

Fire and Rescue Scrutiny Committee – Comparator fire service used for benchmarking report

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Comparator groups

The comparator group used by Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service (GFRS) is based on the DEFRA classification which is used by the Home Office to compare data sets, such as, response times. The classification is based on the following parameters:

- Predominantly rural: 50% or more of their area is 'rural'
- Significantly rural: less than 74% of their area is 'urban' and 26% or more of their area is 'rural'
- Predominantly urban: 74% or more of their area is 'urban'

GFRS is significantly rural fire and rescue service and is compared against the services identified below:

FRS Name	Urban/Rural category	Met/Non-met category
Bedfordshire	Significantly Rural	Non-metropolitan
Buckinghamshire	Significantly Rural	Non-metropolitan
Cheshire	Significantly Rural	Non-metropolitan
Derbyshire	Significantly Rural	Non-metropolitan
Dorset and Wiltshire	Significantly Rural	Non-metropolitan
East Sussex	Significantly Rural	Non-metropolitan
Essex	Significantly Rural	Non-metropolitan
Gloucestershire	Significantly Rural	Non-metropolitan
Hampshire and Isle Of Wight	Significantly Rural	Non-metropolitan
Hereford and Worcester	Significantly Rural	Non-metropolitan
Humberside	Significantly Rural	Non-metropolitan
Kent	Significantly Rural	Non-metropolitan
Leicestershire	Significantly Rural	Non-metropolitan
Northamptonshire	Significantly Rural	Non-metropolitan
Staffordshire	Significantly Rural	Non-metropolitan
Warwickshire	Significantly Rural	Non-metropolitan
West Sussex	Significantly Rural	Non-metropolitan