LANCASHIRE COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY

Meeting to be held on Monday 26 April 2021

COMMUNITY FIRE SAFETY REPORTS (Appendix 1 refers)

Contact for further information:

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Executive Summary

This paper provides an overview of Community Safety activities and incidents of operational interest across the 14 district authorities.

Furthermore, the report provides an overview of the ongoing Service support to Covid-19 pandemic response.

Recommendation

The Authority is asked to note and endorse the report.

Information

Included as Appendix 1 are detailed reports relating to activity undertaken within the 14 Lancashire districts.

This report covers the period February 2021 – March 2021

Summary:

Community Safety

- 1.1 Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service (LFRS) has continued to deliver against our prevention agenda on a risk assessed basis. The Service has made use of digital technology and adapted working practices to ensure our communities continue to receive a high level of service:
 - Fire Cadets have continued to work virtually during the pandemic culminating in over 100 Cadets achieving Skills for Justice qualifications.
 - Home Fire Safety Checks / Safe and Well Assessments have continued via a modified approach.
 - Post incident preventative activities have continued throughout the pandemic via a modified approach.
 - Road Sense package for primary school, year 6 students, has been adapted for virtual delivery into schools and for pupil's currently home schooling, so far reaching over 5000 pupils.

- Prince's Trust teams have returned to classroom delivery within educational bubbles, in conjunction with frequent lateral flow testing. In total there are approximately 100 young adults across the 8 teams.
- The Service is also developing methods for virtual delivery of Wildfire Prevention, Water Safety and Road Safety campaigns from April, cognisant of the likely changes in public behaviour aligned to the Government's planned roadmap and our internal Recovery ambitions.

Covid-19

1.2 LFRS continues to support the national pandemic response. LFRS was the first Fire and Rescue Service nationally to engage in the roll out of the vaccination programme and locally, our firefighters, community safety staff and support staff have delivered some outstanding work in support.

As at the end of March 2021, LFRS staff had supported the 5 mass vaccination sites (Blackburn, Blackpool, Lancaster, Burnley and Preston) and our staff assisted in the delivery of over 187,000 vaccinations. 21,800 of these were injections delivered directly by LFRS staff.

Staff have also been widely involved in marshalling, administration and coordination at the centres. The Service has received wide ranging praise from members of our communities. We currently maintain a volunteer list of over 300 and presently have 33 staff repurposed full time to assisting with the vaccination programme.

Internally, safety and protection of staff have been a continued priority and the ability to roll out Lateral Flow Testing (LFT) arrangements across our sites was an early ambition. LFT is now in place across all Service locations and integrated into working practices to ensure our staff, their families and our communities can be as safe as possible during this pandemic.

Operational Incidents of note

- 2.1 The following summaries the operational incidents of note over the period with further detail provided in Appendix 1:
 - Persons Reported residential building fire in Blackpool, 5 people rescued.
 - Road Traffic Collision on M65 motorway, Burnley.
 - Rescue of vulnerable female from height in Hyndburn.
 - Hazardous Materials incident in Lancaster.
 - Fatal incident following building collapse in Lancaster.
 - Building explosion in Preston.
 - Road Traffic Collision involving (2x) Light Goods Vehicle on A59, Ribble Valley.
 - Rescue of horse from a ravine in Rossendale.

Business	Risk
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N/A

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 reduced environmental impacts.

Equality and Diversity implications

N/A

Financial Implications

N/A

HR Implications

N/A

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

Paper	Date	Contact
Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate:		

Appendix 1

REPORTING PERIOD: FEBRUARY 2021 - MARCH 2021

NORTHERN AREA (Lancaster and Wyre Districts)

COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	Northern Area
Campaign:	Partnership Engagement
Activities (brief details):	

Lancaster:

Due to the close working relationships with North West Ambulance Service (NWAS) at Lancaster Community Fire Station, a concern was raised by NWAS regarding the living conditions (hoarding) of one of their service users.

