

news release

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For Immediate Release

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New emergency mobilising system for West Sussex takes a step forward

West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service is to move to a joint 999 mobilising system with Surrey Fire & Rescue Service.

The decision was made by the Cabinet Member for Safer, Stronger Communities today (1 February).

Command and mobilising systems are used to dispatch fire and rescue service resources to emergency incidents.

The decision follows a full assessment of the options available for alternative mobilising systems with other fire and rescue services.

The Surrey Fire and Rescue Service system has a proven track record for reliability, has the capacity to handle additional call volume and demonstrates good value for money.

Debbie Kennard, Cabinet Member for Safer, Stronger Communities, said: "The safety of residents in West Sussex is an absolute priority and that's why it's important we have a fire service that can mobilise quickly and effectively.

"We have taken a thorough and in-depth look at the options available and the one we are proposing is tried and tested, while offering good value for money."

The aim is to migrate to the new system by mid-February 2020.

The decision is subject to a seven day call-in period.

West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service is at the heart of West Sussex County Council's Communities and Public Protection Directorate, working to support communities to become safer, stronger and more resilient through a combination of prevention, protection and response activities.

For further information please contact the news desk on 01243 752448 or email frsmedia@westsussex.gov.uk. For urgent out-of-hours enquiries please call 07767 098415.