

LANCASHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: SEPTEMBER – NOVEMBER 2016

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:

BLACKBURN-WITH-DARWEN

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Bright Sparx and Hi-Viz Jackets

As the longer, darker nights set in, Community Safety staff within the Blackburn with Darwen area have been working with the Lancashire Partnership for Road Safety in supporting a local charity to deliver road safety messages to children. This particular project is called “*Keeping Young People in the Town Safe*” and is being delivered alongside the Inter Madrassah Organisation (IMO) charity at 10 Madrassahs in the area.

So far, presentation and workshops have been delivered to around 1800 children and have covered issues around looking for safe crossing places, identifying dangerous crossing points and how to be seen.

Each child received a new high-viz jacket as part of the workshop and parents across the borough are being advised to make sure their children wear the high-viz jacket when going to and from school/madrassah during the winter months.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Incident: Commercial Fire
Date: 15 November 2016
Time of Call: 00:29

LFRS attended a fire involving an engineering property in Blackburn. Upon arrival of two appliances from Blackburn, smoke could be seen issuing from the building. Fire Service personnel made attempts to gain access to extinguish the fire, but this proved to be very difficult due to heavy-duty metal doors and security padlocks throughout. Crews had to utilise the “Partner Saw” to cut through the metal security measures in an attempt to gain access to the industrial unit.

Due to the risk of fire spreading to adjoining buildings, the Incident Commander had covering jets and breathing apparatus teams in place to protect adjacent buildings. A total of six additional fire engines and an aerial ladder platform were requested to tackle the fire. The newly commissioned LFRS Aerial Support Unit (drone) was used to good effect, enhancing the safety of personnel by identifying the parts of the building that were most affected by fire and the spread of the fire, which was not otherwise visible from the incident ground; also the location and involvement (or otherwise) of cylinders contained in the unit.

This incident is a good example of the use of the wide range of LFRS equipment and expertise in gaining access, dealing with fires and enhancing firefighter safety.

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SUMMARY REPORT FOR:**BLACKPOOL****LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)****Bonfire Safety – ‘Design A Poster’**

As part of our Bonfire Safety Campaign in the Western area, we have established collaboration with Sainsbury’s and invited all Blackpool Primary Schools to participate in our “Bright Sparx” Design a Poster Competition. There were no constraints placed on the content of the posters being designed, other than bonfire and firework safety, and the children were encouraged to let their creativity run wild. The entries were split by age into four categories, and the closing date for entries was Friday, 11 November. We received a fabulous response. Operational Crews and Community Fire Safety team members looked through hundreds of posters offering some fantastic firework safety tips and showcasing vast amounts of glitter, pipe cleaners, paint and sparkle. We were all impressed by the level of firework and bonfire safety knowledge covered by the children in the posters.

The initiative was very well supported by Sainsbury’s who donated some fabulous prizes for the winner and runner up in each category and an engraved shield for the winning school. Sainsbury’s also displayed our firework safety literature and posters in-store on the run up to bonfire night, providing as much information as possible for our local community. The competition culminated in a presentation evening at Blackpool Fire Station, for the winners and their families, and a demonstration on the drill yard hosted by Red Watch. This was an enjoyable evening with an informative element, which also strengthens our links with the local community and local businesses. Sainsbury’s Blackpool is intending to display as many of the entries as possible in their front window.

Winter Warmth

Our Winter Warmth Campaign has started with a very worthy recipient. We received a call from a partner agency advising an elderly couple living in Blackpool had recently had their boiler condemned and were left without both heating and hot water.

One of our Community Fire Safety Advisors visited the couple that day. The couple were both sat downstairs, wrapped in a duvet. Although the electric fire was not in use they were huddled around the appliance and were using the electric light from the faux effect coals as a source of comfort.

Fortunately the Community Protection Manager for Western Area had allocated a portion of the Community Fire Safety budget to purchase several oil filled radiators. These would be issued via strict criteria, due to the high cost of each unit. Other partners within Western Area have been approached, in order to gain support - both for financial assistance and referral pathways. Our Advisor issued an oil filled radiator, safe and warm pack, fleece blankets, room thermometer and fire retardant blanket. We also offered signposting advice and made referrals to Age UK and Social Services for benefit checks, support with services and for any safeguarding concerns. Appointments were made on behalf of the couple with Cosy Homes who arranged to visit. Cosy Homes are able to offer advice and check for eligibility to funding for energy related improvements. We later received a heartfelt telephone call from a very grateful, vulnerable member of the community and another call of thanks from one of our partner agencies.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)**Incident: Fire in Multi-Occupied Industrial Unit- Blackpool****Date: 06 October 2016****Time of Call: 16:40 hrs**

Operational Crews were deployed to a fire in an industrial unit in the centre of Blackpool. Blackpool Central Crews attended and it soon became apparent that the crew was faced with a rapidly developing fire. The fire had started in the ground floor workshop of a multi-occupied manufacturing building and was spreading with some speed to the first floor. Crews requested the attendance of another four pumps and an aerial ladder platform. There is a residential flat on the first floor above the unit. This flat was also now on fire and at this point, it was not clear if the occupiers were in the flat, and if so, whether they were trapped.

