

# Home Office response to 2016 survey of users of Fire Statistics Great Britain

## 1. Introduction

Within Fire Statistics Great Britain 2013/14, the Home Office Fire Statistics team invited users to consider a move of focus on Fire Statistics from Great Britain to England, with key details for other nations included. This was proposed for the next annual publication in June 2016. This document summarises the responses and views of users and sets-out the Home Office Statistics Unit's intentions for the future collection and publication of Fire data.

## 2. Background

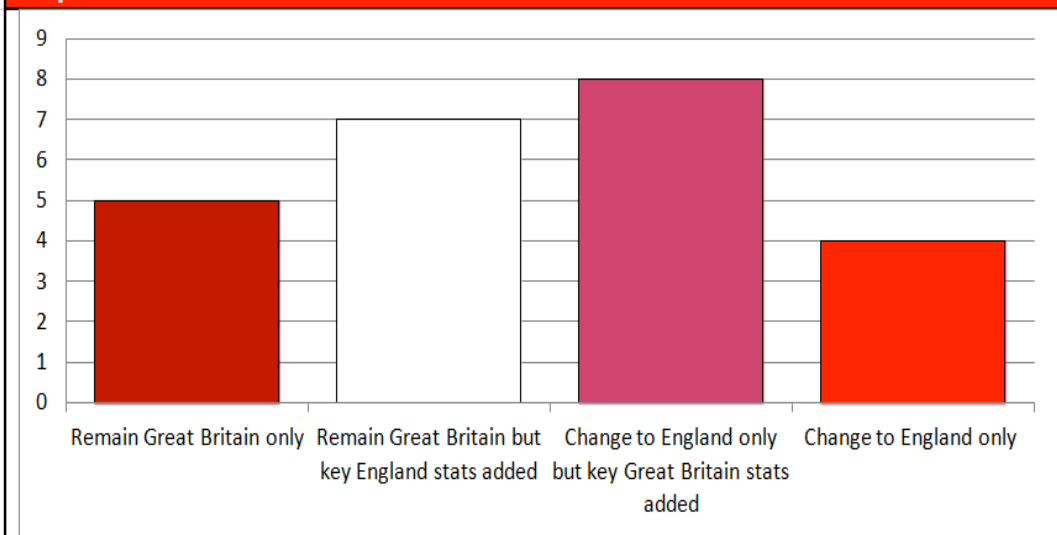
The Fire Statistics Great Britain 2013/14 release first suggested the possibility of the publication switching focus from Great Britain to England. The Scottish and Welsh Governments produce their own statistical releases on fire statistics. This enables a detailed analysis of these individual nations and availability of such analysis to the public. A similar level of detailed analysis for England may also be considered desirable and was first suggested by key users of the Fire Statistics publications. In order to identify whether this change would be advisable, a user survey was created.

In April 2016 the Fire Statistics team launched a light-touch user survey comprising of ten questions. These questions aimed to cover views of the publication content, its usefulness and suggestions for potential improvements. The survey received 24 responses, from a wide range of users. We would like to thank those who took the time to respond.