During a visit to the property which is a block of purpose-built flats, fire safety enforcement issues were identified. These issues were brought to the attention of the Fire Safety Enforcement Team, who conducted a Fire Safety audit of the property.

Shortly after this the Community Fire Safety team participated in a 'best interests meeting' also attended by Mental Health Safeguarding Team, Community Mental Health Team, Environmental Health, and a Student Social Worker. Discussions took place as to how the various agencies could offer support after it transpired that the occupier had been admitted to Hospital and was temporarily in a Nursing Home.

Arrangements were made through the Social Worker to contact the occupier in order to conduct a modified Home Fire Safety Check, this was completed and approval was given for a full Safe and Well visit to be completed post Covid-19 restrictions.

Other agencies are working with family members to significantly reduced hoarding and associated risks in this property.

Wyre:

Following an attendance by Operational Crews at an incident, concerns were identified as to the living conditions of an individual. The person had history of abusive and aggressive behaviour towards residents in the local community.

Our records indicated a previous refusal of our services by the person concerned. A Community Risk record was placed against the property within our records, highlighting the risks which could be encountered from the occupier, in addition to mobility, anti-social behaviour and mental health aspects.

Following the latest incident, LFRS staff raised their concerns to partner agencies. All partners attended a meeting and an action was raised for Social Services to visit, assess and identify any support that they are able to instigate to assist the occupier. This case highlights how effective the collaboration between staff internally and key partners can be in reducing risk within our communities.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	Lancaster District - Lancaster
Date:	15.02.2021
Time of Call:	19:59
Incident Details: Hazardous Material Incident	

Initially 3 fire engines and one officer (acting as a National Inter Agency Liaison Officer [NILO]) were requested to attend a special service call, the nature was reported to be a hazardous materials incident, with an acid attack on one male.

As Lancaster's crew was leaving the fire station, a police vehicle pulled up on the forecourt. The police informed the crew that they were bringing the victim of the acid attack to the fire station in order to wash the victim down and provide immediate casualty care. The victim arrived within another vehicle and water was applied via the appliance hose reel to the victim's head area, along with the application of eye wash from the Trauma First Aid kit.

As North West Ambulance Service (NWAS) jointly occupy the Fire Station, they were immediately informed of the incident and NWAS staff then took care of the casualty at the station, before transferring him to the Royal Lancaster Infirmary and onwards to the Barrow specialist eye hospital.

The fire engine was then mobilised to assist the duty NILO at scene, where the police and Crime Scene Investigation (CSI) conducted their enquiries.

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	Lancaster District: Morecambe
Date:	10/02/2121
Time of Call:	11:52
Incident Details: Rescue of dog from water	

This incident was a Special Service Call attended by one fire engine and a 4x4 vehicle involving the rescue of one dog from ice.

The dog had run onto the ice chasing a duck and then fallen through, approximately 10 metres from the shore. The pond had been created by flood water on low lying grassland.

The dog's owner had already attempted to enter the water and break through the ice to reach her dog, but failed and fallen back in the water to waist height. One firefighter wearing a Flood Rescue Suit and lifejacket, armed with appropriate equipment, entered the water to break through the ice for the dog to swim/climb to safety. The dog was then speedily recovered back to the bank and reunited with the owner. Safety advice was given at scene to the owner and other dog walkers in the vicinity.

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	Lancaster District - Bolton Le sands
Date:	08/02/2021
Time of Call:	12:54
Incident Details: Building collapse 2 fatalities	

Incident attended by 3 fire engines, Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) team, the Incident Command Unit and several flexi duty officers.

Two adults were trapped underneath 4 tonnes of concrete roofing, after a roof removal they were undertaking went wrong. The crew from Bolton le Sands worked to release the two victims, with the assistance of pumps from Carnforth and Morecambe. USAR from Chorley and Bamber Bridge also attended the incident.

On arrival, crews quickly assessed the scene with NWAS and performed a snatch rescue on the older gentleman using high pressure airbags. The second victim took longer to extricate due to the positioning of the person and the concrete beneath which he was entrapped.