Crews from South Shore attended and were committed, in breathing apparatus, to search for any persons that may be trapped. Firefighting continued, and due to the unusual configuration of rooms, the sheer amount of belongings and combustible items within the flat, crews had to remove some of the contents before they were able to locate the fire. The fire was extinguished and crews were able to confirm that the flat was unoccupied at that time.

Electricity North West arrived at the scene and in the first instance isolated the electricity supply to all four streets surrounding the incident. They were then able to dig down and cut the supply to the building involved. Working together, LFRS, the Police and Blackpool Council provided assistance and support to all those affected by the incident.

The cause of fire was determined to be the electrical intake units which had caused an electrical fault. There were several other complications at this incident; the flat above had an annexe which contained several hundred exotic birds. In conjunction with the RSPCA, a tactic of providing ventilation via the fire crew's ventilation fans was instigated.

Another factor was the complex needs of some of the residents in the street which had no power. A swift multi-agency approach with the Police and local council took place, which resulted in a priority phasing of restoring power and back-up generators. North West Ambulance Service were also utilised to provide reassurance.

Over the course of the following day and the weekend, a multi-agency team of Operational Crews, the Community Fire Safety Team and the Fire Safety Enforcement Team from Western Area, delivered reassurance work in the local area. Fire Safety Enforcement prohibited use of the upstairs flat within the commercial building and the Community Fire Safety Team worked with the occupier and Social Services to provide support.

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

Ageing Safe and Well Day

Community Fire Safety teams within Lancashire Fire and Rescue have a long and successful history of prevention and early intervention. By working in partnership with other organisations, our expertise and experience in prevention can contribute to the wider health and wellbeing agenda. With this in mind, the Community Fire Safety department for the Pennine area thought it was appropriate to showcase the services and resources available locally and within the Lancashire district, to support our older population on health and wellbeing and to promote a change in behaviours to help sustain their long term independence. The day took place in November and was called “*Ageing Safe and Well Day*” and was attended by approximately 50 members of the community.

Presentations were given by the Falls Team on the importance of avoiding potential hazards around the home environment and being prepared should a person have a fall. The Community Fire Safety Team delivered a winter safety presentation, highlighting dangers of using portable heaters, electric blankets and leaving cooking unattended. We were also very fortunate in having a General Practitioner (GP) as a special guest speaker from a local medical practice, talking around the subject of utilising GP services, and the benefits that Pharmacists can play “prevention is better than cure”. The crews also demonstrated a “persons reported” house fire rescue on the drill ground, whereby attendees were narrated through the scenario and stressing the importance of having a fire plan.

The key messages were broadcast via social media. BBC Radio Lancashire also covered the event with interviews of various speakers and members of the community, before broadcasting them during the ‘*Drive Time*’ programme for maximum coverage. The event was deemed a great success and positive feedback has been received by guests and agencies that were involved.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Incident: Late Fire Call
Date: 11 October 2016
Time of Call: 17:37

Upon arrival, there wasn't a fire, but approximately 15 mins prior to the Fire Service attending, there had been an incident involving a candle and some clothing, resulting in a lady suffering burns to both her legs, from the knees downwards.

First aid was administered by Fire Service personnel and she was further treated by Paramedics. The lady was then transferred to Royal Blackburn Hospital by ambulance for further treatment.

The incident was caused by a lit candle situated on the fireplace hearth. The candle in question was a fragrant ‘Yankee Candle’ and the lady was in close proximity to the candle

wearing a long dress reaching down to the floor. Other occupants in the house witnessed what had happened and doused her with water and removed her clothes. The lady suffered first degree burns to her legs and was not kept in hospital.

With this incident, it takes the total to three casualties from clothes being too close to a naked flame in Pennine Area, in what the Fire Service is calling 'Loose Clothing' Fires. All three casualties are female, 11 years old, 44 years old and 47 years old. All three ladies were wearing long dresses, two made from cotton and one from polyester synthetic material. Two ladies are from the Asian heritage and one from Irish heritage. Only one lady was wearing traditional Asian dress, the other two were wearing western style summer dresses. There is ongoing prevention work throughout the Pennine Area to highlight the potential dangers of loose clothing fires; such as a Facebook video that was viewed 28,600 times.

These incidents have also resulted in staff arranging a 'Ladies Conference on Loose Clothing' to be held in December 2016 (date to be confirmed) at Burnley Fire Station. Since starting organising the conference, we have learned of two other incidents that have gone unreported. One involved a lady's hair catching fire and one was a hijab (head scarf) catching fire. Yet again, by lit candles.

