



HOW WE ARE MAKING YOUR BOROUGH SAFER

London Borough of Bexley
2009/2012



LFB IN BEXLEY

LFB's view of Bexley

Welcome to 'how we are making your borough safer' 2009/2012 for Bexley. This document sets out the key information for Bexley as seen through the eyes of the London Fire Brigade.

The London Fire Brigade is run by the London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority (LFEPA). We are part of a group of organisations operating within the framework of the Mayor of London and the Greater London Authority (GLA). The role of the London Fire Brigade has greatly evolved over recent years. We have moved from being a largely responsive service to a service that wants to prevent fires and other emergencies. We are involved in setting the strategic direction of the national Fire and Rescue Service, and are helping to plan and shape local communities in London. As well as being active participants in Local Strategic Partnerships and Crime and Disorder Partnerships at London borough level, we are also working within over 4,000 smaller local partnerships across London, all seeking to deliver better outcomes for local people.

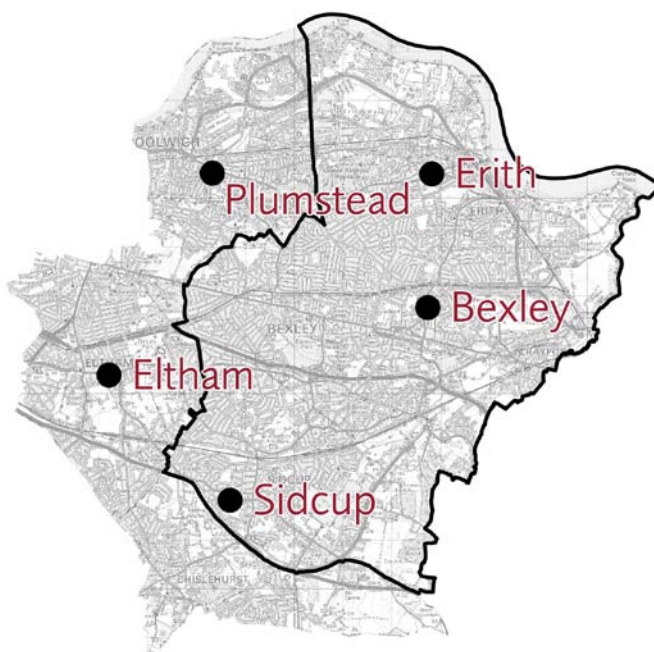
We are organised to serve the whole of London, but in this document we look at our activities in Bexley and how we are trying to make Bexley safer.

Fire stations in and around Bexley

Borough commander Cyril O'Brien

Fire stations Bexley
Erith
Sidcup

The LFB plans and locates its fire stations and fire engines to ensure London-wide cover. Borough boundaries are not used for emergency (999) response purposes and the areas covered by fire stations are not, therefore, consistent with borough boundaries. A fire engine located in one borough can and will be mobilised to incidents in an adjoining borough or anywhere in London.



Note on data and sources

All maps are reproduced from Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. LFEPA.OS Licence No. 100016817.2009.

Data for fire station incident workload is a five year average (2003/04 to 2008/09). Appliance deployments at fire stations as at 31 March 2009.

Incident and casualty data – LFB Incident Recording and Information System (IRIS) and LFB Real Fire Library (to November 2008) and Incident Management System (IMS) (from November 2008). Regulatory fire safety data - LFB Farnor fire safety system

