#### LANCASHIRE COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY

Meeting to be held on Monday, 29 April 2019

# **COMMUNITY FIRE SAFETY REPORTS** (Appendix 1 refers)

Contact for further information:

Assistant Chief Fire Officer David Russel, Director of Service Delivery

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**

Date	Contact
, if appropriate:	

**COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT** 

REPORTING PERIOD: FEBRUARY 2019 – APRIL 2019

SUMMARY REPORT FOR: BLACKBURN-WITH-DARWEN

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

#### Winter Safety

All prevention activity throughout the borough concentrated on delivering the Winter Safety campaign, the strategy was to encourage the target audiences to make Home Fire Safety Check referrals (for themselves and people they know) in order to provide safety advice and signpost to other agencies for financial support with heating appliances. Historical data identified "hot spot" areas and generated 100 addresses which were targeted over the period along with the distribution of posters and use of social media.

Fire Cadets based at Darwen fire station were invited to take part in tree planting following last year's Winter Hill fire and a full complement turned in - in wet, windy and icy conditions.

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

**Date**: 16 March 2019

**Time**: 00:18

Crews from Blackburn were mobilised to a property where a family were complaining of difficulties breathing due to chemical fumes in their home. On arrival, six people were found to be in the property and all were having difficulty breathing. They were evacuated from the property and ambulances were requested to assess them.

Crews were informed that two different chemicals had been used to clear a blocked drain in the bathroom. The chemicals had reacted and released noxious fumes in the property. The crew used breathing apparatus and a ventilation unit to clear the property and remove any remaining fumes. The occupants were treated at scene by ambulance service staff and none were taken to hospital.

**COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT** 

REPORTING PERIOD: FEBRUARY 2019 – APRIL 2019

SUMMARY REPORT FOR: BLACKPOOL

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

#### **International Women's Day**

On Saturday, 9 March, operational crews, fire cadets and prevention staff from Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service took part in the Fylde Coast International Women's Day Festival. This year's festival was held at Blackpool Sixth Form and aimed to celebrate the myriad of successes and achievements of women from the Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre areas.

This unique event encourages local businesses to make crucial connections with young school pupils from across the area, with the aim of spurring them onto success. Focusing on social enterprise and innovation and designed to inspire young women, it has already gained the support of some top names in the worlds of business and sport.

Local businesses and organisations can play a huge part in helping young women within our community to unravel their proficiencies and unlock their potential to succeed. This could be through delivering a workshop on the day, being a role model, volunteering on the day or sponsoring a local high school. The event also provides opportunities for businesses. They can develop community engagement pathways; enjoy positive encounters with future employees while at the same time supporting the opportunities for young people in education, enterprise and employment.

The event provided the opportunity for girls and women to participate in interactive workshops, Fairtrade/Ethical sessions, entrepreneurial events, special effect make-up artist taster classes and money management sessions and much more.

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

Date: 12 February 2019

**Time**: 15:52

Operational fire crews were called to a blaze on the front driveway of a property in Bispham. The occupier's motorhome had caught fire within three feet of the gable wall of their semi-detached property. The fire had originated on the driver's side of the vehicle and when the crews arrived the motorhome was totally engulfed in flames.

Whilst initial firefighting was being established, the fire spread to the detached garage at the rear of the property. The garage building and contents were also fully

consumed by fire. The fire was impacting on the structure of the domestic property but firefighting prevailed and prevented the fire from spreading further.

The occupier had plugged the motorhome in to the mains power within the garage. He had switched on the main electrical board within the vehicle and had also switched on the leisure battery charger to charge the battery. The motorhome and contents were destroyed by fire as was the detached garage and contents. Twelve metres of wooden boundary fencing was destroyed by fire. The owner's domestic property sustained damage to six metres of guttering and the UPVC kitchen window was severely damaged by heat.

**Date**: 03 March 2019

**Time**: 12:13

Operational firefighters were called to a fire in a domestic property involving a mattress and some bedding, which was situated in an attic bedroom. On arrival, the crew discovered that the occupier had actually extinguished the fire himself.

The bedroom belonged to the gentleman's daughter and she identified that she had earlier lit some tea light candles and placed them onto the bedside cabinet. The bedding from her bed had accidentally covered the flame and had then caught fire. A smoke detector had been removed from the attic bedroom.

