

LANCASHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2016 – JANUARY 2017

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	BLACKBURN-WITH-DARWEN
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LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Madrassah Workshops

Following on from the previous quarter, requests for Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service to visit local Madrassahs has been expanded. This has resulted in a number of visits and workshops, which have been arranged at short notice - to deliver the Borough's "keep young people in town safe" campaign. Thanks also to the Lancashire Road Safety Partnership for funding the extra high visibility jackets, which each of the young people received.

Darwen Fire Cadets

Darwen Fire Cadets proudly represented the Borough for the first time at the annual Fire Service carol concert held at Blackburn Cathedral. All Cadets attended in full uniform alongside their operational leads from Darwen Fire Station. The Cadets undertook collection duties as well as meeting dignitaries from throughout the County.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Incident: Domestic Fire
Date: 18 January 2017
Time of Call: 15:01

Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service attended an incident involving a Bedroom on Laxey Road in Blackburn. On arrival, the two occupants had evacuated. The first floor bedroom was on fire and two breathing apparatus wearers entered the property to locate the origin of the fire. Approximately two square metres of flooring and joists, along with curtains and blinds were identified as being involved in fire.

On investigation, a youth admitted to igniting a curtain to see what would happen and did not expect the curtain to ignite so rapidly. The youth called his mother who was downstairs. The occupant pulled the curtain down and laid wet towels on to the burning objects. This event had happened the previous night at approximately 20:00 hours but unfortunately the fire smouldered through the night until the following day when the fire had increased. Firefighters used breathing apparatus, hose reel jets, thermal imaging cameras and ventilation units to extinguish fire and remove smoke from the property. Power saws were used to cut away the flooring that had been affected. Due to the condition of the property, contact was made with Blackburn with Darwen Council who offered support to the resident. On return to station, an email was sent to Blackburn Community Fire Station, Community Fire Safety Department with a FIRES Referral. Blackburn Community Fire Safety Department are currently dealing with this request and will shortly be engaging with the family in order to address any issues around the cause of the fire.

Incident: Fire involving Loose Clothing
Date: 11 January 2017
Time of Call: Reported to LFRS as 'Late Fire Call' on 13 January 2017

A fire occurred in the Audley area of Blackburn, where a 77 year old lady's headscarf caught fire while she was cooking. The fire resulted in burns to her head and shoulders. She was subsequently taken to Wythenshawe Hospital for treatment and is expected to be discharged in a couple of weeks.

LFRS has been delivering a 'Loose Clothing' campaign utilising social media, case study video, and a large number of talks which have taken place in mosques / schools.

LANCASHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

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REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2016 – JANUARY 2017

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	BLACKPOOL
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LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)**Breakfast with Santa**

On Saturday, 24th December the operational fire crews, Lancashire Fire and Rescue staff, Community Fire Safety Team Members and Blackpool Fire Cadets hosted "Breakfast with Santa" at Western Area Headquarters. The event not only provided a fun filled, memorable occasion for young children and an excellent start to Christmas, but raised the grand total of £654.50 for the Macmillan Cancer Charity.

The fire crews prepared and served breakfast, over three sittings, to the children who were then escorted through to the station lounge to watch an entertainer. Santa then made a grand entrance aboard a fire engine with his presence announced by "blue lights" and a siren. The children were then escorted to meet Santa in his "Grotto" where they all received a Christmas present.

**Selective/Additional Licencing**

Blackpool Community Fire Safety Advisors have embarked on a programme of Additional and Selective Licencing in the Central Area of Blackpool. The initiative is Council driven and is a collaboration between Community Fire Safety, Fire Safety Enforcement, the Police, Housing Enforcement, Environmental Protection and the Peoples Team. The teams visit an agreed programme of privately rented properties on a weekly basis with the intention of identifying any actions for the landlords and to enhance the safety and wellbeing of the tenants within the properties visited. The visits facilitate the improvement of both safety and living standards, the raising of any local neighbourhood concerns and the opportunity for any residents to access local services. Fire Safety Enforcement Officers are able to work with landlords to provide advice and education in terms of "Protection" and Community Safety Advisors are able to install smoke detection and offer home fire safety advice for "Prevention" purposes. Community Safety Teams have completed a total of 260 Home Fire Safety Checks in the area since September.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Incident: Domestic Fire
Date: 21 December 2016
Time of Call: 10:47

Operational fire crews from South Shore Fire Station were called to an incident in the Moore Street area of Blackpool. When crews arrived, the fire - which started in a ground floor - was already established. A settee and carpet were completely destroyed by fire and the flat was severely damaged by the smoke. The smoke had spread to the bathroom and the hallway, both of which sustained moderate damage. The fire, heat and smoke were however contained to the flat and first floor communal hallway with no damage to the surrounding properties.

