

REPORT OF THE LANCASHIRE COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY - 22 FEBRUARY 2021

HER MAJESTY'S INSPECTORATE OF CONSTABULARY AND FIRE & RESCUE SERVICES UPDATE

Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service (LFRS) had received a positive inspection from Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services. The inspection, which occurred during late September 2020 looked at how LFRS delivered its functions safely and how it worked for the greater good of the community alongside partners. The report noted how prevention and protection work continued, albeit in a modified capacity and how LFRS worked with its partners in the Local Resilience Forum (LRF) providing structure, support and logistics. LFRS successfully engaged with unions and was able to put in place effective plans in line with requests from partners in the LRF, many of which came under the tripartite agreement (including: antigen testing, face fitting, assisting vulnerable people and packing/repacking food). LFRS was also praised for wellbeing support and communication with staff at all levels using a variety of innovative methods. LFRS was graded 'outstanding' in the round 1 inspections for culture and values. This further positive result would contribute to the grading under the round 2 inspection.

PAY POLICY STATEMENT FOR 2021/2022

In accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 a pay policy statement for 2021/22 was considered. The pay policy published data on senior salaries and the structure of the workforce and demonstrated the principles of transparency. The pay policy statement set out the Authority's policies for the financial year relating to: the remuneration of its chief officers; the remuneration of its lowest paid employees; and the relationship between the remuneration of its chief officers and that of other employees who were not chief officers.

REVENUE BUDGET 2019/20 - 2023/24

The Authority considered a report of the Treasurer that presented a gross revenue budget requirement for 2021/22 of £58.2m. The Authority considered council tax options for 2021/22 which met the requirements to deliver a balanced budget and maintain an adequate level of reserves and determined a 1.99% increase (£1.41 per annum) resulting in a council tax of £72.27 for a Band D property.

PERSON-CENTRED HOME FIRE SAFETY CHECKS AND HOME FIRE SAFETY CHECK EFFECTIVENESS

The Authority supported a 'person-centred approach' by LFRS which placed the recipient at the centre of the offer and ensured they were treated as a person first. LFRS had a number of prevention activities and campaigns which had been developed around this personalised approach by focussing on the importance of well-informed risk assessments, dignity, choice and close partnership working. The Home Fire Safety Check and Safe and Well visit delivered a bespoke, personalised fire risk assessment, which was tailored towards individual need and, by working with partners for inward and onward referrals, ensured resources were focussed on, and tailored to, high risk and vulnerable individuals.

FRANK DE MOLFETTA
Chairman

LFRS
Fulwood