

**LANCASHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**  
COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: APRIL 2017 – MAY 2017

**SUMMARY REPORT FOR:**

**BLACKBURN-WITH-DARWEN**

**LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)**

**National Festival of Making**

During May, the first National Festival of Making was hosted in Blackburn. The weekend event enabled our Darwen Fire Cadets to use some of the team building skills they have developed over the year by acting as "Community Ambassadors". With early starts and late finishes, the cadets directed thousands of people around the various festival sites and advised on what activities and workshops were taking place. The Council will also be holding an event to celebrate all volunteers who contributed to the successful event.

**INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)**

**Incident: Commercial Building Fire**

**Date: 01 May 2017**

**Time of Call: 17:45**

On May Day Bank Holiday, Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service was called to a fire in a waste recycling unit on Lower Hollin Bank St, Blackburn after reports of black smoke issuing from the premises. On arrival, the fire crews were confronted with a well-developed fire in approximately 200+ tonnes of non-recyclable waste inside the building.

Initially access for firefighting proved difficult as the yard at the front of the building was obstructed by a HGV positioned to secure the site. Once the crews gained access into the yard the 'Stinger' was utilised to suppress a well-developed fire prior to the crews establishing a water supply from the Leeds-Liverpool canal elevated at the rear of the premises. Operational crews removed 30+ cylinders (acetylene and propane) prior to them becoming involved in the rapidly developing fire. A number of ground monitors were initially used to provide covering/protective jets which protected 3 excavators within the premises.

At its height, 10 pumps, 1 Aerial Ladder Platform (ALP) and a Hazardous Materials Unit (HMU) tackled the blaze. The Officer in Charge liaised with a Rail Liaison Officer to place a caution on the adjacent Blackburn to Manchester railway line, which was affected by significant quantities of smoke. A multi-agency operational plan led by Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service involving the Environment Agency and United Utilities was successfully implemented and prevented fire water contamination of local watercourses. The Aerial Support Unit was deployed in thermal image mode to identify fire spread and then offensive firefighting operations were undertaken which were successful in preventing the fire from spreading into two neighbouring units utilised for furniture manufacture. The fire was brought under control within 8 hours however, Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service remained on scene damping down materials for approximately 72 hours. A full fire investigation was then completed, which ascertained that the fire had started accidentally.

**LANCASHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**

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**SUMMARY REPORT FOR:****BLACKPOOL****LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)****Partnership Working**

Police had been called to an address in Blackpool and upon arrival they found the property to be open to access. As they entered the property, it was quickly discovered the gas fire in the property had been left on, as had all of the taps and the property was littered with prescription medication. The building was being frequented by street drinkers and youths from the local area and Police had received reports that the youths were starting fires within the property. A safeguarding concern was raised and partner agencies were contacted and asked if they were able to attend the property as a matter of urgency.

In response to this request, attendance was made by the landlord, Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service, Blackpool Council Planning and Environmental Protection while the Police remained in situ. The landlord had placed an abandonment notice on the door of the property. As the building was still tenanted, an emergency prohibition was served and a request was made to secure the property. If it then transpired that the building was indeed abandoned, the prohibition would have been revoked and a suspended notice would have been served. The local Neighbourhood Policing Team agreed to monitor the property.

This provides an excellent example of partnership working at its best. Within thirty minutes of a request being made, all the relevant agencies had attended and the building had been closed down and made safe.

**Fire Cadets Service of Remembrance**

On Sunday, 14 May 2017 Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service was represented at the Annual Service of Thanksgiving, at the Firefighters Monument, National Memorial Arboretum by Fire Cadets from both Bacup and South Shore Stations.

Our Fire Cadets and staff made an early start and travelled down to The Arboretum in Alrewas, Staffordshire by mini bus. Upon arrival at the Arboretum, they were welcomed by our Chief Fire Officer, Chris Kenny, and our Standard Bearer, WM Matt Armstrong.

