



Tony Wood

Biography. Tony has been a member of the Fire Service since 1977. He joined Merseyside Fire Brigade as an 18-year-old trainee fire-fighter subsequently serving at a number of stations in the city of Liverpool, including a period at Toxteth fire station, this coincided with the riots in 1981. Promotion through the junior officer ranks followed to rider station officer in 1993. A change of role took him into Fire Safety as district officer and a number of specialist roles within the function.

Tony was promoted to ADO in 1997, to DO and staff Officer to the CFO in 1998 and to SDO Community and Legislative Fire Safety in 1999 followed by periods as Director of training and development and Director of Human resources with additional responsibility for lead on IRMP.

Tony is married to Sue, they have 3 children Joanne, Natalie and Sophie. Joanne is at Sheffield University in her final year studying geology, Natalie currently works for a retail chain and Sophie is about to enter secondary school in the autumn term. They currently live in Liverpool, where they have recently completely renovated their house, (“from the roof down”) and intend to relocate as a soon as practicable to the Inverness area.

Sailing is a major interest for Tony and he is a qualified Yacht Master. He has sailed in many areas around the coast of Britain across to Ireland, the west coast and islands of Scotland and the North coast of France. He has taken part in several yachting races in his time. Notably the 3 peaks open class yacht race in 1994 where his team came in a credible tenth place whilst raising over £8000 for the fire services benevolent fund and a local children’s hospice “The Claire House appeal”. More recently he skippered a crew which competed in the 2004 National Firefighters sailing challenge.

He considers the future of the Fire and Rescue Service lies at the forefront of community safety, leading the delivery of change with partners in ensuring that all our communities are safer and have the best and most efficient Service provision available.