During the fire, she sustained a significant burn to a finger and was transported to hospital by ambulance for treatment. Her father also suffered smoke inhalation whilst fighting the fire. Damage sustained was moderate by fire to the mattress, the wooden bed and a quantity of bedding and light by fire to the bedside cabinet and one computer hard drive.

New smoke detectors were installed by the crew.

**COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT** 

REPORTING PERIOD: FEBRUARY 2019 - APRIL 2019

SUMMARY REPORT FOR: BURNLEY

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

#### **Keep It Clean – Keep It Clear Campaign**

Pennine Community Fire Safety (CFS) and NHS Falls Teams collaboratively worked together on the above campaign. The campaign was held at various locations including Tesco in Padiham. The event aimed to raise public awareness on safer cooking practices where falls could be a contributory factor, literature and verbal advice was provided by CFS staff and NHS Falls Team to customers and staff in store that was warmly received. Cooking fires remain the most common cause of accidental dwelling fires (ADFs) in Pennine. The CFS teams are working closely with NHS Falls Team to see how in collaboration we can make vulnerable people safer in terms of mobility adaptations in their homes and progress referrals for Falls assessments during the colder weather.

**COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT** 

REPORTING PERIOD: FEBRUARY 2019 – APRIL 2019

SUMMARY REPORT FOR: CHORLEY

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

#### Youth Offending Team (YOT) Day

The Youth Offending Team visited Chorley Community Fire Station for the day. The group had the opportunity to engage with staff and participate in activities and demonstrations from operational crews. Penwortham crew introduced the group to the boat rescue equipment; Chorley Urban Search & Rescue Team completed a road traffic collision demonstration and introduced the group to Syd - the Search & Rescue dog.

In the afternoon session, each of the young people had the opportunity to have a go at the 'rat run', a series of tunnels used to train within confined spaces. The day was supported by YOT staff and staff from the Community Safety Team, operational crews and on-call Firefighters.

#### Winter Warm & Well

Winter Warm & Well was a Multi Agency event where agencies came together to provide advice on staying warm and well throughout the winter months. It was very well attended by the general public.

The agencies that were present in addition to Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service were Progress Lifeline, Electricity Northwest, Age UK Discharge Team, Chorley Healthy foods, Lancashire Road Safety Partnership and Genesis Care.

Positive feedback was received from attendees relating to the wealth of information available via the different agencies.

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

Date: 03 February 2019

**Time**: 23:38

On the evening of Sunday, 3 February 2019, a large fire broke out in commercial premises in, Adlington. 12 fire engines including two from Greater Manchester Fire Service were deployed to contain the fire. Firefighters used a variety of equipment including ground monitors, four jets, the Air Support Unit and the Stinger appliance.

Residents of the adjacent terraced properties were evacuated for safety and a temporary evacuation centre was established at a nearby public house for the residents, until they could safely return to their homes.

This incident required a multiagency response for evacuation and large volumes of smoke being given off by the fire and the potential for asbestos being involved from the asbestos cement sheeting of the building structure.

In the following days, several reassurance safe and well visits were undertaken by the Chorley crews and Southern Area Community Fire Safety staff in the surrounding streets to reassure residents following the events of the evening. The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

**COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT** 

REPORTING PERIOD: FEBRUARY 2019 - APRIL 2019

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

**Date**: 16 March 2019

**Time**: 00:55

Operational crews were called to the scene of a road traffic collision involving a car with a male person confined to the front passenger seat. The vehicle had left the road, struck a brick gate post and then come to rest on a driveway.

The male driver had been driving whilst under the influence of alcohol and refused to provide a breath sample whilst at the incident. North West Ambulance and the police were in attendance upon the arrival of Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service. The male passenger was conveyed to hospital by ambulance.

COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: FEBRUARY 2019 – APRIL 2019

SUMMARY REPORT FOR: HYNDBURN

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

#### Winter Safety

All prevention activity throughout the borough concentrated on delivering the Winter Safety campaign, the strategy was to encourage the target audiences to make Home Fire Safety Check referrals (for themselves and people they know) in order to provide safety advice and signpost to other agencies for financial support with heating appliances.