Our Cadets were then joined by other Fire Cadets from around the Country and collectively they took part in both the parade and the Service of Remembrance. Following the Service, an additional opportunity arose for the Cadets whereby they were able to examine Staffordshire Fire Services dedicated Cadet vehicles. The Cadet vehicles are fully equipped for all training purposes, including cutting gear, boards for first aid, hoses, ladders and breathing apparatus equipment. This additional opportunity, the chance for our Cadets to pay their respects and the warm, sunny weather contributed towards an excellent day out for both our staff and our Fire Cadets.

**Afternoon Tea – Dementia Week**

On Saturday, 20 May 2017, Bispham Fire Station hosted another Afternoon Tea for local residents in support of Dementia Week. The event was extremely well attended and raised over five hundred pounds for the Alzheimer's Society.

A local resident was reminiscing when he sat aboard our vintage fire appliance. The gentleman, who is now 88 years of age, passed his test in 1950 on an open-top version of our vintage appliance. Our South Shore Fire Cadets also attended the event and were a tremendous support. It was great to see our Cadets welcoming members of the community onto station and to witness their interaction with so many older people and their families, sharing experiences and memories.

#### INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

**Incident: Persons Reported- Building Fire**  
**Date: 17 April 2017**  
**Time of Call: 03:41**

Three appliances from Blackpool and South Shore Fire Stations were mobilised to a persons reported fire on Blackpool Promenade. The property comprised a three-storey building converted into 20 individual flats.

As the Operational Crews made their way to the incident, they were passed further information from North West Fire Control stating that an individual was trapped on the second floor of the building and a family with six children were also trapped somewhere in the property; flames could be seen from two windows at the rear of the building.

Two appliances from Blackpool Fire Station arrived at the scene and they were supported shortly thereafter by South Shore fire crew. Crews were then committed, using Breathing Apparatus (BA), to extinguish the fire and conduct a search and rescue. A total of 8 fire appliances, a command unit and a BA Pod were used during this incident with a total of 19 Firefighters wearing BA entering the building. The unusual configuration of the building made for a complex search and rescue effort, but following an extensive search it became apparent that the individual reported missing was no longer inside the building and the family mentioned was led to safety from the front of the building. All individuals who had been evacuated from the building were found alternative accommodation with support from the Police and Blackpool Council.

The cause of the fire remains under investigation by the Police, the Incident Intelligence Officer and Urban Search & Rescue (USAR). Due to the severity of the fire, USAR were required at the incident to make the building safe. The incident was declared a 'significant fire safety incident' due to irregularities with the fire alarm system. Our Fire Safety Enforcement Team visited the site and conducted an inspection.

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**SUMMARY REPORT FOR:**

**BURNLEY**

**LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)**

**Reduction of Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Fires**

In the latter part of March, an initiative was launched to coincide with the clocks going forward to mark the official start of daylight saving time/summer. Prevention staff worked closely with key partner agencies, such as the Police and have linked in with local schools to promote early interventions. As part of the reduction of anti-social behaviour during the seasonal holidays, staff have been providing a visible presence with these agencies and conducting visual audits of areas that are likely to have waste materials/rubbish that could potentially lead to a nuisance fire. Community Safety Advisors were involved in educating young people, with the aim of deterring them from deliberate fire setting and other forms of risk taking behaviour, mainly focussing on the consequences of such actions.

It was identified that one of the wards with the highest number of ASB fires has a high percentage of the population from the Muslim faith. Recognising this, Pennine CFS team liaised with a local Mosque to meet with Imams and peers from within the local community to try and provide educational messages, again looking at the consequences of fire setting behaviour. Working within our diverse communities is a vital part of not only prevention but cohesion.

**INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)**

**Incident: Fire at a waste site**

**Date: 07 May 2017**

**Time of Call: 15:52**

On Sunday, 07 May, two fire appliances were mobilised from Burnley and Hyndburn to reports of a fire in Hapton. Due to a number of previous fires on the site, a site specific risk information assessment was available which detailed risk information and any hazards present, this information was utilised by the initial crew to assist in formulating a tactical plan to deal with the incident.

