

# Assessing Community Perceptions of Fire Risk – For Fire Services at the Local Level

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## Who to ask?

Community groups  
Community representatives  
Religious leaders  
Organisational leaders  
Fire service personnel  
- local and regional  
As many different groups as possible

## How to ask?

For the range of issues:  
Interviews and/or Workshops  
at meetings of other organisations or groups  
For the extent of issues :  
Surveys – by experienced researchers

## When to ask?

Anytime, before an education campaign, before planning fire prevention activities in the community, after a fire event

*Remember that communities include the families, households, organisations, the networks and the political processes that link them, not just individuals.*

## How often to ask?

Keep asking - just keep records of who you've spoken with and what their views are.

## Why ask?

Keep people informed, reduce conflict between community members and agencies, meet community needs, provide effective fire services

## What might we learn?

The range of views, who needs what type of information, similarities and differences in views between fire agencies and community members