BEXLEY E28 - 23.7 km²**Incidents**

Fires	314
False alarms	345
Special services	213
Total	<hr/> 872

Appliances

1 Pump Ladder
1 Fire Rescue Unit
1 Incident Response Unit

ERITH E27 - 18.7 km²**Incidents**

Fires	525
False alarms	418
Special services	349
Total	<hr/> 1,292

Appliances

1 Pump
1 Pump Ladder

SIDCUP E40 - 23.5 km²**Incidents**

Fires	281
False alarms	381
Special services	151
Total	<hr/> 813

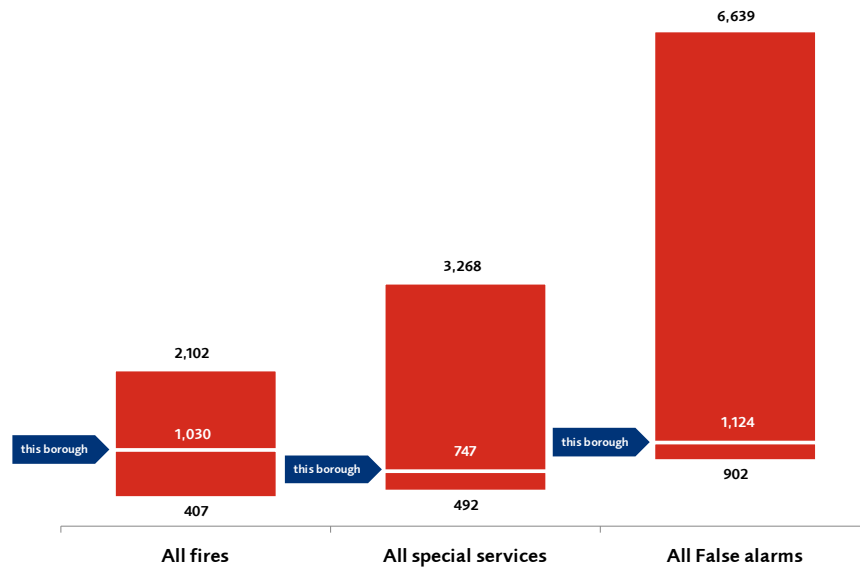
Appliances

1 Pump Ladder

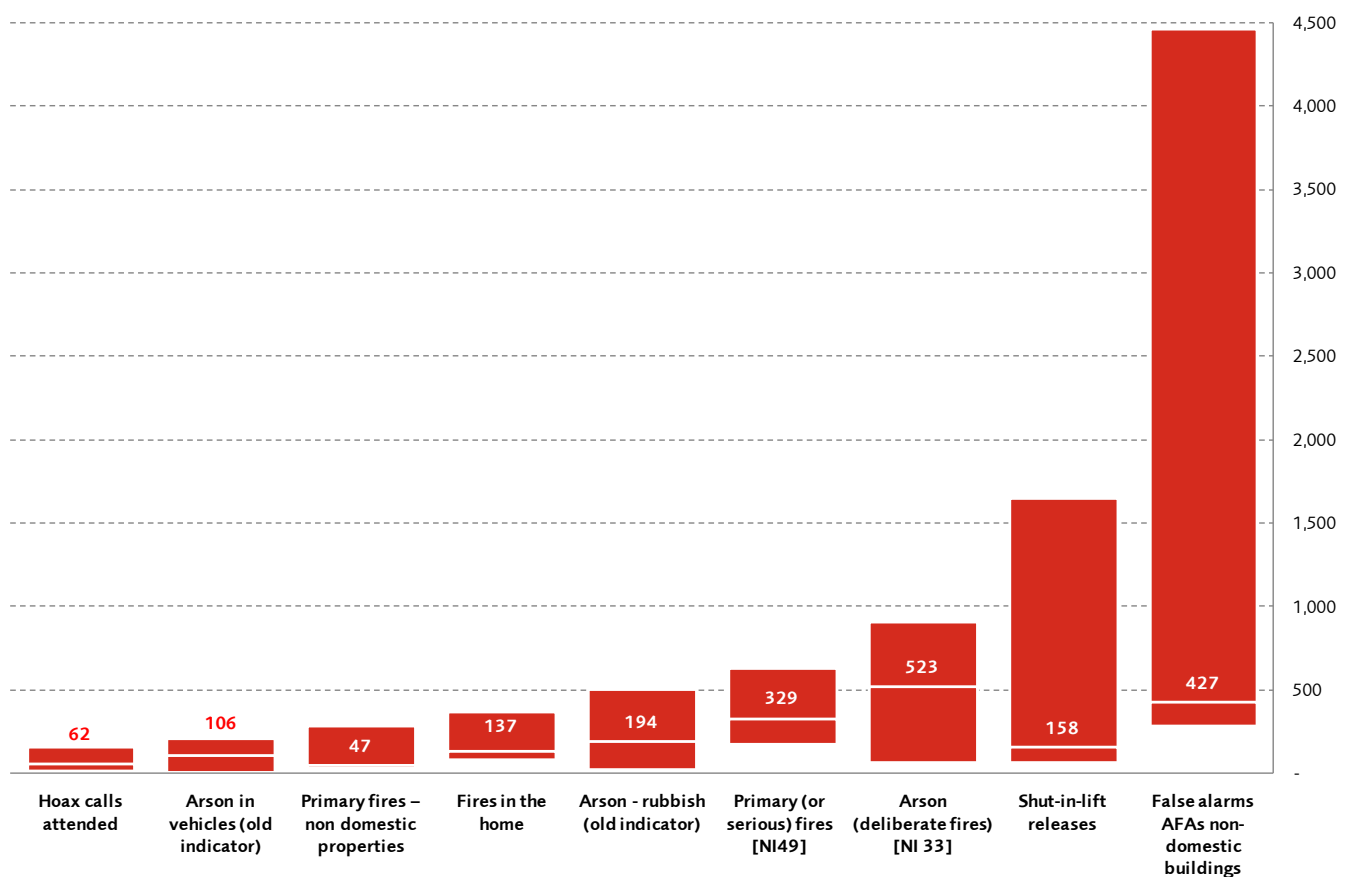
HOW BEXLEY COMPARES TO OTHER BOROUGHHS

We attend serious and minor fires, many types of other emergency (which we call special services) and false alarms. To help understand how the numbers of incidents in Bexley compare with others in London the charts below show (for the incident performance indicators used in this profile) the highest and lowest values across London and a line to show where in that range Bexley lies.

