



OFFICIAL

# Performance against PMI targets 2020 - 21

## Community Safety Committee

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Date: 23 July 2021

Agenda Item:

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Submitted By: Director of Service Delivery

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- Purpose** To inform Members of Community Safety Committee of the performance against the 2020/21 performance outcome targets. The reports specifically looks at performance covering 01 April 20 – 31 March 2021.
- Recommendations** That Members of the Community Safety Committee note the contents of the report.
- Summary** This report provides details of the performance against the outcome targets. The appendices show the performance across West Yorkshire and then broken down into the five districts with additional commentaries from the District Commanders.

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Local Government (Access to information) Act 1972

Exemption Category: None

Contact Officer:

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Background papers open to inspection: None

Annexes: Brigade and District performance information 2020 - 21

## 1 Introduction

- 1.1 The attached commentaries show the performance across West Yorkshire and the five Local Authority Districts against the outcomes targets that were set for the year 2020 / 21.
- 1.2 The performance report covers the reporting period from 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021.
- 1.3 Members of the Community Safety Committee approved the methodology for setting the annual targets against a range of incident types using a 3-year rolling average. The District Management teams measure, monitor, manage and evaluate the performance against these targets at regular intervals throughout the year.
- 1.4 It must be noted that targets for the year 2021 / 2022 have not taken 2020 / 21 into account due to the impact of Covid and how this would skew the figures.

## 2 Information

- 2.1 The Performance Management System and the WYFiremap tool allows managers and staff to monitor incident activity using real time data sets. Incidents are plotted geographically which allows for the identification of trends and the monitoring of prevention activity.
- 2.2 The attached reports provide the data sets against the annual targets for a range of incident types in 2020/21. There is a summary report showing the figures for the whole of the service and then subsequent performance sheets show the district reports with a commentary from each respective District Commander.

### **Service Wide Performance**

*Performance across West Yorkshire for the following indicators exceed the set targets:*

### **Total Activity**

- 2.3 Overall, there has been a slight increase in the total number of incidents attended during 2020 / 21 compared to the previous year, this was to be expected and mainly due to a change to mobilising policy in response to the first lockdown resulted in 500 additional mobilisations to fire alarms. We have achieved this target by 1.1% and have recorded total activity of 23730.

### **Arson**

- 2.4 The performance across all arson incidents is slightly higher compared to the previous year. We have attended 5647 recorded deliberate fires through 2020 / 21 compared to 5475 in the previous year. Covid has impacted on our ability to tackle arson in the way we would like. However, we have still shown strong performance throughout the year and this is represented in the target being achieved by 15.0%.

## **Arson – Primary Fires**

- 2.5 Primary fires are the more serious fires that harm people or cause damage to property.
- 2.6 Primary fires have one or more of the following characteristics:
- Fires in buildings and vehicles that are not derelict or in outdoor structures
  - Any fire involving casualties or rescues
  - Any fire attended by more than 5 pumping appliances
- 2.7 In 2020 / 21, we attended 1174 primary deliberate fires, compared to 1280 in the previous year. Of the 1182 deliberate fires, 725 involved vehicles and 176 involved dwellings.

## **Dwelling Fires**

- 2.8 As people spent more time in their home because of the pandemic it would be reasonable to predict that we would see an increase in dwelling fires through 2020 / 21. There have 1064 fires this year, this is 73 fewer than the previous year and 6.6% under the set target. Throughout the pandemic we have continued to deliver our safe and well advice. Additionally, the delivery of advice to young people 'playing' with fire was redesigned to fit a digital profile which resulted in a reach to 66 young firesetters which resulted in no recorded instances of fire setting behaviour.
- 2.9 Dwelling fires have significant and wide-reaching impacts on individuals, families and communities. WYFRS will continue to prioritise our prevention resources to those most in need to further drive down this type of emergency.

## **Non-Domestic Building Fires**

- 2.10 There have been 129 fewer fires in this category compared to the figure from the previous year (296 compared to 425). Performance against the target has been achieved by 27.6%, it would be easy to attribute this excellent performance to some businesses being closed during the pandemic, however, this should not overshadow the work undertaken by fire protection teams and operational crews, which has continued throughout the pandemic, to reduce the risk in our built environment.
- Operational risk visits restarted in May 2021. This will contribute to maintaining an effective, safe response by operational staff and supports the delivery of our statutory duties under the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order.

## **Fire Related Injuries**

- 2.11 The figures for fire related injuries demonstrates a 12% improvement compared to the previous year and the target has been achieved by 20%. It is disappointing to report that there have been 11 fatalities at fire incidents in the last financial year. Of the six accidental dwelling fires, two resulted from portable heating appliances, work is ongoing to reduce the risk posed by unsafe use of this equipment. Mental health and substance abuse continue to be prominent factors in fatalities resulting from fire. We will continue to work with partners to safeguard and support vulnerable people wherever possible. We are also developing systems which will enable us to identify vulnerable people who have not received (or avoided) support from our referring partners. Two fatalities are currently being investigated as a criminal act.

## **Malicious False Alarms**

- 2.12 The target for malicious false alarms has been achieved by 21 %. This is a 13% reduction compared to the previous year. We continue to work across the districts to identify premises where repeat malicious false alarms are generated and deliver training to staff (and pupils in the case of schools and colleges) on the issues with these types of incidents as they take resources away from being available for real life emergencies. Our staff within the Control Function will challenge callers if they suspect it is a hoax caller and now have the facility to pinpoint the location of repeat hoax callers.

## **Road Traffic Collisions**

- 2.13 During the Covid Pandemic, the reduction of traffic on the county's road network has led to the most significant improvement across all our performance indicators in comparison to last year (35%). Each of our district teams are represented within their respective road safety partnerships and we also hold a seat on the West Yorkshire Road Safety Executive. Throughout 2020 / 21 we have continued to deliver targeted interventions to young people in person and digitally, as restriction ease through 2021 / 22, operational staff and prevention teams will deliver road safety training and support the delivery of partnership interventions.

## **Arson – Secondary Fires**

- 2.14 Secondary fires are less serious and generally less information is collected following a secondary fire. They tend to involve accumulations of rubbish and 'vegetation' which is mainly grass fires during warm, dry periods. Compared to the 2020 - 21, there has been a slight increase in secondary fires, however we have achieved the target by 14%.

***Performance across West Yorkshire for the following indicators is projected to be within 10% the set targets:***

**Prevalence of False Alarms**

- 2.15 There has been a 3% (309) increase in false alarms compared to performance in the previous year. This increase is due to a change in our fire alarm mobilising policy. Between April and August, we attended all commercial properties where a fire alarm was activated. This was because a large proportion of the workforce had been furloughed and would not be able to confirm the presence of fire. In normal circumstances we would only attend properties deemed high risk due to life or process. we continue to work across our communities to reduce the number of unwanted fire signals, without the change to mobilising policy this target would have been achieved.

**Actual Rescues**

- 2.16 Performance against this target is showing a 20% improvement compared to 2019 / 20. We have seen a significant reduction in road traffic collisions which results in a large proportion of the rescues we undertake. However, we have missed this target by 2%, a large proportion of these rescues are attributable to the support provided to the Yorkshire Ambulance Service to effect entry into properties.
- 2.17 2020 / 21 has been an extremely difficult year for all the residents of West Yorkshire. It is encouraging to see that through continued prevention, protection, response and resilience arrangements and the responsible nature of our communities that there are no indicators more than 10% outside our targets and other than false alarms all other incidents are within the agreed targets.

**3 Financial Implications**

- 3.1 There are no financial implications resulting from this report

**4 Legal Implications**

- 4.1 The Monitoring Officer has considered this report and has no observations to make at the time of submission of this report but may provide legal advice at the committee meeting and/or respond to any requests by Members for legal advice made at the meeting.

## 5 Human Resource and Diversity Implications

- 5.1 All initiatives to reduce the numbers of incidents we attend are focussed on those more vulnerable. Effective working with key partners across the districts has continued throughout 2020 / 21 and continues to develop and improve. WYFRS recognises that our strategy of concentrating our resources towards risk and vulnerability is increasing our effectiveness at tackling fire related injuries and accidental dwelling fires.
- 5.2 Throughout 2020 / 21 we have spent much less time with people who have little or no risk from fire and worked hard to develop Covid-safe ways of working to continue delivering our services to the most vulnerable people in our diverse communities.
- 5.3 The WYFRS Youth Intervention Team have bucked the national trend through covid and have continued to deliver programmes to a diverse group of young people. It has been recognised that this demographic has been particularly hard hit by the pandemic and the work undertaken by this team should not be undervalued.
- 5.4 The Safer Communities Board continues to provide oversight and governance for the implementation of prevention strategies and this forum ensures that stakeholders from departments across the service have a say in how the prevention service is being delivered.

## 6 Equality Impact Assessment

Are the recommendations within this report subject to Equality Impact Assessment as outlined in the EIA guidance? ( <a href="#">EIA guidance and form 2020 form.docx (westyorkfire.gov.uk)</a> )	<u>No</u>
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## 7 Health, Safety and Wellbeing Implications

- 7.1 The health, safety and wellbeing of all WYFRS staff involved in responding to emergency incidents is one of the key priorities highlighted in Your Fire and Rescue Service 2020-2023. The District Command Teams actively monitor the health and safety of staff following incidents and have welfare provisions in place for any incident where crews may witness distressing scenes; support is provided by local managers and the Occupational Health and Safety Unit.
- 7.2 All service delivery staff, bolstered by support teams have worked tirelessly through the Covid Pandemic to continue safely delivering prevention intervention to those most likely to be affected by fire. This has been achieved through adherence to covid risk assessments and adapted ways of working.

## **8 Environmental Implications**

- 8.1 By working in partnership throughout Covid we have been able to relaunch the BeMoorAware campaign, contribute to the multiagency response to flooding and work hard to mitigate the impacts from incidents such as the Bradford Tyre Fire.
- 8.2 This should instil confidence in the residents of West Yorkshire that their fire and rescue service will always strive to maintain an excellent emergency response.

## **9 Your Fire and Rescue Service Priorities**

- We will reduce the risks to the communities of West Yorkshire
- We will continue to develop ways of working which improve the safety & effectiveness of our firefighters
- We will work efficiently to provide value for money and make the best use of reserves to provide an effective service
- We will be innovative and work smarter throughout the service
- We will invest in information and communication technology, digital and data, to deliver our service in smarter ways

## **10 Conclusion**

- 10.1 Members of the Community Safety Committee are presented this report as part of an ongoing commitment to demonstrate the priority that WYFRS places in prevention and early intervention and how we evaluate the success of our activities through the performance 'outcomes' targets that we set each year.
- 10.2 It is understood that 2020 / 21 will be an anomaly in terms of our performance and targets for 2021 / 2022 have been adjusted to reflect this.
- 10.3 Performance throughout 2020 / 2021 has demonstrated some extremely positive results when compared against the three-year average target and against the same period last year. We should be especially proud of the performance against road traffic collisions, dwelling fires, and fire related injuries. These indicators have impacts which reach much further than the moment in time that they occur.
- 10.4 We continue to work across the districts to identify areas where performance against these targets is reducing and put plans in place to address this through partnership working, prevention campaigns and effective response arrangements.

