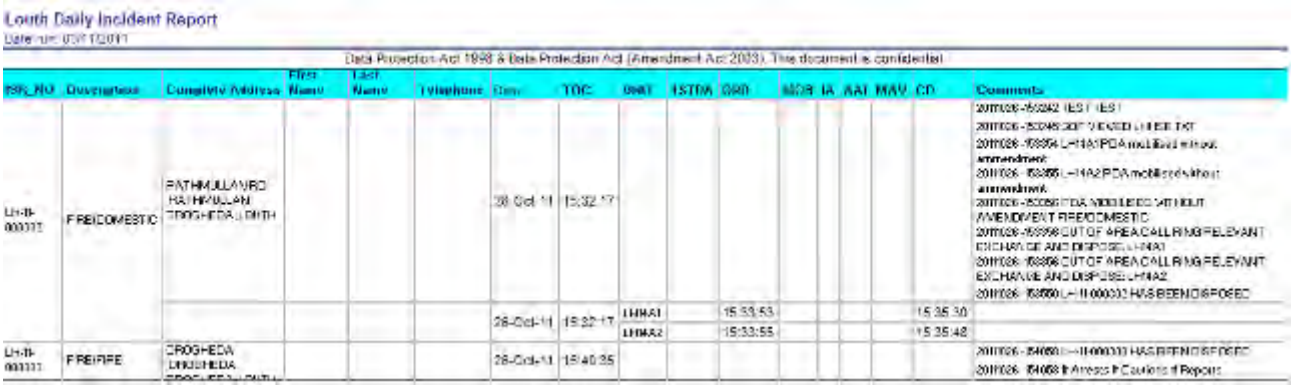
7.2 Callout Procedures

7.2.1 999 / 112 calls for fire and rescue emergencies are routed, through Emergency Call Answering Services (ECAS) in Ballyshannon, Co. Donegal and Navan, Co. Meath, to the Eastern Regional Control Centre (ERCC), Dublin Fire Brigade, Townsend St, Dublin 2.

7.2.2 Control Room operators in the ERCC establish the location and type of incident and mobilise the appropriate appliance or appliances.

7.2.3 Mobilisation alerting system units in Dundalk and Drogheda Fire Stations are set to allow ERCC to alert either the station wholetime crew or the retained crew to an incident. A printout arrives with call information in the station to enable the crew to mobilise to the incident.

7.2.4 Retained crews (Ardee, Carlingford, Dunleer and Drogheda and Dundalk's 2nd appliances) are alerted to calls by the ERCC by means of a pocket alerter. These crews turn into their stations where a printout arrives from the ERCC to enable them to mobilise to the incident.


Louth Daily Incident Report

Data Protection Act 1998 & Data Protection Act (Amendment Act 2003). This document is confidential

ISEC_NO	Description	Complete Address	First Name	Last Name	Telephone	Date	TOC	Unit	ISTIM	Unit	MOB	IA	AAI	MAV	CO	Comments
LH-IS-000333	F RESDOMESTIC	FATHIMULLAVRO HATHIMULLAH DROGHEDA LOUTH				28 Oct 11	15:32:17									
						28-Oct-11	15:32:17	LHA1		15:33:53					15:35:30	
								LHA2		15:33:55					15:35:48	
LH-IS-000333	F RESFIRE	DROGHEDA LOUGHEDA				28-Oct-11	15:40:35									

7.2.5 Initial Pre-Determined Attendance (PDA) is mobilised by control in accordance with the Technical Liaison Group PDA listing, as customised for Louth. Each townland in the county has a full PDA sequential listing of frontline appliances. Any additional appliances or specialist equipment is at the request of the Incident Commander. Appendix 6 shows pre-determined attendances to various incident types. An 'A' appliance is a water tender and a 'B' appliance is an emergency tender. The Incident Commander may mobilise additional water tenders or special appliances to any incident.

7.3 Response Standards

7.3.1 The Minister of Environment, Community and Local Government is currently reviewing a policy standard with regard to Fire Service Operations. This statement known as "Keeping Communities Safe" will prescribe standards on a number of matters including response times. This is fundamentally based on a Risk Categorisation of every station area, which in turn dictates the response to an incident.

7.3.2 The Risk Category assigned to a fire station ground is judged considering the following criteria;

- Population of main urban area
- Population Density(s) of the area (per Km^2) surrounding main urban area
- Total Population of the Station Ground
- Annual Service Demand Level (Based on Number of Incidents occurring in the station area averaged over three years)
- No. of Dwellings in the station ground & the Annual Dwelling Fire Rate
- Other building fire rates
- % tertiary incidents
- RTA activity/ (non cleanup) & Special Services rates
- Extent of Individual Special Hazards (e.g. Institutional, Educational, Industrial, Large Scale Retail / Commercial, SEVESO. POPA etc.)

7.3.3 Nationally a table of Categorisation is proposed in "Keeping Communities Safe". The table below illustrates the relevant station categories in Louth, which then dictates the response that will be delivered.