The fire had originated in the settee when a tea light candle had been knocked over accidentally. The occupier was treated for smoke inhalation by North West Ambulance Service (NWAS) at the scene. The occupier was then conveyed to hospital as a precautionary measure. The incident has raised a number of concerns around the general safety and wellbeing of the occupier. Our Community Safety Advisors have been proactive in initiating multiagency collaboration and partnership working in order to support the individual involved. Meetings have taken place between Social Services, Housing and Support Services to determine the most appropriate approach.

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SUMMARY REPORT FOR:

BURNLEY

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Loose Clothing Conference

On Wednesday, 21 December 2016, Burnley Fire Station hosted a Loose Clothing Conference in partnership with a local Madrassa. There were approximately 40 attendees from the Madrassa. Pennine Area has seen an increase in incidents involving loose clothing and this conference was organised following a number of serious incidents in the last year that have involved women from within the Asian community.

During the conference, Firefighters and Community Safety Advisors were using case studies and utilising bespoke campaign material that had been produced by Corporate Communications, urging the attendees to remain vigilant about the dangers that living flame heat sources and cookers pose to people wearing loose fitting clothing.

A member of the Madrassa had prepared a presentation through liaison with a Community Safety Advisor and delivered it to the attendees. This proved to be a powerful way of getting the key safety messages across. Social media was also utilised in order to raise the profile of this campaign to a much wider audience, and based upon the feedback and retweets, it was very successful.

A Firefighter has been heavily involved with raising awareness of the issue in his local area of Nelson and had this to say: *"We really need people to listen and most importantly share these messages with their family and friends. These fires can happen so quickly and have such devastating consequences that we want as many people as possible to be aware of the risks and to have an understanding of what to do if they see someone's clothing ignite. We need to prevent these types of injuries occurring and minimise such tragedies from the devastation and lifelong changes afterwards"*.

The Madrassa are keen to attend the fire station again to learn more about our prevention messages and have pledged to act as Lancashire Fire and Rescue ambassadors within their local communities.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Incident: Commercial Fire, Burnley
Date: 31 December 2016
Time of Call: 04:20

North West Fire Control received calls of a fire involving the roof of a town centre restaurant in Burnley. The fire had been seen from the Police CCTV operational room and calls were also received from the one of the occupants, stating that her husband was still in premises. Due to the incident being a person reported incident, three fire appliances were mobilised from Burnley and Nelson fire stations. When the first appliance arrived, they quickly confirmed that everybody was out of the premises; however, they had to deal with a rapidly

developing fire within the kitchen area of the restaurant, which was in danger of spreading. An aerial ladder platform was requested to deal with the fire in the roof area and four breathing apparatus wearers were committed to the ground floor kitchen to fight the fire offensively. The crews dealt with the fire in the kitchen but there was still a risk of fire spread because the fire had involved the ducting system within the restaurant. Crews were deployed to the rear of the premises to fight the fire externally, while the aerial ladder was deployed to fight the fire within the roof. During the incident, the Incident Commander liaised with the Police regarding a request for the closure of several town centre roads whilst the incident was dealt with.

Post fire, an Incident Intelligent Officer (IIO) was requested to offer support and guidance to the Incident Commander whilst the fire investigation was undertaken. During the post fire investigation, several areas of concern were identified regarding fire safety issues within the premises. Information was gathered and an investigation carried out to gather evidence which would be handed over to the Fire Safety Enforcement (FSE) department. Since the fire, the restaurant has had a post fire visit from FSE staff to address the issues which were identified.