All incidents attended



Incident type indicators



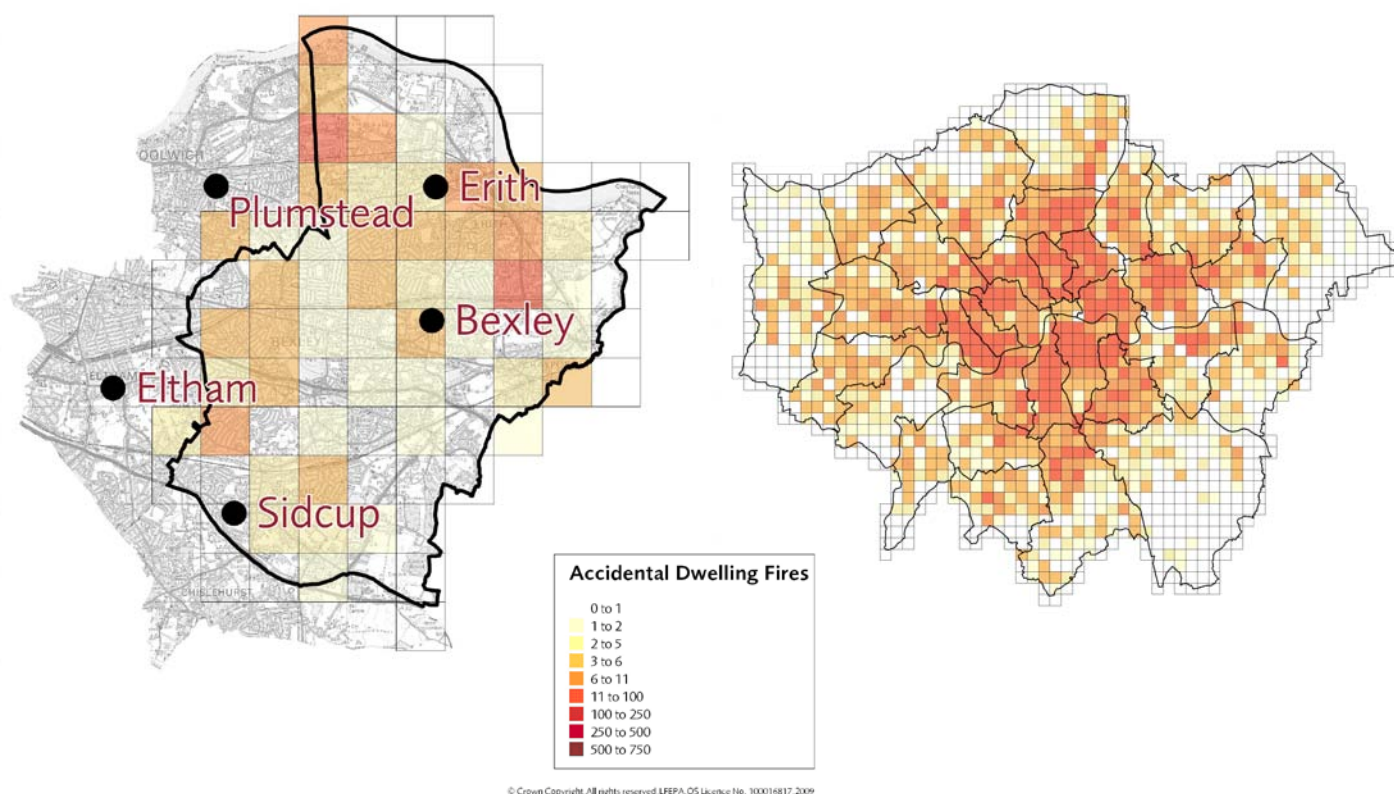
SOME OF THE MAIN TYPES OF INCIDENT WE ATTEND

This section looks at the types of incidents which are the focus of our community safety and regulatory safety strategies. We are focusing on these incidents as we believe by doing so we will make the greatest contribution to preventing deaths and injuries and this will help us to provide a more effective fire and rescue service.

Fires in the home

Of the more serious fires that happen in Bexley (as measured by NI49) around 42 per cent happen in peoples homes. Preventing fires in the home is a priority for us as this is where most of the fire deaths and injuries (across the whole of London) happen.

We help to prevent fires in the home through our community safety work and specifically through our Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSV). Our HFSVs are carried out in peoples' homes; we help people identify the risks that they specifically face and will fit smoke alarms if they don't have them already.



