



DEVON &
SOMERSET
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

Keeping Communities Safe in Times of Disruption





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Introduction

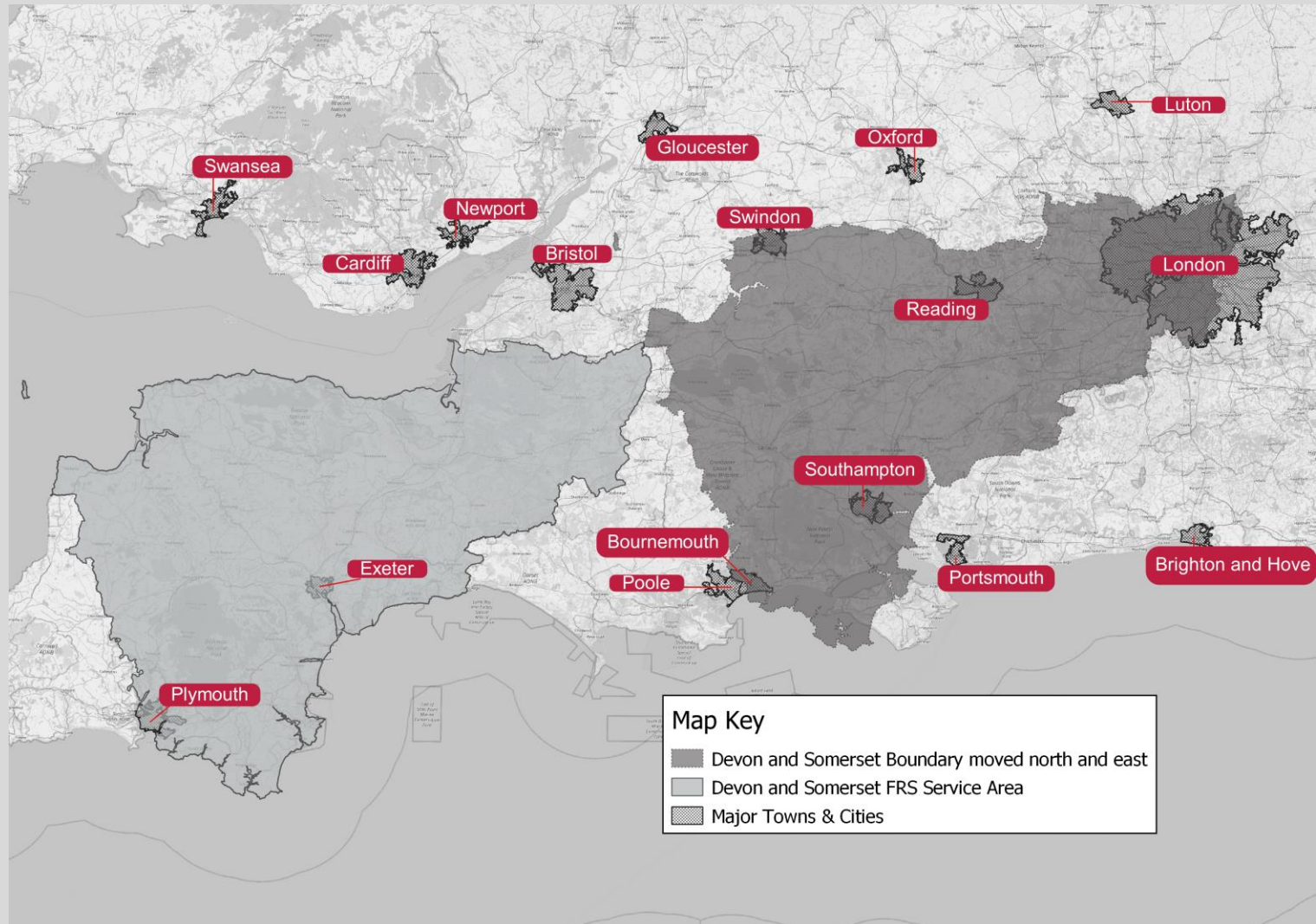
Who We Are:

- Largest non-metropolitan fire service in England
- We have 83 fire stations and nearly 2,000 staff
- We attend around 17,000 calls annually
- Working alongside local authorities, Police, Ambulance, Environment Agency, and voluntary groups



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Statutory Duties

- **Extinguish Fires**

Respond to fires to protect life, property, and the environment.

- **Rescue People from Danger**

Road accidents, floods, storms, industrial incidents.

- **Fire Safety & Prevention**

Inspect non-domestic buildings and provide safety advice.

- **Emergency Planning & Resilience**

Prepare for large-scale emergencies; work with other agencies.

- **Regulatory Functions**

Enforce fire safety laws; investigate fire causes.



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Response Priorities

During disruptive events we will focus on:

- **Saving life & protecting people**
- **Protecting property & critical infrastructure**
- **Maintaining operational effectiveness**
- **Collaborating with other agencies**
- **Facilitating recovery**



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Flood Response

- **Rescue people trapped in vehicles & homes**
- **Pump flood water away**
- **Assist with evacuations**
- **Coordinate with local authorities**



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Community Preparedness

How Communities Can Help:

- **Stay informed via Environment Agency flood alerts & Met Office warnings**
- **Know how to turn off gas, electricity, and water**
- **Keep emergency kits (torch, prescriptions)**
- **Check on vulnerable neighbours**



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Working Together

Partners in Action:

- **Local Authorities** (rest centres)
- **Environment Agency** (flood defences, warnings)
- **Police** (public safety, evacuation support)
- **NHS & Ambulance** (health response)
- **Voluntary organisations** (e.g. Red Cross, 4x4 groups)



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Key Messages

- **Fire Service is here for life safety and emergency support**
- **We can't stop floods or storms – but we can reduce their impact**
- **Communities that prepare are more resilient**



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Service Values

Designed by our staff and are at the heart of everything we say and do within the service.

Core Code of Ethics

Designed by fire and rescue staff across the country and set out the ethical principles to promote good behaviour and challenge inappropriate behaviour.