A female Islamic Iman/Scholar from a local Mosque is assisting the Fire Service and is helping to break down the perceived barrier of trust and insecurities of the community with agencies working in the community.

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SUMMARY REPORT FOR:

CHORLEY

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Open Day

Chorley Fire Station held their annual open day on Saturday, 29 October. The event gave the hundreds of visitors the opportunity to see all parts of the Fire Station and the specialist equipment housed in the Urban Search And Rescue garages. The open day was supported by a number of different partners including the Police, the Army's medic team, the Blood Bikes, Halfords, Chorley Advanced Motorists and Bay Search and Rescue. Chorley Advanced Motorists were demonstrating one of the Service's Crashed Cars and explaining the dangers of driving under the influence of alcohol and driving whilst still over the limit the morning afterward and crews from Chorley and St. Anne's demonstrated a rope rescue drill. Approximately £300 was raised for the FireFighters Charity through selling items from a 'shop in a box'.

Winter Safety

As part of a Winter Safety Campaign, a number of initiatives were held in Chorley. One was helping people check they are on the right gas and electric tariffs so they can heat their homes more efficiently and at a lower cost. The Community Safety Team and Lancashire Wellbeing Service worked with a 'knit-and-natter' group at Euxton Library and through using USwitch, the entire group were provided with tariffs which would save them between £30 and £250 per year. Local primary school children were asked to create a poster giving advice on one or more of the '*Top 10 Tips to Keep Snug, Warm and Well this Winter*'. There were winners and runners up from three age categories; reception, years 1 and 2; years 3 and 4; and years 5 and 6. The overall winner was from Withnell Fold with a poster telling people to be 'as snug as a bug in a rug'. All the winners and runners up were invited to Chorley Fire Station for a presentation and an opportunity to look around the Fire Station.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Incident: Primary Fire
Date: 11 November 2016
Time of Call: 09:30

Crews were called to an incident involving a first floor flat over a convenience store and hairdressing salon on Park Road in Chorley. The fire was caused by a candle in a shrine lit by the occupier. The candle ignited a photograph, melted it and in turn spread fire to the unit below. The occupier then discovered fire on her return to the shrine and raised the alarm. The damage was severe by fire to the shrine and first floor front common room. All occupiers evacuated the premise safely. Fire Safety Enforcement was notified of concerns regarding building regulations and fire safety.

Incident: Primary Fire
Date: 27 September 2016
Time of Call: 14:11

One appliance from Chorley and one from Bamber Bridge were mobilised to a fire involving an industrial iron/laundry press in a commercial laundry. The workforce had evacuated the building, prior to the arrival of the Crews. The machine - a large heated roller which irons and dries sheets by rolling the sheet over a steam heated bed - was situated in a large open plan workspace with a number of other laundry machines. An unknown fault, either electrical or friction, resulted in a small lint fire which possibly led to the failure of an oil seal which then ignited and spread the fire. A number of small smouldering lint fires had spread to various parts of the machine which was stripped down and inspection hatches removed by engineers to allow water from a leader pack to be applied.

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SUMMARY REPORT FOR:

FYLDE

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Early Action

Fylde Community Fire Safety Advisors are an integral part of the Fylde Early Action Meetings. Following on from the success of this and the valuable work targeted at vulnerable people, it was agreed that the team would introduce a multi-agency approach to identify vulnerable buildings and potentially other vulnerable occupants.

To this purpose, a team of Police, Fylde Council Housing Enforcement, Fylde Environmental Protection, LFRS Community Fire Safety Advisors and LFRS Fire Safety Enforcement was formed. This team approach covers any concerns in relation to the property, the person themselves and the immediate neighbourhood and surrounding community. Police are able to assist with aspects of anti-social behaviour and provide reassurance, the Council provide much needed advice in relation to properties and landlords obligations and LFRS provide protection and prevention advice. This campaign also provides the opportunity to offer signposting information and to make referrals on behalf of residents.

Takeaway Project

Another project recently piloted in St. Anne's is a council-led initiative which targets specific commercial businesses and the properties above them. Fylde Council and Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service are working collaboratively to identify properties - particularly fast food outlets - that may not comply with regulations and fire safety enforcement legislation.

The first phase of this project has been delivered and following successful feedback and evaluation, a second strand of visits is to be completed. In the future, this is likely to involve Electricity North West, who will be interested in any potential electricity thefts from bi-passed electricity.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Incident: Fire
Date: 02 November 2016
Time of Call: 14:45

Operational Crews from W36 attended an unusual incident involving a fire in a bathroom at a property in St Anne's. Crews arrived to discover a severe fire that had started at approximately 14:30. The bathroom had been in use between ten and fifteen minutes prior to the fire being discovered. One of the occupiers heard unusual noises coming from the first floor of the property and went up to investigate.