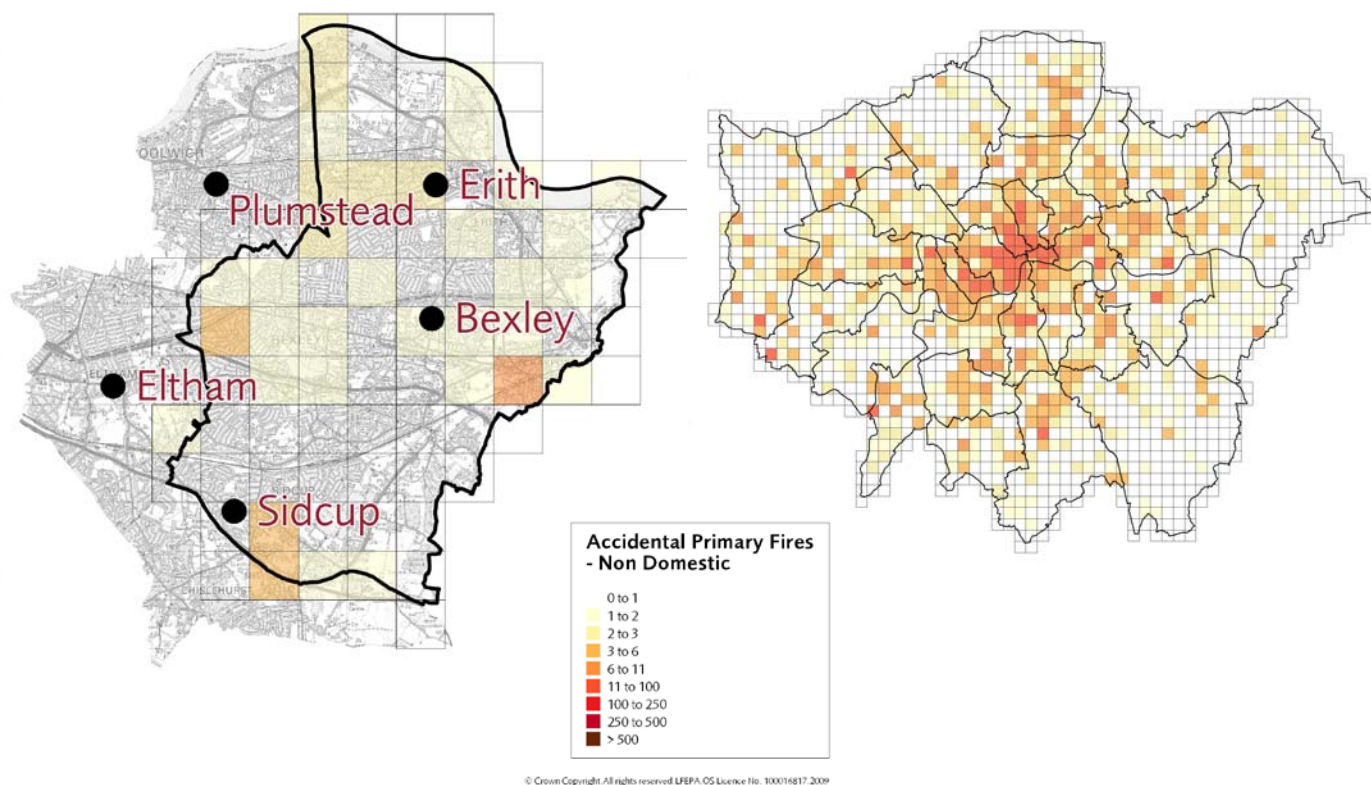
MAP 1 - WHERE FIRES IN THE HOME HAPPEN

The maps above show the number of fires in the home that happened in Bexley last year. Each one kilometre grid square is shaded so that those areas with low numbers appear light yellow and those with high numbers as dark red. The range is scaled across the whole of London for all incident types to give a consistent comparison across all the maps used in this profile.

Performance indicator	Actual 2006/07	Actual 2007/08	Actual 2008/09	Trend	Target 2009/10
Primary (or serious) fires [NI49]	334	320	332	►	295
Fires in the home	131	139	140	▲	139
Home fire safety visits completed	825	841	1,038	▲	1,344
Deaths arising from primary fires	0	1	2	▲	-

Fires in commercial and non-domestic buildings

We work with building owners and occupiers to help to prevent fires from happening in commercial and other non-domestic buildings through our enforcement of fire safety laws. The effectiveness of our work means that 14 per cent of the more serious fires in Bexley are in these types of buildings, but we still want to reduce these further through our enforcement work and by helping people responsible for complying with the Fire Safety Regulation to understand and reduce fire risks and ensure that people are safe should a fire start.



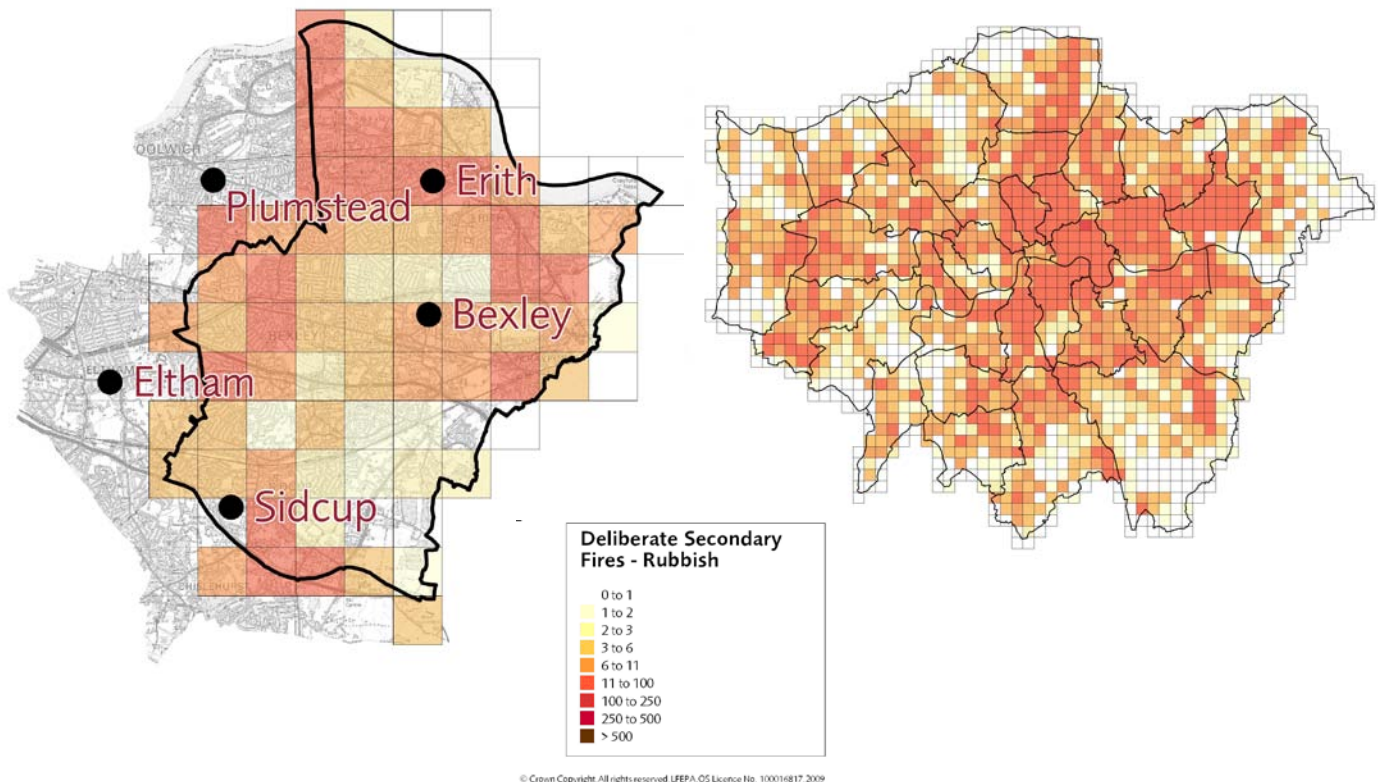
MAP 2 - WHERE FIRES IN COMMERCIAL AND NON-DOMESTIC BUILDINGS HAPPEN

The maps above show the number of fires in non-domestic buildings that happened in the borough last year. Each one kilometre grid square is shaded so that those areas with low numbers appear light yellow and those with high numbers as dark red. The range is scaled across the whole of London for all incident types to give a consistent comparison across all the maps used in this profile.