# West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service

Performance 2020 – 21

LOCAL AUTHORITIES (DRRTS) - PERFORMANCE MONITORING SYSTEM					
DEFINITIONS					
3 YEAR AVG TARGET (Previous 3 Years)	Average performance from the previous 3 financial years, used as the target for this current year				
SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR (Previous Year)	Cumulative total for the same period in the previous year				
TOTAL SO FAR (Current Year)	Cumulative total for current year so far				
PROJECTION AGAINST 3 YEAR AVERAGE (Current Year)	Comparison of projected annual activity against the 3 year average target – Red (outside 10% of target), Amber (within 10% of target), Green (target achieved or exceeded)				
END OF YEAR PROJECTION (Current Year)	Projected value at the end of the financial year based on Total So Far and the number of days remaining				
	3 YEAR AVG TARGET (2017/20)	SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR (2019-31/03/20)	<i>[values to 31 Mar 2021 23:59:59]</i>		
			TOTAL SO FAR (2020/21)	AGAINST 3 YEAR AVG (2020/21)	END OF YEAR PROJECTION (2020/21)
Arson	6641	5475	5646	-15.0%	5646
Arson - Primary Fires	1408	1280	1174	-16.6%	1174
Arson - Secondary Fires	5196	4195	4472	-13.9%	4472
Actual Rescues	862	1100	880	2.0%	880
Total Activity	23987	23360	23728	-1.1%	23728
Dwelling Fires	1139	1137	1066	-6.4%	1066
Non-Domestic Building Fires	409	425	296	-27.6%	296
Prevalence of False Alarms	10439	10477	10807	3.5%	10807
Fire Related Injuries	191	174	153	-20.0%	153
Road Traffic Collisions	629	673	435	-30.8%	435
Malicious False Alarms	348	315	274	-21.3%	274



## District Summary Report 2020 – 21

WYFRS SUMMARY REPORT - PERFORMANCE MONITORING SYSTEM												
DEFINITIONS												
3 YEAR AVG TARGET (Previous 3 Years)			Average performance from the previous 3 financial years, used as the target for this current year									
AGAINST TARGET SO FAR (Current Year)			Comparison of activity so far against the target – Red (outside 10% of target), Amber (within 10% of target), Green (target achieved or exceeded)									
01 April 2020 to 31 March 2021 23:59:59	BRADFORD		CALDERDALE		KIRKLEES		LEEDS		WAKEFIELD		WYFRS TOTAL	
	TARGET (2020/21)	SO FAR (2020/21)	TARGET (2020/21)	SO FAR (2020/21)	TARGET (2020/21)	SO FAR (2020/21)	TARGET (2020/21)	SO FAR (2020/21)	TARGET (2020/21)	SO FAR (2020/21)	TARGET (2020/21)	SO FAR (2020/21)
Arson	2193	-9.1%	382	-0.8%	982	-23.6%	2103	-20.8%	981	-12.4%	6641	-15.0%
Arson - Primary Fires	443	-16.6%	78	15.4%	232	-20.3%	460	-26.9%	196	-1.0%	1408	-16.6%
Arson - Secondary Fires	1776	-8.6%	311	-7.1%	750	-24.7%	1571	-15.4%	789	-15.7%	5196	-13.9%
Actual Rescues	199	-2.4%	97	-4.4%	163	1.0%	295	12.3%	108	-10.5%	862	2.0%
Total Activity	6347	-0.8%	2075	9.2%	4057	-3.1%	8518	-2.4%	2990	-2.3%	23987	-1.1%
Dwelling Fires	316	-7.2%	105	-7.3%	183	0.5%	409	-9.6%	127	-3.7%	1139	-6.4%
Non-Domestic Building Fires	95	-20.0%	35	-9.4%	62	-18.2%	166	-39.2%	50	-28.0%	409	-27.6%
Prevalence of False Alarms	2502	2.3%	889	18.9%	1823	5.7%	4084	1.1%	1141	-0.4%	10439	3.5%
Fire Related Injuries	52	-7.7%	23	-42.7%	36	-33.9%	57	-13.5%	24	-19.7%	191	-20.0%
Road Traffic Collisions	134	-21.6%	62	-25.4%	124	-38.5%	220	-30.1%	89	-39.5%	629	-30.8%
Malicious False Alarms	123	2.7%	29	29.1%	58	-56.9%	111	-34.4%	27	-52.4%	348	-21.3%

## Wakefield District – Performance 2020 - 21

WAKEFIELD LOCAL AUTHORITY (DRRT) - PERFORMANCE MONITORING SYSTEM					
DATE:		VISITING COMMANDERS:			
OFFICERS PRESENT:					
DEFINITIONS					
3 YEAR AVG TARGET (Previous 3 Years)	Average performance from the previous 3 financial years, used as the target for this current year				
SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR (Previous Year)	Cumulative total for the same period in the previous year				
TOTAL SO FAR (Current Year)	Cumulative total for current year so far				
PROJECTION AGAINST 3 YEAR AVERAGE (Current Year)	Comparison of projected annual activity against the 3 year average target – Red (outside 10% of target), Amber (within 10% of target), Green (target achieved or exceeded)				
END OF YEAR PROJECTION (Current Year)	Projected value at the end of the financial year based on Total So Far and the number of days remaining				
			<i>[values to 31 Mar 2021 23:59:59]</i>		
	3 YEAR AVG TARGET (2017/20)	SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR (2019-31/03/20)	TOTAL SO FAR (2020/21)	AGAINST 3 YEAR AVG (2020/21)	END OF YEAR PROJECTION (2020/21)
Arson	981	806	859	-12.4%	859
Arson - Primary Fires	196	169	194	-1.0%	194
Arson - Secondary Fires	789	637	665	-15.7%	665
Actual Rescues	108	141	97	-10.5%	97
Total Activity	2990	2826	2921	-2.3%	2921
Dwelling Fires	127	123	122	-3.7%	122
Non-Domestic Building Fires	50	53	36	-28.0%	36
Prevalence of False Alarms	1141	1076	1136	-0.4%	1136
Fire Related Injuries	24	20	19	-19.7%	19
Road Traffic Collisions	89	93	54	-39.5%	54
Malicious False Alarms	27	23	13	-52.4%	13

***The District performance in the following areas either meets or exceeds the target:***

### Arson

Recorded arson has increased by 53 incidents compared to the period in 2019 / 20, this is an area we will work hard to improve; however, we have achieved the three-year target by over 12%. Throughout the year we continued to work in collaboration with our Police, Local Authority, Environmental Health and third sector partners to try and overcome the anti-social behaviour seen in certain areas which is linked to the prevalence of arson. We have implemented new ways of working for monitoring and actioning trends by making full use of the CLM model, with

watch managers taking ownership within individual wards to drive the incident numbers down. As covid restrictions ease we will embed and assure this process further.

### **Arson - Primary Fires**

Occurrence of Primary Fires has achieved the set target (1%), This is above the previous year by 25 incidents. Most of the incidents are deliberately set fires to vehicles (63%). We have seen a rise of deliberate vehicle fires linked to gangs and organised crime; we are working closely our police colleagues to aid the investigation and preventative workstreams. Encouragingly, only seven incidents of arson occurred with dwellings and eight in non-domestic properties; the majority damaging property when spreading from secondary fires externally. We carry out environmental visual audits and report issues to the local authority and highlight dangers of rubbish stored externally to both dwelling owners/occupiers and business owners when carrying out both Safe and Well and Operational Risk Visits

### **Arson - Secondary Fires**

Secondary Fires increased by 28 incidents compared to the previous year, however we have still achieved the target by 15.7%. Most secondary fires involved refuse, 378 incidents (58%) and vegetation 132 incidents (20%). Refuse incident increased by 34 in comparison to the same period in 2019 / 20. The council closures of waste recycling sites is a contributory factor in conjunction with school closures and the warm dry spell of weather. During the lockdown we proactively worked in partnership with Environmental Health (EH) and the local authority to try and reduce these nuisance fires with EH issuing prohibitive and prosecution measures. Alongside the easing of covid restrictions we have worked with neighbourhood police teams and youth workers to target hotspot areas and deliver joint awareness sessions within the education system. This is a key area of focused working moving into 21/22 and is a district priority to reduce these incidents and the impacts of anti-social behaviour.

### **Actual Rescues**

The district has seen a large decrease in actual rescues across the period compared to 2019 / 20 (31%). This is pleasing as rescues do have correlation to injuries and fatalities. Most of these incident types are the 'Gaining Entry Cause for Concern' workstream and assisting other agencies such as the police. Rescues from RTCs reduced from 35 in 19 / 20 to 22 this year, there is no doubt that less traffic on the roads due to covid would have influenced these figures but this a priority area for the district. We will continue to deliver and expand education and awareness with our colleges/ academies and work with partners at safer roads forums to prevent serious injury.

### **Dwelling Fires**

The district saw one less dwelling fire compared to 2019 / 20, with an overall reduction against the three-year average of 3.7%. The occurrence of dwelling fires is spread across the district with Wakefield, Castleford and Pontefract seeing a higher number of incidents compared to the other areas in the district. Analysis of the incidents has revealed that most were small fires limited to item first ignited or kept within the room of origin; this is a positive sign and demonstrates the effectiveness of our safe and well guidance, however, we will continue to monitor dwelling fire trends and identify risk reduction initiatives and follow up campaigns to drive the figure down further.

## **Non – Domestic Building Fires**

The district saw a significant decrease compared to the three-year average and a drop of 17 incidents compared to 2019 / 20. Incidents have been recorded across the district with no specific trends identified. The majority of these fires resulted from processes or equipment that had failed causing overheating, smouldering or limited fire development, resulting in insignificant damage to the buildings or businesses. The closure of businesses due to Covid will have partly contributed to the reduction in numbers.

## **Prevalence of False Alarms**

Prevalence of False Alarms remains the single largest area of operational activity in the district. Although we had a rise of 60 incidents, we have achieved the agreed three-year target. This rise can be attributed to the Covid the lockdown period. More households were at home (cooking and people used fire as a way of disposing of refuse). The false alarms caused by apparatus (equipment faults) was relatively static. Stations and the district team continue to work with Fire Protection Inspectors and partners to drive down unwanted fire signals and target premises with a high number of false alarms calls.

## **Fire Related Injuries**

Although the fire related statistics are encouraging, one less than the previous year and 19.7% below the set average; unfortunately, three of these injuries proved to be fatal incidents. We have conducted serious incident reviews in collaboration with partners regarding these incidents to identify any learning to continue to drive down fire related injuries. Thankfully, many fire related injuries are minor and most commonly; smoke inhalation resulting in precautionary check-ups for the casualty.

## **Road Traffic Collisions (RTC)**

Reducing RTCs continues to be a district priority. There was a significant reduction in road traffic incidents, a decrease of 39 incidents compared with 2019 / 20 and 39.5% lower compared to the three-year average. The overriding factor in these reductions will be attributed to the Covid pandemic and subsequent lockdown. This resulted in significantly less traffic on our district roads and motorways. Throughout this period, we still had virtual attendance on the West Yorkshire Safer Roads Steering Group and will reintroduce local initiatives delivering impactful safety training and safety messages; when applicable. We will be working closely with Safer Roads Wakefield and various other local agencies to increase engagement with young drivers to build on this performance. It is a priority within the district action plan, and we will implement and expand our education and awareness sessions to our main target audience 16–20-year-olds.

## **Malicious False Alarms**

The district saw a significant decrease of 52.4% below the set target, equating to just 13 incidents within the period compared to 23 in 2019. The closure of schools, colleges and business during the pandemic will have attributed to the reduction in incidents. We will continue to engage with local schools and colleges to deliver educational programmes focused on raising awareness of fire safety and the impacts and consequences of inappropriate behaviour and the malicious use/activation of alarms. We will also promote and support brigade and national campaigns regarding this issue.

## **Total Activity**

Wakefield district has disappointingly seen an overall increase in total activity (95) compared to the previous period in 2019, a rise of 3.2% but it is within the three-year set target (2.3% below). The implications of the Covid pandemic, lockdown and prolonged dry, warm weather are significant factors in the rise in activity. Community engagement was difficult due to the circumstances, but we endeavoured to deliver our services in other ways. We continued to work effectively with partners in a new virtual manner and as restrictions ease, we will see a return to normality and more business as usual in terms of risk reduction and collaborative working within the community. We hope to implement the proactive measures for the continued reduction of incidents include engaging with local schools, community anchors/hubs, businesses, and partner agencies as soon as guidance allows.

## **Summary**

Wakefield District experienced large decreases in certain areas of operational activity and moderate rises in other areas. It is extremely encouraging that all the indicators are within the three-year set target. A priority is to ensure that our work and initiatives within the community is restarted when normality resumes; in the interim though we are continuing to provide an excellent level of service in other ways utilising new ways of working and technology. We are pleased with the significant reductions in some of the indicators but will not be complacent and continue to try and reduce the most serious and impactful issues for our community. Station based personnel and district prevention staff will actively continue to engage with partners and local community-based groups in identifying vulnerable people. Our district action plan highlights the priorities moving forward and we will embed, reinforce, and deliver innovative risk reduction activities around fire, road safety, water safety and anti-social behaviour in conjunction with key partners.

