

April to November 2014

12

Lives saved so far April 1st 2014 to March 31st 2015

TOTAL AMOUNT

£37,650,000

This information paper highlights the number of people that have been protected from harm, or rescued by operational crews. For this indicator data is provided by Fire Control on a daily basis as part of the notable incidents record.





Explanatory Notes

Economic Value of Life

There is no standard concept for the value of a specific human life in economics. Previous discussions at SMT have raised the issue of appropriateness when placing a monetary value on life and the difficulties this presents when the people we save from fire or other incident are of varying ages and abilities. The previously cited figure of £1.2 million pounds is derived from road safety meta-analysis, and relates to the total average cost to the economy of a road collision which results in the death of a casualty, and includes data on age, location, dealing with the incident, dealing with injuries, recovery periods and more. This would appear too complex for SFRS purposes.

However, in order to determine the financial benefit of carrying out treatment regimens on hospital patients, estimates are applied to the value of life for every additional year of "quality life" that person may enjoy. The official NHS adviser has imposed a threshold of £30,000 for an added year of life provided by a treatment. This figure could reasonably be adopted by SFRS as our activity can guarantee an extended life beyond our operational intervention.

It is therefore proposed that using available data on age of casualties (persons whose lives we have saved), with an upper threshold of 80 years (average life expectancy in the population), and multiplying by a factor of £30,000 we will arrive at a value of lives saved.

So for example, a person aged 60 rescued from a house fire would have a life expectancy of 80 - 60 years = 20 years x £30000 = £600,000 value of life saved.

For the purposes of providing an estimate of the value of SFRS, and in the absence of confirmed age data in relation to the casualties the following value estimate is based on all casualties surviving for 25 years after our intervention and uses the following multipliers:

Incident Type	Multiplier
Rescue from fire	100%
Led to safety	100%
"Stay put"	50%
"leave the property"	25%
First aid @ fire	10%
RTC cut free	25%
RTC first aid	10%
Flood rescue	100%
Flood led to safety	25%
Other rescue	10%