



Temporary Fire Station at Roseberry Place

Information for Local Residents

Why does Avon Fire & Rescue Service need a temporary fire station?

Avon Fire & Rescue Service (AFRS) provide essential life-saving services to over **107,000 Bath residents and 6 million annual visitors**. Our Bath Fire Station on Bathwick Street has served the community for nearly a century, but is now at the end of its useful life.

Why redevelopment is essential

The existing fire station at Bathwick Street is no longer fit for purpose:

- Structural deterioration affecting safety
- Fire engine bays too narrow for modern vehicles
- No contamination protection facilities for firefighters
- Poor energy efficiency (25% of AFRS's total energy use)
- Outdated facilities not meeting modern standards

The Solution

AFRS has secured funding to completely rebuild Bath Fire Station. However, we cannot interrupt emergency services during the 18-month construction - **lives depend on continuous coverage**.

Site search results

We assessed 32 potential locations within Bath's response area. The vacant former Unigate dairies depot site at Roseberry Place is the only viable option that:

- Maintains 8-minute emergency response times
 - Has sufficient operational space
 - Is available for 18 months
 - Allows rapid temporary setup & takedown
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The Proposal and Operations

Buildings that are high quality, pre-fabricated, temporary modular design that:

- Are built off-site to reduce disruption
- Require only shallow concrete foundations
- Can be completely removed with no lasting impact
- Meet all modern operational standards

Operational requirements:

- Fire Station (2-storey, height 7m): Offices, rest areas, facilities for 24 firefighters
- Vehicle Appliance Bay (height 6.2m): Covered storage for 4 fire engines
- Staff Gym (height 3m): Essential fitness facility for firefighter health and safety
- Parking Spaces
- Security Fencing

Minimal ground disturbance

- Buildings sit on concrete pads, not deep foundations
- Connects to existing drainage and utilities
- Site can be completely restored after 18 months
- No permanent changes to the land

Construction timeline

- Site preparation: 2-3 weeks
- Building delivery and assembly: 4-6 weeks (modules arrive pre-built)
- Fit-out and commissioning: 2-3 weeks (internal connections, testing)
- Total construction period: Approximately 3 months (Autumn 2025)

Operational hours and activities

- 24/7 emergency response - We must maintain round-the-clock readiness for emergencies

What happens on-site:

- Emergency vehicle deployment and return
- Office work and administration
- Equipment checks and maintenance
- Indoor training and briefings
- Shift changes at 8am and 5pm daily

What happens off-site to minimise disturbance:

- Fire engine washing and major servicing
- Live fire training and exercises
- Specialist equipment storage
- Large-scale training drills

Managing noise and disturbance

Emergency sirens:

- Required by law for emergency response
- Efforts made to minimise use at night
- Sirens not activated until vehicles reach main A36 road (unless critical emergency)
- Average 5 emergency calls per day

Operational noise control:

- No engine testing outside daytime hours
- Equipment testing scheduled during daytime only
- Radio use confined to vehicles or inside buildings
- No external PA systems or loud equipment

Traffic and parking:

- Dedicated on-site parking spaces for staff
- Controlled staff access during shift changes
- Emergency vehicles use dedicated route to A36
- Visitor access by appointment only

Lighting:

- Motion-sensitive, downward-facing LED lights
- Minimal light spill to neighbouring properties
- Emergency lighting only activates during call-outs
- Automatic timer controls reduce night-time lighting

Timeline and Contact

- Planning Application: August 2025
- Construction: Autumn 2025 (3 months)
- Operations: 18 months maximum
- Site Restoration: Complete removal
- Return to Bathwick Street: Spring 2027

Construction hours

- Monday-Friday: 8am-6pm
- Saturday: 8am-1pm (if needed)

Contact Us

Operational:

bath.redevelopment@avonfire.gov.uk

Construction: **Portakabin Project Manager**

– **Contact details on-site**



Visit our Bath project page for updates

[www.avonfire.gov.uk/
your-area/bath-north-east-
somerset/bath-fire-station/](http://www.avonfire.gov.uk/your-area/bath-north-east-somerset/bath-fire-station/)

We understand this represents a temporary change for the area and appreciate your patience. Our goal is minimising disruption whilst maintaining Bath's essential life-saving services. Thank you for your understanding and support. Full technical documents available on BANES planning portal.

Avon Fire & Rescue Service - Protecting Bath's communities for nearly 150 years