Bradford District – Performance 2020 – 21

BRADFORD LOCAL AUTHORITY (DRRT) - PERFORMANCE MONITORING SYSTEM					
DATE:		VISITING COMMANDERS:			
OFFICERS PRESENT:					
DEFINITIONS					
3 YEAR AVG TARGET (Previous 3 Years)	Average performance from the previous 3 financial years, used as the target for this current year				
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END OF YEAR PROJECTION (Current Year)	Projected value at the end of the financial year based on Total So Far and the number of days remaining				
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			TOTAL SO FAR (2020/21)	AGAINST 3 YEAR AVG (2020/21)	END OF YEAR PROJECTION (2020/21)
Arson	2193	1870	1993	-9.1%	1993
Arson - Primary Fires	443	380	369	-16.6%	369
Arson - Secondary Fires	1776	1490	1624	-8.6%	1624
Actual Rescues	199	268	194	-2.4%	194
Total Activity	6347	6043	6298	-0.8%	6298
Dwelling Fires	316	341	293	-7.2%	293
Non-Domestic Building Fires	95	87	76	-20.0%	76
Prevalence of False Alarms	2502	2435	2560	2.3%	2560
Fire Related Injuries	52	42	48	-7.7%	48
Road Traffic Collisions	134	133	105	-21.6%	105
Malicious False Alarms	123	113	126	2.7%	126

**The District performance in the following areas has met or exceeded the target set:**

### **Arson – Primary Fires**

Bradford District has seen some really positive results for primary arson incidents throughout the year 2020 / 21. A reduction of around 16.6% against the three-year average. We feel strong partnership work has contributed significantly to this reduction. Arson related dwelling fires have reduced from 78 to 56 and Non-Domestic building fires have reduced significantly from 65 to 36 from the same date comparative of 2019.

There have been repeated calls and arson recorded incidents within Amberley Court which is in the Bradford Moor Ward. Due to numerous attendances at the address, a meeting was held, and information passed to both the local Ward officers and the Neighbourhood Policing teams in April 2021. As a result of this meeting, regular updates were made between emergency services and council bodies and we have now seen a reduction in these type of fires in this area. Communication and proactive work in targeted areas help to improve the community cohesion between residents and agencies.

### **Arson – Secondary Fires**

Secondary arson numbers continue to reduce in Bradford against the 3 - year average, albeit there has been an increase compared to the same period from the previous year.

The lockdown has meant establishments such as schools and household waste sites were closed as a temporary measure. This was also coupled with unusually hot weather during in spring 2020 which saw deliberate grassland fires increase. As a direct result, we feel this has had a significant impact on secondary arson incidents. The breakdown of the overall figure shows that 61% of the reported fires were recorded as refuse/fly tipping. To combat the growth in this area – operational fire crews have conducted environmental visual audits to identify potential fire risks and fly tipping sites. Using the app 'fix my street' we have been able to quickly report any fly tipping to the local council and have found it a successful and efficient way of communicating, and therefore removing the risk more efficiently.

Using the performance management system, local fire crews identified a trend of incidents within the Little Horton ward located on Arum Street. The responsible Watch Commander opened up an action log for this area based on our regular attendance to refuse/fly tipping fires on a derelict piece of land. The refuse is being left and causing vermin to be attracted to the vicinity – and youths who frequent the area are repeatedly igniting it. In January 2021, contact was made with Ward Officers and Neighbourhood Policing teams to monitor the area in order to reduce activity. Environmental Audits were taken regularly by our on-duty crews and activity passed to the involved agencies. This is an ongoing case that has now been escalated within the council for actions to take place.

### **Dwelling Fires**

There has been a notable reduction of 7.2 % against the three-year average for dwelling fires in Bradford. This equates to a decrease of 48 incidents compared to the same period in 2019.

COVID restrictions have heavily impacted on our ability to carry out Safe and Well visits in the local community, however, we have continued to deliver a limited service. We are providing full telephone assessments where all risks are identified, and measures put in place to ensure the safety of the occupant. Where it is identified that the occupant has no working smoke detection – a delivery is made within the same day. Specialist prevention teams are working with the most vulnerable people within Bradford. This contact has emphasised to the community the need to be fire aware during the lock down period and advice on cooking, electrical appliances and other issues such as smoking and alcohol were given.

## **Non-Domestic Buildings Fires**

Bradford District has seen a pleasing reduction in Non-Domestic Building fires again this year in comparison to 2019 / 20 and against the three-year average.

West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue conduct Operational Risk Visits (ORV) to each commercial building. In the cases of medium to high risk buildings, these are conducted on an annual basis and it is part of the district plan to ensure building awareness and firefighter safety whilst at incidents. The purpose of the visit is also to speak with building management on their responsibility to themselves and their staff on their awareness of the building regulations, risk assessments and general fire safety awareness.

Using our new PMI reporting tool we can monitor and action contributing factors to rising statistics. This enables us to identify a trend and take action to reduce incidents. An example of this working practice is Tesco Express, Low Moor, Odsal Station area. There had been a total of 15 alarm actuations from Feb 2019 through to 2020. 3 of the actuations were within a month. This trend was identified by monitoring our Firemap system. The responsible watch manager was able to contact our internal Protection officer to report his concerns and to liaise with Tesco to raise our concerns. It was identified that the 'smoke cloak' in the building was faulty and due to the changing of staff within the Tesco chain – this repeat occurrence had not been noticed. A request was made to Tesco to have the smoke cloak repaired as a matter of urgency. This request was actioned and as a result we have had no further actuated alarms at this premise. All communication with the varying departments and Tesco was logged on the PMI action card with contact details and date and time stamp - ensuring that whichever watch is on duty, the actions can be updated and therefore regularly monitored until a satisfactory result is met. Working proactively will allow watches to reduce statistics.

## **Actual Rescues**

Actual rescues have decreased significantly this year, by 74 compared to the same period last year. Out of the recorded incidents of this financial year – 44 of these were rescues from fire, 74 from RTCs and the remainder from other incidents such as machinery entrapment, lift rescues etc. We continue to assist other emergency services in gaining access to properties.

Water rescue – significant incident. Goits Waterfall, Cullingworth 30/03/2021



Throughout the month of March, we saw a brief period of unusually warm conditions. Firefighters from Fairweather Green attended an incident at Goits Waterfall where there were reports of a 13-year-old male who had not emerged from the water after getting into difficulty. This rescue was attended in a very isolated area and sadly resulted in one fatality.

In order to protect young people and to prevent further injury, a WYFRS water safety package was disseminated around schools within the district prior to the spring break holidays. This package received excellent feedback.

## **Road Traffic Collisions**

Road Traffic collisions have reduced since last year; from 133 to 105 incidents and have decreased significantly by 21.6% against the three-year average. This reduction can be linked to the lockdown restrictions which resulted in fewer cars on the road. West Yorkshire Police focused on several main 'hot spot' areas in Bradford to further reduce speeding e.g Leeds road and Great Horton Road. Operation Steerside continue to use resources to enforce when available – using PSPO areas to target and reduce unsafe road behaviours.

Preparations have been underway to build the 'Road Safety Roadshow' to the young people of Bradford (Yr12 & Yr13)– planning will still take place shortly, however a live date will be delayed until further COVID restrictions are removed.

## **Fire Related Injuries**

Although the figure shows an increase of six instances of fire related injuries compared to last year, we are 7.7% under the three-year average, interrogating the data shows that there are no specific trends or particular areas to target. As a result, we will continue to provide Safe & Well education verbally via telephone and will await restrictions to be lifted for us to conduct full Safe and Well visits. We will use social media to raise awareness to common causes of fire such as cooking, electrical and heating appliances which equally contribute to the common causes.

## **Performance in the following areas where indicators require focus;**

### **Prevalence of False Alarms**

Due to the impact of COVID we can speculate that there have been contributory factors to the slight rise of attendances in relation to this performance indicator. Causes such as residents being within their homes more, using cooking facilities more regularly and therefore resulting in an increase of domestic actuated fire alarms.

Businesses that were occupied regularly were also closed during lockdown and therefore testing and maintenance of alarms were limited, staff were not in attendance to identify false alarms and therefore fire service attendance was compulsory. 92% of incidents attended were due to faulty apparatus or good intent. We can hopefully see this figure reduce over the next six months as businesses get back to some type of normality.

The National Fire Chiefs Council had an expectation that figures would rise in this category and this has been confirmed nationally as a trend throughout commercial businesses.

### **Malicious False Alarms**

There has been a slight increase in malicious false alarms of 2.7% against the 3-year average (this equates to 3 incidents). Some individual premises have been identified as 'repeat' offenders

for deliberate actuations of call-points and work is on-going to support them to try and reduce malicious calls.

Using the PMI monitoring system, fire crews are now able to identify and record trends more accurately. Since the start of the pilot, we have resolved 15 repeat actuation issues throughout the district and are currently working on resolving several others. One example is Gratton House, Sunbridge Well, city ward. Local fire crews were regularly being mobilised to the building; as a result, they contacted the building owner/manager to discuss the issue. Investigations are now underway to identify the suspect who is deliberately targeting the alarm. There has been a raised police presence requested due to anti-social behaviour and the area is now being monitored more robustly, hopefully resulting in a reduction of false alarms.

We will continue to work with Control to 'call challenge' when appropriate and we will also continue to push the message out via media and through community liaison around the consequences and impacts of malicious activity.

## **Summary**

Bradford district have made great progress over the last 12 months across most of the performance indicators despite the continued challenge of the pandemic. COVID restrictions have continued to impact on both our Fire Prevention and Fire Protection activity but, despite this, we have seen significant reductions particularly around primary arson, dwelling fires, building fires and RTCs. Fire crews and prevention officers have continued with prevention work, but this has been happening remotely in many cases, giving advice over the telephone and only visiting the higher risk individuals.

Bradford has experienced several 'large scale' incidents over the last twelve months which has really tested the response, both in Bradford and across the whole service. The firefighters have worked extremely hard and done an amazing job dealing with these fires, demonstrating their professionalism and resolve throughout. The waste tyre fire on Spring Mill Street in Bradford was one of the largest fires in the city's history – the incident demonstrated partnership working at its best in order to deal with the incident as safely and effectively as possible.

As a district, our focus is very much on recovery from the pandemic as we cautiously move out of Covid restrictions. The Bradford district plan details our priorities over the next year which includes working with partners around water safety, reducing moorland fires and community engagement.

Bradford district staff continue to demonstrate resilience and determination through what continues to be a really challenging period. We will continue to adapt in our 'ways of working', ensuring we can provide a high level of service whilst working to reduce incidents and ultimately keep the community of Bradford safe.

## Kirklees District – Performance 2020 - 21

KIRKLEES LOCAL AUTHORITY (DRRT) - PERFORMANCE MONITORING SYSTEM					
DATE:		VISITING COMMANDERS:			
OFFICERS PRESENT:					
DEFINITIONS					
3 YEAR AVG TARGET (Previous 3 Years)	Average performance from the previous 3 financial years, used as the target for this current year				
SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR (Previous Year)	Cumulative total for the same period in the previous year				
TOTAL SO FAR (Current Year)	Cumulative total for current year so far				
PROJECTION AGAINST 3 YEAR AVERAGE (Current Year)	Comparison of projected annual activity against the 3 year average target – Red (outside 10% of target), Amber (within 10% of target), Green (target achieved or exceeded)				
END OF YEAR PROJECTION (Current Year)	Projected value at the end of the financial year based on Total So Far and the number of days remaining				
	3 YEAR AVG TARGET (2017/20)	SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR (2019-31/03/20)	[Values to 31 Mar 2021 23:59:59]		
			TOTAL SO FAR (2020/21)	AGAINST 3 YEAR AVG (2020/21)	END OF YEAR PROJECTION (2020/21)
Arson	982	766	750	-23.6%	750
Arson - Primary Fires	232	208	185	-20.3%	185
Arson - Secondary Fires	750	558	565	-24.7%	565
Actual Rescues	163	185	165	1.0%	165
Total Activity	4057	3910	3930	-3.1%	3930
Dwelling Fires	183	189	184	0.5%	184
Non-Domestic Building Fires	62	57	51	-18.2%	51
Prevalence of False Alarms	1823	1867	1926	5.7%	1926
Fire Related Injuries	38	42	24	-33.9%	24
Road Traffic Collisions	124	148	78	-38.5%	78
Malicious False Alarms	58	46	25	-56.9%	25

## **District performance in the following areas exceeded the required target set:**

### **Arson**

Kirklees District has achieved its target on overall arson by 23.6%. This continued success is attributed to the drive from district to highlight the issue of arson and its links to broader societal issues.

The Arson Steering Group is now fully embedded within Kirklees Safer Communities, with all partners fully engaged. Although we are mindful of the challenges due to the link that both anti-social behaviour and crime have with arson, we are committed to continually engaging with local communities through a number of different forums to further drive down arson. One example of this work was all partner agencies coming together to prevent an escalation of anti-social behaviour in a local park. This work reduced the incidents in this area by almost 100% over a couple of months.

Work is ongoing to ensure that reporting and recording of arson incidents is in line with national guidance. This will provide a more consistent approach and help identify trends and implement initiatives in the correct locations and in a timelier manner.

### **Primary Fires**

Kirklees District has surpassed its target for primary arson by 20.3%, with 23 fewer incidents than the same period last year. A data led approach has highlighted that over 60% of these incidents were vehicle fires which were also linked to Organised Crime Groups. Due to the excellent work with our Police partners these incidents have significantly reduced.

