

Fire Control alternative options - survey analysis

1. Response rate

55% of all fire authorities responded:

- 67% of combined fire authorities
- 40% of county fire authorities
- 43% of metropolitan fire authorities.

2. Baseline and preferred capability

The number of authorities responding to each question is indicated in the table below as not all authorities indicated a preference. Indications of preferred benefits have therefore been grouped together rather than ranked first, second or third priority.

	Baseline capability needs improvement	Preferred benefit for alternative options
Incident response time	63% 15 authorities	68% 17 authorities
Access to risk information	48% 12 authorities	56% 14 authorities
Response to major incidents – call handling	48% 12 authorities	55% 13 authorities
Common working practices	80% 20 authorities	38% 9 authorities
Systems and accommodation fit for purpose	42% 10 authorities	44% 11 authorities
Fire Link – full or interim	77% interim solution 19 authorities	28% full solution 7 authorities

3. Risk scenarios

FRA's were asked to identify particular risks their authority would face if Fire Control failed:

- ten would need control room software replaced before the end of 2012
- twelve would need control room accommodation replaced before the end of 2012
- four have commissioned new HQ buildings without control room facilities

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- Other risks include: Olympics preparedness; staff turnover due to project uncertainty; the cost of station end equipment and MDTs.

4. Use of RCC buildings

FRAs were asked if they would be prepared to use the RCC building for their control rooms:

- three said yes
- twelve said maybe, depending on cost and ongoing overheads.

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