RISK CATEGORISATION TABLE

Risk Category	**Population**			**Demand/ Need**						
	Pop of main Urban centre	**Rural Pop density (Persons/ sq km)**	**Total Pop in Station Area**	**No of Dwellings in Station Area**	**Annual Level of Incidents in Station Area**	**Dwelling Fire Rates/ 100 k of pop**	**Other Building Rates/ 100 k of pop**	**RTA/ SS rate/ 100k of pop**	**Infrastructure Instituional, Recreation, POPA, Educational, Industiral, SEVESO, Shopping/ Commercial**	
Medium **Dundalk Drogheda**	**10 - 30k**		**25 – 50 k**	**10 – 15 k**	**250 - 700**	**100 - 120**	**20 -30**	**120 - 140**	**A number of each of the above , of medium scale**	**C1**
	5 -12k	**50 - 250**	**20 - 30k**	**7 – 12k**	**120 - 300**	**80 -100**	**15 - 25**	**110 - 130**	**A small number of above, of limited scale**	**C2**
Low **Ardee Dunleer**	**3 -5 k**	**30 -100**	**10 – 25 k**	**3 – 10 k**	**100 - 130**	**70 - 90**	**10 -20**	**100 - 120**	**Some small scale premises in above categories**	**D1**
Carlingford	**1.5 – 3 k**	**20 - 50**	**6 – 12.5 k**	**2 – 5k**	**50 - 120**	**60 - 80**	**5 - 15**	**80 - 100**	**A few small scale premises in above categories**	**D2**

7.3.4 The standard of response outlined below will be delivered in Louth and is also based on the Nationally accepted standard of a 75% confidence rate, ie in 3 out of 4 incidents this standard will be met.

Risk Categorised Response Capability

Risk Category	Louth Station	Standard Fire Appliance (Class B) Response Capability	Travel Times (National Target)	Associated Crew Levels (incl crew commanders)
Medium	Dundalk, Drogheda	1 2 3	in 10 mins in 20 mins in 30 mins	5 9 13
Low	Ardee, Dunleer, Carlingford	1 2	in 20 mins in 40 mins	5 9

7.3.5 In relation to special appliances, the provisions of Table below apply.

Special Appliances Response Capability to anywhere in county	Travel times (National Target)
1 Aerial 1 ET 1 ICU 1 Water Tanker (if appropriate)	in 30 mins in 45 mins in 75 mins in 75 mins

7.3 Communications

7.3.1 A rebroadcast station at Mount Oriel, Collon, and one at Clermont Cairn, Dundalk allows for radio communications from a fireground to the Eastern Regional Control Centre (ERCC) and between appliances at different locations.

8.1 Standard Operating Procedures/ Standard Operating Guidelines

8.1.1 Operational techniques and procedures are in accordance with the Standard Operating Procedures laid down in the Junior Officers Handbook.

8.1.2 These procedures are being replaced on a phased basis by new **"Standard Operating Guidelines" (SOGS),** issued by the *National Directorate for Fire and Emergency Planning*. SOGs include operational guidance on the following activity types:

- Responding to Emergencies
- Fighting Fires
- Rescues
- Transportation Incidents
- Miscellaneous Incidents



Louth County Council Fire and Rescue is in the process of training all fire service personnel on the implementation of these SOGs. When this is completed, the continuation training on the SOGs will be integrated into the training programme.

8.1.3 Breathing Apparatus (BA) procedures are in accordance with the manual "Use of Breathing Apparatus in the Fire Service" (2007), issued by the Fire Services Council.

8.1.4 Road Traffic Collision (RTC) procedures are in accordance with Road Traffic Accident Handbook (2009).

8.1.5 Incident Command procedures are in accordance with the National Incident Command System (2008).

8.2 Brigade Orders

8.2.1 Brigade Orders are directions issued by the Chief Fire Officer on operational as well as administrative issues.

Louth Fire & Rescue – Brigade Orders
(Updated 04/01/2013)

BO No.		Title	Date Issued	Date Revised (Most Recent)	Note
1		DRG & DLK Leave Procedures		20/09/11	Amended procedures issued.
2		Mobilisation Instructions		14/04/09	To be amended
3	a	Louth Co Refreshments		15/04/11	Amended procedures issued
	b	Drogheda Refreshments		29/06/11	Amended procedures issued
	c	Dundalk Refreshments		29/06/11	Amended procedures issued
4		Uniform Policy	31/08/12		
5		Use of CAFS System	12/11/08	11/11/09	
6		PPE	05/12/08	05/10/09	
7		Use of Seat Belts	05/12/08		
8		Use of Lights & Sirens	05/12/08		
9		National Incident Command System	14/04/09		
10		Swap Procedure for Fulltime & Retained in DRG & DLK	12/08/09		Under
11		Working Near Water	21/08/09		Under revision
12		Command of Incidents by Retained Sub Officers in Dundalk & Drogheda Fire Services	04/11/11		
13		High visibility Clothing at Roads-based Incidents	04/12/12		
14		Working at Heights	04/12/12		

8.3 General Operational

8.3.1 Incident Commanders may seek the advice/attendance of the Rostered Senior Fire Officer at the scene of any incident.

9.1 Section 25 of the Fire Services Act, 1981

'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 considers necessary for the purposes of that function.'

The principal **"operations"** referred to are outlined below. A full list of incident types are listed in Appendix 6.

9.1.1 Fire

Louth County Council Fire & Rescue provides a fire fighting service . The main fire categories are structural (building) fires, vehicle fires, industrial fires, vegetation fires and rubbish/bin fires.

9.1.2 Road Accidents

Louth County Council Fire & Rescue provides a Road Traffic Collision (RTC) response service. Emergency Tenders, based in Drogheda and Dundalk Fire Stations, supplemented by one or two Class B water tenders are the minimum response to incidents of this nature.

