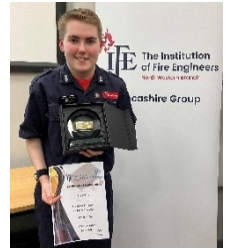


Report of the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority - 16 September 2024

Presentation from Fire Cadet H Salisbury

Fire Cadet H Salisbury attended to present to Members their presentation on the 'Impact of Modern Technology' which recently won first place at the North West Institute of Fire Engineers (IFE) Junior Lecture Final. The presentation included information on the challenges of electric car fires, risks of e-bikes, e-scooters and Lithium-Ion batteries and the impact of social media.



Member Champion Activity Report

Community Safety - There were lots of positive awareness activities completed to support World Drowning Prevention Day on 25 July 2024. Lancaster Community Safety Team have been working in partnership with the Royal National Institute for the Blind (RNIB) to improve the delivery of home fire safety checks (HFSC) for people who are blind or visually impaired. Passing Out Parades took place for all Cadet units across the service in July.

Equality, Diversity & Inclusion - To encourage more women into leadership positions within Grey Book roles, the Women in the Fire Service group are hosting an Incident Command Awareness Day in September at the Leadership and Development Centre. The Service received the Employer Recognition Gold Award for its work in supporting Defence People objectives. Further to the commencement of the Hajj pilgrimage in June, the ACFO Jon Charters and community safety advisor Faz Patel promoted 'Safety During Hajj' to listeners locally, nationally and internationally via Pendle radio.

Health, Wellbeing & Climate Change - Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service (LFRS) participated in No Mow May for the first time. Throughout April 2024, visits were made to stations across the Service to promote the wellbeing resources available. The visits were supported by our three Wellbeing Support Dogs. Throughout May and June 2024 fifteen colleagues took part in the Divider Challenge, a way to create awareness, encourage people to talk about their mental health and to break down the stigmas associated with mental health issues, raising £734 for the Fire Fighters Charity along the way.



Road Safety - Road Sense is a Year 6 Road Safety Education Package offered to primary schools in Lancashire. 17,300 pupils received the package throughout the academic year. The Biker Down team had a very busy month delivering courses and were invited to deliver at Blackpool International Tattoo Convention. Alive to Drive Road Safety Events continued to take place over the summer with the most recent event taking place in Blackpool on the Comedy Carpet.

Operational Incidents of Interests

The Authority received a report that provided information relating to operational incidents of note since the last meeting. Full details of the following incidents were provided in the report:

- Commercial building fire in Blackpool (7/6/2024)
- Explosives incident in Preston (18/6/2024)
- Domestic fire in Morecambe (26/6/2024)

- Major entrapment in Burnley (3/7/2024)
- Water rescue in Preesall (3/7/2024)
- Person rescued from a car in water in Thornton Cleveleys (13/7/2024)
- Domestic fire in Blackpool (17/7/2024)
- Waste fire in Preston (28/7/2024)
- Commercial building fire in Salmesbury (31/7/2024)
- Commercial building fire in Burnley (31/7/2024)

Warbreck House Fire Presentation

Group Managers (GMs) Chris West and Kirsty McCreesh gave a presentation to members on the building fire at Warbeck House, Blackpool.

GM's West and McCreesh explained that Warbreck House was a former Department for Working Pensions building that had been vacant for some time. Access had become easier for local residents and security put in place by the site owners was insufficient and only covered 8am to 4pm, this led to increased Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB). The initial call was received at 23:32 hrs on 7 June 2024 and there was initial attendance of 4 pumps, a Hose Layer and a Water Bowser which was increased to 10 pumps, 2 Ariel Ladder Platforms (ALP's), a Hose Layer, a High Volume Pump (HVP), Command Unit, Command Support Unit, 2 Stingers and a Water Bowser.

There was a multiagency response from Lancashire Constabulary, North West Ambulance Service, Blackpool Council, Cadent Gas, Electricity North West and United Utilities. Members were shown pictures and a video which showed the extent of the fire. GM West explained that this was a protracted incident with LFRS working alongside partners for 10 days to determine the involvement of persons, continue to monitor for hot spots to prevent reignition and complete the fire investigation. LFRS continued to work with Blackpool Council to prevent further incidents.

Executive Board updates

The Chair announced the Director of People and Development (DoPD); Bob Warren's retirement after 22 years' service and welcomed the new DoPD, Liz Sandiford the previous Assistant Director of Human Resources. The Chair announced that the Chief Fire Officer (CFO); Justin Johnston was due to retire in the new year after 30 years service with the last 5 years spent leading the service and announced that ACFO Jon Charters had been appointed as the next CFO and will commence in role in January. The Chair also congratulated Stephanie Collison on her promotion to Assistant Director of Communications and Engagement.

Re-appointment of Clerk to the Authority

The Authority approved the re-appointment of Mr Mark Nolan as Clerk and Monitoring Officer to the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority for a period of twelve months, to the September meeting of the Authority in 2025.

Further details of the meeting can be found on our website -

<https://cfa.lancsfirerescue.org.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=136&MIId=443&Ver=4>

Nikki Hennessy – CFA Chair