When the crews arrived, they were met with a fire within a large stack of treated waste which was producing a large amount of smoke. A tactical decision was made to commit Firefighters wearing breathing apparatus with firefighting jets to deal with the fire. However, due to the waste being very impacted, the assistance of site staff was required with specialist on site equipment. Fire service personnel briefed the site staff with details of how they required assistance and ensured that the staff were fully aware of and fully adhered to all the safety provision that had been implemented. Joint working between Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service and site staff massively reduced the impact the incident had on the local community and environment, with fire service personnel leaving the incident at around 19:00 hours.

Post-incident, an investigation was undertaken to determine the most likely cause of the fire. Information gathered from the scene and by liaising with the site operator resulted in the most likely cause being determined as self-combustion. A fault in a bailing machine had resulted in normal site procedures not being in place, which had meant waste had not been moved as quickly as usual. Due to the site being a permitted waste site via the Environment Agency, this information was shared with them and a follow up site visit was carried out by them.

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**SUMMARY REPORT FOR:**

**CHORLEY**

**LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)**

**PIVOT**

On Monday 03 April, a multi-agency team named PIVOT (Partnership, Integration, Vulnerability, Outcomes, Transforming) was launched at Chorley Fire Station. The team comprises of Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service, Lancashire Police, Chorley Council, Discover (substance misuse services), Adult Mental Health and the Lancashire Wellbeing Service. The aim of the team is to work collectively to identify practical solutions to help those vulnerable members of society who have complex issues or are slipping through the net. To date, there have been some real successes, mostly because it has had the right people in the team who have been willing to put aside organisational barriers in order to work together for the common good. It is a real opportunity to work more closely with agencies that in many cases are dealing with the very people who have the serious vulnerabilities that we come across at fires and during Home Fire Safety Checks. By physically working next to each other, team members work better and ensure that if a case comes into the room there will always be someone who can help.

**Health and Wellbeing Event – Brothers of Charity**

The Community Fire Safety Team attended a Health and Wellbeing Event hosted by Brothers of Charity. Brothers of Charity are an organisation that supports individuals with learning difficulties and complex needs. The Community Fire Safety Team was invited to run a stand at the event alongside other organisations including Medicash and the Quit Squad in order to improve the health and wellbeing of Brothers of Charity's staff and service users. The event was very well attended and provided the team with the chance to speak to other organisations about our Home Fire Safety Check Service and generate referrals for visits.

**INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)**

**Incident:** Fire at Car Workshop

**Date:** 19 May 2017

**Time of Call:** 04:48

A fire in a car workshop prompted a response of eight fire engines and crews (Chorley, Leyland, Tarleton, Bamber Bridge, Skelmersdale, Penwortham and 2 from Greater Manchester Fire Service), in addition to the 'Stinger' appliance (based at Blackburn) to jet water down onto the fire and the Command Unit and support pump from Fulwood. In addition to the Stinger jet, Firefighters used 3 main jets, hose reel jets and were equipped with breathing apparatus. They used firefighting foam injected into the water to better extinguish the fuel and oil ignited in the blaze and took steps to ensure that local drains and watercourses were not contaminated by the water used to fight the fire. The remote location made it necessary to pump water from sources some distance away, which explains the number of fire engines required, one at source pumping to one nearer the fire, then to the next nearest and so on. No-one was injured and the cause of the fire is being investigated.

**Incident: Thatched Building Fire**  
**Date: 22 May 2017**  
**Time of Call: 21:07**

Crews from Chorley were called to a thatched property in Heskin. Upon arrival, they were faced with a rapidly developing fire in the thatched roof of a listed building. Due to its rural location, water supplies were very limited and the Officer in Charge requested a further 3 pumping appliances (from Bamber Bridge, Wigan and Leyland) to transfer water from nearby Eccleston Delph to the scene of operations. The Aerial Support Unit (drone) was also called upon to give aerial footage to inform the Operational Commander. Fire crews were in attendance for 10 hours at the incident. The roof of the property was severely damaged by the fire.

