



East Sussex **Fire & Rescue Service**

East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service Benchmarking Report 2015/16

MARCH 2017

Background

This document aims to provide benchmarking information for East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service against its other Family Group 2 members. The UK's Fire and Rescue Services (FRS) are divided into five family groups, these groups are used to aid analysis and comparisons between similar FRS'. ESFRS is grouped together with other similar sized FRS which are deemed to have some, but by no means all of the same key characteristics.

The thirteen FRS that make up Family Group Two are:

Bedfordshire
Royal Berkshire
Buckinghamshire
Cambridgeshire
Dorset
Durham
East Sussex
Norfolk
Northamptonshire
Oxfordshire
Suffolk
West Sussex
Wiltshire.

This benchmarking report focuses on the following areas:

- Employee comparisons from the 'Operational Statistics bulletin for England:
- Station and appliance comparisons from the CIPFA annual estimated statistics for 2015-16
- Health and Safety comparisons from the 'Operational Statistics bulletin for England:
- Incident comparisons from the 'Fire Statistic Monitor: England April 2015 to March 2016' and the 'Fire Incident Response Times: England, for 2015-16
- Sickness comparisons for the Family Group 2 from the National Fire & Rescue Service Occupational Health Performance Report April 2015 – March 2016

On the 1st April 2016 the Home Office took over responsibility for the Fire and Rescue Service. ESFRS previously submitted a number of datasets throughout the year to Local Government and Communities (DCLG). These submissions are now being returned to the Home Office.

Datasets include ESFRS's incident data captured within the Electronic Incident Recording System (E-IRS), the Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) Returns, Fires of Special Interest (FOSI) and Fires on Crown premises. These are collated, verified and released into the public domain at different intervals by the Home Office.

The most current Home Office datasets were released in January 2017. The figures in this report are based on the latest published figures, the regional demographic information. Appliance and Station numbers are based on data released by CIPFA (estimates for 2015/16) and the Employee and Health & Safety comparisons are based on 2015/16 IRMP returns. These returns reflect the positions within each organisation as of 31 March 2016. Sickness data is provided directly from Fire and Rescue Services in the 'National Fire and Rescue Service Occupational Health Performance Report April 2015 – March 2016'. This report is prepared by Cleveland Fire Brigade.

The Home Office collate the Annual IRMP Returns and produce Fire and Rescue Service Operational Statistics Bulletins (the 'Fire and rescue authorities: Operational Statistics bulletin for England: 2015 to 2016'). These contain data from each UK FRS on:

- Fire Prevention and Community Fire Safety Activities
- Fire Safety Audits, Enforcement, Prohibition and Compliance Notices, and Prosecutions
- Staff strength by rank and contract
- Health and Safety – Injuries during operational incidents and training

➤ Vehicle Incidents and Accidents

All the Operational Statistics Bulletin datasets are in the public domain and can be accessed via the GOV.UK website or using this link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/fire-and-rescue-authorities-operational-statistics-bulletin-for-england-2015-to-2016>

The Home Office also collect and collate the IRS data sets and produce the 'Fire Statistic Monitor: England April 2015 to March 2016' and the 'Fire Incident Response Times: April 2015 to March 2016,

These contain data from each UK FRS on:

- Incident types
- Attendance times
- Fatalities and casualties

All Fires Statistics and Incident response times datasets are in the public domain and can be accessed via the GOV.UK website by using these links:<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/fire-statistics-data-tables> and <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/fire-incident-response-times-april-2015-to-march-2016-england>

Population and geographic details

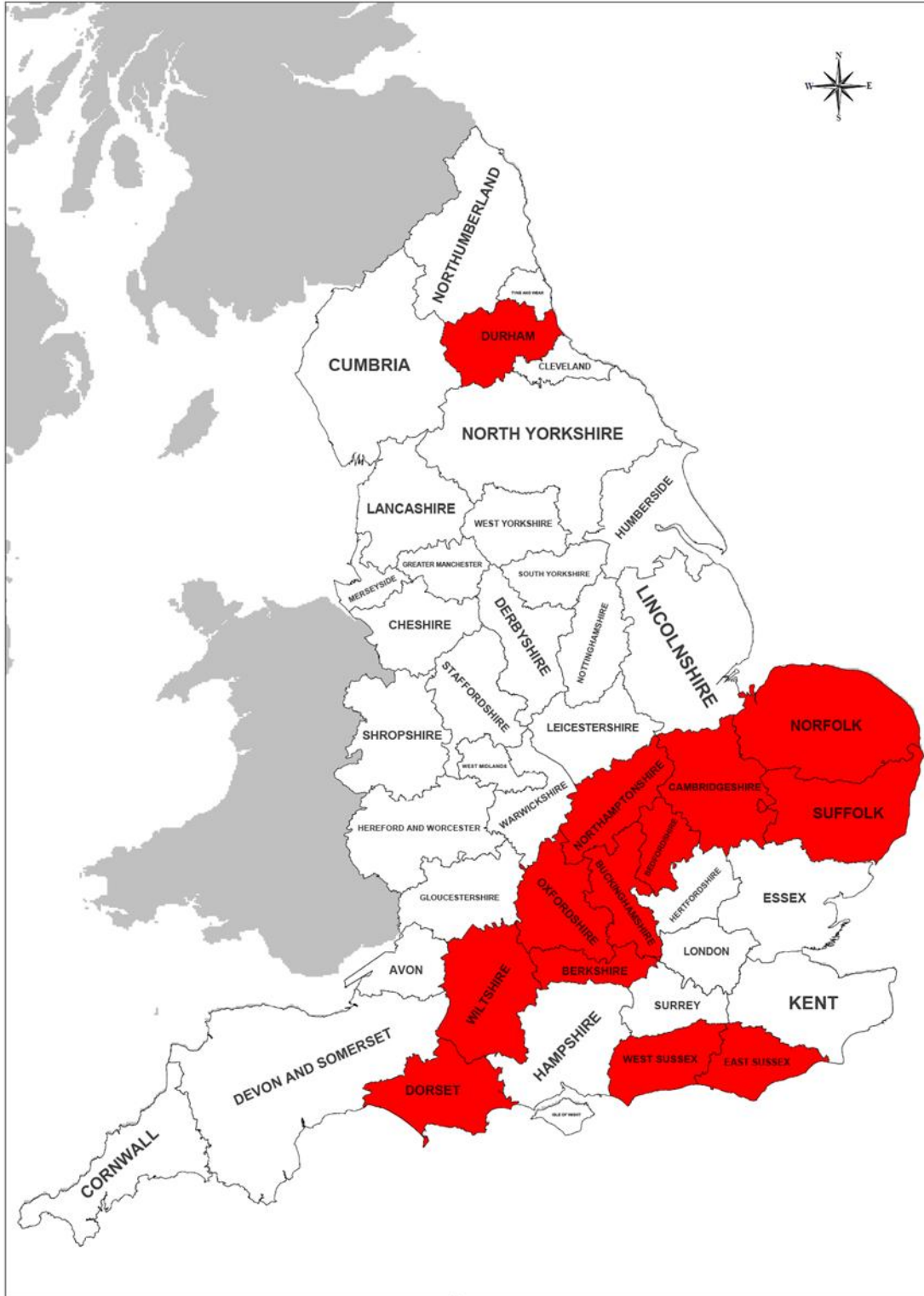
In order to create meaningful comparators across the Family Group 2 (FG2) the performance indicators are often expressed as a rate or ratio against a standard demographic or geographic value.

Table 1 sets out these main comparators and shows that East Sussex shares a similar population profile to that of Cambridgeshire and West Sussex. However the area ESFRS covers is the third smallest, yet ESFRS has the second highest number of WT fire fighters and the second highest number of combined Wholetime and Retained Duty Systems Full time equivalent firefighters overall.

	Bedfordshire	Berkshire	Buckinghamshire	Cambridgeshire	Dorset	Durham	East Sussex	Norfolk	Northamptonshire	Oxfordshire	Suffolk	West Sussex	Wiltshire
Population	655,000	890,600	790,200	841,200	765,700	625,100	829,300	885,000	723,000	677,800	741,900	836,300	703,300
Domestic Properties (Dwellings)	255,429	353,401	314,950	341,838	345,219	282,052	363,070	399,202	302,324	266,510	322,832	361,047	292,612
Non-domestic Properties	17,798	24,410	21,642	24,565	30,360	11,244	28,442	34,274	25,525	20,454	28,643	31,749	19,956
Wholetime (Full Time Equivalent)	270	385	259	237	242	314	382	264	275	229	210	314	179
RDS (Full Time Equivalent)	115	47	122	145	283	188	216	470	241	253	448	214	247
Total	385	432	381	382	525	502	598	734	516	482	658	528	426
Area Sq Km	1,235.40	1,262	1,873.60	3,389.60	2,652.60	2,423.40	1,791.20	5,380.20	2,364	2,604.90	3,800.50	1,990.50	3,485.40

Table 1: Sources: i) ONS Population Estimates 2015, ii) CIPFA Stats Estimates 2015- 16, iii) Fire statistics data tables 1102a:Total Staff Numbers (FTE) by role and fire and rescue authority – Wholetime firefighters & 1102b Total Staff Numbers (FTE) by role and fire and rescue authority – Retained Duty System

Locations of the Family Group 2 Fire and Rescue Services



 FAMILY GROUP TWO

This product includes mapping data licensed from Ordnance Survey with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office.
© Crown copyright and/or database right 20 06
All rights reserved. License number 100023966



Employee comparisons

ESFRS management structures overall numbers are comparable to Berkshire FRS. ESFRS reports the second highest numbers of operational staff in FG2.

The figures in Table 2 represent the 'Strength' of each FRS. This is the actual number of operational posts filled as per contract during the reporting period 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016. They do not include any temporary posts or posts that are fully funded by outside agencies. For example, persons seconded to DCLG, The Home Office, Fire Service College, or charitable organisations. Posts such as these are not included in FRS Strength figures. However, it will reflect temporary promotions within the organisation.

ESFRS is showing the fifth lowest decrease in Wholetime operational staff against the numbers stated in the 2014/15 Benchmarking report. The 0.5% reduction equates to 2 Wholetime posts. The average ratio of firefighters to Senior Managers in FG2 is 19, so ESFRS is above this with 24, this is this is the second highest ratio.

Fire & Rescue Service	Brigade Manager	Area Manager	Group Manager	Station Manager	Watch Manager	Crew Manager	Firefighter	Total	% change from previous year	Ratio of Firefighters to Senior Manager*
Bedfordshire	2	5	9	13	39	47	155	270	-4.9%	16 to 1
Berkshire	3	4	10	26	57	68	217	385	1.0%	22 to 1
Buckinghamshire	2	4	9	21	36	44	143	259	-9.4%	16 to 1
Cambridgeshire	3	3	8	26	46	23	128	237	0.4%	16 to 1
Dorset	3	2	5	21	35	38	138	242	-3.6%	23 to 1
Durham	2	4	5	26	47	49	181	314	-7.9%	28 to 1
East Sussex	2	3	10	28	45	73	221	382	-0.5%	24 to 1
Norfolk	1	2	9	24	42	37	149	264	-2.0%	21 to 1
Northamptonshire	2	4	9	23	38	40	159	275	5.8%	17 to 1
Oxfordshire	3	2	10	27	51	27	109	229	-3.2%	14 to 1
Suffolk	3	3	7	19	39	28	111	210	0.0%	15 to 1
West Sussex	4	2	8	24	61	54	161	314	-3.7%	21 to 1
Wiltshire	2	2	8	16	33	28	90	179	-3.2%	14 to 1

*Senior Manager includes Brigade Manager, Area Manager & Group Manager

Table 2 Source: Fire statistics data tables Table 1102a: Total Staff Numbers (FTE) by role and fire and rescue authority – Wholetime firefighters

Chart 1 below shows the comparisons of Wholetime firefighters across Family Group 2 (FG2).