The bathroom did not contain any gas or electric appliances other than a bathroom light and a shaving socket, which were not being used at the time. There was no evidence of any candles being used and no other possible sources of ignition were identified.

The extent of the damage was recorded as severe by fire and heat to the bathroom itself and spread of smoke was light to both the ground floor and the attic. The cause of the fire itself remains unknown.

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REPORTING PERIOD: SEPTEMBER – NOVEMBER 2016

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	HYNDBURN
LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)	
<p><u>Bright Sparx and Transforming Lives</u></p> <p>During early October, operational staff identified an emerging trend in the Hyndburn Road and Portland Street area near to the Matalan store. By mid-October, incidents in the area had increased and an action plan was put in place. Additional information from the Police identified that the area was also an anti-social behaviour hotspot.</p> <p>Using Operational crews, Community Fire Safety, Fire Safety Enforcement and the Prince's Trust team, the following actions were taken :-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operational crews carried out daily Environmental Visual Audit (EVA) while Community Safety staff worked closely with Neighbourhood Policing teams to provide details of incidents, which in turn provided a FIRES education pathway for the young people associated with fire setting in the area. • Fire Safety Enforcement staff carried out an inspection at Matalan and advised on amending their waste management and security, so as to reduce the opportunity for waste cardboard / plastics stored in the yard to be used as fuel. • Operational crews and Prince's Trust team carried out a leaflet drop and advised householders on how to minimise the risk from anti-social behaviour fires over the bonfire period. Community Fire Safety team members are now embedded within the newly formed Transforming Lives Panel which meets monthly and provides up to date information and resources for those families and older people who are requiring the most help from agencies throughout the Borough. 	

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SUMMARY REPORT FOR:

LANCASTER

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Older Person's Day

As part of Fire Safety Week and to mark Older Person's Day, Northern Community Safety Advisors held a multi-agency information event for local partner agencies. The aim of the event was to update agencies on the Home Fire Safety Check (HFSC) offered by Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service and advise them on the resources available to help reduce the risk of fires in the home and reduce the impact of cold as winter approaches on their vulnerable clients.

Invitations were issued to 20 local agencies inviting staff to come along to learn more about the interventions and equipment offered by LFRS and to discuss how we can assist them when considering the needs and risks of the people they work with.

The event began with a short presentation explaining the rationale behind the HFSC and the Safe and Warm Campaign. Agencies were then offered the opportunity to view the variety of prevention equipment offered by LFRS and to ask any questions.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Incident: Fire
Date: 27 October 2016
Time of Call: 12:45

The call related to a Persons Reported flat fire at Lancaster University. Upon arrival, the Officer in Charge established quickly that all persons were accounted for, and a bathroom on the fourth floor of the building was involved in fire.

A team of four firefighters wearing breathing apparatus with a hose reel were committed to firefighting operations.

Upon investigation, the cause of the fire was found to be the occupier of the flat who had been burning a Mugwort stick, which is a traditional Chinese alternative medicine practice known as Moxibustion. The stick mistakenly had not been fully extinguished and was placed in laundry bag. The smouldering stick eventually ignited surrounding linen, resulting in fire damage to the bathroom and smoke damage remainder of flat.

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SUMMARY REPORT FOR:

PENDLE

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Bright Sparx / Loose Clothing

Community fire safety staff and crews in Nelson were involved in the delivery of a Bright Sparx initiative, incorporating the firework safety code during the talk, which was delivered to over 120 members of the Pendle community on the run up to bonfire night.

A loose clothing demonstration was also re-enacted using a mannequin at Nelson Fire Station. The critical message, urging members of the community to remember the words, "*Stop, Drop and Roll*". People were informed that flames will not propagate up the body if you fall onto the floor, and will smother it through rolling, therefore minimising those injuries and prevent such tragic injuries occurring in the first place. It is clearly very concerning that there has been an increase in these types of incidents and so we are keen to raise as much awareness of the issue as possible, particularly in our Asian communities where this type of loose fitting garment is often worn, but not forgetting that loose clothing incidents can affect all members of society and ensuring that the messages were delivered appropriately. Clothing can ignite much more easily and quickly than people may realise, this is exacerbated if a person has health or mobility issues and they could be in real danger of serious injury if their clothing does catch fire. Community Fire Safety teams have also cascaded the information via a local radio station, explaining that very serious injuries have occurred in recent months and provided some safety information to help prevent further incidents.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Incident: Emergency Special Services Call
Date: 21 November 2016
Time of Call: 22:48

During the recent spell of adverse weather, with strong winds and heavy rain, crews were mobilised to an electricity pylon that had been blown over. This resulted in the electricity cables sparking and arcing across each other as the pylon was on the ground and still live. Crews consulted the tactical guidance documents on the appliance mobile data terminal and determined the control measures that needed to be implemented, to ensure the safety of the crew and the community. A cordon was put into place around the pylon and contact made with the electricity company, via control, to arrange for an engineer to attend and isolate the power and also arrange to have the pylon re-sited and fastened back down.