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**SUMMARY REPORT FOR:**

**FYLDE**

**LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)**

**Multi-agency Working**

In recent years, Fylde Borough Council has experienced anti-social behaviour on Fairhaven Lake, Ansdell. Visitors to the park have been placing portable barbecues onto the wooden picnic tables and these have resulted in damage and burns of some significance to the tables themselves and the surrounding park area. The council made an application for funding quite some time ago, from the Big Lottery Fund, in order to redesign the park. However this bid was unsuccessful and the site has remained unchanged.

The problem has resurfaced and damage is once again occurring to the park picnic tables. A multi-agency meeting was called by Bryan Ward of Fylde Council and this was attended by local agencies, the Police and Community Safety Advisor, Brendan Holt. New picnic tables, which contain a safe, metal plate and are much fitter for purpose have been ordered by the council for the site and Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service has supplied literature and posters on barbecue safety. This literature is displayed in the local area to raise awareness of the issue and to educate the local community on Summer Safety.

**INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)**

**Incident:** Fire  
**Date:** 09 May 2017  
**Time of Call:** 09:53

On 09 May at 09:53 hours, Operational Crews were called to an incident at a Farm in Newton with Clifton. What had started as a controlled fire had developed to an unmanageable state.

Initially, farm workers began burning off a certain quantity of wood, which was sited adjacent to a storage container, the dimensions of which were approximately 8m x 4m. The fire developed and actually spread towards the container which housed items of a personal nature but more worryingly also contained cylinders of an unidentified substance.

Due to the contents of the cylinders being unidentified and there being a strong possibility that the cylinders may have contained acetylene, Operation Merlin was instigated, a 200m cordon was established and a ground monitor was set up to cool the affected cylinders. Further investigations revealed that two of the cylinders did in fact contain helium gas and two further cylinders contained propane.

Fire crews began cooling the cylinders and this continued until all of the cylinders were deemed to be of a safe temperature. The cause of the fire was recorded as accidental due to the careless burning of timber that was placed too close to the container. The container and contents were all destroyed by fire, the severity of which made it very difficult to identify the items damaged.



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<b>SUMMARY REPORT FOR:</b>	<b>HYNDBURN</b>
<b>LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)</b>	
<b><u>Dementia Hub</u></b> Community Safety staff have been involved with the setting up of the Hyndburn Dementia Hub. The Hub offers a range of information and alternative therapies under one roof. The team have now started using the new Dementia Buddies/Guardian Angels app, which encourages people to maintain their independence by wearing a discreet badge. If they then present signs of distress or confusion they can then allow for their address and relatives to be alerted to those you have been trained to use the app. Two staff have also completed their Dementia Champions training.	

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<b>SUMMARY REPORT FOR:</b>	<b>LANCASTER</b>
<b>LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)</b>	
<b><u>Festival of Culture</u></b>	
<p>Community Safety Advocate, M Stryjewska (on behalf of Lancaster District Communities Together Group) organised and invited Lancashire Fire and Rescue Services' operational personnel along with Community Safety Staff to attend the Festival of Culture. The event took place on Saturday, 20 May at Alston Hall, Lancaster. The event offered those attending an opportunity to sample the wonderful diversity of those living in our community. Activities include henna, musical and dance performances and a cultural buffet. Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service provided information on safety in the home and also opportunities on recruitment, inviting members of community to the local Station for more information. This was an excellent event to celebrate the diversity within our community.</p>	

<b>INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)</b>	
<b>Incident:</b>	<b>Dwelling Fire</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>26 April 2017</b>
<b>Time of Call:</b>	<b>22:12</b>
<p>Two Fire Appliances were mobilised to the above incident from Lancaster. North West Fire Control (NWFC) had established that the occupier had vacated the property, but was suffering the effects of smoke inhalation and had difficulty in breathing. A request by NWFC was made to North West Ambulance Service (NWAS) to attend this incident. The Officer in Charge was informed of this information on route to the incident.</p> <p>Upon arrival the Officer in Charge was confronted with a well-developed fire in in the rear bedroom of a bungalow. The occupier was given oxygen therapy until arrival of NWAS. Two Firefighters in breathing apparatus entered the property, taking a hose reel to extinguish the fire. Due to the fact that the adjoining bungalow shared a common roof void with the affected property, fire appliances were increased to four to prevent fire spread via the roof void. Severe fire damage to the affected property was restricted to the rear bedroom and roof void as a result of the bedroom door being closed; the remainder of the property was severely affected by smoke.</p> <p>The adjoining property was affected by smoke which was cleared using a positive pressure ventilation fan. Occupiers of both properties were transported to hospital due to the effects of smoke inhalation; the occupier of the adjoining property was able to return to the property the following day. The cause was investigated and found to be an incense stick which had fallen onto art work.</p>	

