

LANCASHIRE COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY
Meeting to be held on Monday 18 February 2019

COMMUNITY FIRE SAFETY REPORTS
(Appendix 1 refers)

Contact for further information:
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Tel: 01772 866801

Executive Summary

Reports in relation to the 2 Unitary and 12 District Authorities are attached containing information relating to:-

- Community Safety activity;
- Incidents of Operational interest.

Operational incidents of interest will be presented to Members for information.

Recommendation

The Authority is asked to note and endorse the report.

Information

Included as Appendix 1 are reports for the two unitary and twelve district authorities in relation to:

- Community Safety initiatives;
- Incidents of Operational interest.

Business Risk

None

Environmental Impact

Potential impact on local environment

Equality and Diversity implications

None

Financial Implications

None

HR Implications

None

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact
Information from LFRS Management Info Systems	December 2018 – January 2019	David Russel
Information received from area based staff	December 2018 – January 2019	David Russel
Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate:		

LANCASHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2018 – JANUARY 2019

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	BLACKBURN-WITH-DARWEN
LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)	
<u>Winter Safety</u>	
<p>As the months draw on and heating over winter becomes more of a burden, people may turn to alternative ways of heating their homes - whether through portable heaters, candles, open fires or cookers - or not at all, which is risky both from a health and wellbeing point of view and fire safety.</p>	
<p>The Winter Safety campaign aims to encourage people to reach out and get in touch with us through our Home Fire Safety Check Service, and quote a unique reference code. During the Home Fire Safety Check, we have also been encouraging the occupier to refer themselves to the Priority Service Register. To promote the campaign, targeted community activities have also focused around the Wensleyfold and Brookhouse areas of the borough, as well as attendance at multi-agency events including the Christmas light switch on, Chill and Chat, talks at the Salvation Army, the Stroke Association and the Blind Society. Darwen Cadets have also supported our message with their involvement at car washes and attendance at the Christmas Carol concert.</p>	

LANCASHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2018 – JANUARY 2019

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	BLACKPOOL
LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)	
<p><u>Winter Warmth & Fire Safety</u> On Tuesday 08 January, Blackpool Community Fire Safety Teams and Operational Firefighters invited members of The Phoenix Club into the fire station for the afternoon.</p> <p>The event was very well attended by members of the female group who are mostly retired and a number of whom live alone. The ladies received a tour of the station and engine house and the crews completed some drills and provided a demonstration of the aerial ladder platform.</p> <p>The Community Fire Safety Team offered home fire safety advice, advice on general wellbeing and additional information in relation to our Winter Safety Campaign. Another date has been set to meet the group and they will receive the Dementia Friends Awareness Session.</p> <p><u>Breakfast with Santa</u> On Monday 24 December, Blackpool Fire Station hosted its annual Breakfast with Santa, which is organised by Trinity Hospice. As always, the event was very well attended and was delivered as a joint venture between the Hospice, Operational Firefighters, Community Fire Safety Team members and our Fire Cadets who in costume, took up the role of elves. We were also joined this year by some of our volunteers.</p> <p>The event offers local children a cooked breakfast, and then the opportunity to meet Santa and discuss the important issue of Christmas presents.</p> <p><u>Healthy Lifestyle and Wellbeing Expo</u> Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service attended the Healthy Lifestyle and Wellbeing Expo at the newly appointed Vicarage Park Community Hall on Saturday 12 January and provided fire safety advice and information about the current winter safety campaign to a large number of people. There was representation from youth groups, dementia support, community groups and Wyre Council amongst others and Simon, a Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service volunteer from Blackpool Fire Station, also used the opportunity to come along and provide support at the event.</p> <p><u>Careers Event</u> On Tuesday 29 January, the Blackpool Community Fire Safety Team attended a Careers Event at Blackpool Pleasure Beach. This is an annual event and it is visited by pupils from every Blackpool High School and is extremely well attended. It provides a great opportunity to publicise the employment opportunities within the fire service and It is also a useful platform by which to promote our fire cadet unit.</p>	

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Date: 22 January 2019

Time: 13:47

On 22 January, Operational Crews from Blackpool received a call to a persons reported fire in Blackpool. This was an accidental fire in the living room of a property that had been caused by a small electric heater. When crews arrived, they found the fire had been smouldering for anything up to thirty minutes before the smoke alarm sounded and they were met by smoke issuing from the front room of the flat and there were visible flames. The incident was attended by appliances from Blackpool, South Shore, Bispham, Fleetwood and St Anne's Fire Stations. A total of eight firefighters wearing breathing apparatus were committed to the property.

A male casualty was rescued from the property in an unconscious state. He was then resuscitated by fire service personnel and conveyed to hospital by ambulance where he was admitted to the Intensive Care Unit. After making a significant recovery the gentleman was discharged home on Sunday. The care administered at the time of the incident by the operational crews enhanced the recovery rate of the casualty.

The electrical fan heater involved in the incident was destroyed by fire, as was the front bay window and curtains. The room of origin sustained damage of 70% by heat and smoke, the bedroom 50% by smoke and the remainder of the flat 25% light by smoke.

General Incidents Involving Extractor Fan Units

Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service has recently attended a number of incidents involving extractor fans, usually located in bathrooms/showers. Historically, Blackpool hotels and guest houses would have had shared facilities which would have reduced the number of these units, however over the years with en-suite facilities now being prevalent throughout the town, the opportunities for issues to arise has also grown.

The main cause of fires in extractor units is overheating of the unit itself, possibly due to the age of the unit, seizing of the internal ball bearings or sometimes a build-up of fluff/lint around the unit which can restrict the moving parts again leading to overheating.

A further issue with some premises is also the route that the extractor ducting may take. Again, historically some hoteliers may have breached fire separation to run an extractor duct, thus allowing a passage for any fire to travel along between floors or compartments.

Good practise would suggest

- An extractor should only run for up to 20 minutes after having bathed or showered

- The unit should be cleaned periodically to remove any build-up of dust or lint
- Units should be fitted by professionals
- Any damage to fire separation should always be repaired to provide the appropriate level of compartmentation
- If the unit starts to make unusual noises this can signify that the bearings are failing in which case the unit should be repaired or replaced
- In the case of an accident happening and a fire occurring, your fire alarm system will notify you of the problem, don't forget to have the system tested and serviced regularly
- Any queries relating to fire safety in your premises can be answered by one of our Technical Fire Safety Officers

The photograph below shows the damage caused to the latest unit following its overheating. Luckily the residents were still awake and noticed that the room lights had failed due to the unit being on the wiring circuit so went to investigate, finding the bathroom smoke logged they shut the door and left the property, calling us immediately



LANCASHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2018 – JANUARY 2019

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:**BURNLEY****LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)****12 Days of Christmas Community Carol Message**

Staff at Burnley's Community Fire Station teamed up with residents from two Calico sheltered accommodation schemes to create their unique version of the 12 days of Christmas Carol. Crosshills in Padiham and Viking Place in Burnley attended Burnley Fire Station on numerous occasions on the lead up to the 12 days of Christmas to tailor the verses, practice singing in the Community Room at Burnley Fire Station and develop the Christmas messages that would be delivered by the community representatives and FRS Staff to help raise awareness of fire safety over the festive period.

The fire safety carol singing was filmed as part of a winter safety message which Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service proudly support as part of their seasonal campaign. The carols were published on social media and received good feedback.

The elderly residents of the sheltered accommodation were creative in developing the production and welcomed the carols to be shared on Twitter to see how many people could enjoy the moment as much as they had whilst creating the production together. It proved a great success in bringing older people in the community together and helped to roll out safety information with an enjoyable and engaging manner for those involved in the community initiative.

LANCASHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2018 – JANUARY 2019

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	CHORLEY
LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)	
<u>Wasted Lives</u> A Community Fire Safety team member along with the Road Safety Lead, delivered a Wasted Lives session at Parklands High School to year 11 pupils; four one-hour sessions were completed in total with approximately 50 pupils in each class. The Wasted Lives vehicle was also in attendance as a visual resource in which the pupils had the opportunity to see the vehicle and ask questions. The sessions were received well with all pupils who were engaged in the sessions.	

LANCASHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2018 – JANUARY 2019

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	FYLDE
LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)	
<p><u>Road Safety Event</u> On 15 November, Fylde Community Safety took part in a road safety event at British Aerospace Warton. The team took “Daniel’s Car” to the Warton venue - the crashed vehicle serves as a very poignant reminder of the dangers of drinking and driving and still being under the influence of alcohol on a morning following a night out.</p> <p><u>Winter Safety</u> On 05 and 19 December 2018, operational crews ran an initiative for the Winter Safety Campaign at Ashton Gardens Café in St Anne’s. The crews spent several hours on both days meeting older people and offering home fire safety advice and advice on “Winter Safety”. They handed out winter safety leaflets, thermometers and 0800 number cards with the winter safety reference on them. The Firefighters engaged with over fifty elderly members of the community over the two dates.</p> <p><u>Home Fire Safety Checks</u> On 21 December 2018, the Day Crewing Plus Firefighters from St Anne’s worked alongside the police and local elderly community group, Just Good Friends, and spent the full day at Clifton Hospital, St Anne’s. They delivered gifts to several hundred people who were to remain in hospital over the Christmas period.</p> <p>The crews visited the wards handing out gifts and chatting to the patients. The crews also issued leaflets advising of the Home Fire Safety Check Service whereby the patients can contact us for a visit and receive fire safety advice upon their discharge from hospital.</p>	

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Date: 19 January 2019
Time: 19:31

On Saturday 19 January, operational crews from St Anne’s and Lytham stations were called to a fire at commercial premises in Lytham.