Both casualties were released from the concrete by LFRS personnel, unfortunately one was confirmed deceased at the scene and the second was airlifted to Royal Preston Hospital in a critical condition, but passed away a couple of days later.

LFRS personnel secured the scene and assisted Crime Scene Investigation with evidence gathering and reports.

EASTERN AREA (Blackburn with Darwen, Hyndburn and Ribble Valley)

COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	Eastern Area
Campaign:	Home Fire Safety Checks (HFSC), Roadsense and
	Vaccination Programme
Activities (brief details):	

Blackburn with Darwen:

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 maintenance of existing partnership routes, or following the attendance of crews at incidents.

Our Winter Safety campaign, continued with the distribution of thermometers via our HFSC delivery.

Ribble Valley:

Open fire information leaflets have been refreshed at point of sale outlets throughout the Ribble Valley.

Hyndburn:

The introduction of new ICT software within the Service, has now enabled the delivery of our Roadsense education programme to schools throughout the borough, with positive engagement and feedback from children and teachers involved.

Operational crews, support departments and community fire safety have continued with volunteering at Mass Vaccination sites including Blackburn Cathedral.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	Eastern Area - Hyndburn
Date:	20/02/2021
Time of Call:	01:09
Incident Details: Special Service Call – Rescue of persons from height	

This incident involved a young woman who had climbed through a Velux window and onto the roof of the house, following which she became stuck in a precarious position.

A fire engine and Aerial Ladder Platform (ALP) from Hyndburn attended with a Station Manager to oversee the incident. The ALP was unable to assist the rescue which meant that a traditional rescue with the 13.5m ladder was required.

The crew pitched the ladder in difficult conditions and secured/rescued the casualty. She was virtually unresponsive throughout due to her exposure to inclement weather. This meant that the casualty had to be coached on to the ladder and down to safety. This was a difficult rescue for the individual firefighter, who worked well under pressure to conclude this incident with a safe outcome.

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	Eastern Area – Ribble Valley
Date:	13:21:24
Time of Call:	04/03/2021
Incident Details: Special Service Call – Road Traffic Collision	

Two fire engines from Clitheroe attended a road traffic collision involving two heavy goods vehicles at the junction of Pimlico Link and the A59.

Due to the Urban Search and Rescue team already being out of county, assisting Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service with an incident, the Major Rescue Unit (MRU) from Preston was mobilised as support. Crews utilised the scaffold system on the Major Rescue Unit (MRU) and operated Holmatro cutting equipment in order to carry out the rescue.

LFRS staff released the driver of one of the HGV's, who was treated at the scene by NWAS and transported to hospital. This was a complex and difficult extrication, with crews being on scene for around an hour and a half.

SOUTHERN AREA (Chorley, South Ribble and West Lancashire)

COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	Southern Area
Campaign:	Community Safety
Activities (brief details):	

Chorley:

The team continues delivery of the virtual Road Safety session to year 6 pupils from across Lancashire. Two of the team are members of the delivery group for this project are involved in establishing further virtual delivery sessions for Teen Safe and other educational packages, for use across the Service.

South Ribble:

The Community Fire Safety team has been working with local food banks, in order to ensure the winter safety message and key fire safety messages are shared with the service users of these centres. As part of this work, staff have supplied thermometers to be placed into the food parcels; and cards also provide contact information for the service to ensure people are aware of how to make a Home Fire Safety Check referral.

West Lancashire:

One of the Community Safety Team attended a Community Partnership Talk as a guest speaker, via a virtual platform, during a session on Hoarding. During the session, the panel members were asked three questions about hoarding and the services that are available within the community. As part of this platform, they were able to share how LFRS can provide safety equipment, consider fire safety with the occupant and ensure they become as safe as possible.

This was a great opportunity to share how to make a referral for a HFSC and link in with partner agencies that are working with hoarders across Lancashire.

