Issues to be addressed following the audit on 14/11/22

Buckinghamshire Fire & Rescue Service underwent an accessibility audit recently for https://bucksfire.gov.uk/ by the Government Digital Service.

All the issues flagged for attention were addressed and marked as fixed by our development company Maglabs Digital (part of Maglabs Limited). On 14/11/22, these fixes were checked by an independent auditor commissioned by Maglabs Digital.

The independent auditor commissioned by Maglabs Digital then undertook a general check of the site, using a mixture of automated and manual checks (including using each page without a mouse, viewing pages at different zoom settings and simulating viewing pages on a small screen), to find barriers to users with accessibility needs. See **Checklist**.

The original issues from the accessibility audit were then re-checked by the Government Digital Service and some are awaiting signoff.
See **Follow-up audit by Government Digital Service**.

The resulting report forms a 'roadmap' of fixes being carried out, with a completion date of 31st December 2022 for all except two.
The remaining two: *Register for event form: Register for event is a link, but its behaviour is that of a button* and *PDFs to be compliant* are due to be addressed in 2023.

Checklist (Updated 09/12/22)				
Issue and description	**Where the issue was found**	**Status**	**Comments**	**Checked**
WCAG 2.4.7 Focus Visible A visible focus helps users know which element has keyboard focus and where they are on the page. When an element gets focus there should be a visible border around it. Highlighting the element that has keyboard focus or is hovered over can provide information like whether the element is	*Register for event form:* When register form pop-over is shown, tabbing through can get the focus stuck on the "close" X symbol	☑		☑

interactive or the scope of that element. Operating systems have a native indication of focus, which is available in many browsers. The default display of the focus indicator is not always highly visible and may even be difficult to see especially on coloured backgrounds.	*Register for event form:* Dialog text refers to pressing escape to close, but this is redundant, much like asking a user to click a link to go to a page	☑	Aria label is removed from the x button	☑
	Register for event form: Register for event is a link, but its behaviour is that of a button	☐	As this is part of a plugin, it can't be changed, but we are looking to move to a new plugin in 2023	☐
☑	*Register for event form:* The focus is lost when register event pop-over is opened. Focus should be moved to the first interactive element in that pop-over when it is opened, and returned back to the register button when the popover is closed.	☑	Focus now targets the register button after the form closes while tabbing.	☑
☑	*Contact Us page:* The Google Maps link on address text on the Contact Us page has a focus indicator that doesn't surround the text ervice Headquarters,	☑		☑
☑	*News & Blog page filter:* Reset button cannot be accessed via keyboard and has no focus style	☑		☑

WCAG 2.4.9 Link Purpose Links should identify their purpose, and links with the same name should do the same thing.	*Homepage* The following links have the text "Read more" but point to various places: ● 2 in carousel ● 2 in the "Safety Advice" and "Becoming part of our team" blocks ● 3 links in the "Incident Updates" block (and repeated multiple times on the Incident Updates page) A fix for this would be to make the link either visually read as "Read more about *xyz*" or make that the accessible label with `aria-label`	☑	As the links are dynamically generated, the following has been added: aria-label="Link to further information on this topic"	☑
	Footer on all pages The 999 link in the footer is read out by screen readers as "nine-hundred and ninety-nine". To fix this, a zero-width space (`​`) can be added between the numbers of the link text (the `href` should be left as-is): `9​9​9`	☑		☑
WCAG 1.1.1 Text Alternatives - Non-Text Content All non-text content that is presented to the user has a text alternative that serves the equivalent purpose.	*Incident Updates* The incident updates block icons for location, time, and type all contain the word "icon" within the `alt` text. This is a redundant type word for images and graphics; the `alt` text should be considered a replacement for situations where images are not available, e.g. slow connections or for screen readers.	☑		☑
	All Pages The logo `alt` text should match the text in the image, either "Buckinghamshire Fire & rescue service, we save lives" or "Buckinghamshire Fire & rescue service".	☑		☑