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**SUMMARY REPORT FOR:**

**PENDLE**

**LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)**

**Dementia Awareness Week**

National Dementia Awareness Week was 15-21 May 2017. This was supported by the Alzheimer's Society and Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service, among many other organisations in and around Lancashire. To support this national campaign the Community Fire Safety Team at Pendle planned and hosted a coffee morning at Earby, one of Pennine areas more rural fire stations. Dementia is a term given to a group of symptoms from certain diseases which affect the brain. Alzheimer's disease is the most common cause of dementia.

The morning proved very popular amongst the older residents and various donations from local businesses contributed towards the many free raffle prizes and refreshments on offer. Hosting the coffee morning provided opportunities for engaging with and forming relationships with residents who are socially isolated or live with a disability. The attendees seemed extremely pleased to have staff from a range of supporting agencies who could advise and assist with their enquiries, and all agencies were giving out resources to help prevent age-related accidents from occurring, and also promote Safe and Well Visits for Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service.

**INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)**

**Incident:** Special Service Call  
**Date:** 05 May 2017  
**Time of Call:** 20:13

The initial call received was to assist the Police with a rescue from height of a male person in a precarious position on a motorway bridge, which was overhanging a roundabout on a major intersection. The Police had made contact with the male and they had significant concerns in terms of the casualty's safety. In addition to the nearest appliance, an Arial Ladder Platform and the Rope Rescue team were also mobilised. Working with the Police, the crew implemented a cordon to ensure that a safe working area was established.

Upon attendance, the initial Officer in Charge utilised the 13.5m ladder and working at heights pack to make contact with the casualty to offer reassurance and to reduce the risk of the casualty falling. When the Arial Ladder Platform arrived, a Police Officer was given a safety brief and ascended, with firefighting personnel, in the Arial Ladder Platform Cage to carry out a rescue of the casualty which was successfully completed.

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<b>SUMMARY REPORT FOR:</b>	<b>PRESTON</b>
<b>LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)</b>	
<p><b><u>Talk to Users of Intact Community Centre</u></b> The Community Fire Safety Team delivered a generic fire safety talk to 10 people of varying ages, with various mental health, mobility, social or drug and alcohol issues. It was very well received and they all said they learned something new and found it valuable.</p> <p>It will be delivered approximately every 3 months. The Community Fire Safety Team made contact with the Intact Community Centre to see what they did. They discovered that Centre helps lots of vulnerable people with a huge range of issues.</p>	
<p><b><u>Dementia</u></b> On Friday, 26 May 2017 between 11:00-14:00 hours, Preston Fire Station held a Dementia Awareness event. Residents from a local care home living with dementia, - supported by their carers attended. There were several other agencies at the event including Age Concern Central Lancashire, Lancashire Wellbeing Service, Alzheimer's Society, Falls Team and Hobby Craft. Each of the agencies had a table in which they demonstrated available services. The residents also enjoyed a visit around the fire station. Crews were able to interact with the residents and agencies, which will benefit future Safe and Well Visits. Coffee, tea and biscuits were provided by the local supermarket for the event.</p>	
<p><b><u>Meeting/Talk with Members of the London Troubled Families Unit</u></b> In April, members of Preston District Community Fire Safety team had a discussion and demonstrated what work is carried out at the Early Action Integrated Team, Preston for the benefit of the London Troubled Families Unit. The London team wanted to see how cases came into the team at Preston, how we allocated them, which partners are involved and how progress is reported. The meeting was very positive which has greatly assisted the London Troubled Families Unit.</p>	
<p><b><u>Road Safety(Wasted Lives)</u></b> On the 23 May 2017, fire crews attended Fulwood Barracks to help raise awareness with Army recruits regarding the dangers associated with road traffic collisions. As part of the demonstration, crews operated Holmatro cutting equipment on a scrap vehicle, simulating a real vehicle crash. Live casualties were rescued from the vehicle. Fire crews worked alongside Army medics to simulate casualty first aid treatment. In total, over 150 Army recruits received the wasted lives presentation.</p>	

**INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)****Incident: Road Traffic Collision****Date: 18 April 2017****Time of Call: 09:21**

Two appliances from Preston Station attended a road traffic collision on Blackpool Road, Ribblesdale, Preston involving a mini bus and a car. The driver of the car was confined in the vehicle and had neck and spinal injuries. Fire crews used Holmatro cutters and spreaders to assist in extricating the driver and a long board to remove the driver from the vehicle. The roof and driver's door was removed. The driver was then assisted to the ambulance and conveyed to hospital.

**Incident: Special Service Call****Date: 12 May 2017****Time of Call: 16:35**

One appliance attended a bed-bound elderly female resident in Preston. The lady had a swollen finger, preventing her from removing a ring. Two Firefighters used a ring cutter to remove the ring from the lady's finger.

**Incident: Deliberate Fire****Date: 17 May 2017****Time of Call: 19:35**

On 17 May 2017, two appliances were called by the Police to a fire at the rear of a commercial furniture store on Brookfield Street, Preston. The Police reported to crews that they had seen two youths running away from the scene. The fire involved a discarded sofa in the rear yard of the furniture store. The sofa appeared to have been placed at the rear of the warehouse under the sheet metal cladding and ignited. The fire was extinguished by crews using a hose reel jet. The sofa fire had spread upwards and damaged the sheet metal cladding of the warehouse above the sofa. The crew used a thermal imaging camera to assess further hotspots. The incident was left open for several hours before being closed.

**Incident: Deliberate Building Fire****Date: 10 May 2017****Time of Call: 04:11**

On 10 May 2017 at 04:11 hours crews attended a fire at an empty commercial property at Watery Lane, Ashton, Preston. The fire involved combustible materials which had been piled up inside an unoccupied call centre. The premises were smoke logged and four Firefighters using breathing apparatus with hose reels and a positive pressure ventilation fan entered the building to extinguish the fire. Paper and envelopes and been deliberately ignited. There had been signs of a forced entry into the basement of the premises.

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<b>SUMMARY REPORT FOR:</b>	<b>RIBBLE VALLEY</b>
<b>LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)</b>	
<p>Community Safety staff have worked closely with Prince's Trust colleagues to advertise and encourage young people to take part in the first Prince's Trust team programme aimed at the Ribble Valley. The successful young people will also undertake a three week community project in the borough, along with organising a team challenge which will involve planning and preparing activities for others during the final weeks of the 12 week programme.</p>	

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<b>SUMMARY REPORT FOR:</b>	<b>ROSSENDALE</b>
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**LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)**

**Water Safety**

CFOA National Water Safety Campaign was 24-30 April. Community Fire Safety Teams coordinated various visits to high schools within the borough of Rossendale. The presentation “*Dying for a Dip*” was part of the educational programme used by Community Fire Safety; this was instigated by a Lancashire parent who in recent years lost her son in an open water drowning incident. The aim is to try to deter as many young people from being dared, intrigued, or peer-pressured into entering open water. Together with the efforts from Operational Crews who visited local sites of reservoirs, lakes, canals and quarries. The actions included displaying posters at these sites and engaging with people to encourage them to reconsider swimming and highlighting the associated risks, during the warmer weather. The presentation was delivered to 4 schools and approximately 550 pupils in Rossendale received the educational session. Pupils were given the chance to think about the risks associated with bodies of open water e.g. entanglement, cold water shock, hidden currents and unknown depths, which are all contributory factors to how people can die due to drowning.

