

OFFICIAL

Agenda item: 06

# Risk Based Intervention Programme 2025-2028

## Community Safety Committee

---

**Date:** 11 July 2025

**Submitted by:** Director of Service Delivery

---

**Purpose:** This report provides Members of the Community Safety Committee with information on the Risk Based Intervention Programme setting out the fire protection activities for 2025 – 2028

**Recommendations:** That members of the Community Safety Committee approve the Risk Based intervention Programme for 2025 - 2028

**Summary:** The Risk Based Intervention Programme (RBIP) is the new name for the previous inspection programme and is a requirement of the National Framework for Fire & Rescue Services. It enables WYFRS to determine the fire protection risks within West Yorkshire and utilise our resources to deliver a programme of audits in premises where the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 applies. This RBIP takes into account the principles of new national guidance that supports Fire & Rescue Services in utilising a consistent methodology for intervention

---

Local Government (Access to information) Act 1972

---

**Exemption Category:** None

**Contact Officer:** Chris Kemp – Senior Fire Protection Manager  
Christopher.kemp@westyorkshire.gov.uk

**Background papers open to inspection:** None

**Annexes:** Annex A – Risk Based Intervention Programme 2025 - 2028

**Making West Yorkshire Safer**  
[www.westyorkshire.gov.uk](http://www.westyorkshire.gov.uk)

## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 The Risk Based Intervention Programme (RBIP) details how West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service will meet the requirements of the current National Framework. The full document is provided at Annex A and provides details of the annual programme of visits over the duration. The methodology used to determine this programme is based on recently published guidance through the NFCC.
- 1.2 The National Framework expects Fire Authorities to have a locally determined risk-based inspection programme in place for enforcing compliance with the provisions of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 (FSO). Historically this has been based on local factors, but we have now incorporated the principles of the newly published national document 'Guidance on risk in the built environment, highest risk occupancies and prioritising fire safety interventions which have been incorporated into the document.
- 1.3 The RBIP also enables the Authority to demonstrate that it is meeting its statutory enforcement responsibilities in respect of the FSO

## **2. Information**

- 2.1 Annexe A to this report provides a full copy of the RBIP which demonstrates how WYFRS will discharge its statutory duties in relation to Fire Protection. We want to ensure that the communities of West Yorkshire are safe in the premises they use. Our Fire Protection Inspectors will visit premises in line with the RBIP to check compliance with the FSO and where necessary they will carry out an audit relevant to the premises and utilise their powers as an inspector to ensure compliance.
- 2.2 The delivery of a RBIP needs to have cognisance of other external requirements on regulators. One such requirement is the Regulators Code which places a statutory duty on all regulators to have regard to the burden of inspection placed on building owners. Historically our RBIP has not been one which provided a re-inspection frequency to specific premises types but focused on available information and intelligence to identify those premises which place relevant persons at the greatest risk.
- 2.3 With the development of national methodologies this RBIP incorporates a programme of re-inspection of higher risk premises which aligns with recommendations that the most high-risk premises are inspected every 3 years.

## **3. Financial Implications**

- 3.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

## **4. Legal Implications**

- 4.1 The Monitoring Officer has considered this report and is satisfied it is presented in compliance with the Authority's Constitution.

## **5. People and Diversity Implications**

- 5.1 There are no People and Diversity implications arising from this report

## **6. Equality Impact Assessment**

- 6.1 Are the recommendations within this report subject to Equality Impact Assessment as outlined in the EIA guidance? No

## **7. Health, Safety and Wellbeing Implications**

- 7.1 The health and safety of our staff and the communities we serve is our priority. Given the targeted approach we take there is inevitably a higher risk of conflict when our inspectors attend premises which are non-compliant. We have processes in place to ensure lone working arrangements are managed and risk assessments for inspectors to follow which provide the opportunity for the attendance of additional colleagues or the involvement of the Police

## **8. Environmental Implications**

- 8.1 There are no significant environmental implications arising from this report.

## **9. Your Fire and Rescue Service Priorities**

- 9.1 This report links with the Community Risk Management Plan 2022-25 strategic priorities below:

- Focus our prevention and protection activities on reducing risk and vulnerability.
- Collaborate with partners to improve all of our services.
- Plan and deploy our resources based on risk.

## **10. Conclusions**

- 10.1 The RBIP enables us to demonstrate that we are utilising our fire protection resources in the most effective and efficient manner by being proactive in determining the actual risk in premises.
- 10.2 The document provides a robust demonstration of how we utilise our fire protection resources to focus on those premises which present the highest risk.
- 10.3 Our inspectors improve compliance within premises they audit, this inevitably reduces the risk to relevant persons should a fire occur.



# **Fire Protection Policy**

## **Risk Based Intervention Programme 2025 - 2028**



**West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service**  
**Oakroyd Hall**  
**Birkenshaw**  
**Bradford**  
**BD11 2DY**

Date Issued:  
Ref: FS-POL015

Review Date: 31/03/2025  
Version: 14.1

# 1 Introduction

- 1.1 This Risk Based Intervention Programme (RBIP) details how West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (WYFRS) will meet the requirements of the current National Framework. This document covers the period up to 31 March 2028.
- 1.2 The National Framework expects Fire Authorities to have a locally determined risk-based inspection programme in place for enforcing compliance with the provisions of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 (FSO). Historically we have based this on local factors but have now introduced the principles of new national guidance which was published in February 2025 (NFCC Guidance Technical Note: - Guidance on risk in the built environment, highest risk occupancies and prioritising fire safety interventions).
- 1.3 This RBIP aligns to the principles set out in the updated and published guidance and enables the Authority, through its Community Risk Management Plan to demonstrate that it is meeting its enforcement responsibilities. One of the key principles of that guidance is the inclusion of a re-inspection programme for higher risk premises on a 3 yearly basis. In addition to this, we also maintain the ability to incorporate reactive inspections which has proven to identify significant fire safety issues in lower risk premises.
- 1.4 The FSO makes Risk Assessment central to determining the necessary level of fire precautions in non-domestic premises and the common parts of multi-occupied domestic premises. The statutory responsibility for ensuring an adequate level of fire safety lies with the Responsible Person for individual premises – usually the employer, or occupier (person in control of the premises) or the owner. This RBIP does not place any undue responsibility of compliance with this Authority.
- 1.5 The Fire Authority has a statutory duty to enforce the compliance requirements of the FSO in the majority of premises, although the Health & Safety Executive (HSE), the Crown Premises Fire Safety Inspectorate and local authorities also have enforcement responsibilities in some specific types of premises.
- 1.6 The development of this intervention programme allows WYFRS to demonstrate that we are focusing our resources on those premises that represent the greatest risk to life in the event of fire through failure to comply with fire safety law.
- 1.7 Fire Protection Inspectors (FPI) are specifically trained and authorised to carry out “audits” as defined by IRMP Note 4 which is a full in-depth inspection which determines if the Responsible Person of the premises is complying with the FSO. The competence of our FPI’s and the associated assurance process is subject to external scrutiny through Kirklees Audit, receiving a score of ‘Substantial Assurance’ in March 2023.

- 1.8 Our Fire Protection team have adopted the NFCC “short audit” model which aims to provide the facility for inspectors to carry out an audit relevant to the premises they are visiting, allowing them to make a judgment to determine if the premises are safe enough. If this is deemed to be the case the inspector conducts a much shorter audit which significantly reduces the time the business has to engage with us as a regulator. By doing this, we reduce the burden of inspection on businesses, enabling us to be efficient with our working time, targeting resources more effectively.
- 1.9 We have developed and realigned this RBIP to the new methodology outlined within the new guidance and the new revised version of the ORH-NFCC definition of risk (of which members of WYFRS have been key contributors). This enables us to identify higher risk occupancies and prioritise our fire safety interventions. This new approach will in the future develop new working arrangements with Operations and Prevention to ascertain the most appropriate method of intervention within premises.
- 1.10 Station personnel are not authorised to inspect or audit premises under the FSO. However, it is incumbent on operational staff to gather risk information in relation to fighting fires in premises that may pose a risk to the safety of firefighters and the public alike. Operational crews carry out visits to collect site specific risk information, these visits which are carried out under section 7(2)d of the Fire & Rescue Services Act 2004 do not form part of this RBIP, they do however form a key element of intelligence that we utilise to assess risk. Whilst on site crews collect basic fire safety information that enables them to determine if a referral through to a specialist FPI is necessary
- 1.11 All Watch and Crew Managers will have attended either the previous Operations Fire Protection course which was delivered by the Fire Protection team or the newly introduced Level 3 Introductory Certificate in Fire Safety, both of which provide a comparable grounding knowledge in fire protection and as such, ensures that our operational staff are competent to collect and identify Fire Protection issues.
- 1.12 Whilst station personnel carry out visits to gather operational risks, they will inevitably utilise the training, skills and knowledge gained to highlight potential fire protection issues, via a Fire Safety Check these will be scored accordingly, and a follow up visit actioned by a fire protection inspector where necessary.
- 1.13 This process incorporates an assessment following a fire in a premises where the FSO applies, this enables crews to identify fire safety concerns during operational incidents ensuring any are picked up and addressed by Fire Protection.

## 2. Assurance

- 2.1 In order to establish how our RBIP is achieving the targets set within this document we continue to analyse the data input and scrutinise this centrally on a monthly and quarterly basis we present this information annually to the Home Office and members of the Authority.
- 2.2 To assure the Authority that WYFRS is targeting its resources affectively it has adopted the principles set out in the following framework of guidance:

### **Guidance Technical Note - Guidance on risk in the built environment, highest risk**

#### **occupancies and prioritising fire safety interventions**

Current NFCC guidance which has been updated and published in February 2025.

### **National Risk Methodology**

Definition of Risk Phase 2 - Other Building Fires:

**WYFRS - Community Risk Management Plan** This assess our foreseeable community related risks and uses this knowledge to decide how those risks will be mitigated through appropriate resourcing.

**The National Framework** expects Fire Authorities to have a locally determined RBIP in place for enforcing compliance with the provisions of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005.

**Protection Fire Standards** which require the Authority to create, and be able to evidence, its community risk management plan in line with a nationally approved structure which involves the key components detailed within the standard.

**The Competence Framework** for Fire Safety Regulators expects officers to be trained to the appropriate standard for the work they undertake.

## 3. Information

- 3.1 We want to ensure that the communities of West Yorkshire are safe in the premises they use, our Fire Protection Inspectors will continue to visit premises where we receive intelligence to suggest that compliance with the FSO is significantly poor, where necessary they will carry out an audit relevant to the premises and utilise their powers as an inspector to ensure compliance.
- 3.2 Our Officers have been engaged with national work to develop a consistent approach to risk-based intervention through the NFCC and MHCLG which has focused on the definition of risk and a standardised RBIP methodology. This enables us to identify higher risk premises for inclusion in this RBIP. Details of the premises identified as 'Higher Risk' for the purpose of this RBIP are detailed in Appendix 1 of this document and are based on Table C of Appendix 3.



- 3.3 Fire Protection Inspectors are provided with individual targets which are based on calculations within National Guidance, this guidance however does not take account of the type of premises they are visiting and the outcome of the audit, only the available hours per inspector.
- 3.4 In order to develop a target for fire protection inspectors we have to calculate the average time taken for an audit, this can vary significantly based upon the size, type and occupancy of the premises together with the required interventions by the inspector to ensure compliance. The number of hours a full-time inspector is expected to commit to fire protection work is 1440 per year taking in to account, training, Continuous Professional Development (CPD) and other administrative work.
- 3.5 As a service we recognise the importance of audits within premises, however they do not represent the full picture of activity within the team. During the Covid pandemic we demonstrated the importance of collaborative working with Local Authorities in ensuring that premises which were repurposed were safe to be used. We have realised the benefit of this type of partner working which we continue to carry out, however much of this work does not necessarily result in an 'audit'.
- 3.6 Inclusive of the hours specified in 3.4 our inspectors will also be required to dedicate time to supporting new trainees. In the Autumn of 2024, we recruited 21 new apprentices, this programme of development will have a significant impact on our existing competent team due to the need for mentoring or trainees. Given that this mentoring will need to commence in lower risk premises we have needed to incorporate some of this work within the RBIP and details of these are incorporated into Appendix 1 of this document.

#### **4 Programme of risk-based interventions.**

- 4.1 Our RBIP does not exist to generate enforcement action, its purpose being to target our resources effectively at the highest risks, thus maintaining fire protection standards through compliance and reducing the likelihood of loss of life due to fire. Due to this targeted approach, it is inevitable that enforcement action will follow as a result of this plan.
- 4.2 The RBIP is underpinned by a determination of the level of risk presented by premises through either being a higher risk premises, through non-compliance and or residual risk. Inspections are determined by their priority when set against other similar premises which may present a greater or lesser risk due to poor compliance with the FSO. The focus of the FSO is life safety.
- 4.3 The RBIP is delivered by specialist Fire Protection Inspectors whose training, skills and knowledge have been gained through extensive training in line with the principles of the NFCC Competence Framework.

4.4 We achieve this by utilising a programme of pro-active and reactive interventions. Pro-active interventions are determined by identifying the highest risk premises aligning to the most recent definition of risk methodology. How we prioritise our reactive workload is detailed within Appendix 2 but reference to how we utilise lower risk premises for mentoring and training purposes is included in Appendix 1.

4.5 In addition to those premises identified above, we will carry out the following work:

#### **4.5.1 Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO)**

The enforcing authority for the provisions of the Housing Act 2004 is the Local Housing Authority (LHA) and not WYFRA.

A legislative overlap means that both the LHA and WYFRA may enforce fire safety standards in a HMO. In order to clarify areas of responsibility a national protocol has been produced which WYFRS have adopted with the 5 Local Housing Authorities. This supports partnership working within these premises and ensures reactive interventions are managed appropriately.

#### **4.5.2 Schools (LEA) (Sampling Inspections)**

Each of the 5 Local Education Authorities (LEA's) within West Yorkshire has agreed a working protocol with WYFRA. These protocols are reviewed and updated as necessary. FPI's may carry out sample audits to check fire safety standards and compliance through both independent and joint inspections.

#### **4.5.3 Fire Engineered and Complex Buildings**

The fire engineering team exists to reduce fire risk in large and complex buildings. The majority of these buildings incorporate some element of fire engineering as a risk control measure e.g. smoke control or sprinklers.

Fire engineering may rely on complex systems to reduce risk to an acceptable level. It is essential that systems are maintained and that alterations to the building do not compromise the fire safety strategy and engineered systems for the building.

The team will conduct joint visits with operational staff to increase their awareness of the hazards, firefighting facilities, layouts and evacuation procedures within fire engineered and complex buildings enabling the creation of Tactical Information Plans.

The perception of risk in premises can remain high even though the premises may be fully compliant with the FSO. We will maintain the concept of improving the 'regulatory compliance level' within the premises we visit.

All fire safety audits include the requirement for FPI's to discuss the problems related to arson and the opportunities available for reducing them, with referrals to the District Prevention Teams as and when deemed necessary.

Each year, in addition to the work identified above our Fire Protection Inspectors will deal with routine visits to premises as detailed in the following sections, which are generated by other legislation.