☑	*All Pages* The SVG images in the breadcrumbs and main navigation may surface to some screen readers, as the SVG is included via the CSS `content` property. As it's purely decorative, either the image can be included as a background image, or the SVG itself can contain markup to hide itself from assistive tech: role="presentation" aria-hidden="true"	☑	role="presentation and aria-hidden="true" Added to svgs.	☑
☑	*Join Us pages* The `alt` text of some images within the "Join Us" section could be better: ● Join Us page - firefighters with crossed arms, the image here is really decorative, as the text on it is duplicated below, so in this case empty `alt` text is fine	☑		☑
	● Join Us page - the on call radius map should ideally have `alt` text that would make sense if the image also couldn't be displayed, perhaps a basic description like "On call map showing circular 6, 8, and 10 minute response zones between Princes Risborough Firestation and Great Hampden"	☑		☑
	● Apply On Call Firefighters - the `alt` text for the first image is "Alt text".	☑		☑
	● Apply on call firefighters - radius map same as Join Us page	☑		☑
WCAG 2.4.10 Section Headings Headings should follow a logical order and not skip levels	*All Pages* For all pages tested, the first heading is an `<h2>` rather than an `<h1>`.	☑		☑

WCAG 2.4.3 Focus Order Navigation should follow a logical order that follows the content	*Events Page* Print link is not a valid link and can't be accessed with the keyboard. It might be better as a button, as the user is not navigated elsewhere.	☑	Print link can now be accessed using a keyboard	☑
	Events Sub Pages The share links can be tabbed into by keyboard even when not visible	☑		☑
	Call Awareness Evening Page The "On-Call Firefight page" link just below the register and calendar buttons is actually 3 links. When tabbing through with an active screen reader running, the result is confusingly split mid-word at the end.	☑		☑
	All Pages The "Go back to top" link in the footer should have the `role="button"` removed, as it is actually a link that navigates the user, rather than a button.	☑		☑
	All Pages The "Go back to top" arrow image should have empty `alt` text, as it's a purely decorative image.	☑		☑
	All Pages The "Send a message" link in the footer should have `role="button"` removed as it is a link that navigates the user somewhere rather than a button.	☑		☑

WCAG 3.2.3 Consistent Navigation Navigation should follow consistent patterns and behave in a predictable manner	*News & Blog Page Filter* Clicking the reset button adds a new entry for that page to the browser history, effectively breaking the back/forward navigation buttons in the browser	☑	☑
WCAG 4.1.2 Name, Role, Value: Input buttons must have discernible text. Issue found using Deque Axe. All buttons must have a descriptive accessible name so that screen reader users can understand the destination, purpose, function, or action of the button. If an image is used as a button, screen readers may not understand the use without a clear and accessible name. The title of an active image may not give enough information. Unnamed active images will have no details of the destination, purpose or action.	*All pages with search field:* search text input field does not have a *visible* label. The text that precedes it would make an ideal label if referred to via `aria-labelledby` instead of specifying an explicit label with `aria-label`.	☑	☑
	Events pages: The "share" link on events should be a toggle button linked to the content it shows/hides.	☑	☑

Follow-up audit by Government Digital Service (Updated 09/12/22)				
WCAG 2.4.7 Focus Visible	*All pages:* At 400% zoom, the keyboard focus is not visible on the link underneath Events. This means the user cannot access the Contact us link in the hamburger menu	☑	Padding added at bottom of UL and scrollto function added.	☐
☑	*News and blog:* Once the calendars are opened, the keyboard cannot be used to access the calendar dates	☑	Because the date range function is hardly (if ever) used, it was decided it would be better for UX to remove it.	☑
☑	*Contact us:* The Send a message button is not accessible using the keyboard. This was not found in the initial report however should be reviewed	☑		☑
WCAG 1.3.1 Info and Relationships and WCAG 4.1.2 Name, Role, Value: Form elements must have labels (Axe)	Refers to the search bar. It does not have accessible text. This is still an issue	☑		☐

PDF document: WCAG 2.4.2 Page titled (PDF)	The PDF title is still missing. Are you able to provide the page for where the new PDF document is linked from?	☑	Any new PDFs added to our website will be compliant with accessibility requirements. We plan to review our website in 2022/23, and part of this review will include an audit of all content to identify any elements that do not meet accessibility standards, and fix them, or replace them with accessible HTML pages.	☐
Statement	The issues found in the retest are not listed in the statement	☑		☑