9.1.3 Rescue

Louth County Council Fire & Rescue provides a rescue service for land based industrial, agricultural or general entrapment of persons. Rescue is frequently an element of firefighting or RTC operations.

9.1.4 Chemical Incidents

ERCC maintains a computerised database of known chemicals and standard operating procedures used for dealing with emergency incidents where hazardous materials are present is used. A mass decontamination vehicle is based in Drogheda Fire Station.

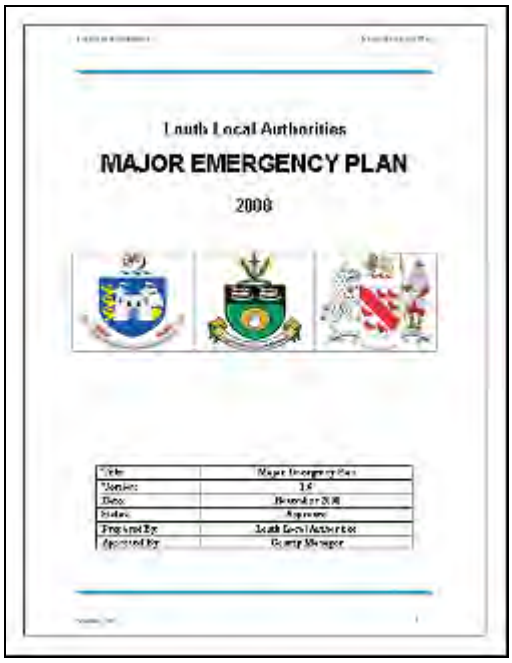
9.1.5 Spillages

Louth County Council Fire & Rescue responds to spillages involving hazardous or highly flammable materials where requested. Other spillages are reported to the Local Authority Engineering Department and the Service will assist in the dealing of these incidents if requested to do so.

9.1.5 The Service responds to emergency calls where **persons are at risk** and will assist other emergency services or the Local Authority if requested for emergency response related work.

10.1 Louth Major Emergency Plan 2008

10.1.1 The Louth Local Authorities Major Emergency Plan (2008) is the local authorities' planning document for the management of major emergencies. This plan was developed over a two year period using the guidance in the national Major Emergency Planning Framework Document, following a Government decision in 2006.


Louth Local Authorities

MAJOR EMERGENCY PLAN

2008

10.1.2 The objectives of the plan are to protect life and property, minimise disruption to the area, and to provide immediate support for those affected in the event of a major emergency. To achieve this aim the plan sets out the basis for a coordinated response to a major emergency and the different roles and functions to be performed by the various agencies. The objectives of Louth County Council response in an emergency are;

- Protection and care of the public at times of vulnerability.
- Clear leadership in times of crisis.
- Early and appropriate response.
- Efficient, coordinated operations.
- Realistic and rational approach, capable of being delivered.
- Transparent systems, with accountability.
- Harnessing community spirit.
- The ethos of self protection.
- Maintenance of essential services.
- Safe working.

10.1.3 There is one upper tier 'Seveso' site (sites of special risk under the *European Communities (Control of Major Accident Hazards Involving Dangerous Substances) Regulations*, *2006*) in the Louth County Council Fire & Rescue functional area. This is Flogas Ltd. The service is obliged to carry out exercises at three yearly interval at this upper tier Seveso site, in order to test the fire service emergency plan for the site, (termed an 'External Plan') and to coordinate with other principal response agencies.

10.1.4 The Major Emergency Management officer, who reports to the Chief Fire Officer, continually updates the manual. Louth County Council Fire & Rescue routinely takes part in major emergency exercises coordinated by the Major Emergency Management officer.

10.1.5 The Louth local authority Major Emergency Planning Officer sits on the Regional Major Emergency Working Group for the North East Region. This group has its own regional major emergency plan and work programme draws up and manages the delivery of major emergency exercises in the region. The Regional Major Emergency Steering Group sets the strategic priorities for the region and its meetings are attended by the County Manager or Director of Services.

11.1 General

11.1.1 It is the objective of Louth County Council Fire & Rescues to ensure the safety, health and welfare of all employees through the design of a safe place of work and the provision and maintenance of competent staff in a safe place of work, safe system of work, safe access & egress, safe plant, machinery & equipment, in a planned, organised, and co-ordinated manner.

11.2 Health & Safety Management System

11.2.1 A new Health and Safety Management System replaced the fire service ancillary safety statement on the 1st of February 2010. A full review of the documents was completed in July 2012.



This Health and Safety Management System comprises 31 manuals, relating to different areas of health and safety. These manuals set out the required actions by Louth County Council Fire and Rescue to comply with the OHSAS 18001 Health and Safety management standard. They are as follows:

- **Document 1** – ***Operational Safety Manual*** - The lead in document of the overall Safety Manual. It contains the official transfer letter from the external safety consultant transferring the working draft copy of the manual to a released working copy which will be managed by Louth County Council Fire & Rescue Management.

- **Document 2** – ***Management Control Policy Document*** - The Safety Statement section of the manual which provides a declaration of intent by the organisation, introduction to the Safety

Statement, document control system and introduction to Louth County Council Fire & Rescue.

- **Document 3** – ***Hazard Identification & Risk Assessment Document*** - A site-specific and activity specific hazard identification and risk assessment listing broken into fire station by fire station and activity by activity.
- **Document 4** – ***Fire Manual & Register***
- **Document 5** – ***Contractor Procedure & Register*** - A register all contractors who work on the site in any capacity.
- **Document 6** – ***Emergency Evacuation Procedure***
- **Document 7** – ***Safety Training Manual***
- **Document 8** – ***First Aid Manual***
- **Document 9** – ***Safety Signs Manual***
- **Document 10** – ***Standard Operating Guideline Manual –*** This will be updated by the national SOG implementation programme, once completed.
- **Document 11** – ***Accident Reporting Safety Manual***
- **Document 12** – ***Personal Protective Equipment Safety Manual*** – Used to record the procurement, maintenance and repair of all personal protective equipment.
- **Document 13** – ***Audit & Inspection Manual***
- **Document 14** – ***Dignity & Respect & Work Manual***
- **Document 15** – ***Pregnant Persons Policy Manual***
- **Document 16** – ***Noise at Work Policy Manual***
- **Document 17** – ***Working at Heights Manual***
- **Document 18** – ***Ionising Radiation (Radon Gas) Manual***
- **Document 19** – ***Employee Safety Manual***
- **Document 20 – *Work Equipment Manual***
- **Document 21** – ***Office Safety Manual***
- **Document 22 – *Occupational Health Manual***
- **Document 23 – *Managing Asbestos in the Workplace Manual***
- **Document 24 – *Appliance & Vehicle Manual***
- **Document 25 – *Vibration at Work Manual***
- **Document 26 – *Night Work & Shift Work Manual***
- **Document 27 – *Lifting Equipment Manual***

- **Document 28 –** ***Hazardous Material Manual***
- **Document 29 –** ***Fire & Emergency Permit to Work Procedures***
- **Document 30 –** ***PAT Testing Document***
- **Document 31 –** ***Equipment with a Statutory Test or Inspection Obligation***


CROSSMAGLEN
CARLINGFORD
DUNDALK
CARRICKMACROSS
IRISH SEA
ARDEE
DUNLEER


ARDEE
DUNLEER
NOBBER
DROGHEDA
NAVAN
BALBRIGGAN

A2.1 Incident Statistics

Incident Types (Entire County): 2012

Type	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Fire/Alarm Activation	26	19	24	14	83
Fire/Bus/Coach	0	0	2	0	2
Fire/Car	29	28	32	31	120
Fire/Caravan	0	2	2	2	6
Fire/Chimney	29	13	11	19	72
Fire/Domestic	42	37	31	34	144
Fire/Domestic Persons Reported	3	6	3	5	17
Fire/Fire (General)	11	19	11	8	49
Fire/Hay/Barn	0	0	4	3	7
Fire/Industrial	4	3	2	3	12
Fire/Institutional	4	3	2	0	9
Fire/Oil/Petrol	1	0	0	0	1
Fire/Small/Bin/Skip	76	70	72	72	290
Fire/Smoke Issuing	1	2	2	1	6
Fire/Truck	2	0	8	3	13
Fire/Vegetation	30	33	8	3	74
SS/Ambulance Assist	8	1	8	7	24
SS/Animal Rescue	1	0	0	0	1
SS/Electrical	0	0	1	0	1
SS/Flooding	1	2	1	4	8
SS/Explosion	0	1	0	0	1
SS/Garda Assist	3	1	3	3	10
SS/Gas Leak	1	1	1	0	3
SS/Lift Persons Trapped	0	0	2	2	4
SS/Lockout	2	0	2	0	4
SS/Make Scene Safe	2	1	3	0	6
SS/Oil Spillage	4	1	1	1	7
SS/Other	0	0	2	0	2
SS/River Rescue	5	3	0	1	9
SS/RTA	1	2	29	0	32
SS/Trees Down	17	22	1	23	63
Total no. of Incidents:	303	270	268	239	1080

A3.1 Louth Fleet 2012

Dundalk

Call sign	Make	Registration	Type	Note
LH 15 A1	**Volvo FL 280**	10 LH 2446	WT	
LH 15 A2	**Volvo FL6 18**	98 LH 4583	WT	
LH 15 A3	**Volvo FL6 18**	97 LH 473	Spare WT	
LH 14 B1	**Volvo FL6 14**	92 LH 4218	Emergency Tender	
LH 15 E1	**Scania Magirus ALP 320**	04 LH 3483	Aerial Ladder Platform	
LH 15 J1	**Mitsubishi Pajero**	06 LH 73	4WD	
LH 15 K1	**Volvo FL220**	01 LH 6704	Water Tanker	
LH 15 L1	**Ford Transit**	05 LH 73	Personnel Transport	
LH 15 N1	**Volvo FS7**	93 LH 3988	Tail Lift truck	
LH 15 M1	**Peugeot Partner**	03 LH 1860	Mechanic Van	
	Nissan Forklift		Model FPoil 150	
	Merryweather	IY 2673	Preserved Appliance	
	EPU Trailer			
	Chip Pan Demo Unit			
	General Purpose Trailer			

Training School - Dundalk

Call sign	Make	Registration	Type	Note
LH T1	**Volvo FL6 14**	94 LH 4416	Training Class B - DLK	
LH T2	**Volvo FL6 14**	94 LH 4415	Training Class B - DLK	
LH T3	**Volvo FL6 14**	99 LH 7575	Training Class B - DRG	Driver Training Appliance

Drogheda

Call sign	Make	Registration	Type	Note
LH 14 A1	**Mercedes Atego 1328F**	04 LH 999	WT	
LH 14 A2	**Mercedes 1124F**	97 LH 999	WT	
LH 14 A3	**Mercedes 1124F**	93 LH 1888	Spare WT	
LH 14 B1	**Mercedes Atego 1329**	11 LH 1875	ET	
LH 14 C1	**Iveco 50C 13**	06 LH 112	Control	
LH 14 E1	**Volvo**	10 LH 742	Combined WT/HP	
LH 14 G1	**Iveco 50C 13**	06 LH 999	Decontamination Veh	
LH 14 J1	**Ford Ranger**	03 D 51360	4WD	
LH 14 J3	**Nissan Pathfinder**	08 LH 999	4WD	
LH 14 K1	**Mercedes Actros 2540**	98 LH 999	Water Tanker	
LH 14 L1	**Ford Transit**	02 KY 294	Personnel Transport	
	Ford Transit	07 LH 11089	Mechanic Van	
	EPU Trailer			
	Foam Trailer			
	Dennis F12	ZY 1752	Preserved Appliance	
	General Purpose Trailer			

Louth County

Call sign	Make	Registration	Type	Note
LH 11 A1	**Mercedes Atego 1328F**	02 LH 3171	WT (Ardee)	
LH 12 A1	**Volvo FLH 15**	07 LH 1443	WT (Carlingford)	
LH 13 A1	**Volvo FL6 14**	00 LH 9435	WT (Dunleer)	
LH 13 J1	**Mercedes Vito**	07 LH 1166	Van (Dunleer)	

QTY.	DESCRIPTION
	CREW CAB
1	RADIO COMPLETE
4	HAND PORTABLE RADIOS
1	MOBILE PHONE (PHONE/ FAX where applicable)
1	HYDRANT BOOK
1	DOT BOOK
1	HAZCHEM BOOK
1	MAP BOOK
1	MapPack O/S Map + Compass
1	GAS & E.S.B KEY
1	Co2 EXTINGUISHER
1	CENTRE PUNCH
2	TRAFFIC WAND
3	HAND LAMPS
1	BUCKET PLUG & DIKE
1	ROLL BARRIER TAPE
1	BUCKET OF HAND SCRUBS
2	HAND AXES
1	STAGE II BOARD
7	PAIR SAFETY GLASSES
6	DUST MASKS
6	REFLECTORISED JACKETS
1	SURCOAT
6	B.A. SETS
4	SPARE CYLINDERS
2	SPLASH SUITS (Type 3)
1	DE - CONTAM SHEET
1	SALVAGE SHEET
1	WARNING TRIANGLE
1	VOLTAGE TESTER
1	ANGLE GRINDER + KEY
3	ANGLE GRINDER DISCS
1	OXYGEN CYLINDER
1	BURNS KIT
1	ARGUS CAMERA
1	BOX FOR SAFETY GLASSES
1	FIRST RESPONDER BAG

QTY.	DESCRIPTION
	CREW CAB (contd)
1	Incident Commander Tabard
1	I.C.S. Level 1&2 Board
1	I.C.S. Nominal Roll Board
5	BAP Suits Type 5 & 6
1	MAJOR EMERGENCY PLAN
1	LEINSTER SURVEY BOOK
1	T - KEY
	OFFSIDE FRONT
1	HALLIGAN TOOL
10	BLUE STROBE LIGHTS
2	TRAFFIC SIGNS
2	WATER KEYS (LARGE)
2	WATER KEYS (NEW TYPE)
1	BOW SAW
1	PICK HEAD & HANDLE
1	LARGE AXE
1	BOLT CROPPERS
1	SLEDGE
1	DOOR OPENER
1	HOLMATRO COMBI TOOL
1	LT HOLMATRO CORE HOSE
1	HOLMATRO POWER UNIT
1	F B 5 X & PICK UP TUBE
2	25 LT. CAN OF FOAM
1	FOAM EXTINGUISHER
1	DRY POWDER EXTINGUISHER
1	GLASS MANAGEMENT KIT
1	PARID CAUSALITY SHIELD
1	FIRE BLANKET
1	Milwakee Saw
8	Bottles Water
	OFFSIDE MIDDLE
3	45mm HOSE
4	25mm HOSE
6	70 mm. HOSE

QTY.	DESCRIPTION
	OFFSIDE MIDDLE (cont)
2	ROUND THREAD STANDPIPE
1	LUG & BAYONET STANDPIPE
2	KEYS & BAR
2	MANHOLE KEYS (large)
2	MANHOLE KEYS (small)
3	FALSE SPINDLE
1	PILLAR HYDRANT KEY
1	CROW BAR
2	Coupling for Halting Site
1	N.I. ADAPTOR
	OFFSIDE REAR
1	SEARCH LIGHT & REEL
1	HOSE REEL & WINDER
5	LIFEJACKETS **1,2,3,4&5**
1	HEARTH KIT
	Pump Bay
1	TRIPOD
1	CROW - BAR
1	12 mm. A.W.G. BRANCH
1	150 mm. *BLANK CAP*
1	PICK - UP TUBE
1	SHORT LENGTH
8	SMALL BOLLARDS
2	SUCTION SPANNERS
2	BAG ABSORBENT
1	3 WAY COLLECTING HEAD
1	PAIR OF EAR MUFFS
1	25 Lt. CAN OIL AWAY
1	T-KEY

