

# 2017

Emergency Cover Review



Lancashire Fire  
and Rescue Service

# DRAFT

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## Foreword

Periodically LFRS undertake an Emergency Cover Review. This takes a close look at the emergency cover we provide in terms of where our fire engines are situated and the way they are staffed. These are the main factors that affect response times. The Emergency Cover Review involves a detailed study of activity levels, which informs our risk-based approach to providing the most appropriate response to emergencies in Lancashire.

This Emergency Cover Review sees no reduction in the numbers of fire engines or changes to staffing but still aims to achieve greater efficiency and reduced costs. Our proposals for Pre-Alerting offer a significant benefit to the communities of Lancashire.

An Emergency Cover Review is directly related to the financial position of Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service. Based on current funding assumptions the Service is in a financially stable position, hence there are no proposals to reduce fire engines or reduce staff numbers. Should external factors substantially reduce the funding available, then we would be required to revisit the Emergency Cover Review to explore other options to balance expenditure.

It has been a difficult time for all the public sector regarding funding. For Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service the challenge has been how best to use our finite resources to provide the best possible emergency cover for our communities, this has been our clear focus. We have nevertheless risen to the challenge exceptionally well, continuing to provide an emergency response of a high

calibre, with fire deaths in homes at an all-time low and by reducing the numbers of fires and with it the terrible impact they have on our communities.