#### **4.5.4 Petroleum Inspections**

Inspections will be carried out by specialist FPI's who are duly authorised under the Health & Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 to ensure compliance with the Petroleum (Consolidation) Regulations 2014 and Dangerous Substances and Explosive Atmospheres Regulations 2002 (DSEAR). Additionally, as the Petroleum Enforcing Authority, we also have a duty to:

- Ensure the approved arrangements are maintained at sites.
- Approve and provide guidance and advice to new and refurbished sites.
- Investigate all reports of non-compliance.
- Review the license arrangements for individual licensed sites.

At present there are approx. 300 licensed/certificated petrol filling stations in West Yorkshire.

#### **4.5.6 Explosives**

Inspections will be carried out by specialist FPI's who are duly authorised under the Health & Safety at Work etc. Act 1974, The Explosives Act 1875 and the Fireworks Act 2003 to ensure compliance with the licensing and registration requirements of the Explosives Regulations 2014. Firework Inspections carried out by specialist officers are in support of the memorandum of understanding between the Authority and West Yorkshire Trading Standards.

#### **4.5.7 BASIS Inspections**

BASIS is an independent registration, standards, certification and training organisation (serving pesticide, horticulture, forestry and other relevant interests), working with and through industry organisations to implement relevant sections of 'The Food and Environment Protection Act 1985' and other legislative and industry Code of Practice requirements.

WYFRS and BASIS have established and agreed joint working arrangements which promote opportunities for WYFRS to obtain operational information about operational risks and to ensure fire safety resources are targeted towards higher risk to life premises.

#### **4.5.8 NAMOS Inspections**

The Dangerous Substances (Notification and Marking of Sites) Regulations 1990 (referred to as the NAMOS Regulations), require the person in control of any site or premises where a total quantity of 25 tonnes or more of dangerous substances are

used or stored, or are to become used or stored, to give written notification to both the Fire & Rescue Service and the Health and Safety Executive.

#### **4.5.9 Unwanted Fire Signals (UwFS)**

We will continue to work with local and national businesses to reduce the number of false alarms in premises where the FSO applies. In conjunction with our UwFS policy we will visit those premises that cause concerns to our operational response crews due to persistent attendance to false alarms, if after exploring our cost recovery process there fails to be a reduction in attendances.

### **4.6 Consultations**

The primary responsibility for enforcing 'general fire precautions' in places other than domestic dwellings rests with this Authority. In some cases, other enforcing authorities may have responsibilities for certain fire precautions under more specific legislation. In such cases, we have effective and agreed consultation procedures with those relevant statutory authorities, e.g.

#### **4.6.1 Health & Safety**

Owing to the overlap of certain responsibilities for fire precautions the Authority has established and maintained close links with the authorities enforcing the provisions of the Health & Safety at Work etc. Act 1974.

#### **4.6.2 Building Regulations**

Through effective consultation with 'building control bodies' the Authority will ensure that buildings are adequately protected from the effects of fire as required by the Building Regulations. In order to facilitate the consultation process the 'building control body' will take the co-coordinating role with this Authority and as per procedural guidance we will provide responses to consultation requests.

#### **4.6.3 Licensing**

West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority (the Authority) is a "Responsible Authority" as defined within the Licensing Act 2003 (the Act). The responsibility for licensing functions under the act is the local authority (LA). Responsible authorities must be notified of applications for the grant, variation, or review of a premises license or club premises certificate. The Authority will examine license applications and the applicant will be advised of their responsibilities under the RRO.

#### **4.6.4 Sports Grounds**

The Fire Safety order passed all enforcement duties, in certificated sports grounds and regulated stands over to local authorities.

To support our operational colleagues and local authorities to ensure that timely and appropriate advice is given during multi-agency meetings, we provide nominated fire protection inspectors to attend and support all sports ground Safety Advisory Groups.

#### **4.6.5 Statutory Notifications**

Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 - Fire Fighters' Switches for Luminous Tube Signs etc.

In the case of new installations, the 'responsible person' is required, not less than 42 days before commencement of the work, to give notice to West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority (the Authority) showing the location, colouring and marking of the cut-off switch for such installations.

## Appendix 1

### Proactive Programme of Risk Based Audits

1.1 This RBIP aligns to the NFCC guidance and definition of risk by identifying the premises in Table A as higher risk. These premises form part of a 3-year reinspection programme due to the risk they present.

1.2 Table A – Higher Risk Premises

	Risk Factor Group	Combined Risk Score	Total	24/25	25/26	25/26	26/27	27/28
Prisons	A1	Very High	6	-	-	-	-	-
Care/Nursing Homes	A2	Very High	579	204	101	285	238	101
Hospice	A2	Very High	15	2	7	7	5	5
Hospital	A3	Very High	63	6	4	53	21	21
Communal Residence/Supported living 4+ Storeys	A4	Very High	54	1	26	27	27	27
Hostels			81	3	38	41	40	41
Sheltered Accommodation 4+	A5	High	49	5	44	24	25	24
Flats with EWS	B1	High	100	66	50	50	50	50
Major industrial (COMAH)	E1	High	28	-	-	-	-	-
Boarding Schools/Residential Education	A6	Medium	24	1	11	12	8	8
Children's Homes	A6	Medium	178	65	63	50	65	63
<b>Total</b>			<b>1171</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>549</b>	<b>479</b>	<b>340</b>

1.3 Higher risk premises for the purpose of this RBIP are those which are highlighted in national guidance as being 'Very High' or 'High'. In addition to this, we have also incorporated the 'Medium' category from Risk Factor Group A, this is due to the dependencies placed on fire protection measures within this category.

1.4 The total figures above do not factor in Prisons or COMAH sites due to the enforcing authority in prisons being the Crown Fire Safety Inspectorate and within COMAH sites primarily being HSE. However, our operational crews undertake regular SSRI visits to both categories of building where basic fire safety is assessed.

1.5 The risk factors highlighted in Table A above relate as follows:

- A – Dependant Occupiers and complex evacuation risk
- B – Residential sleeping risk
- C – Commercial/Temporary Sleeping Risk
- D – Public Assembly and complex evacuation

E – Environmental Risk

F – National, Heritage, Community or Economic loss risk

- 1.6 To further support our RBIP we are developing new engagement methods and audit procedures within hospitals which will feature in the 2026. This new method has been developed with support of external specialists and NHS Trusts and will provide a mechanism of targeted inspections within these premises.
- 1.7 Our focus for blocks of flats for 2025/28 will be on those which continue to require some form of remediation. The purpose of this being that buildings requiring remediation present a greater risk to residents. We are working with the West Yorkshire Combined Authority and the Local Remediation Acceleration group to progress remediation in both high and medium rise premises. The majority of this work will inevitably be within the Leeds area and working arrangements with Private Sector Housing and Building Control have been implemented to support the delivery of this programme.
- 1.8 We have continued to support our team when working within these premises types by developing a programme of training and CPD activity which aligns to the targeted premises types identified within Table B above, these activities have included:
- Training on External Wall Systems
  - Training and awareness of FRAEW and PAS:9980
  - Attendance on HTM course
  - HTM refresher courses
  - Care home refresher CPD
- 1.8 We will continue to audit premises on a reactive basis based on the following factors and in line with the priority principles set out in
- Training requirement for new apprentices within the team
  - Intelligence received that indicates poor compliance of fire safety law which is likely to put relevant persons at risk of death or serious injury in case of fire.
  - Referrals from Operational Crews and partners
  - Complaints from members of the public
  - National identified risks
  - Local and national incidents

This reactive work will include audits within premises not identified as higher risk, this is especially so when considering that our trainees will as part of their development need to carry out audits in lower risk premises such as shops, offices and factories.

Given the nature of reactive work and the differing development rates of trainees, it is unrealistic to set a target number of audits within each premises category as this will inevitably change.

## Appendix 2

### Prioritisation of Fire Protection reactive work

1.1 Every complaint, referral or report of dangerous conditions is reviewed by the Enforcement Manager or equivalent and prioritised into one of 4 categories:

- Dangerous Conditions
- Priority 1
- Priority 2
- Priority 3

1.2 The criteria used for determining the priority of each work item is set out below under each additional heading however, the information will be assessed based upon the following criteria which is not in any specific order:

- Time of day
- Use of premises
- Number of people likely to be using the premises
- Familiarity of occupants
- Vulnerability of occupants
- Sleeping / non-sleeping
- Nature of deficiencies
- Historical data / action
- Primary Authority Scheme involvement
- Any additional hazards/information

#### 1.3 **Dangerous Conditions**

Work tasks set as Dangerous Conditions will meet the following criteria:

- Report of inadequate fire precautions which place one or more relevant persons at immediate risk of death or serious injury should a fire occur.

The Enforcement Manager or equivalent will review such reports and determine if dangerous conditions are likely to exist utilising the factors set out in section 1.2 against the information received.

Reports of dangerous conditions will be responded to as soon as possible by being allocated to an available inspector for immediate action.

An initial visit will be made as soon as possible to determine if Prohibition or Restriction is necessary or if the risk can be reduced by the introduction of temporary interim measures.

#### 1.4 **Priority 1**



Work tasks set as Priority 1 will meet the following criteria:

- Dangerous conditions as detailed above in 1.3 are not present.
- The report includes serious inadequate fire precautions in premises with sleeping accommodation or vulnerable occupants which incorporate:
  - 1) Inadequate means of giving warning in case of fire and/or
  - 2) Inadequate means of escape

The Enforcement Manager or equivalent will review such reports and determine the priority of the work item utilising the factors set out in section 1.2 against the information received.

Work tasks set as Priority 1 will be allocated to an appropriate inspector who based upon availability and the need to prioritise more urgent work items will carry out a response as soon as possible within 5 working days.

The task may extend beyond 5 working days dependent upon the level of involvement required and may have to be extended where other priority work takes precedence.

## 1.5 **Priority 2**

Work tasks set as Priority 2 will meet the following criteria:

- Dangerous conditions as detailed above in 1.3 are not present
- Serious inadequate fire precautions as detailed in 1.4 are not present.
- The report includes inadequate fire precautions which may incorporate:
  - 1) Inadequate means of giving warning in case of fire and/or
  - 2) Inadequate means of escape

The Enforcement Manager or equivalent will review such reports and determine the priority of the work item utilising the factors set out in section 2.6 against the information received.

Work tasks set as Priority 2 will be allocated to an appropriate inspector who based upon availability and the need to prioritise more urgent work items will carry out a response as soon as possible within 15 working days.

The task may extend beyond 15 working days dependent upon the level of involvement required and may have to be extended where other priority work takes precedence and resources will not allow the initial action date to be met.

## 1.6 **Priority 3**

Work tasks set as Priority 3 will meet the following criteria:

- Dangerous conditions as detailed above in 1.3 are not present.
- Serious inadequate fire precautions as detailed in 1.4 are not present.
- Inadequate fire precautions as detailed in 1.5 are not present.
  
- Inadequate fire precautions which relate to matters other than inadequate means of giving warning in case of fire and inadequate means of escape are present.

The Enforcement Manager or equivalent will review such reports and determine the priority of the task utilising the factors set out in section 1.2 against the information received.

Work tasks set as Priority 3 will be allocated to one of the following:

- Business Fire Safety Advisor
- Trainee Fire Protection Inspector

Alternatively in the short-term, Priority 3 tasks may be allocated to a Fire Protection Inspector who will deal with the task via a desk top audit.

The task should be completed within 3 months however this may be extended dependent upon the level of involvement required and where other priority work takes precedence.

## 1.8 **Requests for Advice**

We will aim to respond to a request for advice and will look to incorporate responding to these requests with those individuals new in role and undertaking training.

Requests for advice will normally be dealt with via telephone or by email. WYFRS will not carry out fire safety visits upon request.

If the Officer dealing with the request feels a site visit may be necessary due to concerns raised during the process of giving advice, then a new priority would be issued, and a visit may be undertaken.

## Appendix 3

### NFCC occupancy/premises classifications and 'generic' risk levels

Table B

Risk Influencing Factors		Occupancy Category (Addressbase classifications in brackets)	IRS Measured Scores		Potential Consequence Ratings (potential severity of consequence if a fire develops)						Combined Risk Score	Relative Risk Score	Combined Risk Category
			Likelihood	Consequence	Individual Life Risk – (Dwellings only)	Societal Life Risk	Firefighter Risk	Community Loss Risk	Heritage Risk	Environment Risk			
<b>A. Dependent Occupiers and complex evacuation risk</b>	A1	Prison/Secure Establishments (CC03, CC03HD, CC03PR, CC03SC)	10	6.2	0	10	10	10	1	1	317		Very High
	A2	Care/Nursing Homes/Hospices (RI, RI01, CM03, CM03H)	9	7.5	0	10	5	10	1	1	295		Very High
	A3	Hospital (Treatment Buildings) (CM03HP)	10	4.4	0	10	5	10	1	5	284		Very High
	A4	Communal Residence - Supported Housing, Hostels/Refuges (for vulnerable people) (Multi Occ) (RI02/RI02NC/RI02RC all)	8.5	8.8	1	5	5	5	1	1	258		Very High
	A5	Sheltered Accommodation Flats (multi occ) (RD08)	5.7	8.4	1	5	5	5	1	1	226		High
	A6	Residential Boarding School/Residential Education /Residential Family Centres/Residential Childrens Homes (OFSTED) (RI03)	4.3	5.8	0	5	5	5	1	1	181		Medium
	A7	SEN Day Schools for dependent pupils (CE06)	6.2	1	0	5	1	5	1	1	132		Low
	A8	Nursery/Creche (non residential) (CE02)	1.9	2.1	0	5	1	5	1	1	100		Very Low
<b>B. Residential Sleeping Risk</b>	B1	Block of flats (with interim measures in place) (Not on OS - Align IRS scores with B3 - RD06?)	4.3	5.8	0	5	10	5	1	1	206		High
	B2	Block of flats (multiple use - commercial & residential) (Not on OS - align IRS scores with B3 - RD06?)	1.5	8.7	0	1	10	5	1	1	187		Medium
	B3	Block of flats (Not on OS - RD06?)	1.5	8.7	0	1	10	5	1	1	187		Medium
	B4	Student Accommodation (Flats) (Not on OS - align IRS scores with B3 RD06?)	4.3	5.8	0	1	10	5	1	1	186		Medium
	B5	HMO (Bedsets with shared facilities) (RH, RH01, RH02, RH03)	1.7	10	0	5	5	1	1	1	177		Medium
	B6	Flats/HMO above Shop (Not on OS align IRS scores with B5)	1.7	10	0	5	5	1	1	1	177		Medium
	B7	Houses/other converted to flats (Not on OS - Align IRS scores with B3)	1.7	10	0	5	5	1	1	1	177		Medium
	B8	Other Sleeping Residential (Mobile homes etc) (RD01, RD07, RD10)	1.5	8.7	0	1	1	1	1	1	122		Very Low
<b>C. Commercial/Temporary Sleeping Risk</b>	C1	Hotels, Guest houses, B&Bs, Inns, aparthotels, youth hostels, whole property holiday lets etc (CH, CH01, CH01YH, CH02, CH03)	1.8	6	0	5	5	1	1	1	138		Low
	C2	Other sleeping commercial/temporary - caravan/camping sites, holiday camp, Guardian, Refugee, Asylum Seeker etc) (CL02 - all, CU05)	1.8	6	0	5	5	1	1	1	138		Low
<b>D. Public assembly and complex evacuation risk</b>	D1	Major retail malls, department stores, market halls (CR04, CR04FK, CR04FV, CR04LV)	6.4	2.6	0	5	5	10	1	1	195		Medium
	D2	Major Leisure, Public Assembly, Entertainment, Bar/Pub/Night Clubs etc (CL, CL01, CL01LP, CL06 all, CL07 all, CL08 all, CL11 all, CR06)	2.1	4.4	0	10	5	10	1	1	195		Medium
	D3	Other leisure, Restaurants etc (CR07, CL10, CL10RE)	4.1	5	0	1	1	1	1	1	111		Very Low
<b>E. Environmental Risk</b>	E1	Major Industrial, Major Storage, Hazardous Material sites (CI, CI01 all, CI02 all)	1.9	4.9	0	5	10	10	1	10	221		High
	E2	Light Industrial, Light Storage (CI03 to CI105TD all, CI08, CT10, CT10BG)	1.9	5.4	0	1	5	1	1	5	123		Very Low
	E3	Waste and Recycling (CI06, CI07, CC09, CC10, CU02, CU10)	1.5	4.5	0	1	1	5	1	10	123		Very Low
	E4	Energy Generation, Battery Storage sites (Not on OS? Align with E1?)			0	1	5	1	1	5	50		Very Low
<b>F. National, Heritage, Community or Economic loss risk</b>	F1	Education, Schools, further education centres (non res) (CE, CE01 all, CE03 to CE05 all, CE07)	5.6	3.6	0	1	1	10	1	1	157		Low
	F2	Public & Heritage - Museums, Churches, Libraries, Historic Listed (CC, CC02, CC04, CC04YR, CC07, CL03, CL03RR, CL04 all, ZS, ZW all)	1.6	3.8	0	1	1	10	5	1	129		Very Low
	F3	Medical Centres, Outpatient hospital/clinic, GP, Dentist (CM, CM01, CM02 all, CM04, CM05, CM05ZS)	2.4	3.2	0	1	1	10	1	1	121		Very Low
	F4	National Infrastructure, (Transport, Utilities, Services etc) (CT, CT01 - all, CT04 to CT08 all, CT10BU to CU01, CU03 to CU09SE, CX to CX06 all)	3.2	1.3	0	1	1	10	1	1	110		Very Low
	F5	Other Shops (CM06, CP, CR01, CR02, CR02EV, CR02PD, CR05, CR06, CR06CS, CR06GC, CR06SM, CR09, CR09BS, CR09OL)	2	4.7	0	1	1	1	1	1	87		Very Low
	F6	Other Workplaces (CA all, CB, CN to CN05MR all, MA to MNS3VT all)	1.5	4.7	0	1	1	1	1	1	82		Very Low
	F7	Multi storey car parks CT03PP)	2.4	1.2	0	1	5	1	1	1	76		Very Low
	F8	Offices CC08, CC12, CD to CD02 all	1.3	4.1	0	1	1	1	1	1	74		Very Low
Weightings applied to figures in columns E to L above:			10	10	5	5	5	5	2.5	2.5			



