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This circular is	For information	No response required	
This circular is	Not relevant to the National Framework		
Status	This circular announces the publication of a series of research reports carried out in support of Communities and Local Government policy.		

Publication of Research Reports

Issued by:

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Research and Statistics Division

Addressed to:

**The Chair of the Fire and Rescue Authority
The Chief Executive of the County Council
The Clerk to the Fire and Rescue Authority
The Clerk to the Combined Fire and Rescue Authority
The Commissioner of the London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority
The Chief Fire Officer**

Please forward to:

Summary

This circular explains the general publication policy of the Research and Statistics Division on the Communities and Local Government website and announces a research report on socio-demographics and FRS performance. The research can be considered alongside the IRMP policy guidance chapters which are to be announced via a separate FRS circular.

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Publication of Research Reports

1.0 Background

1.1 The Research and Statistics Division of Fire and Resilience Directorate carries out research in support of CLG policy. The work that we do is detailed in the annual Fire and Resilience Research Programme which is published on the Department website at <http://www.communities.gov.uk/fire/fireandresiliencestatisticsandre/fireresearch/> with last year's report on <http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/fire/researchprogramme0708>. This year's annual programme will be published shortly. The Division publishes its research on the website.

2.0 Analysis of fire and rescue service performance and outcomes with reference to population socio-demographics

2.1 This circular announces the publication of the research report on socio-demographics and FRS performance. The full report is found at

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/fire/frsperformanceanalysis>.

2.2 This research examined links between socio-demographic factors and Fire and Rescue Service performance, largely on dwelling fires. It considers socio-demographic factors from three sources:

a) the census data,

b) the Indices of Multiple Deprivation

c) from a commercial dataset (used by supermarkets and estate agents for marketing) known as MOSAIC.

2.3 The study found strong links between various socio-demographics, with the raw census providing the best correlations - explaining around 69% of the variation in dwelling fires, at a national level.

2.4 This work is part of a suite of research projects that support the evidence base for IRMP. Other reports will be the subject of another circular and will be released in parallel with a circular announcing the publication of the first tranche of IRMP policy guidance chapters.

2.5 The Fire and Resilience Research and Statistics Division also publish fire statistics. The two main series are the annual Fire Statistics UK and the quarterly Fire Statistics Monitor, which can be found at <http://www.communities.gov.uk/fire/fireandresiliencestatisticsandre/firestatistics/>.

3.0 Research Working

3.1 The Department for Communities and Local Government publishes a research management database which includes fire and resilience research work at

<http://www.rmd.communities.gov.uk/>. The database contains details of research projects funded by the Department. Each project is part of a wider research programme or sub-programme, details of which are available on the website. More information about all the Department's research, including contact details for each programme, can be accessed through <http://www.communities.gov.uk/fire/>.

3.2 The Research and Statistics Division values stakeholder input in our research projects and welcomes FRS representation on our project boards. Please get in touch with us if you are interested in taking part in future research work outlined in the proposed projects of the annual programme.

Publication of Research Reports

- 3.3 For the future, it is hoped that the joint task and finish group between the Practitioners Forum and the Business and Community Safety Forum will develop a fire and resilience research strategy to ensure better co-ordinated and more informed working together.

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