

Appendix L Additional Public Feedback via Inbox

<i>Member of Public</i>	<p>Response I received an email from our daughter's primary school regarding proposals being made by the fire services that you'd appreciate views from people in the Birtley area. The link I was given is: https://www.twfire.gov.uk/about-us/what-we-do/integrated-risk-management-plan-irmp-2021-2024/ In short, I am supportive of proposals one, two and four. I do not like the idea of having to wait on a neighbouring service to deal with situations in proposal 3.</p> <p>Quote I am supportive of proposals one, two and four. I do not like the idea of having to wait on a neighbouring service to deal with situations in proposal 3.</p>
<i>Member of Public</i>	<p>Response I totally disagree with proposed changes which would leave Birtley with no overnight cover and the "neighbouring" station is not identified nor distance a fire appliance would have to travel. I firmly believe that the existing shift pattern should remain</p> <p>Quote I totally disagree with proposed changes which would leave Birtley with no overnight cover. I firmly believe that the existing shift pattern should remain</p>
<i>Member of Public</i>	<p>Response As an Emergency Services Dispatcher I can say both professionally and personally how much Birtley relies on and respects its Firefighters on Birtley station and I can also testify from various Birtley Facebook sites, just how horrified residents are at losing night-time cover. The time it would take for another crew to attend an incident is also going to be affected by local major roadworks such as on the A1231, Durham Road and the 2 year scheme to widen the A1 between the Angel and Washington Services, the delay could be catastrophic. Given the massive new housing scheme Birtley has seen an unprecedented increase in populous over the last 4 years, the local GP surgery had 10,000 new patients register with them - all of which rely on night cover. As well as providing an invaluable fire alarm fitting service the staff at Birtley assist the local Boxing Club (with Olympic competitors 2021) and support a host of other charities and the ever increasing local schools.</p> <p>Quote I can say both professionally and personally how much Birtley relies on and respects its Firefighters on Birtley station and I can also testify from various Birtley Facebook sites, just how horrified residents are at losing night-time cover. The time it would take for another crew to attend an incident is also going to be affected by local major roadworks such as on the A1231, Durham Road and the 2 year scheme to widen the A1 between the Angel and Washington Services, the delay could be catastrophic.</p>
<i>Member of Public</i>	<p>Response Just been looking at your proposals. Looks like 3 and 4 are givens. So difficult for anyone in these areas to agree. Looks like you need more discussions with interested parties. Leaves 2 areas under supported. Overall proposals, no reference to what are options. E.g. if no 1 is agreed are the remainder of the proposals automatically rejected. Proposal 1. Being the "busiest" does not mean it is the most efficient or effective. Could still be the busiest but not 100% utilised. Continuous improvement requires that you quantify data not use general terms. Terms and conditions are negotiating position so cannot understand the reduction in operating coverage at Birtley. You, management, determine operational requirements. Option 1 and 2 appear to give quite big increase in manpower, and, management resources, Where will this addition manpower be acquired from and at the detrimental effect of which other areas. Looks like Birtley is given the short straw due to its location on the border of the authority. On a general note, understand you need some level of status of responders to survey, but is it necessary to question in so much depth, their personal orientation.</p> <p>Quote Option 1 and 2 appear to give quite big increase in manpower, and, management resources, Where will this addition manpower be acquired from and at the detrimental effect of which other areas.</p>
<i>Member of Public</i>	<p>Response 1...In 1992 Birtley Fire Station went from retained to full time cover. The reason at the time was that Birtley population was set to grow in size and needed full time cover so what has changed? 2...Even if an appliance from Gateshead can attend an incident in Birtley at more or less the same time as a retained crew which I doubt, it is still too long. A full time crew could reach the same incident in half the time.</p> <p>Quote Even if an appliance from Gateshead can attend an incident in Birtley at more or less the same time as a retained crew which I doubt, it is still too long. A full time crew could reach the same incident in half the time.</p>