Due to the location of the pylon and given the time of night and weather conditions, the incident required the attending crews to take extra care whilst trekking across open fields. The Officer in Charge spoke with the power company on arrival and a detailed handover was provided to them in order to resolve the incident safely and effectively.

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SUMMARY REPORT FOR:

PRESTON

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Re-Start a Heart Day

During the month of October, North West Ambulance Service (NWAS) was promoting Re-Start a Heart Day into many schools throughout Lancashire. Lancashire Fire and Rescue and other partner agencies supported this campaign. The Community Fire Safety Team and Crews at Preston and Fulwood attended two schools who took part in the event, Christ the King and Fulwood Academy.

Fire Cadets Preston

Preston's Fire Cadet Unit have recently held their induction presentation. Prevention Support Manager, Jane Williams, attended the Fire Station to present certificates and pin badges. The Cadets have been working hard this term and with the brilliant help of the various watches at Preston, they have learnt a lot about fire safety which has enabled them to complete their induction module.

The Cadets have been practising their drills, mounting the appliances and have even been in the smoke house. All the Cadets have made a really good start and are showing their teamwork skills with Crew Managers in development, both Crew Managers are taking leadership roles and being responsible for a watch each.

Multi-Agency Information Sharing

White Watch and Community Fire Safety staff at Preston Fire Station recently held a multi-agency information sharing morning. The aim was to remind our partner agencies about our Home Fire Safety Visits, showcase the equipment that can be issued and introduce the new Safe and Well Visits. We also used this opportunity to re-launch our Keep Safe and Warm bags, which prompted several partners to offer new leaflets and booklets to be included in them.

Approximately fifteen agencies attended on the day, and as it was found to be so mutually beneficial, that another will be arranged for early in the New Year. Several partner agencies are also coming back to the station to deliver short presentations on their work and ways they may be able to help our service users. These will be arranged so all other watches are also involved.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)**Incident: Commercial Fire****Date: 19 October 2016****Time of Call: 12:55**

The call related to a generator room fire at the Royal Preston Hospital (RPH). On arrival, it was confirmed that a generator was involved in fire and two firefighters wearing breathing apparatus were committed to fight the fire with a hose reel.

At this point Lancashire Fire and Rescue liaised with RPH staff to implement the emergency action plan, taking into account the wider implications regarding the need to ensure the safety of patients and staff and ensuring the treatments of patients was not affected by the fire putting them at risk. Key areas were evacuated based upon the potential risk to occupants.

As crews tackled the fire it became evident that the fire had now spread through ducting, away from the generator and was at risk of spreading quickly through the ducting system to other parts of the hospital.

At 16:16 the fire was brought under control and the spread through the ducting was stopped by crews. Once the fire was extinguished, LFRS staff liaised with the hospital management team to identify which areas were now safe enough for patients to return and it was declared that normal working operations could be resumed within the hospital.

External engineers attended the site and made the generator safe, but the ducting could not be purged through the ducting due to concerns over residual heat. The tactical decision was made to further monitor the residual heat and the incident was left open for further inspection.

Following further monitoring by the hospital staff and LFRS staff, the incident was closed the following morning.

Incident: Road Traffic Accident – Persons Trapped**Date: 02 November 2016****Time of Call: 01:15**

The call related to reports of a Road Traffic Collision - persons trapped on Ribbleton Lane. On arrival, the crews were faced with one female occupant trapped in the vehicle that had collided head on with a tree, having lost control of the vehicle.

The lady was suffering from major upper-body trauma and entrapment within the vehicle. The ambulance was not yet in attendance and crews had to commence first aid treatment of the occupant. Crews were faced with the need to work quickly to free the occupant to give her the best chance of survival from the major trauma she had suffered. Working closely with the paramedics the crews utilised Holmatro cutting equipment to free the lady from entrapment and to remove the roof from the vehicle.

Following a difficult and challenging extrication of the lady, crews and paramedics were able to remove her from the vehicle on a spinal board and she was conveyed to hospital as swiftly as possible. Due to the efforts and professionalism of attending crews it took 38 mins from time of arrival to passing the lady into the ambulance.

Incident: Special Service Call
Date: 17 November 2016
Time of Call: 09:21

This call related to a request to assist a female in a confined space and suffering severe back pain.

