

Section 12: Operational Standards

Guidance has been provided by the NDFEM in relation to Operational Standards.

12.1 Area Categorisations

Guidance from the NDFEM provides a methodology for applying a Risk Categorisation to each fire station ground. The following documents provide the guidance and data that have been used by Kilkenny Fire and Rescue Service when preparing a report setting out the Risk Categorisation of each station ground -

- NDFEM Keeping Communities Safe – Chapter 7 and Appendix E,
- NDFEM Risk Based Approach Report Version 1, 4th May 2012,
- NDFEM Risk Based Management Report – National Analysis - Phase I Report, 22nd November 2013,
- NDFEM Fire Services Task Analysis and Crewing Levels, 12th December 2013,
- NDFEM Good Practice Note 2.6 Management of Attendance of Retained Crews – Draft 3.6, 3rd April 2014.

The guidance has been provided taking cognisance of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005. Each station ground in the County has been analysed in accordance with the above guidance to determine what the Area Risk Categorisation (ARC) is for that area. The Area Risk Categorisation for each station ground has been reassessed by the Chief Fire Officer in September 2021 (Appendix E).

The following table is a summary of the overall Risk Grading Categorisation of each station fire ground -

Station Area	Risk Grading Categorisation
Kilkenny City (Fire HQ)	C1
Castlecomer	D2
Freshford	D2
Urlingford	D2
Thomastown	D1
Callan	D1
Graiguenamanagh	D2

Table 12.1 Risk Grading Categorisation for Fire Stations in County Kilkenny

The following details outline the current crew complements and staffing arrangements for the various fire stations in County Kilkenny and any changes that are proposed to these

arrangements following the Risk Categorisation process as a consequence of guidance in KCS and other NDFEM Circulars, in particular a KCS Research Document – Fire Services Task Analysis and Crewing Levels (Version 2.2 December 2013) that sets out the roles various personnel may carry out at an incident.

Presently there is an on-going review by the NDFEM of the retained fire service, outcomes from this review will be reviewed with all stakeholders.

12.1.1 Kilkenny City Fire Station (Fire Service Headquarters) (KK11)

Kilkenny City fire station ground is deemed to have an overall area Risk Categorisation of CI in accordance with the Risk Categorisation table provided in Chapter 7 of the Keeping Communities Safe (KCS) Document (2013). Kilkenny City Fire Brigade can mobilise 2 No. lass B Pumping Appliances and this is deemed appropriate for the Risk Categorisation for their station ground. The full crew compliment for the station, (other than Senior Fire Officers, Administration or Maintenance personnel based at the Fire Service Headquarters Fire Station) in accordance with the guidance provided in the KCS Document (and the 1999 Composite Agreement) for a CI Risk Category Station is fifteen (15no) retained personnel on a roster. The current crew complement at Kilkenny City Fire Station is fourteen (14no) personnel as follows -

- 1 No. Retained Station Officer,
- 2 No. Retained Sub-Station Officer,
- 4 No. Retained Fire-fighter / Driver Mechanic,
- 7 No. Retained Fire-fighters.

The current crewing arrangement for these personnel is as follows -

- An arrangement is in place to provide for a minimum number of nine (9no) retained personnel to be available to respond for call-outs at Kilkenny City Fire Station,
- Five (5no) personnel on the first appliance mobilised and four (4no) personnel on the second appliance or special appliance,
- In general, at least one officer must respond (either the Retained Station Officer and/or the Retained Sub-Station Officer),
- This will guarantee nine (9no) personnel to crew the Alpha-one and Alpha-two (standard Class B Fire Appliances) in accordance with the KCS Guidance.

The current crewing levels in Kilkenny City were agreed between staff and management. It is proposed to leave the current crew complement and the crewing arrangement at Kilkenny City Fire Station for the interim period, however this will be reviewed in line with the documents “NDFEM Fire Services Task Analysis and Crewing Levels, 12th December

2013” and “NDFEM Good Practice Note 2.6 Management of Attendance of Retained Crews – Draft 3.6, 3rd April 2014”.

12.1.2 Castlecomer Fire Station (KK12)

Castlecomer fire station ground is deemed to have an overall area Risk Categorisation of D2 in accordance with the Risk Categorisation table provided in Chapter 7 of the Keeping Communities Safe (KCS) Document (2013). Castlecomer Fire Brigade can mobilise 1 No. Class B Pumping Appliance and have a second-Class B Appliance available in the fire station. This is deemed appropriate for the Risk Categorisation for their station ground.

The full crew compliment for the station in accordance with the guidance provided in the KCS Document for a D2 Risk Category Station is nine (9no) retained personnel. The current crew complement at Castlecomer Fire Station is nine (9no) personnel as follows -

- 1 No. Retained Station Officer,
- 1 No. Retained Sub-Station Officer,
- 2 No. Retained Fire-fighter / Driver Mechanic,
- 5 No. Retained Fire-fighters.

The current crewing arrangement for these personnel is as follows -

- An arrangement is in place to provide for a minimum number of five (5no) retained personnel to be available to respond for call-outs at Castlecomer Fire Station,
- In general, at least one officer must respond (either the Retained Station Officer and/or the Retained Sub-Station Officer).

It is proposed to leave the current crew complement and the crewing arrangement at Castlecomer Fire Station unaltered. This will guarantee five (5no) personnel to crew the first Alpha (standard Class B Fire Appliance) in accordance with the KCS Guidance.

12.1.3 Freshford Fire Station (KK13)

Freshford fire station ground is deemed to have an overall area Risk Categorisation of D2 in accordance with the Risk Categorisation table provided in Chapter 7 of the Keeping Communities Safe (KCS) Document (2013). Freshford Fire Brigade can mobilise 1 No. Class B Pumping Appliance and have a Water Tanker available in the fire station. This is deemed appropriate for the Risk Categorisation for their station ground.

The full crew compliment for the station in accordance with the Guidance provided in the KCS Document for a D2 Risk Category Station is nine (9no) retained personnel. The current crew complement at Freshford Fire Station is nine (9no) personnel as follows -

- 1 No. Retained Station Officer,
- 1 No. Retained Sub-Station Officer,
- 2 No. Retained Fire-fighter / Driver Mechanic,
- 5 No. Retained Fire-fighters.

The current crewing arrangement for these personnel is as follows -

- An arrangement is in place to provide for a minimum number of five (5no) retained personnel to be available to respond for call-outs at Freshford Fire Station
- In general, at least one officer must respond (either the Retained Station Officer and/or the Retained Sub-Station Officer)

It is proposed to leave the current crew complement and the crewing arrangement at Freshford fire station unaltered. This will guarantee five (5no) personnel to crew the first Alpha (standard Class B Fire Appliance) in accordance with the KCS Guidance.

12.1.4 Urlingford Fire Station (KK14)

Urlingford fire station ground is deemed to have an overall area Risk Categorisation of D2 in accordance with the Risk Categorisation table provided in Chapter 7 of the Keeping Communities Safe (KCS) Document (2013). Urlingford Fire Brigade can mobilise 1 No. Class B Pumping Appliance and have a second Class B Appliance available in the Fire Station. This is deemed appropriate for the Risk Categorisation for their station ground.

The full crew compliment for the station in accordance with the guidance provided in the KCS Document for a D2 Risk Category Station is nine (9no) retained personnel. The current crew complement at Urlingford Fire Station is nine (9no) personnel as follows -

- 1 No. Retained Station Officer,
- 1 No. Retained Sub-Station Officer,
- 2 No. Retained Fire-fighter / Driver Mechanic,
- 5 No. Retained Fire-fighters.

The current crewing arrangement for these personnel is as follows -

- An arrangement is in place to provide for a minimum number of five (5no) retained personnel to be available to respond for call-outs at Urlingford Fire Station,
- In general, at least one officer must respond (either the Retained Station Officer and/or the Retained Sub-Station Officer).

It is proposed to leave the current crew complement and the crewing arrangement at Urlingford Fire Station unaltered. This will guarantee five (5no) personnel to crew the first

Alpha (standard Class B Fire Appliance) in accordance with the KCS Guidance.

12.1.5 Thomastown Fire Station (KK15)

Thomastown fire station ground is deemed to have an overall area Risk Categorisation of D1 in accordance with the Risk Categorisation table provided in Chapter 7 of the Keeping Communities Safe (KCS) Document (2013). In the previous Fire and Emergency Operations Plan (2015-2020), Thomastown had a D2 area risk categorisation (ARC), its ARC has increased to a D1 as a result of an increase in its population and dwelling fire rate. Thomastown Fire Brigade can mobilise 1 No. Class B Pumping Appliance and a Water Tanker available in the Fire Station. This is deemed appropriate for the Risk Categorisation for their station ground.

The full crew compliment for the station in accordance with the guidance provided in the KCS Document for a D1 Risk Category Station is nine (9no) retained personnel. The current crew complement at Thomastown Fire Station is nine (9no) personnel as follows -

- 1 No. Retained Station Officer,
- 1 No. Retained Sub-Station Officer,
- 2 No. Retained Firefighter / Driver Mechanic,
- 5 No. Retained Fire-fighters.

The current crewing arrangement for these personnel is as follows -

- An arrangement is in place to provide for a minimum number of five (5no) retained personnel to be available to respond for call-outs at Thomastown Fire Station,
- In general, at least one officer must respond (either the Retained Station Officer and/or the Retained Sub-Station Officer).

It is proposed to leave the current crew complement and the crewing arrangement at Thomastown Fire Station unaltered. This will guarantee five (5no) personnel to crew the first Alpha (standard Class B Fire Appliance) in accordance with the KCS Guidance.

12.1.6 Callan Fire Station (KK16)

Callan fire station ground is deemed to have an overall area Risk Categorisation of D1 in accordance with the Risk Categorisation table provided in Chapter 7 of the Keeping Communities Safe (KCS) Document (2013). In the previous Fire and Emergency Operations Plan (2015-2020), Callan had a D2 area risk categorisation (ARC), its ARC has increased to a D1 as a result of an increase in its population and dwelling fire and RTC rates.

Callan Fire Brigade can mobilise 1 No. Class B Pumping Appliance and have a second-Class B Appliance available in the Fire Station. This is deemed appropriate for the Risk Categorisation for their station ground.

The full crew compliment for the station in accordance with the guidance provided in the KCS Document for a D1 Risk Category Station is nine (9no) retained personnel. The current crew complement at Callan Fire Station is nine (9no) personnel as follows -

- 1 No. Retained Station Officer,
- 1 No. Retained Sub-Station Officer,
- 2 No. Retained Fire-fighter / Driver Mechanic,
- 5 No. Retained Fire-fighters.