QTY.	DESCRIPTION
	ROOF
1	13.5m LADDER
1	7m. DOUBLE
1	7m. TRIPLE
1	ROOF LADDER
4	ROAD RAMPS
1	SQUARE SHOVEL
1	POINTED SHOVEL
2	YARD BRUSHES
1	SQUEEGIES
2	GRAIPE
1	HAY FORKS
2	SLASHING HOOKS
1	CEILING HOOK
4	150 mm. SUCTION HOSE
2	B. & S. SUCTION HOSE
1	TRIPOD
1	BENT GRAIPE
4	LARGE BEATERS
	N/SIDE REAR
1	MONITOR BASE
2	PARTS MONITOR
1	DIVIDING BREECH
3	HOSE BECKETT
1	HOSE REEL & WINDER
2	HOSE REEL ADAPTORS
2	DURALINE ADAPTORS
1	70 mm Duraline 25mm. ADAPTOR
1	STRAINER & BASKET
	N/SIDE MIDDLE
3	45mm HOSE
5	25mm HOSE
6	70 mm. HOSE
1	MONITOR FOAM BRANCH
1	CURTAIN COATER
1	ELBOW
1	MALE - MALE ADAPTOR

CHECK LIST FOR FIRST RESPONDER BAG (Typical Contents)	
QTY	**Main Compartment**
1	Breathsaver / Trauma Bag
1	Multiflow O2 Regulator
1	Merlin Pocket Mask
1	Set Oropharyngeal Airways (6)
1	Res-Q-Vac Hand Aspirator
2	Non-Rebreather Oxygen Mask Adult
2	Non-Rebreather Oxygen Mask Paediatric
1	Partner Adult BVM Mask & Reservior
1	Child Disposable BVM Resuscitator
2	Conforming Bandage 7.5cm x 4.5m
2	Conforming Bandage 10cm x 4.5m
2	Ambulance Dressing No.1
2	Ambulance Dressing No.2 L 18x18
2	Ambulance Dressing No.3 XL 20x18
2	Wound Dressing No.16 **(eye)**
6	Triangular Bandage Hemmed Calico
1	Zinc Oxide Tape 2.5cm
1	Paediatric BVM
	Rear Compartment
1	Stiffneck Select Collar (Multi-adjust)
1	Stiffneck Collar Paediatric
2	Trauma Pads 10x20cm
2	Trauma Pads 20x20cm
2	Trauma Pads 20x40cm
	Front Compartment
1	Dualhead Stethscope
1	Aneroid Sphygmomanometer Code 79
1	Disposable Penlight Torch
2	Disposable Foil Blankets
1	Pair Scissors
2	Tuibes of Eye Wash
	Side Compartment
1	Box Latex Gloves
1	Tube Savalon Cream
1	Wasp-eze Spray
1	Plastic bag of Assorted Plasters

QTY.	DESCRIPTION
	HEARTH KIT
1	LARGE PINCH BAR
1	SMALL PINCH BARS
1	HACKSAW
1	SPARE HACKSAW BLADE
1	FLOOR SAW
1	MULTI - PURPOSE SAW
1	SET SPANNERS (11 in total)
2	COLD CHISELS
1	BOLSTER
1	SHIFTING SPANNER 12"
1	PAIR COMBI PLIERS
1	WATER PUMP LIERS
1	VICE GRIP 10R
1	VICE GRIP 5WR
1	CLAW HAMMER
1	LONG FLAT SCREWDRIVER
1	MEDIUM FLAT SCREWDRIVER
1	PHILIPS SCREWDRIVER
1	PHASE TESTER
1	25mm WOOD CHISEL
1	13mm WOOD CHISEL
1	WOOD BRACE
2	WOOD BITS 13mm + 25mm
1	STANLEY KNIFE
1	SNIPS
	Bag of I.C. Surcoats
1	Bag
1	Command Support Surcoat
1	Operation Commander Surcoat
1	Safety Officer Surcoat
1	Water Officer Label
1	Foam Officer Label
1	Decontamination Officer Label

A5.1 National Directorate for Fire & Emergency Management (Nationally Provided) Training

Eligibility	Course Title
Junior Officers	Fire Service Sub Officer Course
	Fire Service Station Officer Course
	Fire Prevention Course for Junior Officers
	Junior Officer Seminar
All Officer Ranks	Fire Service Instructor
	Pump Operator Course
	Ship & Port Fires Course
	Road Traffic Accident Course
	Hazardous Materials Course
	Breathing Apparatus Instructor Course
	Water Rescue
Senior Officers	Operational Command Course
	Fire Safety Engineering Course
	Media Communications Course
	Senior Officer Seminar