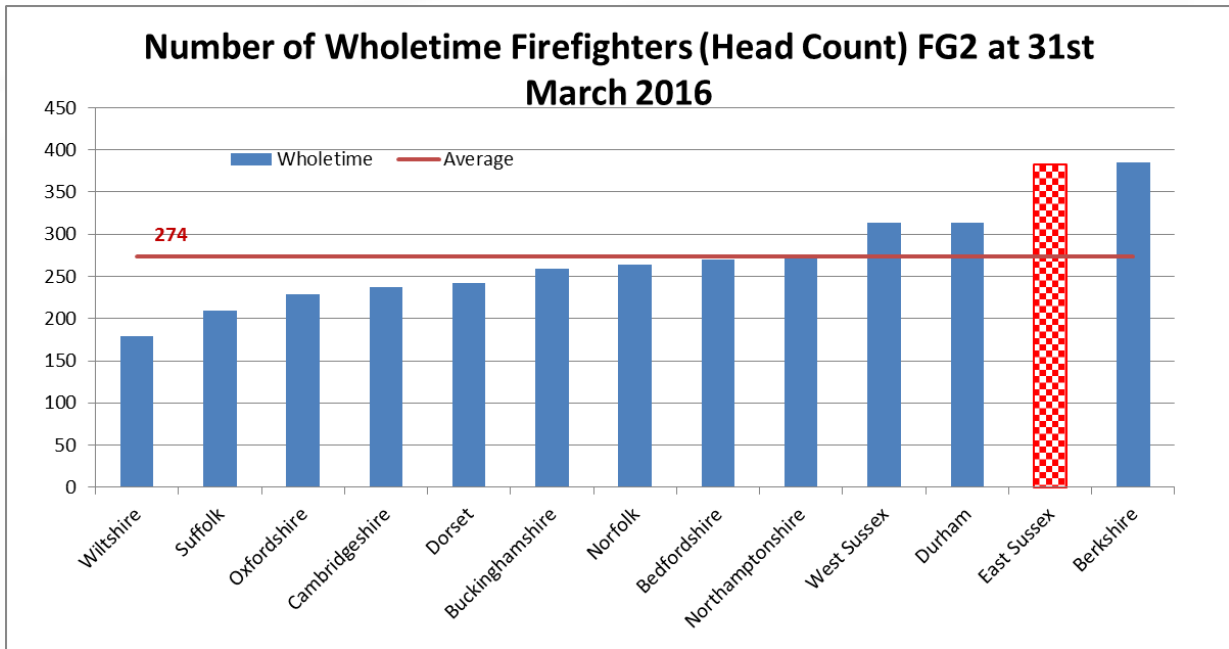


Chart 1 Number of WT Firefighters (Source: Fire statistics data tables 1102a: Total Staff Numbers (FTE) by role and fire and rescue authority – Wholetime firefighters)

Chart 2 shows the comparisons of Retained Duty Systems (RDS) firefighters across FG2. The average number of RDS firefighters across the group is 230. The RDS staffing model is often dependent on a number of factors which include geographical location, the number of incidents in an area and the levels of risk within an area.

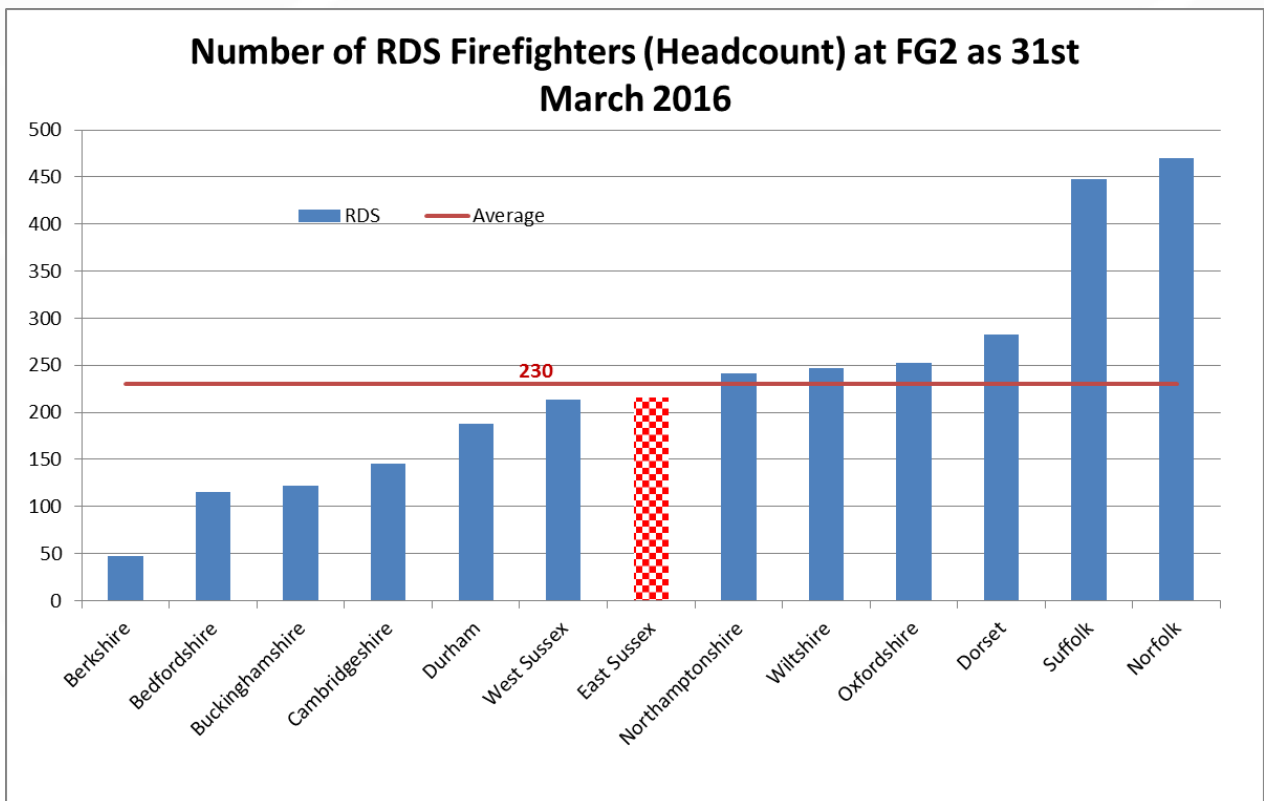


Chart 2 Number of RDS Firefighters (Source: Fire statistics data tables, 1102b Total Staff Numbers (FTE) by role and fire and rescue authority – Retained Duty System)

Stations and Appliances comparisons

Table 3 presents the number of operational appliances per 100,000 population and the number of square kilometres per operational appliances for each member of FG2. ESFRS has a ratio of 4.94 operational pumps per 100,000 population, this is just above the average for FG2 (the average is 4.54). From the table below it can be seen that ESFRS and West Sussex cover very similar sized areas and with a similar number of appliances.

Five FG2 members have a higher number of appliances per 100,000 population than ESFRS, but we have the lowest sq. KM area per appliance of all FG2 members.

Fire & Rescue Service	*Operational Appliances	Appliances per 100,000 population	Area per Appliance (Sq. KM)	FRS Area Sq. KM
Bedfordshire	22	3.36	56.14	1,235
Berkshire	21	2.36	60.10	1,262
Buckinghamshire	30	3.80	62.47	1,874
Cambridgeshire	38	4.52	89.21	3,390
Dorset	40	5.22	66.33	2,653
Durham	27	4.32	89.74	2,423
East Sussex	41	4.94	43.68	1,791
Norfolk	45	5.08	119.56	5,380
Northamptonshire	28	3.87	84.43	2,364
Oxfordshire	35	5.16	74.43	2,605
Suffolk	48	6.47	79.19	3,801
West Sussex	40	4.78	49.75	1,990
Wiltshire	36	5.12	96.81	3,485

*Operational appliances includes Pumping and Aerial appliances

Table 3: Number of Operational appliances (Source: CIPFA Statistics 2015/16 Estimates)

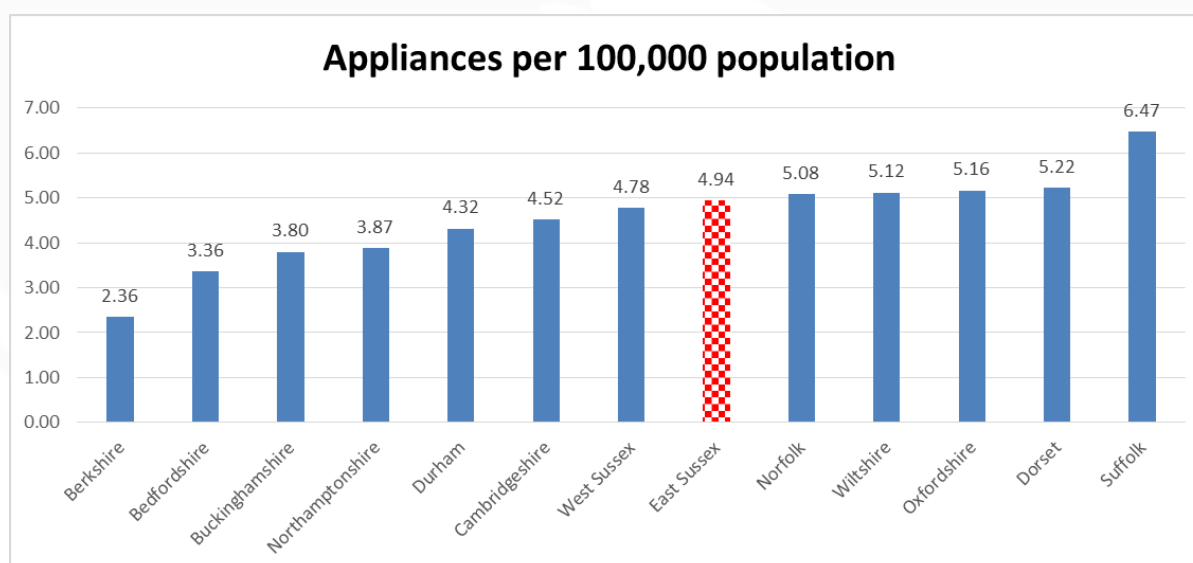


Chart 3: Appliances per 100,000 pop (Source: CIPFA Statistics 2015/16 Estimates)

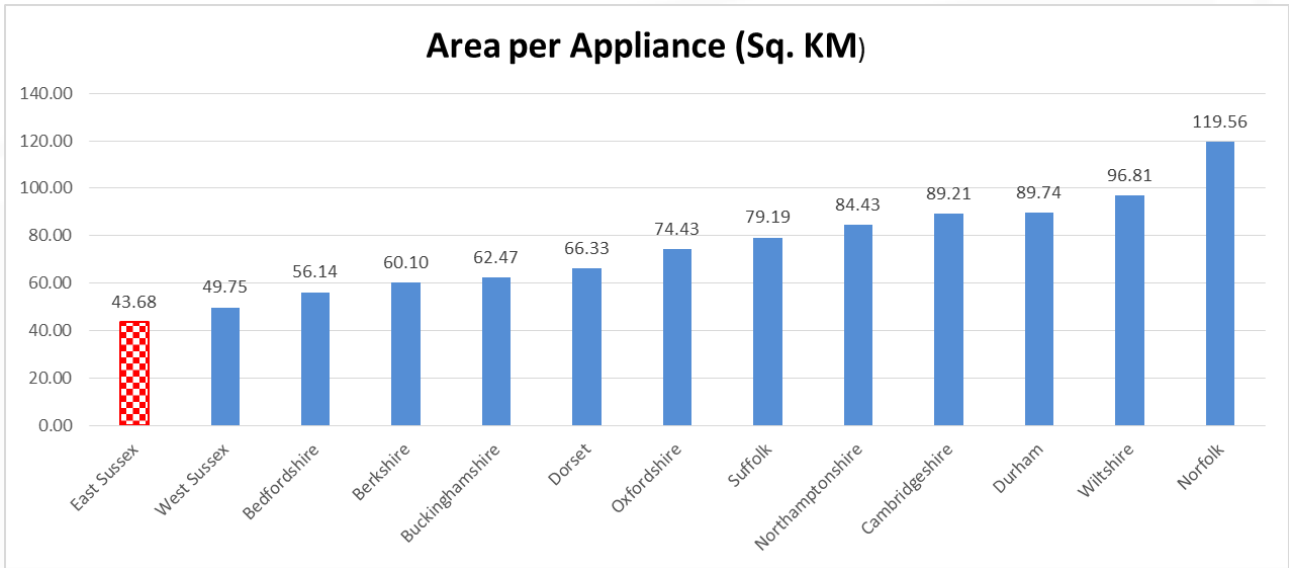


Chart 4: Square kilometers per appliance (Source: CIPFA Statistics 2015/16 Estimates)

Table 4 looks at the number of stations against the population density and the geographical areas each FRS covers. The figures published in the CIPFA Statistics 2015/16 Estimates show ESFRS as having six Wholetime, six Day crewed and 12 Retained Duty System stations. ESFRS show a ratio of 2.89 stations per 100,000 population this places ESFRS 6th in FG2, and with 2.87 stations per 100,000 population, again West Sussex is the closest fit from the other members of FG2.

Fire & Rescue Service	Wholetime Stations	Day crewed Stations	Retained Stations	Total Number of Fire Stations	Stations per 100,000 population	Area per Station (Sq. KM)
Bedfordshire	3	3	8	14	2.14	88.21
Berkshire	11	1	6	18	2.02	70.11
Buckinghamshire	10	0	10	20	2.53	93.70
Cambridgeshire*	3	4	20	27	3.21	125.56
Dorset	6	1	19	26	3.40	102.04
Durham	2	7	6	15	2.40	161.53
East Sussex	6	6	12	24	2.89	74.63
Norfolk	3	5	34	42	4.75	128.10
Northamptonshire	6	2	14	22	3.04	107.45
Oxfordshire	3	3	18	24	3.54	108.54
Suffolk**	4	2	29	35	4.72	108.60
West Sussex***	6	4	14	24	2.87	82.92
Wiltshire	3	3	18	24	3.41	145.21

*Cambridgeshire has 1 Volunteer Fire Station

** Suffolk has 1 Nucleus Fire Station

*** West Sussex also share an additional station with Surrey FRS

Table 4: Number of Stations (Source: CIPFA Statistics 2015/16 Estimates)

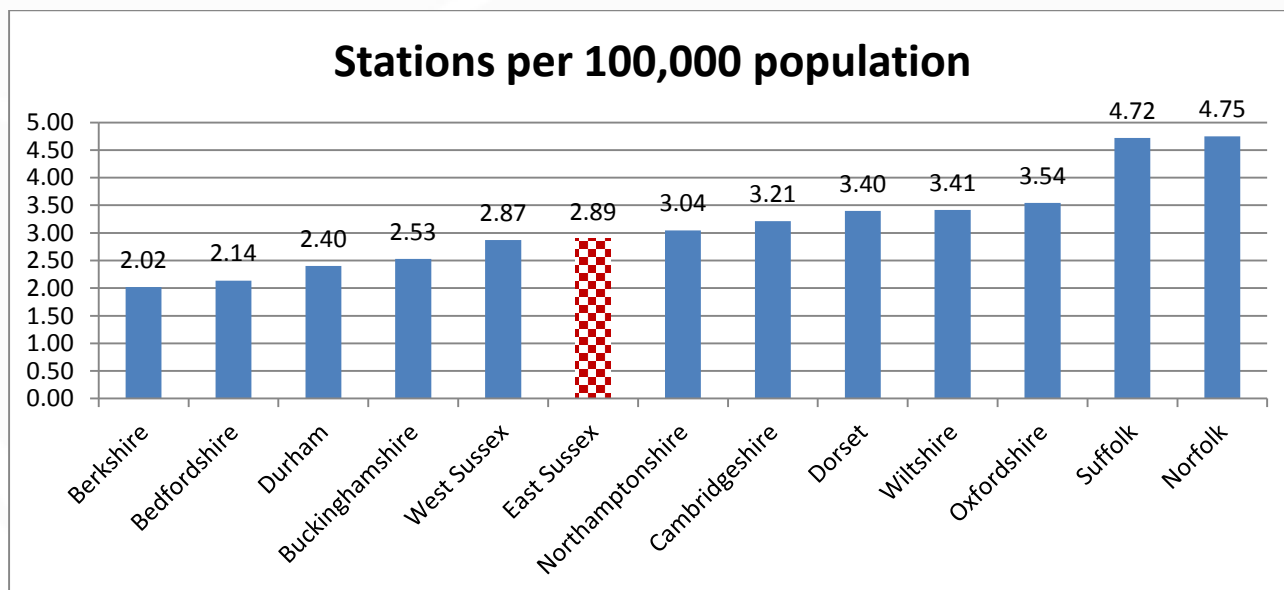


Chart 5: Stations per 100,000 pop (Source: CIPFA Statistics 2015/16 Estimates)

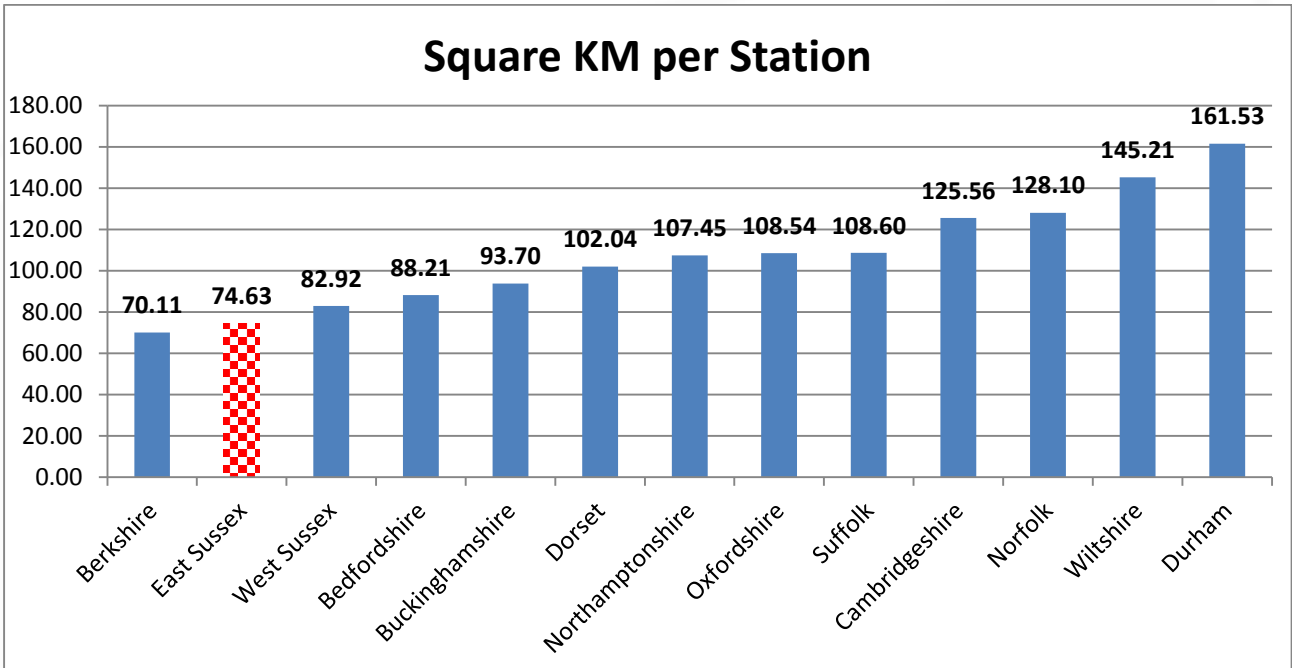


Chart 6: Stations per square km (Source: CIPFA Statistics 2015/16 Estimates)

Chart 7 illustrates the number of Wholtime, day crewed and Retained Duty System stations for each Family Group Service. Norfolk has the highest number of Retained Duty System stations within the group. Bedfordshire and Durham have the lowest number of fire stations in total.

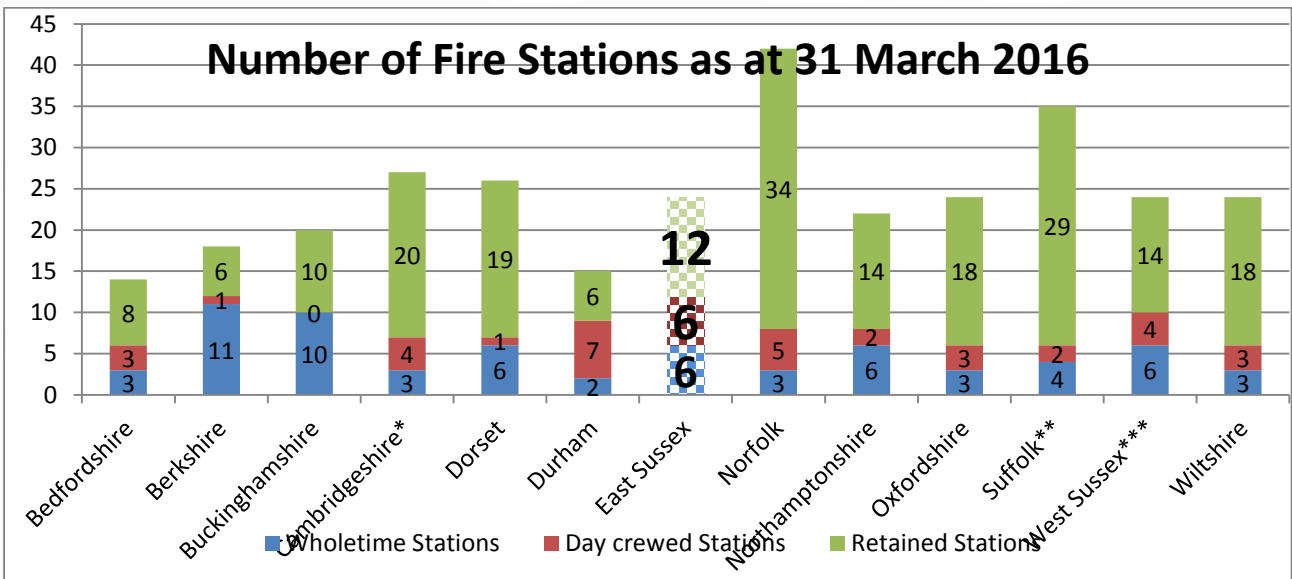


Chart 7 Number of Stations (Source: CIPFA Statistics 2015/16 Estimates)

Financial Comparisons

Chart 8 shows the average net expenditure of each FRS in FG2 by the number of domestic properties in each FRS and for Combined FAs also by Council Tax Band D. (This information is not readily available for County Fire Authorities, as Fire budgets are generally combined with other departments)

ESFRS has the 3rd highest average net expenditure cost by numbers of dwellings and the 4th highest cost per Council Tax Band D.

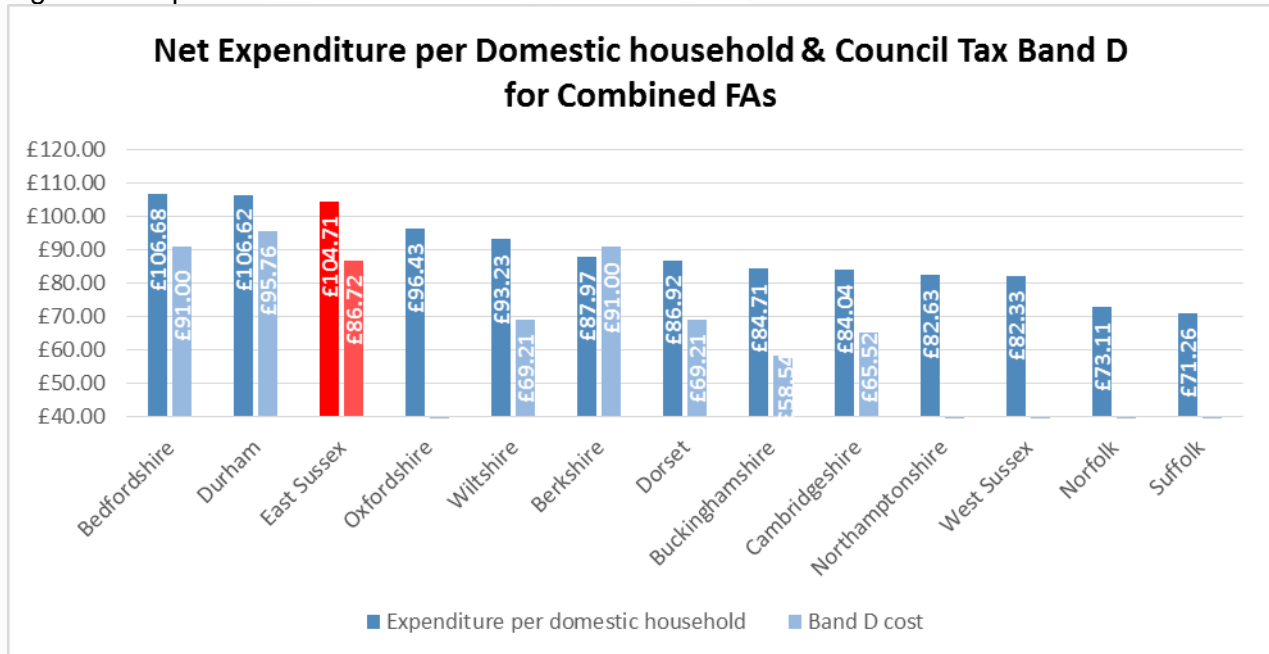


Chart 8 Average net expenditure per number of domestic properties & Council tax Band D (Source: CIPFA Statistics 2015/16 Estimates)

Health & Safety

Chart 9 below shows the number of injuries per 100 Wholetime and Retained Duty System firefighters sustained during operational incidents and training for FG2 FRS. In 2015/16, ESFRS sustained 5.85 (3.92 in 2014/15) injuries per 100 firefighters at operational incidents and 5.35 (4.58 in 2014/15) injuries per 100 firefighters during training. The FG2 average number of injuries per 100 firefighters at operational incidents is 3.87 and the average rate for injuries during training is 4.43 per 100 firefighters.