**Dementia Awareness**

Community Fire Safety Teams supported the second in a series of coffee and craft sessions being held at Haslingden Fire Station. The group, which is purely volunteer run, is hosting these monthly open events for members of the local area to raise the profile of dementia, social isolation and caring for somebody in the community. They provide free refreshments and an extensive variety of resources to produce a range of sensory items for people living with Dementia. This is again supported by Community Fire Safety Teams, who worked in line with the National campaign Dementia Awareness Week, and provided Safe and Well Visits.

**INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)**

**Incident:** Dwelling Fire  
**Date:** 14 May 2017  
**Time of Call:** 23:05

Two appliances – one from Bacup and one from Rochdale (Cross Border), attended an address in Whitworth to an activated smoke alarm reported by call centre monitoring. On arrival, crews were met by a 96 year old gentleman who had a good degree of independence and mobility. He was registered as blind, as his eyesight had been deteriorating to a point he could only make out shapes in light. With some vigour he declared that his only pleasures now are “his pipe and his audio books” unfortunately on this occasion the fire had directly involved his pipe. He had accidentally tipped out the contents onto a stool he used as a side table and this ignited. He did remove the smouldering stool outside, taking in some smoke in the process.

The gentleman agreed to a Safe and Well Visit during which he was supplied with a flame resistant blanket/throw for his chair and a steel bin for his waste (as he was using a plastic bin with Plastic carrier bag). He was very thankful of the support and LFRS' approach to assist him with his independence as we are the first, in his opinion, to engage with him and support his needs rather than tell him what to do.



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**SUMMARY REPORT FOR:**

**SOUTH RIBBLE**

**LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)**

**Dementia Event**

The Community Fire Safety Team and the Operational Crews at Leyland Fire Station organised a Dementia Café at the Fire Station as part of Dementia Awareness Week. The event was a huge success with around 50 people in attendance. The event was attended by a number of different agencies including Lancashire Wellbeing Service, Miller Care, Preston Care and Repair, Progress Housing Group and the Alzheimer's Society.

The visitors were treated to tea and cakes which were donated by a member of staff. As part of the Café, two dementia friends' sessions were run with a total of six participants becoming Dementia Friends.

There was the opportunity for those living with dementia to be referred for a Dementia Buddy. A Dementia Buddy is a device (badge, zip or wristband) that is worn by someone with dementia that can be scanned with a phone if that person is found wandering. Once scanned, the phone comes up with a message such as 'my name is John and I need help, please call.....'. The person scanning can then telephone their point of contact and arrange for them to come and assist.

**Working with Discover**

Following on from the excellent work carried out in Central's area, the Community Fire Safety Team in Southern were approached by Discover, the substance misuse service, to work with their teams to visit those who are on the books for Discover but have not turned up for their recent appointments. The people who are currently working with Discover are using either alcohol or drugs and as these are one of our target audiences they are an excellent organisation to work with. South Ribble was the first area to work with Discover with a member of the Community Fire Safety Team visiting properties with a member of staff. Whilst at the property the worker will carry out their visit while the Team fit smoke alarms and carry out a Home Fire Safety Check.

Some of the service users were known to the Community Fire Safety Team; however they are referrals that have either been refused or ones that could not be contacted. There were also referrals for people that the Team didn't know and would probably have never engaged with. This is an excellent example of partnership work that will be rolled out across the other Districts in Southern area.

**INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)****Incident: Clubhouse of Leyland Warriors on fire, Leyland****Date: 11 May 2017****Time of Call: 02:00**

Eight fire engines and crews (Leyland, Penwortham, Fulwood, Chorley and Bamber Bridge) and an Incident Command Unit and support from Fulwood responded to a fire that is believed to have been started deliberately. On arrival, the cladded section of the porta cabin had collapsed and the roof had been compromised with ceiling joists falling into the room. Access was very difficult as all windows and doors had roller shutters and security doors/locks. Firefighters used a main jet and a hose reel jet to extinguish the fire. There were no casualties and an investigation is underway.

