



This matter is being dealt with by:

Alison Baxter

Ext: 5571

Date: 18 June 2021

Our Ref:

Your Ref: CL/PH/DT

Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters,
Belmont Business Park, Durham, DH1 1TW

Chief Fire Officer: Stuart Errington

Telephone Number: 0845 2234221

Chief Fire Officer Chris Lowther
Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service
Service Headquarters
Nissan Way
Barmston Mere
Sunderland
SR5 3QY

Dear CFO Lowther

Re: Stakeholder consultation on proposed changes to Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service (TWFRS)

Thank you for letter dated 17th June 2021 in support of your IRMP consultation, I write in relation to proposal number 3, To change the current shift arrangements at Birtley Community Fire Station.

As you are aware Birtley Community Fire Station is a neighbouring station to High Handenhold which provides operational cover to the North of County Durham and Darlington and when required supports operational activity to the South of Tyne and Wear FRS, in Birtley's Station area. High Handenhold station houses two appliances, one Whole Time and one Retained Duty System (RDS). Your proposed shift system and accompanying workload modelling indicates the introduction of a Day Crewing Shift System operating between 08.00-20.00. I write to indicate the provision of a Day Crewing Shift System operating for a 12 hour period from 08.00 complements the available resources at High Handenhold, especially our RDS provision which benefits from higher levels of availability during the hours of 19.00-08.00hrs.

Following the public consultation and the decision of the Fire Authority if the proposal and/or the start and finish times are different to those within the modelling, I would welcome the opportunity to discuss further. It may also be prudent to consider the proposed changes within the 13/16 agreements which is in place between our two services.

I wish you well with your public consultation.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SEERR', with a long, thin vertical stroke extending downwards from the end of the signature.

Stuart Errington
Chief Fire Officer