Implementation of
Integrated Management Plans
in the "Real World"

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1

Introduction

- Freedom form prescriptive standards
- Changes for the better?
- Evidence based?
- Evidence of success?
- Conclusions
- Future developments

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Principles

- Map the risk indicating the nature, level and distribution of the risks
- Use historic data and knowledge of buildings societal conditions and infrastructure
- What risks do we have a duty to respond to?
- What do the public expect?
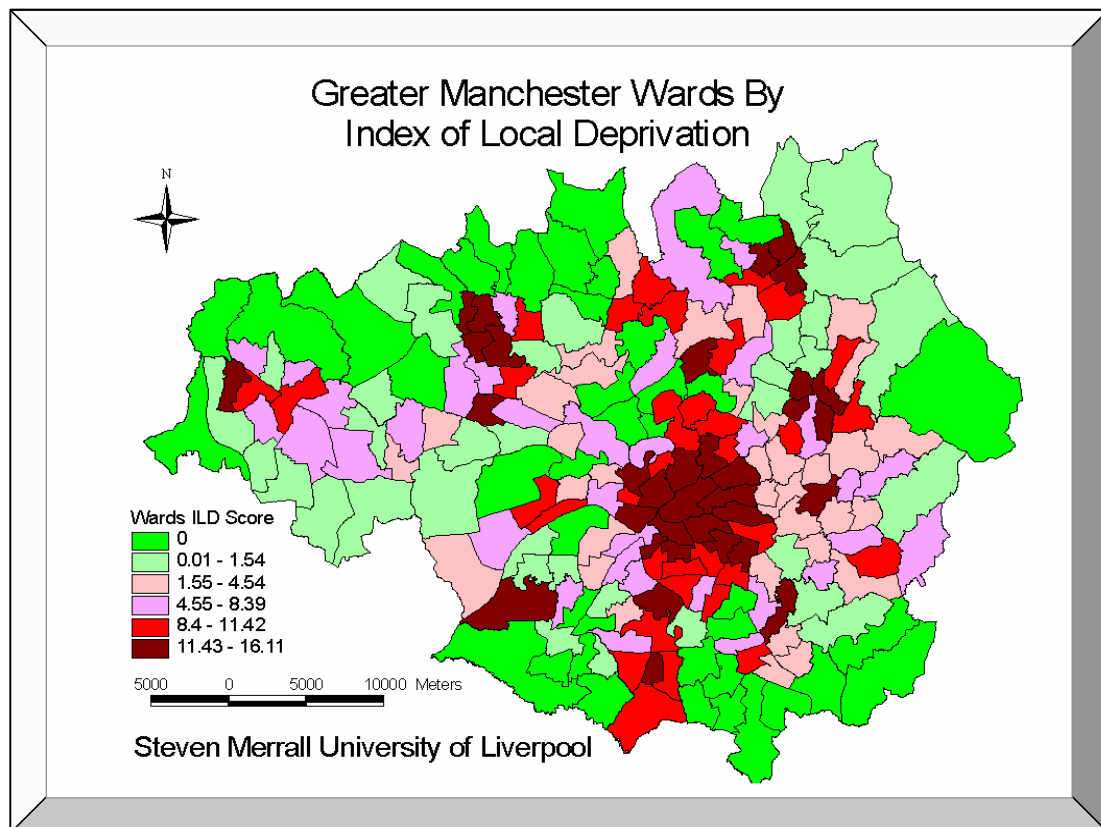- How do we affect the greatest reduction in the level risk?

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Complexity

- 2.5 million people, in 1 million homes, with 100,000 commercial, industrial and public buildings
- 3 major cities & 7 large towns
- wide range of risks
- 10 local authorities

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Greater Manchester Wards By Index of Local Deprivation