On arrival, the Officer in Charge of the appliance liaised with North West Ambulance Service (NWAS) staff, who stated that the lady was in severe pain in the upstairs front bedroom. The removal of the lady from the bedroom was proving difficult due to the confined staircase within the property and the nature of her injuries. Attending crews devised an operational plan and agreed with paramedics that should attempts to remove her via the stairs fail, then an alternative method would need to be considered. The decision was made for two firefighters and the Flexi Duty Officer to return to C50 to collect the Ariel Ladder Platform (ALP). It had been discussed and agreed that the best alternative would be to utilise the ALP by removing the upstairs window and taking the lady out of the property that way. This would ensure that the patient was kept as comfortable as possible and that the safest possible method of extrication was used by means of a basket stretcher and cage platform. Once on the ground, the lady was transferred to the ambulance and conveyed to hospital. The window was then replaced by Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service prior to leaving the incident.

By liaising with the paramedics and providing mutual assistance through NWAS the incident was resolved with limited resource impact on NWAS and is also ensured that the patient suffered as little discomfort as possible.

Incident: Deliberate Commercial Fire
Date: 17 September 2016
Time of Call: 07:35

This call related to a fire involving wooden storage shed at rear of a main school building. At the time, the shed was being used to store paper and cardboard construction materials. No other part of the school was involved. On arrival of Fire Service personnel, the entire shed was involved in fire.

Investigations determined that the fire started inside the structure and was caused by the introduction of a naked flame to the contents.

Due to the suspicious nature of the fire, the Police attended and were carrying out door to door enquiries as there had been reports of youths in the area of the school.

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SUMMARY REPORT FOR:

RIBBLE VALLEY

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Hot Strike, Openfire/Wood Burners Campaign and Transforming Lives

A hot strike was carried out in Chatburn over three days following a fatal fire on the morning of 24 October 2016. This community reassurance activity carried out by the local Retained unit at Clitheroe and Community Fire Safety staff, resulted in all properties linking into the Ribble Lane area of the village receiving direct engagement on fire safety. Local shops also allowed the team to hand out leaflets to the wider village population. Home Fire Safety Checks are still being generated in the area and appointments are continuing to be booked into the New Year.

Prominent garage forecourts and solid fuel suppliers throughout the district are displaying posters and leaflets which identify the hazards around storing fuel next to wood burners, and the consequences of not having chimneys swept.

Community Fire Safety team members are now embedded within the newly formed Transforming Lives panel which meets every six weeks and provides up to date information and resources for those families and older people who are requiring the most help from agencies throughout the borough.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Incident: Domestic Fire
Date: 16 November 2016
Time of Call: 23:29

The call followed a fire in the mains electrical box. This was caused by a broken gutter which had been leaking water down the front face of the house, and over time it has penetrated to the internal wall and on to the mains electric cable causing it to short-circuit and overheat, causing fire damage to the cable and fuse box with smoke damage to the room of origin.

On arrival the elderly owner of the property was walking back towards the house after calling at a neighbour's to ask them to ring LFRS as he has no access to a phone. He lives alone and was very confused and out of breath. LFRS staff assessed his oxygen levels in his blood and undertook first aid until he was conveyed to hospital by ambulance.

LFRS called for North West electricity to isolate the electrics at the substation because the fire damage made it impossible to isolate the supply at the property safely.

LFRS fitted two smoke alarms as there were none fitted within the premises, and referred this person to the Community Fire Safety team to provide additional support for the occupant.

When the gentleman was released from hospital a member of our staff had arranged to give

him a lift to the train station, as he was going to stay with his sister until the necessary repairs were completed.

This demonstrates the very personal relationship between our Retained units and the community they serve.

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SUMMARY REPORT FOR:

ROSSENDALE

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Restart a Heart Day

The European Resuscitation Council (ERC) is driving an education programme aiming to target secondary school children in Basic life support (BLS) and recognition of Cardiac Arrest. The UK Resuscitation Council is currently guided by the ERC and their resuscitation activities are reviewed every five years.

It is considered that a greater collaborative approach involving UK Fire and Rescue Services, along with British Red Cross, St John's Ambulance, The (ACE) Association of Ambulance Executives and The British Heart Foundation will aid in the above aim. Discussions were held with North west Ambulance Service (NWAS) considering a regional approach involving partners from the above attendees.

An initiative began which was held in October and it is suggested that it continues annually in October, under the banner of '*Restart a Heart Day*'. This year, Pennine Community Fire Safety were assisting a Community First Responder in a Rossendale school where Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) training and demonstrations using mannequins were given to 205 pupils throughout the day. It was deemed a success and the school involved were extremely pleased with the outcomes from the day. The collaboration of Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service and other agencies at this event has helped to promote cardiac arrest knowledge and understanding in the young people of our communities. This knowledge will be taken forward and will aid in the potential reduction of fatalities through early recognition and intervention. By taking this joint approach, the students engaged will benefit from exposure to multi-agency partnership working, as well as the contribution made by volunteers and will gain a greater understanding of the services and the work that we do.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Incident: Special Service Call

Date: 22 October 2016

Time of Call: 15:37

A nine year old child was playing with friends on grassland across from his house in Bacup. As he was running along a wall approximately 1.8 metres above ground, he tripped and fell the 1.8m onto grass. This resulted in a fracture to his right arm and impaling his right leg just below the knee onto rebar (short steel metal spikes left over from construction) that were sticking out of the ground approximately 300mm.