The current crewing arrangement for these personnel is as follows -

- An arrangement is in place to provide for a minimum number of five (5no) retained personnel to be available to respond for call-outs at Callan Fire Station,
- In general, at least one officer must respond (either the Retained Station Officer and/or the Retained Sub-Station Officer).

It is proposed to leave the current crew complement and the crewing arrangement at Callan Fire Station unaltered. This will guarantee five (5no) personnel to crew the first Alpha (standard Class B Fire Appliance) in accordance with the KCS Guidance.

12.1.7 Graiguenamanagh Fire Station (KK17)

Graiguenamanagh fire station ground is deemed to have an overall area Risk Categorisation of D2 in accordance with the Risk Categorisation table provided in Chapter 7 of the Keeping Communities Safe (KCS) Document (2013). Graiguenamanagh Fire Brigade can mobilise 1 No. Class B Pumping Appliance and have a second Class B Appliance available in the Fire Station. This is deemed appropriate for the Risk Categorisation for their station ground.

The full crew compliment for the station in accordance with the guidance provided in the KCS Document for a D2 Risk Category Station is nine (9no) retained personnel. The full crew complement at Graiguenamanagh Fire Station is nine (9no) personnel as follows -

- 1 No. Retained Station Officer,
- 1 No. Retained Sub-Station Officer,
- 2 No. Retained Fire-fighter / Driver Mechanic,
- 5 No. Retained Fire-fighters.

The current crewing arrangement for these personnel is as follows -

- An arrangement is in place to provide for a minimum number of five (5no) retained personnel to be available to respond for call-outs at Graiguenamanagh Fire Station,
- In general, at least one officer must respond (either the Retained Station Officer and/or the Retained Sub-Station Officer).

It is proposed to leave the current crew complement and the crewing arrangement at Graiguenamanagh Fire Station unaltered. This will guarantee five (5no) personnel to crew the first Alpha (standard Class B Fire Appliance) in accordance with the KCS Guidance.

Further details are provided in Chapters 3 (Organisation) and 5 (Fire Appliances) of this document regarding the organisational structure and the fire appliances that are available in each fire station.

12.1.8 Stations with special and support appliances

Consideration shall be given to the introduction of selective calling of crews to special appliances e.g. *Water Tankers, Emergency Tender appliance, Combined Class B / Aerial Appliance, Incident Command Unit*. This shall be done in accordance with the KCS Guidance and consultation between management and staff.

12.2 Pre-Determined Attendances (PDA)

Chapter 11 of this document (Operational procedures) (Appendix M) identified the incidents that Kilkenny Fire and Rescue Service will normally respond too. KCS identifies the normal Pre-Determined Attendance for each of these incidents (number and type of Fire Appliances that will respond). Kilkenny Fire and Rescue Service will work with other Fire Authorities in the Eastern Regional Communications Centre (ERCC) and Munster Regional Communications Centre (MRCC) to mobilise Fire Appliances for the County of Kilkenny and adjoining counties in accordance with these Pre-Determined Attendances.

Station boundaries will be reviewed under the Risk Based Approach (RBA2) National Project by the NDFEM in consultation with the relevant fire brigades to ensure that the nearest Fire Service available resource can respond to an address in the shortest period of time. RBA2 data outlines the quickest travel time for initial and subsequent Fire Service Responses into each addressable location and in conjunction with analysis from the Eastern Regional Communications Centre (ERCC).

Section 85 Agreements (Appendix F) or other similar arrangements under Local Government Acts in relation to fire cover arrangements with adjoining counties will need to be reviewed and updated in accordance with relevant and current Local Government Acts. It is the intention that the order of attendance of stations to specific geographical areas is continually reviewed using the principle of “Nearest Available Resource”. The Risk Based Management Phase II continuous series of reports will underpin local operational knowledge and inherent risk profile in geographical areas will form the basis for this operational decision-making process.

12.3 Mobilising Times

KCS provides guidance regarding expected and target times for the first fire appliance to mobilise to an incident. It is expected that the average time for the first fire appliance to mobilise from any fire station should be less than 6 minutes; however the target is 5 minutes. The following table shows that current average time to mobilise from each Fire Station in the Fire Authority as follows -

Stations	Current Average Time to Mobilise (Mins) (All Incidents) (Average for 3-Year Period 2018 to 2020)*
Kilkenny City	7 minutes 33 seconds
Castlecomer	6 minutes 36 seconds
Freshford	6 minutes 42 seconds
Urlingford	5 minutes 43 seconds
Thomastown	5 minutes 58 seconds
Callan	5 minutes 34 seconds
Graiguenamanagh	8 minutes 09 seconds
<i>Kilkenny Fire and Rescue Service Average time to mobilise</i>	<i>6 minutes 21 seconds</i>

** Data from KKFRS calculated statistics from Annual Returns–FSi Gartan for the 3-Year Period 2018 to 2020 – averaged.*

Table 12.2 Average times to Mobilise for Fire Stations in County Kilkenny

The mobilisation times for the following fire stations are above the KCS Fire Service Response times of less than 6 minutes for retained fire stations -

- Kilkenny City,
- Castlecomer,
- Freshford,
- Graiguenamanagh.

Kilkenny Fire and Rescue Service aims to reduce the mobilisation times for all brigades and in particular for the above brigades in accordance with KCS Guidance. These trends will be monitored. In the previous Fire and Emergency Operations Plan 2015 to 2020 the average time to mobilise for fires was **6 minutes 49 seconds** by the end of 2020 this was reduced to **6 minutes 21 seconds**.

A time in attendance management system to accurately record the attendance time of each firefighter to the station for emergency calls shall be considered - sourced, introduced, implemented and managed in accordance with national guidance through management and staff consultation.

12.4 Travel Times

KCS provides guidance on target travel times for the first and subsequent Class B Fire Appliances (Standard Fire Appliances) for Primary and Secondary incidents. The targets are for a 75% confidence level of Primary and Secondary Call-Outs (*i.e. the target is only applicable to 75% of Call-Outs*).

Currently data is only available from the Eastern Regional Communications Centre for the travel time for the first attending Class B Fire Appliance (Standard Fire Appliance) for all call-outs (*i.e. Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Incidents*). When data becomes available for subsequent Class B appliances and Special Appliances, the data will be analysed to determine if Kilkenny Fire and Rescue Service conforms to this guidance. In addition, guidance is also provided in relation to the travel times for special appliances, specifically Aerial Appliances, Emergency Tender Appliances, and Water Tankers.

The following tables summarise the target travel time for various appliance types and the average travel time for the first-Class B Fire Appliance for all incident types in shown as an indicator of current travel times.

Travel Time to Incidents

Chapter 9 of KCS recommends that fire services should continue to record the percentage of cases, both fires and other emergencies, by station and for the overall Fire Authority where the Fire Authorities travel time to incidents within 10 minutes, between 11 and 20 minutes and greater than 20 minutes. The targets are for a 75% confidence level of Primary and Secondary Call-Outs (i.e. the target is only applicable to 75% of Call-Outs).

The current travel times are as follows -

Stations	Current % of Incidents attended in within 10 Minutes Travel Time**	Current % of Incidents attended between 11 and 20 Minutes Travel Time**	Current % of Incidents attended greater than 20 Minutes Travel Time**
Kilkenny City (HQ)	80%	96%	4%
Castlecomer	72%	93%	5%
Freshford	71%	97%	2%
Urlingford	77%	97%	3%
Thomastown	60%	89%	11%
Callan	70%	95%	5%
Graiguenamanagh	57%	86%	14%

Table 12.3 Percentage of Incidents Attended for specified time frames*

** Data from ERCC- averaged over 2017 to 2020.

The travel times for the following fire stations are achieving the KCS Guidance target rate of 75% for incidents attended in within the **10 minutes** travel time as per Table 7.3 of Keeping Communities Safe.

- Kilkenny City.

The travel times for the following fire stations are achieving the KCS Guidance target rate of 75% for incidents attended in within the **20 minutes** travel time as per Table 7.3 of Keeping Communities Safe.

- Castlecomer,
- Freshford,

- Urlingford,
- Thomastown,
- Callan,
- Graiguenamanagh.

The rural nature of outline brigades, the remote locations of fire calls, and the rural road network all have adverse effects on our travel times to incidents. Kilkenny Fire and Rescue Service aims to increase the percentage of travel time incidents attended within 10 minutes and to decrease the % in the other 2 categories. These trends will be monitored periodically.

12.4.1 Kilkenny City Fire Station (KK11) – Overall Station Risk Categorisation C1

The following appliances are currently based at Kilkenny City Fire Station (further details are available in Chapter 5) -

- 2 No. Class B Appliances,
- 1 No. Emergency Tender Appliance,
- 1 No. Combined Class B / Aerial Appliance,
- 1 No. Water Tanker,
- 1 No. VMS Trailer,
- 1 No. 4-Wheel Drive Jeep.

The following table summarises the guidance in KCS regarding travel times for Class B Appliances -

Number of Class B Appliances	KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time to primary and secondary incidents (for 75% of Call-outs)
1 Appliance	10 minutes
2 Appliances	20 minutes
3 Appliances	30 minutes

Table 12.4 Number of Class B Appliances- KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time to primary and secondary incidents (for 75% of Call-outs)

The current average travel time (based on data from the Eastern Regional Communications Centre (ERCC) for Average Travel Time for the 3-Year Period 2017 to 2020) for the First Class B Appliance from Kilkenny City Fire Station for all call-out types is **7 minutes 06 seconds**, so it is not envisaged that there will be any issues achieving the KCS Target Travel Times for Class B Appliances.

The following guidance is also provided in relation to the travel times for special appliances, specifically Aerial Appliances, Emergency Tender Appliances, and Incident Command Unit and Water Tankers for Kilkenny City Fire Station -

Appliance Type	KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time
Aerial Appliance	30 minutes
Emergency Tender Fire Appliance	45 minutes
Incident Command Unit	75 minutes
Water Tanker Appliance	75 minutes

Table 12.5 Appliance Type - KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time

Currently most of the above special types are based at Kilkenny City Fire Station. The Incident Command Unit is based in Castlecomer Fire Station. Accordingly, it is not envisaged that there will be any issues achieving the KCS Target Travel Times for Special Appliances.