A5.2 Louth Co Council Fire & Rescue Internal Training

Subject Area		Course Title
Core	**1**	Recruit Induction
	2	Breathing Apparatus (BA) Wearer
	3	BA Wearer Refresher
	4	Compartment Fire Behaviour (CFB) Wearer
	5	CFB Wearer Refresher
	6	Manual Handling
	7	Manual Handling Refresher
Maintenance	**8**	BA Maintenance
	9	Ladder Inspection
Mechanical	**10**	Godiva Pump Maintenance
	11	Compressed Air Foam System (CAFS) Maintenance
	12	*Additional Mechanical Training*
Medical	**13**	Emergency First Responder (EFR)
	14	EFR Refresher
	15	Cardiac First Responder (CFR)
	16	CFR Refresher
Driving	**17**	Driver Training 'D1' License
	18	Driver Training 'C' License
	19	Emergency Fire Appliance Driving (EFAD)
	20	EFAD Refresher
	21	Forklift Operator
	22	Forklift Operator Refresher
Operational	**23**	Incident Command Course (Firefighters)
	24	Road Traffic Collision (RTC) Operator
	25	RTC Refresher
	26	Hazardous Materials Incident Commander
	27	Hazardous Materials CPC Wearer Course
	28	Hazardous Materials Awareness
	29	Pump Operator
	30	Pump Operator Refresher
	31	Working at Heights Operator
	32	Compressed Air Foam System (CAFS) Operator
	33	Abrasive Wheels Operator
	34	Water Awareness
	35	Water Awareness Refresher
	36	Flood First Responder
	37	Flood First Responder Refresher
	38	Wildland Firefighting
	39	Aerial Ladder Platform (ALP) Operator
	40	ALP Operator Refresher
	41	Magirus Multistar Operator
	42	Magirus Multistar Operator Refresher
	43	Winch Operator
	44	Cross Border RTC Training

Subject Area		Course Title
Instructor	**45**	BA Instructor
	46	CFBT Instructor
	47	RTC Instructor
	48	Hazardous Materials Instructor
	49	Pump Operator Instructor
	50	Manual Handling Instructor
	51	EFAD Instructor
	52	EFAD Instructor Recertification
	53	ALP Operator Instructor
	54	ALP Operator Instructor Recertification
	55	Magirus Multistar Operator Instructor
	56	Magirus Multistar Operator Instructor Recertification
	57	Abrasive Wheels Instructor
	58	BLS/ AED Instructor
	59	BLS/ AED Instructor Recertification
Management/ Leadership	**60**	Junior Officer Management Training
	61	Bronze level Incident Command Course
	62	Incident Command Course (Officers)
	63	IPA Line Manager
Health & Safety	**64**	H&S Officer Training
	65	H&S Rep Training
	66	CISM Peer Supporter
	67	CISM Peer Supporter Refresher

(The overriding principle governing Pre Determined Attendances in the East Region Control Centre is that they should always consist of the nearest Available appliances that can provide the quickest attendance as in line with PDA data provided by the relevant Fire Authority.)

	PDA (TLG)	Other Resources
Fire/Aircraft Light aircraft	A1 x 4 A1 x 2	RSFO, GDA, HSE RSFO, GDA, HSE
Fire/ Alarm Activation	A1 x 1	
Fire/ Bus/Coach	A1 x 1	
Fire/Car	A1 x 1	
Fire/Caravan	A1 x 1	
Fire/Chimney	A1 x 1	
Fire/Controlled burning	0	As per Controlled Burning Procedure
Fire/Domestic	A1 x 2	HSE
Fire/Domestic Persons Reported	A1 x 2	RSFO, HSE, GDA
Fire/Fire	A1 x 1	
Fire/Forest	A1 x 1	COILLTE (contacted by ERCC)
Fire/Gorse	A1 x 1	Louth Fire to contact Coillte
Fire/Grass	A1 x 1	
Fire/Hay/Barn	A1 x 1	
Fire/Industrial	A1 x 2	
Fire/Institutional	A1 x 2	
Fire/Motorcycle	A1 x 1	
Fire/Oil/Petrol	A1 x 1	
Fire/Small/Bin/Skip	A1 x 1	
Fire/Smoke Issuing	A1 x 1	
Fire/Train – Rail Accident	A1 x 2	
Fire/Truck	A1 x 1	
Fire/Tunnel	A1 x 1	
S/S Ambulance Assist	A1 x 1	
S/S Animal Rescue	0	RSFO
S/S Bicycle Lock	0	RSFO
S/S Hazardous Material Incident	A1 x 2	RSFO
S/S Mountain/High line Rescue	0	RSFO; Civil Defence CDO
S/S Electrical	A1 x 1	
S/S Explosion	A1 x 2	RSFO, HSE, GDA
S/S Flooding/Water Leak	0	RSFO
S/S Garda Assist	0	RSFO
S/S Gas Leak	A1	RSFO; Bord Gais 1850 205050
S/S Lift Person Trapped	A1 x 1	RSFO
S/S Lock Out	0	RSFO
S/S Make Scene Safe	0	RSFO
S/S Marine Emergency (MER)	A1 x 1	
S/S Oil Spillage	0	RSFO
S/S Other	0	RSFO
S/S River Rescue	0	RSFO, IRCG
S/S RTA	A1 x 1, B1 x 1	A1 x 1 plus LH14B1 or LH15B1
S/S Standby Aircraft Emergency	A1 x 2	RSFO
S/S Smell of Gas	0	RSFO; Bord Gais 1850 205050
S/S Trees down	0	RSFO
Major Emergency	Mobilise Plan (Min 4x A1) All Brigades	RSFO

A7.1 Dundalk & Drogheda Wholetime (24/7 shift staff)

A7.1.1 General

- Wholetime staff are split into 5 **Groups** of 11
- Each Group of 11 consists of 2 Station Officers (SO), 2 Sub Officers (Sub/O) and 7 Firefighters (FF)
- Each Group of 11 is split into 2 **Crews**:
  - 5/6 in a Crew who ordinarily work in Drogheda Fire Station (1 SO, 1 Sub/O, 3/4 FF's)
  - 6/5 in a Crew who ordinarily work in Dundalk Fire Station (1 SO, 1 Sub/O, 4/3 FF's)
- The shift pattern is as follows:

Group	Week 1							Week 2							Week 3							Week 4							Week 5						
1	D	D	N	N				D	D	N	N					D	D	N	N					D	D	N	N					D	D	N
2														D	D	N	N				D	D	N	N					D	D	N	N		
3					D	D	N	N				D	D	N	N					D	D	N	N													
4	N	N					D	D	N	N																	D	D	N	N					
5			D	D	N	N					D	D	N	N					D	D	N	N				D	D	N	N						D

	Week 6							Week 7							Week 8							Week 9							Week 10						
1	N					D	D	N	N					D	D	N	N																		
2				D	D	N	N					D	D	N	N					D	D	N	N					D	D	N	N				
3								D	D	N	N					D	D	N	N					D	D	N	N					D	D	N	N
4		D	D	N	N					D	D	N	N					D	D	N	N					D	D	N	N					D	D
5	D	N	N																			D	D	N	N					D	D	N	N		

  - Group 1 starts a 10 week cycle on Monday of Week 1 (called Week 1 as a reference point for all Groups).
  - "D" refers to Day shifts. These are 12 hour shifts (08.00 – 20.00). "N" refers to night shifts (20.00 – 08.00).
  - For 8 weeks the cycle is DDNN, 4 off repeating. Seven of these eight day cycles are in an 8 week period.
  - The remaining 2 weeks are off for the entire crew. The green periods above refer to those 2 week periods.

- The result of the roster described above is that that are a minimum 5 staff in both Stations at all times (5 is the minimum number which can crew a Class B Appliance (Fire Engine)). Having 4 or less in the station would result in having to call in retained (on call) staff and would reduce the mobilisation time from the station.
- The 5 in each station must contain of at least one officer (either an SO or Sub/O).
- The 11th person is a contingency to cover absences. Accordingly he may work in either Dundalk or Drogheda.



A7.1.2 Annualised Hours:

- The standard roster results in staff working 33.6 hours per week on average. They will be contracted to work 39 hours per week.
- The remaining 5.4 hours per week (282 hours per annum on average, less annual leave) are to be used to:
  - Provide **On Call Cover**

- Carry out off roster training
- Carry out off roster instructing
- Carry out other off roster duties (e.g. Health & Safety Committee meetings, Occupational health checkups, Court, etc)

- Annual leave is (22 days) is absorbed into the 2 week off periods.
- The exact details of annualised hours is on the Appendix A document.

A7.1.3 Attendance Levels:

- Annual Leave is built into the 18 day off periods, during which the crew in not required to provide cover, and on which the crew will not be expected to be scheduled for off roster training.
- Staff are committed to doing as much training as possible on off roster periods, although for longer duration courses this may not always be possible.

A7.1.4 "11th Person":

- Each Group comprises 11. As 10 are required (5 in Dundalk, 5 in Drogheda) one person is "spare capacity".
- The 11th person when not required is asked not to report for duty no later than 48 hours before the start of the shift in question.
- Staff within each group will be designated as the 11th person on a rotational basis.

A7.1.5 "On Call" Arrangements:

- The 11th person will be On Call to respond to either Station in the event of a short notice absence. 2 additional staff will be rostered to be on call at all times.
- The maximum number of staff on duty at any one time will be 11. However in normal circumstances the maximum number of staff on duty will be 10. The minimum number of staff on duty at any one time will also be 10.
- 2 additional staff members (Firefighters and Sub Officers) will be rostered to be on call for 48 hour periods. These periods will coincide with the middle 2 off D and N periods on their 8 day rota periods (circled in red below for Group 1 for Weeks 1-5).
- 2 out of 9 (9 made up of 7 Firefighters and 2 Sub Officers from each Group – Station Officers will not be required to be On Call) will be on call at any one time. Personnel are rostered to be on call.
- Call in Order:
  1. 11th person
  2. On call FF or Sub/O 1
  3. On Call FF or Sub/O 2

Group	Week 1							Week 2							Week 3							Week 4							Week 5						
1	D	D	N	N				D	D	N	N				D	D	N	N				D	D	N	N				D	D	N				
2														D	D	N	N				D	D	N	N					D	D	N	N			
3					D	D	N	N					D	D	N	N					D	D	N	N												
4	N	N					D	D	N	N																		D	D	N	N				
5			D	D	N	N					D	D	N	N					D	D	N	N				D	D	N	N					D	
	Week 6							Week 7							Week 8							Week 9							Week 10						
1	N					D	D	N	N					D	D	N	N																			
2				D	D	N	N					D	D	N	N					D	D	N	N					D	D	N	N				
3								D	D	N	N					D	D	N	N					D	D	N	N					D	D	N	N
4		D	D	N	N					D	D	N	N					D	D	N	N					D	D	N	N					D	D
5	D	N	N																			D	D	N	N					D	D	N	N		

Explanation of Specimen Roster

"D" Denotes Group are scheduled for a Day (0800-2000) Shift on this day

"N" denotes Group are scheduled for a Night Shift (2000-0800)

Arbitrarily defined Week for reference purposes

14 day Off Periods

"On Call". In this case Sub Officer (2) is scheduled for 48 hour on call period along with Firefighter (10)

Notional 7.8 hour Annual Leave days are allotted for recoupment of Annual Leave due to Sick Leave