ESFRS is currently over the average for injuries at operational incidents, with our Service being ranked 12th worst performing (7th in 2013/14) and also over the average in relation to injuries at training incidents, being ranked 10th worst (8th in 2014/15). Cambridgeshire FRS has worst injury ratio per 100 firefighters in operational incidents and during training.

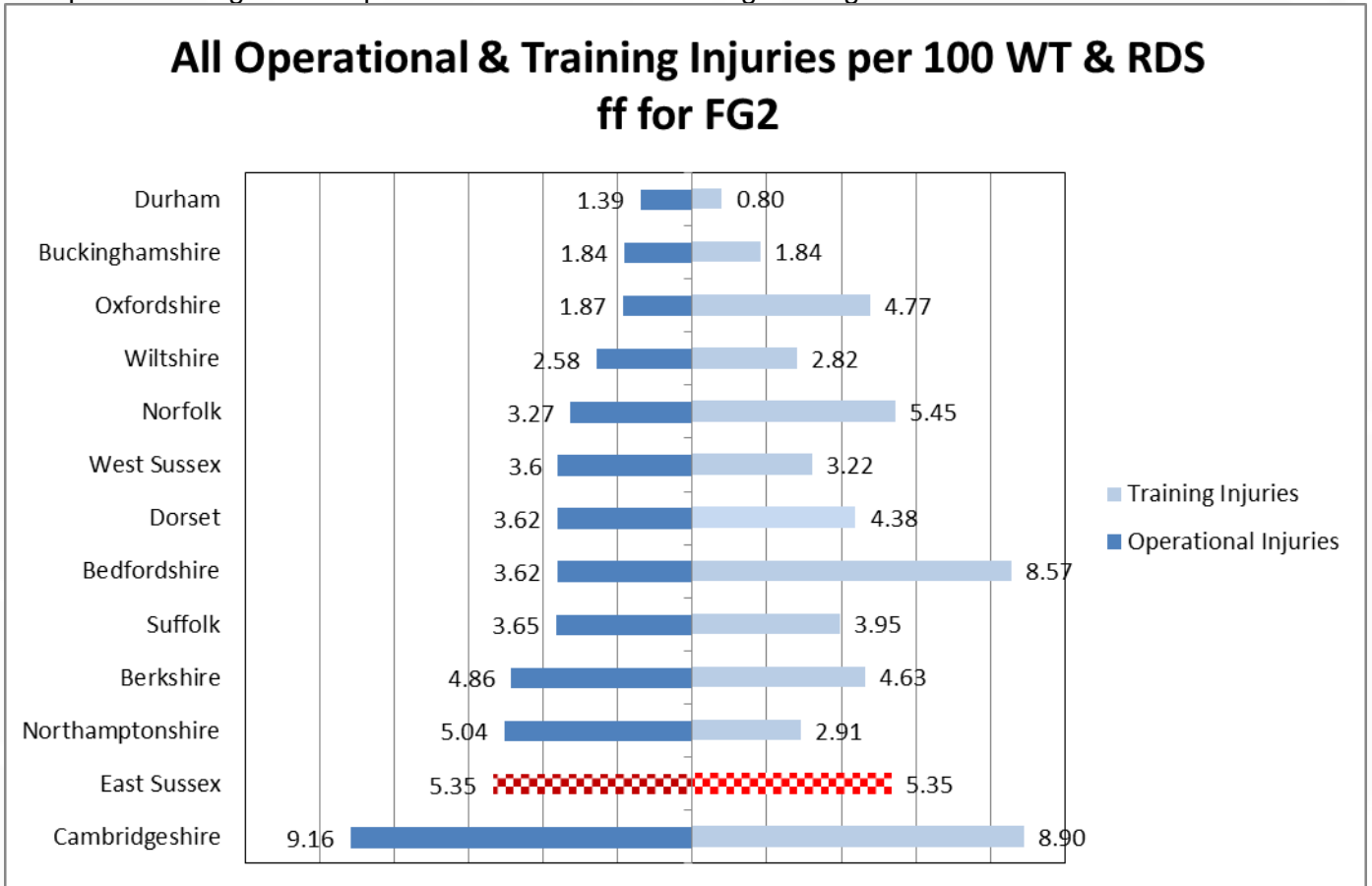


Chart 9: Operational & Training Injuries per 100 firefighters Source: Operational Statistics Bulletin for England 2015 to 2016 FIRE STATISTICS TABLE 0508b: Injuries sustained by firefighters and firefighter fatalities, during operational incidents, by fire and rescue authority & FIRE STATISTICS TABLE 0508c: Injuries sustained by firefighters and firefighter fatalities, during training incidents, by fire and rescue authority)

Firefighters by Gender and Ethnicity comparisons

Chart 10 shows the percentage of female Wholetime firefighters for each FG2 member over the past 5 years. The profile of Wholetime firefighters in England is predominantly male and white. However, the proportion of firefighters who are female has increased from a national average of 1.70% in 2002 to a national average of 5.0% in March 2016, however it is understood that this proportional increase is due to the larger numbers of males leaving the FRS, rather than an actual increase in the numbers of female firefighters.

ESFRS has the fifth highest proportion of female firefighters across FG2, with 5.2% of Wholetime firefighters being female, which is above the national average and the FG2 average, which is 4.7%.

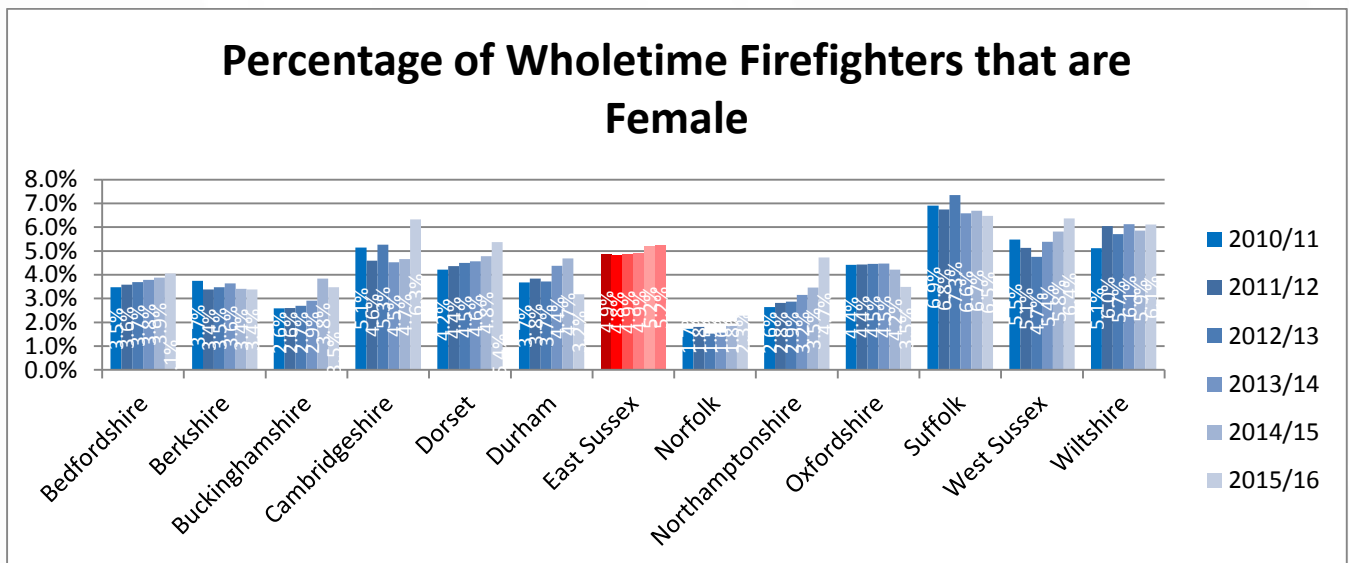


Chart 10: Percentage of WT firefighters that are female (Source: Operational Statistics Bulletin for England 2015 to 2016 FIRE STATISTICS TABLE 1103: Staff headcount by gender, fire and rescue authority and role)

Chart 11 shows the actual numbers of male and female firefighters at each FG2 FRS. In terms of raw numbers ESFRS have the joint highest numbers of female firefighters with West Sussex, with each having 20.

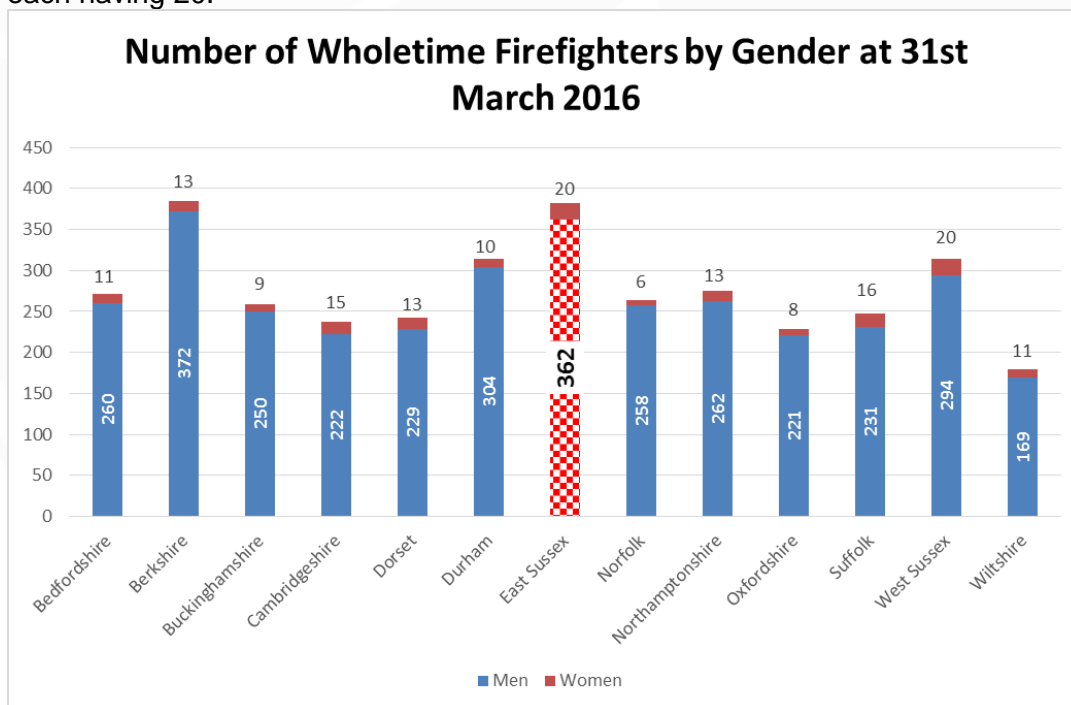


Chart 11: Numbers of WT firefighters that are female (Source: Operational Statistics Bulletin for England 2015 to 2016 FIRE STATISTICS TABLE 1103: Staff headcount by gender, fire and rescue authority and role)

The percentage of Wholetime firefighters from ethnic minority backgrounds has also increased steadily from 1.5% in 2002 to a national average of 3.8% in March 2016. ESFRS is currently below this national average at 3.3% (only Bedfordshire and Wilshire are above the national average).

Chart 12 illustrates the percentage of Wholetime firefighters that are from an ethnic minority background for FG2. As of 31st March 2016, ESFRS has the fourth highest proportion of ethnic minority staff across the FG2 members. 10.5% of the East Sussex population is from an ethnic minority, this is 10.9% in Brighton & Hove.