**Incident: Road Traffic Collision****Date: 19 April 2017****Time of Call: 17:37**

This incident involved an articulated lorry and approximately 9 other vehicles on the northbound slip road of Junction 28 of the M6. It involved the mobilisation of 6 appliances from Leyland, Bamber Bridge, Wigan, Preston and the Urban Search and Rescue Team from Chorley. The articulated lorry had driven into the side of a Range Rover, pressing it against the safety barrier, which left the driver trapped in his vehicle. It was a very difficult extrication which took around 2 hours to complete before the gentleman was airlifted to hospital in the North West's Air Ambulance.

**LANCASHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**  
COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: APRIL 2017 – MAY 2017

**SUMMARY REPORT FOR:**

**WEST LANCASHIRE**

**LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)**

**Cadet Enrichment Day**

Cadets from Ormskirk, along with Units from Carnforth and South Shore, attended Service Training Centre for an Enrichment Day on Tuesday, 23 May. The Cadets participated in 3 activities, the gallery crawl, fire extinguisher activity and a road traffic collision demonstration, as well as seeing a demonstration on fire behaviour. At the end of the day, the Cadets were given the opportunity to have a tour of the Urban Search and Rescue building and see the specialist equipment the Crews use. They also saw a demonstration of how the International Search and Rescue (ISAR) dog, Lola, finds casualties in an incident such as an earthquake. The Trainers involved in the day were all very complimentary of the Cadets.

**Partnership Working Day**

The Community Fire Safety Team organised a Partnership Working Day at Ormskirk Fire Station, where Partners from different organisations could come and talk to the Team and Operational Crews from Ormskirk and Skelmersdale, about the services they offer. Partners included Lancashire Wellbeing Service, the Community Mental Health Team, Alzheimer's Society, the Falls Team, Social Services, Care Agency Home Instead and Age UK. The idea was borne out of a similar activity the Team were involved in at the Prevention Seminar, where each partner was given 7 minutes (just enough time to give an overview without it being overcomplicated) about their Service. The event at Ormskirk was very specific to the services available in West Lancashire, which will enable those attending to make better referrals, as part of the signposting section of the home fire safety check, in order to reduce a householder's risk.

**INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)**

**Incident: Primary Fire**  
**Date: 26 April 2017**  
**Time of Call: 07:55**

Two fire engines and crews from Ormskirk responded to a report of a flat fire. On arrival, the fire was out, leaving the flat full of smoke and the occupants were outside and uninjured. The occupants had turned the grill on and after a short period of time, the residual fat in the grill pan ignited. The alarm actuated and the premises were evacuated. The occupants had turned off the grill prior to exiting the premises. Firefighters used a portable fan unit to extract the smoke.

**Incident: Primary Fire**  
**Date: 05 April 2017**  
**Time of Call: 17:38**

Three fire engines and crews, two from Skelmersdale and one from Ormskirk, responded to a report that someone might be trapped by fire in a ground floor flat. Firefighters equipped with breathing apparatus and a hose reel jet entered the flat and led a man to safety. The casualty was suffering slight effects of breathing smoke and was attended to by paramedics at the scene. The fire involved a cooker and Firefighters used a portable fan unit to extract residual smoke.

**LANCASHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**  
COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: APRIL 2017 – MAY 2017

<b>SUMMARY REPORT FOR:</b>	<b>WYRE</b>
<b>LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)</b>	
<p><b><u>Dementia Awareness Week</u></b> Northern Community Safety Advisors and Preesall Retained Duty System Crew held a Dementia Open Day in support of Dementia Awareness Week. The event was held at Preesall Fire Station and was supported by representatives from The Alzheimer's Society, Age UK, The Stroke Association, Integrated Care Co-ordinators and Care and Repair.</p> <p>During the event, Northern Area Dementia Champions also held 2 Dementia Friends information sessions in the community room, resulting in 12 members of the local community becoming Dementia Friends.</p> <p>The event was well attended by local residents, many of whom enjoyed afternoon tea in the sun. Pilling Lane Women's Institute baked some delicious cakes and Preesall Fire Cadets helped decorate the Fire Station by making bunting, memory boards and colourful posters.</p>	