These types of incidents are being monitored by the Arson Steering Group and action plans are in place to deal with any future occurrences. The way in which incidents of this nature are rapidly picked up and identified in district is testament to the robust review and implementation of the revised District Risk Reduction Strategy and the links that have been forged with partners.

### **Secondary fires**

Innovative partnership working has been pivotal in driving secondary arson figures to 24.7% below the three-year average. Although there are still challenges ahead, with the commitment and hard work of all partners, and correct reporting procedures embedded, we should see this downward trend continue.

### **Total Activity**

We have seen an increase of 20 incidents compared to the same period last year, which is largely attributed to the change in policy to increase attendance to automatic fire alarms during the COVID period. We have now reverted to our normal policy, which has had a positive impact on total activity and helped us achieve our three-year average target by 3.1%.

We recognise there is still work to do in all areas to drive down risk further. Through our risk reduction activities and engagement with key partners we will continue to work hard on targeted campaigns in all areas to make the community of Kirklees safer.

### **Non-Domestic Building Fires**

Kirklees was successful in achieving the three-year average by 18.2%, with a decrease of six non-domestic building fires compared to the same period last year. This is partly due to identifying incident trends and ensuring that property owners take responsibility for securing their buildings.

A number of partnership approaches are ongoing across the district to ensure building owners are taking responsibility for their properties.

### **Fire Related Injuries**

Kirklees District has seen a reduction in fire related injuries compared with the same period last year and has met the target against this indicator by 33.9%. The district continues to improve and refine its 'Safe and Well' strategy and work with partner agencies to reduce the risk of fire.

We have had to be creative in terms of our prevention response and activity during the COVID pandemic and we've adapted to a telephone based Safe and Well approach and restricted home visiting to the most vulnerable. Furthermore, we have forged close working relationships with Kirklees CarePhones Homes Safety Service and following a telephone triage discussion with a new referral, we were now able to initiate interventions such as the fitting of heat detectors and linked smoke detection in a more streamlined manner.

In addition, The Kirklees Multi-Agency Hoarding Panel, which is chaired and facilitated by Kirklees District on behalf of the Kirklees Adult Safeguarding Board, established itself virtually and continued to process and review referrals during this period, dealing with complex cases through a multi-agency approach to mitigate risks.

Kirklees District will continue adapting the Safe and Well programme locally in response to the post-Covid backdrop, ensuring that we continue to target the most vulnerable members of our community.

### **Road Traffic Collisions**

There have been 76 road traffic collisions requiring a fire service response in this reporting period, this is a 49% reduction on the same period last year and a 38.5% reduction on the three-year average.

The Kirklees Road Safety Partnership are currently working up our action plan for the Vision Zero strategy which it is hoped will further reduce road traffic related deaths and serious injuries.

### **Malicious False Alarms**

Kirklees District has met its target for malicious false alarms by 56.9% and has seen a large reduction in the number of incidents compared to the same period last year. This is due to the excellent work that has been carried out by Fire Protection, partners and the district team. A number of initiatives have been implemented in areas where we have seen repeat incidents, and every education facility within Kirklees received a letter and advice on the reduction of false alarms, with the offer of support from the district team.

District performance in the following areas was within 10% of the target set:

### **Actual Rescues**

We have experienced a decrease in the number of actual rescues compared with the same period last year, but we were 1% above the three-year average target.

As a district, we continue to educate the community through our Safe and Well strategy on the importance of having an escape plan in the event of a fire. There is also a significant amount of work ongoing with partners to reduce the amount of RTCs. The Road Safety Group have commissioned an academic study to look at trends and causation factors associated with RTCs, and moving forward, this intelligence will provide a more targeted approach to road safety initiatives.

## **Dwelling Fires**

We have seen 5 fewer dwelling fires than the same period last year. Intelligence gathering within this area has identified a rise in incidents associated with cooking and electrical fires. District are leading on a 'home fire safety' media campaign, complimented by partnership involvement, which has had a positive impact, albeit, we marginally missed our three-year average target by 0.5%.

## **Prevalence of False Alarms**

The introduction of the revised automatic fire alarm attendance policy during the COVID period has had a negative impact on the figures and as a result we have seen an increase of 59 incidents compared to the same period last year. The continued work of local partners and our Protection teams has had a positive impact, but we narrowly missed our three-year target by 5.7%.

We will continue to work with local businesses where we identify repeat occurrences and will utilise support from the Fire Protection Team. Where incidents occur in residential homes the District Team will deliver collaborative initiatives with partners and engage with residents.

## **Summary**

Kirklees District has seen considerable progress and extremely positive results in relation to fire related injuries, road traffic collisions and malicious false alarms. Good progress has been made against arson, primary fires, secondary fires, non-domestic building fires, and total activity, and we have achieved our three-year target for all of the above.

Although some success has been observed, we are committed to focus on the challenges around dwelling fires, road safety and false alarms. This cannot be delivered in isolation and we will focus our efforts on proactive approaches and sharing of intelligence with key partners to identify areas of risk and address this through our risk reduction activity.

We will continue to take the lead within the Arson Reduction Steering Group and Road Safety Partnership, and through the Road Safety Group, new initiatives will be discussed based on the Vision Zero action plan.

Moving forward, additional focus and engagement will be placed around the Dewsbury South and East Wards. Our teams are currently working closely with Safer Kirklees and West Yorkshire Police, but there is further work to be done in relation to youth anti-social behaviour and the dumping of waste. We have requested that community support officers carry out additional engagement within these areas and that the Police and Community Environmental Support Officers increase their patrols.

The team are dedicated to making Kirklees a safer place for our community and will continue to build on the close working relationships forged with Kirklees CarePhones Homes Safety Service and the Kirklees Multi-Agency Hoarding Panel to minimise the risk to the most vulnerable in society. We will be pragmatic in our approach and will not rest on our laurels. The focus moving forward will be to build on the positive results achieved so far.

Calderdale District – Performance 2020 – 21

CALDERDALE LOCAL AUTHORITY (DRRT) - PERFORMANCE MONITORING SYSTEM					
DATE:	VISITING COMMANDERS:				
OFFICERS PRESENT:					
DEFINITIONS					
3 YEAR AVG TARGET (Previous 3 Years)	Average performance from the previous 3 financial years, used as the target for this current year				
SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR (Previous Year)	Cumulative total for the same period in the previous year				
TOTAL SO FAR (Current Year)	Cumulative total for current year so far				
PROJECTION AGAINST 3 YEAR AVERAGE (Current Year)	Comparison of projected annual activity against the 3 year average target – Red (outside 10% of target), Amber (within 10% of target), Green (target achieved or exceeded)				
END OF YEAR PROJECTION (Current Year)	Projected value at the end of the financial year based on Total So Far and the number of days remaining				
	3 YEAR AVG TARGET (2017/20)	SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR (2019-31/03/20)	<i>[values to 31 Mar 2021 23:59:59]</i>		
			TOTAL SO FAR (2020/21)	AGAINST 3 YEAR AVG (2020/21)	END OF YEAR PROJECTION (2020/21)
Arson	382	332	379	-0.8%	379
Arson - Primary Fires	78	80	90	15.4%	90
Arson - Secondary Fires	311	252	289	-7.1%	289
Actual Rescues	97	142	93	-4.4%	93
Total Activity	2075	2245	2265	9.2%	2265
Dwelling Fires	105	104	97	-7.3%	97
Non-Domestic Building Fires	35	44	32	-9.4%	32
Prevalence of False Alarms	889	975	1057	18.9%	1057
Fire Related Injuries	23	22	13	-42.7%	13
Road Traffic Collisions	62	69	46	-25.4%	46
Malicious False Alarms	29	28	37	29.1%	37



## **The District performance in the following areas either meets or exceeds the required target:**

### **Arson**

For 2020 / 21 Calderdale District have achieved the target set for arson by -0.8%. with a total of 379 arson incidents recorded. This has been extremely challenging and testament to the established partnership working within the district. The majority of these incidents result from 289 secondary fires attributed to refuse, tipped waste and grass being deliberately ignited. Unfortunately, we are seeing more people tipping unwanted rubbish and setting fire to it, this appears to be a common problem within several communities across the district. We continue to work with our partners locally to prevent unwanted anti-social fires and we will report instances of waste build-up and fly tipping to the Calderdale Council waste clearance department. We will continue to work with our local partner agencies within these communities to target these unwanted deliberately fires.

### **Dwelling Fires**

It's encouraging to note that Calderdale District is achieving the set target for house fires by 7.3%, with a total of 97 dwelling fires recorded across Calderdale for the year. This year-on-year reduction can be attributed to our commitment to the ongoing community prevention incentives undertaken by Calderdale firefighters, prevention teams and partners. During the Covid-19 pandemic and associated restrictions, operation crews and prevention staff have had to change the way they operate, deliver services, and engage with our communities. We have utilised information technology, adapted the telephone-based risk assessment proforma and firefighters have prioritised physical safety visits to the most vulnerable members of our communities. As we continue to operate within Covid-19 associated restrictions, we will continue to monitor local incident trends and deliver interventions proactively and as necessary. We will continue to provide fire safety advice and engage with the most vulnerable within the community.

### **Non-Domestic Fires**

The number of non-domestic building fires is 9.4% below the target set for Calderdale for the year. There has been a total of 32 reportable non-domestic building fires, which equates to a reduction of 12 the previous year. This number is attributed to the close partnership working from the Safer Greener Cleaner groups within Calderdale. These groups work together to reduce crime and disorder and develop action plans to reflect locally identified issues.

### **Road Traffic Collisions**

Calderdale District has achieved the target set by 25.4% with 46 incidents recorded in 2020 / 21, a substantial reduction of 23 incidents from the previous year. Calderdale District is proud to be an active member and support the Calderdale Road Safety Delivery Group. We will continue to work collaboratively with our Police colleagues and partnerships to identify local hot spots and areas of concern. The District will actively support local partnership road safety incentives and will be proactive during local targeting operations to engage with motorists and provide road safety advice to make Calderdale roads safer.

### **Actual Rescues**

Calderdale District has achieved the target for actual rescues by 4.4 % with 93 rescues recorded for this period. A significant proportion of these rescues result from the mobilisations to assist the Yorkshire Ambulance Service under the MoU in relation to supporting gaining entry to properties in Calderdale.

## **Fire Related Injuries**

Calderdale District is significantly below the set target by 42.7%. These injuries occurred across a number of different incidents. All the properties involved had working smoke detection installed and this advocates the work being undertaken by WYFRS personnel when delivering Safe and Well visits.

## **Performance in the following areas which fall below the target set:**

### **Malicious False Alarms**

The number of false alarms is 29.1 % above the target set, with a total of 37 incidents recorded for the year. Most of these false alarms were attributed to a household with supported independent living arrangements in place. We also engaged with local house providers in relation to managing their fire call points. This resulted in their estate teams undertaking visits at the identified properties. There have only been eight additional malicious false alarms since the last report in October.

### **Prevalence of False Alarms**

The number of false alarms is 18.9% above the target set, with a total of 1057 incidents recorded for the year. The change in mobilising during lockdown where crews attended non-commercial buildings in daytime hours has been a contributing factor on this increase.

Calderdale District held a meeting with Together Housing to highlight the unwanted fire alarms within their properties. We utilised the monthly newsletter to highlight the majority of false alarms were from leaving cooking unattended or smoking in communal areas. We are regularly engaging with Calderdale Council and other agencies in relation to reducing these false alarm calls within properties under their portfolio

### **Arson – Primary Fires**

Calderdale District is above the target for primary arson by 15.4 %, with a total of 90 incidents. The breakdown of incidents equates to 11 dwellings, 8 non-domestic properties, 12 outbuildings and 59 vehicle fires. As the figures show, the majority of these 90 incidents were 59 vehicle fires. Most of these incidents are related to stolen cars which are set alight deliberately once they have served their purpose. Vehicle crime is a difficult one to tackle and we are working with our Police partners in identifying ways to address this problem.

### **Total Activity**

The total number of incidents attended across Calderdale is 9.2 % above the target figure set. We have attended 2265 incidents for the year. The District team ensure that areas of high activity are brought to the attention of partners and solutions sought on these parts of the District. The District Team will continue to monitor trends and target resources based on intelligence and the variety of data sets/mapping systems to further reduce the activity in the coming year.

## Summary

Overall Calderdale District Team has worked collaboratively to achieve against the performance targets set. We continue to see positive reduction in several performance indicators, particularly the indicators involving life and property (dwelling fires, building fires, fire related injuries and RTCs). These overall reductions are a direct result of the on-going partnership work carried out by operational crews and prevention staff. The targets continue to be a challenge due to the low figures and the ongoing restrictions relating to community engagement. This affords the District limited ability to absorb any spikes in incidents.

