LANCASHIRE COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY

Meeting to be held on Monday, 22 February 2021

COMMUNITY FIRE SAFETY REPORTS (Appendix 1 refers)

Contact for further information: Deputy Chief Fire Officer Steve Healey, 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 detailed reports for the two unitary and twelve district authorities in relation to:

- Community Safety initiatives;
- Incidents of Operational interest.

The report covers the period from December 2020 - January 2021.

1. Countywide summary:

1.1 Community Safety: The following bullet points capture some of the countywide community safety activity over the two-month period from 01 December 2020 – 31 January 2021. Further detail is provided in Appendix 1 in relation to the specific activity across the 12 District and 2 Unitary areas.

Covid 19

1.2 Since mid-December 2020, Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service (LFRS) has been at the forefront of the global fight against the Covid 19 pandemic. Locally, our firefighters, community and support staff have delivered incredible work and Authority Members are ask to note that LFRS were the first Fire and Rescue Service nationally to engage in the roll out of the vaccination programme. As of the end of January, LFRS staff had supported across 22 vaccination sites, including 3 new mass vaccination sites in Blackburn, Blackpool and Lancaster. Our staff have assisted in the delivery of (stats as of 8/2/21):

- 85,600 vaccinations across Lancashire with;
 - o 5,100 injections delivered by our firefighter/community/support staff
- 1.3 Staff have also been widely involved in marshalling, administration and coordination at the centres and the Service has received wide ranging praise from people right across our communities
- 1.4 To ensure staff safety, Members should note that LFRS were the **first to commence** Lateral Flow Testing (LFT) on fire stations. The Service has now rolled out LFT across all of our 42 sites to ensure our staff, their families and our communities can be as safe as possible during this pandemic.

Wider Community Safety

- 1.5 In addition to our focus on the response to the pandemic, LFRS has also continued to deliver its prevention agenda on a risk assessed basis. The Service has made use of digital technology and adapted working practices to ensure our communities still receive a high level of service. Activity includes:
 - Virtual delivery of our Fire Cadets programme
 - Home Fire Safety Checks / Safe and Well Assessments via a modified or critical pathway
 - Winter Safety campaign, focusing on the distribution of thermometers and Christmas cards, which included fire safety messages
 - Road Sense package adapted for virtual delivery into schools and for pupil's currently home schooling (Year 6 Primary Children)
 - Hot strike campaigns following tragic fatal dwelling fires

1.6 Planning is underway for Water Safety and Wildfire Campaigns for delivery in March / April as weather warms. Package will include virtual delivery of education sessions to schools.

1.7 **Operational Incidents of note:** The following bullet points capture some of the countywide operational response activity over the two-month period from 01 December 2020 – 31 January 2021. Further detail is provided in Appendix 1 in relation to the specific activity across the 12 District and 2 Unitary areas.

- Birtwistle Mill, in Haslingden 14 fire engines from LFRS and Greater Manchester, including aerial appliances (LFRS Stinger). Fire in a Mill building with difficult access
- Support to Cheshire FRS provide mutual aide at mass flooding incident. 4 swift water rescue units responded and carried out numerous rescues

- Derelict single storey commercial building in Chorley 12 fire engines from LRFS attended, supported by one fire engine from Greater Manchester and several specialist appliances (including Stinger)
- Tabley Lane, Higher Bartle Preston 8 fire engines and an Aerial Ladder Platform attended a building fire at an industrial unit
- Queens Promenade, Blackpool 8 fire engines and an Aerial Ladder Platform attended a 5-storey derelict Hotel fire
- Navigation Way, Preston, 8 Pumps and 2 Aerial Ladder Platforms attended a disused former restaurant on fire.
- Centurion Way, Leyland, 6 pumps attended 3 cars on fire, which had spread to the adjacent industrial unit.
- 2 Fatal house fires in Chorley and Leyland
- Dunsop Road, Whitewell, Fatal Incident in which a tipper trailer overturned. Attended by USAR and Clitheroe
- Blackpool Kitchen Fire Three persons rescued
- Fylde 85-year-old occupant rescued from property fire
- Hyndburn Special Service Call adult male with right arm trapped inside the mixing drum of a petrol cement mixer on building site
- Road Traffic Collisions including:
 - o 3 vehicle incident in Lancaster area
 - Fire Engines from Bamber Bridge and Preston attended a multiple Road Traffic Collision involving 17 vehicles on the M6 motorway, Northbound near to Junction 30. Approximately six people injured
- Lancaster Swift Water Rescue response to a lady and dog in river
- Tarleton major gas leak on the Moss in Tarleton. The incident involved a fractured high-pressure gas main resulting in the evacuation of 6 people from their homes

Business Risk

None

Environmental Impact

Potential impact on local environment in relation to operational incidents. A number of significant incidents benefitted from the attendance of specialist water tower resources (Stingers) which made a positive impact on firefighting operations and ultimately reducing the environmental impact.