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SUMMARY REPORT FOR:

CHORLEY

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Wasted Lives – Shaftesbury School (Pupil Referral Unit)

Shaftesbury Short Stay School contacted Chorley Fire Station following an incident where two of their pupils were seriously injured and hospitalised in an off-road bike incident. The Community Fire Safety (CFS) team delivered two full days of 'Wasted Lives' input to years 9, 10 and 11. On the first day, Matthew Alston's car was taken and all pupils had a session explaining the circumstances around his death. Due to the age of the pupils, a large emphasis was placed 'who are you getting in a car with?' The second session was classroom based and activities included group work, video clips, discussion around the same topics and reinforcement of the messages learned from the first session.

Friends For You Launch

A new service, 'Friends for You' was launched in Chorley in December at Chorley Town Hall. The service had been developed as social isolation had been identified as being a big issue in Chorley and by befriending people, this could help to reduce depression, get people out of their home environment and make people feel as though they had a purpose. The Friends For You staff explained the process of how people are trained as a volunteer and how they are matched with a service user. As well as this being beneficial for service users, there were some volunteers there who spoke about how volunteering was beneficial to their lives. The CFS team had a fire safety stand in the market place and spoke to volunteers and service users about the home fire safety check (HFSC) service and how referrals can be made.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Incident: Primary Fire
Date: 11 December 2016
Time of Call: 17:32

One appliance from Chorley and two from Greater Manchester were called to an incident at a house where an elderly lady had accidentally set her own clothing on fire by coming into contact with a gas stove in the kitchen. The lady received significant burns to her abdomen and neck and her husband received superficial burns to both hands when trying to assist her in removing her burning clothing. Both casualties were conveyed to hospital by road ambulance. Other than the injuries caused, the only damage was to the items of clothing worn by the female casualty at the time of the incident. No damage was caused to this property or any other by heat, flame or smoke. The lady was released from hospital on 11 January and is recovering well.

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SUMMARY REPORT FOR:

FYLDE

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Community Groups

Fylde Fire crews are extremely proactive in raising the awareness of Dementia and have networked to collaborate and develop partnerships across both the St. Anne's and Lytham areas. The Firefighters are continuing to pursue these leads and are taking positive action to enhance the lives of vulnerable residents within the community.

Firefighters, along with the Station Manager at St. Anne's station, have worked towards developing the station as a "Community Asset". Work has taken place to reconfigure certain aspects of the premises in order to welcome groups into the station and to facilitate community activities. This has been adopted with great success by the Alzheimer's Society. They have already visited the station and are now using the premises as a base to host regular group sessions and activities for their service users.

This opportunity is also being offered to another group, Just Friends, which tackles social isolation and provides a valuable source of comfort to many vulnerable people within the community.

ESCAYPs

A Community Fire Safety Advisor and Kirkham based PCSO are delivering another successful programme of the Escayps Course. Escayps is now in its seventh year and comprises a six week programme with a cohort of six individuals who are recruited onto each scheme. Each cohort looks to recruit two individuals that are known offenders, two individuals that are potential offenders or at risk of offending and two individuals who do not appear to have any concerns at all.

The initiative is led by the Police, with sessions hosted by Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service at both Wesham and Lytham Fire Stations. The Police recruit all participants and referrals are received from Social Services, local schools, Families in Need Teams and the Police themselves.

Sessions are action packed and cover a comprehensive tour of the fire station, fire safety in the home, health and safety, the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse, first aid, road traffic collision awareness and an insight into the Police and other services. The course culminates with a presentation evening for the participants and their families.

To date the course is extremely successful with ninety eight percent of candidates failing to reoffend.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Incident: Commercial Fire
Date: 28 December 2016
Time of Call: 18:36

On Wednesday, 28 December 2016, two fire appliances from St Anne's were called out to investigate a smell of smoke. The smoke was allegedly originating from the Salvation Army building on St Anne's Rd West, St Anne's. When the operational fire crews arrived, there was initially no sign of any fire at all. The crews proceeded to investigate the purported smell of smoke and discovered that there was in fact visible smoke in the neighbouring premises which was identified as a Barnardo's shop.

The crews acted swiftly in order to assess the situation. Wearing breathing apparatus and using a hose reel and thermal imaging equipment, they quickly gained access to the Barnardo's property and made an evaluation. Properties surrounding the building were evacuated and the initial Incident Commander requested additional appliances be deployed to the scene as it quickly became apparent that assistance would be needed to extinguish the fire.