Wards ILD Score
0
0.01 - 1.54
1.55 - 4.54
4.55 - 8.39
8.4 - 11.42
11.43 - 16.11

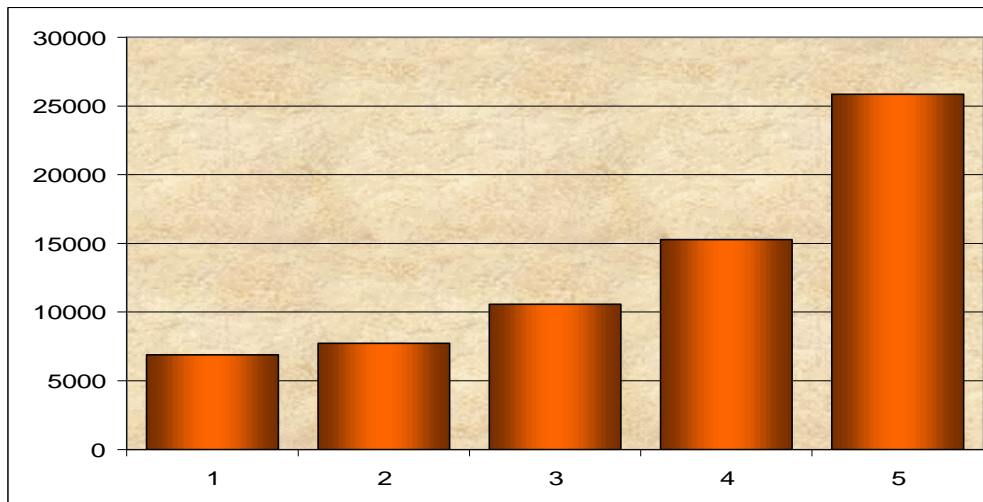Steven Merrall University of Liverpool

This slide maps the levels of social depravation in Greater Manchester and demonstrates the concentration of depravation in the inner city and urban areas of the major conurbation.

The map shows the 214 Wards in the County – A ward has about 12,000 population and is the lowest unit of local democratic representation and is used as a basis for Census information

All Incidents Classification by ILD (Index of Local Deprivation Scores)

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This slide summarises the relationship between depravation and fire. The incidence of fire is 5 times greater in the most deprived wards , compared to the least deprived
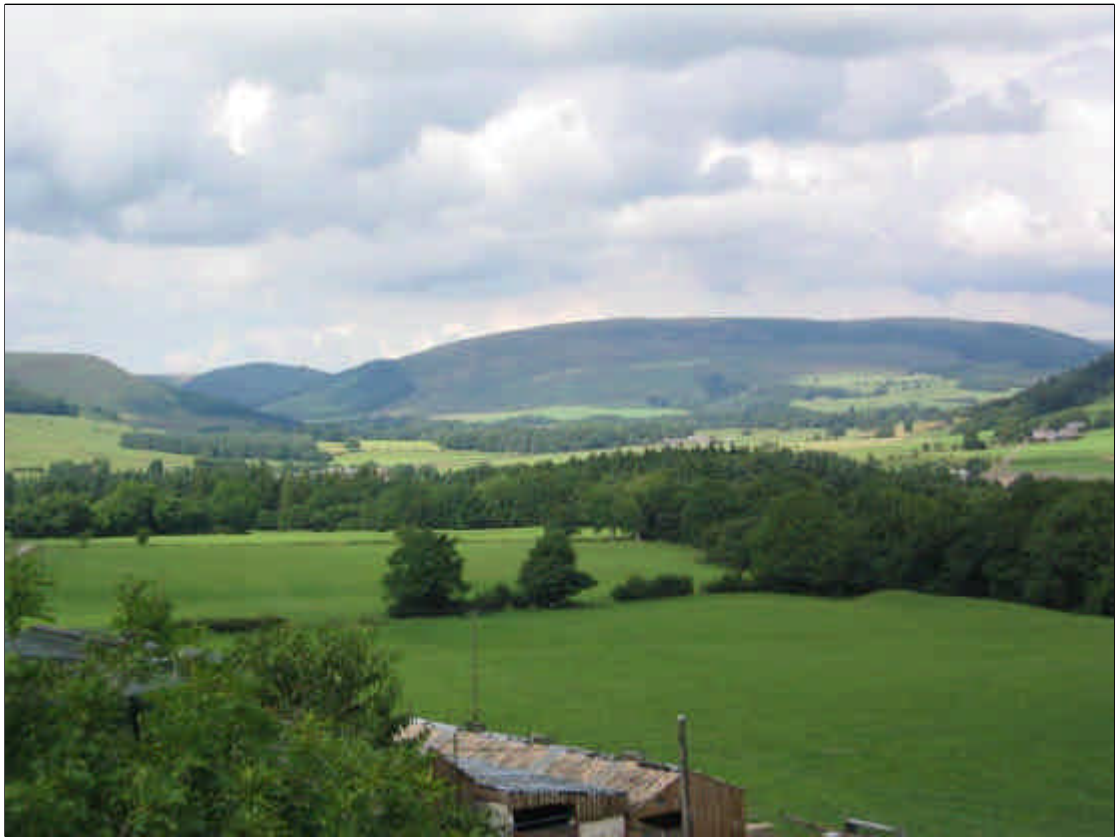
Sadly, over the years we have experienced occasional loss of social cohesion, as tensions have developed between different groups in society. Fire has been a central theme in these civil disturbances and has a negative effect on the rate of regeneration. A spate of fires in industrial buildings recently has had a marked impact on the likelihood of desperately needed inward investment to one area of the county.

