

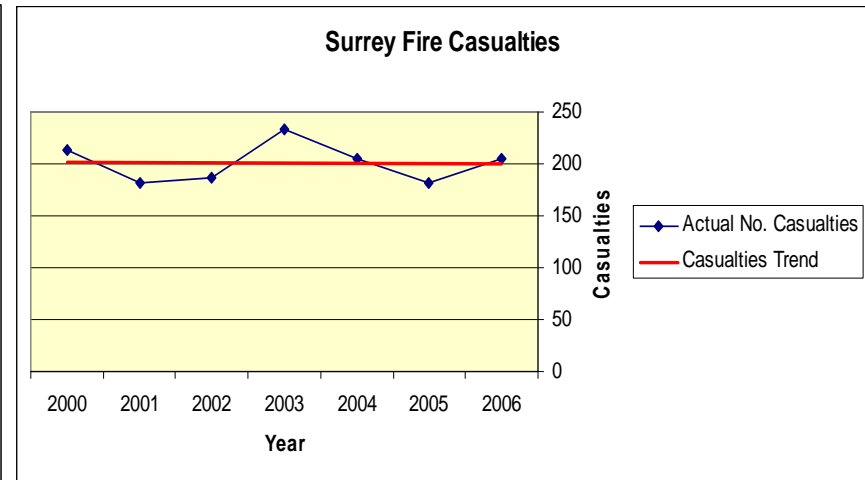
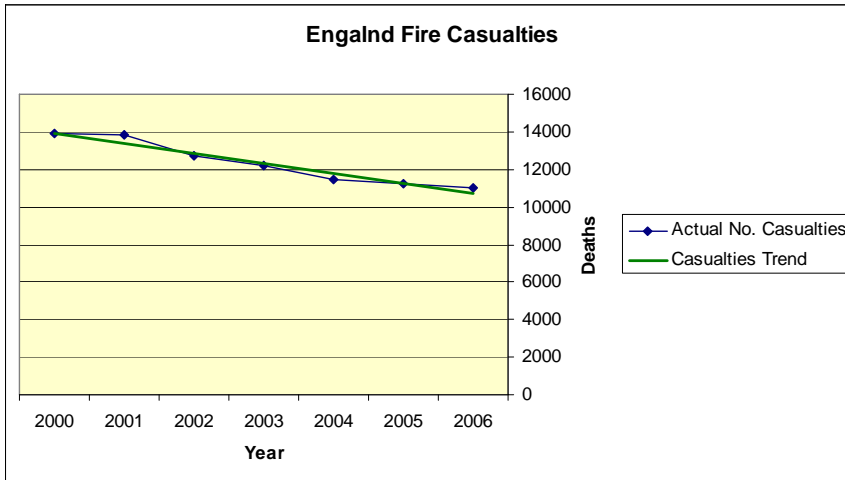
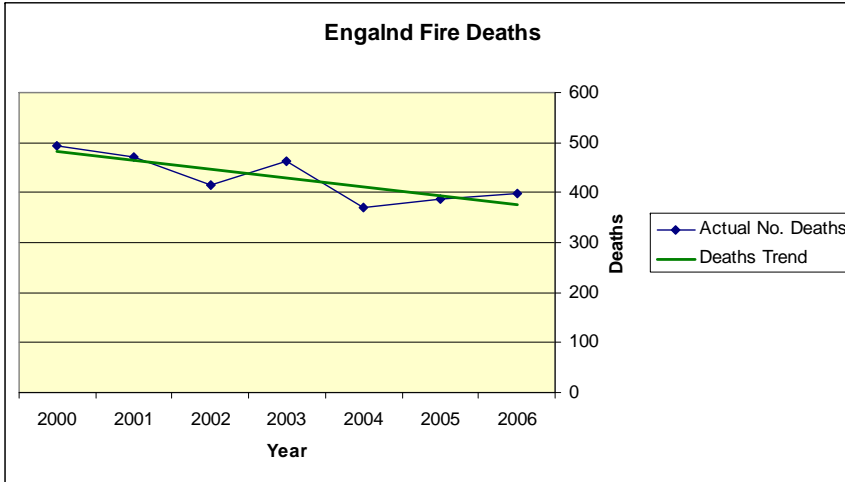
**Summary**

Surrey has suffered 16 fire deaths over the 2 years 2006 to 2008.

Source: SF&RS Fatal Fires 2006 to 2008 Report

The national data was not available after 2008 to compare with Surrey, so the most recent available (2006) has been used for comparison below.

**No explanation necessary.**



Source: CLG

The affects of poor response times and under crewing which are 2 of the 3 vital criteria to achieve statutory core functions can be measured in the Best Value performance indicator; Fires Confined to Room of Origin. Clearly if the response is too slow or the crews have to wait for back up before commencing internal fire fighting due to insufficient crew members, the fire spread is likely to be greater.

