

**9 February 2011**

**Olympic Games 2012: Implications for the Service**

**Report by Chief Officer**

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## **1 Summary**

- 1.1 The county of Hampshire and HFRS will be affected by the 2012 Olympics. HFRS being a forward thinking organisation, prides itself on its ability to prepare for and manage additional risk. This report investigates the implications and the mitigation required to control the risk created by the Games.
- 1.2 Because of the current financial climate it is important that work carried out by HFRS in preparation for 2012 should be as cost neutral as possible. The financial impact of requests for assistance from outside of the county; above the service that we normally provide, should be carefully considered. If necessary, funding should be sought from the requesting organisation.
- 1.3 It is important that HFRS does not work in isolation in its preparation for 2012. Any commitment should be coordinated at Local Resilience Forum (LRF), Regional Resilience Forum (RRF) and South East Operational Response & Resilience Group (SEORRG) level ensuring a regional approach.
- 1.4 HFRS should maintain a flexible approach to Olympic preparation. As we move closer to the event additional requests for assistance will materialise.

## **2 Recommendation**

- 2.1 The contents of this report are acknowledged by the Fire Authority.

## **3 Introduction and background**

- 3.1 The 2012 Olympics is a global spectacle which will have an impact on Hampshire and its residents. Early preparation will ensure that the associated risks are reduced and managed in a professional manner. It is predicted that the Olympics, Para Olympics and other associated events will attract in the region of nine million tourists, spending two billion pounds.

## 4 Response

### 4.1 Olympic Route Network (ORN)

The ORN is a network of roads which will be utilised to move the Olympic family; athletes, technical officials, media and marketing partners between venues and accommodation, in a safe and reliable way. Special legislation has been introduced to protect the routes availability.

Hampshire has a route through the county allowing movement between London and the sailing village in Portland, Dorset. The route takes in the:

- M3, M27, A31 (alternative route A34, A303).

Consideration for HFRS:

- Close liaison with Hampshire Police to assist in maintaining the integrity of the ORN.

### 4.2 Specialist Response

HFRS plays host to a number of specialist response teams as part of the National Resilience capability. It is possible that these resources may be required to assist at Olympic venues in a proactive role or after an incident has commenced. Although discussion have taken place with Dorset Fire & Rescue Service (DFRS) and at South East operational response meetings, no specific request has, to date, been made.

Consideration for HFRS:

- Maintenance of specialist response teams to current capacity and standard (model response).
- Any requests for availability above and beyond the model response should be accompanied with suitable funding.

### 4.3 Operational Crews

DFRS are working on special operational plans for the Olympic sailing events based in Portland. Any operational response may require a large attendance which could involve HFRS appliances.

Consideration for HFRS:

- Operational briefings for stations in the South West of the county who may be utilised to support DFRS.

### 4.4 Co Responders

Ambulance services will be providing dedicated resources to cover Olympic venues and events which could potentially put them under additional pressure. It is possible that our co responders will be asked to deal with more incidents or wait additional time for support.

Consideration for HFRS:

- Consultation with South Central regarding implications.

## **5 Protection & Prevention**

### **5.1 Accommodation**

A substantial increase in tourism will place pressure on the limited availability of appropriate accommodation in the county. Premises that are not usually used in this way, in many cases domestic premises, are likely to be utilised. Once occupied these premises may fall under the umbrella of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 (FSO).

Consideration for HFRS:

- Auditing of known premises providing short term accommodation.
- Promote good levels of fire safety through awareness campaigns in the local media. One such campaign should concentrate on domestic premises that are being utilised to provide accommodation for the short period the events are running.

### **5.2 Training venues**

Currently we are aware of twenty venues in Hampshire that will be utilised as training sites in the run up to the Olympics. These sites will be accessed by GB and overseas Olympians in preparation for the games.

Consideration for HFRS:

- Fire safety audits to ensure the safety of Olympians.
- Site Specific Risk Assessment Inspections (SSRI) on each venue.

### **5.3 Road Risk**

An increase in tourism from abroad will lead to more drivers on the roads in Hampshire who could potentially have less experience of driving in the UK and varying vehicle conditions. These elements could lead to an increase in the risk of road traffic collisions.

Consideration for HFRS:

- Media campaign at entry points e.g. ports and airports and service stations on key travel routes.

## **6 Staffing**

### **6.1 Personnel Availability**

To run such a massive event will require huge numbers of volunteers. It is estimated that in the region of 70,000 volunteers will be required. Being a once in a life time opportunity attending the Olympics as a volunteer or a spectator is going to be a powerful draw. It is possible that HFRS may experience an increase in staff unavailability as a result of annual leave at key times or absence.

Consideration for HFRS:

- Careful planning of leave and events to avoid the Olympic dates.
- Resilience and business continuity planning.

## **7 Progress so far**

- 7.1 The LRF has established an Olympic Consequence Management group, which is currently Chaired by ACO Kevin Butcher from HFRS. This group meets quarterly to share information and to promote a coordinated approach..
- 7.2 A communication strategy has been developed to coordinate the dissemination of relevant information and safety message to the general public and to members of HFRS.
- 7.3 Work packages are now in place covering the highlighted areas of concern in this report.
- 7.4 Negotiations are currently taking place with Dorset FRS relating to mutual aid. This may include the leasing of a vehicle to provide emergency cover in the Olympic village.

## **8 Supporting our corporate aims and objectives**

- 8.1 HFRS is establishing appropriate plans to ensure the events do not adversely effect our progress towards our corporate aims and objectives

## **9 Risk analysis**

- 9.1 Not considering the possible implications, and instigating control measures could leave HFRS open to claims of not being prepared. The Olympics and Para Olympics are a global spectacle, HFRS is doing its part to ensure they are successful events.

## **10 People Impact Assessment**

- 10.1 No adverse effects highlighted from the recommendations in this report.
- 10.2 The proposals in this report are considered compatible with the provisions of the European Convention on Human Rights, the Human Rights Act 1998, and the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000.

## **11 Consultation**

- 11.1 Individuals and groups outside of HFRS that have been consulted:
- Hampshire Police
  - LRF Olympic Consequence Management Group
  - Dorset Fire & Rescue
  - National Resilience Assurance Team
  - South East Fire and Rescue Services

## **12 Background papers**

- 12.1 The following documents disclose the facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and has been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of the report:

None

Note: The list excludes: (1) published works; and (2) documents that disclose exempt or confidential information defined in the Act.

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