Performance indicator	Actual 2006/07	Actual 2007/08	Actual 2008/09	Trend	Target 2009/10
Primary fires – non domestic properties	43	49	50	▲	-
Fire safety inspections of buildings	60	135	269	▲	-

Fires with deliberate or unknown motive

We also focus on fires which are started deliberately (arson) through anti-social behaviour such as setting rubbish and derelict vehicles alight, as well as the through even more deliberate acts.



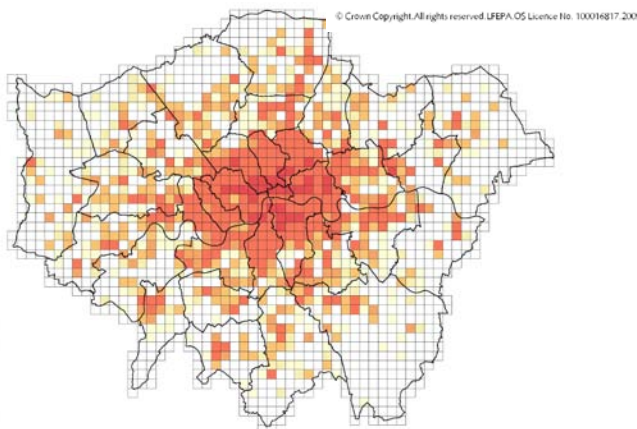
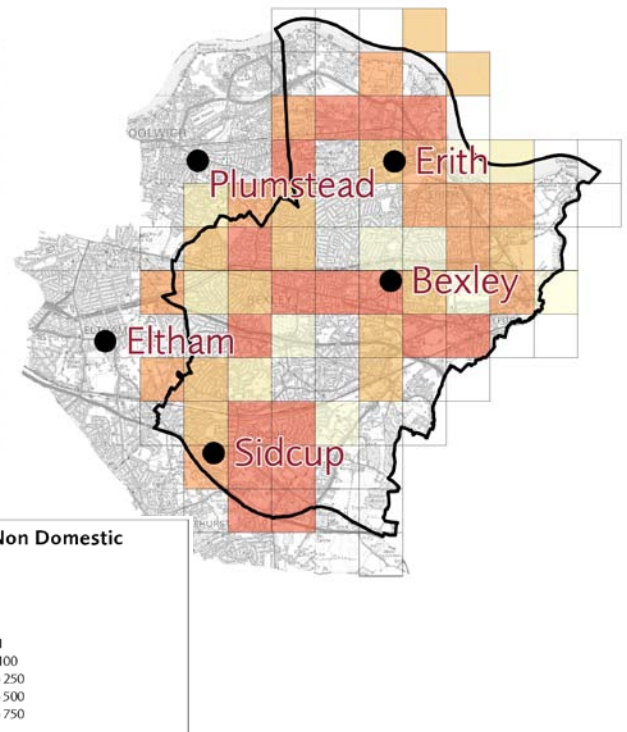
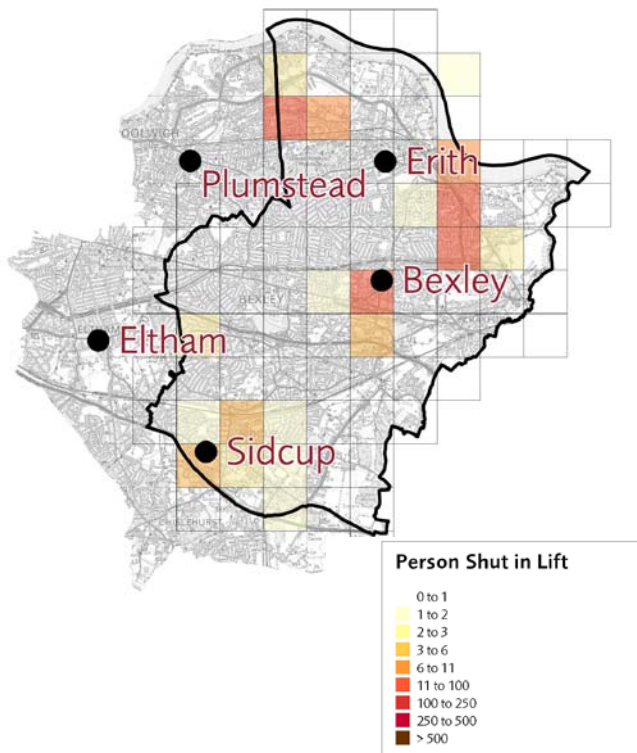
MAP 3 - WHERE FIRES WITH DELIBERATE OR UNKNOWN MOTIVES HAPPEN

The maps above show the number of fires with deliberate or unknown motive that happened in Bexley last year. Each one kilometre grid square is shaded so that those areas with low numbers appear light yellow and those with high numbers as dark red. The range is scaled across the whole of London for all incident types to give a consistent comparison across all the maps used in this profile.

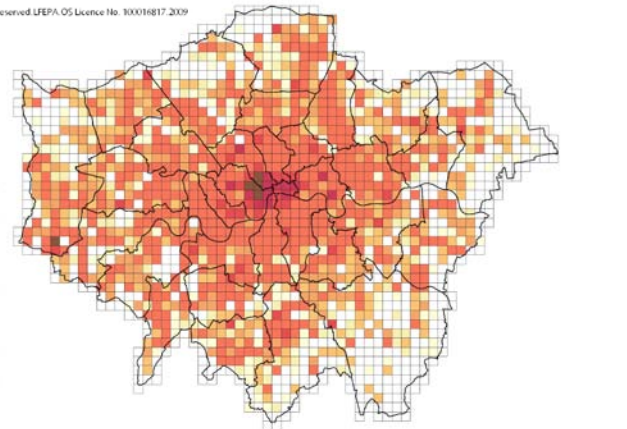
Performance indicator	Actual 2006/07	Actual 2007/08	Actual 2008/09	Trend	Target 2009/10
Arson (deliberate fires) [NI 33]	644	522	404	▼	404
Rubbish fires – deliberate & unknown origin	262	260	244	▼	215
Vehicles fires – deliberate & unknown origin	126	106	107	▼	92

Reducing unwanted calls

Each year the Brigade wastes the valuable time of firefighters attending calls which could have been avoided if others had taken action to prevent them. In the main, these calls are to release people shut in lifts and to false alarms due to automatic fire alarms (AFAs) or fire detection systems.