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
Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate:		

REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2020 – JANUARY 2021

SUMMARY REPORT FOR: BLACKBURN-WITH-DARWEN

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Home Fire Safety Check / Winter Safety & Covid-19 Volunteers

The community safety team has continued to work in line with COVID guidelines to deliver Home Fire Safety Checks via a modified or critical pathway. These completed Home Fire Safety Checks have all been referred via the maintaining of existing partnership routes or following the attendance of crews at incidents.

The period has also covered our Winter Safety campaign, which has focused on the distribution of thermometers and Christmas cards, which included fire safety messages by partners in the borough on our behalf.

Mid-December saw the Covid vaccination roll out in the borough and the introduction of Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service (LFRS) volunteers from operational crews, admin staff, community safety team and existing volunteers who have continued to undertake marshalling and logistic activities at Barbara Castle Way and Darwen Health Centre.

These activities have continued with opening of the mass vaccination site at Blackburn Cathedral and the inclusion of a team of LFRS vaccinators who have recently completed their training.

COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2020 – JANUARY 2021

SUMMARY REPORT FOR: BLACKPOOL

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Winter Safety Campaign

As part of the Winter Safety Campaign, Community Safety Advisors have been sharing fire safety information with local partners in the form of leaflets that include thermometers. A large quantity of fire safety Christmas cards were also distributed to vulnerable persons via a network of partners. This information gives the vulnerable persons contact details to request a Home Fire Safety Check, an aide memoire of the bed time routine and a reminder of fire safety advice.

Covid-19 Vaccination Centre

Blackpool Area Community Safety Advisors have been supporting the National Health Service in the delivery of Covid-19 vaccinations in the community. During December and January Community Safety advisors assisted with the management of patients in four Health centres in the Blackpool area. Each day saw approximately 400/500 patients arrive for their vaccination.

As of early January, the Community Safety Advisors have been re-deployed to the Blackpool Winter Gardens mass vaccination site to assist with marshalling.

Road Sense

The Road Sense package has been adapted for virtual delivery, during January a total of 2 Road Sense sessions have been delivered to Schools within Blackpool. The Road Sense package is specifically aimed at the Year 6 Primary Children as these young people will be over the coming months transitioning into Secondary schools, this increases their independence as they will be travelling via other means to school and require additional awareness of the dangers that they may not be familiar with.

Safe & Well

During the Covid-19 period the core duties of the Community Safety team have been adapted to manage the ever-changing risk associated with the pandemic.

The team have used this time to focus on collaboration with local partners and organisations such as Blackpool Adult services to highlight the Home Fire Safety Check Service incorporating the Safe and Well aspect.

The team have also forged partnerships with Turning Tides a project that will be based out of Claremont Digital Library - In partnership with Claremont Park

Community Centre, offering Claremont residents the use of a data ready tablet for up to 6 months to support them with isolation and improving digital and social networks. A timetable of online sessions for residents to log into will be arranged, with LFRS contributing an electronic educational fire safety session.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Charles Street, BlackpoolDate:24 December 2020Time:11:38

North West Fire Control received a call to a property reporting that there was a fire in the building and stating that people were inside. Due to the nature of the incident three fire appliances were mobilised from Blackpool and South Shore fire stations.

On arrival, the crews found a fire in the kitchen. Three persons were rescued by firefighters wearing breathing apparatus (BA), all of whom were assessed and treated at the scene for smoke inhalation by North West Ambulance Service (NWAS).

Fire crews spent 1 hour at the scene; used 6 Breathing Apparatus sets and 1 high pressure hose reel jet to bring the fire under control. Fire crews also used a thermal imaging camera to ensure the fire was fully extinguished and a positive pressure ventilation unit to clear the property of smoke.