A member of staff was moving items in the freezer on the shop floor when he noticed a smell of smoke and sparks coming from the electrical wiring in the rail at the front of the freezer. This then started to flame slightly and a CO2 extinguisher was used to extinguish the fire. A full evacuation then took place.

On arrival at the incident, Firefighters found the fire has been extinguished and an inspection of the wiring then took place. The wiring sparked slightly and the freezer units were isolated at the consumer unit. The surrounding area and all freezers were then checked. An Incident Handover form was completed and this stated that the unit must remain isolated until checked by a qualified engineer. A cordon was put in place around the affected area.

The fire had started due to overheating, the cause of which was unknown. Damage was recorded as severe by fire to approximately 5cm of wiring in the freezer, there was no rapid growth of fire and no further damage was recorded..

LANCASHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2018 – JANUARY 2019

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	HYNDBURN
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LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Winter Safety

As the months draw on and heating over winter becomes more of a burden, people may turn to alternative ways of heating their homes - whether through portable heaters, candles, open fires or cookers - or even not at all and that is risky both from a health and wellbeing point of view and fire safety.

The Winter Safety campaign aims to encourage people to reach out and get in touch with us through our Home Fire Safety Check Service, and quote a unique reference code. During the Home Fire Safety Check, we have also been encouraging the occupier to refer themselves to the Priority Service Register. The launch of the campaign was during the Mayoral Christmas lights switch on in Accrington town centre and has led to the targeting of community activities in the Scaitcliffe area and Great Harwood.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Date: 14 January 2019

Time: 01:40

Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service received a call stating there was a property fire with seven people trapped inside.

As the crews made their way to the property, they received information from North West Fire Control (NWFC) stating that they had the callers on the line and that the family had managed to exit the property. The first appliance arrived in less than five minutes.

On arrival, Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service crews found the two parents and five children outside the house and a well-developed fire in the property. A Breathing Apparatus (BA) crew were deployed to commence firefighting operations.

Fire service personnel started to check the family members for injuries prior to handing them over to North West Ambulance Service for further treatment. All seven family members were taken to hospital due to varying degrees of smoke inhalation.

The BA teams found a fully developed fire in the kitchen and utility room and extinguished the fire using hose reels and tactical ventilation. The subsequent fire investigation found that a tumble dryer had caused the fire and passed the details on to an Incident Intelligence Officer.

The family had managed to make their way out of the property due to being alerted to the fire by smoke alarms that had been fitted by Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service. There were no significant injuries to any of the family members.

LANCASHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2018 – JANUARY 2019

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	LANCASTER
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LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Winter Safety Campaign

The Winter Safety Campaign is concentrating on Accidental Dwelling Fires (ADF's) resulting from heating related issues. This problem is linked to fuel poverty, as people can often make unwise decisions e.g. using cookers to heat rooms, using unsafe halogen heaters and use of candles.

Using statistical evidence, areas were identified that previously had more ADF's over the winter months. The main aim of the campaign is to generate Home Fire Safety Check referrals resulting in an increase of high risk referrals in the targeted areas, increase referrals to partner agencies for fuel poverty support and reduce ADF's caused by heating equipment.

The properties in the target areas are made up mainly of houses of multiple occupation (HMO's), student accommodation and sheltered accommodation.

To promote the campaign and engage with our target audience, Operational Staff are delivering fire safety awareness talks to sheltered accommodation properties. Local businesses in the areas have been contacted and agreed to display posters and distribute leaflets to customers. Letting agents, after being advised of the campaign, have agreed to display posters/leaflets in their offices and properties in the target areas. Information packs will also be given to new tenants offering a Home Fire Safety Check.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Date: 27 November 2018
Time: 10:34

One fire appliance was initially mobilised to a small fire in the open at a large commercial premises on Lansil Industrial Estate in Lancaster. Additional information from North West Fire Control indicated that this fire may have involved an acetylene cylinder. Upon arrival, it was quickly established that this was the case and immediately a further three appliances and police assistance for an evacuation were requested. The initial crew immediately got to work establishing a hydrant supply and ground monitor to provide a covering jet to cool the cylinder and reduce the risk posed.

Operation MERLIN was declared by the initial officer in charge due to the potential for escalation of the incident and also due to the impact on local infrastructure. A 200m cordon was then established in line with the service procedure for dealing with an acetylene cylinder incident. This 200m cordon encompassed a number of commercial premises and also a main road between Lancaster City Centre and the M6 at Junction 34. The evacuation was successfully carried out by fire and rescue personnel alongside police officers who closed multiple roads and staffed cordons.

The Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service (LFRS) Air Support unit was also utilised at the incident to allow fire and rescue service personnel to monitor the incident from a safe distance. A further two appliances were also requested in order to supply water to the incident from the River Lune in case of escalation. As the incident progressed the Acetylene inside the cylinder was allowed to burn off in a controlled manner. Once the flame extinguished a number of tests were carried out in order to ascertain that the cylinder was empty and that no decomposition (a chemical reaction that can cause any acetylene within the cylinder to self-heat) was taking place inside the cylinder. It was established that the cylinder was safe to hand back and the incident was handed over and all cordons lifted.

Investigation by Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service personnel revealed that the fire had been caused accidentally due to a fault in the equipment. No injuries were sustained by any members of the public or service personnel during the incident.

Date: 17 November 2018

Time: 11:07

Three fire appliances from Carnforth, Bolton-le-Sands and Morecambe were mobilised to a person reported fire at a farm in Tewitfield Carnforth.

Upon arrival, the Officer in Charge (OIC) was confronted with a well-developed fire of straw within an open ended barn (50m x 10m). The roof to the building was also well alight. The OIC quickly established that all persons were accounted for and a message supporting this fact was sent to NWFC.

Due to the size of the fire and the lack of water in the local area the OIC sent an assistance message requesting a further two appliances and a Hazard Material Environmental Protection Officer (HMEPO) to support him due to the building being constructed from Asbestos. Firefighters wearing breathing apparatus (BA) were committed to the barn after a dynamic risk assessment had been carried out. A water tank below ground was sourced which enabled the OIC to commit a further two firefighters wearing breathing apparatus at the rear of the building. A message was sent informing control that the incident had now been upgraded to Stage 2 BA and that the incident was now sectorised.

An additional water source was established from the canal some 36 hose lengths away from the incident. A water relay was quickly established and the fire was soon under control. Farm machinery was utilised to move the burning straw from the building to a location outside to enable the fire fighters to dampen down and ensure the fire was extinguished.

Due to the actions of the fire service crews, they managed to save approximately five tonnes of straw and the building although damaged by fire it was able to be used soon after the fire was extinguished.

Date: 17 January 2019
Time: 11:33

Two fire appliances from Lancaster and Morecambe were mobilised to a road traffic collision on the A683 Lancaster. At the same time, one ambulance and one rapid response car from North West Ambulance Service (NWAS) was also mobilised from Lancaster Community Fire & Ambulance Station to respond to the same incident.

Upon arrival the Officer in Charge (OIC) was confronted with a car which had driven in to the back of a 4x4. The driver of the 4x4 was complaining of neck pains and spinal pains to the emergency services. It was decided between the senior paramedic and the OIC of the fire service that the driver needed to be extricated out of the rear of the vehicle by removing the roof and putting the driver of the 4x4 on a back board.

There was good use of the Joint Emergency Services Interoperability Programme (JESIP) between LFRS and NWAS. This has been enhanced by being co-located at Lancaster as relationships have been formed between both organisations and a greater understanding of each other's role.

The driver was extricated safely and conveyed to hospital with the road only being closed for a short period of time.

LANCASHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2018 – JANUARY 2019

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:

PENDLE

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Cold Strike Safety Campaign

Pennine prevention teams have delivered local safety campaigns in each of the three Pennine districts of Burnley Rossendale and Pendle. A schedule of one cold strike per district, per month has been delivered in Pennine. The campaigns named 'Cold Strikes' focus on the seasonal weather where we start to feel a drop in temperature. Historically, when the temperature drops, more accidental dwelling fires occur due to an increase of heating devices being used in the home. Community Fire Safety Staff and operational crews worked collectively with partner agencies via the Pennine Strategic Safety Partnership to advise and prevent incidents occurring due to incorrect use of or defective appliances used in the home during cold spells. Pennine staff mapped risk areas and identified areas where there were a high percentage of older people living using MOSAIC data and Graphical Information System (GIS) to identify areas where limited fire service intervention had previously taken place. Some of the target cold strike locations were more outer lying areas where the occupants were in more of an isolated position, where other homes were in an area of deprivation and would more likely have more increased risk within the homes.

So far the district of Pendle alone had a succession of three target areas. Over 400 properties have been leafleted to inform the residents prior to the campaigns going ahead. In total, 262 successful Home Fire Safety Checks have been delivered in Pendle during the initiative.