Visibility was initially low and this rapidly became worse. The initial breathing apparatus team were able to establish that the fire was in the basement area of the property and they asked for a supporting jet before proceeding further. When the breathing apparatus teams started entry procedures at the entrance door of the cellar they discovered a fully developed fire. Smoke from the cellar buffeted out of the shop and the decision to withdraw crews from the risk area was made. Shortly after operational crews had withdrawn the ground floor of the shop collapsed into the cellar.

It took several hours for Firefighters to bring the fire under control. At the height of the fire there were eight operational fire appliances at the incident helping to extinguish the fire and prevent it from spreading to neighbouring properties. Fortunately there was nobody injured as a result of this incident. However, the shop itself was severely damaged by the fire, heat and smoke.

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SUMMARY REPORT FOR:

HYNDBURN

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

MASH referrals and Positive Action

A substantial spike in referrals from the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub throughout the Eastern area has resulted in a targeted effort to work through and complete these often very difficult and demanding Home Fire Safety Checks. Stronger links with local Mental Health Teams are starting to develop as many of the referrals have complex needs and often require multiple joint visits.

Fresh engagement with local mosques along Blackburn Road has enabled the Community Fire Safety team to promote our new Wholetime recruitment campaign to the wider public of the county. This has also led to requests from the mosques to attend their affiliated Madrassah to undertake road safety workshops and loose clothing sessions.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Incident: 16 Pump fire involving a vehicle salvage business in Altham
Date: 07 December 2016
Time of Call: 04:41

As this incident is subject to an on-going investigation, this is only a brief overview; Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service were called to a severe fire which was spreading through a stock-pile of vehicles which were stacked outside.

Upon arrival, crews were confronted with approximately 200 compacted vehicles which were well alight inside the compound. Firefighters used partner saws to gain access to the compound and began to establish a water relay. Due to the wind conditions, the fire spread was very rapid.

At its height, 16 appliances attended this incident and the High Volume Pump was used to deliver large amounts of water from the canal to the scene of operations.

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REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2016 – JANUARY 2017

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:

LANCASTER

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Hate Crime Awareness Training

In conjunction with Lancashire Constabulary Community Cohesion Team, several sessions have taken place to deliver 'Hate Crime' training. The sessions are currently being delivered and trialled across all of Northern area. The sessions are designed to allow all Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service personnel to identify and support people affected by hate crime by signposting victims to Lancashire Constabulary or Victims Voice.

Feedback received from operational personnel attending commented that "*the session highlighted how easy it is to overlook crime when it's presented in front of you*". The training was firstly instigated as a result of hate crime reports being received from minority communities as a result of the Brexit vote and subsequently discussed at the local Community Safety Partnership. In addition to the training, a hate crime project with The Polish Community (Clicker Project) has been established involving Victims Voice and Community Safety Advisor.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Incident: Building Fire, Abbey Road, Barrow-in-Furness
Date: 11 January 2017
Time of Call: 21:57

Three Fire Appliances (two Lancaster, one Carnforth) and a Service Delivery Manager were mobilised to a cross-border incident at the above address. The incident was a three storey disused public house in the town centre.

The initial attendance to the incident at 20:56 hours was three fire appliances. Due to the severity of the fire, appliances were increased to eight and an aerial ladder platform (ALP) was requested. The incident was subsequently increased to twelve appliances, it was at this point that Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service appliances were mobilised.

LFRS appliances were used to ferry water from a mains supply approx. 500m from the incident. All LFRS appliances were released from the incident at 00:20 hours.

LANCASHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
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REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2016 – JANUARY 2017

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:

PENDLE

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Falls Prevention

LFRS has responded to hundreds of 999 call outs for special services for falls in relation to 'gaining entry' incident types. On the back of this, Community Fire Safety Advisors then receive follow up visits for home fire safety check signposting. Falls Teams across East Lancashire have worked collaboratively with Community Fire Safety Advisors for quite some time. An annual winter campaign was initiated by the Falls Team promoting "Steady on" messages. This involved joint organisational events in the district, specifically targeting those most at risk of a fall. This can be determined by poorly fitting foot wear, walking aids at the wrong height, ferrules on walking sticks being worn down or badly fitted. There are other factors that can cause people to fall including medication, and this is how the joined up approach works well, as Community Fire Safety offer a visit as part of the campaign.

With falls coming under another determinant on the Safe and Well Visit, planning for winter pressures has been one of the priorities we have particularly focussed on. By working effectively with key agencies and helping to educate vulnerable members of our society in falls prevention, it will help reduce future incidents of falls related admissions and provide targeted fire prevention to those presenting as a high risk profile.

Events were planned and took place at Colne Market, Nelson bus station, and flu clinics at health centres across the Pendle Borough. Over 200 high risk referrals were taken for Crews and Community Fire Safety Advisors to carry out over the Christmas period.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Incident: Special Service Call
Date: 11th and 21st January 2017
Time of Call: 12:00

Nelson was the third station to go live within Lancashire, with regard to being an Emergency First Responder (EFR) unit. The crew have been mobilised to two cardiac incidents since its inception. The crew have worked and handled the situations in the most professional manner. They have utilised their training and equipment proficiently on both occasions, prior to the arrival of an ambulance or Paramedic Technician.

Incident: Primary Fire
Date: 14 December 2016
Time of Call: 13:17

Two appliances from Nelson attended a local primary school, where conducted heat in the flue from an oil fired boiler had caused surrounding lagging to smoulder. Smoke from this smouldering insulation had activated the smoke alarm in the basement boiler room. The Crew isolated all power to the boilers and switched all controls off prior to removing the charred insulation. Although accidental, there was severe heat damage to a quantity of insulation and light smoke damage to the basement boiler room.

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REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2016 – JANUARY 2017

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:

PRESTON

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Fire Cadets

Preston's Fire Cadets have come back from the festive holidays and embraced the cold weather. Working outside with the help from crews, the Cadets have progressed very quickly with their drills and knowledge on the drill ground. This week's session saw the Cadets carrying out the drill 'Hose Aloft'. They learnt how to secure a rolling hitch and a clove hitch and their communication skills and knowledge of words of command were tested as they relayed commands from the drill ground up to the first floor of the tower.

All of the Cadets are doing brilliantly and the Crew Managers, Yamin and Fuzia have both taken command of their watches delegating tasks, organising roles within drills and taking parade. The Cadets are continuing to work through their module booklets and are very enthusiastic when they attend the unit; some have even started asking about carrying on to next year as Crew Managers in Development. Next, the Cadets have a visit to North West Fire Control booked in as well as a Dementia Friends session. A massive thank you to all the Watches at Preston for their engagement with the Cadets and help planning sessions.

Fire Safety Talk to Probationers from Edith Rigby House

Community Safety Advisors delivered a fire safety session to a group of probationers from the Edith Rigby House in Preston - where probationers live for three months after being released from prison. This helps them to get acclimatised to everyday life. The Community Safety Advisors talked about fire safety in the home and gave them an awareness of the dangers of fire, they were also shown items burnt in fires and had the causes of fires explained.

Preston Prince's Trust

The Community Safety Advisor attended the new Prince's Trust Team to deliver a fire safety talk to a group of 20 young people. The CSA delivered information about fire safety in the home which was well received by all.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Incident: House Fire - Persons Reported, Slaidburn Place, Preston

Date: 05 December 2016

Time of Call: 19:30

Three appliances from Preston were mobilised to a persons reported fire. On arrival, the crews were informed that an eighteen year old male had poured petrol onto a log burner to try and get the wood burning. Unfortunately, the vapours from the petrol had caused the individual's clothes to ignite. This resulted in severe burns to the individual. He was taken to hospital and spent several weeks at the burns unit. There was another male at the premises who suffered from smoke inhalation and the crews also assisted a female who was suffering from shock. Crews spent several hours at the incident.

Incident: House Fire, Tagg Lane, Fulwood

Date: 17 January 2017

Time of Call: 16:01

This incident was a persons reported house fire. On arrival, crews were informed that the occupier was believed to be inside the premises. Crews wearing breathing apparatus entered the premises and with difficulty due to hoarding located the fire in the lounge. The house was severely smoke logged. Fortunately, after searching the property it was confirmed that all persons were accounted for. After extinguishing the fire which had been severe, crews spent several more hours emptying contents which had been affected by the fire to ensure it was extinguished. The cause of the fire was believed to be smoking materials which had ignited the settee. The adjacent property was also slightly smoke logged.

Incident: Special Service Call, Preston

Date: 14 January 2017

Time of Call: 20:36

Crews attended a road traffic collision near Haighton Green lane, Preston. The incident involved one vehicle which was on its side. The driver was confined within the vehicle. On arrival, the Officer in Charge of the appliance liaised with the police and North West Ambulance Service personnel. Crews were informed that the driver was also disabled. Crews using cutting equipment gained access to the rear of the vehicle. They also had to remove a motorised wheelchair to create space to enable crews to rescue the driver. After being released from the vehicle, the driver was then taken by ambulance to hospital.

Incident: Special Service Call, Child Locked in Vehicle, Preston

Date: 29 December 2016

Time of Call: 18:21

Crews attended Queens Retail Park, Queens Street, Preston. The vehicle owner had left her keys on the front driver's seat, whilst putting the baby in the rear child seat. After closing the rear car door, the central locking locked all doors. The mother was very worried and could not gain access to the vehicle. Firefighters used the glass management kit to gain access through the front vehicle window.

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SUMMARY REPORT FOR:	RIBBLE VALLEY
LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)	
<u>MASH Referrals</u> A substantial spike in referrals from the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub throughout the Eastern area has resulted in a targeted effort to work through and complete these often very difficult and demanding Home Fire Safety Checks. Stronger links with local Mental Health Teams are starting to develop as many of the individuals referred have complex needs and often require multiple joint visits.	

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REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2016 – JANUARY 2017

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:

ROSSENDALE

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Social Isolation Linking into LFRS Prevention Work

Health and Wellbeing partnerships in the district of Rossendale have been working with Community Fire Safety (CFS) teams successfully over recent months. The initiative SPICE is short term funded and has an ultimate priority to tackle the issues around social isolation. A mapping exercise with various organisations and professionals was completed to establish localities within the district highlighted as the most susceptible to becoming socially isolated. Haslingden and Whitworth were the two towns within Rossendale that have the highest recorded numbers of social isolation. Social isolation is focused as one of the determinants which has been introduced in the new Safe and Well visits within Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service.

Social isolation can be an issue for any age and is a state of complete or near complete lack of contact between an individual and society. Infrequent participation in social activities due to a change in circumstances such as ill health or loss of spouse can be just a few examples of why a person can end up feeling so isolated in their own environment. It differs from loneliness, which reflects a temporary lack of contact from other people. Research has been produced which indicates the detrimental effects it can have on a person's health and how having regular company can also assist recovery if a person falls ill (Marmot 2010). Social isolation can be as damaging as smoking 15 cigarettes per day (Holt-Lunstad 2015), so by having social networks and friendships not only impacts on reducing the risk of mortality by 26% it reduces the risks of developing certain diseases such as coronary heart disease, strokes, high blood pressure, onset of disabilities and cognitive impairments such as Dementia. The close working between CFS teams and partners is providing opportunities to reduce risk from fire and also reduce risk in terms of the health and social issues.

Over the winter period we have seen Community Fire Safety teams working closely with voluntary groups and organisations. They have delivered key fire safety messages to faith groups, luncheon clubs, coffee mornings and memory clinics, all of which have proven positive for us in Pennine area. It has also helped generate high risk referrals for the most isolated and vulnerable people for a Safe and Well visit. We can again continue our efforts by reaching out to members of our community and signpost them for the right support. It is important we understand the issues people face and help bridge the gaps in society as we are now living longer.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)**Incident:** Domestic Fire**Date:****Time of Call:**

Crews from Rawtenstall, Bacup and Haslingden attended a house fire in the Whitewell Bottom area of Rossendale. Fire was initially reported to be in the basement of a back to back terraced property. Two breathing apparatus wearers with a hose reel, thermal image camera and dry powder extinguisher were committed to investigate. No fire was found, but there was a large amount of smoke. Further investigation quickly revealed that there was a fully developed fire in the property which backed onto this house.

Four breathing apparatus wearers were committed into the affected property to fight the fire and search the premises. No persons were present but a dog was rescued which unfortunately, despite attempts to resuscitate, was already dead due to the smoke. Ventilation units were used to clear smoke which had percolated into several adjacent properties. After the fire was extinguished, the cause was investigated and believed to be an accumulation of clothes and household goods around a dryer in the basement. The interior of the house was severely damaged by the fire and smoke, but luckily no-one was present, as the house did not have working smoke detectors.

A hot-strike was carried out in the area to ensure local residents received a Home Fire Safety Check and smoke detectors if required. The incident was also of note because, due to the occupiers not having any insurance, a campaign was run on Facebook and 'Just Giving' by family and friends to raise money to assist with the repairs to the house and replacement of contents. This raised several thousands of pounds from the local community and a local landlord offered a property for them to stay in until theirs was habitable again.

LANCASHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
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SUMMARY REPORT FOR:

SOUTH RIBBLE

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Great Fire of London

A request for assistance came into Leyland Fire Station from Leyland St Andrew's Church of England Infant School, who had been studying the Great Fire of London. One of their homework projects was to design and build a model house, which would be joined with other houses to make a model of London, so that they could re-enact the great fire of London on a visit to the Fire Station. There were approximately 50, year 1 pupils who took part in the event. They watched the demonstration and then learned about the firefighting equipment the Crews have today so they could compare with the firefighting equipment they had then. The session was very successful and also gave the Community Fire Safety Team the opportunity to reinforce messages such as handing in lighters, not playing with matches and the dangers of fire.

Dementia Event – Halls for All

This was a new initiative being held at a venue called 'Halls for All', run by South Ribble Borough Council, with the aim being to have a monthly drop in session for families and carers of people living with dementia and those with dementia. At this session and all future sessions, there will be a marketplace for those in attendance to talk to agencies about their concerns and find out what help is available. There was also the opportunity for those living with dementia to engage in craft type activities such as crocheting, cross stitch and colouring in for adults. The plan for 2017 is to have themes throughout the year, with Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service leading on the run up to winter with a winter safety theme. The focus would be around looking at appropriate heating, trailing wires and generally keep warm, safe and well throughout the colder months.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Incident: Primary Fire
Date: 25 December 2016
Time of Call: 14:37

On arrival at the incident, Crews were faced with a domestic premises that was fully cloaked by smoke. The owner met the Crews and assured them that everyone was out of the property. The front door was open and after instructing breathing apparatus crew, they investigated the hall and stairs of the premises and saw flames coming from a back bedroom with a low smoke plane. After a quick brief, crews entered with hose reel and made their way upstairs. The Officer in Charge asked for fans to be made ready as and when possible and did a risk assessment after a look around the rear of the premises where flames were issuing from the bedroom and side landing windows. A hose reel jet was used at the rear of the property into the bedroom. The fans were switched on after instruction from the breathing apparatus team. The cause of the fire was a candle placed on a desk in the bedroom where the occupier had been working on a computer/ games console prior to the

fire. He had been downstairs at the time and heard a bang upstairs; on investigation he saw the bedroom on fire. He got the remaining three occupants out and by this time the house was becoming smoke logged.

Incident: Primary Fire
Date: 30 December 2016
Time of Call: 18:55

This was the third of three similar incidents that occurred in December. The fire started in a wheelie bin next to a fence and garage. The occupier had placed some ashes from his wood burning stove in the bin previously; this caused the fire in the bin that spread to the fence and garage. Three wheelie bins and three fence panels were destroyed by fire as well as the fascia and gutter approximately 2x2 metre was destroyed by fire on the garage.

The first incident was on 07 December which involved a wheelie bin containing loose refuse and dry leaves that had spread to the underside of the property soffits and fascia board and the second was on 28 December where coal had been placed in a wheelie bin.

LANCASHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2016 – JANUARY 2017

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:

WEST LANCASHIRE

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Christmas Tea Dance

The Community Fire Safety (CFS) Team from Ormskirk were invited to Ormskirk Civic Hall to attend a Christmas Tea Dance organised by the Alzheimer's Society - Central and West Lancashire. There were approximately 30 people in attendance who were a mix of mainly elderly people (living with dementia and mobility issues) and their carers. The CFS Team had a fire safety stall and demonstrated the hard of hearing unit, promoted the Home Fire Safety Check service and spoke about how people living with dementia and their support network can be supported. There was also the opportunity to network with other agencies including Dementia Support Workers from the Alzheimer's Society, personnel and managers from the care agency Home Instead, Age UK, ICAN (South West Lancashire Independent Community Advice Network) and West Lancashire CVS. Some of these agencies have since booked fire safety training from the CFS team.

