

**LEICESTERSHIRE SAFER COMMUNITIES STRATEGY BOARD**

**8TH SEPTEMBER 2016**

**LSCSB UPDATE: LEICESTERSHIRE FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE  
(LFRS)**

**Background**

1. In February 2016, LFRS agreed a revised set of proposals for its emergency response function as part of its Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) 2016-20. The Plan reflected the need for the Service to rebalance its finances according to difficult financial circumstances.
2. The proposals were to:
  - a) Upgrade on-call fire engines at Market Harborough & Lutterworth Stations to wholetime day crewed and on-call at night fire engines
  - b) Replace second on-call fire engine at Coalville and Melton Stations with Tactical Response Vehicles (TRVs).
  - c) Replace second on-call fire engine at Market Harborough with a Tactical Response Vehicle.
  - d) Introduce day crewing plus at Wigston Station
  - e) Replace second fire engine at Loughborough Station with a Tactical Response Vehicle
  - f) Replace second on-call fire engine at Oakham Station with a Tactical Response Vehicle
3. The Plan also reflected the need to work more in partnership with other agencies on procurement and delivery, in all areas of its work in prevention, regulatory inspection and emergency response.

**Notable developments and challenges**

**Past Year**

4. In 2015/16 we carried out 5,086 Home Fire Safety Checks and partners carried out another 472.
5. In 2015/16 we carried out 540 Fire Safety Audits which resulted in 250 informal notifications and 59 formal enforcement notices were served.

6. In 2015/16 in addition we engaged the public in 1,969 events mostly aimed at fire and road safety such as our schools' programme.
7. Expansion of the Emergency First Responder trial as a consequence of the introduction of TRVs to other parts of the Service's area.

### **Coming Year**

8. IRMP Actions (all of which will have some knock on effect on capacity for community safety work);
9. Ongoing development of road safety project 'VF4' to incorporate virtual reality;
10. Launch of tri-blue light service prevention project, the 'Braunstone Blues';
11. We are currently undertaking a re-structure within our Community Safety team, which once embedded, will result in the expansion of partnership collaboration and ways of working.

### **Key issues for partnership working or affecting partners**

12. Effecting Entry – Leicestershire Police no longer attend incidents where East Midlands Ambulance Service require entry into a building and this has had a knock on effect for LFRS. For the period Apr-July 2016 158 such incidents were attended and this compares to only 67 incidents for the same time period last year.
13. Identifying Vulnerable People – broadening Home Fire Safety Checks to incorporate wellbeing and facilitating the exchange of data to identify vulnerable people at an early stage
14. Derelict Building Fires – Ongoing issue over the past 12 months of repeated deliberate fires in derelict buildings in and around Leicester: Frog Island, former Corah building and Forest Business Park off Parker Drive.

### **Issues in local areas**

15. As mentioned within Key Issues above, there is a rise in the number of deliberate building fires predominantly confined to the Western side of the City (Frog Island & Parker Drive) that is having a significant impact on both resources and our Community Safety Plan. We have devised an initiative to inform local businesses on arson prevention measures.

### **Recommendations for the Board**

16. For the LSCSB to note the contents of the report

### **Report Author**

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