MAP 4 – UNWANTED CALLS – PEOPLE SHUT IN LIFTS



MAP 5 – UNWANTED CALLS – FALSE ALARMS DUE TO AFAs

The maps above show the number of incidents we attended to persons shut in lifts and false alarms to automatic equipment that happened in Bexley last year. Each one kilometre grid square is shaded so that those areas with low numbers appear light yellow and those with high numbers as dark red. The range is scaled across the whole of London for all incident types to give a consistent comparison across all the maps used in this profile.

Performance indicator	Actual 2006/07	Actual 2007/08	Actual 2008/09	Trend	Target 2009/10
False alarms AFAs non-domestic buildings	388	476	417	►	-
Shut-in-lift releases	140	165	169	▲	145
Hoax calls attended	73	73	41	▼	-

PREDICTING THE RISK OF FIRE

Incident Risk Analysis Toolkit

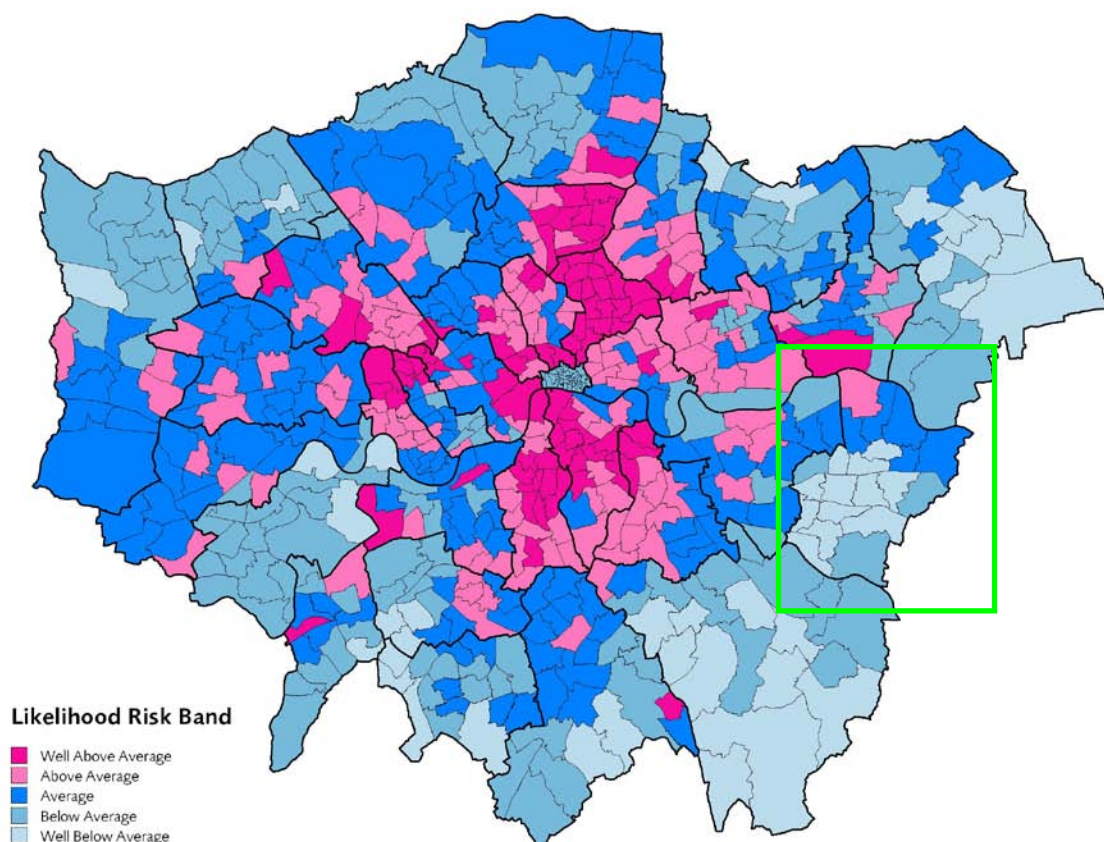
We don't just want to respond to emergencies, we also want to prevent them. That is why we developed our community safety and regulatory safety strategies so that we could focus on the types of incidents that cause (or have the potential to cause) the most harm.

While knowing where fires and other emergencies happen is helpful to us to plan our work we also need to understand who might be at risk but who hasn't yet had a fire (or other emergency). We believe that finding the places where incidents are most likely to occur and the types of people they are most likely to happen to will enable us to target our prevention activities where they are needed the most. We have developed a statistical modelling tool to do just that.

Our Incident Risk Analysis Toolkit enables us to use a wide range of data – not just where incidents have happened – to model the characteristics of each of the wards in London so that we predict the number of incidents that are likely to occur there.

We are also using lifestyle profiling data to understand the types of people who are disproportionately affected by risk.

The map below shows the likelihood rating for accidental fires in the home across London. This map is different to our maps that show the number of fires that occur as we use the number of homes in each ward as a baseline. By knowing the number of homes in an area and the number of fires that happen there, we get a rate of fire. We use this rate to understand where fire is most likely to occur rather than just knowing where the most fires occur.



We have used our IRAT predictions together with the lifestyle data to determine where our home fire safety visits are most needed.

