



CAMBRIDGESHIRE FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

Working together to improve community safety

I am the Deputy Chief Fire Officer in Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service and have worked with Christine Graham since the beginning of 2008 whilst I have been the Chair of Safer Peterborough Partnership.

I have always found Christine to be professional in her approach to all she does. She is conscientious and consistently delivers on commitments that she has made. Her natural ability to communicate with people at all levels in the most appropriate way and build good relationships has enhanced the partnership working in the city. Her tenacity means that she is able to address difficult situations and bring these through to a successful conclusion even if this can take time to achieve.

I recently asked Christine, in her role of Partnership Manager, to undertake a review of the Arson Task Force and our approach to arson in the city. She was able to use her investigatory skills to gather evidence and establish the issues that were affecting our performance. She provided very clear and measured recommendations to form an Arson Investigation Unit and change our focus on arson in the city. She was able to argue convincingly for these changes to both the fire service and the police, setting out benefits for each of our organisations. She was, through her good communication skills, able to include the existing staff in the review and support them in accepting her recommendations.

Through my work with Christine I have found her to have a good understanding of the work of the Fire Service and the priorities and pressures facing our organisation, along with an ability to step across organisational barriers.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'C Strickland', is written over a faint watermark of the Cambridgeshire Fire & Rescue Service logo.

CHRIS STRICKLAND
DEPUTY CHIEF FIRE OFFICER
CAMBRIDGESHIRE FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE