



# Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service

preventing • protecting • responding

FOI reference 109/17

Date Received 5/11/17

## Request:

I understand that Staffordshire fire & rescue operates some smaller vehicles on the Mercedes-Benz Sprinter. I would like to know if these vehicles are still in service and if not the reason why and were they replaced. Also I would like to know who the vehicle conversion manufacturer was, what equipment they carry, how many firefighters crew these vehicles, what type of incidents they attend, the size of the area each vehicle covers and if they suffered any problems which took them out of service, what were the problems.

## Response:

In response to your request I can provide you with the following information:-

- We only have one Mercedes Sprinter vehicle known as a Targeted Response vehicle (TRV) remaining in Service that responds to Operational Incidents.
- Rationale for removal: The vehicles themselves were at the end of their lives and the Service would have incurred a capital commitment to keep them. An analysis of the number of incidents of the type they were designed for identified that prevention activity had had an effect that had reduced the incident numbers to a level that justified using pumps instead. A further analysis of pump activity proved that traditional fire appliances and TRV's were very rarely used at the same time so the pumps had the capacity to absorb the TRV met demand. Removing each one allowed us to reduce the wholetime establishment workforce by 4-8 posts depending on the method of crewing them. This resulted in a reduction in the Service annual revenue budget with no increase in community risk.
- The converter of the TRV'S Merc sprinter 515 CDI was Angloco fitted with a Rosenbauer UHPS pump the main defects were PTO engine/pump engagement slow due to been vacuum assisted and excessive Brake pad and disc wear and clutch wear due to the weight of the vehicle.
- The TRV is crewed by three fire fighters.
- Incident types include: Non-structural fires, Grass (Not Railway Embankments) Stubble, Rubbish/Bin/Skip/Recycling bins etc, Road Furniture, Post Boxes, Bonfires, Car Fires (not Major Roads) Flooding incidents
- Response area and turnout: - Fire Control use Intelligence Led Mobilising (ILM) principles when mobilising all of the vehicles in Staffordshire therefore do not have specific turnout areas. Control will send a TRV or Temporary TRV if it fits the above incident type criteria and it is the quickest appliance. TRV or TTRV are almost always crewed by RDS so would normally have the 5 min turnout time automatically added