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12.4.2 Castlecomer Fire Station (KK12) –

Overall Station Risk Categorisation D2

The following appliances are currently based at Castlecomer Fire Station (further details are available in Chapter 5) -

- 2 No. Class B Appliances,
- 1 No. 4-Wheel Drive Jeep,
- 1 No. Incident Command Unit.

The following table summarises the guidance in KCS regarding travel times for Class B Appliances -

Number of Class B Appliances	KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time to primary and secondary incidents (for 75% of Call-outs)
1 Appliance	20 minutes
2 Appliances	40 minutes

Table 12.6 Number of Class B Appliances- KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time to primary and secondary incidents (for 75% of Call-outs)

The current average travel time (based on data from the Eastern Regional Communications Centre (ERCC) for average travel time for the 3-Year Period 2017 to 2020) for the First Class B Appliance from Castlecomer Fire Station for all Call-Out Types is **8 minutes 17 seconds**, so it is not envisaged that there will be any issues achieving the KCS Target Travel Times for Class B Appliances.

The following guidance is also provided in relation to the travel times for special appliances, specifically Aerial Appliances, Emergency Tender Appliances, and Incident Command Unit and Water Tankers for Castlecomer Fire Station -

Appliance Type	KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time
Aerial Appliance	60 minutes
Emergency Tender Fire Appliance	60 minutes
Incident Command Unit	90 minutes
Water Tanker Appliance	90 minutes

Table 12.7 Appliance Type - KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time

A Water Tanker is based at Kilkenny City and Freshford Fire Station. A Combined Class B/Aerial Appliance and an Emergency Tender are also based at Kilkenny City Fire Station. Accordingly, it is not envisaged that there will be any issues achieving the KCS Target Travel Times for Special Appliances.

12.4.3 Freshford Fire Station (KK13) – Overall Station Risk Categorisation D2

The following appliances are currently based at Freshford Fire Station (further details are available in Chapter 5):

- 1 No. Class B Appliances,
- 1 No. Water Tanker,
- 1 No. 4-Wheel Drive Jeep.

The following table summarises the guidance in KCS regarding travel times for Class B Appliances -

Number of Class B Appliances	KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time to primary and secondary incidents (for 75% of Call-outs)
1 Appliance	20 minutes
2 Appliances	40 minutes

Table 12.8 Number of Class B Appliances- KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time to primary and secondary incidents (for 75% of Call-outs)

The current average travel time (based on data from the Eastern Regional Communications Centre (ERCC) for Average Travel Time for the 3-Year Period 2017 to 2020) for the First Class B Appliance from Freshford Fire Station for all Call-Out Types is **8 minutes 07 seconds**, so it is not envisaged that there will be any issues achieving the KCS Target Travel Times for Class B Appliances.

The following guidance is also provided in relation to the travel times for special appliances, specifically Aerial Appliances, Emergency Tender Appliances, and Incident Command Units and Water Tankers for Freshford Fire Station –

Appliance Type	KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time
Aerial Appliance	60 minutes
Emergency Tender Fire Appliance	60 minutes
Incident Command Unit	90 minutes
Water Tanker Appliance	90 minutes

Table 12.9 Appliance Type - KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time

Currently a Water Tanker is based at Freshford Fire Station. A Combined Class B/Aerial Appliance and an Emergency Tender are based at Kilkenny City Fire Station. There is an Incident Command Unit in Castlecomer Fire Station. Accordingly, it is not envisaged that there will be any issues achieving the KCS Target Travel Times for Special Appliances.

12.4.4 Urlingford Fire Station (KK14) –

Overall Station Risk Categorisation D2

The following appliances are currently based at Urlingford Fire Station (further details are available in Chapter 5) -

- 2 No. Class B Appliances,
- 1 No. 4-Wheel Drive Jeep,
- 1 No. VMS Trailer.

The following table summarises the guidance in KCS regarding travel times for Class B Appliances -

Number of Class B Appliances	KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time to primary and secondary incidents (for 75% of Call-outs)
1 Appliance	20 minutes
2 Appliances	40 minutes

Table 12.10 Number of Class B Appliances- KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time to primary and secondary incidents (for 75% of Call-outs)

The current average travel time (based on data from the Eastern Regional Communications Centre (ERCC) for average travel time for the 3-Year Period 2017 to 2020 for the First Class B Appliance from Urlingford Fire Station for all Call-Out Types is **6 minutes 47**

seconds, so it is not envisaged that there will be any issues achieving the KCS Target Travel Times for Class B Appliances.

The following guidance is also provided in relation to the travel times for special appliances, specifically Aerial Appliances, Emergency Tender Appliances, Incident Command Units and Water Tankers for Urlingford Fire Station -

Appliance Type	KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time
Aerial Appliance	60 minutes
Emergency Tender Fire Appliance	60 minutes
Incident Command Unit	90 minutes
Water Tanker Appliance	90 minutes

Table 12.11 Appliance Type - KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time

A Water Tanker is based at Kilkenny City and Freshford Fire Station. A Combined Class B/Aerial Appliance and an Emergency Tender are based at Kilkenny City Fire Station. There is an Incident Command Unit in Castlecomer Fire Station. Accordingly, it is not envisaged that there will be any issues achieving the KCS Target Travel Times for Special Appliances.

12.4.5 Thomastown Fire Station (KK15) –

Overall Station Risk Categorisation D1

The following appliances are currently based at Thomastown Fire Station (further details are available in Chapter 5):

- 1 No. Class B Appliance,
- 1 No. Water Tanker,
- 1 No. VMS trailer,
- 1 No. 4-Wheel Drive Jeep.

The following table summarises the guidance in KCS regarding travel times for Class B Appliances -

Number of Class B Appliances	KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time to primary and secondary incidents (for 75% of Call-outs)
1 Appliance	20 minutes
2 Appliances	40 minutes

Table 12.12 Number of Class B Appliances- KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time to primary and secondary incidents (for 75% of Call-outs)

The current average travel time (based on data from the Eastern Regional Communications Centre (ERCC) for average travel time for the 3-Year Period 2017 to 2020) for the First Class B Appliance from Thomastown Fire Station for all Call-Out Types is **10 minutes 13 seconds**, so it is not envisaged that there will be any issues achieving the KCS Target Travel Times for Class B Appliances.

The following guidance is also provided in relation to the travel times for special appliances, specifically Aerial Appliances, Emergency Tender Appliances, Incident Command Units and Water Tankers for Thomastown Fire Station -

Appliance Type	KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time
Aerial Appliance	60 minutes
Emergency Tender Fire Appliance	60 minutes
Incident Command Unit	90 minutes
Water Tanker Appliance	90 minutes

Table 12.13 Appliance Type - KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time

Currently a Water Tanker is based at Kilkenny City and Thomastown Fire Station. A Combined Class B/Aerial Appliance and an Emergency Tender are based at Kilkenny City Fire Station. There is an Incident Command Unit in Castlecomer Fire Station. Accordingly, it is not envisaged that there will be any issues achieving the KCS Target Travel Times for Special Appliances.

12.4.6 Callan Fire Station (KK16) –

Overall Station Risk Categorisation D1

The following appliances are currently based at Callan Fire Station (further details are available in Chapter 5) -

- 2 No. Class B Appliances,
- 1 No. 4-Wheel Drive Jeep.

The following table summarises the guidance in KCS regarding travel times for Class B Appliances -

Number of Class B Appliances	KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time to primary and secondary incidents (for 75% of Call-outs)
1 Appliance	20 minutes
2 Appliances	40 minutes

Table 12.14 Number of Class B Appliances- KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time to primary and secondary incidents (for 75% of Call-outs)

The current average travel time (based on data from the Eastern Regional Communications Centre (ERCC) for average travel time for the 3-Year Period 2018 to 2020) for the First Class B Appliance from Callan Fire Station for all Call-Out Types is **7 minutes 56 seconds**, so it is not envisaged that there will be any issues achieving the KCS Target Travel Times for Class B Appliances.

The following guidance is also provided in relation to the travel times for special appliances, specifically Aerial Appliances, Emergency Tender Appliances, Incident Command Units and Water Tankers for Callan Fire Station -

Appliance Type	KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time
Aerial Appliance	60 minutes
Emergency Tender Fire Appliance	60 minutes
Incident Command Unit	90 minutes
Water Tanker Appliance	90 minutes

Table 12.15 Appliance Type - KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time

A Water Tanker is based at Kilkenny City and Thomastown Fire Station. A Combined Class B/Aerial Appliance and Emergency Tender Appliance are based at Kilkenny City Fire Station. There is an Incident Command Unit in Castlecomer Fire Station. Accordingly, it is not envisaged that there will be any issues achieving the KCS Target Travel Times for Special Appliances.

12.4.7 Graiguenamanagh Fire Station (KK17) – Overall Station Risk Categorisation D2

The following appliances are currently based at Graiguenamanagh Fire Station (further details are available in Chapter 5):

- 2 No. Class B Appliance,
- 1 No. 4-Wheel Drive Jeep.

The following table summarises the guidance in KCS regarding travel times for Class B Appliances -

Number of Class B Appliances	KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time to primary and secondary incidents (for 75% of Call-outs)
1 Appliance	20 minutes
2 Appliances	40 minutes

Table 12.16 Number of Class B Appliances- KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time to primary and secondary incidents (for 75% of Call-outs)

The current average travel time (based on data from the Eastern Regional Communications Centre (ERCC) for average travel time for the 3-Year Period 2017 to 2020) for the First Class B Appliance from Graiguenamanagh Fire Station for all Call-Out Types is **11 minutes 13 seconds**. Accordingly, it is not envisaged that there will be any issues achieving the KCS Target Travel Times for Class B Appliances.

The following guidance is also provided in relation to the travel times for special appliances, specifically Aerial Appliances, Emergency Tender Appliances, Incident Command Units and Water Tankers for Graiguenamanagh Fire Station –

Appliance Type	KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time
Aerial Appliance	60 minutes
Emergency Tender Fire Appliance	60 minutes
Incident Command Unit	90 minutes
Water Tanker Appliance	90 minutes

Table 12.17 Appliance Type - KCS Guidance for Target Travel Time

A Water Tanker is based at Thomastown Fire Station. A Combined Class B/Aerial Appliance and an Emergency Tender are based at Kilkenny City Fire Station. There is an Incident Command Unit in Castlecomer Fire Station. Accordingly, it is not envisaged that there will be any issues achieving the KCS Target Travel Times for Special Appliances.

12.5 Attendance Time at Incidents

Chapter 9 of KCS recommends that fire services should continue to record the percentage of cases, both fires and other emergencies, by station and for the overall Fire Authority where the Fire Authorities attend incidents within 10 minutes, between 11 and 20 minutes and greater than 20 minutes. Attendance time is defined as the total time from the time ordered by ERCC to time the first appliance is in attendance.