Historical data identified "hot spot" areas and generated 50 addresses which were targeted over the period along with the distribution of posters and use of social media.

The Community Fire Safety Team have supported the new whole time recruitment campaign and have been involved in the generation of interested or underrepresented groups as well as delivery on each of the recruitment days.

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

Date: 24 February 2019

**Time**: 16:49

Four appliances were mobilised to reports of a fire at a business premises in Accrington. On arrival, flames were seen emanating from a hidden void located between an external boiler room and the main building at the rear of the premises. Operational discretion was declared for a short period of time to allow crews to tackle the fire.

Approximately 150 occupants were in the property at the time of the fire. A multiagency coordinating group was convened to ensure ongoing support and the quick re-instatement of the fire alarm.

**COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT** 

REPORTING PERIOD: FEBRUARY 2019 – APRIL 2019

SUMMARY REPORT FOR: LANCASTER

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

#### Winter Safety - Supporting Homeless People

On-call staff, in conjunction with wholetime operational personnel, North West Ambulance, and Lancashire Constabulary, hosted a coffee morning at Lancaster Community Fire and Ambulance Station in aid of The Homeless Community in Lancaster.

The event provided an opportunity for all agencies to deliver key safety messages prevalent to the sub-zero temperatures recently experienced. Fire Service Personnel emphasised the importance of keeping warm, issuing keep safe and warm bags, and highlighting the dangers not only to themselves but Firefighters in lighting fires to keep warm in empty properties.

As a result of publicity on local social media sites a large amount of food and beverages were donated, after being collected at Lancaster Fire Station this was then gifted to Lancaster and District Homeless Action Service.

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

**Date**: 16 March 2019

**Time**: 19:10

Four fire appliances from Lancaster, Hornby, Carnforth, & Preston were mobilised to a car trapped in water with two people inside near the Gressingham Bridge over the River Lune. Simultaneously, one ambulance from North West Ambulance Service (NWAS) was also mobilised from Lancaster Community Fire & Ambulance Station.

Further messages were passed from North West Fire Control to the crews on route that the car had been pushed towards an iron fence by the flow of water and that the water was up to the waist of the two occupants.

The Crew Manager from Carnforth, being first on scene, deemed the situation time critical so initiated a rescue by fire service personnel in flood suits, with the assistance of a local farmer, utilising his tractor to quickly tow the car out of the risk area.

One male and one female were rescued from flood water and had a precautionary medical assessment at the scene by NWAS.

Due to the quick actions of the initial crews the incident was rapidly de-escalated allowing resources to be released for other incidents which were occurring due to the weather related high call volumes. The Crew Manager requested the attendance of the Police for road closures to stop further traffic entering the flood water.

Date: 15 January 2019

**Time**: 00:14

Initially, one appliance from Lancaster was mobilised as calls to North West Fire Control indicated a 'small fire in the open'. On arrival, it quickly became apparent that this incident was in fact a building and the attendance was immediately increased to four pumps.

On arrival, the first Lancaster pump was faced with a fully developed fire in a single storey building measuring approximately 15m by 10m which was linked to a row of other similar sized buildings which were not yet affected by fire. The walls and roof were constructed from asbestos. Tactics were immediately adopted to ensure firefighting operations were conducted in a manner which recognised the asbestos hazard, avoided exposure to crews, successfully prevented fire spread to the adjoining buildings and protected the environment.

Water was supplied from hydrants and the adjacent canal. Conscious of the need to avoid travel disruption on a major arterial route, water supplies, once established, were supplied only from the canal, thus ensuring minimal disruption to local commerce. A further appliance was mobilised to assist with decontamination of Firefighters and equipment and making up of the incident.

The incident was concluded with a thorough fire investigation involving the Incident Intelligence Team and a handover process to the owners, alongside Local Authority Environmental Health, to ensure the demolition and clean up was undertaken in accordance with asbestos regulations.

**COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT** 

REPORTING PERIOD: FEBRUARY 2019 – APRIL 2019

SUMMARY REPORT FOR: PENDLE

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

#### **Dementia Friends with Pendle Princes Trust Team**

Pendle Prince's Trust Team members have been trained by the Pennine Community Fire Safety (CFS) Team to become Dementia Friends. They learned in detail about what it's like to live with dementia. The young people took part in group questions and activities which helped broaden their knowledge on the subject and gain a real understanding which would assist their life skills in helping better understand lifestyles of people living or caring for someone with dementia. They also learned that people with memory impairments can often find themselves being involved in an incident involving fire and become a missing person as dementia develops. The group were advised of CFS interventions and partnership sign posting for additional support.

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

Date: 26 February 2019

**Time**: 12:09

Eight fire appliances plus Softrak, 1 4x4 and Air Support Unit were mobilised to a large wildfire.

Unfortunately, the fire had quickly escalated out of control and required Fire Service intervention. Crews using beaters and aqua packs dealt with the flanks, whilst the Softrak supressed the large flame front at the head of the fire. Approximately 600m2 of moorland was affected; however the efforts of the crews reduced the risk of a much greater area being lost.

The first person on scene (non FRS) was taken to hospital due to a small burn to his hand and suffering fatigue. Crews stayed on scene for a number of hours after the fire had been surrounded to ensure no re-ignition occurred.

The air support unit provided heat mapping across the affected area to confirm the fire was extinguished effectively.

The Land Manager will be invited to become part of the Lancashire Fire Operations Group to share best practice and develop improved working relationships in terms of wildfire preparedness, prevention and response.

**COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT** 

REPORTING PERIOD: FEBRUARY 2019 – APRIL 2019

SUMMARY REPORT FOR: PRESTON

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

#### Winter Safety Campaign

The Preston Community Fire Safety (CFS) Team has been working in partnership with the following agencies:

- Age UK/Older Veterans
- Age Concern
- Foxton Centre
- Emmaus
- Preston City Council CHIL Scheme
- Lancashire Volunteer Partnership
- Lancashire Wellbeing Service

We asked each agency what items would be beneficial for their service users and we managed to secure some funding from our central area budget. This money was spent on the provision of safe and warm bags, which were distributed to the supporting agencies to be given out those who have been identified as the most vulnerable. Items included a combination of thermos mugs, fingerless gloves, torches, fleece blankets, keyrings and leaflets. They are tailored to the particular service users of each organisation and what each organisation had requested. Along with the safe and warm bag, winter safety information was also included, along with the contact details to arrange for a home visit and completion of a Home Fire Safety Check by LFRS. Each leaflet was coded to allow for a full evaluation after the winter safety campaign.

# <u>Community Reassurance and Home Fire Safety Check Referral Generation</u> Following information received from the Preston Community Safety Partnership of increased anti-social behaviour activity in the Castleton Road/Porter Street area, LFRS carried out some high profile community work to generate Home Fire Safety Check referrals and offer residents advice on fly tipping, correct stowage of wheelie bins and fire safety information and advice.

All properties in the surrounding area were leafleted informing residents that staff would be in the area over the next few weeks to carry out any required home visits. A large majority of Home Fire Safety Checks have now been completed and evaluation of the initiative has been shared with the Community Safety Partnership.

Environmental Visual Audits will continue in the area over the next quarter to ensure that there are no reoccurring issues with regards to the fly tipping and Community Gateway Housing will support this by sending out letters to each tenant informing them of their responsibilities.

#### Wasted Lives - Christ the King Year 10

Preston Community Fire Safety Team delivered the Wasted Lives Education Session to year 10 students of Christ the King. Wasted Lives is an award winning young driver education programme. It targets young drivers and their passengers. Delivered by LFRS, the session challenges beliefs resulting in safer attitudes towards risk taking behaviours on the roads.

The sessions cover speed, seatbelts, mobile phones, drink and drug driving. The sessions are highly interactive and offer students opportunity for discussion and reflection. The sessions use a mixture of learning techniques including group work, experience sharing, adverts and a case study. Students will be offered the opportunity to ask questions and to take a break from the session if they need to.

On conclusion of the day's activities, we also took along the Wasted Lives crashed vehicle which provided the students with the opportunity to see first-hand, the dangers associated with driving the next day following alcohol intake. This is an extremely powerful and hard hitting education resource, but it was well received and created a positive response and discussion from each student. Christ the King have now requested that we attend annually to deliver this information day to each of their students and this is an offer that we are looking to extend to all local high schools within the Preston District.