However, we have more work to do around several areas. These targets will require multi agency initiatives targeted at local communities. The pandemic has highlighted changes in behaviour's and we need to broaden our initiatives in both messaging and service delivery.

## Leeds District – Performance 2020 – 21

LEEDS LOCAL AUTHORITY (DRRT) - PERFORMANCE MONITORING SYSTEM					
DATE:		VISITING COMMANDERS:			
OFFICERS PRESENT:					
DEFINITIONS					
3 YEAR AVG TARGET (Previous 3 Years)		Average performance from the previous 3 financial years, used as the target for this current year			
SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR (Previous Year)		Cumulative total for the same period in the previous year			
TOTAL SO FAR (Current Year)		Cumulative total for current year so far			
PROJECTION AGAINST 3 YEAR AVERAGE (Current Year)		Comparison of projected annual activity against the 3 year average target – Red (outside 10% of target), Amber (within 10% of target), Green (target achieved or exceeded)			
END OF YEAR PROJECTION (Current Year)		Projected value at the end of the financial year based on Total So Far and the number of days remaining			
	3 YEAR AVG TARGET (2017/20)	SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR (2019-31/03/20)	[values to 31 Mar 2021 23:59:59]		
			TOTAL SO FAR (2020/21)	AGAINST 3 YEAR AVG (2020/21)	END OF YEAR PROJECTION (2020/21)
Arson	2103	1701	1665	-20.8%	1665
Arson - Primary Fires	460	443	336	-26.9%	336
Arson - Secondary Fires	1571	1258	1329	-15.4%	1329
Actual Rescues	295	364	331	12.3%	331
Total Activity	8518	8336	8314	-2.4%	8314
Dwelling Fires	409	380	370	-9.6%	370
Non-Domestic Building Fires	166	184	101	-39.2%	101
Prevalence of False Alarms	4084	4124	4128	1.1%	4128
Fire Related Injuries	57	48	49	-13.5%	49
Road Traffic Collisions	220	230	154	-30.1%	154
Malicious False Alarms	111	105	73	-34.4%	73

## **The District performance in the below areas exceeds the set target:**

### **Arson**

Leeds District has seen a continued reduction against the arson performance target by 21%. Having raised the profile of arson and its association with ASB within Safer Leeds community partnership agenda this has enabled targeted initiatives by Crews and the districts Prevention Team, along with establishing new and further developing relationships across the district. This is seen to have been a key factor in continuing the decreasing arson trend.

### **Arson – Primary Fires**

As we continue to address domestic arson concerns via Safe and Well referrals and visits to properties, working closely with our Leeds Front Door Safeguarding Team and Police colleagues, we have seen a continued reduction across the district of 27% against the annual target.

Throughout the Coronavirus pandemic we have seen an increase in referrals for arson concerns, and the city has seen an increase in the use of its domestic violence service. However, a rise in actual incidents of this nature has not been observed and our efforts to maintain a level of appropriate service delivery have continued through proactive risk reduction and prevention working and early intervention. Moving forward, a review and establishment of an intelligence & data driven approach will enable us to progress our agenda's through the Safer Leeds partnership and continue to reduce incidents of arson to properties.

### **Arson – Secondary Fires**

It was anticipated that deliberate secondary fires may increase as recycling centres closed due to the Coronavirus Pandemic. However, Leeds has seen a reduction of 15% in secondary arson fires over this reporting period when compared with the target. We maintain our close working relationship within Safer Leeds partnership allowing the reporting of waste and its removal as a priority.

### **Dwelling Fires**

It was expected that with more people remaining at home due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, dwelling fires may have increased as cooking, the use of electrical equipment for home working, home schooling and DIY projects increased. However, Leeds has seen a 10% reduction against the annual target for this reporting period in dwelling fires. Over 1,500 Safe and Well telephone calls have been conducted during the reporting period, with fire safety education and advice being reinforced at every opportunity. Social media channels and working in partnership to promote fire safe practices have been successfully utilised and will continue to do so with the trial of online partnership training from Mid-August in the district. Data analysis identifies that cooking related fires are still most prevalent and require continued campaign and education messages to the elderly and their carers/relatives.

### **Non-Domestic Building Fires**

Leeds District has continued to achieve a significant reduction in this performance area, achieving 39% under target. A significant factor being the progression and development of educational packages through the Prison Liaison secondment into the three HM Prisons within the district. During the pandemic, contact has been maintained with the establishments via virtual meetings and where required direct interventions.

## **Fire Related Injury**

With Leeds District observing a decrease in dwelling fires by 10%, it may be expected due to its correlation, that a reduction in fire related injuries follows. We have seen a reduction in fire related injuries by 14% against the target which again is testament to the dedicated hard work Leeds District has undertaken in reducing risk within our communities.

## **Road Traffic Collisions**

Leeds District Prevention Team continues to support and be an influential member of the Leeds Safer Roads Steering Group and is involved in road safety events & campaigns throughout the year. RTCs in Leeds have reduced significantly during this reporting period. As the city returns to normal following the opening of the Coronavirus pandemic road map to recovery, our continued support of the Leeds Safer Roads Partnership and Vision Zero initiative becomes ever more important. We observed a 30% plus reduction in road traffic collisions against the target.

## **Malicious False Alarms**

There has been a significant decrease in this reporting area against the annual target by 34%. This is likely to be attributed to the closure of schools since the start of this reporting period. However, this provides Leeds District with an opportunity to reassess our approach to this type of incident and review the current and previous data sets, developing a suitable approach for maintaining and further reduction in the performance area.

## **Total Activity**

Leeds District has seen an overall decrease in activity over this period of over 2%. This decrease in activity reflects the overall activity across the service during the Coronavirus pandemic. It is also testament to the risk reduction focus that has been tailored toward identifying possible trends associated with changes in public behaviour around Covid.

**The performance in the following areas are outside of targets:**

### **Prevalence of False Alarms**

Leeds District has observed a small increase against this performance objective by 1%. This may be attributed to the fact businesses across the Covid period have been vacant and the ability to call challenge and seek confirmation of an incident occurring has been hindered, therefore requiring a response to be made. The increase has been acknowledged and red watch crews across the district will lead on establishing specific initiatives within their local areas to reduce false alarm levels. This work will be overseen by the Risk Reduction ADC.

### **Actual Rescues**

Since the scheme was launched in 2019, Leeds crews have been responding to assist Yorkshire Ambulance Service to gain entry and responding to medical emergencies. This is a relatively new initiative and has resulted in the district exceeding our target by 12%. We consider this a successful outcome for the co-responding project. Without the actual rescue data being incorporated within this performance area, Leeds would have been under the required target figure.

As we move towards a 'new normal', pivotal to a continued reduction in this area is working in partnership with Safer Leeds on projects to address water and road safety issues. It has been identified over this period that an outcome of restricted social activity is the use increased of 'out doors' during warm weather such including water ways and reservoirs. Leeds District has

established a multi-agency water safety group and other city-wide community safety groups are being progressed.

## **Summary**

As the District Commander, it is important for me to acknowledge the impressive work and efforts of the team throughout Leeds District in not only maintaining performance but also continuity of service delivery throughout the Coronavirus pandemic. We continue to focus key activity to support our community and partners through what are unprecedented times.

Overall, Leeds District has seen very positive results across the majority of performance indicators. Whilst there are unknown influencing factors associated with the coronavirus pandemic the dedicated hard work and focus on supporting our community has continued.

The pandemic has shown us that behaviours can be affected by social restrictions and that we must be actively able to respond to such unprecedented circumstances and adjust our approach accordingly. Continued work against these performance areas is required to ensure the trend in reducing the risks is maintained as life returns to a new normality. However, we recognise that we must also analyse the effectiveness of our practices to be able to switch our safety messaging or approach to tailor the requirement of the community and our service delivery.



OFFICIAL

# Spotlight On Community Safety Committee

Date: 23 July 2021

Agenda Item:

7

Submitted By: Director of Service Delivery

<b>Purpose</b>	To provide Members with examples of how the service meets the needs of vulnerable people within the community in its service delivery functions of prevention, protection and response.
<b>Recommendations</b>	That Members of the Community Safety Committee note the contents of this report
<b>Summary</b>	The 'Spotlight On' case studies highlight just some of the excellent work that is being delivered across the communities of West Yorkshire.

Local Government (Access to information) Act 1972

Exemption Category: None

Contact Officer:

AM Service Delivery - Scott Donegan  
Scott.Donegan01@westyorksfire.gov.uk

Background papers open to inspection: None

Annexes: Spotlight On (by District)



## 1 Introduction

- 1.1 WYFRS is committed to meeting the needs of West Yorkshire’s diverse communities. Members are aware that we direct our resources particularly towards the most vulnerable groups and individuals who are most at risk because of their lifestyles, behaviours or the way their protected characteristics, such as race, or religion or belief, influence their day-to-day life.
- 1.2 The Spotlight On case studies allow the Service to demonstrate to Members of the Community Safety Committee how we often go above and beyond in order to provide an excellent service to the people of West Yorkshire and keep vulnerable people safe

## 2 Information

- 2.1 The cases attached to this report showcase how our staff are working across districts in order to reduce risk and where required, respond to emergencies to provide a first class service to people in their time of need.

## 3 Financial Implications

- 3.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report. The activities carried out in the development of the work described come from existing revenue budgets and are supporting through collaboration with key partners.

## 4 Legal Implications

- 4.1 The Monitoring Officer has considered this report and has no observations to make at the time of submission of this report but may provide legal advice at the committee meeting and/or respond to any requests by Members for legal advice made at the meeting.

## 5 Human Resource and Diversity Implications

- 5.1 The ‘Spotlight On’ Case studies illustrate how the Authority meets the needs of service users who share a protected characteristics and how it fosters good relations, two keys requirements of the Public Sector Equality Duty.

## 6 Equality Impact Assessment

Are the recommendations within this report subject to Equality Impact Assessment as outlined in the EIA guidance? ( <a href="#">EIA guidance and form 2020 form.docx (westyorksfire.gov.uk)</a> )	<u>No</u>
Date EIA Completed	DD/MM/YY
Date EIA Approved	DD/MM/YY

## **7 Health, Safety and Wellbeing Implications**

- 7.1 The activities described demonstrate our commitment to improving the health, safety and wellbeing of target groups across the respective districts. All such initiatives will have a focus around our key service priorities.

## **8 Environmental Implications**

- 8.1 Several the risks highlighted in these documents could potentially have a significant impact on the environment locally and service wide, the plans show we have considered these risks and the actions we will take to mitigate the impact.

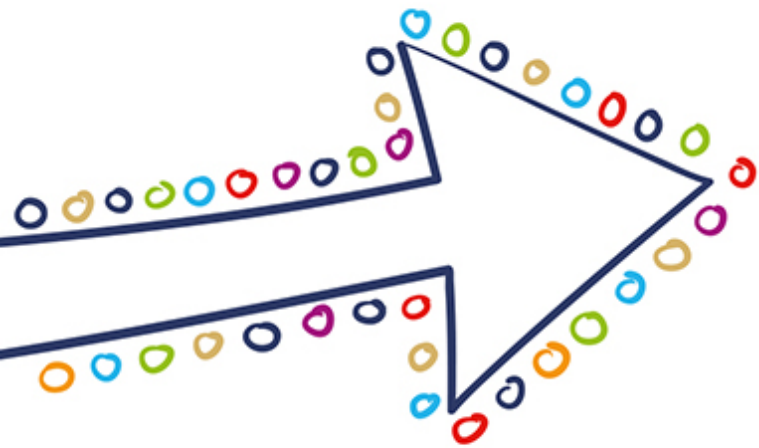
## **9 Your Fire and Rescue Service Priorities**

The Spotlight On case studies attached provide examples of how we deliver against the following key service priorities 2020 - 23:

- We will reduce the risks to the communities of West Yorkshire
- We will work efficiently to provide value for money and make the best use of reserves to provide an effective service
- We will be innovative and work smarter throughout the service
- We will support, develop and enable our people to be at their best
- We will continue working towards delivering a more inclusive workforce, which reflects and serves the needs of the diverse communities of West Yorkshire

## **10 Conclusion**

- 10.1 The documents presented to Community Safety Committee demonstrate how West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service have found innovative ways to make a positive contribution to the communities of West Yorkshire amidst the challenges posed by Covid.



# Spotlight on...

## Ilkley Moor Event #bemooraware



### ➔ What was the need, how was it identified?

West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue have historically attended large scale wildfire incidents on the moorland around Bradford and indeed across all West Yorkshire. A significant wildfire occurred a few years ago on Ilkley Moor which devastated two square miles of moorland and there have been many incidents on the moors since. Warm and dry conditions leave the Moorland at severe risk, causing significant damage to both the landscape and wildlife and can also have a significant financial impact on local areas. A recent wildfire on Marsden Moor saw crews work in partnership to tackle the fire and protect the moorland and surrounding property. This type of incident is very challenging and requires support from all crews around West Yorkshire and other cross border services. It is essential throughout the affected districts that we educate our communities to help them understand the consequences of irresponsible behaviour.

### ➔ What did we do?

As part of the WYFRS #bemooraware campaign and in partnership with our key

stakeholders within the district, such as Bradford Council & Emergency Planning. WYFRS held an event which allowed us to engage with members of the public who actively use the moorland. The event was planned during the recent bank holiday weekend. As a result of recent Covid restrictions it was believed that this day would attract people from around the district and enhance community engagement. The weather on the day was amazing and therefore maximised our interaction with many members of the public. The purpose of our attendance was raising awareness in those who use the moor on a regular basis, to be mindful and vigilant in identifying potential fire risks. The WYFRS Technical Rescue team used their abseiling skills to drop the #bemooraware campaign banner which vailed Ilkley rock face for the afternoon. Crews from Keighley, Ilkley & the wildfire unit attended the event to engage with the public to educate them on potential dangers. Throughout the day the "I-van" (mobile digital screen) manoeuvred around the Moorland areas and urban parts of Keighley and Ilkley displaying educational preventative messages. The technology on the I-van (pictured below) allows us to evaluate the



volume of people that observed the messages and therefore support evaluation of this prevention tool.



Since the start of the campaign, we have had the support of the local areas around the moorland by reporting when they have witnessed BBQ's being used and have reported these directly to Fire Control, which gives us time to investigate and a chance to mitigate a potential large-scale incident.

Areas of the Moorland are now protected by Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) that enable for enforcement should our messages be ignored.

Operational fire crews also engaged with local retail stores providing leaflets and posters to reiterate our message, the leaflets can be distributed with the sale of disposable BBQ's or to anyone planning on walking on the Moorland. In addition to this, crews regularly drive to the moorland to monitor the area and provide reassurance to the public.



### What difference did we make?

Public engagement is paramount to assisting us with such a vast area of potential risk. Educating the public will assist us in spreading our message that it is unsafe to discard cigarettes, have BBQ's, or campfires anywhere on the moorland. It is essential that we inform the public that just one discarded cigarette can destroy hundreds of hectares of land, harm wildlife and cost thousands in reparation.

### What are the keys to our success?

The key to our success is great partnership working throughout the district with agencies such as Bradford Council and local volunteer groups, along with the dedication shown by Bradford District fire crews who proactively look and act upon initiatives to protect the moorland by regularly inspecting and engaging with those who use it. Pitching and displaying banners throughout the entry points to the Moorland act as a reminder when we are not visible to remind those on the moorland of our safety messages. The public have shown great support for this project and regularly contact Fire Control with sightings of smoke to aid a speedy investigative response. Preventing this type of incident is a shared responsibility for the whole District and working together we can highlight dangers and where possible reduce further incidents.

### Contact



Name Benjy Bush



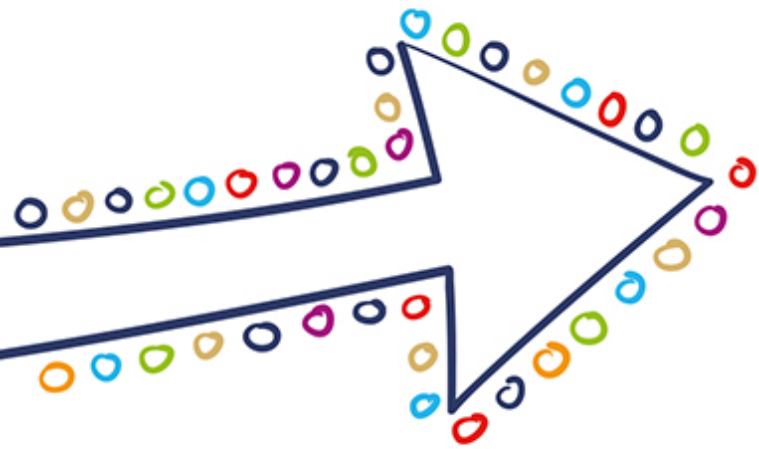
01274 385422



[Ben.bush01@westyorksfire.gov.uk](mailto:Ben.bush01@westyorksfire.gov.uk)







# Spotlight on...



## Calderdale School Transition Packs

### ➔ What was the need, how was it identified?

The transition for pupils moving from primary school to secondary school can be challenging. This has been made even more difficult this year as year 6 children have been unable to attend moving up days, open evenings etc. to find out all about their new school.

To support young people making this move a support pack was produced by the Healthy Futures Calderdale Group. This group offers wellbeing advice, support, signposting and referral service from public health. This is for young people aged 11 - 19.

The material provides children and parents, with tools and materials to support the move from primary school to high school.

Each pack consisted of a Halifax Football Club drawstring bag, reusable water bottle, useful resources and signposting info, including a “top tips” guide produced for us by Year 7 students at Calder High, road and fire safety information, covid support

guide, Living Streets Active Travel, Food for Life, School Nursing, Open Minds and Public Health.

### ➔ What did we do?

WYFRS are part of the Calderdale road safety partnership and agreed to include the road safety flyer within the packs. This information focused on the need to plan ahead and make sure children are equipped with the skills and knowledge they will need to stay safe on or near a road, particular as many have missed out on practicing these skills over the last few months.

Calderdale fire crews delivered these to the 79 primary schools across the District which resulted in 2742 pupils receiving the transition packs.



➔ What difference did we make?

“

Children go through many transitions including starting at a setting for the first time, moving on to a new activity or moving to a new setting or school. Effective transitions are important for children’s emotional wellbeing and achievement, and planning for these transitions is fundamental to effective early years practice.

”



➔ What are the keys to our success?

The key to the success was utilising the crews to embark on improving collaborative working and ensuring we maintain good relationships with our partners within the District. This ensured they felt comfortable in approaching WYFRS to aid in the delivery of the transition packs.

➔ What are we doing next?

We will be doing some evaluation work with the pupils and schools to measure impact and further opportunities.

This is the first year that the packs were produced and going forward this is something we support the development of to ensure our safety advice is reaching young people in community who are developing into responsible adults.



➔ Contact

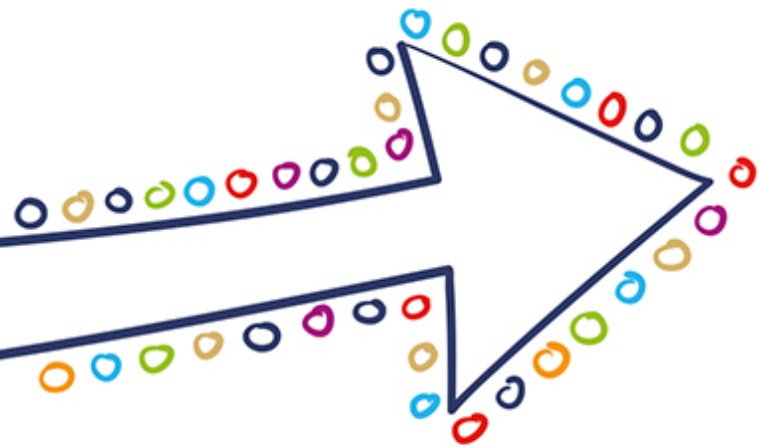


Name Dale Gardiner



Email address Dale.gardiner@westyorksfire.gov.uk





# Spotlight on...



## Modern Slavery Partnership – Use of Kirklees community rooms

“Modern Slavery is real; it is a hidden crime happening in our communities, often in plain sight. Anyone can become a victim of modern slavery - women, men, girls or boys. It is a crime that affects British victims as well as those trafficked into the UK”

Kirklees Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Strategy



### ➔ What was the need, how was it identified?

Tackling human trafficking and modern slavery is one of the priorities under the protecting people from serious harm themes in the Kirklees Partnership Plan. A Kirklees Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking Partnership has been developed to improve collaborative working, implement best practice and ensure effective information sharing with partners within Kirklees, West Yorkshire and at a national and international level.

Safer Kirklees lead on this partnership, working closely with the adult and children safeguarding boards and a number of key partners including the Police, Homes and Neighbourhoods, health, the voluntary sector and West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service. Our approach focuses on raising awareness, intervening early and taking positive action against perpetrators where necessary.

Working on intelligence, the Kirklees Modern Slavery Partnership run “operations” to disrupt this criminal activity and recover potential victims. Where victims are recovered, they are generally debriefed at a local police station, surrounded by large number of uniformed staff. This environment can be quite a daunting one for victims and isn’t conducive to a relaxed atmosphere where they can talk openly and honestly about their current situation. This means potential victims stay closed up and quiet, unwilling to speak – leading to them being taken back to where they were recovered from and potential perpetrators walking free.

It was highlighted that in order to provide an environment where the victims could feel safe, secure and comfortable enough to speak freely with partnership staff, an alternative location needed to be sought.



## ➔ What did we do?

Kirklees District has offered support to the Modern Slavery partnership in the form of these alternative locations. A Service Level Agreement has been produced which allows the partnership to use the community rooms at Huddersfield and Dewsbury fire station's when "operations" are carried out. The community rooms will be used as a safe place for potential victims to be debriefed until a time when they are either taken back home or further safe accommodation has been sought.

Safer Kirklees has also provided both stations with a number of male and female supply bags, which include things such as shower gel, shampoo, tooth brushes, tooth paste and hygiene products, which allows the potential victims to have a wash or shower should they need. The community rooms are also stocked with tea, coffee and food supplies for both victims and partnership staff when notification of an operation is received.

## ➔ What difference did we make?

Having a service level agreement in place for the use of these fire station community rooms has allowed the partnership the freedom to carry out "operations" outside of normal office hours – as other potential alternative locations

were only available Mon – Fri, 9am – 5pm. It has provided a much better, less daunting environment for potential victims and creates a calm and relaxed atmosphere that encourages them to engage.

“*The facility at the fire station was excellent and provided the right conditions to be able to allow the potential victims to relax and talk about what has been happening to them*”

Annette Walton – DC WYP Modern Slavery Team

## ➔ What are the keys to our success?

Improving collaborative working, implementing best practice and ensuring effective information and resource sharing between the agencies involved in the Kirklees Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Partnership has allowed us to ultimately provide a better service for victims and improve the chances of identifying and prosecuting those involved.

## ➔ What are we doing next?

The next stages to improve the link between Kirklees District and the partnership is for the Kirklees Fire Liaison Officer to work in collaboration with the Safer Kirklees Safeguarding officer to provide training for our operational crews and prevention staff around the signs of modern slavery and ways in which this can be reported. We are also looking at the potential to mirror this in other areas of West Yorkshire.

## ➔ Contact

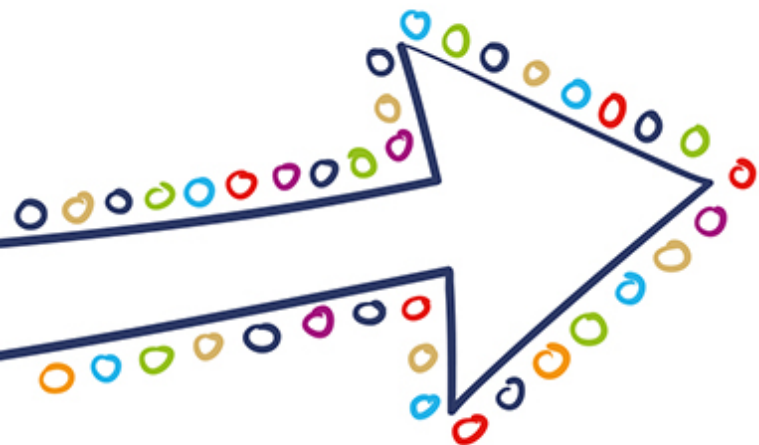


Kirklees District Team



01484 551800





# Spotlight on...

## Leeds District – Water Safety



### ▶ What was the need, how was it identified?

Within Leeds over recent years there has been an increase in water rescue incidents. These are centred around two main elements: broader public use of open water and in specifically in Leeds City Centre the risk of people entering the river.

We have seen a number of incidents where upon arrival it was clear that partner agencies and the public had tried to effect rescues which could have placed the rescuers at risk.