Risk is the product of frequency and consequences, so with a frequently occurring event with significant negative impact, it is clear there is a significant risk to the community.
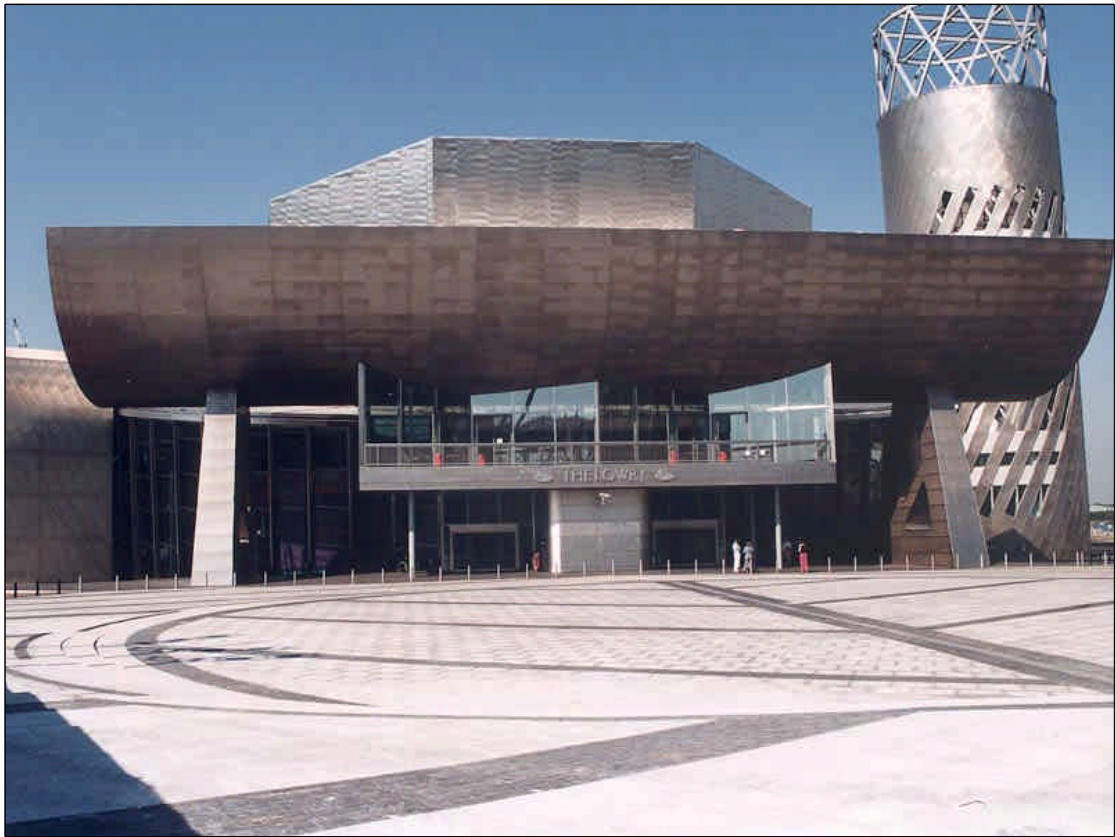
Challenging Environment

- ⁻ Industrial unrest
- ⁻ Public concern over reductions in emergency cover
- ⁻ Changes to fire and rescue service institutions
- ⁻ "Release funding" to repay transitional funding and pay rise and stay within tight government funding levels
- ⁻ Under the scrutiny of the Audit Commission, who will publish league tables of performance.

- ⁻ No pressure!

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Prescriptive past

- 1948 -2004
- National standards of fire cover
- Standard conditions of service and shift patterns
- Optional "proactive" fire prevention
- Prescriptive fire safety enforcement, via Fire Precautions Act 1971 & Agency work.

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Outcomes from prescription

- Fire cover standards met on 95% of occasions
- Consistent levels of service for similar risks
- Reduced deaths and injuries from fires in dwellings and industrial, commercial and public buildings
- Increased numbers of deliberate dwelling fires
- Smoke alarm ownership grew to 85%
- Rescues at emergencies rose to 9,000
- False alarms grew overall, despite a reduction in malicious calls

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Locally determined standards.

- Preventative advice via media, on risk calendar and target audience
- Risk based fire safety education and home fire risk assessments
- Widespread partnership working to reduce risk
- Youth engagement / diversion activities
- Risk based compliance monitoring and enforcement regimes
- Life risk incidents = two fire engines and crew of nine within 7 minutes.

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Conclusions

- Early days, but political impatience
- Some significant changes, but loss of consistency evident
- Evidence for radical change is lacking
- Information systems still developing
- Regulatory Reform not yet in place
- No failures yet, some evidence of improvment.

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Developments for the future

- Data and data management
- Evaluation of effectiveness of risk reduction systems
- Real comparisons of performance,based on "value added"
- Integration of IRMP into other planning cycles
- Improved professional development in risk management planning.

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Thank you

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