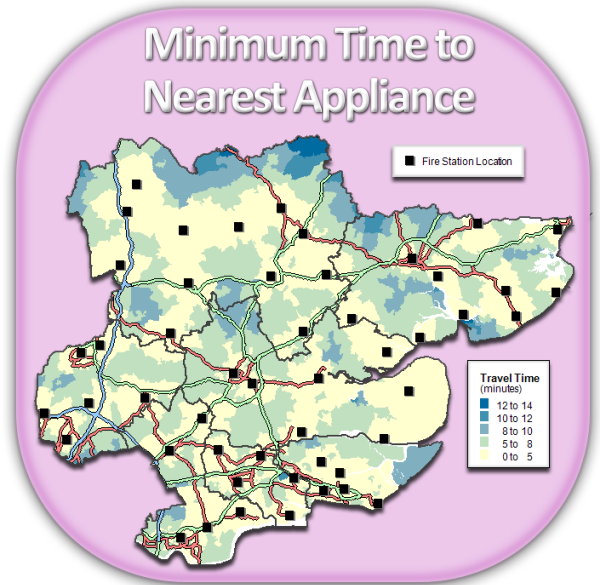


Strategic Fire Cover Review for Essex

The Challenge

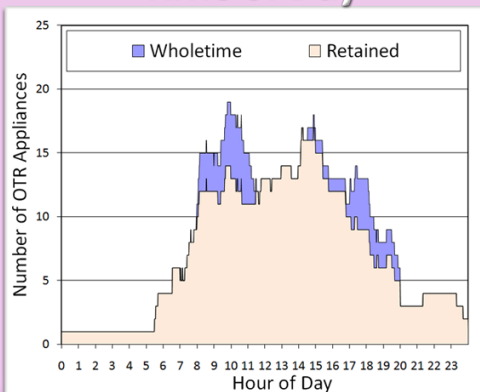
- Essex County Fire and Rescue Service (ECFRS) identified the need to undertake a Service-wide review of fire cover to ensure that the use of resources was optimised in response to the reduction in the Central Government Grant.
- The broad aim of the study was to support ECFRS in planning the future station configuration, deployment of appliances and shift systems, so as to provide effective and sustainable response and risk cover in the context of significantly reduced funding.



“The Service was continually impressed with the exceptional and professional service provided by ORH. The Strategic Management Board welcomed the in-depth analysis and skilled demonstration of their findings. The Service would highly recommend the services provided by ORH and we look forward to working with ORH again in the future.”

David Johnson, Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive, Essex County Fire & Rescue Service

Off-The-Run by Time of Day



(Sample Day)

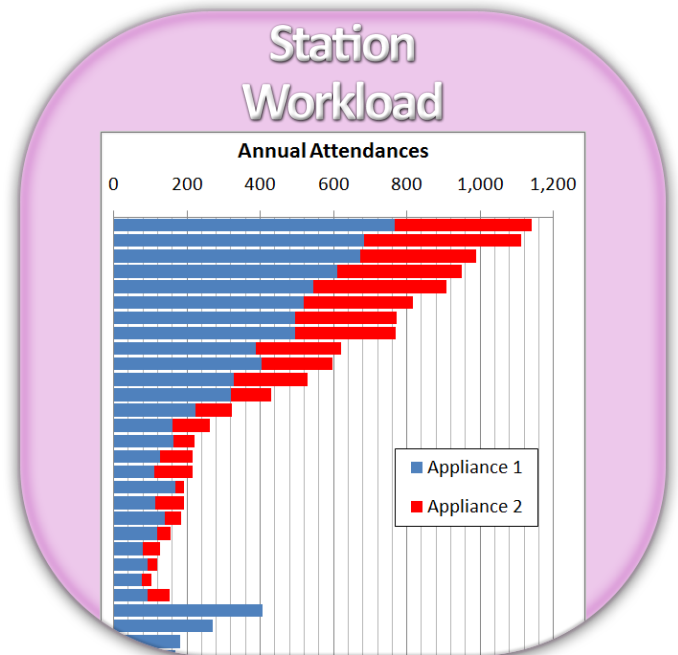
Approach

- Targeted analysis and optimisation modelling identified the scope for improving the use of resources in relation to crew turnout times, appliance availability, station locations and appliance deployments.
- A structured series of over 6,000 simulation modelling runs examined an exhaustive range of options for generating efficiency savings.
- Face-to-face meetings with the Strategic Management Board at key stages ensured that the solutions derived fitted the requirements.

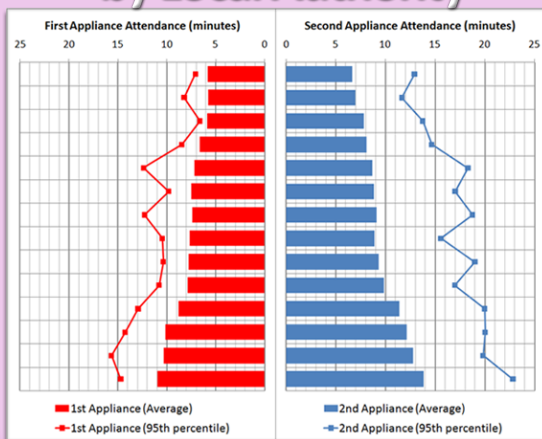


The Solution

- Five main options were developed covering a range of planning scenarios for anticipated budget reductions.
- The individual changes required to fully implement each option were presented allowing the optimum implementation path to be identified that maximised the benefits released in each phase.
- A series of sensitivity modelling runs were carried out to test the robustness of each option against controllable and uncontrollable factors and to ensure solutions were fit for the future.



Attendance Times by Local Authority



Benefits

- A full assessment of the impact on county-wide and local attendance times, appliance workload and staff costs was undertaken for each phase of all five options.
- A tried and tested evidence-based approach was used to advise on location strategy, appliance deployments and shift systems.
- The work was completed in just 3 months allowing the Service time to consider the options in the short time available before deciding on a preferred option.