All Teams:

The Community Fire Safety teams continue to support the vaccination centres, mainly deployed to the Preston site, but willing to support any location as required. One of the team is qualified as a vaccinator, with another member of the team currently training towards this qualification. Three of the other members of the team are supporting marshalling duties, with each member of the team providing two days per week within the centres.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	Southern Area - Chorley
Date:	05/02/2021
Time of Call:	09:07
Incident Details: Commercial Fire	

Two fire engines were mobilised to a fire in a property in Chorley. On arrival the crews found a fire in the ground floor utility room to the rear of a property used as a restaurant/takeaway. Four firefighters wearing breathing apparatus were committed in to the property, identified the fire to have originated from a tumble dryer before spreading to other items within the room. The fire was dealt with using a hose reel, a positive pressure ventilation unit and thermal imaging camera.

Crews remained in attendance for approximately 3 hours, initially dealing with the fire and undertaking fire investigation work. As the property consisted of ground floor (used as the restaurant) plus two upper floors (used as flats), the fire service incident commander requested the attendance of specialist officers from the Protection team. These officers assessed the impact that the fire could have had on the resident's flats above and worked with the owner to ensure the property was safe for continued occupation, whilst repairs were effected to the fire damaged areas.

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	Southern Area - South Ribble
Date:	20/03/21
Time of Call:	12:03
Incident Details: Hazardous Materials incident	

Two fire engines from Leyland and Bamber Bridge and a specialist hazardous materials officer were mobilised to reports of a gas leak on Olympian Way, Leyland.

On arrival the fire crews found a 4x4 type vehicle that had just re-fuelled with LPG at a nearby petrol station and was leaking from underneath. It was identified that the vehicle's tank held 80ltrs of LPG.

Fire crews, along with Lancashire Constabulary worked to establish a 50m safety cordon; this included evacuating a number of nearby homes. In addition, a ground monitor was used to create a fine spray water curtain and control the vapour cloud formed by the leaking LPG.

Fire crews then stood by awaiting the arrival of a specialist LGV vehicle engineer who had the required knowledge and equipment to make the leak safe.

Fire crews were engaged at the incident for approximately seven hours, before the vehicle was made safe and transported by a specialist vehicle recovery contractor. The owner of the vehicle was advised not to use the vehicle again until it had undergone a full inspection.

WESTERN AREA (Blackpool and Fylde Districts)

COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	Western Area
Campaign:	Covid-19 Pandemic Response

Activities (brief details):

Blackpool and Fylde district Community Safety Advisors have been supporting the National Health Service in the delivery of Covid-19 vaccinations in the community.

The team have been an integral part of the Winter Gardens Mass Vaccination site and have been providing Site Lead and marshalling roles thus maintaining a well organised and safe environment for the general public to access the services.

Most recently the team have also been supporting a further vaccination site in South Shore, Blackpool. The team continue to rotate through these sites whilst also managing the HFSC referrals into Western Area.

INCIDENT OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	Western Area - Blackpool
Date	26/02/2021
Time of Call:	15:19
Incident Details: Building Fire, Domestic – Persons Reported	

Two fire engines from Blackpool were mobilised to reports of smoke issuing from the first floor flat of a mid-terraced property. On arrival at the premises, the officer-in-charge quickly established that, although the occupants of the flat in question were not believed to be in the premises, the building actually comprised 6 residential flats and residents of flats on the second floor were trapped due to heavily smoke logged communal areas, preventing their escape.

Two breathing apparatus teams were committed; one to tackle the fire on the first floor and a second to rescue residents trapped on the second floor. An additional pumping appliance from South Shore was also mobilised to the incident.

Crews rescued five people from the building, ranging in ages from 30 to 50 years and Fire Service personnel assisted North West Ambulance staff by administering oxygen therapy to casualties suffering from smoke inhalation. Two casualties were conveyed to hospital via ambulance.

The fire was caused by an electrical fault in a refrigerator, causing it to ignite and then spread to the carpet, floorboards and door frame of the flat. A Station Manager attended and instigated an investigation under the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order by local Protection Officers.