The current times are as follows -

Stations	Current % of Incidents attended within 10 minutes	Current % of Incidents attended between 11 and 20 minutes	Current % of Incidents attended greater than 20 minutes
Kilkenny City (HQ)	32%	50%	18%
Castlecomer	18%	60%	22%
Freshford	17%	63%	20%
Urlingford	40%	48%	12%
Thomastown	17%	48%	35%
Callan	44%	42%	14%
Graiguenamanagh	16%	40%	44%

Table 12.18 Percentage of Incidents Attended for specified time frames*

** Data from KKFRS calculated statistics from Annual Returns –
FSi Gartan for the 3-Year Period 2018 to 2020 – averaged.*

The rural nature of some of our fire brigades, the remote locations of fire calls, size of the fire ground areas and the rural road network all have adverse effects on our travel times to incidents. Due to the location of the fire stations, there will always be a certain percentage of calls where a fire brigade will be in attendance after 20-minutes. In particular, in the South of the County where Thomastown, Callan and Graiguenamanagh have to travel to support outside County fire brigades that are first in attendance on the pre-determined attendance. Kilkenny Fire and Rescue Service aims to increase the percentage of incidents attended within ten (10no) minutes and to decrease the % in the other two categories. These trends will be monitored.

12.6 Large Scale Incidents

Guidance is provided in KCS regarding a response to large scale incidents (*these are incidents other than Major Emergencies which require large resources or a proliferation of smaller incidents*). Depending on the designated Risk Categorisation of an area / station ground, Fire Authorities are required to consider their ability to respond to a large scale incident in accordance with the guidance provided. Kilkenny Fire and Rescue Service has considered this guidance and having considered its' own availability of Class B appliances and those of neighbouring Fire Authorities is satisfied that it can mobilise Class B appliances, Special Appliances and an Incident Command Unit in accordance with the guidance provided in Chapter 8 of KCS regarding large scale incidents.

Note, Other standards such as Crewing Levels, Safety Standards etc. are referred to in separate chapters of this document.

12.7 Fire Ground Area Maps

Outlined in the following maps is the effective radius of each fire brigade. The effective radius is determined under three different assumptions based on an average mobilisation time of five minutes -

1. A constant 30 mph speed will give a 5.0 mile radius within 15 minutes,
2. A constant 35 mph speed will give a 5.8 mile radius within 15minutes,
3. A constant 35 mph speed will give a 8.5 mile radius within 20 minutes.

This does not take into consideration factors such as quality of road, weather, driving conditions, other road users or traffic conditions.

We have overlaid total populations in colour coded town lands from Census 2016 with the 3no radius parameters as outlined above.

We have also overlaid total populations of persons >65 years of age in colour coded town lands from Census 2016 with the 3no radius parameters as outlined above.

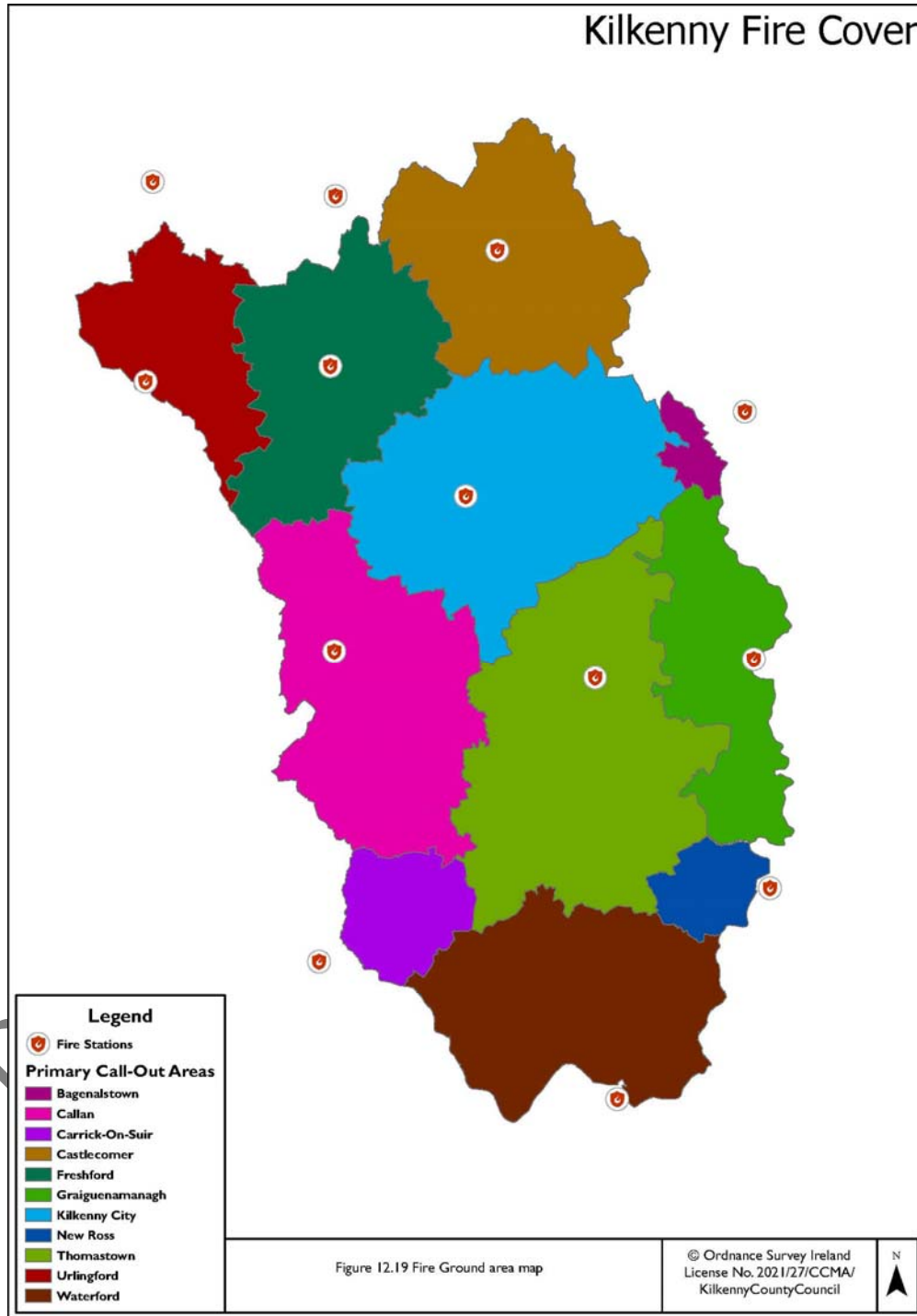


Figure 12.19 Fire Ground area map

Kilkenny Fire Cover

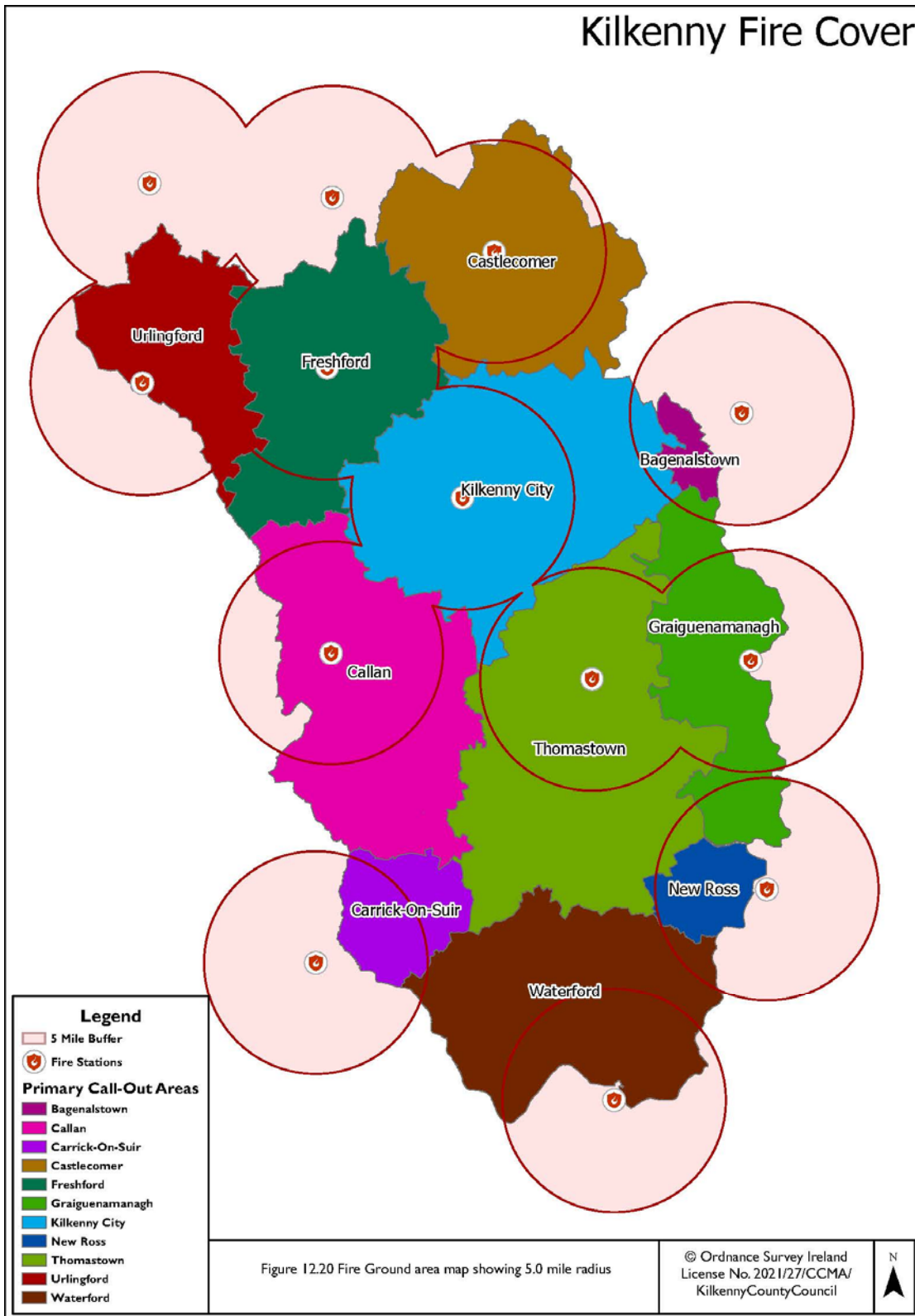


Figure 12.20 Fire Ground area map showing 5.0 mile radius
A constant 30 mph speed will give a 5.0 mile radius within 15 minutes