It was identified following these incidents that more structured risk reduction measures and progressive operational planning and integration with other agencies was required.

Leeds District had already pioneered water safety information boards and throw-lines. This and other initiatives are being progressed now as part of the Leeds District priority to reduce water risk and enhance our operational readiness by training to risk.

### ▶ What did we do?

Leeds White Watch have been leading on the development of a virtual training package that can be used by partner agencies to ensure any rescues undertaken are done safely and consistent WYFRS rescue techniques.

Partners such as Leeds City Council Community Wardens, Street Angels, Police, and other local groups will receive the training package that will give an insight in what measures to adopt prior to (but ensuring that) someone calls 999.

Initiatives around the night-time economy and a connection between alcohol consumption and mental health have also been recognised as contributing factors in people entering the river in Leeds City Centre. Campaigns around ‘Don’t drink and drown’ are being re-ignited for when the City night-time economy recovers to a new normality.

Leeds District already have an established group of water safety notices and throw-lines strategically placed through the city and out-lying areas. A review of this capability is underway and through a data

driven and risk reduction approach, we will look to enhance this provision where appropriate.

A key risk reduction objective for Leeds is water safety, with WYFRS now leading a Water Safety group within the Safer Leeds Partnership – the group has been formed and now delivers on key water safety objectives.

### What difference did we make?

With water safety now being driven through a partnership focus we are looking forward to progressing areas of key delivery within training and risk reduction – we also now represent WYFRS within the national NFCC Water Safety group.

We have linked in with key mental health partnerships to also look at how they can support interventions before someone decides to place themselves at risk by entering the river or water course.

We have now collated data across all the partnership and are able to map out risk associated with water incidents and risk – this is proving invaluable in allowing to link the required hierarchy of higher risk areas within Leeds.

We have also made links with West Yorkshire Police who have asked us to assure their own training package around water safety and if required look into giving training to trainee Police Officers.

All Police Officers within Leeds District have received training on WYFRS water safety principles.

We are in the process of mapping out and seeking funding around increasing water safety signage and throwlines through Leeds inner City and outlying areas of risk.

Water Safety is now a key deliverable objective linked to both Leeds District Risk Reduction and Operational Training objectives for 2021/22.

### What are the keys to our success?

Through Covid we have continued focus on evaluating and reducing risk in key areas – one of these areas being water safety.

We are progressing a golden thread principle with all our objectives and hope that working within and leading partnerships for water safety within Leeds will allow successes to be achieved in reducing risk in this area along with multi-agency training and closer working with partners.

### What are we doing next?

Training with Police and partners continues

Virtual training package is being finalised

Wider training incorporating Control and other Service areas

District initiative around water safety and training to risk is being initiated

Looking at a data driven approach whilst involving local commerce into widening the water safety boards and throw-line initiatives

### Contact



Name: Leeds District Commander Toby May

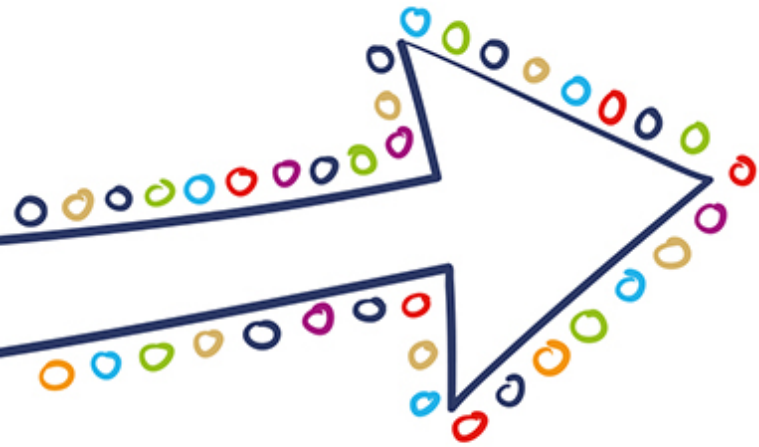
Risk Reduction Lead – Matthew Goodall



Email address: [Matthew.Goodall01@westyorksfire.gov.uk](mailto:Matthew.Goodall01@westyorksfire.gov.uk)







# Spotlight on...

## Wakefield District – Covid 19 – The Journey Continues – June 2021



### ➔ What was the need, how was it identified?

The challenge of Covid is still present within our communities. Wakefield District is continuing to develop and deliver innovative solutions to risks presented by -

- Water Safety
- Arson and Associated Anti-Social Behaviour
- Fuel Poverty – reduce risk of fire fatalities by the unsafe use of portable heaters
- The requirement to continue effective delivery of Safe and Well visits to ensure early intervention and prevention to the most vulnerable within Wakefield

### ➔ What did we do?

- Water Safety - we established a multi-agency water safety group to combat a high demand for service around the district at water sites where young lives were being put in danger by risky behaviour. This is being complimented by an

education work stream delivered by all partners within high schools and on the streets outlining the dangers and consequences of risky behaviour around water. Water Safety training is being delivered to our partners – to those front-line practitioners who may find themselves at the forefront of a water safety incident. This is also being supported with Wakefield Council Health and Safety Team working in collaboration to replace emergency signage and lockable safety equipment at all the 120 sites within Wakefield District

- During the period of January – May 2021 - Castleford saw an escalation of deliberate fires and anti-social behaviour affect the community in Airedale around the local woods and parks running from the Airedale Estate. At the height of the activity crews had responded to at least 60 incidents. To combat the trend and resolve the situation the district



galvanised their efforts with local partners, particularly West Yorkshire Police and Youth Outreach Teams. Visits were carried out to local schools and acting on local intelligence we identified 6 individuals who are now currently being given Arson education and interventions. The fire activity has now ceased

- Wakefield District have forged effective working relationships with key partners across our community. None more so than our local council and all the aspects of their service within which we collaborate daily. A key department with whom we work regularly is the Energy and Affordable Warmth Team. We formulated an initiative with the team around combating fuel poverty. This was an issue coming to the surface during the pandemic as people found themselves fuel poor with little or no means of supporting safe choices of heating due to financial burden and debt. This situation also encouraged the unsafe use of portable heaters and increased the potential for fire fatalities.

The initiative is the Portable Heater Amnesty, and the objectives are.

- Reduce the risk of fire fatalities by replacing old, worn heaters with new safer oil filled radiators
- Provide debt management advice
- Carry out Safe and Well visits



#### ➔ What difference did we make?

We reached and are continuing to reach individuals within the community who are struggling under the pandemic and who were making choices that are placing both themselves, community members and emergency workers at risk

“

*Working Together in effective partnerships we will make a difference*

”

#### ➔ What are the keys to our success?

The key to our success is effective communication and partnership working. The willingness of staff within the district to look at new ways of working and innovative solutions to reach those vulnerable people involved in and affected by the risks identified earlier. Fostering solid and resilient working relationships with those support agencies who with us can make the difference that we strive to achieve as an organisation and ultimately Make West Yorkshire Safer



## ➔ What are we doing next?

We are looking at further initiatives that are currently under development within the district that will look to support both those vulnerable within our community and our front-line staff who have had the added pressure that Covid 19 has brought to their daily lives both in and out of work

We are currently negotiating with our Health and Social Care Partners to become part of the Connect and Care Hubs which form part of an Integrated Care System within the district. This will enable WYFRS within Wakefield to have access to all the key partners of health and social care and provide a referral portal for those agencies to make direct fire service referrals to us to reach those vulnerable individuals with whom they work.

Reinforcing and embedding the Water Safety Group and continuing to deliver early intervention by education and safety training

Creating opportunities for Community Engagement particularly after lockdown restrictions are removed

We are also continuing to support the NHS, Social Care and our local Community and extending our reach with our community assets and anchors.

## ➔ Contact



**Name DPM Donna Wagner**



**Telephone 01924 237340**



[Donna.wagner@westyorksfire.gov.uk](mailto:Donna.wagner@westyorksfire.gov.uk)



## a place to call home: **Big Heater Amnesty**

Are you using portable heaters to keep yourself warm?  
Is your heater old, faulty or broken?  
Are you feeling the chill?

You might qualify for a FREE swap for a new more energy efficient oil fired radiator through our Big Heater Amnesty.

The Big Heater Amnesty offers you the chance to trade in your old portable heater for a new safer model.

This offer is brought to you by the Council's Money Smart Team, Groundwork Yorkshire Green Doctors and West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service.

Contact the Council's Money Smart Team or the Green Doctors to find out if you qualify.

### Money Smart

01924 305892

[moneysmart@wakefield.gov.uk](mailto:moneysmart@wakefield.gov.uk)

[www.wakefield.gov.uk/energy](http://www.wakefield.gov.uk/energy)

[@wakefieldenergy](https://www.facebook.com/wakefieldenergy)

[@wakefieldenergy](https://twitter.com/wakefieldenergy)

### Green Doctors

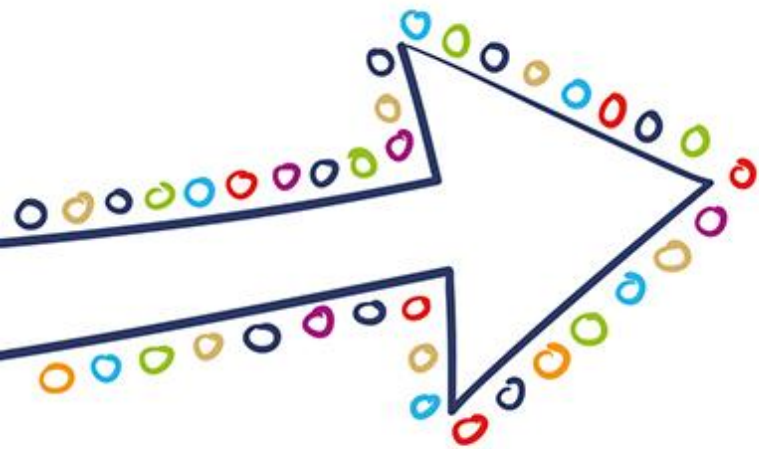
Freephone 0808 1683547

[greendoctorleads@groundwork.org.uk](mailto:greendoctorleads@groundwork.org.uk)



wakefieldcouncil





# Spotlight on...

## Delivery of Digital Firesetter Interventions during Covid19.



### ➔ What was the need, how was it identified?

The delivery of Firesetter interventions has always been a key element of the prevention work carried out by WYFRS. Prior to the pandemic the Youth Interventions Team delivered Firesetter Interventions for all complex high risk cases while District Prevention Officers delivered interventions for lower risk cases as part of the Safe and Well process. However due to the pandemic, and to ease the work load of district staff, the Youth Interventions Team took on all Firesetter interventions ranging from the lowest of risk to the very high risk cases. This started immediately after home working was announced.

From the very start of the pandemic we saw a rise in the number of Firesetter referrals being received from either concerned parents, partners or through the safe and well process.

In response to the extra referrals we were receiving during this really challenging time, we felt that organisation and consistency were paramount. Two dedicated members of staff, Natasha Marson and Kelly Walsh, were allocated to manage these referrals and develop a digital method of delivery as home visits and face to face delivery was not possible.

### ➔ What did we do?

Prior to COVID, all Firesetter Interventions were carried out face to face within the young person's home or other appropriate settings, such as school. However, due to the pandemic, this was no longer deemed to be safe and all face to face delivery ceased on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

This did not mean that the delivery of Firesetter Interventions stopped. We were aware that these interventions were more important than ever during this challenging period.

Within a 1 week window, the Youth Interventions Team developed a new digital way of working using platforms that were accessible and available to young people and their families. This ensured that we could continue to deliver a high quality service and keep the people of West Yorkshire safe.

The structure of our Firesetter Interventions did not change. We continued to complete an enhanced safe and well check to ensure the property had adequate and working smoke detection, prior to delivering fire safety education to young people and their families. This involved discussing the dangers of playing with fire or using fire inappropriately.





The only obvious difference was that we were engaging via a computer screen and not in their home. All the resources we used remain the same, we have just adapted how we use them.

### ➡ What difference did we make?

At a critical time, we were able to continue engaging and supporting vulnerable young people and keep them and their families safe.

The pandemic has had a significant impact on the mental health of young people and we feel this is a key factor in the increase of Firesetter referrals that we continue to receive during the pandemic. Young people often use fire setting as a communication method or as a coping strategy during challenging times. Engaging with young people and providing fire safety education during the pandemic was more important than ever in keeping young people safe.

Since March 2020, we have completed 66 digital Firesetter Interventions. Due to the digital delivery some of these interventions required multiple sessions with Natasha or Kelly.

Following the Firesetter Interventions there has been no instances, to date, of the fire setting reoccurring with any of the 66 young people we have worked with digitally.

### ➡ What are the keys to our success?

Having a dedicated, passionate and enthusiastic team of people who are committed to improving the lives of young people across West Yorkshire.

The period of uncertainty that the pandemic presented has been used to maximum benefit by the staff involved in the delivery of our Firesetter Interventions. They have gone above and beyond to ensure young people are kept safe within their homes and community. They have worked extensively with partners and families to ensure that young people get the support they required in addition to the Firesetter Intervention.

Having Kelly Walsh join the Youth Interventions Team has been a real advantage during this period. Kelly previously worked as part of district prevention team in Wakefield and has experience in carrying out high risk safe and well visits. This has been a real asset to us as she has been able to carry out these alongside the Firesetter Interventions which we feel has provided continuity and built trust within a family.

The last key to success we would like to mention is our ability to practice what we preach! All of our interventions (not just Firesetter Interventions) are designed to instil resilience, perseverance, determination and the ability to problem solve in young people – which we have all showcased as a team during these unprecedented times.

### ➡ What are we doing next?

We will continue with this new digital delivery model until it is safe to resume face to face delivery.

In the future we may make use of digital delivery prior to a face to face session in order to build trust and relationships with young people who are reluctant to engage with us.

If you know of any young people who have an unhealthy interest in fire and you are worried, please get in touch using the contact details below.

You can keep up to date with our work with young people via our Twitter accounts @WYFRSYouth and @WYFRSPTrust. Please give us a follow if you haven't already done so.

### ➡ Contact



**Name: Natasha Marson**



**Telephone: 07500122005**



**Email address:**

**[Natasha.marson@westyorkfire.go](mailto:Natasha.marson@westyorkfire.go)**





OFFICIAL

# District Plans

## Community Safety Committee

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Date: 23 July 2021

Agenda Item:

8

Submitted By: Director of Service Delivery

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**Purpose** To provide Members with the final version of the five district plans for note.

**Recommendations** That Members note the content of the District Plans

**Summary** The incomplete district plans were presented to the Community Safety Committee in April 2021 for approval. The plans have now been updated with the previously unavailable year ending performance indicators. The plans are now complete and performance against the individual district priorities will be reported to the Community Safety Committee on a six-monthly basis.

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Local Government (Access to information) Act 1972

Exemption Category: None

Contact Officer:

AM Service Delivery - Scott Donegan  
Scott.Donegan01@westyorksfire.gov.uk

Background papers open to inspection: None

Annexes: District Plans

## 1 Introduction

- 1.1 In April 2021, Members were asked to approve the introduction of five district plans. The intention was for these to replace the District Priorities that were previously presented to Members of the Community Safety Committee. Members requested the plans be recirculated once year ending performance data had been included.

## 2 Information

- 2.1 The plans have now been fully updated to reflect performance for 2020 - 21 and have now been finalised and made available for sharing.
- 2.2 West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service District Commanders will provide a six-monthly update to the Community Safety Committee on their progress towards achieving the priorities and managing the risks identified in these plans.
- 2.3 This will demonstrate how service delivery teams are contributing to achieving the organisations strategic priorities.

## 3 Financial Implications

- 3.1 There are no financial implications resulting from this report

## 4 Legal Implications

- 4.1 The Monitoring Officer has considered this report and has no observations to make at the time of submission of this report but may provide legal advice at the committee meeting and/or respond to any requests by Members for legal advice made at the meeting.

## 5 Human Resource and Diversity Implications

- 5.1 These plans reference how we will achieve the following strategic priorities:
- We will continue working towards delivering a more inclusive workforce, which reflects and serves the needs of the diverse communities of West Yorkshire
  - We will support, develop, and enable our people to be at their best
  - We will reduce the risks to the communities of West Yorkshire
- 5.2 Achieving these priorities will support a more inclusive workforce, a more accessible service and more effective response to higher risk diverse communities.

## 6 Equality Impact Assessment

Are the recommendations within this report subject to Equality Impact Assessment as outlined in the EIA guidance? ( <a href="#">EIA guidance and form 2020 form.docx</a> ( <a href="http://westyorksfire.gov.uk">westyorksfire.gov.uk</a> ))	<u>No</u>
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## **7 Health, Safety and Wellbeing Implications**

- 7.1 Several the risks highlighted in these documents could potentially have a significant impact on the environment locally and service wide, the plans show we have considered these risks and the actions we will take to mitigate the impact.

## **8 Environmental Implications**

- 8.1 Several the risks highlighted in these documents could potentially have a significant impact on the environment locally and service wide, the plans show we have considered these risks and the actions we will take to mitigate the impact.

## **9 Your Fire and Rescue Service Priorities**

- 9.1 The underlying principle of these plans is to provide a clear thread through each the Your Fire and Rescue Service Priorities to the service provided to the communities of West Yorkshire.

## **10 Conclusion**

- 10.1 The incomplete district plans were presented to the Community Safety Committee in April 2021 for approval. The plans have now been updated with the previously unavailable year ending performance indicators. The plans are now complete and performance against the individual district priorities will be reported to the Community Safety Committee on a six-monthly basis.



OFFICIAL

# West Yorkshire Prepared - Annual Report

## Community Safety Committee

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Date: 23 July 2021

Agenda Item:

9

Submitted By: Deputy Chief Fire Officer/Director of Service Delivery

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<b>Purpose</b>	To give Members an overview of the range of activity undertaken by the West Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum – ‘West Yorkshire Prepared’
<b>Recommendations</b>	That Members note the content of this report
<b>Summary</b>	<p>This report provides Members with a brief overview of the role of a Local Resilience Forum (LRF), and the local arrangements here in West Yorkshire.</p> <p>The report gives some detail of the activity of the LRF over the last 12 months which was predominantly, but not exclusively, driven by the pandemic.</p> <p>An overview of regular and grant funding arrangements is given.</p>

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Local Government (Access to information) Act 1972

Exemption Category: None

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Background papers open to inspection: None

Annexes: None

## **1 Introduction**

- 1.1 The Civil Contingencies Act (CCA) 2004 requires that “Category 1 responders must co-operate with each other in connection with the performance of their duties under the CCA. The Local Resilience Forum (LRF), based on each Police Area, shall be the principal mechanism for multi-agency co-operation”
- 1.2 West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service, along with colleagues such as blue light partners, local authorities, constituent parts of the health sector, and the Environment Agency are considered as Category (Cat) 1 responders. Other agencies such as utilities providers and transport operators comprise the Category 2 responders.
- 1.3 Both Cat 1 and Cat 2 responders meet, on a regular basis, along with MHCLG Resilience & Emergencies Division, the Military and the Met Office to fulfil the requirements of the CCA.
- 1.4 In the broadest of terms, the role and duty of the LRF is to develop and maintain a Community Risk Register in respect of all of the risks which are present in an area. Partners are then required to maintain both emergency and business continuity plans in the event that any of the risks are realised, to communicate with the public (‘warning and informing’), to share information, to co-operate and to promote business continuity.
- 1.5 In West Yorkshire the LRF operates under the ‘brand’ of ‘West Yorkshire Prepared’ and is co-chaired by DCFO West Yorkshire FRS, ACC West Yorkshire Police and a LA Chief Executive.
- 1.6 A small secretariat function is co-funded by all Cat 1 responders and is hosted by West Yorkshire Police.
- 1.7 When the LRF is responding to an emergency it forms a Strategic Coordinating Group (SCG) to manage the response. It may also form sub-groups and establish a ‘recovery group’ to manage the aftereffects of an incident.
- 1.8 This report gives an overview of the activity of the LRF during 2020/2021.

## **2 Information**

- 2.1 The WY LRF has operated at an unprecedented level of activity during this reporting period as a consequence of the global pandemic and its impact on the local area.
- 2.2 For the entire reporting period the LRF operated under a declared ‘Major Incident’ in respect of the pandemic and met as a Strategic Coordinating Group (SCG) on more than 130 occasions. For context, an LRF may ordinarily declare a Major Incident once every few years, and the duration would ordinarily be measured in days, with perhaps two SCG meetings per day. Typical Major Incidents in West Yorkshire would be widescale flooding, or a significant wildfire.
- 2.3 During this reporting period the SCG also managed issues related to the EU Exit and the death of HRH Prince Philip. Sub-groups also managed wildfires on Marsden Moor and the significant tyre fire in Bradford in November 2020.

- 2.4 In respect of activity related to the pandemic the LRF sought to co-ordinate the activities of partner organisations only whereby doing so some value would be added. The LRF recognised the extraordinary way in which all organisations were operating, and that all organisations were operating in a business continuity scenario. It was not the role of the LRF to add an additional burden.
- 2.5 Depending on the phase of the pandemic the LRF met either daily, twice weekly, weekly or, of late, monthly. Each meeting was supplied with the respective infection, hospitalisation, and mortality rates for the whole West Yorkshire area, and by the constituent Local Authority areas. This information was supplied by Public Health England and the NHS. The data was analysed and discussed by the partners.
- 2.6 Whilst the SCG directed numerous activities during the period some of the more extensive were:
- The coordination of PPE receipt and distribution to partners
  - The management of mortuary capacity in respect or excess deaths
  - Various requests for mutual support between agencies
  - The co-ordination of enforcement activity in respect of the Coronavirus Regulations across the 5 LA areas
  - Support for the mass testing and mass vaccination programmes
  - Coordinated communications and media presence to reinforce central government messaging in a local context
- 2.7 The LRF, in common with others, has received funding from the Government both to support enhanced activity during EU Exit and the Pandemic. Most recently a grant has been made to support future development of LRFs in 3 main areas, namely:
- Capacity building
  - Capability building
  - Innovation fund
- We will be working in coming weeks and months to agree how this money will be spent.
- 2.8 In March 2021 the Government published 'The Integrated Review'. This document looks at Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy, and describes the government's vision for the UK's role in the world over the next decade and the action they will take to 2025. The role of LRFs in UK Civil Resilience is a small part of this review and will be the focus of some work in the forthcoming 12 months. The grant funding referred to on 2.7 will support this work.

- 2.9 WYFRS continues to brief LRF partners on the ongoing work linked to the Grenfell Tower incident given the cross-cutting nature of the response to any future, similar incident.
- 2.10 All WYFRS Strategic Officers (Principal Officers and Area Managers) have recently undertaken, and passed, a Skills for Justice Level 7 Award in Strategic Command in Fire & Rescue Services. This qualification is based around the skills and knowledge required to chair a Strategic Coordinating Group.

### 3 Financial Implications

- 3.1 None directly attributable to WYFRS other than the regular annual contribution toward the secretariat function of the LRF.
- 3.2 WYFRS has agreed to hold the grant funding on behalf of the LRF given that the LRF does not exist as an entity in its own right.

### 4 Legal Implications

- 4.1 The Monitoring Officer has considered this report and has no observations to make at the time of submission of this report but may provide legal advice at the committee meeting and/or respond to any requests by Members for legal advice made at the meeting.

### 5 Human Resource and Diversity Implications

- 5.1 Other than the small secretariat function the LRF does not employ staff in its own right. In keeping with all other agencies who have an obligation to be part of the LRF our commitment comes as a consequence of a reference being attached to an individual's 'day job'. It is fair to say that there has been a significant commitment to LRF activity in the last year as part of the multi-agency effort. We are very comfortable that the commitment has been worthwhile and beneficial to both the service and the wider community.

### 6 Equality Impact Assessment

Are the recommendations within this report subject to Equality Impact Assessment as outlined in the EIA guidance? ( <a href="#">EIA guidance and form 2020 form.docx (westyorkfire.gov.uk)</a> )	No
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### 7 Health, Safety and Wellbeing Implications

- 7.1 No direct implications arising from this work.

### 8 Environmental Implications

- 8.1 No direct implications arising from this work.

### 9 Your Fire and Rescue Service Priorities

- We will reduce the risk to the communities of West Yorkshire
- We will continue to develop ways of working which improve the safety and effectiveness of our firefighters



- We will actively look for opportunities to implement learning from the Grenfell Inquiry to improve how we respond to high-rise emergencies and other foreseeable risks.

## **10 Conclusions**

- 10.1 The last year has been an extraordinary one for the LRF, by any metric the level of activity has been significantly increased when compared to previous years.
- 10.2 It would seem that the pandemic has changed the perception of central government in respect of how a response to a national emergency is delivered at a local level. LRFs are the vehicle by which such a response is co-ordinated.
- 10.3 The Integrated Review and the associated allocation of grant funding provides an opportunity for LRFs to be ambitious and to evidence where they can add value to the response and recovery of any future emergencies or significant disruptive events.