

**Freedom of Information request:** Reference number FOI2026/00365

**Date of request:** 30th March 2026

**Request:**

Hi there, I've been informed that LFB can mobilise appliances from Staffordshire and West Midlands Fire Control under a Buddy/Fire Fax Scheme and Staffs and West Mids fire can do the same in certain cases. Is this the case still and is there any information that you can provide on how the scheme works

**Response:**

LFB have a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Staffordshire and West Mids Fire Control and North West Fire Control to support the management of 999 calls during peak call rates. A section of the MOU includes supporting each other's control room should there be a mobilising system failure for a short period of time to allow the affected Fire control to activate their business continuity arrangements.

LFB control are able to support Staffordshire and West Mids Fire Control by receiving all Fire related 999 calls destined for that region and identifying the nearest resources and mobilising them via telephone or radio. To support this, Staffordshire and West Midlands provide LFB with their Pre-Determined Attendance (PDA) requirements and up to date contacts. All call and incident information is processed on LFB mobilising system and transferred to Staffordshire and West Mids at a point when they have implemented their resilient measures.

LFB Control staff exercise these protocols with Staffordshire and West Midlands Fire Control on a regular basis.

The MoU has been in existence since 2014 and LFB Control have supported Staffordshire and West Mids with mobilising their resources on one occasion.

We have dealt with your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. For more information about this process please see the guidance we publish about making a request on our website: <https://www.london-fire.gov.uk/about-us/transparency/request-information-from-us/>