There is a requirement for fire crews to undertake an investigation to determine the cause of fire. This work is important as the findings support the Service with the development of Prevention and Protection strategies. In this instance the fire was caused by the occupiers leaving a pan containing cooking oil on a hob and accidentally turning on the ring under the pan.

Details of the incident were passed to Prevention and Protection departments so follow-up activities could be undertaken. This is standard practice and aimed at ensuring victims of fire in residential settings are supported post fire, that prevention equipment is installed and working, education becomes embedded and in relation to Protection, that where relevant the building complies with the requirements of Fire Safety legislation.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Queens Promenade, Blackpool

 Date:
 01 December 2020

 Time:
 14:21

Report of a derelict hotel on fire was reported to NWFC. It was believed people may have been inside prior to the fire being noticed.

The Hotel consisted of 5 floors and approximately 30m x 15m in area. The property was in a poor state of repair and LFRS already had risk information that the building was unsafe internally.

The initial attendance was 2 pumps, 1 from Bispham and 1 Blackpool. This was eventually made up to 8 pumps and an Aerial Ladder Platform.

At the height of the fire 6 Breathing Apparatus and HRJ's were in use and crews were in attendance for 7 hours.

Unfortunately, due to the report that people may have been inside, teams had to be committed into the building, risking the safety of Firefighters, no people were found to be within the building.

LANCASHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2020 – JANUARY 2021

SUMMARY REPORT FOR: BURNLEY

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Thank You NHS

Since the mass roll out of the Covid 19 vaccination sites began in December, the NHS have teamed up with LFRS to ensure the efficient running of the sites. The teams have worked tirelessly out on areas and Community Safety have been humbled to be part of the huge ongoing efforts. Dedicated staff have gone the extra mile for those that have come through the doors for their 1st vaccine. With this in mind Community Fire Safety staff thought it would be a touching gesture for the NHS staff to receive a good will gift by teaming up with Tesco's community champions. Tesco have since donated a series of hampers which CFS staff delivered – containing refreshments and snacks to support the medical teams who are delivering the vaccines at St Peters Health Centre Burnley.

COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2020 – JANUARY 2021

SUMMARY REPORT FOR: CHORLEY

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Hot Strike

The Service responded to an incident in early January within the Chorley District Area, this incident unfortunately was a fatal incident. Hot Strike Leaflets were distributed within the local area at the time of the incident, due to COVID restrictions the Community Fire Safety Team were unable to carry out door to door activities. Due to these restrictions the Community Fire Safety Team adapted the Hot Strike method and delivered Home Fire Safety Booklets to all the properties in the area of the incident, these booklets provided Key Fire Safety Messages and provided reassurance to the local residents, with details on how to make a Home Fire Safety Check Referral. Post Incident HFSC's have taken place since the incident as a direct action of the information shared.

Year 6 Road Sense

This year the Year 6 Road Sense Package is being delivered through a virtual platform of Microsoft Teams to all Primary Schools within Lancashire. The Community Safety Team for Southern area are providing two members of the team to support the delivery of this package, which is being broadcast from Chorley Community Fire Station. The delivery is being facilitated by a team of six people to ensure consistency. So far engagement from schools has been good, with most sessions booked up, and positive feedback and praise shared with the staff involved.

Volunteer Vaccination Support

The Community Fire Safety Team were asked to consider volunteering to support the vaccination programme across Lancashire, as a team we have been able to support this with 5 staff offering to perform different roles across the different centres. One of the team has untaken training to become a vaccinator and has been signed off to deliver the vaccinations and has undertook their first session vaccinating people. Each of the team is providing at least 2 days per week to this workflow, with some of the team offering additional time, outside of their normal working days.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Fatal House Fire, Euxton, Chorley

 Date:
 02 January 2021

 Time:
 15:21

The fire involved the ground and first floor of a terraced property. Six Firefighters wearing BA entered the property with Hose reel jets. Unfortunately, a deceased casualty was discovered during search and rescue operations.

At the height of the incident 4 pumps and 1 Aerial ladder Platform were utilised. This was due to smoke spread to the roof space of the adjoining terraced properties.