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	Western Area - Fylde
Date:	26/02/2021
Time of Call:	14:51:49
Incident Details: Domestic Property Fire - Sheltered housing	

Crews from St Annes and South Shore were called to a report of a domestic building fire in a kitchen, at a sheltered housing premises. On arrival, crews were faced with a small fire involving batteries in a kitchen drawer, which if not detected early could easily have developed into a serious fire. On this occasion, the property did have working smoke alarms fitted.

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 occupier storing a large quantity of batteries / superglue / household tools etc in drawer beneath a sink drainer. A 9v battery without terminal protectors had come into contact with a metal ruler, resulting in a short circuit between the terminals, which subsequently overheated causing ignition of adjacent cardboard packaging.

Details of the incident were passed to Protection and Prevention 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 and education becomes embedded. In commercial settings, the follow-up work is to ensure the building meets the requirements of the Regulatory Reform (Fire safety) Order. This follow-up activity has been completed with no further issues being identified.

CENTRAL AREA (Preston District)

COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	Central Area - Preston
Campaign:	Ramadan, Vaccinations and Student Safe
Activities (brief details):	

Ramadan: Work is underway to enable support and safety information to be shared within Muslim communities on the lead up to this year's Ramadan. Community Fire Safety staff from both Central and Eastern Areas have been in contact with all local mosques to share advice and information and they have also presented on local radio, providing education associated with the dangers of cooking and hot oil.

Challenges still remain due to the restrictions from COVID, but the contacts have all been set up and information is being shared through social media with an online Microsoft Teams meeting in order to support local communities during the pandemic.

Further information and learning is to be shared via mosques on key fire safety messages within the Muslim community, covering topics such as cooking safety, electrical safety, road safety and the offer of a Home Fire Safety Check.

Vaccinations: Staff from Central CFS have continued with assisting 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.

Student Safe: Work has begun through the recovery phase to establish a uniformed approach for both Central and Northern Area in delivering fire safety information for new students enrolling at the universities. Unwanted Fire Signals statistics for student halls in Preston have been provided and each residence with high activity will receive fire safety input from both CFS and Operational Crews, once the COVID-19 road map allows the reintroduction of face to face activity. Meantime, students will receive fire safety information through the LFRS Studentsafe generic fire safety disc upon enrolment. LFRS has requested that UCLan ensure that every student receives the input as part of their registration and provides numbers of recipients for recording purposes.

INCIDENT OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	Preston
Date:	16/2/2021
Time of Call:	10:39
Incident Details: Explosion – dwelling	

Four fire appliances were mobilised to an explosion in a 2-storey mid terraced dwelling.

The initial crews provided first aid to the occupier before handing him over to the care of the paramedics and Air Ambulance crew that attended. The surrounding area was evacuated by LFRS and police due to concerns over further explosions, the structural stability of the building and surrounding properties.

Fire crews made the scene as safe as possible. Building control and LFRS Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) were requested to attend, in order to establish the extent of the structural damage to the building and neighbouring properties.

A safe working cordon control system was established to monitor LFRS staff and personnel from other agencies in and out of the risk area. Gas supply was isolated initially by LFRS crews, then once the area was deemed safe for them to enter, isolated further by Cadent Gas.

The building was inspected by Local Authority Building Control and USAR, who deemed it structurally safe with substantial cosmetic damage including windows, doors and internal walls being blown out by the blast.

The incident highlighted safe and effective joint working between blue light and local authority partners.

The explosion is believed to have been caused by a gas leak within the property ignited by the occupier when he lit a cigarette.

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	Preston
Date:	11/3/2021
Time of Call:	09:27
Incident Detaile. Denganous atmenture	

Incident Details: Dangerous structure

Crews were mobilised to reports of a handrail 100m long hanging in a dangerous position on top of a mill.

The initial crews recognised the need for additional resources and requested an additional fire appliance, the rope rescue team and an aerial ladder platform (ALP).