## Community Reassurance and Home Fire Safety Check Referral Generation

Following information received from Lancashire Constabulary, LFRS has been working in partnership with the community team responsible for commercial premises in Lea, Preston. Police provided information of increased anti-social behaviour within the area and evidence of secondary fires.

Preston Community Fire Safety Teams visited the premises and posted each flat (45 properties) to inform the residents that we would be carrying out Home Fire Safety Checks within the area. Follow up visits have now been completed and a large number of checks have been carried out for the vulnerable tenants identified within the block. Any relevant information has been shared with partnership organisations and LFRS will continue to monitor the area of the next performance guarter.

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

Date: 06 February 2019

**Time**: 05:07

In the early hours of 6 February, four appliances were mobilised to a reports of a commercial building on fire in Fulwood.

On arrival at the address, crews found that a fire in an ornamental planter at the front of the property had caused a large plate glass window to fail and as a result smoke had entered and logged the entire ground floor of the property. The fire was dealt with via the use of a hose reel jet, the building was cleared of through the use a positive pressure ventilation unit and crews requested the attendance of the

business owner to assist with the fire investigation and to arrange for the property to be made secure.

The investigation into the cause of the fire discounted deliberate ignition and determined that a build-up of discarded smoking material in the ornamental planter had caused a smouldering fire in the peat based compost, which in turn had led to the planter becoming involved in fire. This led to the window failing and smoke being able to access the building.

As the incident involved a commercial property, operational fire crews referred the matter to the Preston Protection office who have carried out an audit. As a result of this audit specific recommendations were made in order to reduce the likelihood of a re-occurrence.

**Date**: 06 March 2019

**Time**: 18:42

Due to reports that persons may be trapped by fire, three appliances were mobilised to an address in Preston.

On arrival, fire crews found there had been a fire involving a mobile phone, however, they discovered the fire to be out and that no persons were trapped. This prompted the release of the third fire appliance so it could be available for further incidents.

Despite finding the fire to be out on arrival, there remained a requirement to investigate the cause of the fire. In this instance, it was found that the mobile phone had been on charge at the time of the fire. Examination of the mobile phone identified that the battery had exploded due to overheating.

LFRS has a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Trading Standards. This MOU has been entered into as a means of identifying consumer products that have led or contributed to fire in residential location; thus enabling Trading Standards to investigate and take appropriate action. In line with the MOU the attending fire crews referred the matter to the specialist Incident Intelligence Officer (IIO) who attended to address to determine the 'cause behind the cause' and compile the report shared with Trading Standards.

Follow up action by both the IIO and Trading Standards determined a number of factors contributed to the fire (aftermarket phone charger and an aftermarket replacement battery being used and the phone being left on charge too long) and as such the incident has been logged on a National Database managed by Trading Standards. These findings will also be used to inform prevention activities carried out by LFRS during Electrical Safety Week.

Further to the above, LFRS personnel completed a hot strike and the Community Safety Team has attended the address to conduct a Safe & Well visit.

**Date**: 15 March 2019

**Time**: 21:15

Two fire engines were mobilised to reports of a fire within a student accommodation block.

On arrival, the fire crews were met by a Fire Warden and led to the location of the incident. The fire itself, which involved an electrical isolation switch for an electric shower, was out when crews arrived at the specific flat. This is likely because the fuse had tripped in the electrical consumer unit. However the fire crews needed to be certain there was no possibility of hidden fire spread within the studded walls or along the electrical cable ducts.

Due to the extent of damage to electrical cabling which affected the lights and electrical ring-main, the flat in which the fire originated was no longer inhabitable. LFRS crews requested the attendance of the on-site maintenance engineer so electrical safety checks could be undertaken to ensure the safety of the all other flats in which the same electric shower isolation switch was installed.

The recommendation to undertake electrical testing was documented by the LFRS Incident Manager on an 'Incident Hand-Over Sheet' and left with the site Fire Warden. The incident was also referred to the Preston Protection Department who will programme in a Fire Safety Audit in due course.

**COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT** 

REPORTING PERIOD: FEBRUARY 2019 – APRIL 2019

SUMMARY REPORT FOR: RIBBLE VALLEY

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

#### Winter Safety

All prevention activity throughout the borough concentrated on delivering the Winter Safety campaign, the strategy was to encourage the target audiences to make Home Fire Safety Check referrals (for themselves and people they know) in order to provide safety advice and signpost to other agencies for financial support with heating appliances.

Historical data identified "hot spot" areas and generated 50 addresses which were targeted over the period along with the distribution of posters and use of social media.

The Community Fire Safety Team has supported the new wholetime recruitment campaign and have been involved in the generation of interest of underrepresented groups as well as delivery on each of the recruitment days.

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

Date: 26 February 2019

**Time**: 13:37

Crews from Great Harwood and Hyndburn were called to a road traffic collision where a car had collided with a large goods vehicle. On arrival, two air ambulances were already in attendance and attempting to assess the casualties.

Due to the severity of the impact and the nature of injuries sustained, conventional rescue techniques could not be used and LFRS staff under the guidance of two the air ambulance crews carried out an unconventional snatch rescue.

Several days after the incident we received a call from the air ambulance doctor who had attended the incident to pass on thanks and praise to the crews for their efforts at a somewhat difficult incident.

**COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT** 

REPORTING PERIOD: FEBRUARY 2019 – APRIL 2019

SUMMARY REPORT FOR: ROSSENDALE

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

#### Smithills Estate Tree with Woodland Trust Post Winter Hill Fire

The Pennine Fire Cadets and the on duty crew from Bacup Fire Station contributed positivity to the environment by planting trees with the Woodland Trust and surrounding community at Smithills Estate following the devastating wildfires of 2018 on Winter Hill. This project will increase woodland habitat for wildlife, help to act as a natural flood defence whilst helping to keep the higher moorland wetter by retaining water reducing future opportunities for further wildfires by managing the fuels. The tree planting was particularly beneficial for regenerating the surrounding environment following the wildfires and improves community cohesion.

There was an introduction in how to plant the trees in the correct way to help the trees grow in the most beneficial way. With the weather showcasing all elements, rain, hail and wind, the cadets/crews did great on the day battling through the weather and planting a large amount of birch trees and rose shrubs.

Darwen Cadet Unit also attended, this was a great opportunity for both cadet units to interact and it was also a great opportunity for the public to see the service as a whole contributing to community regeneration. The Woodland Trust dedicated a tree to all the firefighters that helped to save areas of woodland during the wildfire.

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

Date: 03 February 2019

**Time**: 14:43

An appliance from Rawtenstall was mobilised to an incident where on arrival it was clear there had been a substantial water main rupture beneath the main road and water was affecting local businesses. Cordons and a full road closure were put in place in conjunction with Police and the Highways Department. United Utilities were also requested to attend with a view to isolating the affected main. A flexi duty officer was also sent to assist crews and work with other agencies to resolve the incident.

A specialist appliance and support crew were sent from Burnley Fire Station to assist in minimising disruption/damage to the affected commercial units in Britannia Mill. Sand bags/ Poly Booms were used to divert the water into lifted manhole covers/ nearby river.

Once the water main had been isolated fire service assisted in lowering water levels within affected units by pumping water out and diverting into nearby river. Once the

emergency phase was over the incident was handed over to the Police/United Utilities. A road closure remained in place for several days whilst a repair was completed. With this being a main arterial route this information was shared with all local crews in Pennine/ Eastern and North West Fire Control notified so that alternate mobilising of resources could be actioned if appropriate.

COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: FEBRUARY 2019 – APRIL 2019

SUMMARY REPORT FOR: SOUTH RIBBLE

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

#### **Children and Young Persons Wellbeing Team**

As a result of joint collaborative working with the South Ribble Integrated team a Fire Safety training session was delivered to the Children's and Young Persons Wellbeing team.

The aim of the session was to raise awareness of the services that Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service can provide to support vulnerable young people and families and how referrals can be made using the bespoke partner code for the Children's and Young Persons Wellbeing service.

The team now have the knowledge of how to refer families for the Home Fire Safety Check service and educational packages that Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service can provide.

#### Teen Safe Dementia Friends

Teen Safe Dementia Friends at Leyland St Marys High School, this was the first time that Community Fire Safety had delivered this training in a High School in the Southern Area.