Various partner agencies have taken part in the days such as Lancashire Wellbeing, Lancashire Constabulary and the Falls Team which has helped streamline the referral process in signposting.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Date: 19 December 2018

Time: 16:33

The 999 call was made by a member of the public to a house fire. Neighbours reported that an elderly couple were inside the property. Three appliances were mobilised and on initial attendance, two breathing apparatus wearers were committed into the property with the brief of search and rescue, and firefighting.

The two breathing apparatus wearers entered the property and very quickly located a female on the floor in the living room suffering from burns. They quickly noted that due to the severity of the injuries that this was unfortunately a fatal fire and they made the decision to leave the casualty in place for fire investigation purposes.

The second occupant was rescued from the rear of the building suffering from severe smoke inhalation. Investigations are still ongoing and being carried out as to the cause of the fire with a joint operation and multi-agency investigation team involving Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service Incident Intelligence Officer's and Lancashire Constabulary Forensic Department.

LANCASHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2018 – JANUARY 2019

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:

PRESTON

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Age Concern Christmas Fair

This event was organised by Age Concern and held at Preston Indoor Market on 06 December 2018 from 13:30hrs – 16:00hrs. The theme for the event was to promote Keeping Warm and Well This Winter and various partnership agencies were invited to provide attending members of the public important information on how to keep safe during the winter months.

As part of our Local Winter Safety Campaign, Preston Community Fire Safety Team attended the event with a stand to provide vital safety information for all attending residents. This included safe use of electric portable heaters, candle safety, gas safety, fuel poverty and solid fuel fires.

Along with the provision of fire safety information, staff also offered all members of the public the opportunity for a referral for a Home Fire Safety Check by contacting Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service to arrange for a convenient appointment. This initiative was given a code (WS01) to allow the numbers of created visits to be collated in the evaluation process of the Winter Safety Campaign across the county.

Preston Community Fire Safety benefited from being able to signpost individuals to other attending agencies such as Preston City Council, Lancashire Volunteer Partnership, and NCompass and this multi-agency approach provided a platform to address many identified issues and was a great success.

NCompass BME Forum

Preston Community Fire Safety arranged through NCompass, for a Fire Safety within the Home Talk to be delivered to a group of approximately 30 carers and their family members. The talk was interpreted into Gujarati and leaflets in three other appropriate languages given out.

This initiative has enabled us to develop a foothold within the BME community and every resident and carer present has received training and advice on vital fire safety information. In addition to this, all attendees at the presentation have now received a Home Fire Safety Check and a referral process has been established with NCompass for future referrals and presentations.

Wasted Lives Road Safety Education for Prince's Trust

A session was arranged to deliver the Wasted Lives Road Safety Education Package to the Central Area Prince's Trust Team.

Wasted Lives is an award winning young driver education programme. It targets young drivers and their passengers. Delivered by Preston Community Fire Safety Team, the session challenged beliefs resulting in safer attitudes towards risk taking behaviours on the roads.

The session covered speed, seatbelts, mobile phones, drink and drug driving. The lesson was highly interactive and the students had the opportunity for discussion and reflection. The sessions use a mixture of learning techniques including group work, experience sharing, adverts and a case study.

Missing Matthew - Powerful, award winning film, 'Missing Matthew,' is a true story of how Matthew (22) lost his life in a horrific crash, racing his best mate. One moment of madness ended his life which was so full of promise. His parents tell the harrowing story and leave us in no doubt about the widespread devastation such a loss causes. Interactive follow up activities explore the consequences of making the wrong decision.

Road Safety within the Preston District is a high priority for Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service and we are looking to expand this delivery into all the local high schools. In addition to this, we will continue to deliver to each new Prince's Trust Team within the district.

Preston Armed Forces Covenant Group Meeting

The Armed Forces Covenant represents a promise by the nation that those who serve or have served, and their families, are treated fairly. All 407 local authorities in mainland Great Britain and four Northern Ireland councils have pledged to uphold the Armed Forces Covenant. To date over 3,000 organisations have signed the covenant, including businesses and charities.

The Preston Covenant is a multi-agency group who meet to share services and organisations who can offer support to veterans. Each meeting there are short presentations by 2/3 organisations who we might never have come into contact with. We have made contact with several of them outside the group and who have now received training and refer in to us using the preferred provider code for Home Fire Safety Checks.

Preston Community Fire Safety attended a multi-agency meeting on 16 January 2019, arranged by Preston City Council's Armed Forces Champion and representatives of RAFA. Other attending agencies included Dig In Northwest, Blind Veterans, Age UK Older Veterans Project, HMPS, Action on Hearing Loss, MOD, Combat Stress, UCLAN and DWP.