A joint fire investigation took place with LFRS, Lancashire Police CSI and Forensic Scientists.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Chorley Retail Park, George St, ChorleyDate:23 January 2021Time:04:14

Twelve fire engines from Chorley, Preston, Fulwood, Blackburn, Darwen, Leyland, Bamber Bridge, and Skelmersdale – supported by one fire engine from Greater Manchester and several specialist appliances from Lancashire attended a fire at a derelict single storey commercial building in Chorley. Firefighters used four breathing apparatus three hose real jets, one stinger appliance and one aerial ladder platform to bring the fire under control. One casualty was rescued and received precautionary checks from NWAS. Fire engines were engaged for several hours. The cause of fire is being investigated.

COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2020 – JANUARY 2021

SUMMARY REPORT FOR: FYLDE

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Vaccination Volunteering

Fylde Area Community Safety Advisors have been supporting the National Health Service in the delivery of Covid-19 vaccinations in the community. During December and January Community Safety advisors assisted with the management of patients in Health centres in the Fylde area. Each day saw approximately 400/500 patients arrive for their vaccination.

As of early January, the Community Safety Advisors have been re-deployed to the Blackpool Winter Gardens mass vaccination site to assist with marshalling.

Road Sense

The Road Sense package has been adapted for virtual delivery and has been delivered to a number of schools during January. The Road Sense package is specifically aimed at the Year 6 Primary Children as these young people, over the coming months, will be transitioning into Secondary schools. This increases their independence as they will be travelling via other means to school and require additional awareness of the dangers that they may not be familiar with.

Winter Safety Campaign

As part of the Winter Safety Campaign, Community Safety Advisors have been sharing fire safety information with local partners in the form of leaflets that include thermometers. A large quantity of fire safety Christmas cards were distributed to vulnerable people via a network of partners. This information gives the vulnerable persons contact details to request a Home Fire Safety Check, an aide memoire of the bed time routine and a reminder of fire safety advice.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

St David's Road South, Lytham St AnnesDate:11 January 2021

Time: 02:41

On arrival the smoke alarm was sounding, there was smoke in the communal hallway and the door to the flat was open. The flat was smoke logged and the 85-year-old occupant was inside. Firefighters led the occupant to safety, the occupant

was then monitored with a pulse oximeter prior to North West Ambulance Service attending.

Firefighters assessed the situation and concluded that the fire was out on arrival. The cause of the fire was an item of clothing that had been drying on an electrical heater. There were three portable heaters in the flat, a Halogen electrical heater in the bedroom being fed from the hallway via a trailing lead, a small oil filled radiator and an electric convector heater in the lounge which was the point of origin for the fire. The result was burn marks to the carpet and the occupant suffered smoke inhalation and singed hair. North West Ambulance Service conveyed the occupant to Blackpool Victoria for precautionary checks. Firefighters liaised with the Community Safety Team for further support for the occupant.

COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2020 – JANUARY 2021

SUMMARY REPORT FOR: HYNDBURN

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Home Fire Safety Checks & Winter Safety

The Community Safety team has continued to work in line with COVID guidelines, in order to deliver HFSCs via a modified or critical pathway. These completed HFSCs have all been referred via the maintaining of existing partnership routes or following the attendance of crews at incidents.

The period has also covered our Winter Safety campaign, which has focused on the distribution of thermometers and Christmas cards, which included fire safety messages by partners in the borough on our behalf

Mid December saw the Covid vaccination role out in the borough and the introduction of LFRS volunteers from operational crews, admin staff, community safety team and existing volunteers who have continued to undertake marshalling and logistic activities at the ACORN health Centre.

These activities have continued with the opening of the Mass Vaccination site at Blackburn cathedral and the inclusion of a team of LFRS vaccinators who have recently completed their training.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Britannia Wharf, Rishton

 Date:
 04 December 2020

 Time:
 14:11

LFRS were Called to an adult male with his right arm trapped inside the mixing drum of a petrol cement mixer on building site. The male who had sustained significant injuries/ fractures to the upper and lower arm, was conscious and breathing on arrival of emergency services. He was stood in a hole, approximately 1 metre deep that was partially filled with water and rising due to the inclement weather conditions. A battery-operated grinder was used to remove the fixing bolts on the outside of the drum, whilst being assisted by NWAS with pain relief for the casualty. Due to the ground being muddy and soft as a result of the weather, an improvised walkway was constructed utilising building materials to prevent personnel falling and sinking in the mud during the extrication of the casualty. The Casualty was then safely extricated and conveyed to hospital.

COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2020 – JANUARY 2021

SUMMARY REPORT FOR: LANCASTER

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Winter Safety

Due to the current pandemic, it was clear that LFRS activities as part of the winter safety campaign were going to be reduced. A Christmas card and safety message were produced centrally and sent out to all areas.

The Lancaster CFS team, ensured a stock of cards was provided to all agencies, where the winter safety campaign was relevant to their customers. The plan was for this card to be distributed as they delivered their core service.

The key focus of the campaign was to enable the elderly, isolated and vulnerable members to stay safe, warm and well this winter. This was achieved by agencies distributing cards to their clients. The agencies delivering on our behalf are listed below:

Integrated Care Co-Ordinators. Local Foodbanks. Health Professionals. Care Agencies Lancaster City Council for distribution to their vulnerable person list.

To supplement this, Northern area procured a small stock of oil heated radiators, for those who were at risk from using unsafe sources of heating, such as defective boilers, candles, unswept fires, amongst other sources of gas heaters and naked flames.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

M6 Motorway, Near to Lancaster Date: 11 January 2021 Time: 17:26

3 x appliances and 1 x Station Manager attended a RTC on the M6 Northbound, with multiple vehicles involved and persons trapped.

Upon attendance of LFRS, it was identified that 3 vehicles were involved, a DAF wagon had collided with a car and this had led to a collision with another car, which had been wedged on its side against the central reservation. A female was trapped within this car, which was an electric vehicle.

This incident proved complex due to the positioning of the electric vehicle pinned on its side against the central reservation. It affected rescue operations and safety of staff, due to the complexities of isolating the live parts of the car.

Dynamic decisions were made that ensured the stability of the car was not compromised and a safe working platform was established prior to carrying out any rescue operations. FRS personnel had to utilise up to date crash data from the Vehicle mounted data system on the Fire Engine, in order to ensure the isolation of the battery was carried out correctly and ensuring no parts remained live.

A rescue plan was established, which would see unique extrication techniques implemented, in order to ensure a successful rescue was carried out, in a challenging situation.

Low Road, Crook O Lune, Lancaster

Date:	15 January 2021
Time:	09:49

Two appliances, one of which had Swift Water Rescue capability, plus a Station Manager attended the above incident.

The initial call was to a dog trapped within the river lune. Upon arrival of LFRS there was an elderly lady and a dog by the river bank. The elderly lady had gone into the river and rescued the dog however both the dog and elderly lady were suffering from the effects of hypothermia.

A medical assessment at the scene was carried out by FRS personnel due to NWAS not yet being in attendance. FRS personnel administered hypothermic intervention practices, as well as oxygen to the elderly lady, in order to ensure her condition did not decline. This was the same for the hypothermic dog which also suffered from epilepsy. Due to the dog's hypothermic condition, it was inducing seizures, so the dog received care from LFRS staff.

Northwich Fire Station, Cheshire

 Date:
 21 January 2021

 Time:
 11:50

LFRS was requested by Cheshire FRS to provide mutual aide at a flooding incident. The request was for 4 swift water rescue units, one of which was Lancaster's pump. All resources were deployed to a rendezvous at Northwich fire station, from there they were deployed to affected areas accordingly. Lancaster formed part of a rescue mission which was already established to access affected properties and move people to a safe place. Upon arrival Cheshire's boat was being used as was Lancashire's boat and rescue sleds. While all these assets were providing a great rescue aide, Lancaster's 10-person raft came in to its own with the number of individuals it rescued, being the most effective of the assets in attendance. Within that period of response Lancashire rescued 48 people. The efforts of LFRS was commended throughout the incident and after with praise and recognition by Cheshire FRS.

COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2020 – JANUARY 2021

SUMMARY REPORT FOR: PENDLE

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Winter Safety Campaign

Working in partnership with local organisations, the Community Safety advisors at Pendle delivered Safe and Warm packs to the Open-Door charity. The Charity has links with local housing providers who provide recycled furniture, which is surplus to requirements and is given to those in need in a bid to help them furnish their home. The teams coordinate the delivery of warm meals to elderly vulnerable people, who depend on the good will of the service. Community Fire Safety (CFS) teams promoted the winter safety campaign by donating resources which contained items such as Fleece blankets, thermo flasks and safety literature. Again, the winter campaign focuses heavily on keeping people safe when temperatures fall. People are advised on the safe usage of heating appliances and are offered a free Home Fire Safety Check from LFRS.

COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2020 – JANUARY 2021

SUMMARY REPORT FOR: PRESTON

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Winter Safety Campaign

Central CFS have been working with partners to identify any vulnerable tenants for a critical/modified Home Fire Safety Check. Campaign postcards have also been distributed to all partnerships across the district and relevant information from the virtual library has been shared via social media in order to provide key messages whilst still under a national lockdown. A full evaluation of the Winter Safety Campaign will be provided upon completion of the campaign.

Mass Vaccination Assistance

Staff from Central CFS have been assisting with the logistics and administration of the COVID vaccine at mass sites throughout Lancashire. A staffing rota has been set up to ensure sufficient cover for core prevention work and support will continue to be provided until the situation is relaxed and hopefully sees a return to business as usual.

Fire Cadets

Teams meetings have been taking place to cover any outstanding elements of the Fire Cadets Assessment Portfolio for their Skills for Justice Level 2 Award. Cadets have been logging on weekly to complete outstanding work and all folders have now been submitted for final marking.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Hazlehurst Road, PrestonDate:06 December 2020Time:10:15

A gas fire had been left on by elderly occupier, possibly for several hours. Two Breathing Apparatus wearers were committed into the property to ascertain gas levels. The mains gas was isolated from outside property and electric isolated from inside property. A Positive Pressure Ventilation Unit was used to ventilate the property and clear any harmful gases present. The occupier complained of suffering effects of inhaling gas and received first aid from LFRS personnel and was ultimately conveyed to hospital by NWAS.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Tabley Lane, Higher Bartle, PrestonDate:20 January 2021Time:09:39

A call was received to a commercial fire on Tabley Lane, 4 pumps were sent due to the commercial nature of the site. The building was a Multi Occupied Industrial Unit, consisting of 1 floor with an approximate area of 50m x 20m.

At the height of the fire, 8 pumps were in attendance along with the Command Unit from Blackburn and an Aerial Ladder Platform.

Pumps from Fulwood, Preston, Penwortham, Leyland, Wesham, Longridge, Chorley and Blackpool attended.

The damage was confined to a 20m x 20m area of the building.

COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2020 – JANUARY 2021

SUMMARY REPORT FOR: RIBBLE VALLEY

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Winter Safety & Open Fire / Wood Burners

The Community Safety team has continued to work in line with COVID guidelines to deliver HFSCs via a modified or critical pathway. These completed HFSCs have all been referred via the maintaining of existing partnership routes or following the attendance of crews at incidents.

The period has also covered our Winter Safety campaign, which has focused on the distribution of thermometers and Christmas cards, which included fire safety messages by partners in the borough on our behalf

During January operational crews, admin and community safety staff have been involved the opening of the Mass vaccination centre at Blackburn cathedral. This site is available to households living within 45 minutes of Blackburn. Activities include marshalling and logistics along with a team of recently qualified vaccinators.

December has also included a targeted leaflet drop at "point of sale" outlets within the Ribble Valley, who sell fuel for open fire and wood burners. The leaflets offer simple fire safety advice on their safe use, storage of fuel and maintenance.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Dunsop Road, Whitewell

 Date:
 11 January 2021

 Time:
 13:22

LFRS were called to a farm where there had been an accident with a delivery of gravel on a building site. A large articulated tractor unit and trailer had tipped onto its side trapping the driver under the metalwork.

Crews from Clitheroe and the Urban Search and Rescue Team from Chorley and Bamber Bridge were mobilised.

Unfortunately, the casualty was pronounced deceased by Air Ambulance medics on LFRS arrival. The USAR with assistance from Clitheroe crews devised a lifting plan using wooden cribbing and on-site plant equipment to free the casualty from under the heavy vehicle.

LANCASHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2020 – JANUARY 2021

SUMMARY REPORT FOR: ROSSENDALE

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Virtual Fire Safety Session

Following a request from an Air Cadet unit in Rossendale to deliver a fire safety session to their team of Air Cadets, the Community Safety Advisors put together a bespoke education package which contained a range of information including a quiz, which they were able to present over Teams. The group of Air Cadets received information regarding fire science, the roles within the fire services, including some information which encompasses part of the fire cadet learning modules. This was a very successful combined effort, where the 2 services came together and helped to shape the future for these young people.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Jubilee Road, HaslingdenDate:07 January 2021Time:12:30

Birtwistle Mill, in Haslingden - Four Fire Appliances were mobilised to a commercial fire. Upon arrival the first attending crews were faced with a challenging situation of a single storey building of traditional construction that had been extended over time to include a portal framed section, resulting in an overall size of approximately 200m x 90m. At this time there were large volumes of thick black smoke. Another challenge facing crews was the adverse weather with sub zero temperatures and snow.

An initial assistance message was sent to Increase fire appliances to 8, along with the request for a Stinger and Aerial Ladder Platform (ALP). Early priorities included the evacuation of local residents, fire stops between the affected building and an adjoining mill, as well as road closures to allow crews to establish a safe system of work.

Operation Merlin was declared due to the large volume of smoke that was affecting not only local residents, but a major road link, A56.

The fire continued to develop quickly and was breaking through the roof structure. Due to the complex layout and access issues a further assistance message was sent to increase Fire Appliances to 14, along with requesting the HVP to assist with water.

At its height crews were utilising 8 hand held jets, a ground monitor, a Stinger as a water tower and the ALP in a strategic position to protect property.

The overall result was the extinguishment of a fully developed fire that was contained to the building of origin, the protection of adjoining property including domestic dwellings and the return to their homes of local residents.

It is believed that bulk storage of roller blinds had been ignited by sparks from metal cutting processes. Rogue sparks from the use of an angle grinder had embedded into a large quantity of roller blinds where it had caused unnoticed smouldering.

COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2020 – JANUARY 2021

SUMMARY REPORT FOR: SOUTH RIBBLE

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Winter Safety

The Community Safety Team has distributed Winter Safety Christmas Cards across the South Ribble Community Hubs and local Care Agencies, in total 250 were shared across these services. The team also established a link with Progress Lifeline Falls Response Team, who took 450 cards to leave with people that they responded to during the December Period. The cards contained a Christmas message from the Service, which had key fire safety information and information on how to make a referral to the Service.

Volunteer Vaccination Support

The Community Fire Safety Team were asked to consider volunteering to support the vaccination programmed across Lancashire, as a team we have been able to support this with 5 staff offering to perform different roles across the different centres. One of the team has untaken training to become a vaccinator and has been signed off to deliver the vaccinations and has undertook their first session vaccinating people. Each of the team is providing at least 2 days per week to this workflow, with some of the team offering additional time, outside of their normal working days.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

M61 Motorway, Bamber Bridge area Date: 27 December 2020 Time: 15:49

Fire Engines from Bamber Bridge and Preston attended a multiple Road Traffic Collision involving 17 vehicles on the M6 motorway, Northbound near to Junction 30. Approximately six people were treated for minor injuries, and fire service personnel made the vehicles safe before leaving after approximately ninety minutes.

COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2020 – JANUARY 2021

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Navigation Way, Preston

Date: 01 December 2020 **Time**: 00:01

4 Pumps were initially sent to reports of a building fire. On attendance the building was confirmed to be involving a disused restaurant and an assistance message was sent for 8 Pumps and 2 Aerial Ladder Platforms.

The building consisted of 2 floors with an area of approximately 50m x 20m. The fire was in the roof void.

At the height of the blaze, 6 BA were in use, along with 2 Aerial Ladder Platforms. Crews were in attendance for approximately 12 hours.

The fire was attended by Fulwood, Preston, Penwortham, Bamber Bridge,

Blackburn, Leyland, Chorley, Blackpool, Wesham, Nelson, Hyndburn, Fleetwood and Darwen.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Centurion Way Industrial Estate, Leyland

Date: 02 January 2021

Time: 23:44

One pump from Leyland was initially sent to reports of a fire in the open, whereby smoke and flames were visible. Due to the vague location given by the caller, NWFC spent a further few minutes, confirming the accurate location.

The first pump immediately made pumps 6, as the fire involved 3 cars and had spread to the adjacent industrial unit.

