

# **H**ALIFAX

## Halifax Regional Police Integrated Emergency Services (IES)

Board of Police Commissioners April 25, 2022

## **Integrated Emergency Services (IES)**

- IES is an integrated emergency dispatch centre responsible for answering and processing all calls made to 911 within HRM. Overflow calls from other PSAP centres are also managed.
  - IES provides services to Halifax Regional Police, Halifax Regional Fire and Emergency Services, Halifax International Airport Fire and Police and RCMP Halifax District (CH/SH/MH/TA/SA/NC).
- IES operates 2 centres, the main centre is in Dartmouth and the back up is in Bedford.



# **Staffing for IES**

- 1 IES Manager, 1 Administrative Support
- Four watches: 17 full time ERC's, 3 part time ERCs and 2 supervisors per watch.
- 2022/2023 Budget: Additional 3 part time ERC's and 1 QA / Training Supervisor.



### Call volume

#### **IES Telephone call stats**

For 911 and non-emergency calls Fiscal years 2017-2022

• 2017/2018: **298,468** 

2018/2019: 323,919

• 2019/2020: **329,584** 

• 2020/2021: **294,395** 

• 2021/2022: **313,530** 

Highest call volume between 0700 -2100 hrs.

#### Average 24 hr period:

5020 calls answered= **550**911 calls= **350**Many factors can influence these numbers.

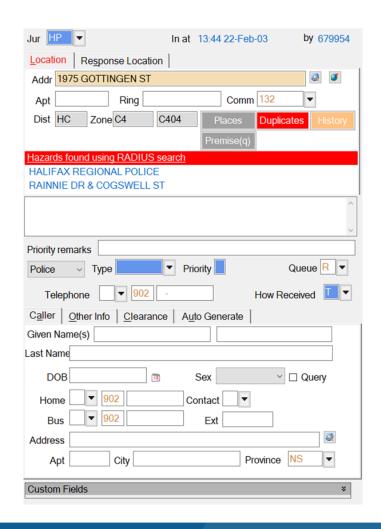


### **Dispatch Systems and Agency Jurisdiction**

- Once an address is entered into the CAD system, the call displays identifying info including community, responsible police agency, and designated response zone.
- It is clear from the onset of a police call, which agency and division is responsible to attend.
- In this example, the agency of response is HRP, Central Zone, Halifax, Zone 4, Atom is C404.

#### **Call Overflow Process:**

- Any time one of the 4 PSAP centres experiences a heavy call volume and 911 is not answered after 5 rings per available call taker, the call is temporarily transferred to another centre.
- The call is routed back once a 911 line is available.





#### **Police Call Entry Process**

- Calls are managed by dispatchers from when the call is dispatched until the units clears.
- This includes performing many computer related checks such as premise hazards, person and vehicle queries.
- The dispatcher maintains regular contact with the responding units throughout the call and provides continuous situational updates.

Call for service received at (IES)

ERC obtains information from caller, including confirmed address, incident type, name, contact information and descriptive information regarding the incident

The information is added to the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) System

Based on location and type of call it is automatically routed to the appropriate police dispatcher and assigned an automatic priority code (1,2,3)

Based on the priority code, availability of units, information provided by the ERC in the body of the call, appropriate unit(s) are dispatched



# Fire Call Entry Process

- Calls are managed by dispatchers from when the call is dispatched until the units clear.
- This includes performing many computer related checks such as premise hazards.
- The dispatcher maintains regular contact with the responding units throughout the call and provides continuous situational updates.

#### Call for service received at IES

ERC obtains information from caller, including confirmed address, incident type, name, contact information and descriptive information regarding the incident

The information is added to the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD)

System

The call is automatically routed to the fire dispatch positions where a dispatcher selects the call, confirms details and completes a CAD dispatch recommendation

The dispatch recommendation process selects the appropriate fire apparatus which is required to respond

The dispatcher confirms the recommendation and adds the apparatus to the call

Simultaneously, the call is directed to MDTs (Mobile Data Terminals) in the selected fire apparatus and to the I am Responding (IaR) system located on the firefighters' cell phone

The fire dispatcher manually selects the fire stations attending the call and makes an emergency page directing selected fire apparatus to respond



# Medical Call Entry Process

Call for service received at IES

ERC obtains initial information from caller determining its a medical incident

ERC will immediately transfer the call to EHS (Emergency Health Services) dispatch via the 911 equipment

EHS dispatch determines any secondary agency response for medical calls

Should EHS dispatch require assistance from HRFE they will contact the IES fire dispatchers via dedicated emergency phone lines, where the IES fire dispatcher will enter the call particulars generating a fire response

Should EHS dispatch require assistance from the Police they will contact the IES police dispatchers via dedicated emergency phone lines, where the police dispatcher will enter the call particulars indicating the assistance requested.



# Multi Agency Response

- Calls can become a multi agency response resulting in all three agencies attending (Police, Fire, EHS)
- When a call for service is received at IES for incidents that will impact multiple agencies, ERCs can generate a dual response of police and fire resources at the same time.
- While this is occurring, the ERC can also transfer the call to EHS dispatch.



## **Questions/Comments**