WHAT WE ARE PLANNING TO DO DURING 2009/12

Activities in Bexley

Year	What we will do by when
2009/12	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We will review our previous activities to identify what worked, where it worked and why. We will also look at what did not work, and why. 2. We will continue to carry out HFSV's but will also employ 'targeted calling' thereby ensuring we are aiming our resources at the highest risk areas. (this is a direct move forward after measuring our HFSV over previous years) 3. We will continue with our CS partnerships within the borough (Age Concern & Victim Support) 4. We will continue to be an active partner in the Local Strategic Partnership, The Bexley Emergency Services Liaison Panel (BESLP), and the Anti-Social Behaviour Steering Group. 5. We will continue to engage with members of the public / service providers and schools, with a view to educate on the role of the Fire Service and thereby reduce the number of hoax calls, and Automatic Fire Alarms (AFAs) 6. We will continue to welcome local groups to our stations to improve the communities understanding of our role and how we can help make the borough safer. 7. We will continue to attend community events when invited to promote community cohesion and raise members of the public awareness of Personal Fire Safety Issues. 8. We will through our Schools team invite primary schools to participate in our specially designed fire safety education programme for young people (Year 2 and 6) 9. We will continue to work with Council's Youth Service providers, and voluntary services to increase our work with the young people of the borough. This will also include the provision of our Junior Fire-setters Intervention Scheme should the need arise. 10. We will continue to support the Junior Citizens events that are within the Borough. 11. We will continue to work closely with the local media to ensure relevant Fire Safety messages are publicised. 12. We will continue to work closely with partners in the exchange of information in relation to risk. 13. We will continue to ensure our appliances and equipment are ready for emergency deployment. 14. We will continue to participate in the LAA, which is a 3 year agreement (2007-2010) to reduce accidental fire in the home and reduce injuries arising from such incidents. 15. We will continue to work with the Bexley Community Safety Partnership and other partnerships to improve community safety and reduce crime in Bexley.

Year	What we will do by when
2009/12	<p>16. We will continue strive to reduce incidents of Arson by working with our partners in the Metropolitan Police.</p> <p>17. We will continue to attend local CZAZ meeting within the wards.</p> <p>18. We will continue to Chair the Anti-Social Behaviour steering group.</p> <p>19. We will continue to attend Traffic liaison meetings, to offer support and advice when required.</p> <p>20. We will continue to work with the Kent Fire Brigade in providing mutual assistance as defined by the Fire and Rescue Services Act.</p> <p>21. We will continue to offer support and guidance to members of the public following an incident and to the local residents where the incident occurred.</p> <p>22. We will ensure our staff are trained to the highest levels and their time spent on training will be no less than 20% of the time available.</p> <p>23. We will continue to promote three key fire safety messages: Prevention, Detection, Escape.</p> <p>24. We will continue to work under the regime of the RRO and carry out duties defined therein.</p> <p>25. We will continue to represent the LFB on the BESLP and support the borough in achieving its responsibilities under the Civil Contingencies Act.</p> <p>Between April 2009 and March 2010 the Fire Safety Regulation (FSR) team will;</p> <p>26. Complete the current annual re-inspection programme.</p> <p>27. Target high risk premises and reduce risk to fire-fighters, employees and the public.</p> <p>28. Reduce by 20% the number of unknown premises on the fire safety database by carrying out audits and allocating a risk score.</p> <p>29. Carry out a post fire audit/check of all premises where a fire has occurred and the RRO applies.</p> <p>30. Complete the demand led work programme through consultation with Local Authorities, Approved Inspectors and other organisations.</p> <p>31. We will respond to emergencies within the borough in line with our responsibilities under the 2004 Fire and Rescue Service Act and in accord with the Authorities integrated risk management plan.</p> <p>32. We will monitor the new Borough training plan, which is based on risks faced within the Borough.</p> <p>33. We will continue to take part in any multi-agency exercises to test emergency plans for the Borough.</p> <p>34. Introduce a standard operational readiness audit for all watches at the stations, and this is to be carried out throughout the year. This will provide evidence that crews and appliances are operationally ready.</p> <p>35. Station Managers will continue to monitor turn-out and arrival times.</p> <p>36. Station managers will review our attendance times and take actions to improve where necessary.</p>

Year	What we will do by when
2009/12	<ul style="list-style-type: none">37. Station Managers will continue to investigate delayed attendances, and put in plans to alleviate any problem.38. As a Borough we will continue to review and monitor the elements that provide an effective response to known and potential risks.39. Continue our partnership with other first responders on Bexley Emergency Services Liaison Panel (BESLP) to formulate and test inter-agency emergency planning procedures for the borough.40. When requested, provide observation and comments on the draft national guidance and projects such as Firelink and Fire Control.

Borough National Indicator Partnership Work

Initiative	Description	National Indicators
LIFE	A programme of week long courses targeting local young people who have offended or are on the verge of offending or those who are not in employment, education or training. They are aimed at reducing anti-social behaviour within the borough.	NI 17 – Perceptions of anti-social behaviour NI 110 - Young people's participation in positive activities
Young Fire Fighters	A youth engagement scheme running all year round, one day per week. Young people given the opportunity to engage in fire service activities. A recent addition to this scheme has been the residential week held in Hertfordshire.	NI 110 - Young people's participation in positive activities
BexHAG data Sharing Initiative	Sharing of data between the 28 Housing Associations of Bexley & the Fire Brigade to identify the location of those most at risk of fire	NI 5 – Overall satisfaction with local area
Retail Enforcement Pilot	A joint approach to deal with inspections of retail premises with an aim of reducing red tape. Inspecting officers carry out their regular day job and in addition ask a number of questions on behalf of 5 other agencies	NI 5 – Overall satisfaction with local area
PCT Initiative	Provision of "Stop Smoking" advice to vulnerable people during a HFSV	NI 123 - 16+ current smoking rate prevalence
Age Concern HFSV	Targeted at vulnerable adults (over 60) and the disabled in Bexley, the fire brigade provide the smoke alarms and training to Age Concern staff who then carry out the Home Fire Safety Visits and fit the smoke alarms. The Fire Brigade then follow these up with Quality Assurance checks. This is a partnership funded by the CLG.	NI 136 - People supported to live independently through social services (all ages) NI 138 - Satisfaction of people over 65 with both home and neighbourhood NI 139 - People over 65 who say that they receive the information, assistance and support needed to exercise their choice and control to live independently NI 141 - Number of vulnerable people achieving independent living

