

Programme Criteria

The following criteria should help to prioritise how the rest of the Programme is delivered.

- **Station activity profile and duty system** - priority order should be given to those remaining stations that have a greater footfall throughout the working week. With consideration given to the type of duty system, green book staff usage and Princes Trust teams
- **Age and condition of current station** – Following condition surveys, the condition of the remaining stations is reflected into the priority order (worst first)
- **Immediacy of required works and impact on estates maintenance budgets** - Any Health & Safety matters are being addressed through reactive maintenance budgets, with non-emergency works added to the modernisation programme.
- **Geographical location & potential to “group” a cluster of stations** – the supply chain takes into account the travel distances of its workforce and sub-contractors and this is reflected in the costs. A geographical approach has been considered as the most cost-effective option to the delivery of the programme and is likely to be reflected in cost reductions
- **Current environmental impact and realisation of environmental gains** – the remaining fire stations are of varying ages, conditions and have differing energy requirements. This investment will see the limitation of gas use and where possible become solely reliant upon electricity supply from the grid and solar PV. The fire stations will benefit from upgraded windows and roof insulation which will further improve the thermal efficiency of the estate.
- **Community facilities** – The original programme set out a requirement for each modernised fire station to have a community room with welfare facilities and separate community access. This has been achieved at all locations to date, (except for Middlewich Fire station, due to its size and proximity of other community facilities). It is to be a principle that during the design stage of the modernisation of the remaining stations that local community facilities are considered and a decision made on community facilities with the fire station.
- **Construction works** – Stations completed to-date have been subject to a variety of internal changes to their structures, e.g. to provide gyms and community facilities. Demolition and construction of internal walls will normally lead to the best use of the station footprint, but it is expensive. Reducing the amount of construction works will save money and reduce the phases of the works, making it easier for all involved and reducing costs. It may be appropriate to have a principle that the repositioning of internal walls to accommodate changes to the internal layout is taken as a last resort due to the associated costs.