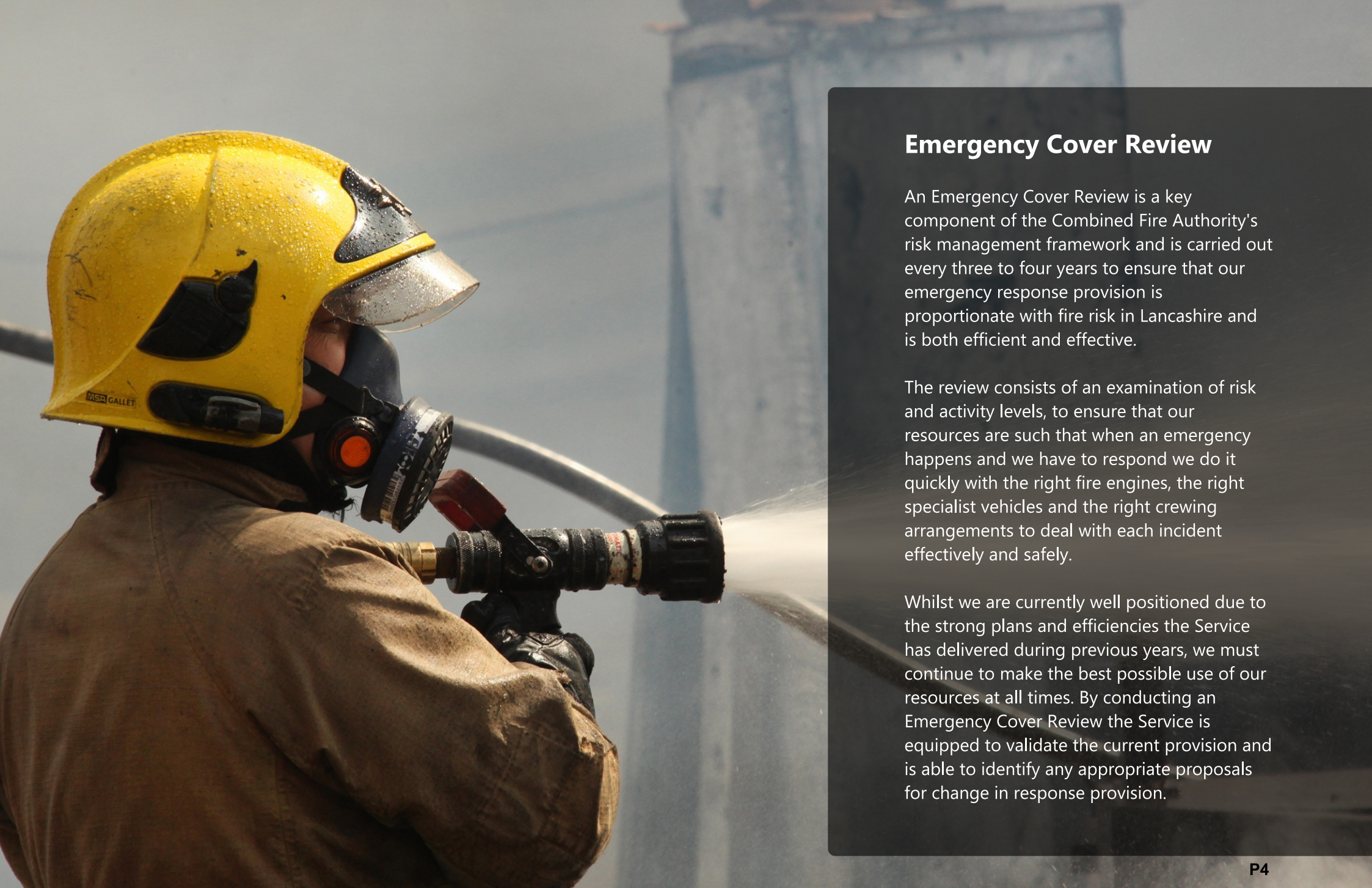


Frank de Molfetta  
Chairman  
Lancashire Combined Fire Authority



Chris Kenny  
Chief Fire Officer  
Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service