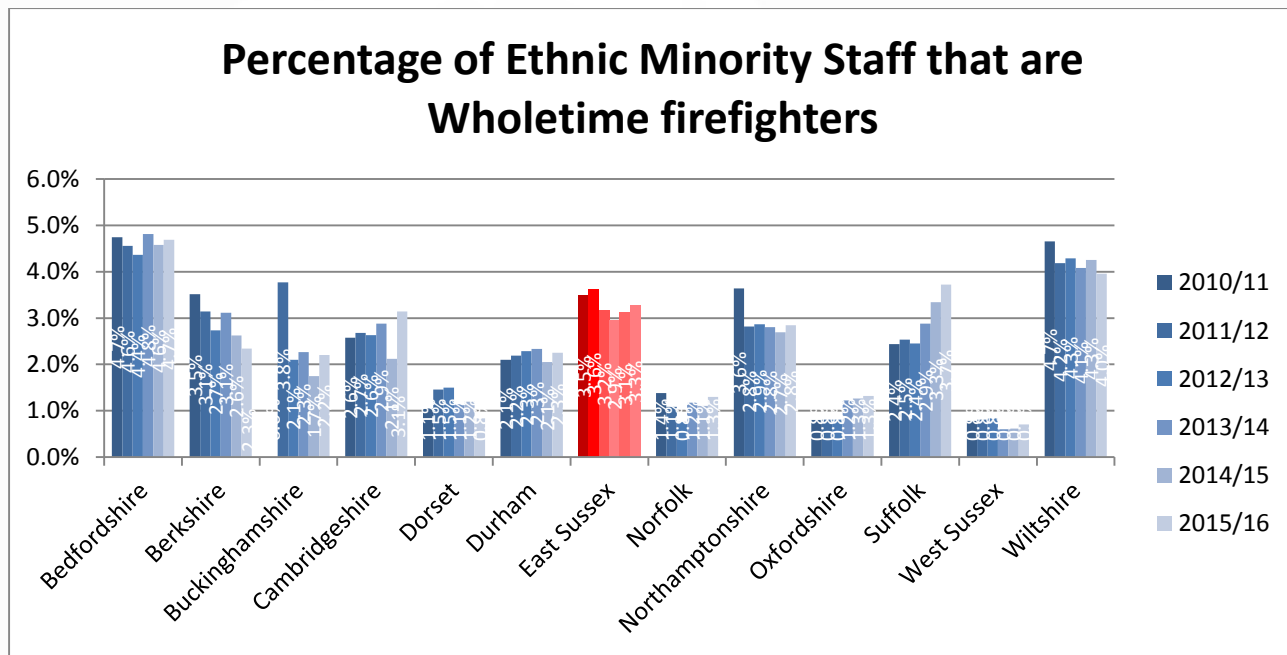


Chart 12: Percentage of WT firefighters that are from an ethnic minority (Source: Operational Statistics Bulletin for England 2015 to 2016 FIRE STATISTICS TABLE 1104: Staff headcount by ethnicity, fire and rescue authority and role)

Chart 13 shows the actual numbers of white and ethnic minority Wholetime firefighters by each FG2 member. ESFRS has the joint highest numbers of ethnic minority WT firefighters as Bedfordshire with 12.

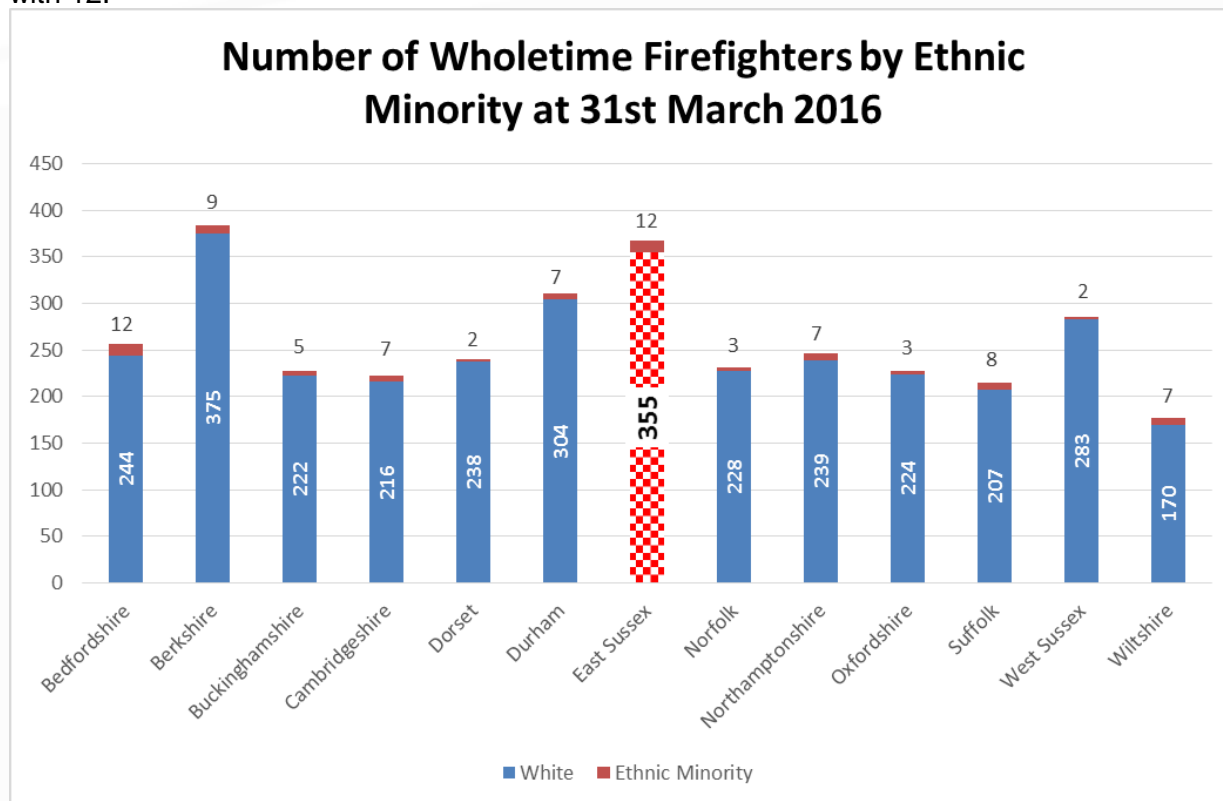


Chart 13: Number of WT firefighters that are from an ethnic minority (Source: Operational Statistics Bulletin for England 2015 to 2016 FIRE STATISTICS TABLE 1104: Staff headcount by ethnicity, fire and rescue authority and role)

Sickness

Chart 14 Illustrates the number of shifts lost per person for Wholetime and Control staff due to sickness. ESFRS has the second highest level of Sickness in FG2 (only four FRS's provided data in 2015/16) with 8.64 days lost to sickness per employee, this is above the 2015/16 average of 8.2. This is worse than 2014/15 when 7.97 shifts were lost per person in Wholetime and Control due to sickness.

N/a represents no value being returned by a specific Fire and Rescue Service.

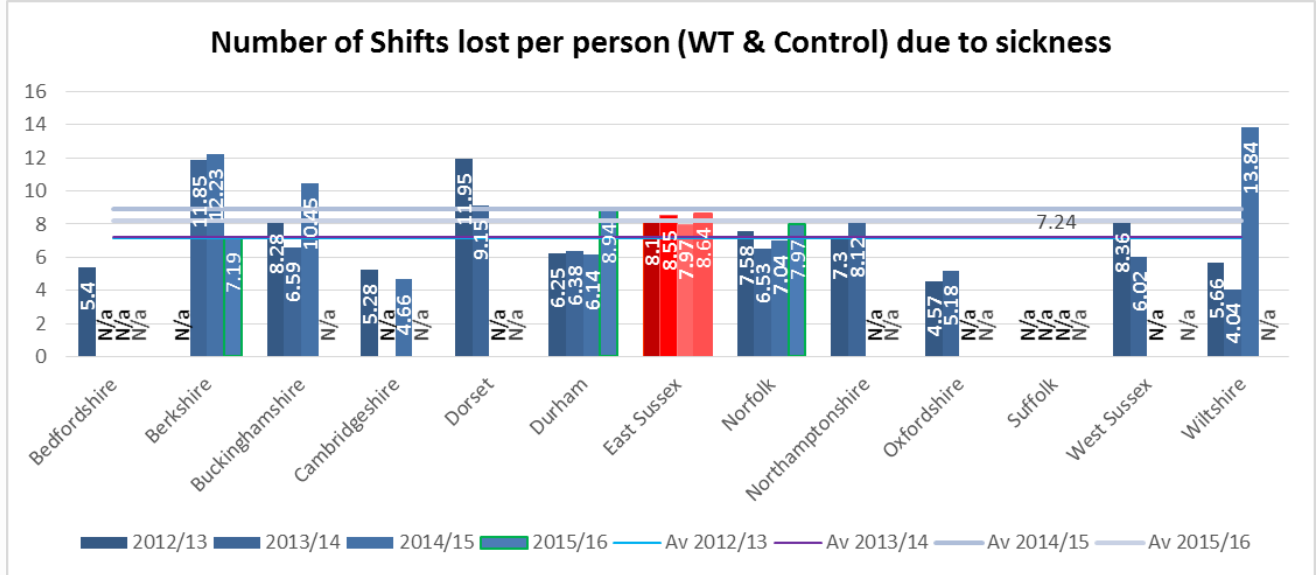


Chart 14: Number of shifts lost per person due to sickness (WT and Control) (Source: National Fire & Rescue Service Occupational Health Performance Report April 2015 – March 2016)

Chart 15 Illustrates the number of shifts lost per person for non-uniformed staff due to sickness. ESFRS has the 3rd highest level of Sickness in FG2 (seven FRS's provided data in 2015/16) with 8.5 days lost to sickness per employee, this is above the 2015/16 average of 7.3. This is an improvement on 2014/15 when 9.52 shifts were lost per person by Non-uniformed staff due to sickness.

N/a represents no value being returned by a specific Fire and Rescue Service.

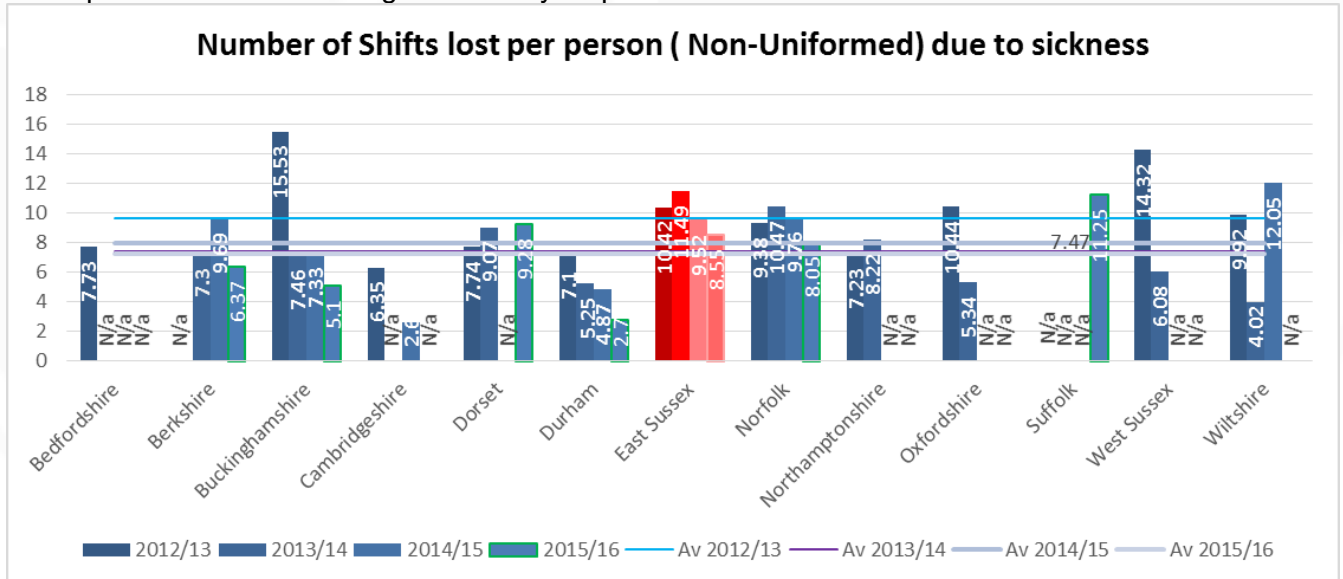


Chart 15: Number of shifts lost per person due to sickness (Support) (Source: National Fire & Rescue Service Occupational Health Performance Report April 2015 – March 2016)

Home Safety Visits Completed

Chart 16 shows the numbers of Home Safety Visits completed from 2010/11 to 2015/16 per 1,000 domestic dwellings for each FG2 member.