A presentation was delivered by Action on Hearing Loss on the work they are doing around veterans, of who over 75% experience hearing loss following active service. Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service has confirmed to the partners that we have a referral pathway set up and will meet up separately to arrange group sessions to showcase our visual vibrating smoke alarms and encourage signposting.

On conclusion of the session, all attending agencies were reminded of our Home Fire Safety Checks, along with the correct referral process. Referrals received from each partner will be monitored over the next quarter and training will be reviewed wherever necessary.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Date: 31 December 2018

Time: 16:45

Two appliances were mobilised to reports of smoke issuing from a retail property on New Hall Lane, Ribbleson, Preston.

On arrival, the fire crews found smoke to be issuing from a ground floor window and observed that smoke had spread throughout the ground floor. As the property was secure when the fire crews arrived, they needed to force entry in order to investigate the cause of the smoke and deal with any fire. Once in the property, two firefighters wearing breathing apparatus and equipment with a high pressure hose reel quickly discovered the fire involved bread rolls that had been left unattended in a commercial oven. Fortunately, the fire was limited to the bread rolls; however, the smoke produced had percolated throughout the remainder of the two-storey property. To deal with the residual smoke, fire crews used a positive pressure ventilation fan to and utilised a thermal imaging camera to assess the for potential fire spread.

The incident was referred to the Protection Department so Fire Safety Officers could attend and undertake a post fire audit to ensure compliance with appropriate fire safety regulations.

Date: 22 January 2019

Time: 12:41

Two appliances were mobilised to reports of a fire in the loft of a house in Preston.

On arrival, the fire crews found a fire within roof timbers. The occupiers had made attempts to deal with the fire themselves, but were unable to fully extinguish the fire due to the location of the affected timbers.

Utilising various pieces of equipment, including ladder and hand tools, the attending fire crews cut away the affected timbers to ensure there was no risk of the fire developing further and affecting the whole roof.

It was recognised that the action of cutting timber away would have a negative effect on the structural integrity of the building and therefore the attending fire service manager asked for the Preston Building Control Officer to be informed and also for the attendance of the Urban Search and Rescue Unit (USAR) from Bamber Bridge and Chorley to attend and install temporary structural supports that would allow the occupier time to contact a qualified tradesperson who could make full repairs.

After a fire scene examination and investigation into the cause of the fire it was concluded that a failure of the chimney lining had led to the roof timbers becoming involved in fire and therefore the occupier was advised to seek professional guidance as to repairing the chimney before the fire was used again.

Whilst in attendance at the address, the fire crews completed a Home Fire Safety Safe and Well Check and subsequently have arranged for the Community Safety Team to attend and install a specialist Hard of Hearing fire alarm.

Date: 06 January 2019

Time: 11:58

Two fire appliances were mobilised to an address on Sylvancroft, Ingol to reports of a carbon monoxide detector activating. It is normal procedure to also mobilise a Hazardous Materials Officer to such incidents as these specially trained officers are able to provide technical advice to the incident managers on how to identify the source of any gas leak and subsequently how to resolve the incident.

On arrival, the fire crews could not hear an alarm sounding, but found the elderly occupier to be in a confused state and complaining of a headache and nausea. As a result of this, crews requested the attendance of an ambulance and checked the property with a portable gas detector, which is designed to alarm if carbon monoxide is in the property. The fire crews paid particular attention to the rooms where gas appliances were located (gas fire in the lounge, oven in the kitchen and boiler in the airing cupboard). They were unable to identify the cause of the alarm activation, but called a gas engineer. As a result of this incident the property received a full inspection of the gas installation.

LANCASHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2018 – JANUARY 2019

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	RIBBLE VALLEY
LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)	
<u>Winter Safety and Road Safety</u>	
<p>As the months draw on and heating over winter becomes more of a burden, people may turn to alternative ways of heating their homes whether through portable heaters, candles, open fires or cookers for example or even not at all and that is risky both from a health and wellbeing point of view and fire safety.</p> <p>The Winter Safety campaign in the borough aims to encourage people to reach out and get in touch with us through our Home Fire Safety Check Service, and quote a unique reference code. During the Home Fire Safety Check we have also been encouraging the occupier to refer themselves to the Priority Service Register.</p> <p>The launch of the campaign in the borough was held at Clitheroe Fire Station in conjunction with the installation of a new community defibrillator is positioned outside the station. A soft launch was held at Longridge Civic Hall to the membership of the local U3A who also took part in a question and answer session with the Community Protection Manger.</p> <p>As part of Road Safety week, “Wasted Lives” workshops were held at BAE Salmesbury.</p>	