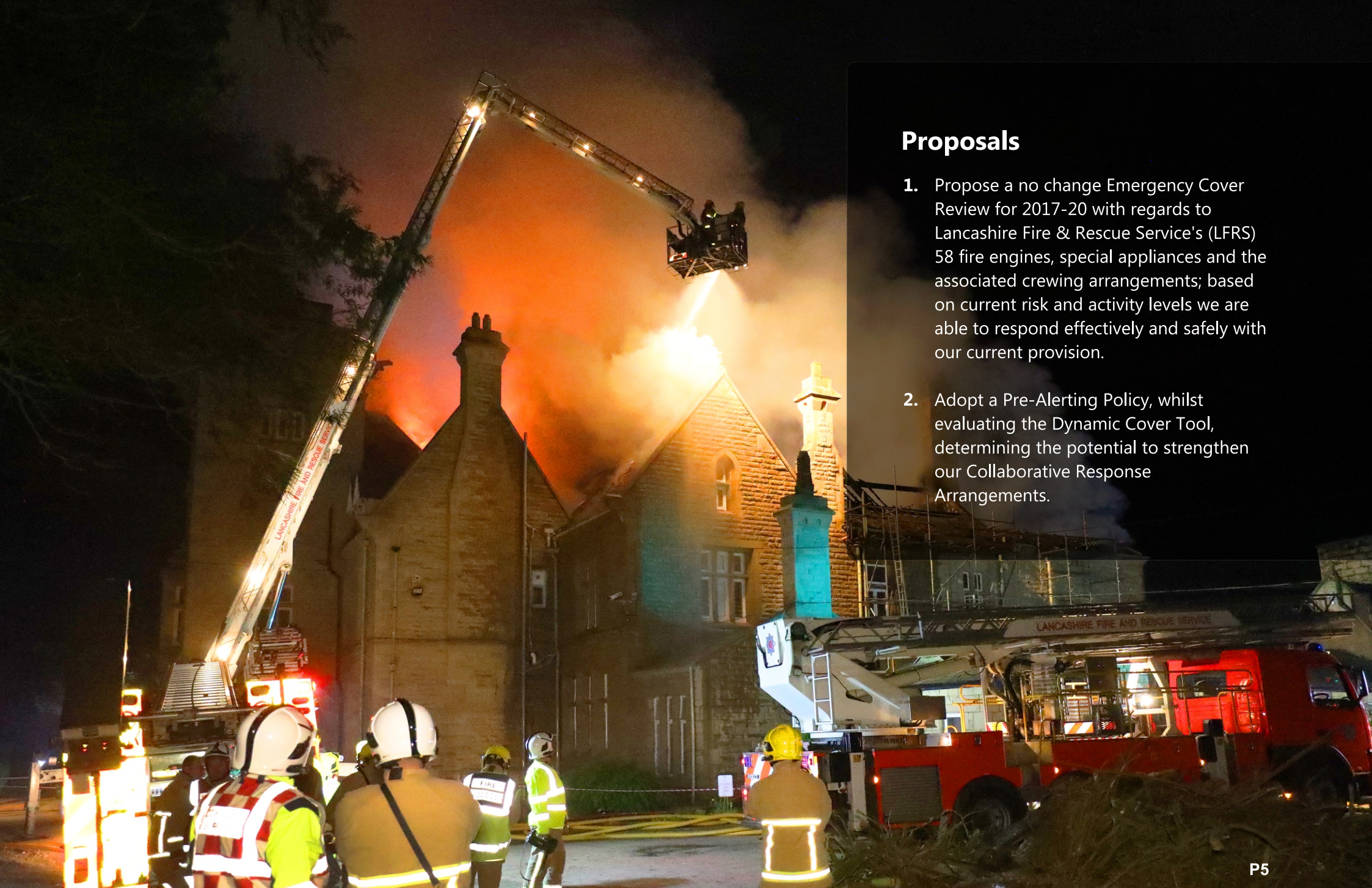


## Emergency Cover Review

An Emergency Cover Review is a key component of the Combined Fire Authority's risk management framework and is carried out every three to four years to ensure that our emergency response provision is proportionate with fire risk in Lancashire and is both efficient and effective.

The review consists of an examination of risk and activity levels, to ensure that our resources are such that when an emergency happens and we have to respond we do it quickly with the right fire engines, the right specialist vehicles and the right crewing arrangements to deal with each incident effectively and safely.

Whilst we are currently well positioned due to the strong plans and efficiencies the Service has delivered during previous years, we must continue to make the best possible use of our resources at all times. By conducting an Emergency Cover Review the Service is equipped to validate the current provision and is able to identify any appropriate proposals for change in response provision.



## Proposals

1. Propose a no change Emergency Cover Review for 2017-20 with regards to Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service's (LFRS) 58 fire engines, special appliances and the associated crewing arrangements; based on current risk and activity levels we are able to respond effectively and safely with our current provision.
2. Adopt a Pre-Alerting Policy, whilst evaluating the Dynamic Cover Tool, determining the potential to strengthen our Collaborative Response Arrangements.

## Developing a Pre-Alerting policy and Dynamic Cover Tool

Pre-Alerting is a method of operation whereby once an addressable location has been identified by a call handler at North West Fire Control (our 999 emergency call centre) an early mobilising message is dispatched to the responding crews. This enables the crew to cease any current tasks and position themselves upon the fire engine in anticipation of receiving further details and being turned out to the upcoming incident. Whilst the crews are preparing, the call handler at North West Fire Control will continue with the emergency call, and once the full details of the incident are attained, they will mobilise the fire engine in the usual manner.

By adopting this Pre-Alerting method, which has already been adopted by other Fire and Rescue Services regionally, LFRS anticipates not only the opportunity to mobilise our fire engines sooner to critical emergency incidents, but predicts an improvement in our performance levels upon which we are measured by the Combined Fire Authority.

The Pre-Alerting method is to be firstly established by utilising an initial pilot approach across appropriate duty systems at stations where a performance benefit may be attained. For further details on the proposed Pre-Alerting policy please refer to our website <http://www.lancsfireandrescue.org.uk>





## Consultation

As always, we will consult widely, and have allocated twelve weeks in which to do this - 19th July to 10th October 2017. The Combined Fire Authority Planning Committee will consider the outcome of consultation in November 2017 and it is anticipated that any decisions will be made by the Fire Authority at its meeting on 27th November 2017.

Consultation will involve:

- Distribution of information about the proposals to a range of interested parties, for example, local authorities, with discussion if requested.
- Distribution of information to the public via our website and the production of a summary leaflet available upon request. This includes an invitation to provide feedback by letter or email, or to join a discussion on our social media channels.
- Dialogue with staff trade unions and all employees of Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service.

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YOU THINK!**

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Write to us by email or post:  
[rmp@lancsfireandrescue.org.uk](mailto:rmp@lancsfireandrescue.org.uk)

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এই তথ্যপত্রের তথ্য বড় অক্ষরে, ক্যাসেটে রেকর্ড করে, ব্রেইলে (অক্ষরিতপিত্তে) বা অন্য কোনো ভাষায় অনুবাদ চাইলে অনুগ্রহ করে নাম্বারে ফোন করুন: 01772 866791।

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જો તમે આ દસ્તાવેજની નકલ લાઈ-સાઈઝ, ઓડીયો, બ્રેઈલ અથવા અન્ય ભાષામાં મેળવવા માંગતા છો તો કૃપા કરી 01772 866791 પર ટેલીફોન કરો.

### Urdu

اگر آپ اس دستاویز کی کاپی بڑی لکھائی، آڈیو، بریل یا کسی دوسری زبان میں چاہتے ہیں تو براہ مہربانی ٹیلی فون نمبر: 01772 866791 پر رابطہ کریں۔

**If you need any further assistance or clarification please ring 01772 866955 and ask for the Risk Management Team**