The session was delivered to Year 11's and was very successful, with positive feedback from the school. During the session pupils were asked if they knew of anyone living with Dementia, in each session at least three people stated they had direct contact with someone living with dementia.

At the end of the session feedback from the pupils was positive and gave them a greater understanding of dementia.

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

**Date**: 24 March 2019

**Time**: 13:20

Two ladies attracted the attention of passing dog walkers on Longton Marsh. The tide had come in quicker than usual due to windy conditions and they had become marooned on the marsh approximately 50m from the banking.

North West Fire Control received the call and quickly mobilised resources to the incident, including the specialist Water Incident Unit from Penwortham. An assessment of the incident was undertaken by the Incident Commander and a

tactical plan formulated and conveyed to the oncoming personnel who were specialist water rescue trained. On arrival, two swift water rescue technicians in specialist PPE and utilising specialist equipment made entry into the water with a rescue sled to stabilise the individuals. Using the specialist rescue sled and floatation devices the two ladies and their two dogs were safely assisted back to dry land.

Once in a safe location all parties were given a precautionary check up by North West Ambulance Service who had attended the incident as part of a multi-agency approach.

**COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT** 

REPORTING PERIOD: FEBRUARY 2019 - APRIL 2019

SUMMARY REPORT FOR: WEST LANCASHIRE

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

#### **Live Well – Concourse Shopping Centre**

Engagement day ran by Department for Work and Pensions to raise awareness of services, both statutory and non-governmental, which are available to support people within the working ages of 18-65 who have a mental or physical disability.

The Community Fire Safety Team attended the event in which they joined 19 other agencies on the day to raise awareness of local services. The event was widely publicised and this was reflected by the attendance of over 300 people.

Agencies included: Active West Lancs, Lancashire Mind, Community Restart, Ingeous Work and Health Programme, Inspire, Lancs Adult Learning, Wellbeing Service, Liberty Centre.

#### **West Lancashire College – Public Service Visit**

Public Service students from West Lancs College visited Skelmersdale Fire Station. The aim of the session was to raise awareness of the role of the fire service within the wider community.

The session included the delivery of the Wasted Lives package and included a live casualty extraction demonstration with the assistance from on-call Firefighters.

The students were also given information in relation to the role that Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service plays in the community: the prevention, protection and emergency response elements of Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service Plan.

**COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT** 

REPORTING PERIOD: FEBRUARY 2019 – APRIL 2019

SUMMARY REPORT FOR: WYRE

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

#### Winter Safety

As a result of engagement with a Support Time and Recovery Worker from Fylde and Wyre Social Inclusion Team, which is part of Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust a visit was made to a group of men who meet weekly in Fleetwood.

The group consists of approximately 20 male members, many of whom are very vulnerable adults, recovering from drug and alcohol addiction, mental health issues or are simply in social isolation following addiction, bereavement, or breakdown of personal relationships.

A fire safety talk was delivered by a Community Safety Advisor, with particular emphasis being placed on the Home Fire Safety Check/Safe and Well Visit, cooking safely and the importance of keeping safe and warm during the cold spells.

A visit to the community room at Fleetwood Fire Station is being arranged where Retained Support Officers and Prince's Trust Staff can deliver information regarding their roles, with a view to possible future recruitment.

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

Date: 04 February 2019

**Time**: 12:20

Six appliances including pumps from Garstang and Lancaster, the Hazardous Materials Unit, a Hazardous Materials and Environmental Protection Officer and two flexi-officers attended this incident at Forton Services, M6, northbound.

The incident involved reports of a chemical leaking from an international bulk container being carried on a flatbed heavy goods vehicle. Initial intelligence gathering quickly established that the chemical was toxic and its properties meant it also had potential for fire and explosion.

Rendezvous points were established for oncoming appliances and a 500m cordon put in place. The hazard zone necessitated the evacuation and closure of the service station whilst further information on the chemical was gained and a containment and clear-up strategy determined.

To prevent further leakage, and stop contaminant entering drains and water courses, Firefighters wearing breathing apparatus used specialist equipment from the

Hazardous Materials Unit to contain the leak.

A specialist company was then arranged to remove the containment and clean the affected area and the appropriate regulatory authorities were informed.