

## **REPORT OF THE LANCASHIRE COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY (CFA) HELD 13 DECEMBER 2021**

### **AUTOMATIC FIRE ALARM ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Following a consultation exercise, the Planning committee at its meeting held 15 November 2021 made a recommendation to the Authority to adopt a false alarm reduction and emergency call management policy which would bring Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service into line with other Fire and Rescue Services in the North West and nationally.

The Authority endorsed the recommendation to adopt the policy which includes the exemption of certain premises: Grade 1 and 2\* heritage premises (\* subject to meeting specific criteria), Primary and Secondary Education premises and premises with 'Enhanced Reliability Alarm Systems'. A three-month implementation phase to engage stakeholders would be undertaken. Fire Alarm Monitoring Organisations would be required to sign up to refreshed 'call back' agreements. The new policy would be launched from 1 April 2022 with changes implemented by day in year 1 (08:00hrs to 19:00hrs) and during the night from year 2 with a review to Planning committee after the first 12 months.

### **MEMBER CHAMPION ACTIVITY**

The Authority appointed its Member Champions at its Annual meeting in June and current Member Champions are:

- Community Safety – Councillor Jean Rigby
- Equality, Diversity and Inclusion – Councillor Zamir Khan
- Health and Wellbeing – County Councillor Andrea Kay
- Road Safety – County Councillor Ron Woollam

Reports relating to the activity of the Member Champions are provided on a regular basis to the Authority. Since the last meeting, all Champions had undertaken their respective role in accordance with defined terms of reference.

### **FIRE PROTECTION REPORTS**

The Authority discussed a report detailing prosecutions in respect of fire safety management failures and arson related incidents. Fire protection and business support information was provided, and Members noted that there were 7 arson convictions during the period which amounted to circa 28 years custodial sentences.

### **OPERATIONAL INCIDENTS OF INTEREST**

The Authority received information relating to operational incidents of note since the last Authority meeting. As part of the report members received a presentation by Lyndsay Sielski, Crew Manager, Response and Emergency Planning and Bekki Ford, Safety, Health and Environment Advisor on the activities and benefits of the Service's search dogs and wellbeing / trauma support dogs.

## **COLLABORATION**

The Chief Fire Officer advised that, following the announcement from the Prime Minister the previous evening regarding the implementation of Plan B measures in response to the Covid-19 Omicron variant, Health colleagues had contacted partners to assist with the expansion of the vaccination programme. The Service had been involved with the vaccination programme since December 2020 and continued to be involved however, support would be increased over the coming weeks.

DAVID O'TOOLE  
Chairman

LFRS  
Fulwood