

History of Civil Defence Services in Wolverhampton

Period	Organisation	Length of Service
1853 – 1941	Wolverhampton Fire Brigade	88 years
1935 – 1941	Air Raid Precautions (ARP)	6 years
1938 – 1941	Auxiliary Fire Service (AFS)	3 years
1938 –	Royal Voluntary Service (RVS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1938 – 1966: Women's Voluntary Service for Civil Defence (WVS) • 1966 – 2004: Women's Royal Voluntary Service (WRVS) • 2004 – 2013: WRVS 	82 years
1941 – 1945	Civil Defence Service (CDS)	4 years
1941 – 1948	National Fire Service (NFS)	7 years
1948 – 1974	Wolverhampton Fire and Ambulance Service (WFAS)	26 years
1949 – 1968	Civil Defence Corps (CDC)	20 years
1974 –	West Midlands Fire Service (WMFS)	46 years
1974 – 1990	West Midlands Regional Health Authority Metropolitan Ambulance Service	16 years
1990 – 2006	West Midlands Ambulance Service (WMAS)	16 years
2006 –	West Midlands Ambulance Service University NHS Foundation Trust <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2006 – 2013: West Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust • 2013 – 2018: West Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust 	14 years
2019 –	Wulfruna Land & Water Lifesavers	1 year

Fire Service	Ambulance Service
1853: Wolverhampton Fire Brigade Formed; HQ Garrick Street Police Station	
1871: HQ moved to Wolverhampton Central Fire Station in Red Lion Street	
1938: 1,600 local fire brigades in the UK	
1938: Fire Brigades Act 1938 constituted the councils of all county boroughs and county districts (municipal boroughs, urban and rural districts) as fire authorities.	
1941: All local brigades and Auxiliary Fire Service units in Great Britain were merged into the National Fire Service (NFS) under the auspices of the Civil Defence Service	
1941: Wolverhampton Fire Brigade Merged into NFS	
1947: Fire Services Act 1947 disbanded the National Fire Service and made firefighting functions the responsibility of county and county borough councils	
1948: Wolverhampton Fire and Ambulance Service formed; HQ 123 Penn Road	
1960: New District Fire Station was built at Fallings Park	
1968: New HQ built at Merridale Street to replace the Central Fire Station in Red Lion Street	
Fire and Ambulance Service Committee controlled buildings; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central Ambulance Station and Control at 123 Penn Road • Merridale Street Fire Headquarters 	
District Fire Stations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bilston • Fallings Park • Tettenhall 	District Ambulance Stations; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fallings Park • Marston Road • Tettenhall
1970: Tettenhall Fire Station moved from Wergs Road to Regis Road	
	????: Central Ambulance Station and Control transferred to temporary accommodation at the Former Civil Defence HQ in

	Herbert Street, before moving to new premises at Heath Town next to New Cross.
	1973: 142 Ambulance Services in England and Wales
1974: Responsibility for Fire Safety transferred to the new county councils following the implementation of The Local Government Act 1972 on 1 April.	1974: Ambulance Service responsibility transferred by the National Health Service Reorganisation Act 1973 from local authority to central government control; number of ambulance services reduced to 53 under regional or area health authorities
1974: West Midlands Fire Service (WMFS) formed from the merger of; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birmingham Fire and Ambulance Service • Coventry Fire Brigade • Dudley Fire Brigade • Solihull Fire Brigade • Warley Fire Brigade • West Bromwich Fire Brigade • Wolverhampton Fire and Ambulance Service 	1974: West Midlands Regional Health Authority Metropolitan Ambulance Service formed
1986: West Midlands County Council abolished on 31 March, administration of WMFS transferred to The West Midlands Fire and Civil Defence Authority	
	1990: National Health Service and Community Care Act 1990; number of Ambulance Service Trusts in England reduced to 31
	1990: West Midlands Ambulance Service formed (Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin, West Midlands less Coventry)
	1996: West Midlands Ambulance Service Trust General Charity registered on 30 September

<p>2004: The West Midlands Fire and Civil Defence Authority renamed The West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority</p>	
	<p>2006: 14 Ambulance Services; West Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust formed on 1 July 2006 from merger of the Hereford & Worcester Ambulance Service NHS Trust, Coventry & Warwickshire Ambulance NHS Trust, and WMAS and Shropshire services</p>
	<p>2007: West Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust merged with Staffordshire Ambulance Service on 1 October</p>
	<p>2013: West Midlands Ambulance Service became an NHS Foundation Trust on 1 January</p>
	<p>2018: West Midlands Ambulance Service became a University Ambulance Trust 14 November</p>