

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**RICHMONDSHIRE AREA COMMITTEE****11 JANUARY 2017****North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service Community Safety Update Richmond****Report of Group Manager David Pitt****1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 To advise members of the Area Committee of Community Safety Activities involving North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (NYFRS) that have occurred between the 1st April – 31st October 2016 and to provide an update regarding other issues from within the Richmond District.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.1 The following report covers the period 1st April – 31st October 2016.

3.0 SERVICE DELIVERY

3.1 The follow activity list provides an overview of the Community Safety initiatives conducted in the Richmond area over the past 7 months.

Community Fire Safety	April – October 2016 Total
Number of Smoke Alarms fitted	145
Number of Home Fire Risk Assessments completed	121
Drive Alives	0
Matrix deployments	3
Targeted driving campaigns	11
School talks promoting community safety	28
Child Firesetters	0
Bonfire Awareness talks	2
Other community fire safety talks	72

Technical Fire Safety	April – October 2016 Total
Number of Fire Safety Audits Completed	80
All TFS job types completed	235

3.2 Prevention Activity

3.2.1 Prevention work during the last quarter has focused on the following planned activities in line with the Richmondshire District Community Safety Plan; road safety, fire safety, schools education, supporting vulnerable people with dementia, arson reduction, multi-agency problem solving and vulnerable persons' intervention activities. Further details on the aforementioned activities are detailed in this section.

3.2.2 Road safety activity was delivered through both planned and reactive interventions. Regular meetings of the Road Safety Task Group determined actions, subsequently carried out by the fire service over the period, and CSOs deployed a number of speed recording devices and matrix signs across the Richmondshire area throughout this reporting period. Additional activity included:

- A road safety campaign focusing on safer driving in winter floods was launched in partnership with NYCC Road Safety and North Yorkshire Police. A press release was issued and radio interviews with the Community Safety Officer (CSO) were broadcast on news bulletins. Flood advice was provided to all 'Home to School' transport providers within the District, with additional information and contact details shared across the county by community safety officers.
- Engagement with military personnel is an important part of our education programme and we attended 4th Scots Battalion to demonstrate the impact of distraction on driving using a driving simulator, we also used Beer Goggles to promote the anti drink driving message which was well received by the troops.
- Richmond crew performed cut out demonstrations to a large audience at Hunton Steam Gathering and the Community Safety Officer provided a running commentary around road safety in rural areas.

3.2.3 During Business Safety Week the community safety officer was busy distributing fire safety booklets and 'Home Risk Check' postcards to property rental agencies in our area, the information will be passed to new tenants by the agencies. On Gallowfield Trading Estate the community safety officer joined forces with the Technical Fire Safety Team to provide advice and guidance to businesses and members of the public.

3.2.4 Fire safety instruction remains at the very core of our educational programme and staff delivered key stage training packages in schools across the District during this reporting period; this work has been supported by the delivery of educational presentations to other groups including:

- Members of the WI at Melsonby, members of the public at Aldbrough-St-John Village Hall and a group of elderly people at St Agathas Guild in Gilling West.
- KS1 and 2 pupils across the district with an emphasis on Bonfire safety and Halloween fire safety.
- Promotional activity at numerous venues to assist with the British Heart Foundation's Re-Start a Heart Day.

3.2.5 Leeming Bar was once again the venue for our local Crucial Crew event. This year approximately 1400 children and 180 staff received fire service presentations as part of the multi-agency activities that take place over the 2 week period.

3.2.6 Youth engagement - The BTEC Level 2 Certificate is an accreditation provided through Edexcel that sets standards for those delivering fire and rescue services in the community. The course is delivered by operational staff who teach problem solving, communications, team work, fire safety and general risk awareness. The programme is designed to encourage students and young people who are becoming disengaged or struggling in main stream education.

The scheme is run at Colburn fire station and involves young people attending one evening a week over a two year period. The scheme is funded by the Service and run on a voluntary basis.