Kilkenny Fire Cover

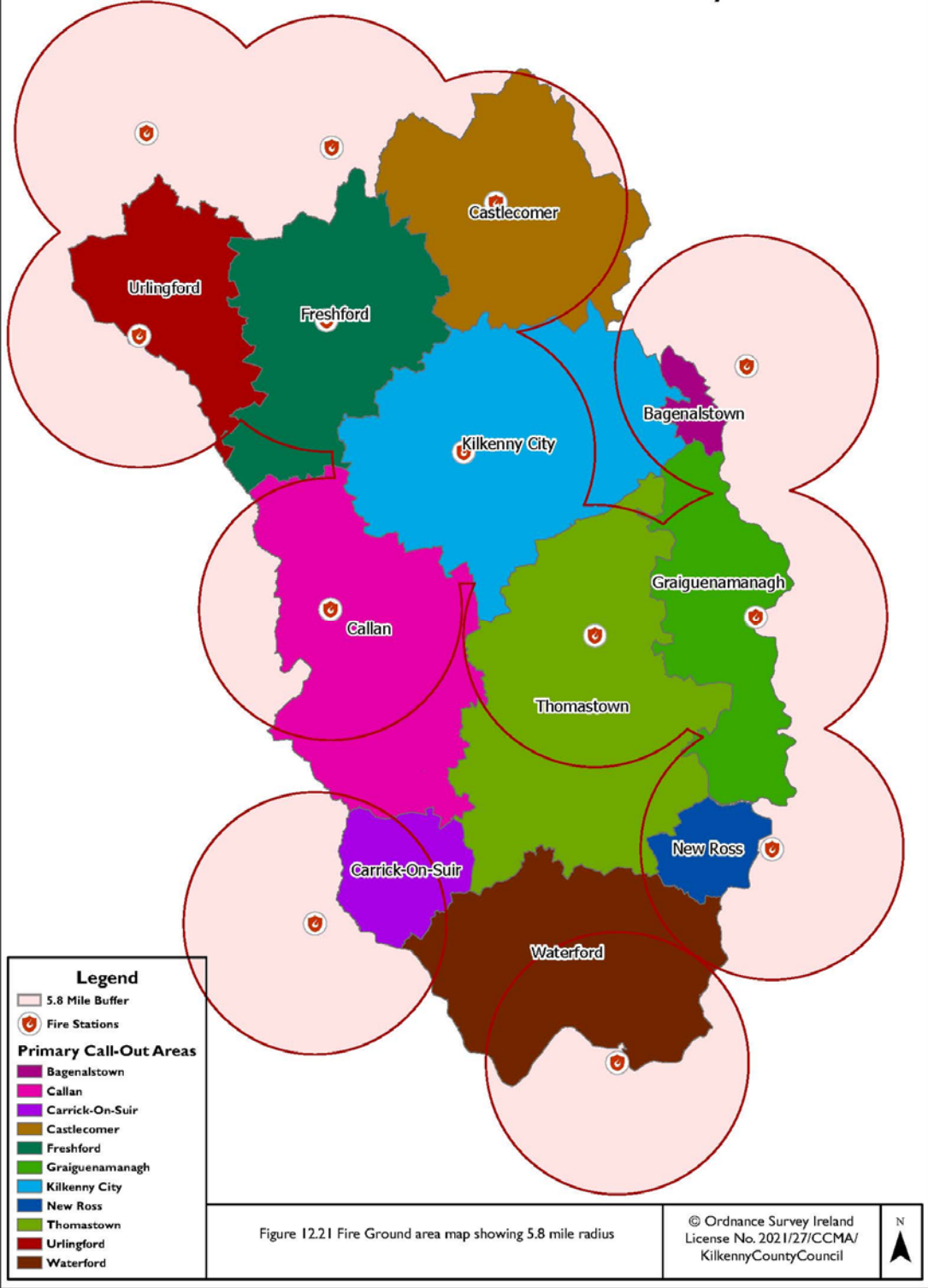


Figure 12.21 Fire Ground area map showing 5.8 mile radius

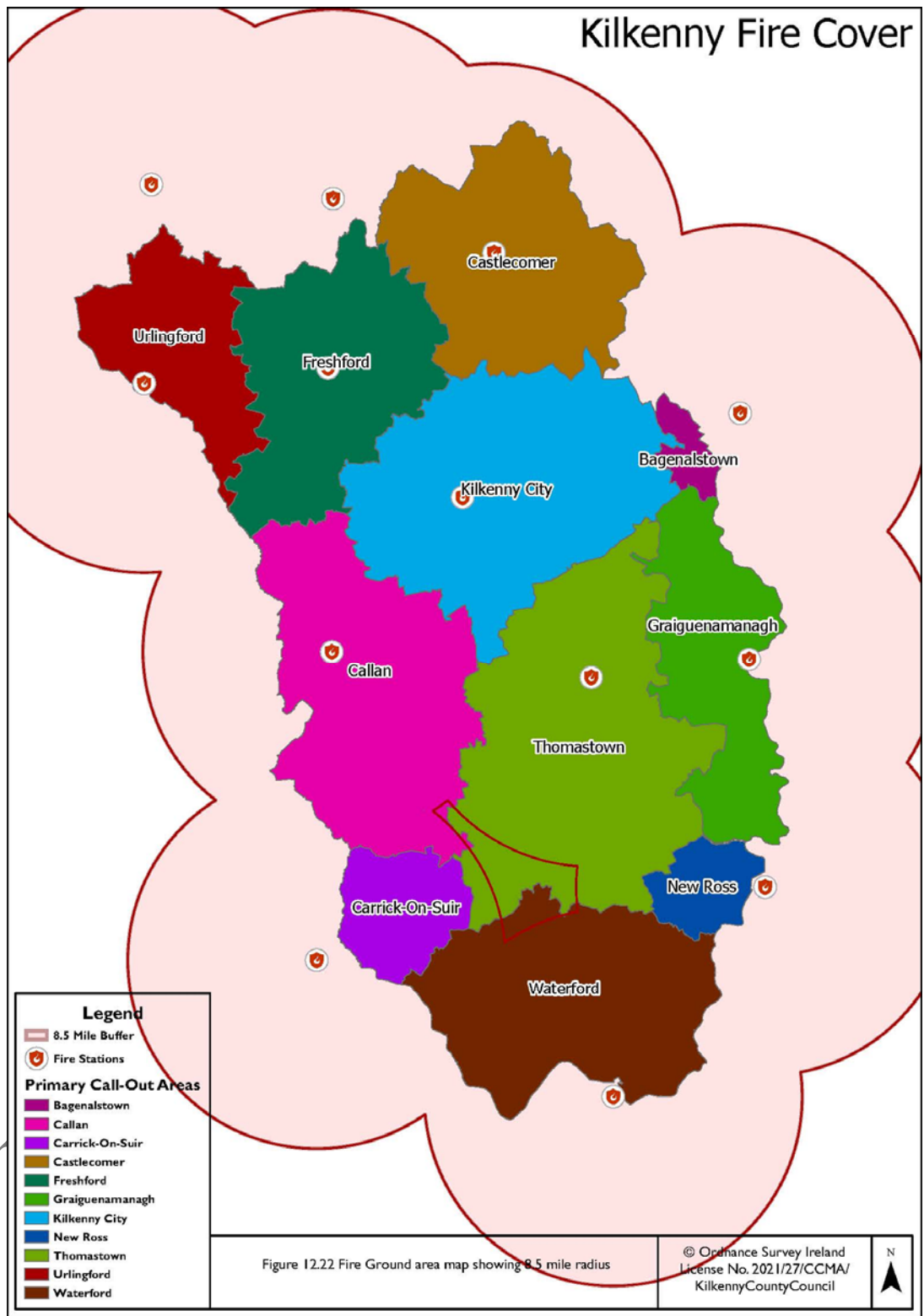


Figure 12.22 Fire Ground area map showing 8.5 mile radius

Kilkenny Fire Cover

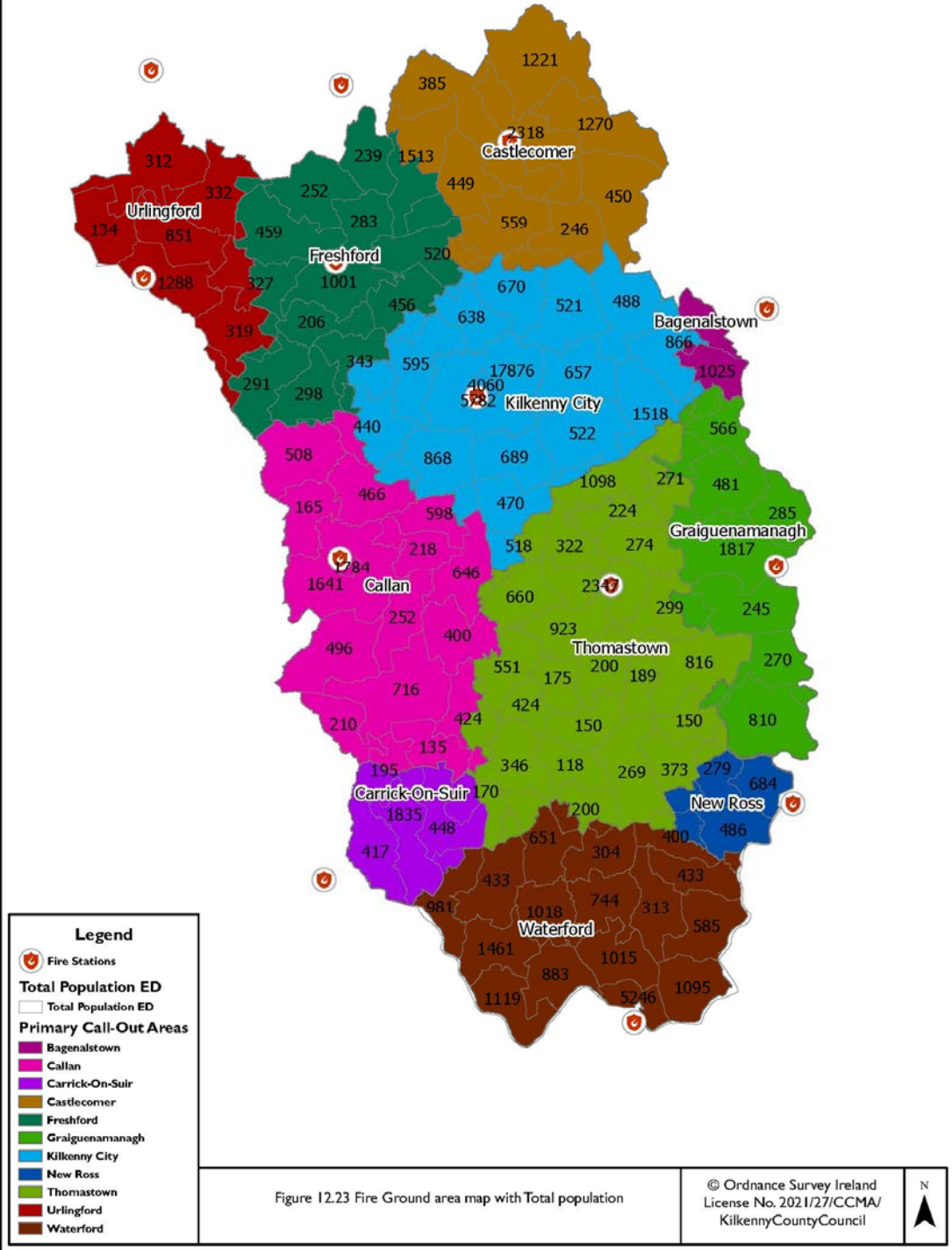


Figure 12.23 Fire Ground area map with Total population