OFFICIAL

Agenda item: 07

# Performance Against Response Indicators

## Community Safety Committee

---

**Date:** 11 July 2025

**Submitted by:** Director of Service Delivery

---

**Purpose:** To inform Members of Community Safety Committee of the performance against the 2024 / 25 performance outcome targets. The report looks at performance covering 01 April 2024 – 31 March 2025

**Recommendations:** That Members of the Community Safety Committee note the contents of the report

**Summary:** The performance against the three year average has been reasonably consistent. The warm dry spring resulted in a significant upturn in incidents towards the back end of the year

---

Local Government (Access to information) Act 1972

**Exemption Category:** None

**Contact Officer:** Scott Donegan, Area Manager Service Delivery

**Background papers open to inspection:** None

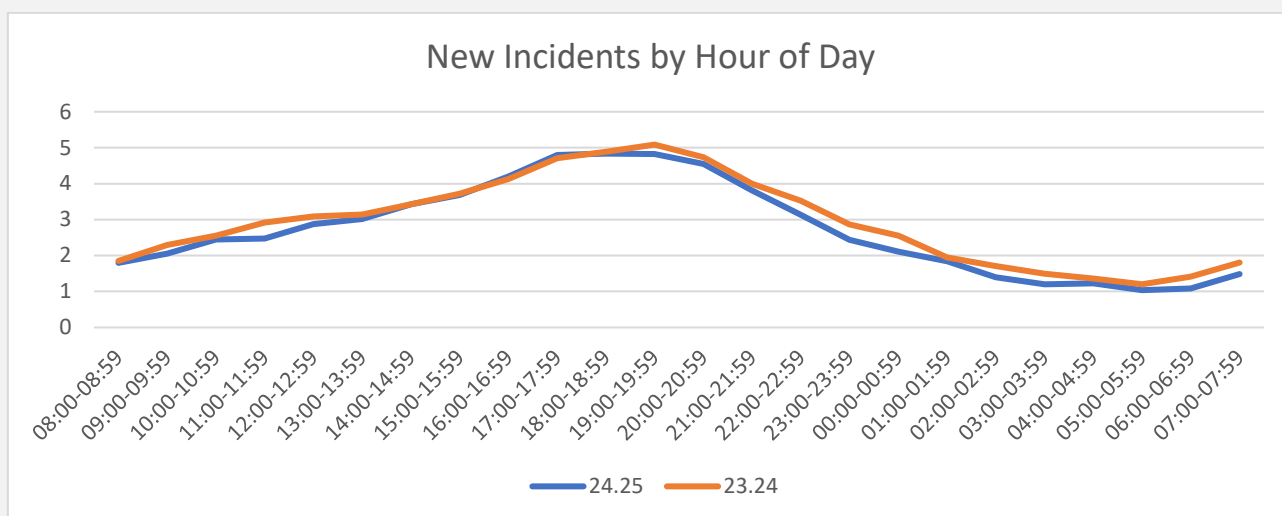
**Annexes:** None

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 This performance report covers the period from 01 April 2024 to 31 March 2025.
- 1.2 A suite of nine Authority approved metrics provide a view of operational activity in the current financial year. These metrics are measured against a three-year average to demonstrate how the service is performing in comparison to previous years.
- 1.3 The nine performance indicators are:
- All Incidents
  - Injuries and Fatalities
  - Non - Fires
  - Incident Demand
  - False Alarms
  - Fires
  - Victims Rescued
  - Fire Related Injuries and Fatalities
  - Road Traffic Collisions
- 1.4 End of year district narratives are included in this report.

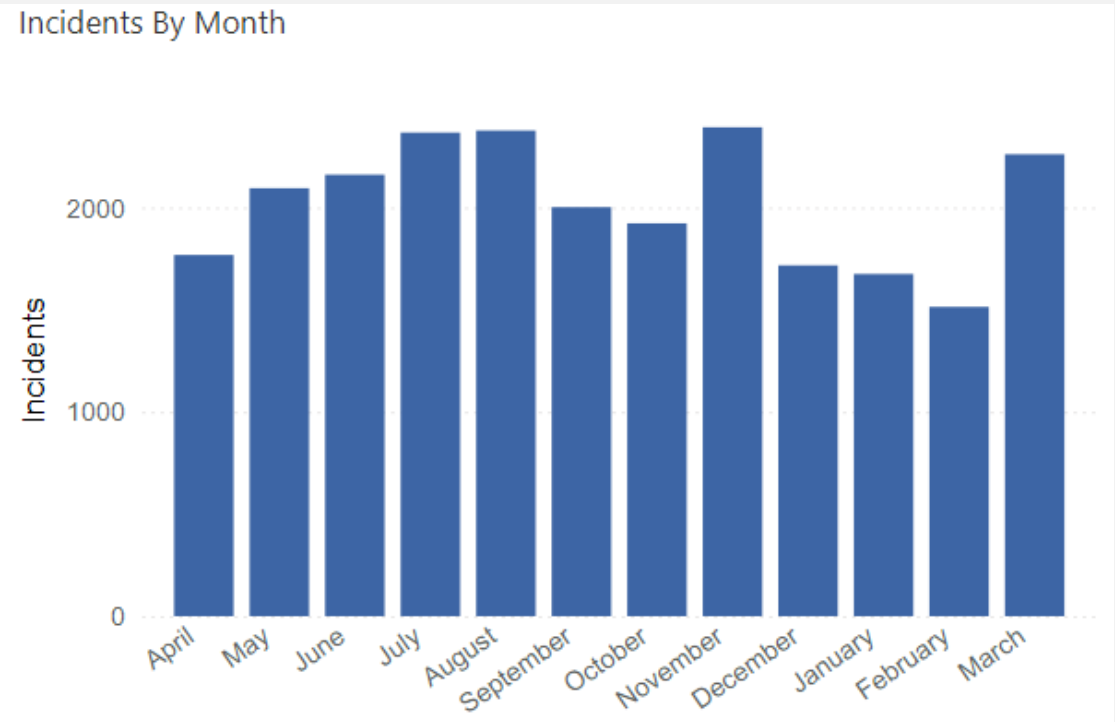
## 2. Information

- 2.1 All Incidents
- 2.2 In this reporting period, the service has responded to 24253 incidents. This is 1192 fewer than the same reporting period for 2023 / 24 and 1457 fewer than the three-year average.
- 2.3 The peak period for operational mobilisations is between 18:00 and 20:00.

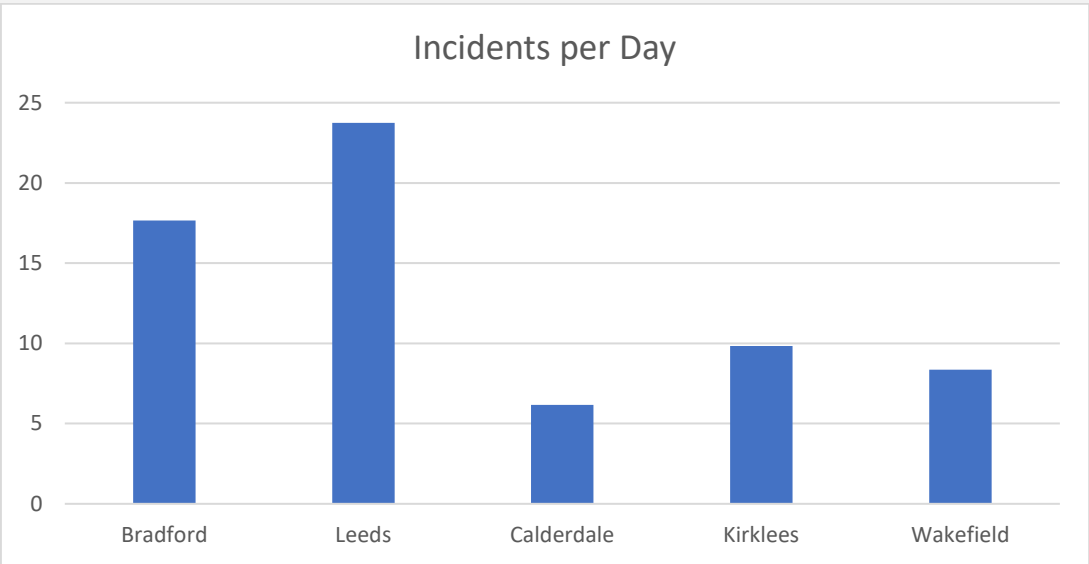


- 2.4 Through this reporting period the service has attended an average of 66 incidents per day compared to 70 incidents for the same reporting period in 2023 / 24. However, a

significant increase in operational has been seen through March where the service attended 72 incidents per day. This increase resulted from smaller secondary fires and coincided with the period of warmer, drier weather.

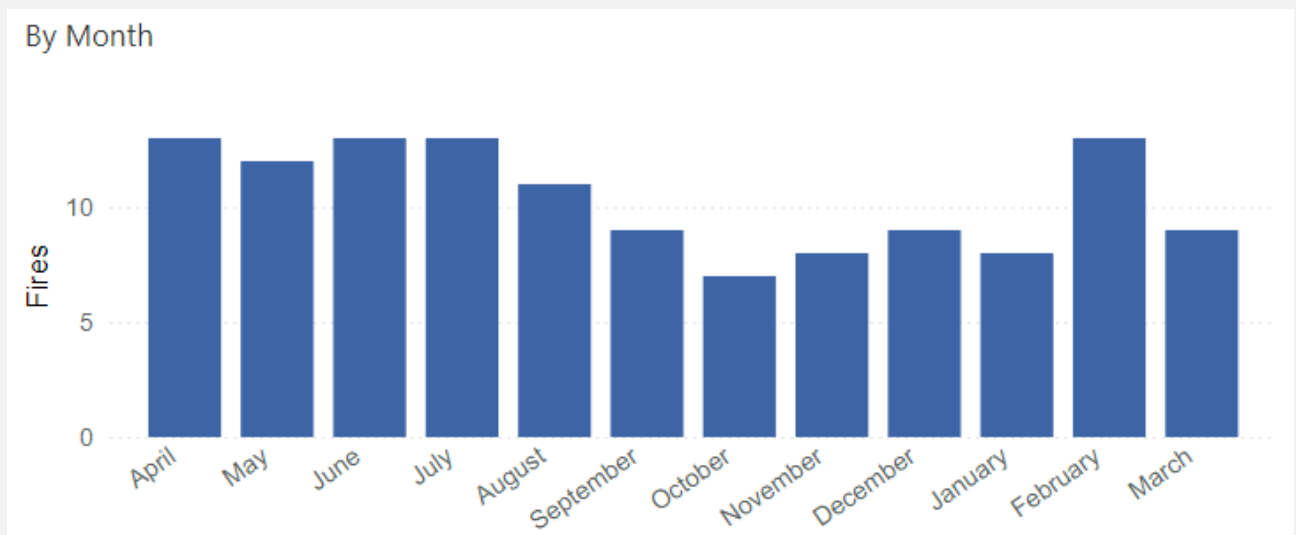


2.5 Leeds sees the highest levels of operational demand and Calderdale the lowest. This is consistent with our understanding of risk and levels of deprivation.



2.6 Performance against the Authority approved risk-based planning assumptions currently sits at 92.5%. This is 1.9% lower than the same period last year, however, continues to demonstrate exceptional confidence against the agreed standard.

- 2.7 The replacement mobilising system which is due to go live on the 1st July 2025 will improve this standard through the application of a Dynamic Cover Tool and pre-alerting functionality.
- 2.8 Fires
- 2.9 The service has responded to 9003 fires in this reporting period, this is 265 more than the same period last year and 583 fewer than the three-year average. 37% of all incidents attended are fires.
- 2.10 Of the 9003 fires, 5332 are thought to have been set deliberately and 3671 are considered accidental. 2913 are considered primary fires and 6055 are secondary fires.
- 2.11 The National Fire Chiefs Council define a deliberate fire as those fires where the motive was ‘thought to be’ or ‘suspected to be’ deliberate. These include fires to an individual’s own property, others’ property or property of an unknown owner, but not necessarily with the intention to deliberately damage or destroy property or endanger life.”
- 2.12 There have been 125 deliberately set fires in secure accommodation. This is a nationally recognised concern, and work continues with the prison service. A ‘Spotlight – On’ is presented to this committee outlining the work being undertaken. The distribution of fires by month can be seen below.



- 2.13 There have been 2 fewer dwelling fires (970) compared to the same period last year and 8 more than the three-year average. We continue to target our Safe and Well visits to those most at risk of fire. We have seen the number of visits numbers increase by 4.6% (803) compared to the same period last year.
- 2.14 Non-Fires



2.15 Non-fires include incident types such as effecting entry for partners, RTC's, lift rescues and other technical rescues. Non-fires make up 20% of operational demand. The breakdown of the 20 most common non-fire incidents can be seen below:

Initial Incident Type	Non-fires
ASSIST AMBULANCE - GAINING ENTRY	1551
PERSONS LOCKED IN	595
PERSONS STUCK	437
RTC SMALL VEHICLE(S) INV.	385
ASSIST POLICE	236
PERSONS IN LIFT	234
PERSONS REMOVAL OF OBJECTS	149
OTHER ASSISTANCE	141
VEHICLE SMALL ON FIRE	138
RESCUE FROM WATER (OR ICE)	96
RESCUE OF LARGE ANIMALS	87
ASSIST AMBULANCE	86
RESCUE OF SMALL ANIMALS	84
FLOODING INTERNAL	66
DANGEROUS STRUCTURE	60
RTC LARGE VEHICLE(S) INV.	42
SMELL / FUMES	40
FUEL SPILLAGE	33
BARIATRIC PERSON	29
PERSONS LOCKED OUT	29

2.16 The service has attended 4778 non-fire incidents. This is 149 more than the three-year average and 12 fewer than the same period last year.

2.17 1551 incidents result from the 'Effecting Entry' support we provide to the Yorkshire Ambulance service. This is a decrease of 240 when compared to the same period last year.

## 2.18 False Alarms

2.19 In this reporting period the service has attended 10472 false alarms. This is 1023 fewer than the three-year average and 1445 fewer than last year. False alarms are responsible for 43% of all operational demand for this reporting period. The top five false alarm causes can be seen below.

False Alarm Reason	Number
Faulty	2394
Cooking/burnt toast	1855
Controlled burning	1240
Other	649
Accidentally/carelessly set off	613

2.20 Fire Related Injuries and Fatalities – In this period there 1178 fire related injuries, including 19 fire related fatalities. This is 24 more than the three-year average and 3 more than the same period last year.

Cause	Number
Accidental Dwelling Fire*	8
Road Traffic Collision	3
Deliberate Act **	8

\*Smoke detection was present in each of the seven properties.

\*\*three believed to be self-harm, five linked to criminal acts.

2.21 Multi-agency Serious Incident Reviews (SIRs) are undertaken for each fire related fatality. This is because a large proportion of the individuals involved have complex needs and are being supported by partners. Opportunities for learning and improvement are explored and shared across the wider Yorkshire and Humber Region.

2.22 Fire related injuries are recorded against 0.6% of incidents attended. Over 88% of these injuries are considered 'slight' or precautionary. We continue to target our safety advice at those most vulnerable from fire. This is achieved through referrals, direct approach, on request and post fire prevention activities.

2.23 Local campaigns are undertaken following the more serious fires and wider safety campaigns linked to the National Fire Chiefs Council Calendar are delivered county wide. Recall notices around tumble dryer have recently been shared through our communication channels following risks highlighted by the Office of Product Safety and Security.

#### 2.24 Injuries and Fatalities

2.25 In this reporting period there have been 326 non-fire related fatalities. This is 38 more compared to last year and 134 more than the three-year average. 258 of these resulted from supporting the Yorkshire Ambulance Service in effecting entry and providing support to other partners.

2.26 Other significant incident types include suicide (17), water related incidents (12), RTCs (15).

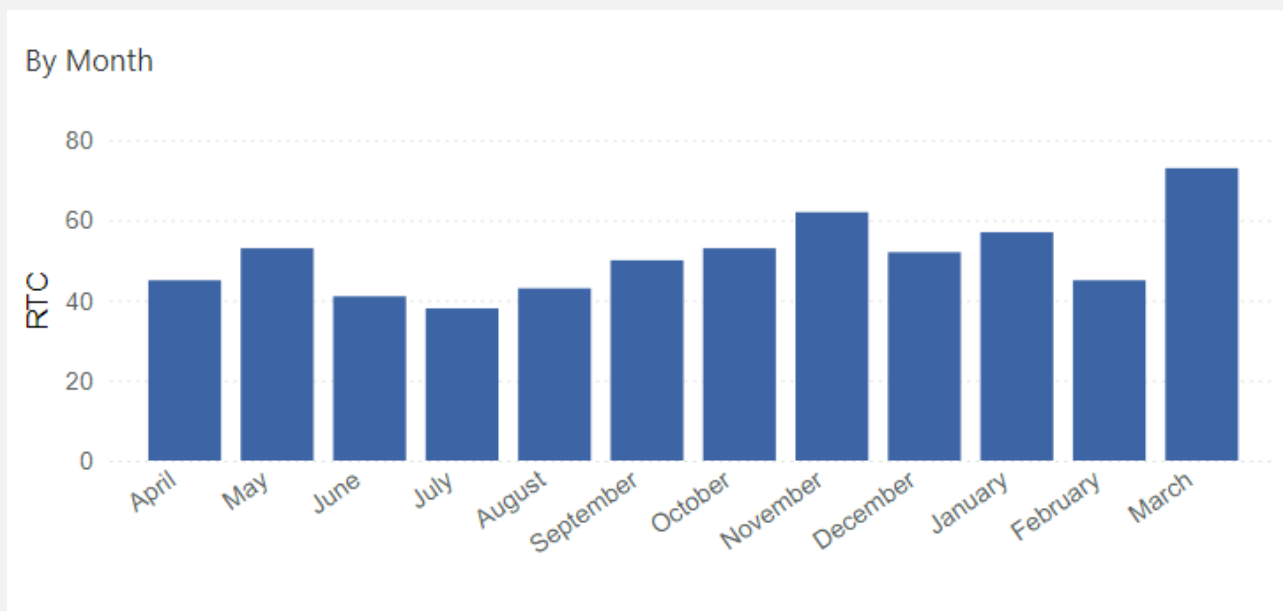
2.27 During this reporting period there have been 1694 injuries resulting from 1427 incidents attended by the service. 680 injuries were considered slight, 318 were considered serious, a precautionary check was recommended for 1193, first aid at scene was provided to 177 and 326 were of unknown severity.

#### 2.28 Road Traffic Collisions

2.29 There have been 612 RTCs in this reporting period, 13 more than the three-year average and 18 fewer than the same period last year. RTCs account for 3% of the service's overall operational demand. Of these, the primary activities undertaken by firefighters include, full extrication techniques (147), ensuring scene safety (264) and precautionary stand-by (71).

2.30 WYFRS is an active member of the West Yorkshire Vision Zero Partnership. Over the last year this has led to a multiagency approach to school visits, young driver education, Tyresafe delivery and the implementation of Operation Snap for our operational crews.

2.31 A breakdown of RTCs attended by month can be seen below.



### 3. Financial Implications

3.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report

### 4. Legal Implications

4.1 The Monitoring Officer has considered this report and is satisfied it is presented in compliance with the Authority's Constitution.

### 5. People and Diversity Implications

5.1 It has been identified through national datasets that higher levels of deprivation are a key factor in the occurrence of fire and other emergencies. By targeting risk reduction activities to those most vulnerable we are likely to support and reduce risk in the most diverse communities across the county

### 6. Equality Impact Assessment

6.1 Are the recommendations within this report subject to Equality Impact Assessment as outlined in the EIA guidance? No

### 7. Health, Safety and Wellbeing Implications

- 7.1 The health, safety and wellbeing of all WYFRS staff involved in responding to emergency incidents is one of the key priorities contained within the Your Fire and Rescue Service 2022-2025.
- 7.2 The District Command teams actively monitor the health and safety of staff following incidents and have welfare provisions in place for any specific incident type where crews may witness distressing scenes with support available through local managers and the Occupational Health and Safety Unit.

## **8. Environmental Implications**

- Changes to AFA policy has significantly reduced the number of journeys made during emergency response which reduces vehicle emissions.
- Towards the end of 2024 / 25 we have seen an number of large wildfires across our moorland. We are working with partners, landowners and members of the public to try and reduce this risk.

## **9. Your Fire and Rescue Service Priorities**

- 9.1 This report links with the Community Risk Management Plan 2022-25 strategic priorities below:

- Improve the safety and effectiveness of our firefighters.
- Promote the health, safety, and wellbeing of all our people.
- Encourage a learning environment in which we support, develop, and enable all our people to be at their best.
- Focus our prevention and protection activities on reducing risk and vulnerability.
- Provide ethical governance and value for money.
- Collaborate with partners to improve all of our services.
- Work in a sustainable and environmentally friendly way.
- Achieve a more inclusive workforce, which reflects the diverse communities we serve.
- Continuously improve using digital and data platforms to innovate and work smarter.
- Plan and deploy our resources based on risk.

## **10. Conclusions**

- 10.1 In 2024 / 25 Performance against the three year average has been reasonably consistent with only slight variation across most of the nine key performance indicators.
- 10.2 Performance against 2023 / 24 is more positive with a significant reduction in the overall number of incidents attended which can mainly be attributed to the change in how the service responds to automatic fire alarms.

10.3 Due to the exceptionally dry and warm spring, there was a large upturn in fires, wildfires and antisocial behaviour related incidents. These risks are included in our district action plans and risk reduction activities are already being undertaken.

## **Performance against KPIs 2024 / 25 Bradford District**

### **Incident Overview**

During the 2024/25 reporting period, the total number of incidents attended was 6506, this was 62 fewer incidents than the three-year average. Fire-related incidents and road traffic collisions (RTCs) were both below the three-year average. However, there was a slight increase in non-fire incidents as well as in fire-related injuries and fatalities.

### **Incident Demand Patterns**

Peak operational demand occurred between 16:00 and 21:00. Demand remained relatively consistent throughout the week, with a modest increase observed on Sundays. November was the busiest month, with 680 incidents attended—70 fewer than the busiest month in 2023/24.

### **Fire Incidents**

Bradford district crews responded to 2,625 fire incidents, representing 40% of all incidents and 139 fewer than the three-year average. Of these, 1,863 were deliberate fires (71% of all fire incidents), with 1,492 classified as deliberate outdoor fires. In response, operational crews have intensified preventative efforts, including contributions to Environmental Visual Audits and Environmental Hazard Reports. These reports trigger notifications to local authority cleaning teams to remove refuse and fly-tipping, aiming to reduce fire risks across the district.

Crews attended 241 accidental dwelling fires - 19 fewer than in 2023/24, remaining consistent with the three-year average.

### **Operational Safety**

There was a concerning rise in reported attacks on firefighters, increasing from 6 incidents in 2023/24 to 10 in 2024/25. We continue to work with West Yorkshire Police NPTs on this issue and provide information and intelligence wherever possible.

### **Non-Fire Incidents**

In 2024–2025, Bradford crews attended 1,107 non-fire related incidents. This represents an increase of 15 compared to the three-year average, but a decrease of 74 incidents from 2023–2024. Notably, RTCs declined by 26 and Gaining Entry incidents by 35 compared to the previous year. Non-fire incidents accounted for 17% of all incidents attended in the Bradford District.

### **False Alarms**

During the 2024–2025 period, Bradford attended 63 more false alarms than the three-year average, although this was a reduction of 42 compared to 2023–2024. False

alarms made up 43% of all incidents in the district. The three most common causes of false alarms were:

- Faulty Equipment
- Cooking (e.g., burnt toast)
- Controlled Burning

There was a significant 48% reduction (371 incidents) in Automatic Fire Alarm (AFA) activations in non-domestic premises compared to 2023–2024. Malicious false alarms also decreased by 24%. These improvements are attributed to the rationalisation of the AFA policy and proactive challenge procedures by Fire Control.

Apparatus-related false alarms remain high, accounting for 65% of all false alarm incidents. Using risk reduction logs, Bradford crews have identified repeat offenders and are collaborating with partners to reduce these occurrences through targeted education.

### **Fire-Related Injuries and Fatalities**

Bradford attended 29 incidents involving fire-related injuries or fatalities in 2024–2025, with a total of 43 casualties recorded. While injuries decreased by 7 compared to 2023–2024, fatalities rose from 6 to 8. One particularly tragic incident accounted for 4 of the total fatalities. Breakdown of injuries:

- 29 individuals sustained slight injuries and were taken to hospital
- 10 required precautionary checks
- 8 sustained serious injuries and were hospitalised

Approximately 0.4% of all fire incidents in Bradford involved injuries or fatalities. Fire-related incidents accounted for around 9% of all such casualties. The total number of safe and well visits completed during this period is 3626. We continue to work with partners to identify the most vulnerable people within the Bradford District.

### **Overall Casualty Trends**

In total, Bradford crews attended 325 incidents involving injuries or fatalities in 2024–2025. This represents a reduction of 13 incidents compared to the three-year average and 39 fewer than in 2023–2024. The total number of fatalities recorded for all incident types was 60, reflecting a 10% decrease from the previous year. Similarly, injuries decreased by approximately 9% year-on-year.

### **Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs)**

Bradford attended 137 RTCs during the reporting period—5 fewer than the three-year average. RTCs accounted for approximately 2% of all incidents attended in the district.

These incidents resulted in 103 injuries and 3 fatalities. In 35 of these cases, extrication was required, with firefighters deploying cutting and spreading equipment to safely remove individuals from vehicles.

## **Community Engagement and Prevention Initiatives**

In 2024–2025, Bradford crews used charity car wash events as an opportunity to promote vehicle safety. In partnership with Tyre-Safe, attendees received free tyre checks and safety advice. This initiative was well received and is now planned as a standard feature of future events.

This work aligns with the Vision Zero strategy, specifically under the “Safe Vehicles” pillar. The Risk Reduction Team also delivered a CPD session on Vision Zero, including scenario-based workshops to help crews identify local opportunities for reducing risk and contributing to district-wide casualty reduction efforts.

### **Summary:**

Throughout 2024–2025, Bradford crews have actively delivered a wide range of preventative initiatives, collaborative efforts with partner organisations and community groups have been instrumental in identifying and supporting the most vulnerable individuals across the district.

Crews have consistently recorded risk reduction activities through performance management indicators, capturing local trends and strengthening partnership working. This approach has evolved into a more structured framework for 2025–2026, with the introduction of district-wide risk reduction logs.

A notable achievement this year has been the 48% reduction in false alarms from non-domestic automatic fire detection systems. This has freed up valuable operational time, allowing crews to focus more on service delivery and collaborative efforts to address persistent deliberate fire-setting. These secondary fires remain a concern, but more detailed data and reports has enabled a targeted response.

The rise in attacks on firefighters during the bonfire period remains a serious concern. This issue has been escalated through “Operation Odiham” planning meetings, which are already underway for the 2025–2026 period. Bradford is working to enhance information sharing around partner-led preventative work during this time, with the aim of mapping activities to ensure coordinated resource deployment, eliminate duplication, and close service gaps.

The district’s Risk Reduction Team continue to maintain a strong relationship with the Youth Intervention Team, helping to educate partner agencies on available services that support the delivery of key safety messages.

Looking ahead to 2025–2026, the focus will be on consistently delivering small, meaningful actions that—when conducted effectively—can collectively drive significant



positive outcomes across the district and continue to develop and build district wide partnerships.

## **Performance against KPIs 2024 / 25 Calderdale District**

### **All incidents**

Calderdale District responded to 2,292 incidents, which is approximately a 5% decrease compared to the three-year average of 2,412 incidents. Over the reporting period, we attended 133 fewer fire-related incidents, representing a 5.49% decrease, which has seen a reduction of 8 fewer fire-related injuries.

It is positive to report 6 fewer accidental dwelling fires. This achievement is attributed to the focused person-centred approach to prevention work carried out by operational crews and prevention staff throughout the district.

These teams have completed 1650 safe and well visits throughout the district. This work contributes to further driving down the number and severity of dwelling fires across Calderdale.

We have responded to 27 fewer false alarms than we did during the same period over the last three years. This is an area we continuously monitor and has reduced significantly since the new AFA procedure went live.

### **Incident Demand**

The peak period for operational mobilisations is between 18:00 and 21:00. Over the week, operational demand is consistent.

### **Fires**

Calderdale have responded 681 fire related incidents, which is 5% fewer fires when compared to the three-year average for the same period. 249 were primary fires, 462 secondary fires and 6 chimney fires. 340 have been classified as deliberate and 341 as accidental.

This is a positive result of targeted partnership working, Risk Reduction activities and the development of operational staff taking ownership of identifying and managing incident trends. This early identification of incident trends and ensuring that action takes place for securing buildings, clearing of accumulated rubbish has been well received by partners and building owners. There have been 94 accidental dwelling fires which have been followed up with a direct home approach safe and well visit.

## **Non-Fires**

Calderdale have attended 524 non-fire related incidents. These incidents including assistance ambulance, persons stuck, persons locked in, assist police, persons in lift and RTCs. Of these 69 were RTCs and 11 were water rescues.

This is an increase of 41 incidents on the three yearly average, 150 of which are attributed to supporting YAS gaining entry into properties where there is a concern for someone's welfare and 63 incidents caused by persons locked in.

We have unfortunately seen 65 injuries resulting from RTCs. We continue to work with WYP and Calderdale Council to reduce the number of RTCs and make our roads safer. We continue to deliver our road safety campaign which will run between September of December focussing around areas experiencing a high number of RTCs. All of which will contribute towards our Vision Zero aspirations.

## **False Alarms**

Calderdale have attended 1087 false alarms since this is 27 fewer than the three-year average. The two main reasons are fault on system or cooking caused the alarm closely followed by controlled burning. Many false alarms are attributed to human behaviours such as smoking or cooking practices and are being addressed through education and advice in the most prevalent premises. Operational crews continue to work with both Fire Protection, Prevention teams and partners to identify premises where issues arise.

150 automatic false alarm attendances were in non-domestic premises of these education was the highest, particularly over the school summer holidays. Within the false alarm figures, 129 were incidents of controlled burning 664 were due to apparatus.

## **Fire related injuries and fatalities.**

In this reporting period there have been 10 fire related injuries and 0 fire related fatalities this is 8 fewer compared to the three-year average. 4 of the injuries were due to smoke inhalation and the casualties were taken to hospital for precautionary checks, 4 of the casualties also suffering with burns.

## **Injuries and Fatalities**

The 152 injuries and 30 of the fatalities recorded are the majority of which relate to attending gaining entry incidents with YAS, and other non-fire related incidents such as body recovery from water courses.

We continuously monitor our attendance at gaining entry incidents as per our Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with YAS. Other injuries and fatalities are attributed to water rescue, RTC and special service calls.

## **Actual Victims Rescued**

There have been 158 incidents which required rescues to be carried out, this resulted in 134 victims being rescued which is 19 more than our three-year average. These incidents which have resulted in rescues have included RTCs, water rescues, assist ambulance, and assist police.

## **Road Traffic Collisions**

There have been 69 RTCs. These incidents have resulted in 65 injuries and fortunately 0 fatalities where WYFRS attended, however this figure is not representative of the total of road fatalities in Calderdale.

Of the 69 RTC's, 54 incidents have been single car incidents, 12 multi vehicle and 2 van involved. We have identified areas where we are seeing many collisions and we continue to collaborate with Calderdale's Road Safety Delivery Group and WYP to reduce the risk of RTCs including raising the awareness of the Fatal Five (Speeding, Driving under the influence (alcohol or drugs), Not wearing a seatbelt, Fatigue, Distraction (e.g., mobile phone use) . These are now the main themes in our Road Safety events at the end of the year.

## **Summary**

Calderdale District continues to record positive results within the PMIs. This is due to the dedicated and professional work carried out by the district team, Prevention and operational crews throughout the last period in making Calderdale communities safer.

Calderdale District continues to perform well against many of the performance indicators over the last year. Operational and Prevention personnel across the District work extremely hard throughout the year on prevention and protection activities. These interactions with the community and the partnerships we have developed are key to the work within the District.

## **Performance against KPIs 2024 / 25 Kirklees District**

### **All Incidents**

We responded to 3623 incidents which is 508 fewer incidents when compared to the three-year average. Over the reporting period we attended 138 fewer fire related incidents and 13 fewer road traffic collisions. Over half of the incidents are to low or very low risk properties / areas. It is positive to report 21 fewer accidental dwelling fires and 14 fewer non-domestic building fires in this period.

This achievement is attributed to the focused prevention work carried out by operational crews and prevention staff throughout the district. These teams have completed 2027 safe and well visits throughout the district. This work contributes to further driving down the number and severity of dwelling fires across Kirklees.

### **Fires**

We have responded to 1343 fires since 01 April 2024, this is 138 fewer than the three yearly averages. Secondary fires account for 871 mobilisations with 630 classed as deliberate. This is a positive result of targeted partnership working, Risk Reduction activities and the development of Operational taking ownership of identifying and managing trends of secondary arson occurring. This early identification of incident trends and ensuring that action takes place for securing buildings, clearing of accumulated rubbish has been well received by partners and building owners.

The Community Outcome Groups are established and embed effective communication pathways with other partners in relation to deliberate fire setting. This work allows Kirklees District to be informed early of anti-social behaviour and then prepare risk reduction activities within the area.

### **Non-Fires**

There have been 716 mobilisations to incidents classed as non-fire which is 20 fewer in the reporting range. In this period, we have assisted other agencies at 123 incidents, gained entry at 276 incidents. Most incidents were persons locked in their properties a high proportion of these were young children, persons in distress or vulnerable members of the community. These incidents show the demand from partner agencies and the support crews provide across the district.

### **False Alarms**

There have been 350 fewer false alarms attended compared to the three-year average. The 2 main reasons are fault on system or cooking caused the alarm closely followed by controlled burning. Many false alarms are attributed to human behaviours such as smoking or cooking practices and are being addressed through education and advice in the most prevalent premises. Operational crews continue to work with both Fire Protection, Prevention teams and partners to identify premises where issues arise.

## **Fire Related Injuries and Fatalities**

In this reporting period there have been 71 fire related injuries and 3 fire related fatalities this is 13 more compared to the three-year average. 19 were in dwellings with 17 people suffering from smoke inhalation and 10 with a degree of burns. The 2 main reasons are fault on system or cooking caused the alarm closely followed by controlled burning.

Many false alarms are attributed to human behaviours such as smoking or cooking practices and are being addressed through education and advice in the most prevalent premises. Operational crews continue to work with both Fire Protection, Prevention teams and partners to identify premises where issues arise.

## **Actual Victims Rescued**

The number of actual rescues compared to the 3-year average is up by 13 at 204 compared to 193. However, 190 of those rescued were at non - fire related incidents

With 93 individuals supported or carried out by a firefighter not wearing BA and the majority were from buildings. However, the reason for most of these incident types is the 'Gaining Entry Cause for Concern' workstream, assisting YAS with entry into properties.

## **Road Traffic Collisions**

There have been 102 road traffic collisions within the district which is 13 down on the average. 49 of these RTCs in Kirklees have only required firefighters to make the scene or vehicle safe and only 22 have required persons to be extricated from a vehicle. WYFR'S crews delivered a broad range of road safety activities and events.

The district has been proactive in highlighting the dangers and continue to work with the Kirklees Road Safety Partnership in aiming to make Kirklees' roads safer. They were involved in promoting Brake's national Road Safety Week, delivering a range of 'Engage and Educate' events across the area with Highways, WYP and Safer Kirklees, parking initiatives around schools and extrication demonstrations were held at sites across the district.

## **Summary**

Kirklees District continues to record positive results within the PMIs. This is due to the dedicated and professional work carried out by the district team, Prevention and operational crews throughout the last period in making Kirklees communities safer.

Kirklees District continues to perform well against many of the performance indicators over the last year. Operational and Prevention personnel across Kirklees work extremely hard throughout the year on prevention and protection activities. These interactions with the community and the partnerships we have developed are key to the work within the District.

## **Performance against KPIs 2024 / 25 Leeds District**

### **All Incidents**

Within Leeds, in the last financial year, we responded to 8745 incidents, this is 617 fewer when compared to the three-year average, and 440 fewer than the previous year. The incident types that are above the three-year average are non-fire incidents, accidental dwelling fires, non- domestic building fires and water rescues.

### **Incident Demand**

November was the busiest month (882) closely followed by July. The peak period for operational mobilisations is between 18:00 and 19:00. Over the week, operational demand is relatively consistent with Saturdays been the busiest day.

### **Fires**

We responded to 2948 fires in the financial year – 34% of all incidents, this is 110 fewer than the three yearly averages but unfortunately 198 more than last year. We had 1062 accidental fires and 1886 deliberate fires. The peak month for fires in this period was March.

### **Primary fires, Accidental**

We had 597 primary fires, 24 more in comparison to last year, 75% are buildings, 21% road vehicles and 3.5% outdoor. Within Leeds District we had 354 accidental dwelling fires, 42 more than last year. 193 single occupancy house – 118 Flat/Maisonette – 1 Sheltered Housing. Three-quarters of accidental dwelling fires are limited to the item first ignited or to within the room of origin. Cooking or items left near hobs is a significant contributory factor.

### **Primary fires, Deliberate.**

We attended 434 primary deliberate fires, (15%) of all fire incidents, 49 % are road vehicles and 34% buildings. It is 27 more than last year, this rise is predominately due to an increase in prison fires, 46 more than last year. 33 involved dwellings, 9 less than compared to last year and 26 fewer than the three-year averages. As mentioned, there has been a significant rise of fires within the three prisons in Leeds, 116, this accounts for 78% of primary building deliberate fires.

We have allocated this as a high priority project, we have assigned an ADC and WM and they have made progress and are building relations with relevant staff within the justice system to try and reduce cell fires, but its wider than we can influence. Please see the accompanying Spotlight on.

### **Deliberate outdoor (secondary fires)**

Deliberate secondary fires accounted for 1398 mobilisations, which is 67 higher than the same period last year, but 129 lower than the three-year average. Peak months were March and August.

We continue to work with local authority anti-social behaviour teams and neighbourhood policing team to identify hotspot locations and reoccurring issues through an intelligence led approach and local monitoring of performance indicators.

## **Non-Fires**

29% of incidents are non-fires, we attended 1734 during the reporting period. It is 14 more compared to the three-year average, and 12 more than 23/24. We have supported the Yorkshire Ambulance Service at 601 gaining entry incidents. We attended 254 assist other agencies, 199 RTCs, 112 lift rescues and 30 water rescues. At 97 incidents, we took no action.

We assisted WYP at 19 incidents where vulnerable people were in distress threatening to commit suicide. We have representation on the Leeds suicide prevention board and staff are receiving awareness training from WYP negotiators.

Water safety is a key district priority we are working in collaboration with crews, key partners, business owners and the RNLI to try and reduce these rescues within Leeds City Centre, again vulnerable people with mental health illness are the majority of rescues from water.

## **False Alarms**

Due to a change in AFA policy there have been 521 fewer false alarms attended compared to the three-year average and 671 less than the previous year. Within Leeds this accounts for 46% of all operational incidents we went to 4063 false alarms. 1069 were faulty systems and 705 were due to cooking or burnt toast, with another 252 accidentally set off.

We had 66 malicious calls into service that we attended, 22 fewer than last year. We closely monitor false alarms and work with partners, fire protection and building owners to try and reduce them. As a district this is a key area to reduce incident demand to enable operational crews to be more productive in other areas of service delivery.

## **Fire Related Injuries and Fatalities**

Within Leeds we had 54 fire related injuries and three fire related fatalities. Fire related injuries occurred at 1.5% of fire incidents attended, 45 (83%) went to hospital with injuries appearing to be slight – majority slight smoke inhalation, nine were considered to have severe fire related injuries.

## **Injuries and Fatalities**



In this reporting period there have been 108 non-fire related fatalities, 25 more than the three-year average. 79% of fatal incidents attended were assisting other agencies and gaining entry for YAS. Other fatal incidents include six following removals from a water course, six from suspected suicide.

429 injuries occurred which is 28 fewer than 3-year average, the majority of injuries result in precautionary check-up recommended, first aid at scene or minor injury requiring hospital treatment.

## **Victims Rescued**

Leeds Firefighters rescued 777 people at 673 incidents these are 7% of the incidents we attend. It is 43 fewer in comparison to the three-year average. 741 (95%) of the people rescued were at non fire incidents, 54% of victims rescued were released as a method of rescue. 76 were rescued from RTCs the majority of others were gaining entry for YAS or other effecting entry incidents. We rescued 20 people from water.

## **Road Traffic Collisions**

There have been 199 RTCs in this reporting period, three more than last year and one less than the three-year average. RTCs are responsible for 2% of the incidents Leeds Firefighters attend. At 39 incidents (20%) we extricated people trapped, 28 incidents we released them from the vehicle and at 59% of RTCs our involvement was to make the scene or vehicle safe, or no action was taken. 137 people were injured in RTCs thankfully 59% of these injuries were slight, first aid given or a precautionary check-up.

Unfortunately, 31 did result in serious injuries; and unfortunately, we had three fatalities in three separate incidents, one a pedestrian. We continue to work in partnership with Leeds Road Safety Partnership and the local authority in highlighting trends or hotspot locations to ascertain any root causation. It is a key district risk to lower, and we are delivering several initiatives to various community groups and schools through station-based work.

## **Performance against KPIs 2024 / 25 Wakefield District**

### **All incidents**

There has been a total of 3088 incidents across the district this financial year. This is 149 fewer incidents compared to the 3-year average.

### **Fires**

There have been 1406 fires during this period, this is 62 fewer compared to the 3-year average. This is split into 434 primary fires and 968 secondary fires. 613 were reported as deliberate and 793 accidentals.

### **Non-Fires**

There have been 698 non-fire incidents, this is 101 more compared to the 3-year average. The main type of incident in this category is giving assistance to other agencies (347).

- Effecting entry – 205
- Assist other agencies – 142
- RTC's – 105
- No action – 57
- Removal of objects – 32
- Other rescue/release of persons - 31

### **False Alarms**

There have been 984 false alarms in this period, this is 187 fewer compared to the 3-year average. The majority of these are 'false alarm good intent' with only 32 being reported as malicious false alarms. This is a positive downwards trend demonstrating the engagement crews are delivering with local business.

### **Accidental Dwelling Fires**

There have been 123 accidental dwelling fires, this is 11 more compared to the 3-year average. This is a focus area for Wakefield District with crews now utilising OneView to interrogate data and target more effectively high-risk areas, work with partners and drive down risk. Crews have also been tasked with increasing their outputs over the forthcoming year inline with the District Plan.25/26.

### **Non-domestic Building Fires**

10.4 There have been 51 non-domestic building fires, this is 7 fewer than the 3-year average.

### **Fire Related Injuries and Fatalities**

There have been 28 fire related injuries during this period and 5 fatalities, this is 10 more compared to the 3-year average. Statistics tragically were negatively impacted following one incident where 2 motorcyclists and 4 occupants of a vehicle died on our border with Barnsley, 3 victims were reported as fire related.

1 fatal incident involved a disabled lady with a brain injury and mobility problems who'd turned the gas hob with an air fryer on top.

The 5<sup>th</sup> fatality was a lady under the influence of alcohol who had used a candle which came into contact with soft furnishings.

### **Actual Victims Rescued**

There have been 155 rescues during this period, this is 3 fewer compared to the 3-year average. Of these rescues, only 7 victims were rescued using breathing apparatus with 148 mainly being released from vehicles or due to gaining entries for YAS partners.

### **Road Traffic Collisions**

There have been 105 Road Traffic Collisions during this period, 26 more compared to the 3-year average. Our Risk Reduction team initiated the Wakefield District Safer Roads Group to work alongside the wider West Yorkshire Safer Roads Group which will hopefully have a positive effect on these figures.

We have delivered several intervention days at local colleges where we have engaged with over 4500 students. Wakefield district has also led on implementing the Police OpSnap process for reporting of dangerous driving to support vision zero.

### **Gaining Entry**

There have been 299 incidents where crews have assisted other agencies to gain entry to buildings, this is 61 more compared to the 3-year average.

### **Water Rescue**

There have been 10 Water Rescue incidents across the district, this is 2 more than the 3-year average.

### **Summary**

Wakefield District continues to drive positive indicators across our PMI's, this is due to the ongoing proactive work crews, prevention officers and district teams deliver in collaboration with partner organisations. Over the past 12 months we have seen no

further loss of life in water related incidents among our young people following the education delivered accessing over 4500 students across various schools and colleges. Work will continue utilising a data led approach to target our high-risk area's and further reduce risk and incident across Wakefield district.

Derelict building fires still present an area of concern within district however; our district risk reduction team and crews have initiated 'environmental visit audits' across our known derelict building locations in conjunction with local council partners to ensure these sites are managed and secured appropriately.

Wakefield District established the safer roads working group to tackle road traffic collisions, this has included the partnership with the 'Tyresafe Campaign' under the NFCC that focusses on one of the 5 pillars of Vision Zero, road worthiness. Various organisations attend and support our charity car washes whilst providing a free tyre check, this involves education on pressures and legal tread depths. Wakefield district has also recently partnered with the Police to support OpSnap, this provides WYFRS staff with a platform to report and submit footage of dangerous driving they have witnessed whilst carrying out their duties via a portal which in-turn is used to prosecute offenders.

Positively, Wakefield District has seen a downwards trend in incidents over the past 12 months and against the 3 –year average however, we will continually strive with innovative solutions to further reduce incidents, improve the wellbeing of our communities and provide a professional service.

OFFICIAL

Agenda item: 08

# Youth Interventions Team Annual Update 2024/25

## Community Safety Committee

---

**Date:** 11 July 2025

**Submitted by:** Director of Service Delivery

---

**Purpose:** This report details the progress and work carried out by the Youth Interventions Team for the period 1st September 2024 to 31st March 2025

**Recommendations:** That Members of the Community Safety Committee note the contents of the report.

**Summary:** The team have high aspirations for the year ahead. The team have been successful in securing funding for the year ahead that will enable them to continue to deliver a high number of quality programmes that contribute to initiatives such as Vision Zero, Clear Hold Build, Serious Violence and Violence Reduction.

2025 marks 10 years of Youth Interventions delivery at WYFRS and in December the team was received the Team of the Year award from Excellence in Fire and Emergency Services Awards. This recognised the work of the team and their innovate approach to responding to risk in West Yorkshire

---

Local Government (Access to information) Act 1972


**Exemption Category:** None

**Contact Officer:** Scott Donegan, AM Service Delivery

**Background papers open to inspection:** None

**Annexes:** None

# 1. Introduction

- 1.1 The programmes offered by the Youth Interventions Team (YIT) aim to be a catalyst for change and seek to inspire young people between the ages of 8 - 25 to change behaviours and develop personal skills through a variety of practical, structured interventions. The programmes and interventions offered by the team not only raise current safety awareness but develop social responsibility and skills for the future.
- 1.2 In addition to the practical programmes delivered on operational fire stations, the team also deliver 1:1 sessions and small group talks to young people putting themselves or others at risk through their current behaviours around water, fire, on the road or during the bonfire period.
- 1.3 The traditional portfolio of programmes offered by the team continues to be refined and reviewed to ensure we meet the changing need of young people and respond to local and national needs and agendas. Over the past 6 months the team have successfully developed and delivered an employability programme for young people aged 16-18 years old who are Not In Education Employment or Training (NEET). This programme was piloted with a cohort of young people working with Wakefield Youth Justice service and furthest from the job market.
- 1.4 The Team secured funding via the VRPs to expand the delivery of the Re  Action programme for young people under the age of 10 who are involved with or at risk of becoming involved with criminal activity. The purpose of this mentoring programme is to reduce the likelihood of then entering the Youth Justice Service when they reach the age of criminal responsibility. In addition to this, the team have refined and now deliver Drive4Life, a 3-day programme for new drivers ages 16-25 whose overconfidence combined with lack of experience can often lead to their involvement in Road Traffic Collisions'.
- 1.5 The team continue to be represented at WYFRS Community Risk Reduction Group. Involvement with this group has enabled the team to work more effectively with districts to address and reduce risk and work with Prevention Assurance and Improvement Team (PAIT) to ensure continuity in both the style and safety messages given through both the general education packages, delivered by crews, and the targeted package delivered by the Youth Interventions Team. So far, the team have collaborated on the Road and Water packages. Work will take place over summer on the ASB / Bonfire package for 2025. The team have also piloted the new theory of change and evaluation framework being introduced through the CRRG.
- 1.6 The team continues to have representation at external meetings in each of the 5 districts looking at Serious Violence Duty and Violence Reduction. Through this the team identified new opportunities to address the root causes of violence and contribute to reducing serious violence.
- 1.7 During this financial year the team have applied for and secured funds from a wider range of funding streams than in previous years. Full details of the funding streams

and the programmes this funded can be provided on request. This funding has enabled the team increase the number of early intervention programmes they have able to offer to primary schools and also work with key groups and geographic areas identified in the VRP Serious Violence Strategic Needs Assessments to ensure that WYFRS, as a Serious Violence Duty Holder, are working to address the root causes of and reduce serious violence.

## **2. Information**

- 2.1 The content of this report reflects the delivery that took place between 1st September 2024 and 31st March 2025. The second half of financial year 2024 / 2025.
- 2.2 Between 1st September 2024 and 31st March 2025 the team have delivered 30 structured Youth Intervention programmes to 282 children and young people.
- 2.3 In addition to the core youth interventions programmes, the team continue to work in partnership with the Kings's Trust to deliver their Get Started programmes. In the past 6 months the team have delivered 2 Get Started programmes for young people aged 16 – 25 years old and NEET. Both programmes delivered were Get Started with Emergency Response. 23 young people engaged with these programmes.
- 2.4 For the Financial Year 24/25 the team delivered a total of 50 structured Youth Intervention Programmes to 422 young people and a total 3 Kings Trust programmes to 33 young people.
- 2.5 The Youth Intervention Team continue to manage all referrals made regarding young people playing with fire. Over the past 6 months a total of 60 referrals were received via the WYFRS prevention database regarding children or young people playing with fire. 4 referrals identified fire play behaviours and the appropriate intervention was delivered by Fire Prevention Officers. 33 firesetting interventions were delivered by Youth Interventions Trainers. Some of these were because fire setting behaviours were identified. However, the team also delivered interventions where fire play was identified due to there not being the capacity withing districts for DPO's to deliver interventions. 23 referrals were cancelled or refused. Reasons for this include historic fire setting behaviours, inaccurate referrals, parental consent not given for an intervention to take place or young people refusing to engage with interventions.
- 2.6 The Youth Interventions Team continued to deliver educational interventions to extremely high-risk groups and individuals for whom a structured youth intervention on a station is not appropriate. Over the past 6 months 35 young people in 31 separate groups received input on the consequences of arson and responsible road use. These referrals originated from, and took place in, Youth Justice settings, schools or children's homes.
- 2.7 Over the 2024 bonfire period, the targeted package for young people most likely to put themselves or others at risk over the bonfire period was delivered to 1172 young people.

- 2.8 In the past financial year, the Youth Interventions team delivered the targeted Water package (May – August) and Bonfire package (October – November) to a total of 2321 young people most likely to put themselves or others at risk either around water or over the bonfire period. This increase is due to the team's continued involvement in the CRRG and having 1 Youth Interventions Trainer dedicated to working with each district team and developing partnerships within districts.

### 3. King's Trust Programmes

- 3.1 On 15th October 2024 Prince's Trust started operating as Kings Trust.
- 3.2 The Youth Interventions Team have continued to deliver the King's Trust Get Started programmes. These programmes are targeted at 16–25-year-olds who are unemployed and facing multiple barriers to progression. It seeks to engage them and boost their confidence to enable them to take the next step towards education, training, or employment.
- 3.3 In the past financial year, the King's Trust have made the decision to only commission WYFRS Get Started with Emergency Response programme due to their procurement regulations, WYFRS's unique selling point and quality of this programme. Over the past 6 months, the team have delivered 2 Get Started with Emergency Response programmes to 23 young people.
- 3.4 The Youth Interventions team delivered the King's Trust Developing Resilience qualification as part of the FireWork Programme in 2025 and as part of the Get Started with Health and Fitness programme delivered in August 2024. This qualification was developed by NFCC Early Intervention workstream and forms part of the NFCC Early Intervention Implementation Framework.
- 3.5 In the last financial year the Youth Interventions Team have delivered 3 Get Started programmes to 33 young people.

### 4. Review of Last Year's Priorities

- 4.1 In April 2024 the Youth Interventions Team met to set the priorities that they will be working on for the year ahead. Each role within the team had responsibilities in progressing these priorities which were broken down into quarterly milestones. The priorities for the year ahead are as follows:

**The development of new programmes. It was intended that the new programmes designed would:**

- Meet WYFRS duty holder requirements to SVD.
- Meet NFCC Early Intervention & CYP work streams.
- Meet local needs
- Enable WYFRS to have programmes for 16–25-year-olds that replace the Prince's Trust provision that is no longer delivered or commissioned.



The new programmes identified were:

- Boxing - A 1 week boxing programme focusing on personal development, aspirations and motivation for young people aged 16-25 years olds(NEET)
- FireWork - An 8 - 10 week programme for 16 - 25 year olds that are NEET that focuses on development of transferable skills for the workplace using the unique resources available to WYFRS.
- Re 🔥 Action - A mentoring programme for young people under the age of 10 who have been identified by primary schools as being on the fringes of criminal behaviour.

**Increase the number of Youth Interventions programmes delivered on station to targeted young people.**

The number of programmes has decreased. However, this is not negative. The decrease is due to a reduction in the number of Targeted Intervention Days (5 hour interventions) and an increase on the number of longer programmes such as GRIT and SHOUT (12 – 25 hour programmes). Evidence exists that longer term interventions have greater impact on behaviours.

**Continue to raise the profile of Youth Interventions both internally and externally.**

The teams' profile has increased over the past financial year. In December 2024 the team won team of the year award from Excellence in Fire and Emergency Services.

The team have supported numerous crew initiatives, and a corporate communication plan is now in place.

**Increase the number of young people engaged through our risk reduction activity.**

There has been an increase in the number of young people engaged through risk reduction activity. This is due to the team's continued involvement in the CRRG and having a Youth Interventions Trainer dedicated to working with each district team and developing partnerships across districts.

**Continue to develop a specialist team.**

- The team now have 8 full time members of staff. With no fixed term contracts this now ensures stability in the staff team.
- During a period of maternity leave a member of the team secured the coordinator secondment. This provided personal and professional development.
- The team continue to receive monthly supervision with the Youth Interventions manager. Supervision covers workload, training and well-being.
- The annual review progress has been completed to recognise achievements, set personal goals for the year ahead and also identify training opportunities that the team would like to access in the year ahead.


- Operational instructors joining the team as Youth Instructors have received a full induction and shadowing opportunities.

## 5. Next Steps

- 5.1 In April 2025 the Youth Interventions Team met to set the priorities that they will be working on for the year ahead. Each role within the team has responsibilities in progressing these priorities which are broken down into quarterly milestones. The priorities for the year ahead are as follows:

### **The development of new programmes.**

This will be achieved by using the skills and expertise in the team developed to expand the YI offer. The programmes identified are:

- Progression of FireWork, Drive4Life, Re  Action.
- Creation of Emerge (Water Targeted Intervention Day)
- Explore possibility of rebranding Fire Fit to incorporate boxing.

### **Increase the number of opportunities for Youth Interventions programmes to be delivered on station to targeted young people. This will be achieved by:**

- Actively seeking out funding opportunities.
- Applying for and securing funding.
- Continue to promote youth Intervention offer with key partners including VRP and those involved with SVD
- Identifying, developing and maintaining partners working with targeted young people in each district.
- Meeting with district teams on a quarterly basis to identify risk, initiatives & potential partners to approach.

### **Continue to raise the specialist profile of Youth Interventions both externally and internally, this will be achieved by:**

- Developing & Implementing a comms plan for promotion of the team including relevant social media channels.
- The creation of a promotional video for the Youth Interventions Team.
- Requesting that Youth Interventions Team feature in grey book promotion packs

### **Refine the delivery of risk reduction activity to targeted young people. This will be achieved by:**

- Youth Interventions manager attending and contributing to CRRG.
- Youth Interventions Coordinator ensuring consistency of message across risk reduction packages
- Youth Interventions Trainers to work with districts to identify hotspot areas and create plan to approach partners and schools.

- Reviewing Risk reduction packages annually.

**Continue to develop a specialist team. This will be achieved by:**

- The completion of annual reviews with Youth Intervention Trainers.
- Youth Intervention Trainers having access to monthly supervision sessions with Youth Interventions manager that cover workload, wellbeing and CPD & Training needs.
- Supervision sessions used to shape & update annual review process.
- Supporting Youth Interventions Trainers to identify and access relevant training opportunities
- Utilising competency dashboard.
- Ensuring all new instructors receive full induction.
- Keeping up to date with Local, National, Regional & NFCC guidance on competencies. Delivery of inhouse training / good practice sessions.
- Regular team meetings to update, share challenges, celebrations & good practice.

## **6. Financial Implications**

- 6.1 48% of the programmes delivered this financial year were commissioned by schools and partners.
- 6.2 The remaining 52% of funded programmes have been funded via the funding streams that the team have secured funding from.
- 6.3 The team will ensure all funding commitments are met within the time frames set out by the various funders.
- 6.4 The team will continue to seek funding opportunities to fund their work with young people across West Yorkshire, especially in relation to delivering SVD early interventions.

## **7. Legal Implications**

- 7.1 The Monitoring Officer has considered this report and is satisfied it is presented in compliance with the Authority's Constitution.

## **8. People and Diversity Implications**

- 8.1 The intervention work delivered by the team demonstrates significant "due regard" to the service's Public Sector Equality Duties. We have targeted our prevention activities to the most vulnerable in the community who often share protected characteristics.
- 8.2 By working closely with partners from the public and third sector, whose goals are to improve outcomes for those with complex social needs, we continue to make a

substantial impact on the community by strengthening their work with groups and individuals.