3.2.7 'Chimney Safety Week'. The Community Safety Officer from Richmondshire was actively engaged in promoting safety messages around coal fires and wood burning stoves. In Richmondshire chimney safety leaflets and home risk assessment cards were distributed by Solid Fuel merchants and Chimney Sweeps, and we had a much higher than average return rate on the cards issued.

3.2.8 A Water Safety presentation was given to young people on the Being OK course to support their end of course activity at Ellerton Lake. Being OK is run by the prevention service and works with young people who may be taking risks, making bad choices or suffering from low confidence.

4.0 Response Activity

4.1 The Service Exercise took place at Wathgill Camp on 12th November 2016. 10 fire engines from across North Yorkshire took part in the exercise which was the nearest we can replicate to a real life incident. Crews were kept busy for 3 ½ hours tackling a fire in a 2 storey accommodation block with 11 people requiring rescuing.

A series of smaller scale exercises have also been carried out across the district by wholetime and RDS crews during this reporting period. The training exercises test the skills and knowledge of operational staff at all levels in dealing with incidents such as; fires, road traffic collisions and incidents involving hazardous materials.

4.2 Fire Cover Review Implementation

During September 2016, 4 Tactical Response Vehicles (TRV) were delivered into Service. Driver training and equipment familiarisation are in progress with some positive feedback from staff. Practical scenario based training delivered at the Training Centre commenced in November and all supporting documentation applicable to equipment has completed the consultation process.

5.0 Personnel

5.1 Watch Manager John Carson has been appointed as District Support Manager. John will be concentrating his efforts on retained recruitment and providing additional support to our retained managers at Colburn, Hawes, Leyburn and Reeth.

6.0 Incidents of note

6.1 There were no notable incidents in the Richmond area during the April reporting period

6.2 **Date:** 01.05.2016

Location: Scotton

House fire: Incident involved a fire in a kitchen in the early hours of the morning. The elderly occupant was alerted by a NYFRS fitted smoke alarm and treated for smoke inhalation at the scene by ambulance crews

6.3 **Date:** 09.05.2016

Location: Fremington

Agricultural JCB on fire: Extreme fire damage to the vehicle. Crews used jets and breathing apparatus to extinguish the fire, and clay mats to protect fuel from entering drains.

6.4 **Date:** 29.05.2016

Location: Round Howe picnic area

Rescue: Male required transporting to ambulance following an awkward fall. Fire crews worked alongside Swaledale Mountain Rescue Team to transport him to awaiting road ambulance. Manpower only.

- 6.5 **Date:** 27.06.2016
Location: Friars Wynd, Richmond
Fire: High Rise (6 fire engines & supporting appliances). Incident involved a fire in a top floor flat of a 3 storey building. Crews took approximately 5 hours to conclude the incident and the building suffered significant fire and water damage. 1 person attended hospital for treatment of burns to hands
- 6.6 **Date:** 15/07/2016
Location: A1 slip road to Barton roundabout
Animal rescue: Incident involved a 2 tiered articulated cattle transporter which overturned with 41 cattle on board. Fire crews and police assisted the driver to rescue 35 cattle. Sadly 5 cows died as a result of the accident.
- 6.7 **Date:** 26/07/2016
Location: Richmond
Rescue – Persons Trapped: Incident involved a person who was sat on a rock in the middle of Richmond Falls and was not responding to police officers. The casualty was removed from the falls by the crews by using a scoop stretcher and was handed into the care of the ambulance and police.
- 6.8 **Date:** 21/08/2016
Location: Catterick Village
Assist other Agency: Incident involved crews that hosed away body fluids following a suicide by a shotgun.
- 6.9 **Date:** 16/09/2016
Location: Harmby
Water Rescue: Incident involved a person that had fallen approximately 80 feet in a quarry and into some water which was knee deep. Crews utilised the swift water team, with the flood water boat to stabilise the casualty and remove to dry land. The paramedic was taken on the boat with the crew to give the appropriate first aid. Crews transported the casualty to the Air Ambulance using a stretcher and they were taken to hospital with injuries. Crews used swift water team and flood water boat.

7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 That Members note the activities that have taken place.

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