The crew utilised rope rescue equipment and the ALP to access and remove the handrail. Police attended for traffic control and to maintain the outer cordon.

The incident was caused by deterioration of brickwork and fixings.

PENNINE AREA (Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale)

COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	Pennine Area
Campaign:	Pennine Mass vaccination sites and Virtual Fire Safety
Activities (brief details):	

Burnley and Pendle:

Since the mass roll out of the Covid-19 vaccination sites* began in December, LFRS staff have teamed up with NHS colleagues to ensure efficient running of the sites. The teams have worked tirelessly and Community Safety staff 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; meeting and greeting Burnley`s most vulnerable people in their 100's each day. Finding such reward in their continued effort, staff have gone forward with the offer to become vaccinators and have embarked on new qualifications, training and skills, whilst endeavouring to join forces with NHS teams to meet the challenge of vaccinating the community.

*St Peters Centre

Rossendale District:

A request from Burnley Prince's Trust Team, to deliver a fire safety session to their team of young people was received into the Pennine Community Fire Safety Office. Rossendale-based Community Safety Advisor's put together a bespoke education package, which contained a range of information including a quiz, which they were able to present over Microsoft Teams.

The cohort received a combination of inputs such as fire science and the roles within the fire services including some information which encompasses part of the fire cadet learning modules, giving insight to the standards and requirements of roles within the service. This was a very successful combined effort, where the 2 departments came together to help shape the future for these young people.

^{*}Town Centre Burnley

INCIDENT OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	Pennine Area - Burnley
Date:	09/03/2021
Time of Call:	08:11
Incident Details: Road Traffic Collision – M65 Westbound, car left carriageway	

Fire engines from both Burnley and Hyndburn were mobilised to an incident on the westbound carriageway of the M65. The incident involved one vehicle that is believed to have been stationary on the hard shoulder before crossing both lanes of traffic and then returning back towards the hard shoulder, riding up the safety barrier and settling between the embankment and bridge, which it had struck before coming to a stop.

LFRS crews were first on scene and took the lead with the casualty care of the two occupants, one male and one female, who were out of the vehicle by this stage. One casualty was conscious and breathing with the second unconscious, but breathing.

Due to the precarious position of the vehicle, crews utilised specialist stabilisation equipment on the car, ensuring no further movement or risk to emergency services on scene.

Liaison was had between emergency responders, which concluded with a request from the Highways Agency to arrange a structural inspection of the bridge due to the impact of a vehicle. Both casualties were conveyed to hospital via road ambulance.

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	Pennine Area - Pendle
Date:	02/03/2021
Time of Call:	15:47
Incident Details: Special Service – Casualty impaled	

A 10-year-old girl was at the park with her mother and had been playing on a climbing frame. On arrival, the crew from Nelson discovered that the girl had become trapped on rope webbing of the climbing frame. NWAS were already in attendance.

The webbing had previously been damaged and had wire intertwined within it to provide strength. The girl had got two lengths of the wire embedded in her finger.

In order to free the girl from the entrapment, crews had to cut the wire ropes using bolt croppers, wire cutters and other pieces of equipment.

The casualty was then taken to hospital by ambulance, with the wires still in her finger, in order for them to be removed.

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	Pennine Area - Rossendale
Date:	21/03/2021
Time of Call:	16:52
Incident Details: Special Service Call: Rescue of Horse from Ravine	

Following the discovery of a horse that had fallen down a ravine into a ditch, a call was made by the owners to request the attendance of LFRS to assist in the rescue of the 5-year old animal.

On arrival, the officer-in-charge realised that the Rope Rescue Team was required and asked for them to be mobilised to the incident.

The Large Animal Rescue team from Nelson also attended, alongside a local vet, who had been called by the horse owner. A full assessment was conducted and the animal was rescued by hoisting it to its feet, assisting the vet and owner to walk the horse out onto firm safe land.

The animal was expected to make a full recovery. The incident lasted around 2 hours before concluding safely.