- 8.3 The programmes of behaviour change that are delivered by the Youth Intervention team are tailored to group and individual vulnerabilities and specifically aim to reduce the development of mental and physical health complications.

## 9. Equality Impact Assessment

- 9.1 Are the recommendations within this report subject to Equality Impact Assessment as outlined in the EIA guidance? No

[\(EIA Template and Guidance\)](#)

- 9.2 Date EIA Completed: "Add EIA completed date here"

- 9.3 Date EIA Approved: "Add EIA completed date here"

- 9.4 The EIA is available on request from the report author or from [diversity.inclusion@westyorksfire.gov.uk](mailto:diversity.inclusion@westyorksfire.gov.uk)

## 10. Health, Safety and Wellbeing Implications

- 10.1 Risk Assessments are in place for each site where Youth Intervention programmes are delivered.
- 10.2 All risk assessments are reviewed and updates to ensure the measures in place are relevant, necessary, and effective.
- 10.3 The team have a safe working practices policy which continues to underpin the delivery of all Youth Interventions and is implemented by the whole team.
- 10.4 All members of the Youth Interventions team have completed and passed the IOSH Managing safely training.
- 10.5 Regular supervision sessions are provided to all Youth Intervention Trainers.

## 11. Environmental Implications

- There are no environmental implications arising from the report.

## 12. Your Fire and Rescue Service Priorities

- 12.1 This report links with the Community Risk Management Plan 2022-25 strategic priorities below: **(please delete any that aren't relevant to your report)**

- Improve the safety and effectiveness of our firefighters.
- Promote the health, safety, and wellbeing of all our people.

- Encourage a learning environment in which we support, develop, and enable all our people to be at their best.
- Focus our prevention and protection activities on reducing risk and vulnerability.
- Provide ethical governance and value for money.
- Collaborate with partners to improve all of our services.
- Work in a sustainable and environmentally friendly way.
- Achieve a more inclusive workforce, which reflects the diverse communities we serve.
- Continuously improve using digital and data platforms to innovate and work smarter.

## 13. Conclusions

- 13.1 Over the past financial year the Youth Interventions Team have continued to be highly effective in their delivery of early interventions programmes to some of the most vulnerable young people in West Yorkshire.
- 13.2 The team are now recognised by the Violence Reduction Partnership and recognised across districts as a delivery partner in addressing serious violence.
- 13.3 They have continued to demonstrate resourcefulness, creativity and innovative thinking in how they engage with and meet the changing the needs of the young people and respond to risk in local communities.
- 13.4 What the team have achieved this year is testament to the energetic and dynamic culture of the team their commitment to improving the lives of young people.
- 13.5 The team have high aspirations for the year ahead. The team have been successful in securing funding for the year ahead that will enable them to continue to deliver a high number of quality programmes that contribute to initiatives such as Vision Zero, Clear Hold Build, Serious Violence and Violence Reduction.



OFFICIAL

Agenda item: 09

## Fire Prevention Update

### Community Safety Committee

---

**Date:** 11 July 2025

**Submitted by:** Director of Service Delivery

---

**Purpose:** To inform Members of Community Safety Committee of the performance against the 2024/25 performance outcome targets. The report specifically looks at the changes that have resulted from the HMICFRS inspection in 2024; where WYFRS were graded as 'Requires Improvement' for Preventing fires and other risks

**Recommendations:** That Members of the Community Safety Committee note the contents of the report

**Summary:** Several significant changes have been made which will not only address the areas for improvement highlighted by HMICFRS but also provides for a more consistent, evidence-based delivery of prevention activities across the service

---

Local Government (Access to information) Act 1972

**Exemption Category:** None

**Contact Officer:** Scott Donegan, Area Manager Service Delivery

**Background papers open to inspection:** None

**Annexes:** None

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report provides an overview of the initiatives and activities undertaken to enhance community safety, aligning with the strategic priorities of the Community Risk Management Plan 2022-25, specifically addressing the changes resulting from the 2024 HMICFRS inspection, where WYFRS was graded as 'Requires Improvement' for 'preventing fires and other risks.' The Areas for Improvement highlighted by HMICFRS were:

- The service should make sure it delivers safe and well visits in a timely manner
- The service should make sure it puts effective measures in place to address the backlog of safe and well visits

## 2. Information

- 2.1 Legacy ways of working, outdated ICT systems, staff vacancies and district understaff have meant that the service has not been able to meet the demand for Safe and Well Visits. Although operational crews have increased their output by 10% over the last three years improvements are still required to reduce the outstanding backlog of cases requiring a visit.
- 2.2 Over the last twelve months the service has prioritised improvements to staffing, infrastructure and ways of working to enhance the quality of service provided to vulnerable individuals across West Yorkshire. A summary of the main improvements is provided below.

### **New Prevention Database**

- 2.3 A new Prevention Database was launched on 1st April 2025. The new database is more intuitive for users and encompasses functionality to improve NFCC Compliance, data quality and staff performance such as:
- Alignment with the NFCC Prevention Standards
  - Integration of the WYFRS Person-Centred Approach (Developed to suit West Yorkshire using the NFCC Person Centred Framework)
  - Individual logins and admin records for all staff to support wider data compliance.
  - Automated referrals to partner agencies
  - Complete mobile working functionality allows for paperless inputting.
  - Full integration with the OneView Reporting system to support performance management.



- 2.4 The database was developed in-house using the Microsoft PowerApps service that has been adopted by the ICT Department for all app development within WYFRS.
- 2.5 Support was provided by a consultant for 12 months of development, providing learning and upskilling opportunities within ICT.
- 2.6 A new Quality Assurance Framework has been drafted and will be launched to help measure the quality of the work being recorded.
- 2.7 The new database will contribute to more productive ways of working and enable more thorough data analysis to inform future prevention activities.

### **Prevention Officer Performance Management**

- 2.8 A new performance management approach was introduced in October 2024 including the implementation minimum delivery standards for Fire Prevention Officers.
- 2.9 Expectations have been set at 8 High Risk Interventions per week, equating to 1.6 visits per day for staff who are not full-time.
- 2.10 Data suggests that this expectation equates to approximately 45% of an officer's time, allowing for other actions to be carried out that complement their role. This will continue to be reviewed to help improve efficiency.
- 2.11 Providing our specialist officers with delivery targets sets a clear expectation of the work they need to undertake and enables District Prevention Managers to plan and resource to the risks across each of the five districts.

### **Prevention Officer Growth**

- 2.12 Following the introduction of the Service Delivery Administration Hub (People & Culture Committee 04.10.24 - Item 8) the savings realised have been reinvested into increasing resourcing across district prevention teams.
- 2.13 The effectiveness of case management is one of the drivers for growth in this function. This will allow us to provide high risk interventions in a shorter period of time, and in line with our Customer Service Expectations.
- 2.14 Four individuals were successful in the recruitment process and are now undertaking checks before starting their training.

### **Task Force**

- 2.15 A High-Risk Task Force is being prepared to address the 600+ overdue cases within WYFRS' queues.

- 2.16 The task force will be a limited-time arrangement following successful recruitment against the current vacant posts, subsequent training and successful sign-off of these officers.
- 2.17 The proposal is to initiate a task force of four prevention officers for a 6-month period. This Task Force will sit outside of the current function, and within the specialist Central Prevention Team, actioning cases that are overdue and allowing districts to continue to focus on keeping cases within the WYFRS Customer Service Standards.
- 2.18 This team will significantly reduce the safe and well caseload and enable local teams to deliver against new referrals in a more timely fashion.

### **Post Incident Safe and Well Visits**

- 2.19 Research from December 2022 to April 2023 showed that only 32% of domestic fires received a post incident Safe and Well visit. Of those, 86% of those were carried out during or immediately after the incident.
- 2.20 Feedback from occupants highlighted that key fire safety messages were often not retained, and the level of quality offered in relation to the post Incident Safe and Well visit varied depending on the timing and severity of a fire.
- 2.21 The Post Incident Safe and Well Visit Procedure was launched on 8th October 2024 to address these issues. It was developed to improve consistency, quality, and timing of visits, ensuing they are risk-informed and occupant-focused.
- 2.22 The procedure introduces a temporary detection protocol for situations where a full Safe and Well visit is not immediately appropriate (e.g. occupant distress, hospitalisation, or property damage). This ensures that no property is left without basic fire protection, even in complex post-incident scenarios.
- 2.23 Temporary detectors are clearly marked and logged, with follow-up visits scheduled to assess risk and upgrade installations as needed. This reinforces WYFRS' commitment to occupant safety beyond the initial incident response.
- 2.24 This measure bridges the gap between emergency response and prevention, helping to reduce the likelihood of repeat incidents and contributing to making West Yorkshire Safer.

### **Prevention Property Offer**

- 2.25 The Prevention Property Offer Procedure was launched at the end of May 2025, following research and consultation. This will replace the current procedure which highlighted a few discrepancies.
- 2.26 The new procedure standardises the Safe and Well visit offer across all domestic property types and tenures, ensuring clarity, consistency, and legal compliance. It supports a person-centred, risk-informed approach, ensuring that WYFRS single-

point detection is installed only where appropriate, and resources are used effectively.

- 2.27 It reinforces the legal duty of Responsible Persons (e.g. landlords, housing providers) to provide and maintain appropriate fire detection systems, in line with the Fire Safety Order 2005, Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm Regulations 2015, and Building Regulations.
- 2.28 It also strengthens communication with partners by requiring pre-visit engagement with Responsible Persons to clarify detection responsibilities and ensure legal duties are understood and acted upon.
- 2.29 This procedure enhances accountability, legal compliance, and partnership working, while reinforcing WYFRS's commitment to occupant safety, equity of service, and continuous improvement in prevention delivery.

### **Threat of Arson Referrals**

- 2.30 Internal review identified a lack of clarity in how West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service responds to Safe and Well visit requests linked to threats of arson.
- 2.31 Research identified key issues and drivers for change, which included:
- Ambiguity in the previous procedure, particularly around the distinction between “threat” and “risk,” referral pathways, and response timescales.
  - Inconsistent referrals from West Yorkshire Police (WYP), many of which did not meet the Safe and Well visit criteria.
  - Absence of a formal out-of-hours process and limited data capture on arson-related mobilisations already being handled by Fire Control.
  - A lack of national guidance specific to domestic arson threats, with NFCC materials focusing more broadly on community-level arson reduction.
- 2.32 The revised Threat of Arson Procedure was launched on 1st April 2025 following a comprehensive internal review by the Arson Task and Finish Group.
- 2.33 The procedure introduces a police-led referral model. Safe and Well visit requests due to threat of arson are no longer accepted via the Prevention Database, 0800 number, email, or website. All threats must be reported to West Yorkshire Police via 101.
- 2.34 Where West Yorkshire Police identifies a credible and imminent threat of arson, and the occupant consents, Fire Control will mobilise a fire appliance (non-blue light) to conduct an urgent Safe and Well visit. These incidents are logged in the Incident Recording System (IRS).

2.35 The procedure also includes on-site interventions such as risk assessments, smoke detector installation, target hardening measures (e.g. blanking plates, CCTV guidance), and personal survival planning.

2.36 This new approach improves consistency, accountability, and inter-agency coordination. It ensures that WYFRS resources are directed to the most urgent and credible threats.

### **3. Financial Implications**

3.1 Most of the improvements highlighted in this report have been met from existing budget through reprioritisation of work or reallocation of revenue funding.

3.2 Funding was required to employ an external developer to support the building of the replacement developer. However, this expenditure will quickly be returned through savings on the licensing costs quoted for third party database providers.

3.3 Members are not asked to approve any additional expenditure as part of this report

### **4. Legal Implications**

4.1 The Monitoring Officer has considered this report and is satisfied it is presented in compliance with the Authority's Constitution.

### **5. People and Diversity Implications**

5.1 The process to identify and employ four additional prevention officers is aligned to safer recruitment and vetting procedures appropriate to the role.

5.2 The delivery of the new database has been underpinned by a comprehensive training and support package which has supported firefighters and prevention officers regularly using the systems.

### **6. Equality Impact Assessment**

6.1 Are the recommendations within this report subject to Equality Impact Assessment as outlined in the EIA guidance?      No

### **7. Health, Safety and Wellbeing Implications**

7.1 Previously, a request for arson support would fall within the WYFRS Customer Service Standards of contact within seven days, visit within 28 days and case closure within 56 days. The improvements highlighted in this report mean that a person at genuine threat of arson will receive advice and other risk reduction methods within hours of the service being notified

### **8. Environmental Implications**

8.1 There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

## **9. Your Fire and Rescue Service Priorities**

9.1 This report links with the Community Risk Management Plan 2022-25 strategic priorities below:

- Improve the safety and effectiveness of our firefighters.
- Promote the health, safety, and wellbeing of all our people.
- Encourage a learning environment in which we support, develop, and enable all our people to be at their best.
- Focus our prevention and protection activities on reducing risk and vulnerability.
- Provide ethical governance and value for money.
- Collaborate with partners to improve all of our services.
- Work in a sustainable and environmentally friendly way.
- Achieve a more inclusive workforce, which reflects the diverse communities we serve.
- Continuously improve using digital and data platforms to innovate and work smarter.
- Plan and deploy our resources based on risk.

## **10. Conclusions**

10.1 A significant amount development has been undertaken to improve how WYFRS delivers fire prevention services. Several significant changes have been made which will not only address the areas for improvement highlighted by HMICFRS but also provides for a more consistent, evidence-based delivery of prevention activities across the service.



OFFICIAL

Agenda item: 10

## Spotlight On Reports

### Community Safety Committee

---

**Date:** 11 July 2025

**Submitted by:** Director of Service Delivery

---

**Purpose:** To provide Members with examples of how the service meets the needs of vulnerable people within the community in its service delivery functions of prevention, protection and response.

**Recommendations:** That Members of the Community Safety Committee note the contents of this report.

**Summary:** The 'Spotlight On' case studies highlight just some of the excellent work that is being delivered across the communities of West Yorkshire

---

Local Government (Access to information) Act 1972

**Exemption Category:** None

**Contact Officer:** Scott Donegan, Area Manager Service Delivery  
Scott.Donegan01@westyorksfire.gov.uk

**Background papers open to inspection:** None

**Annexes:** Spotlight-On Reports

## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 WYFRS is committed to meeting the needs of West Yorkshire's diverse communities. Members are aware that we direct our resources particularly towards the most vulnerable groups and individuals who are most at risk because of their lifestyles, behaviours or the way their protected characteristics, such as race, or religion or gender, influence their day-to-day life.
- 1.2 The Spotlight On case studies allow the service to demonstrate to Members of the Community Safety Committee how we often go above and beyond in order to provide an excellent service to the people of West Yorkshire and keep vulnerable people safe.

## **2. Information**

- 2.1 The cases attached to this report showcase how our staff are working across districts in order to reduce risk and where required, respond to emergencies to provide a first class service to people in their time of need.

## **3. Financial Implications**

- 3.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report. The activities carried out in the development of the work described come from existing revenue budgets and are supporting through collaboration with key partners.

## **4. Legal Implications**

- 4.1 The Monitoring Officer has considered this report and is satisfied it is presented in compliance with the Authority's Constitution.

## **5. People and Diversity Implications**

- 5.1 There are no people and diversity implications resulting from this report.