The impalement was stabilised by Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service and immediate medical assistance given by LFRS crews until arrival of NWAS. Then, working in close conjunction with the air ambulance doctor and paramedic, a tactical plan was developed and his leg was removed from the rebar at scene. He was carried the short distance to Air

Ambulance by LFRS staff and flown to Royal Blackburn Hospital. The rebar remaining in the ground was removed by Fire Service personnel utilising the power saw, for safety and to prevent further accidents.

The casualty came into station a couple of days after the incident to thank the Crews, he had significant injuries and still requires a lengthy rehabilitation.

LANCASHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: SEPTEMBER – NOVEMBER 2016

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:

SOUTH RIBBLE

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Bright Sparx

South Ribble's annual Bright Sparx poster competition was held in the lead up to Bonfire Night and gave local children the opportunity to produce a poster to show - not only the dangers of fireworks and bonfires - but also how exciting they can be when they are done safely. Almost 800 entries were received from 13 schools and the presentation is due to be held in mid-December with colleagues from South Ribble Council and the Police attending, as well as the winners and their families. Operational staff and the Community Fire Safety team delivered the Bright Sparx education package to 4,842 pupils at Worden Academy, Wellfield High School, Leyland St Marys, Balshaws C of E High, Walton Le Dale High, Lostock Hall Academy, Bishop Rawstone, Larches Short Stay and Westmoreland. Crews from all over South Ribble only attended one recorded bonfire incident during that time, so it was another hugely successful year for the Bright Sparx campaign.

Restart a Heart

On 18 October 2016, Crews and Community Fire Safety Team members attended local high schools with personnel from North West Ambulance Service, British Red Cross, St John's Ambulance, The Association of Ambulance Executives (ACE) and The British Heart Foundation (BHF) to take part in the North West Restart a Heart Day. The aim was to train 100,000 young people nationally how to perform hands-only CPR with 40,000 students from 85 schools taking part in the North West. The reason behind training young people is due to the low levels (1 in 10) of people surviving a cardiac arrest outside of hospital. In places where they train people, the numbers surviving can be as high as 4 in 10. In South Ribble, Wellfield High School and Balshaw C of E High School signed up to be part of the event and over 1,400 students received the training. The event is due to happen annually and Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service intend to play a part in the event next year.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Incident: Primary Fire
Date: 14 September 2016
Time of Call: 15:48

Crews were mobilised to a fire involving a large HGV crane that was coming off the slip road off the M65 motorway. On arrival, the crane was well alight at the rear of the driver's cab. The driver had reported loss of power coming off the motorway. He then smelt burning and tried to extinguish the fire with a dry powder extinguisher, unsuccessfully. Firefighters used two breathing apparatus sets to extinguish the fire. Two loud explosions occurred which were due to large pressured wheels being involved in the fire and blowing off their rims. The fire was believed to have been caused accidentally by an electrical fault at the rear of the cab and it is believed that hydraulic fluid was responsible for the fire development. The vehicle was severely damaged - 80% by fire and 20% by heat.

Incident: Primary Fire
Date: 28 October 2016
Time of Call: 04:07

Crews were mobilised to reports of a persons reported fire at a domestic property in the early hours of the morning. When firefighters arrived at the scene, they found the ground floor of the property well alight, but that all persons were accounted for. Six Firefighters wearing breathing apparatus used three hose reels and two ventilation units to begin to tackle the fire – however, were soon pulled back to allow an aerial ladder platform to be used in tackling the fire, as it had spread to the roof of the property. Firefighters were able to extinguish the fire and the number of appliances at the scene was reduced to one fire engine and an aerial ladder platform. The fire is believed to have started in the conservatory and potential sources of origin included an electrical heater and wiring to an external flood light that was recently faulty. All occupants left the property by the front door.

LANCASHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: SEPTEMBER – NOVEMBER 2016

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	WEST LANCASHIRE
LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)	
<p><u>Student Safe</u></p> <p>As part of the successful and ongoing partnership between Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service's Community Fire Safety (CFS) Team and Edge Hill University, the CFS Team recently completed another year of their "Studentsafe" programme during September 2016. Studentsafe is a package designed by the CFS Team and developed with the help of the University media team and includes a 10 minute video that is shown and discussed with all new first-year students moving into university halls in Ormskirk, West Lancashire. This year, the university campus has grown again and the CFS Team gave face-to-face fire safety advice to over 2,700 students over four nights, with the help of the Campus Life Team. As well as the video, the CFS Team discussed important information such as escape plans, false activations and malicious calls. The events have been a huge success since their inception 9 years ago. The CFS Team also attended the University's Freshers Fayre and as all students were given fire safety advice only days previously through the Studentsafe package, it was decided to provide students with road safety advice. One of the Wasted Lives vehicles – Dan's Car (Almost Home) was used to promote the dangers of drink driving or getting into a vehicle with someone who has been drinking. Over 750 people were directly given advice and information with an estimated 2,000 passers-by also seeing the vehicle on their way to the fayre in the University Hub. Students were also given the dangers of using mobile phones when driving, speeding and drug driving, all in the hope of increasing awareness and reducing the numbers of KSI (killed or seriously injured) on Lancashire's roads.</p> <p><u>Bright Sparx</u></p> <p>The annual GO4IT event was held at Skelmersdale Fire Station on 3 and 4 November from 17:00 to 20:00. The event, which is in its 8th year is designed to encourage young people to engage in meaningful activities thus reducing the number of anti-social behaviour fires as well as general criminality in the Skelmersdale area. Over the two nights, a total of 176 young people attended, these were aged between 6 and 18. This year, activities were provided by an events company and included pulsar laser quest, bouncy boxing, wipeout simulator, beat the keeper football challenge and fun fair stalls. Wigan Athletics' 'In the Community' provided coaching sessions for local young people using Lancashire Fire and Rescue Services' (LFRS) mobile soccer cage. The event was funded by the Community Safety Partnership and was supported by the Wellbeing, Prevention and Early Help Service and Lancashire Police. Donations of prizes for the young people were given by Great Bear and Walkers and free food was provided for all those in attendance by staff from the Evermoor Hub. The event was a tremendous success as during the 2 evenings, there were no incidents attended by LFRS and the social media coverage reached over 2,000 people.</p> <p>During the Bright Sparx period, the Community Fire Safety Team and operational crews delivered the Bright Sparx education package, jointly with Lancashire Police, to all the high schools in the Skelmersdale Area. Every student received information about the consequences associated with anti-social behaviour, deliberate fire setting and misuse of fireworks. During this period, there were only 9 recorded incidents and through further evaluation, no recorded injuries.</p>	

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Incident: Special Service
Date: 16 November 2016
Time of Call: 09:49

A report came in from a security guard of St Joseph's Conference Centre, College Road, Up Holland, which is a former Catholic Seminary, of a building collapse and after hearing what he thought was a scream, it was thought there were persons trapped inside.

One pump from Skelmersdale, one from Wigan, one from Ormskirk and the Urban Search and Rescue Team attended the incident and on arrival there were no obvious signs of collapse. However, there was historic evidence of collapse. Entry was gained to the building and a systematic search was undertaken of each floor, no persons were found inside the property. Access to the roof of the property proved to be very difficult, therefore the air support unit was called upon to carry out a search of the property, which again resulted in no persons being found.

LANCASHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: SEPTEMBER – NOVEMBER 2016

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:

WYRE

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Fleetwood Firework Extravaganza

This year's Firework Extravaganza was again held at Mount and Marine Hall Gardens and was attended by numbers in the region of 10,000. The public were entertained to the sounds of a local band, characters from this year's Christmas Panto at Marine Hall, and the grand finale of a professional firework display.

Once again, the event has been contributory to maintaining a safe Bonfire Night in the Fleetwood Area, incidents were well below average for the weekend activity, with zero incidents relating to bonfire and anti-social behaviour involving fireworks during this period.

This is a partnership event involving Fleetwood Rotary, Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service, Police, Regenda Housing, Wyre Borough Council and Fleetwood Town Council.

Preesall Fire Cadets attended the event and received an invitation to the VIP reception to meet the Mayor of Wyre and other special guests.

The President of Fleetwood Rotary commented '*We had a magnificent event where the Councils, Services and Organisations of our Town came together as volunteers to put this extravaganza for all to enjoy. What a superb way of showing what the true community spirit of the town can achieve when we all work together*'.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Incident: Road Traffic Collision
Date: 10 November 2016
Time of Call: 14:08hrs

Two fire appliances were initially mobilised to a road traffic collision on Belmont Road, Fleetwood. Upon arrival, the Officer in Charge was confronted with a vehicle which had collided into the front of two terraced properties, causing structural damage. It was established via the Police that the driver of the vehicle had left the scene, a search of the properties was carried out for additional casualties. The attendance of a building inspector from the local Council was requested, along with the Urban Search and Rescue Unit (USAR). The scene was made safe by USAR, however, both families had to be rehoused by The Council until repair work is carried out.