Kilkenny Fire Cover

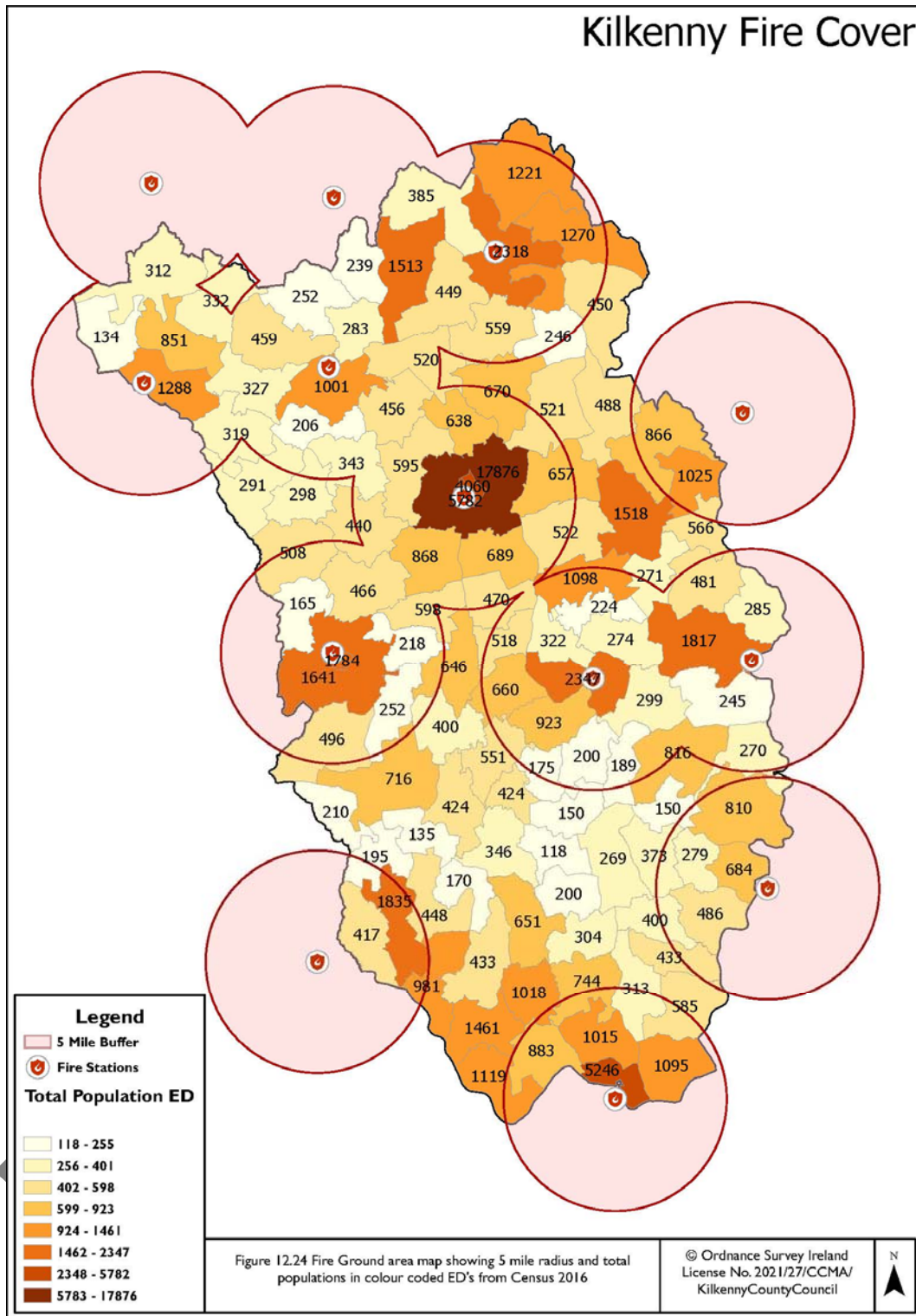


Figure 12.24 Fire Ground area map showing 5.0 mile radius and total populations in colour coded town lands from Census 2016

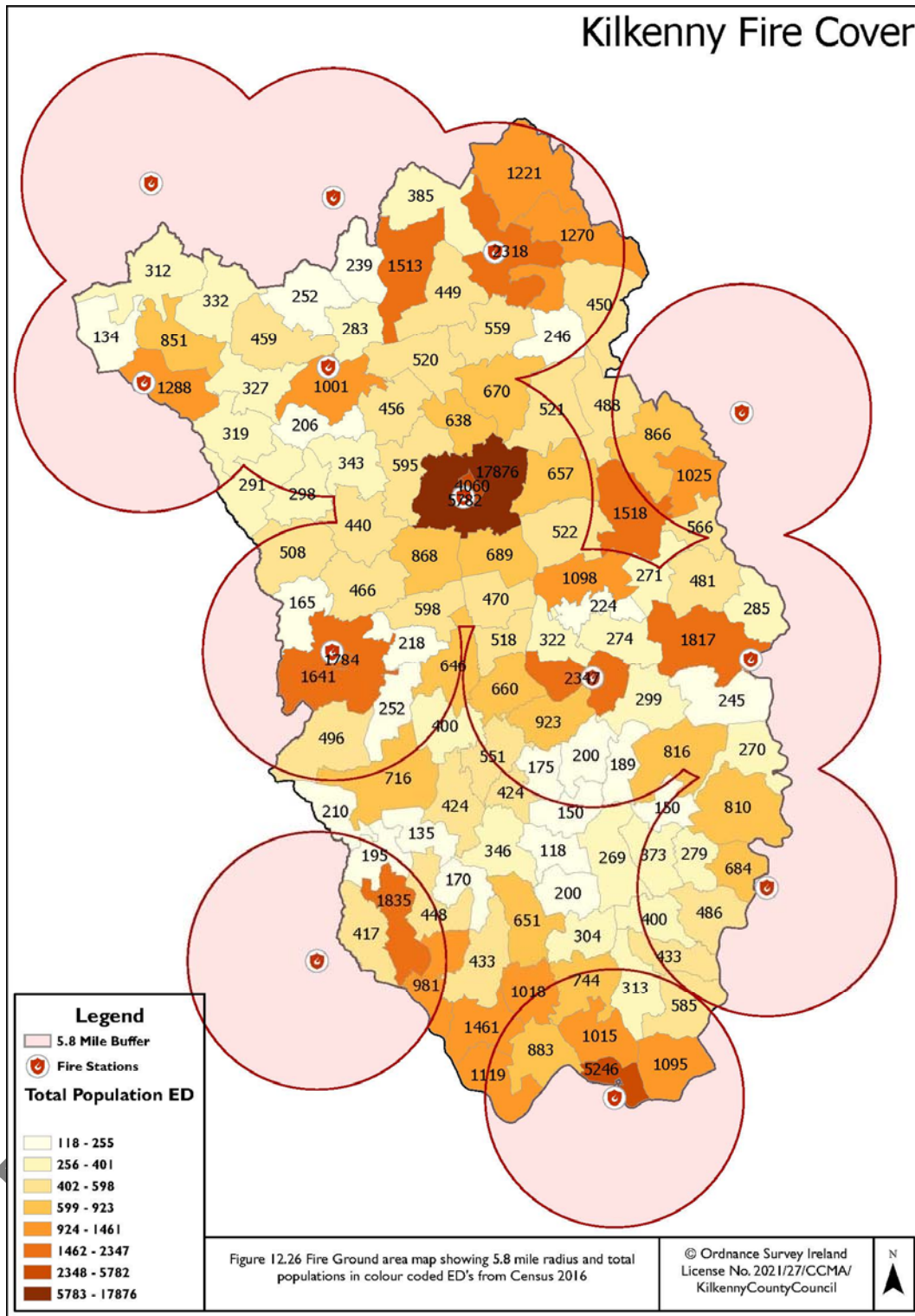


Figure 12.26 Fire Ground area map showing 5.8 mile radius and total populations in colour coded town lands from Census 2016

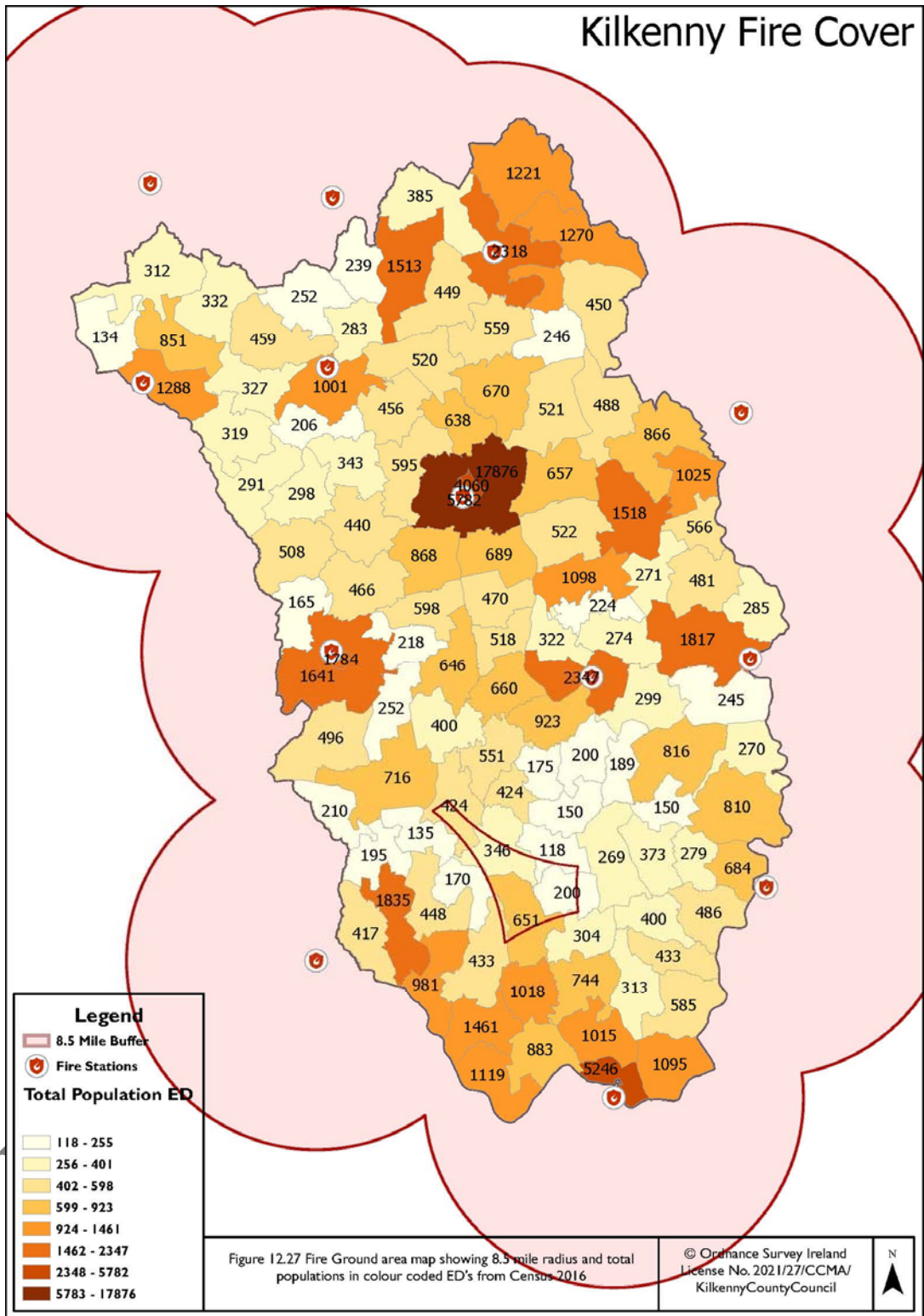


Figure 12.27 Fire Ground area map showing 8.5 mile radius and total populations in colour coded town lands from Census 2016

Kilkenny Fire Cover

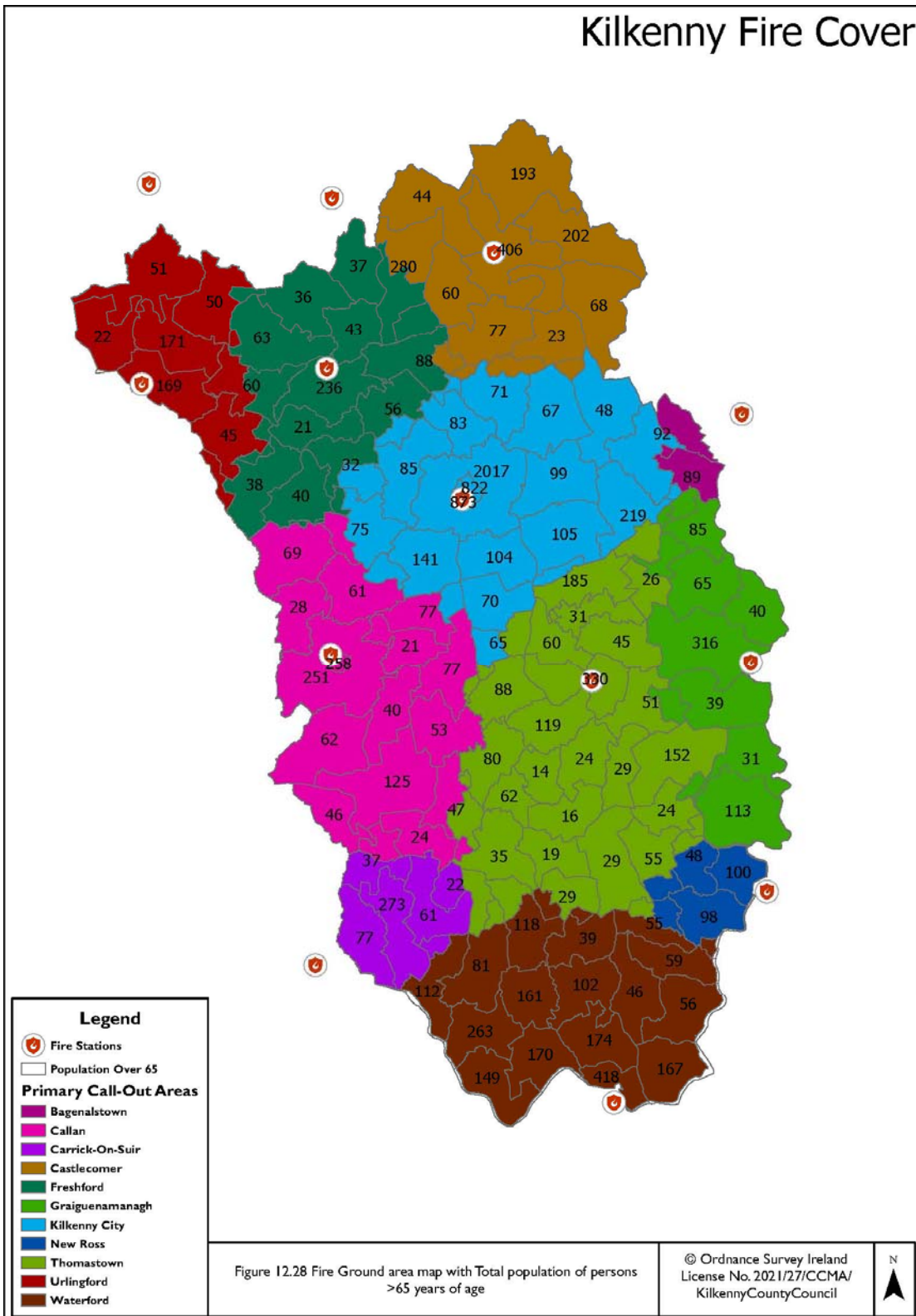


Figure 12.28 Fire Ground area map with Total population of persons >65 years of age

Kilkenny Fire Cover

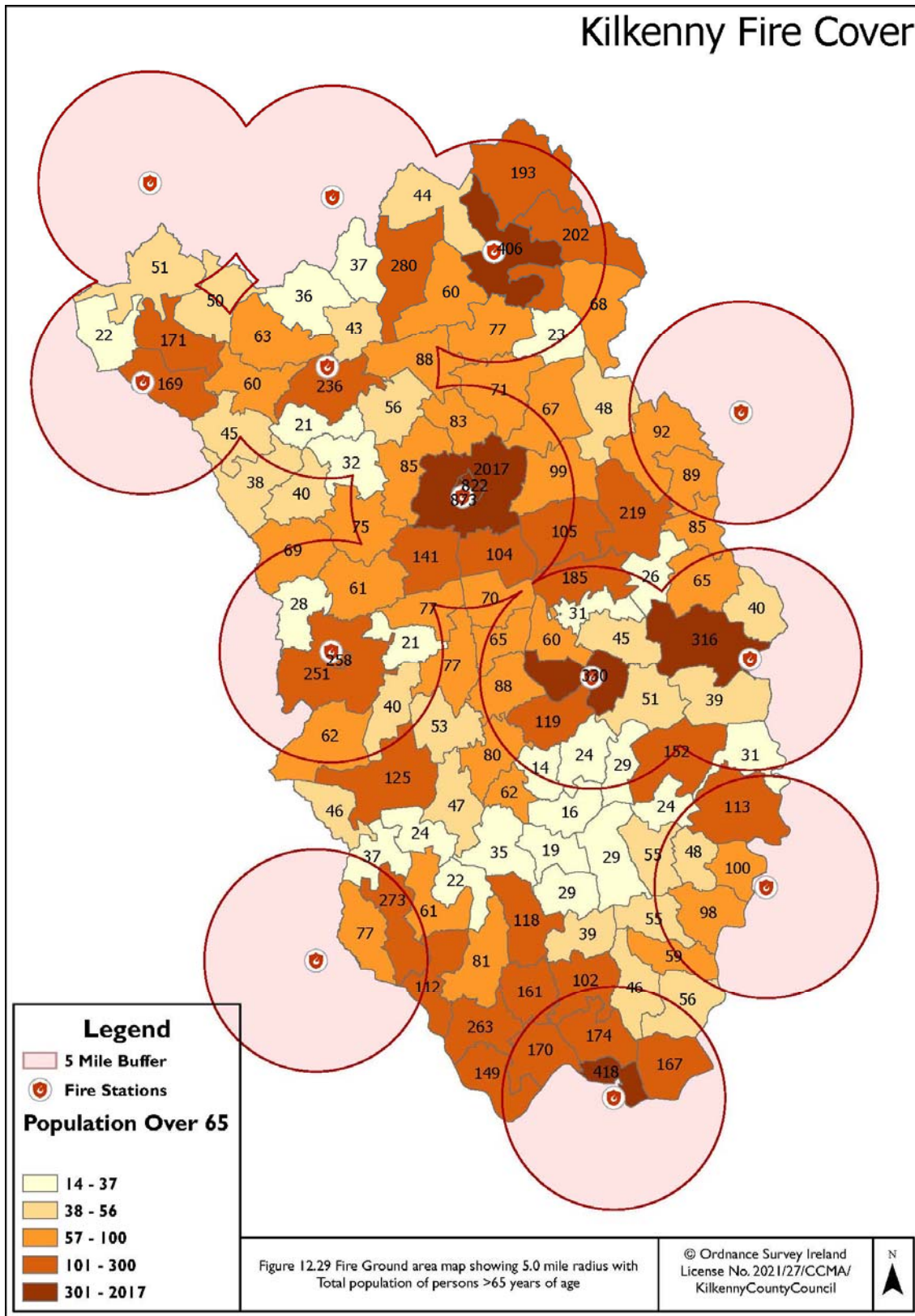


Figure 12.29 Fire Ground area map showing 5.0 mile radius with Total population of persons >65 years of age