ESFRS has the 3rd highest number of HSVs completed per 1,000 domestic dwellings with 27.3 HSVs per 1,000 domestic dwellings being completed in 2015/16. Durham completed 72.8 per 1,000 domestic dwelling

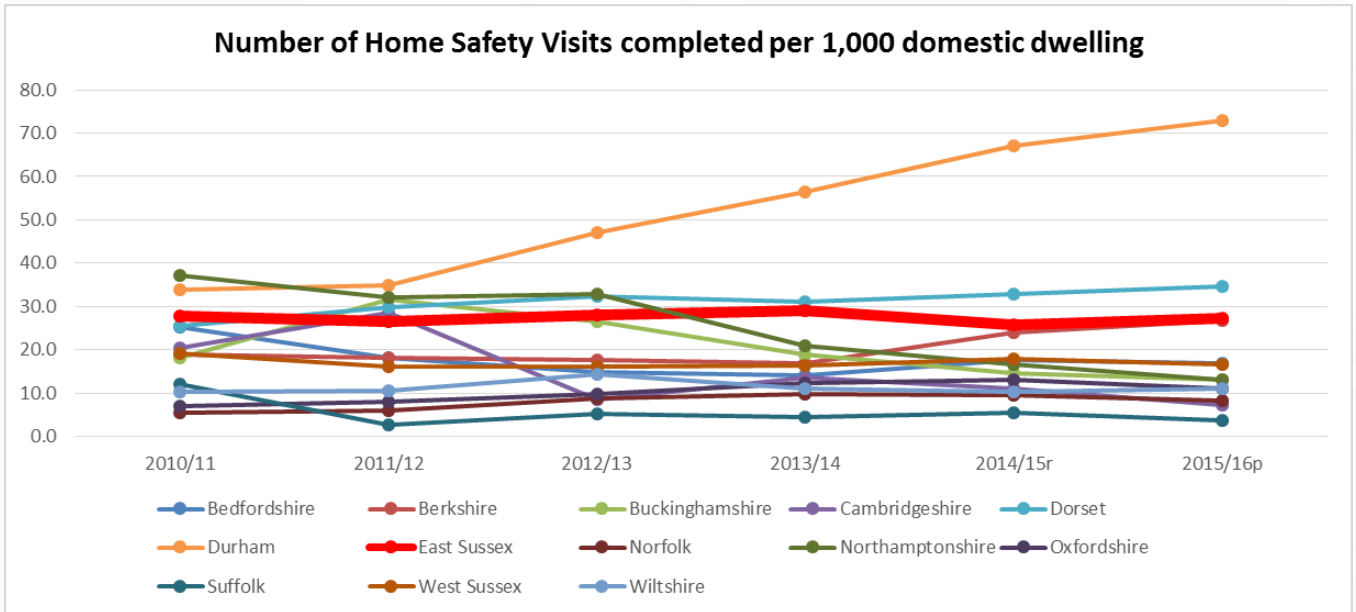


Chart 16: Number of HSVs completed per 1,000 domestic dwellings (Source: Operational Statistics Bulletin for England 2015 to 2016 FIRE STATISTICS TABLE 1201: Home Fire Risk Checks carried out by fire and rescue authorities and partners, by fire and rescue authority)

Number of Fire Safety Audits Completed

Chart 17 shows the number of fire safety audits completed per 1,000 Non-domestic property by each FG2 member in 2015/16

ESFRS completed the second lowest amount of fire safety audits per 1,000 Non-domestic properties with 9.6 and Durham completed the most with 203 per 1,000 Non-domestic properties.

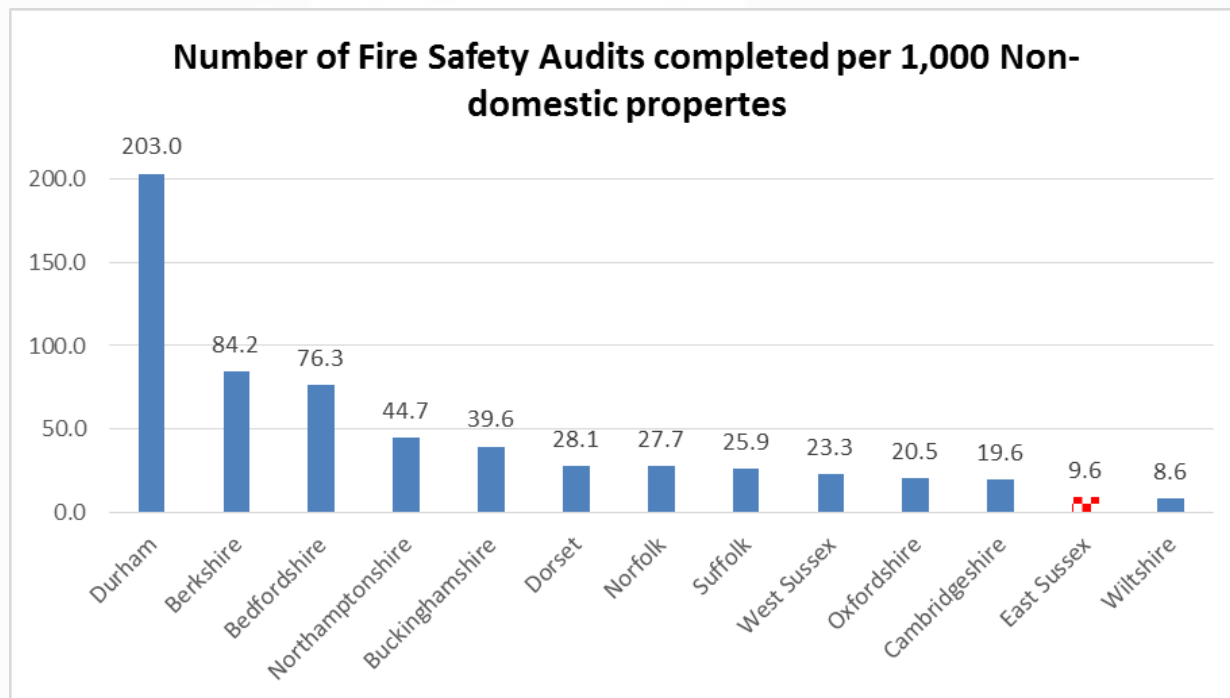


Chart 17: Number of Fire safety audits completed. (Source: Operational Statistics Bulletin for England 2015 to 2016 FIRE STATISTICS TABLE 1202: Fire Safety Audits carried out by fire and rescue authorities, by fire authority)

Incident comparisons - Benchmarking

Nationally, over the past decade, the number of incidents each FRS has had to attend has been reducing and demonstrating a consistent downward trend. Since 2001/02 ESFRS has attended 63.4% less fires (5,352 in 2001/02 –1,961 in 2015/16). Each FRS across the country has been experiencing similar reductions.

Chart 18 below shows the reduction of Primary Fires per 1,000 population for the FG2 members from 2001/02 to 2015/16.

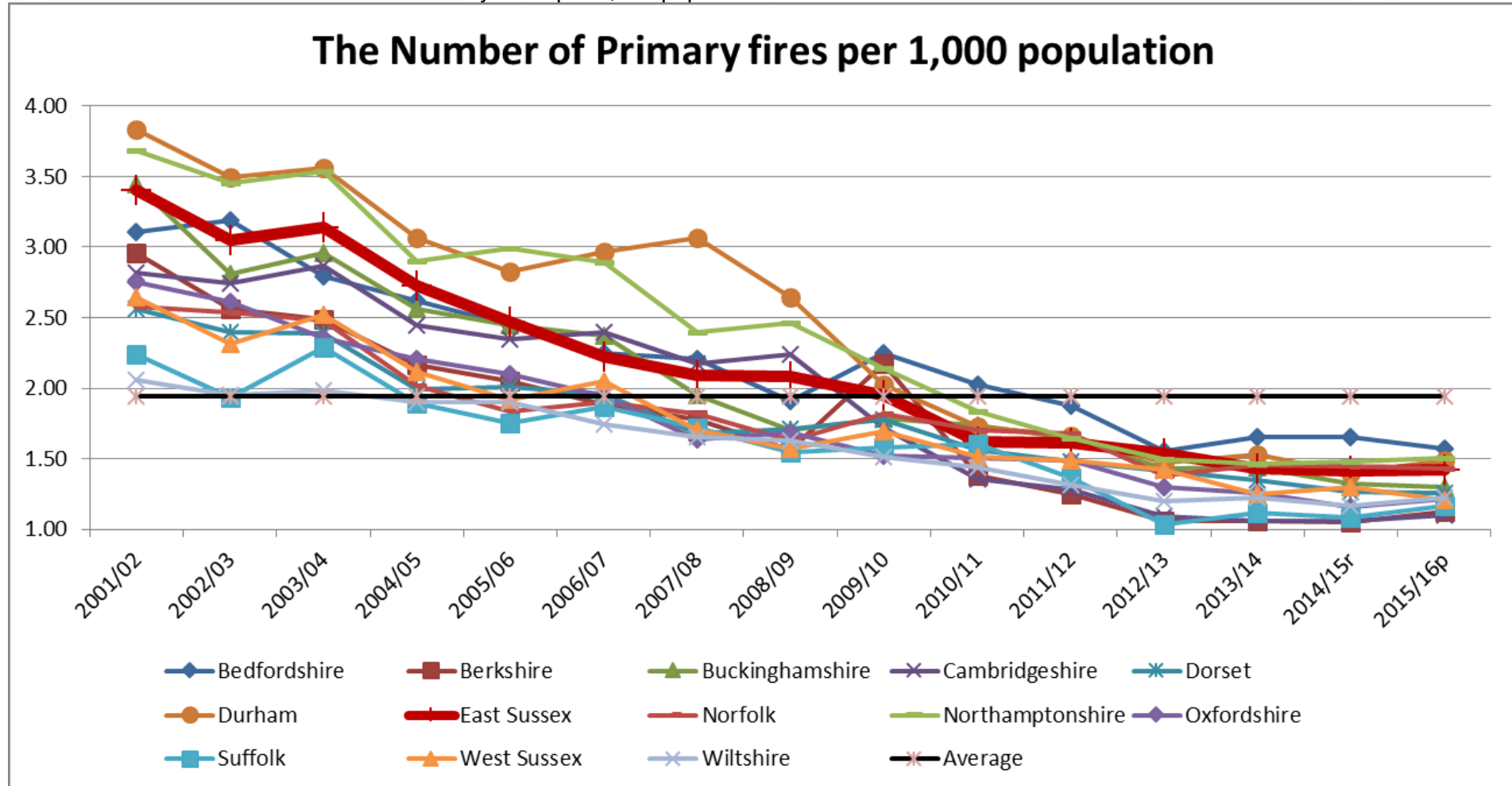


Chart 18: The number of primary fires per 1,000 population (source: Fire Statistics Monitor: April 2015 to March 2016, FIRE STATISTICS TABLE 0102: Incidents attended by fire and rescue services in England, by incident type and fire and rescue authority)

Chart 19 shows the number of Accidental Dwelling fires per 1,000 population by FG2 member

As with Primary Fires, the number of Accidental Dwelling Fires has been reducing for a significant number of years. Chart 19 below shows the number of Accidental Dwelling Fires per 1,000 population for each FG2. In 2015/16 ESFRS had 0.66 Accidental Dwelling Fires per 1,000 population, this was the highest amount in FG2.