Initiative	Description	National Indicators
		NI 142 - Number of vulnerable people who are supported to maintain independent living NI 158 - % decent council homes NI 160 - Local Authority tenants' satisfaction with landlord services
Junior Citizens Event	A multi-agency, two-week course with two sessions per day with two events a year. Each session is attended by a class of year 6 children which have been brought in by bus. The children are put into smaller groups and spend approx 10 minutes per group in a variety of scenarios set up by the different agencies involved. They are encouraged to spot any dangers and are taught what to do in the event of danger. The group that have scored the highest points in a question and answer exercise win a prize.	NI 110 - Young people's participation in positive activities
Victim Support HFSV	Targeted at the victims of crime and vulnerable adults (over 60) and the disabled in Bexley, the fire brigade provide the smoke alarms and training to Victim Support staff, who then carry out the Home Fire Safety Visits and fit the smoke alarms. The Fire Brigade then follow up the visits with quality assurance checks. This partnership is funded by the CLG	NI 141 - Number of vulnerable people achieving independent living NI 142 - Number of vulnerable people who are supported to maintain independent living
Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award	To educate various youth groups on fire safety in accordance with the syllabus for their FireFighters badge & elements of the Duke of Edinburgh award. Training takes place in the form of a series of lectures by personnel at a local fire station, during one evening over a period of 6 - 8 weeks; three courses a year are run. On completion of the training, a written and oral exam will take place. Successful candidates will be awarded with their respective organisations FireFighter badges & Duke of Edinburgh awards.	NI 110 - Young people's participation in positive activities
Science at Work	One day input at Girls Secondary School. Presentation of what the Fire Brigade do and how science impacts on our work	NI 110 - Young people's participation in positive activities
RTC Talks	Ad-hoc programme to promote safe driving amongst young people.	NI 47 - People killed or seriously injured in RTCs NI 48 - Children seriously injured or killed in RTCs
Emergency Planning	We will provide secretariat for the Local Resilience Forum, chaired by a Local Authority Chief Executives	NI36
	We will maintain the LRF Community Risk Register	NI36

Initiative	Description	National Indicators
	We will run and maintain the London Local Authority Co-ordination Centre (LLACC) that enables local authorities to act as single entity in the event of an emergency pan-London incident	NI36
	We will maintain the Local Authority Gold arrangements – With a London Borough Chief Executive to act as single local authority representative for London	NI36
	We will develop and deliver annual local authority regional exercise programme to test London's collective response	NI36
	We will train Local Authority Chief Executives in Local Authority Gold arrangements	NI36
	We will provide secretariat for the Local Authority Panel (6 LRF Chairs & London Councils' Chief Executive)	NI36
	We will provide secretariat for the Local Authority Panel Implementation Group (LRF Chair & 6 LRF EPOs)	NI36
	We will provide secretariat for the London Risk Advisory Group (LFB-EP Chair & 6 LRF EPOs)	NI36
	We will provide secretariat for the Business Continuity Promotion Steering Group and Working Group (Chaired by LFR Chief Executive)	NI36
	We will train for Local Authority Liaison Officers (attend incidents and liaise between local authority and emergency services)	NI36
	We will organise off-site plans for the COMAH (control of major accident hazards) site	NI36
	We will provide the secretariat to safety liaison groups - multi agency group to review COMAH plans	NI36
	We will work with boroughs consultation to improve fire safety in licensed premises (Licensing Act 2003)	NI5
Fire Safety Regulation	We will improve fire safety for HMO (Duty of Consultation)	NI12, NI 160
	We will work to reduce the number of unwanted fire signals received	NI5, 17, 160
	We will work with local hospitals within a pan-London Health Concordat to agree ways of working at CEO and practitioner level	NI49

Initiative	Description	National Indicators
Sustainability	We will promote the inclusion of sprinklers in schools	NI 5
	We will work to reduce the sale of dangerous products, both through licensing and seasonal (Bonfire Night/Christmas)	Ni5,
	We will work to improve the safety at local sports grounds	NI 5
	We will work with the Borough's National Health Bodies to reduce AFAs	NI 5
	We will pay local Small and Medium Enterprises for goods and services within 10-days at least 76% of the time	NI172 - Business in area showing growth
	Together with partners through 'CompeteFor', we will seek to support small businesses through use of SME/Diverse suppliers for Olympic Games related contracts	NI172
	We will continue to operate a "Selling to" guide on website for local SMEs	NI172
	We will continue to operate a recycling system (includes uniform, batteries, printer cartridges) within our organisation	NI186
	We will utilise our energy efficient vehicle fleet including Group Manager vehicles (all the fire engines in the Borough are 100% LEZ compliant, 4.76% Euro IV which is better than LEZ compliance)	NI194 - level of air quality
	We will reduce energy usage by using Photovoltaics on Sidcup station.	NI186
	We will reduce energy usage at Erith fire stations within the Borough through use of renewable energy to heat hot water (solar thermal)	N186
	We will reduce energy usage and emissions through the use of our cycle teams	NI186