Kilkenny Fire Cover

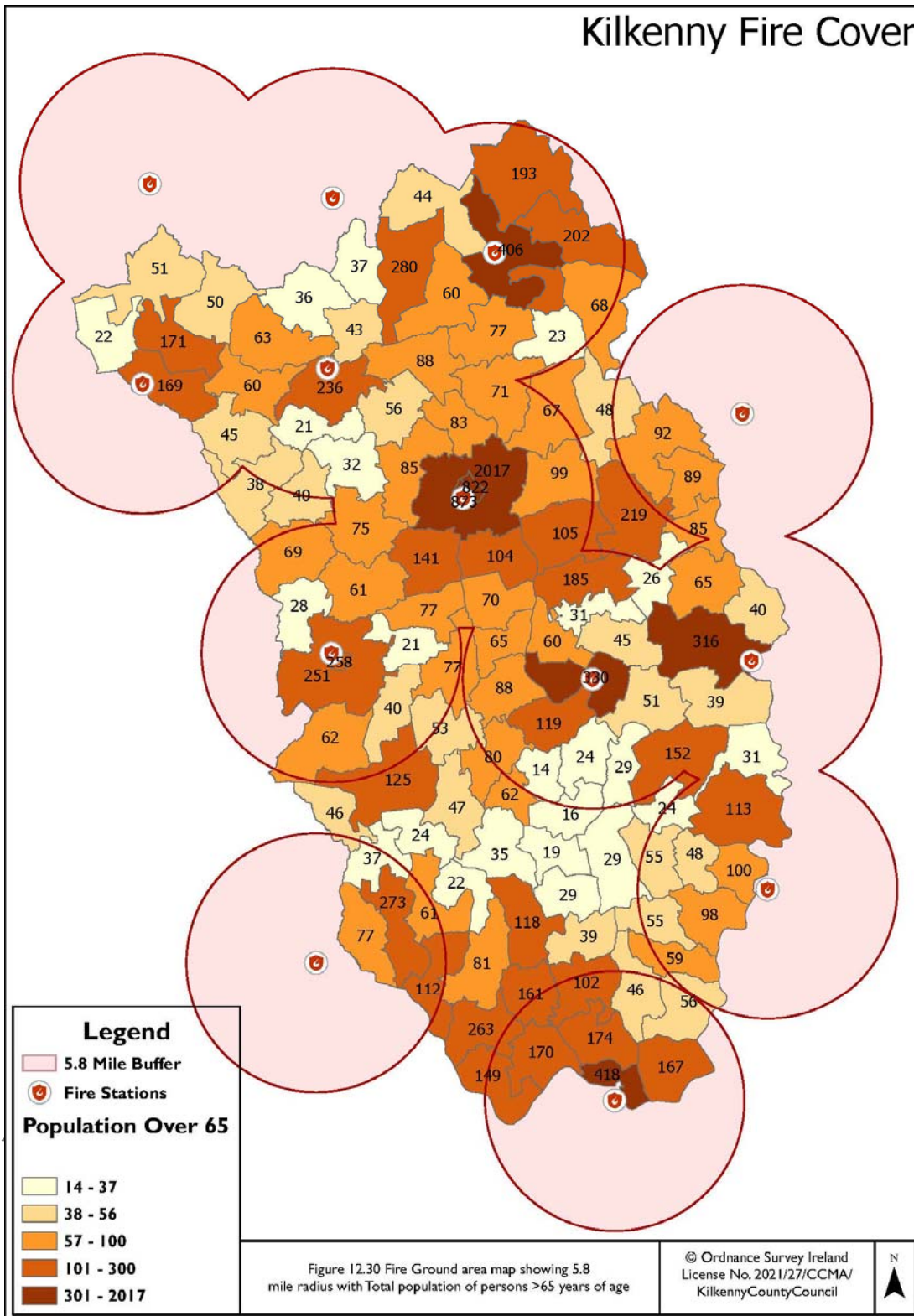


Figure 12.30 Fire Ground area map showing 5.8 mile radius with Total population of persons >65 years of age

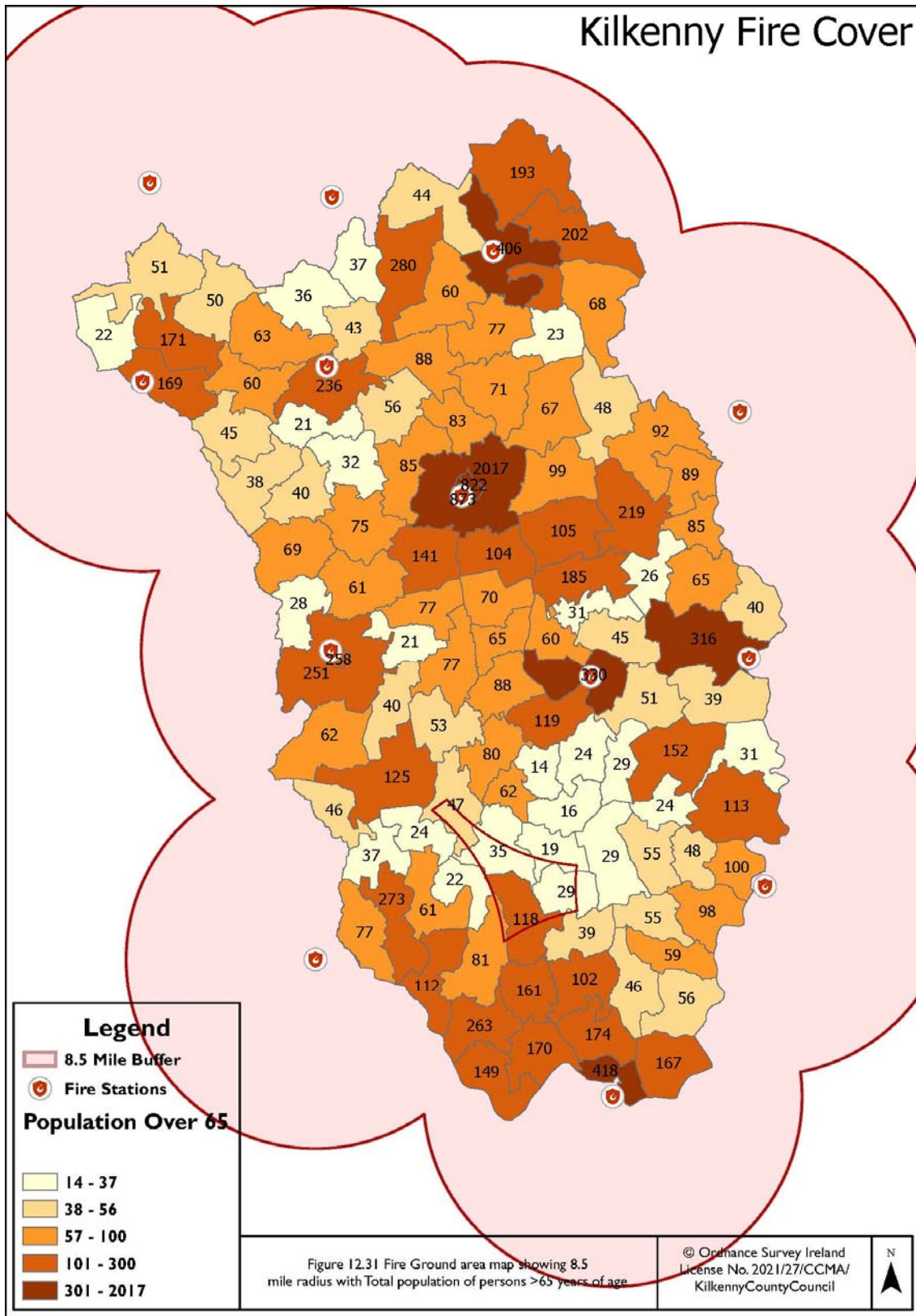


Figure 12.31 Fire Ground area map showing 8.5 mile radius with Total population of persons >65 years of age

Objectives for the Period of this Plan:

Kilkenny Fire and Rescue Service will maintain the current crewing complements in Kilkenny City, Castlecomer, Freshford, Urlingford, Thomastown, Callan and Graiguenamanagh Fire Brigades. However, this will be reviewed with staff and in line with NDFEM Guidance documents.

Kilkenny Fire and Rescue Service will aim to maintain existing arrangements in place to provide the following minimum number of personnel to be available for Call-Outs at each station - Kilkenny City (9), Castlecomer (5), Freshford (5), Urlingford (5), Thomastown (5), Callan (5) and Graiguenamanagh (5).

In general, there will be either a Retained Station Officer and/or a Retained Sub-Station Officer available for Call-Out at all times in each fire station.

Kilkenny Fire and Rescue Service shall consider the introduction of selective calling of crews to special appliances e.g. *Water Tankers, Emergency Tender appliance, Combined Class B / Aerial Appliance, Incident Command Unit*. This shall be done in accordance with the KCS Guidance and consultation between management and staff.

Kilkenny Fire and Rescue Service aims to reduce the mobilisation times for all brigades by implementing a time in attendance management system in accordance with national guidance through management and staff consultation.

Kilkenny Fire and Rescue Service aims to increase the percentage of travel time incidents attended within ten (10no) minutes and to decrease the % in the other two categories. These trends will be monitored on an on-going basis.

Station boundaries will be reviewed under the Risk Based Approach (RBA2) National Project by the NDFEM in consultation with the relevant fire brigades to ensure that the nearest fire service available resource can respond to an address in the shortest period of time.

The first Kilkenny Fire and Rescue Service Class B Appliance is currently attending Incidents within the Target Travel Times set out in KCS. As more data becomes available from the NDFEM, Kilkenny Fire and Rescue Service will review the data and make changes to the current arrangements if appropriate.

Section 85 Agreements (Appendix F) or other similar arrangements under Local Government Acts in relation to fire cover arrangements with adjoining

counties will need to be reviewed and updated in accordance with relevant and current Local Government Acts.

There are no concerns at this time with the capability of Kilkenny Fire and Rescue Service to meet the KCS Targets for Travel Time for Special Appliances.

Kilkenny Fire and Rescue Service will continue to review the guidance in KCS in relation to responding to large scale incidents.

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