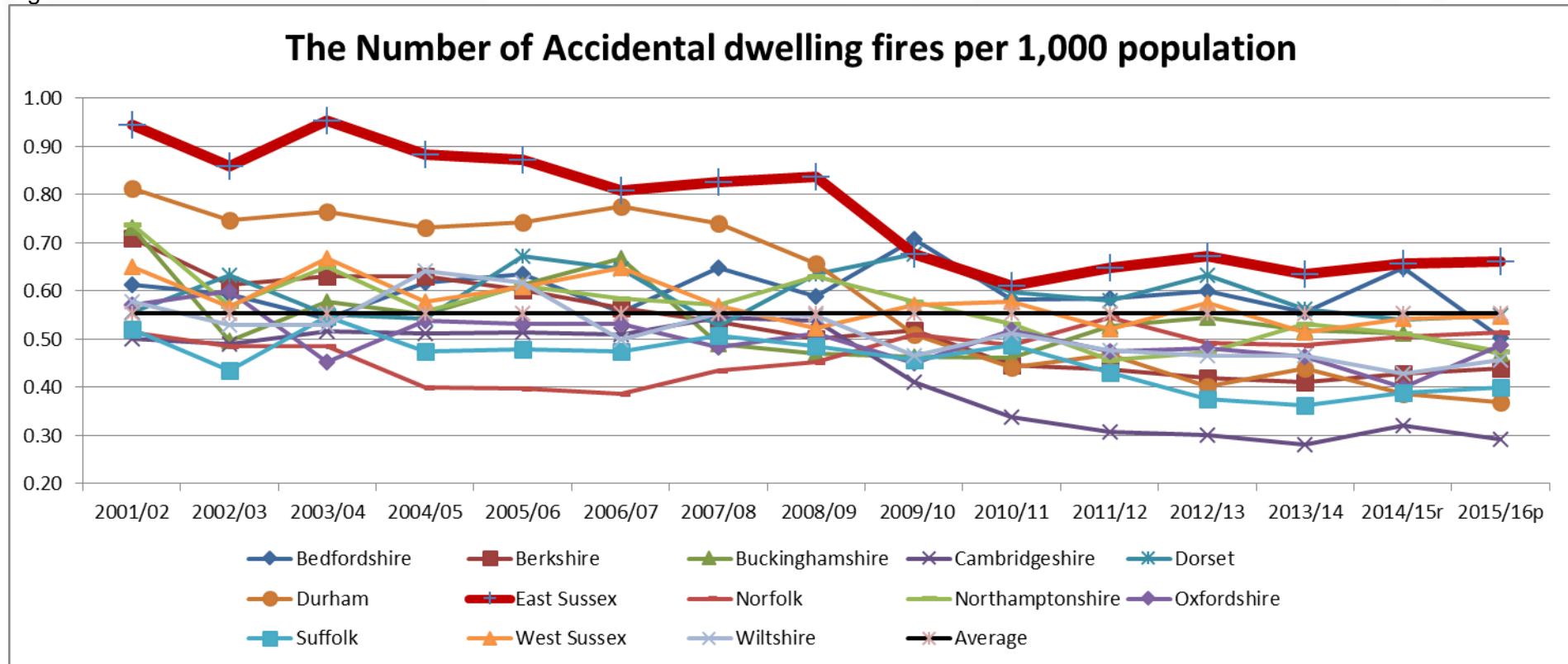


Chart 19: The number of accidental dwelling fires per 1,000 population (source: Fire Statistics Monitor: April 2015 to March 2016, FIRE STATISTICS TABLE 0202: Fires, fatalities and non-fatal casualties in dwellings by motive and fire and rescue authority, England)

Traditionally, Deliberate Secondary Fires can be difficult to predict but it is clear that the level of these incidents has been reducing over recent years, along with all main incident types. Chart 20 below clearly shows that the rate of deliberate secondary fires per 1,000 population has halved for most of the FG2 FRS in the past 5 years.

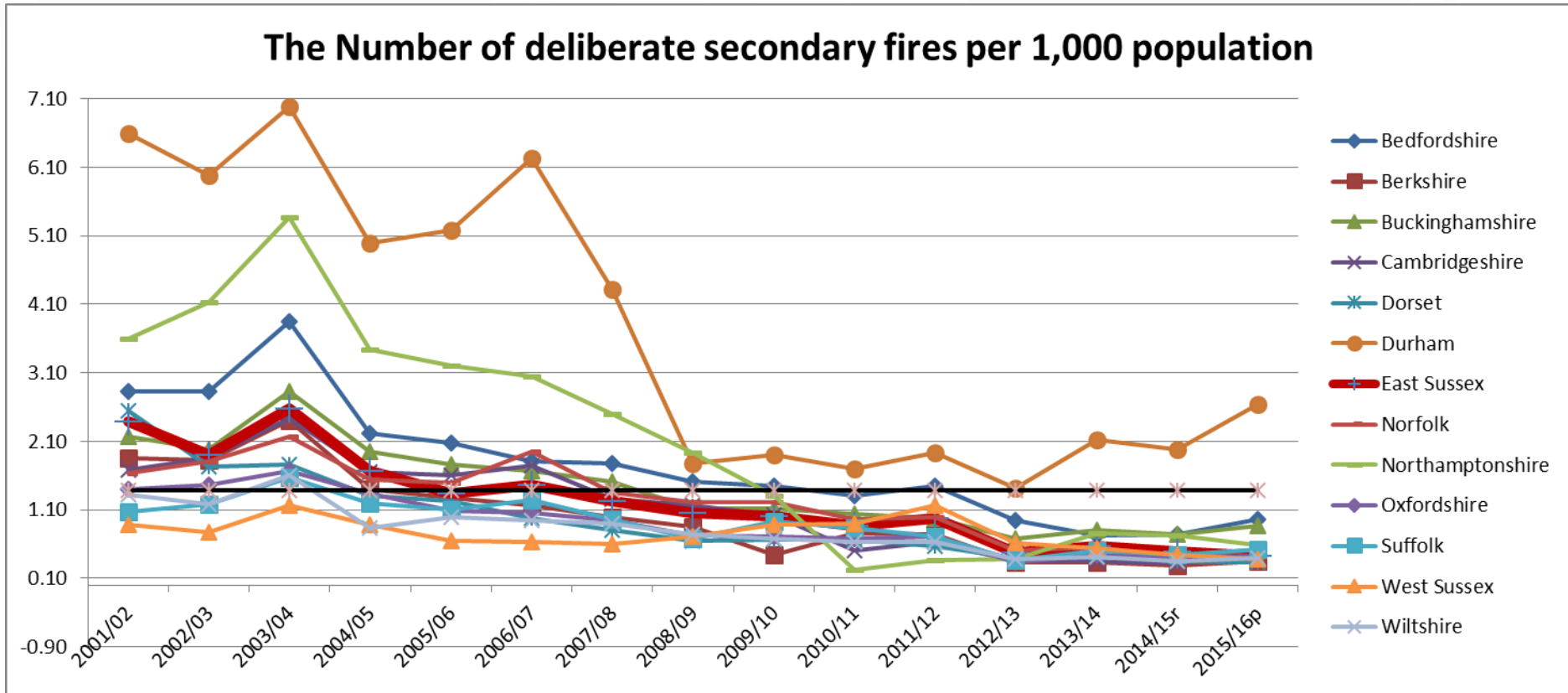


Chart 20: The number of deliberate secondary fires per 1,000 population (source: Fire Statistics Monitor: April 2015 to March 2016, FIRE STATISTICS TABLE 0401: Deliberate fires attended by fire and rescue services in England, by incident type and fire and rescue authority)

Chart 21 shows that attendances at Automatic fire alarms have been reducing fairly consistently since 2006/07. The introduction and implementation of the Automatic fire alarms reduction policy at ESFRS in 2010 can clearly be seen in the data from 2010/11 onwards. Although ESFRS continues to show a reduction in the number of calls attended the Service still has higher numbers of Fire Alarms than the other members of FG2, with the second highest amount in 2015/16.

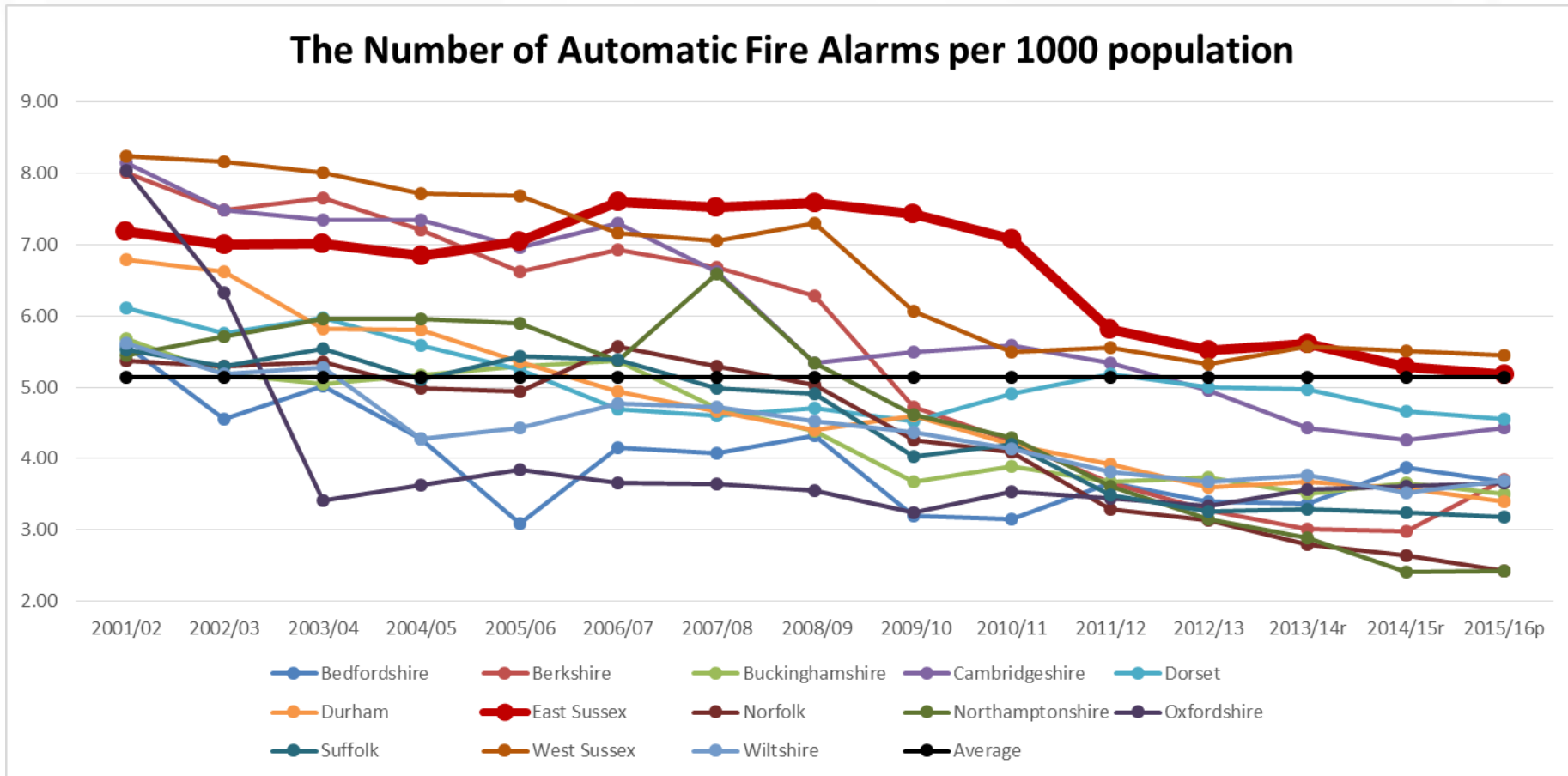


Chart 21: The number of False Alarms per 1,000 population. (Total of False alarm good intent, false alarm malicious and false alarm due to apparatus calls) (Source: Fire Statistics Monitor: April 2015 to March 2016, FIRE STATISTICS TABLE 0102: Incidents attended by fire and rescue services in England, by incident type and fire and rescue authority)

Actual % Reductions from 2001/02 to 2015/16 and Family group rank.

The following tables show the percentage reduction in actual incident numbers across all the members of the family group from the charts provided above. The second column shows where ESFRS is placed in terms of improvement in reducing incidents over that period.