Food Banks

Crews from Ormskirk Fire Station read an article in the local newspaper explaining that the Ormskirk Foodbank was being forced to leave their current premises due to the rent being increased by the landlords. They felt that they had spare capacity on station to assist in any way they could and also thought that it would be helpful if they could go out and deliver parcels to vulnerable members of the community. They also felt it would link in with the Safe and Well campaign - as sometimes these people get missed in the system and don't usually want to engage with other agencies. They spoke to the staff offering their services and were told that they had a large number of parcels in the run up to Christmas with nowhere to store them, so it would be greatly appreciated if they could be stored at the fire station. They stored in excess of 50 parcels at the station and helped deliver them out in the community. This partnership has continued well into the New Year and hasn't finished just because the Christmas rush is over. The staff from the Food Bank are also able to refer any vulnerable members of the community to the fire service for a home fire safety check.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Incident: Primary Fire
Date: 03 January 2017
Time of Call: 11:29

Crews from Skelmersdale, Ormskirk and Greater Manchester were called to a fire involving large quantities of mattresses stored next to commercial premises. The cause of the fire was down to misuse of equipment by staff as the fire started by an employee using a blow torch to disassemble mattresses. There was damage to approximately five tonnes of mattresses and other stored items and minor damage by heat to a warehouse steel wall and

roof. Staff at the incident attempted to put the fire out using water and CO2 extinguishers. On arrival the breathing apparatus team attacked the fire with hose reel and post fire the crews damped down and carried out an assessment with the thermal imaging camera. A full fire investigation took place and the incident was declared a significant incident by Fire Safety Enforcement.

Incident: Primary Fire
Date: 08 January 2017
Time of Call: 00:36

Fire in a bin compound of a block of flats which involved heat and smoke percolating through the door from the compound to the common stairwell. There was damage to approximately two tonnes of refuse and discarded household appliances and damage to the communal door and frame and common stairwell. There were eight occupants known to be in the building, two of these occupants were evacuated, the remainder were advised to remain in their flats. Crews were unable to determine the exact cause.

LANCASHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
COMMUNITY SAFETY REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: DECEMBER 2016 – JANUARY 2017

SUMMARY REPORT FOR:

WYRE

LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTIVITIES (brief details)

Dementia Buddy Coffee Mornings

As a result of a successful funding bid to Fleetwood Rotary Club and the Police Crime Commissioner a supply of Guardian Angel devices were obtained. The first event to promote the devices throughout the Wyre District was held at Fleetwood Fire Station involving Community Safety Advisors, Police, Preesall Fire Cadets and Prince's Trust Team 37, who baked cakes, biscuits and donated £50.00 from their team challenge to purchase additional Guardian Angels. During the morning, a total of 17 Guardian Angels were issued which in turn generated Home Fire Safety Checks for vulnerable people within the District.

A second event was held at Preesall Fire Station involving Community Safety Advisors, Retained Duty Staff (RDS) and Preesall Fire Cadets. The event was supported by the local Co-op who supplied refreshments and the local Women's Institute who baked cakes for the event. The event was attended by approximately 50 people with many Guardian Angel devices supplied and also generating high risk Home Fire Safety Checks. With this event being a success the RDS unit are now in liaison with a local school to hold another event on March, with the pupils of the school receiving dementia friends training.

INCIDENTS OF OPERATIONAL INTEREST (brief details)

Incident: Commercial Building Fire, Memorial Lane, Pilling
Date: 06 January 2017
Time of Call: 02:32

Fire Appliances from Preesall and Garstang were mobilised to the above address. On approach to the incident, it was apparent that a serious fire was developing. The crews arrived to a large fire venting through the roof and reports from local residents that somebody may be inside the building. As a result, fire appliances were increased to six and an aerial ladder platform (ALP) was requested.

Breathing Apparatus Teams were committed into the building to search and carryout fire fighting. At the height of the incident, the Service had in attendance eight fire appliances, one ALP, one command unit, a high volume pump being deployed to pump water from a pond approximately one mile away and the aerial support unit providing aerial footage of the incident. The investigation is ongoing; however investigations are being centred around a space heater as a possible cause. The building was used as a tractor assembly plant.