## 3. Response to survey

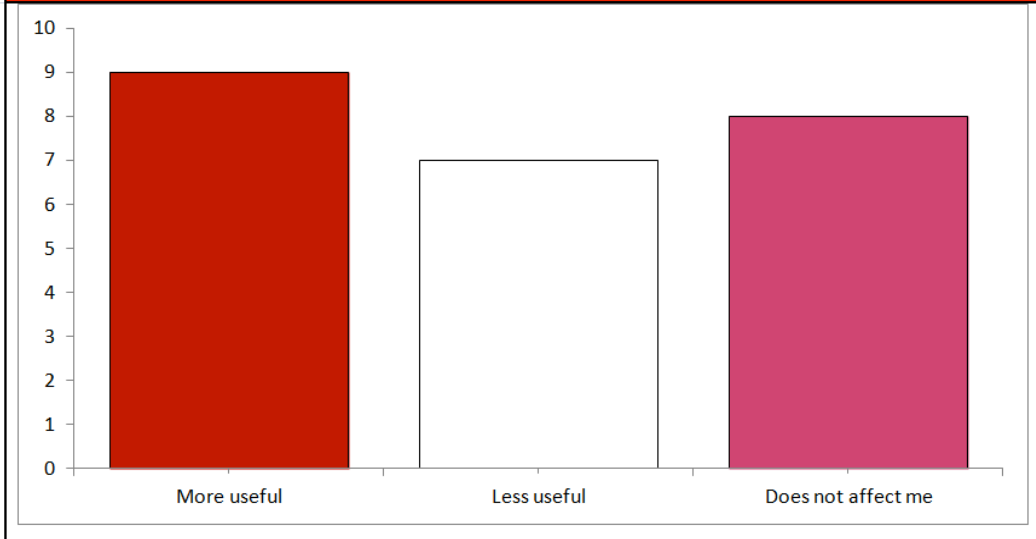
The survey results indicate that more responders would prefer the publication to have a focus on England whilst including key statistics on Great Britain, rather than the publication to remain on Great Britain or England alone (see Chart 1 below).

**Chart 1: Percentage of Responses to Q2) Would you prefer if the focus/coverage of the publication were to:**



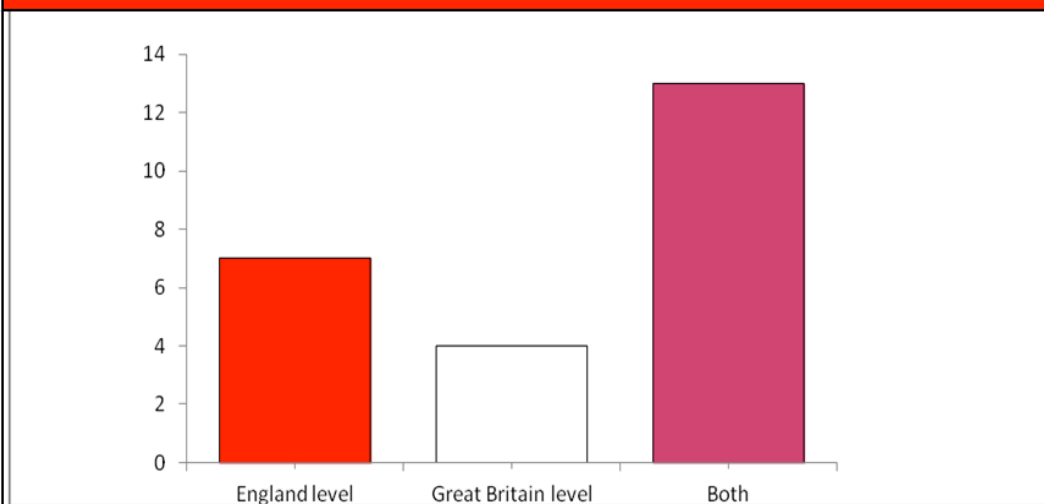
More users felt that an England focussed release would be beneficial compared to a Great Britain based release (Chart 2).

**Chart 2: Percentage of responses to Q3) If we changed the Great Britain focus of this publication to England, but still published some key headline statistics for Great Britain would you find the publication more or less useful?**



Overall, most users reported to use both the England level statistics and Great Britain statistics. Out of the other users, more reported using England level statistics than Great Britain level statistics (see Chart 3)

**Chart 3: Percentage of responses to Q1) Do you use fire statistics summary information (such as those available in FSGB) at an England level, Great Britain level or both?**



#### 4. The way forward

The general consensus from the survey favours:

- **A publication which focuses on England Statistics**
- **Including additional key Great Britain tables**

This will enable a detailed analysis of these individual nations and availability of such analysis to the public. The Home Office will continue to monitor this and keep engaged with users, ensuring that our statistics are in keeping with user needs.

Finally, Home Office Statistics would like to thank all the organisations and people who responded to the survey for their valuable input in developing the Fire statistics publication.