The swift action of the crews meant that the fire didn't damage the building beyond the external walls. However, there was severe damage to 3 cars and the external fascia of the building.

Pumps from Leyland, Bamber Bridge, Preston, Chorley and Penwortham attended, along with the Command Unit from Blackburn.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Fatal House fire in Leyland

Date: 30 January 2021

Time: 12:25

LFRS were mobilised to a late fire call, in which a deceased male had been found at a property, where there had been a fire.

A pump from Leyland, along with a Fire Investigation team from LFRS attended. The fire was out on arrival, so the main emphasis was on the investigation. The investigation was carried out in conjunction with LFRS, Lancashire Police CSI and Forensic Scientists. The investigation into the circumstances is still taking place, via a multi-agency approach.

SUMMARY REPORT FOR: WEST LANCASHIRE

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Winter Safety

The Community Fire Safety Team has set up a new link with a community group within Skelmersdale to provide Christmas Cards and Thermometers Cards. The community group works with older vulnerable residents and have distributed 100 of the cards and Thermometers with the bags that they provide to these residents. The Christmas cards and Thermometers contained key fire safety messages and information on how to make a self-referral to the service.

Volunteer Vaccination Support

The Community Fire Safety Team were asked to consider volunteering to support the vaccination programmed across Lancashire, as a team we have been able to support this with 5 staff offering to perform different roles across the different centres. One of the team has untaken training to become a vaccinator and has been signed off to deliver the vaccinations and has undertook their first session vaccinating people. Each of the team is providing at least 2 days per week to this workflow, with some of the team offering additional time, outside of their normal working days.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Green Lane, Tarleton

 Date:
 26 January 2021

 Time:
 07:59

The Fire Engine from Tarleton and a Hazardous Materials and Environmental Protection Officer attended a major gas leak on the Moss in Tarleton. The incident involved a fractured high-pressure gas main. This was a multiagency incident including Fire, Police, Highways, Cadent Gas and Lancashire County Council. Six persons were evacuated from their homes. Firefighters made the scene safe while gas engineers isolated the leak. All agencies were detained for several hours.

COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2020 – JANUARY 2021

SUMMARY REPORT FOR: WYRE

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Prevention

A telephone call from a concerned member of the public, was received at Fleetwood Fire Station. They raised concerns regarding a property, which had not only severe hoarding issues, but means of access and egress were blocked by white goods which had to be continually moved.

Upon investigation it was found that this property has been previously visited by LFRS in 2017 and a hoarding issue was highlighted to the Housing Association who owned the property.

The Housing Manager stated they were aware of the problem and had been working on reducing the amount of hoarding, but due to COVID regular visits have been restricted

This case was referred to Wyre and Fylde Integrated Team (WFIT) Self Neglect Group, as a result of this Social Services are now involved.

The occupiers next of kin has arranged removal of the white goods and in conjunction with The Housing Association are removing unwanted items from the property.

This shows that during a time of reduced Public Sector personnel highlighting safeguarding issues, LFRS staff continue to carry out their prevention work to a high standard, even during a global pandemic. Had they not followed up this concern, a fire may have occurred with serious consequences to the occupier and neighbours.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Date:VariousTime:Various

Over the period of 1st December 2020 to 31st January 2021, Fleetwood has seen a spike of Fires relating to Anti-Social Behaviour. Most, if not all fires involved wheelie bins at the properties.

The response by LFRS has been to raise the issue at both the Community Safety Partnership and Anti-Social Behaviour Partnership meetings. The latter of which has resulted in a targeted meeting held on 1 February 2021 involving: LFRS, Wyre District Council, Wyre District Police and the property owners to focus on this issue at the two properties and implement measures to reduce / prevent fires and the impact they cause as well as establishing ways of identifying possible offenders.

Longmoor Lane, Nateby

 Date:
 20 January 2021

 Time:
 14:33

One Fire Appliance from Garstang was mobilised to reports of a member of the public trapped in their vehicle by flood waters. On arrival, 2 of the Garstang crew entered the water wearing flood suits in order to rescue the occupant of the vehicle, which they did successfully. Assisted by a local farmer, the crew were then able to connect a line to the vehicle from the farmers tractor and pull the vehicle from the flood water.

In response to the flooding, the crew also collaborated with the local authority by requesting highways officers to close the road, preventing further incidents.