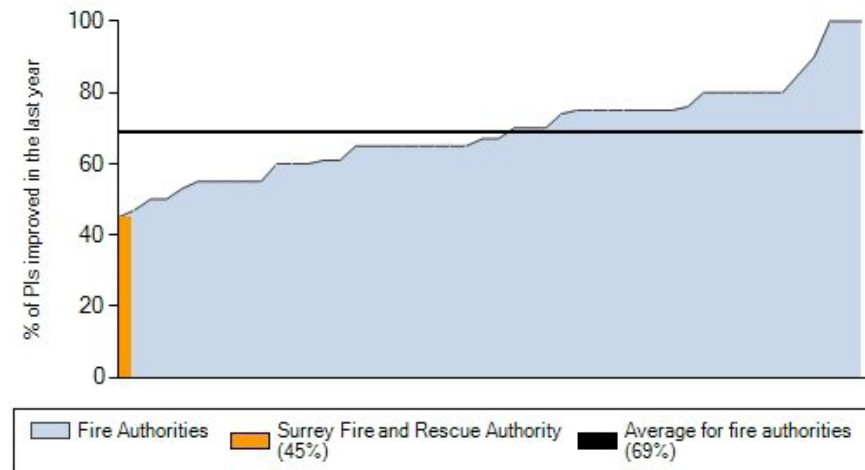
The Audit Commission’s Performance information profile for Fire and Rescue Authorities: Surrey Fire and Rescue Service 2009; showed Surrey had dropped from the 2<sup>nd</sup> quartile to the last between the years 2006 and 2008. This is an ultimate output measure of how serious the emergency response performance is in Surrey. As shown previously in this report, the main reason for this poor output in that the inputs are not being maintained; Response Times and Crewing Levels. There is no hope of improving the outputs unless the inputs are substantially improved.

In fact, in the same Audit Commission report, of the 8 Operational Response Indicators; Surrey quartile performance was;

Top Quartile	2 out of 8
Second Quartile	0 out of 8
Third Quartile	4 out of 8
Bottom Quartile	2 out of 8

Surrey’s overall Operational Response performance is in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quartile; a long way from the top quartile stated in SCC’s “World Class” ambition.

### Proportion of performance indicators that have improved in the last year



### Chart Summary

- Surrey Fire and Rescue Authority is ranked 48th out of 48 (Fire Authorities for which data is available) for % of PIs improved in the last year.
- Surrey Fire and Rescue Authority has 45 % of PIs improved in the last year which is below the average for fire authorities (69%).

Source: Audit Commission 2009

### **Fire Fighter Safety**

Surrey’s performance in fire fighter safety is of extreme concern.

The table below shows the 10 FA’s for each year that have reported the highest number of injuries per FF’s at fires. The total number of FA’s that returned the necessary data in each year for this comparison is shown at the bottom of each column.

Surrey is highlighted in Yellow for easy reference.

2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Humberside	Nottinghamshire	Cambridgeshire	South Yorkshire	Warwickshire
East Sussex	Essex	Staffordshire	Tyne & Wear	West Midlands
Staffordshire	Cambridgeshire	West Midlands	Kent	West Sussex
Hertfordshire	Hertfordshire	South Yorkshire	East Sussex	Tyne & Wear
Derbyshire	West Midlands	Suffolk	Essex	Staffordshire
Surrey	Staffordshire	Northamptonshire	Bedfordshire & Luton	Essex
West Midlands	Northamptonshire	Cleveland	Warwickshire	Surrey
Northamptonshire	East Sussex	East Sussex	Hertfordshire	East Sussex
Merseyside	Surrey	Surrey	Northamptonshire	Northamptonshire
Greater Manchester	Greater Manchester	Greater Manchester	Greater Manchester	Greater Manchester
43	45	45	44	40

Source: CLG

Unfortunately the high number of injuries at fires is not the most worrying part of this data. The correlation between number of injuries received and deaths is recognised in research carried out by the Health and Safety Executive.

The FA’s shown highlighted in Blue are ones which have suffered at least one fire fighter death at a fire during the 5 years shown. The only FA that has suffered FF deaths in this period which does not appear in the bottom 10 is London. Surrey’s average injury performance over these years is worse than any of the FA’s that have suffered deaths.

The FBU in Surrey have challenged SF&RS many times in recent years on FF safety. We have stated on many occasions that the only factor which has prevented a fire fighter death in Surrey so far is pure luck. The data clearly indicates our luck will soon run out unless substantial improvements are made to the safety of operational crews. The FBU believe that under crewing and inadequate training are the main underlying causes for these catastrophic results.

Press release 16<sup>th</sup> November 2010 – supporting evidence for Surrey

Summary

Surrey's emergency response performance is far from good let alone "World Class". Further cuts will cause further deterioration. Investment and innovative ideas are required. In the latest Audit Commission report into SF&RS; Organisational Assessment December 2009, is the following statement which sums up everything you've read in this document;

**“While the Service has the vision and capability to further improve its budget limitations will reduce its capacity to deliver.”**