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)	
Date:	24 December 2018
Time:	09:31
<p>Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service was called to a report of someone being stuck in the river behind Primrose Mill Business Park. On arrival, the first crew located someone in the river, approximately 10ft below street level who was complaining of severe leg pain and showing signs of hypothermia. An assistance message was sent and then following a dynamic risk assessment, two members of the crew were deployed into the river in flood suits to try and stabilise the casualty.</p> <p>The flood suit responders managed to access the casualty via ladder and provide initial first aid and prevent their condition from deteriorating. The rest of the crew worked to improve access for oncoming appliances and clear space for the aerial ladder platform (ALP) that had been requested.</p>	

Once a water rescue crew arrived, they were deployed into the river to assist the initial crew and then worked with two paramedics from the North West Ambulance Service Hazardous Area Response Team who had also arrived.

The Urban Search and Rescue Team (USAR) attended the incident to prepare a rope rescue system in case the ALP could not reach the river due to the complexity of the location.

The casualty was packaged by the ambulance service and fire service staff and placed on a rescue sled so that she could be moved to a position that the ALP could reach. She was then transferred to a basket stretcher and was lifted out of the river by the ALP.

Once out of the river, the casualty was handed over to the ambulance service and was taken to hospital to be treated for hypothermia and suspected broken ankles.

LANCASHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2018 – JANUARY 2019

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	ROSSENDALE
LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)	
<u>Winter Fire Safety Talks</u>	
<p>As part of a targeted campaign to reduce accidental fires in elderly accommodation, Pennine Community Safety Teams identified and attended Harvey Longworth Court in Crawshawbooth, Rossendale. These premises are a supported housing scheme for elderly persons. The teams delivered a presentation to the residents and staff explaining fire safety in relation to living and aging safely in the home.</p>	
<p>The attendees were provided with various examples of how accidental fires can occur in the home and highlighted the cause for these types of fires to help prevent fires occurring.</p>	
<p>A selection of photographs and exhibits were used to indicate the extent and impact a fire in the home can have on an individual. This enabled them to have a visual but true reflection of what had been the cause of the fire with a reminder of the importance of eliminating the risk associated with that particular household appliances and practices.</p>	
<p>Approximately 30 residents were given the safety presentation where they had the opportunity and actively engaged with Community Fire Safety staff by asking questions to reduce risk. The main theme was talking to them about the importance of having working smoke alarms that are regularly tested and practising their evacuation plan for the premises.</p>	

LANCASHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2018 – JANUARY 2019

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	SOUTH RIBBLE
LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)	
<p><u>Partnership Engagement with North West Driving Assessment Service</u></p> <p>A meeting was held with a representative from the North West Driving Assessment Service in relation to the generating of referrals into the Home Fire Safety Check Service. Information was given regarding what is included in the Home Fire Safety Check, equipment that can be issued to reduce the risk of fire incidents and the risk based approach to fitting smoke detectors in domestic properties.</p> <p>Guidance was given in relation to the referral process and how they would be able to make referrals as a Preferred Partner to Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service. Amendments were made to the North West Driving Assessment referral form so that every new patient coming into the service will be offered a visit from Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service.</p> <p>Continued monitoring of the referrals and partnership will be undertaken with a review meeting to be held in three months' time.</p> <p><u>Soup-er-Day</u></p> <p>An open day was held at Leyland Fire Station which addressed factors such as loneliness, fuel poverty and general advice and guidance. Local organisations and charities; MIND, Age Concern, Lancashire Constabulary, Care and Repair and CHIL Cosy Homes attended the event - each having an information stall displaying their bespoke literature.</p> <p>Approximately 30 individuals including families from the local area attended the event. They had the opportunity to enjoy a cup of homemade soup, mince pies and a brew. Everyone who attended the day found it very informative including Councillor Mark Perks who came along.</p> <p><u>Road Safety Week</u></p> <p>During the Road Safety week, Community Fire Safety staff and operational crew visited local schools to raise awareness with the young people regarding using appropriate safety equipment when riding their bikes. This included explaining the consequences and dangers of not wearing a helmet, high visibility clothing and lighting for their bikes.</p> <p>This campaign was partnered by Bill Nixon's Cycles in Leyland who offered a 10% discount on all safety equipment that was bought with a bespoke voucher that was given to the young people.</p> <p>Two wasted lives sessions were also delivered at Worden School and Tarleton High School, with 'Daniel's Car' as a visual impact of the consequence of drink driving.</p>	

LANCASHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2018 – JANUARY 2019

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	WEST LANCASHIRE
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LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Edge Hill Student Engagement

Community Fire Safety team members attended Edge Hill University Housing Fair on Thursday, 06 December 2018 which took place in the Student Hub and also attended the Edge Hill Students' Union Welcome Back Fair on 22 January along with other agencies.