Primary fires, by fire and rescue service, 2001/02 - 2015/16 ^P		
FRS Area	% Change from 2001/02 to 2015/16	FG2 Position 2001/02-2015/16
Bedfordshire	-49%	10
Berkshire	-62%	1
Buckinghamshire	-62%	1
Cambridgeshire	-61%	3
Dorset	-51%	9
Durham	-61%	3
East Sussex	-58%	6
Norfolk	-44%	12
Northamptonshire	-59%	5
Oxfordshire	-56%	7
Suffolk	-48%	11
West Sussex	-54%	8
Wiltshire	-41%	13

All False alarms, by fire and rescue service, 2001/02 - 2015/16p		
FRS Area	% Change from 2001/02 to 2015/16	FG2 Position 2001/02-2015/16
Bedfordshire	-34%	9
Berkshire	-54%	3
Buckinghamshire	-38%	8
Cambridgeshire	-46%	6
Dorset	-26%	13
Durham	-50%	5
East Sussex	-28%	12
Norfolk	-55%	1
Northamptonshire	-55%	1
Oxfordshire	-54%	3
Suffolk	-43%	7
West Sussex	-34%	9
Wiltshire	-34%	9

Accidental dwelling fires, by fire and rescue service, 2001/02 - 2015/16p		
FRS Area	% Change from 2001/02 to 2015/16	FG2 Position 2001/02-2015/16
Bedfordshire	-18%	9
Berkshire	-38%	3
Buckinghamshire	-36%	4
Cambridgeshire	-42%	2
Dorset	-1%	12
Durham	-55%	1
East Sussex	-30%	6
Norfolk	0%	13
Northamptonshire	-36%	4
Oxfordshire	-15%	11
Suffolk	-23%	7
West Sussex	-16%	10
Wiltshire	-21%	8

Deliberate secondary fires, by fire and rescue service, 2001/02 - 2015/16p		
FRS Area	% Change from 2001/02 to 2015/16	FG2 Position 2001/02-2015/16
Bedfordshire	-66%	9
Berkshire	-81%	4
Buckinghamshire	-60%	10
Cambridgeshire	-74%	5
Dorset	-87%	1
Durham	-60%	10
East Sussex	-82%	3
Norfolk	-68%	8
Northamptonshire	-84%	2
Oxfordshire	-69%	7
Suffolk	-51%	13
West Sussex	-58%	12
Wiltshire	-70%	6

Average Response Times for all Fire and Rescue Services

Chart 22 shows the average response times to dwelling fires for each FG2 member for 2015/16.

For 2015/16 ESFRS is ranked first.

In England the average response time to fires in dwellings in 2012/13 was 7.6 minutes. ESFR's average response time to fires in dwellings in 2015/16 was 7.3 minutes, which is well below the national average and was faster than 2014/15, when the average attendance time was 7.5.

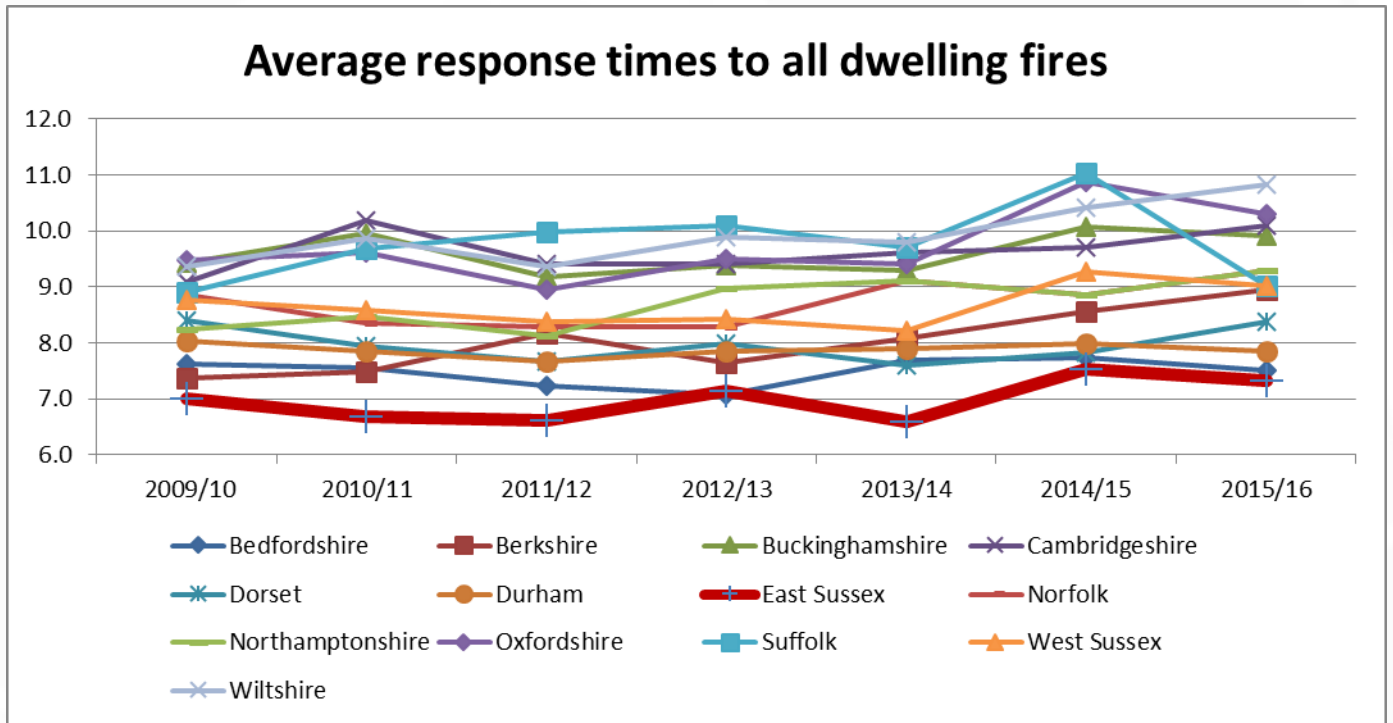


Chart 22 – Average Response times to dwelling fires (Source: Fire Incidents Response Times: April 2015 to March 2016, England. FIRE STATISTICS TABLE 1006: Average response times for dwelling fires by fire and rescue authority, England)

Summary

- When we compare ESFRS to the other FRS' in FG2 in terms of population and properties we are most similar to West Sussex FRS.
- ESFRS covers the third smallest area in FG2.
- Management structures at ESFRS are similar in size, distribution and overall numbers to Berkshire.
- ESFRS is 40% above the average number of Wholetime firefighters with 382 (average 273) as of 31 March 2016 and has 6% less than the average RDS firefighters.
- ESFRS is above the FG2 average (19:1) for the ratio of firefighters to senior managers, with 24:1. This is the second highest Firefighter to Senior Manager ratio of the group.
- ESFRS has a ratio of 4.94 operational appliances per 100,000 population, this is just above the average for FG2 (the average is 4.54).
- ESFRS has a ratio of 2.89 stations per 100,000 population this places ESFRS 6th in FG2.
- ESFRS has the 2nd lowest number of square KM per station (74.63)
- ESFRS has the 3rd highest average net expenditure cost by numbers of dwellings and the 4th highest cost per council tax Band D.
- ESFRS is above average for injuries sustained at operational incidents and above average for injuries sustained during training, ESFRS sustained 5.85 (4.58 in 2014/15) injuries per 100 firefighters at operational incidents and 5.35 (4.58 in 2014/15) injuries per 100 firefighters during training.
- ESFRS has the fifth highest proportion of female firefighters across FG2, with 5.2% of Wholetime firefighters being female. This is above the national average of 4.7%. In terms of actual numbers ESFRS has the joint highest number of female WT firefighters with West Sussex, as both have 20.
- ESFRS has the fourth highest proportion of ethnic minority staff across the FG2 members with 3.3%, however the ethnic population of East Sussex is 10.5% and 10.9% in Brighton & Hove
- ESFRS has the joint highest number of ethnic minority WT firefighters with Bedfordshire, both having 12.
- ESFRS lost 8.64 shifts per employee by Wholetime and Control due to sickness in 2015/16, this is above the FG2 average (8.2 shifts lost) and worse than 2014/15 when 8.64 shifts were lost.
- ESFRS lost 8.5 shifts per employee by non-uniformed staff due to sickness in 2015/16 and although this is above the FG2 average (7.3), this is also an improvement on 2014/15 when 9.52 shifts were lost per employee.
- ESFRS completed 27.3 Homes Safety Visits per 1,000 domestic dwellings in 2015/16
- ESFRS completed 9.6 Fire Safety Audits per 1,000 Non-domestic properties.
- In 2015/16 ESFRS had 0.66 Accidental Dwelling Fires per 1,000 population, this was the highest amount in FG2.
- Since 2001/02 ESFRS has attended 63.4% less fires (5,352 in 2001/02 –1,961 in 2015/16). Each FRS across the country has been experiencing similar reductions.
- ESFRS ranks first for average response times and is well below the national average.
- ESFRS attends the highest numbers of incidents in its family group with the major difference being in the number of false alarm it attends in comparison to its family group.

Table 5 – Total Incidents attended per FRS in Family Group 2

	FRA	Primary Fires	Secondary Fires	Chimney Fires	False Alarm Apparatus	False Alarm Malicious	False Alarm Good Intent	Road Traffic Collision (RTC)	Other Transport incident	Medical Incident - First responder	Medical Incident - Co-responder	Flooding	Rescue or evacuation from water	Effecting entry / exit	Lift Release	Other rescue / release of persons
Bedfordshire		1,028	924	38	1545	182	677	393	13	18	3	138	13	201	98	34
Berkshire		999	867	83	1853	128	1315	463	12	16	460	161	25	260	165	71
Buckinghamshire		1,026	941	75	1965	93	713	474	24	13	1,488	138	8	212	68	26
Cambridgeshire		927	1007	70	2083	77	1563	430	22	13	1	78	9	91	25	52
Dorset		963	645	109	2217	104	1162	404	24	31	185	119	12	135	138	69
Durham		932	2145	69	1051	74	997	339	9	33	964	128	8	82	30	27
East Sussex		1,178	658	125	3078	108	1104	485	23	21	8	415	9	374	328	69
Norfolk		1,269	770	134	1295	49	800	1,812	22	17	4	79	36	123	45	87
Northamptonshire		1,088	735	75	732	57	969	541	21	47	2,290	102	18	91	60	79
Oxfordshire		824	530	143	1833	33	619	412	8	444	147	110	17	119	91	22
Suffolk		863	758	95	1677	58	621	299	17	12	5	52	15	93	19	58
West Sussex		1,009	714	130	3296	115	1143	492	15	26	10	238	7	302	156	90
Wiltshire		859	501	140	2016	36	545	316	13	10	85	113	11	111	86	51
National results - England		73,395	84,482	4,193	142,294	64,870	6,945	30,805	1,240	5,471	25,863	13,704	1,284	17,522	10,336	3,970
Average		997	861	99	1,895	86	941	528	17	54	435	144	14	169	101	57

	FRA	Removal of animal assistance incidents	Removal of objects from people	Hazardous Materials incident	Spills and Leaks (not RTC)	Making Safe (not RTC)	Suicide/ attempts	Evacuation (no fire)	Water provision	Assist other agencies	Advice Only	Stand By	No action (not false alarm)	Malicious False Alarm	Good Intent false alarm	Total
Bedfordshire		43	44	27	32	20	20	2	1	51	27	3	18	3	120	5,716
Berkshire		45	37	48	36	55	19	8	2	88	35	1	39	2	94	7,387
Buckinghamshire		50	92	53	28	37	8	3	0	69	31	0	105	0	65	7,805
Cambridgeshire		106	37	25	20	21	9	3	1	47	14	4	57	0	15	6,807
Dorset		69	47	19	59	55	14	8	0	93	34	13	70	5	53	6,856
Durham		45	69	22	28	75	17	2	1	80	21	3	102	0	63	7,416
East Sussex		217	78	30	93	197	11	1	1	135	36	2	69	0	51	8,904
Norfolk		147	53	52	83	53	37	3	0	130	15	1	31	1	52	7,200
Northamptonshire		63	45	32	45	38	18	4	1	90	25	5	38	1	79	7,389
Oxfordshire		44	13	37	39	33	11	2	0	57	12	1	23	0	66	5,690
Suffolk		70	20	16	15	9	13	7	0	34	3	3	30	0	38	4,900
West Sussex		102	63	11	77	150	17	6	1	191	47	4	72	1	124	8,609
Wiltshire		92	43	23	32	61	15	3	0	60	8	1	17	1	58	5,307
National results - England		4,400	4,402	2,068	3,716	4,200	1,293	460	27	7,092	1,939	358	6,309	194	5,895	528,727
Average		84	49	30	45	62	16	4	1	87	24	3	52	1	68	6,922