During both events, Fire Safety information was given to the students including dangers of cooking, false alarms plus over loading of electrical items and literature was given out to the students. Both events were very well attended by students.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Date: 08 January 2019
Time: 08:43

Five fire appliances from Skelmersdale, Ormskirk, Bamber Bridge and Chorley, along with the Urban Search and Rescue Team and Air Support Unit attended a multiple vehicle road traffic collision involving one heavy goods vehicle, one minibus and several cars on the M58 motorway at junction 3 westbound. Subsequent to scene assessment, fire crews assisted/treated multiple casualties on scene for injuries sustained. Ten casualties were transferred to hospital by ambulance and received definitive medical care. Their injuries were not life threatening.

One 50 year old female and one 14 year old boy sustained fatal injuries at the scene.

A range of rescue equipment, first aid kits and oxygen therapy was used, and Firefighters were engaged at the scene for several hours. A Consultant Paramedic praised firefighters for their initial actions and skills in dealing with this tragic incident.

Date: 08 January 2019
Time: 10:10

Three fire appliances from Ormskirk and Wigan (Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue Service) attended a road traffic collision on the M58 westbound between junctions 5 and 4. The incident involved a heavy goods vehicle, a van and a car. Firefighters used a range of rescue equipment to rescue two casualties from the vehicles.

There were a total of five casualties involved in the collision. One of the casualties, an elderly lady, has since died in hospital of her injuries.

This incident occurred approximately one hour after the incident at junction 3. A flexi Duty Officer was released from the junction 3 incident to attend the incident at junction 5.

LANCASHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2018 – JANUARY 2019

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	WYRE
LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)	
<p>Winter Safety</p> <p>Flakefleet School in Fleetwood was invited to Fleetwood Fire Station to perform their song 'light up'. The event was also attended by North West Ambulance Service (NWAS), Police, The Mayor and Mayoress of Wyre, and the Alzheimer's Society, to whom all proceeds from the song were being donated.</p> <p>This gave the pupils an opportunity to perform their song, meet the three emergency services and people from The Alzheimer's Society for whom they are currently trying to raise money for.</p> <p>The opportunity was taken for the children to pass on Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service's (LFRS) 'Safe and Warm' packs to elderly residents and to promote the message to elderly residents of winter safety utilising LFRS campaign promotional material.</p> <p>The whole event was 'tweeted' on Twitter which not only included the song 'light up' but a fire safety message on our winter safety campaign. This had been viewed approximately 3000 times.</p>	

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)	
Date:	25 January 2019
Time:	10:13
<p>Three appliances, along with the Aerial Ladder Platform (ALP) and Rope Rescue Unit, were mobilised to reports of an adult male stuck the roof of a three-storey building.</p> <p>On arrival at the incident, operational crews from N32 Fleetwood discovered that, following a Police operation, three suspects had made off through a skylight and made their way along the rooftops to a gable end. Due to the slippery conditions of the roof and the cold weather the three decided to stay in situ and call for help. Lancashire Police requested the attendance of Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service to assist with the rescue.</p> <p>Both Police and Fire commanders communicated with the three men to ensure they did not try to escape or move again on the moss covered tiles. It was a very dangerous predicament due to the unsafe roof conditions.</p>	

Using just a normal Fire Service ladder (13.5m) would have the potential for one or all of the men to slide towards the head of the ladder with no means of restraint and, would not guarantee the safety of Fire Service personnel carrying out a rescue. Therefore this plan was ruled out.

Due to the capabilities of the ALP, crews were able to reach the men at the back of the building and complete three separate rescues using the ALP cage were undertaken.

As part of the incident due to the nature of a rescue at height, the Rope Rescue team and the drone were mobilised. However, due to the plan put in place by the Incident Commander, they were not required.

Date: 09 January 2019

Time: 13:42

Two appliances along with a flexi officer and Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service Air Unit were mobilised to a fire involving a liquefied petroleum gas cylinder. The cylinder was located between two domestic properties.

Upon arrival, the cylinder (while monitored) continued to burn off as, it had been established that the location of the cylinder was in open air. However, during this time a full evacuation of neighbouring properties took place and a cordon was put in place.

Using the Air Unit (drone) the Incident Commander was able to establish the effect of the fire and assess the location and involvement of the propane cylinder as well as the location of the gas leak on the cylinder valve group.

Using this approach allowed for a tactical plan to be developed where the fire was extinguished and the cylinder cooled to ambient temperatures and therefore, allowing operational crews to isolate the cylinder valve to prevent further gas leakage.

The gas supplier was made aware of the incident for cylinder recovery and all occupants were allowed to return to their homes.