## **6. Equality Impact Assessment**

- 6.1 Are the recommendations within this report subject to Equality Impact Assessment as outlined in the EIA guidance?      No

## **7. Health, Safety and Wellbeing Implications**

- 7.1 The activities described demonstrate our commitment to improving the health, safety and wellbeing of target groups across the respective districts. All activities have been fully risk assessed and where necessary control measures implemented.

## **8. Environmental Implications**



- 8.1 Several the risks highlighted in these documents could potentially have a significant impact on the environment locally and service wide, the plans show we have considered these risks and the actions we will take to mitigate the impact.

## **9. Your Fire and Rescue Service Priorities**

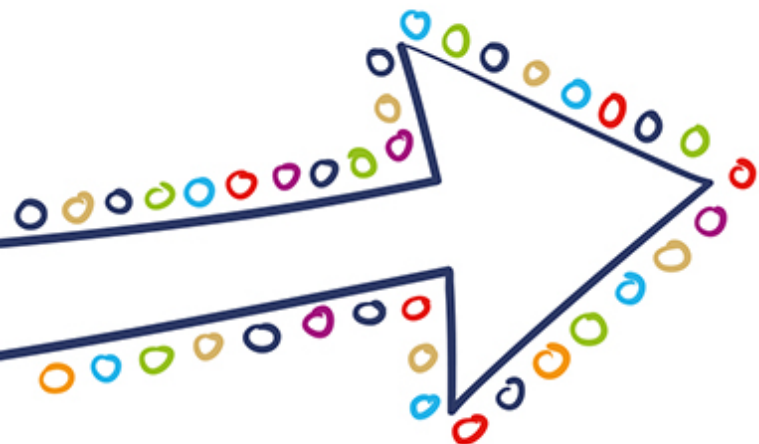
- 9.1 This report links with the Community Risk Management Plan 2022-25 strategic priorities below:

- Improve the safety and effectiveness of our firefighters.
- Promote the health, safety, and wellbeing of all our people.
- Focus our prevention and protection activities on reducing risk and vulnerability.
- Collaborate with partners to improve all of our services.
- Work in a sustainable and environmentally friendly way.
- Plan and deploy our resources based on risk.

## **10. Conclusions**

- 10.1 The documents presented to Community Safety Committee demonstrates how West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service have found innovative ways to make a positive contribution to reduce risk for the communities of West Yorkshire.





# Spotlight on...

## Bentley Court – Keighley

### Reduction in unwanted fire alarms



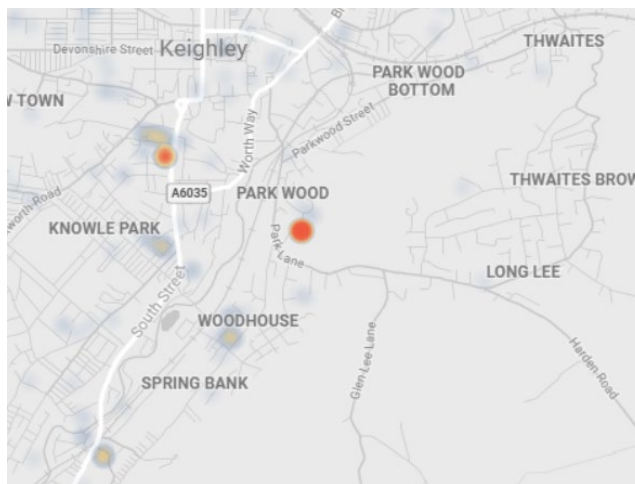
Bentley Court is a residential high-rise development in Keighley comprising of 95 apartments. In 2024, West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (WYFRS) responded to 90 incidents at this location—approximately 66% of which were cooking related.



#### What was the need, how was it identified?

A trend for unwanted fire alarms was identified by Keighley fire station, through the completion and review of risk reduction logs. These logs are a tool used to identify specific risks within our community, document the actions taken to mitigate these risks, outline our desired outcomes

and monitor the progress of any intervention. Data from WYFRS's 'OneView' system had been monitored and scrutinised over a period of time to provide a significant amount of data to inform the effective course of action going forward.



The above image showing the 'one view' screen shot identifying a hot spot over Bentley Court.

Keighley fire station initiated engagement with Premier Estates, the management

agency for Bentley Court. This collaboration led to the development of a joint plan focused on reducing the frequency of incidents and enhancing fire safety awareness among residents.



#### What did we do?

Fire crews visited resident's door-to-door, distributing fire safety information and educating people on safe cooking practices and additional risks associated with high-rise buildings.

The management team reviewed the open plan layout of the premises and found that smoke detectors in the open plan kitchen/lounges were often triggered by normal cooking practices.

To solve this, they upgraded the system to include heat detectors, reducing false alarms significantly.

## NEWS

Home | InDepth | Israel-Gaza war | War in Ukraine | Climate | UK | World | Business | Politics | Culture

England | Local News | Bradford

### Fire crews called to 49 false alarms at flats



Firefighters responded to 49 false alarms at Bentley Court in Keighley in less than six months

Chris Young

Local Democracy Reporting Service

8 October 2024

Firefighters have been called out to 49 false alarms at the same block of flats in less than six months.

A West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority meeting heard there had been a drop in the number of false call-outs in other parts of the region, but an 8% rise in the Bradford district, which was down to issues at one building.

The fire service said it was working with the owner of Bentley Court in Keighley to "educate" tenants to prevent future call-outs.

Premier Estates, which runs the building, said it was working closely with the service to provide "resident guidance".

Current policy at West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (WYFRS) was for at least two fire engines and a watch manager to be sent out to each automated fire alarm at a high-rise building, the meeting heard.



#### What difference did we make?

This targeted risk reduction initiative encompassed approximately 20 hours of focused effort, including comprehensive data analysis, stakeholder engagement and community outreach.

Since the implementation of these measures, the number of incidents has significantly decreased – from 31 in the first quarter of 2025 to 7 over the subsequent two-month period.



#### What are the keys to our success?

The initiative analysed risk reduction logs to identify patterns and high-risk areas. The effective engagement with Premier Estates, the managing agents, led to the development of a shared action plan, aligning goals and resources.

The direct engagement with residents helped raise awareness and promote safer behaviours. Tailored communication and education in the contributed to the reduction of incidents.



#### What are we doing next?

WYFRS crews will continue to monitor the situation and maintain close collaboration with estate management to ensure continual improvements. This initiative-taking approach ensures swift and effective responses to any future increase in incidents.



#### Contact



Name: District Commander Benjy Bush



Telephone: 01274 682311



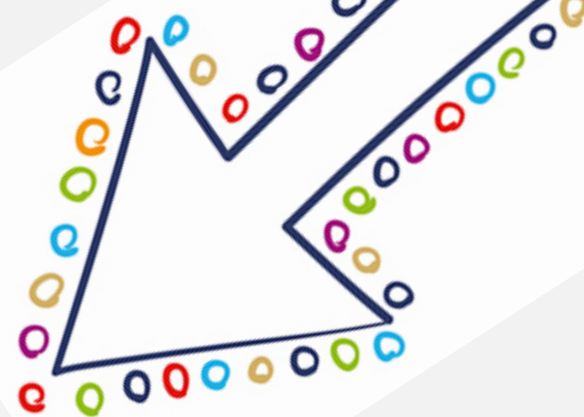
Email address:

[Benjy.Bush@westyorksfire.gov.uk](mailto:Benjy.Bush@westyorksfire.gov.uk)





# Spotlight on...



## Partnership Wildfire Event

### What was the need, how was it identified?

In Calderdale District there is a significant Wildfire risk. In recent months we have experienced two large, protracted incidents with huge impacts locally.

These events reflect a growing trend in wildfire frequency and intensity, driven by increasingly dry conditions and higher seasonal temperatures.

We are always looking to develop new and improved ways of working and develop partnerships within Calderdale, and across West Yorkshire to reduce this risk.

### What did we do?

We work with multi agency partners to raise the awareness of the impacts of wildfire incidents – the three key objectives of the initiative are:

1. To share the #BeMoor Aware safety messages in targeted areas. Calderdale council wardens, West Yorkshire Police, and Fire and Rescue teams engaged with the public at supermarkets across Upper Calderdale Valley and visited high-risk areas to promote fire prevention.
2. In the moorland area above Cragg Vale in Mytholmroyd, operational crews from Mytholmroyd and Todmorden are working with colleagues from Calderdale Council and Natural England. They are collaborating to build and share a joint understanding of the risks to firefighters, the community, and the environment. This collaboration aims

to review and access quality information that can support current wildfire tactics.

3. To share WYFRS Wildfire capabilities with partner agencies who will support firefighting operations at a wildfire incident, and to discuss the challenges and multi-agency approach to tackling a wildfire. In the last three years, there has been an investment in the equipment, vehicles, and personal protective equipment Calderdale crews have access to.



# Spotlight on...

## ➡ What difference did we make?

Public and partnership engagement and support were very positive, raising the awareness of fire prevention in our moorland areas, whilst also discussing how we can work with partners to reduce the risk and build better working relationships should an incident happen. This message was supported by informing the public how they can accurately share the location of a fire.

## ➡ What are the keys to our success?

Due to the complexity and scale of dealing with wildfires incidents, multi-agency and partnership working is important.

Reinforcing and developing current partnership relationships are invaluable to ensure the WYFRS prevention, response, and recovery phases when dealing with an incident are delivered effectively.

WYFRS crews are continually improving firefighting techniques, and through our investments, we have developed efficient methods for sharing key safety information to effectively and safely extinguish wildfires.

## ➡ What are we doing next?

The #BeMoor aware campaign is recognised nationally as good practice, we will continue to deliver these messages to help prevent wildfire incidents.

Operational crews from across Calderdale District will be supporting the Let's LearnMoor event at the Walshaw estate on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July 2025.

We will continue to develop a robust multi agency partnership arrangement to help prevent, and when responding to wildfires in Calderdale



## ➡ Contact



Andy Rose

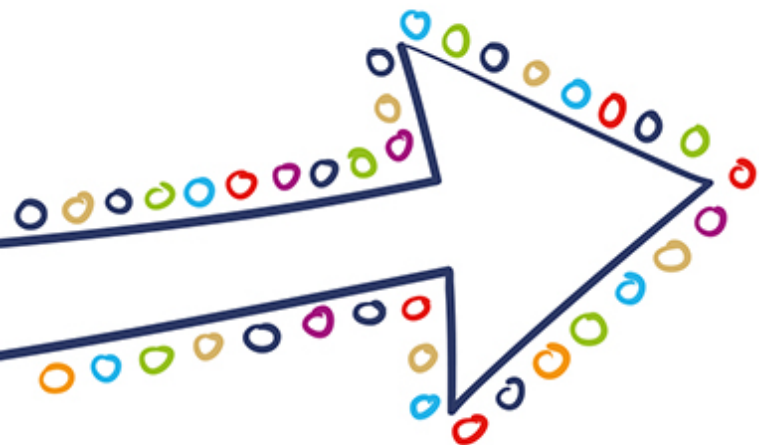


07917 001539



[Andy.rose@westyorksfire.gov.uk](mailto:Andy.rose@westyorksfire.gov.uk)





# Spotlight on...



## 'Have A Go Day!' On – Call Recruitment



### What was the need, how was it identified?

On-Call firefighters are highly skilled individuals from all walks of life who provide vital daytime, evening, and weekend cover at on-call fire stations - alongside their regular jobs and commitments. Just like their wholetime colleagues, they serve on the front line, protecting their communities. On-Call firefighters are not based at station when providing operational cover, when On-Call, individuals must be able to reach their station within five minutes of their alerter going off. Recruitment at on - call stations has sometimes been challenging particularly in attracting individuals with the right skills and availability to enhance the local

station's ability in protecting the local community.



### What did we do?

The local communities of Skelmanthorpe and Slaithwaite had the chance to step into the boots of an On-Call firefighter at Skelmanthorpe Fire Station on Saturday, 15th March and Slaithwaite on Saturday the 31st of May. The 'Have A Go Day!' events gave attendees a hands-on experience of the role, with the opportunity to take on real firefighting drills and test their skills in emergency situations.



The attendees were able to meet experienced firefighters and hear their stories on how they serve the community. There also received input on the application process, fitness requirements and what it takes to join the service.



➡ What difference did we make?

“

"I've always wanted to be a firefighter, but I wasn't sure if it was something I could do. Today has given me the confidence to seriously consider applying. It's been amazing to meet the team, try out the drills, learn more about incidents and see firsthand what the role of an On-Call firefighter involves."

”

Melissa

Participant on the day

➡ What are the keys to our success?

Early planning and the enthusiasm of the stations to engage with their local communities on the benefits of the role. Stations and departments working together meant that resources were shared, and key messages were collaborated across all the sessions. This joint knowledge and delivery are essential to the day of activities. This

dovetailed well with the experience of the crew's real-life experiences of working the On-Call duty system.

➡ What are we doing next?

The events have been a fantastic success with a debrief providing an opportunity for discussion about what went well and where we could improve the days. We will be working with the local stations, Human Resources and District Officers to support further recruitment and highlight the benefits of being part of the West Yorkshire Fire service family.

➡ Contact



Name Dale Gardiner



Telephone 07557006166



Email address  
Dale.gardiner@westyorksfire.gov.uk





# Spotlight on...

## Reduction in cell fires at HMP Leeds, Wealstun and YOI Wetherby

### ➡ What was the need, how was it identified?

In the Leeds District, we have three HMP sites: HMP Leeds, HMP Wealstun, and HMYOI Wetherby. We have been working collaboratively with prisons to reduce cell fire incidents.

In 2022/23 we attended 27 incidents; this figure rose to 127 incidents in 2024/25.

In April 2018, all prisons in England were officially made smoke-free, with prisoners provided e-cigarettes. Most sites allowed prisoners to keep these in their cells. Unfortunately, this gave those intent on setting fires access to an ignition source. We have seen a steady rise in cell fires, the vast majority of which have been started using vape

pens—either by manipulating the heating element or the charging cables.



### ➡ What did we do?

Initially, we investigated the internal punitive measures taken against individuals who set fires. We found that offenders face adjudication by the governor, which could result in up to 30 additional days added to their sentence. In severe cases, they could face criminal charges if the fire endangered staff or other prisoners. Privileges and work routines could also be revoked, and offenders could be confined to the segregation wing for a set period.

Among these measures, there were a few where we, as a service, could provide support or add weight. It was discovered that after a fire, the custodial manager calculated the cost of the damage and passed this to the internal police liaison for consideration. For a case to be considered by the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), the damage must exceed a threshold of £2,000. However, due to inaccurate costings, this threshold was rarely met.

To address this, the Prison Liaison Officer collaborated with the repair and procurement departments to create an incident reporting form. This form captures accurate damage assessments, assigns costs, and includes questions that police would typically ask the perpetrator.



We also found that after a cell fire, prisoners were relocated with all their property—including clothing and shoes contaminated with toxins and carcinogens from the smoke. The Prison Liaison Officer advised governors that such items should be sent for decontamination or, if heavily soiled, destroyed. After this guidance was issued to staff and inmates, we observed a reduction in cell fires. However, many fires are still started by new arrivals who do not yet have enough personal property to deter them.

An exciting development in our prevention efforts is being led by fire crews at Wetherby. Since January 2025, they have been entering HMP Wealstun to deliver an arson reduction package to inmates identified by staff as respected members of the population. The aim is to educate these individuals on the risks of cell fires so they can help deter new inmates during their induction period.

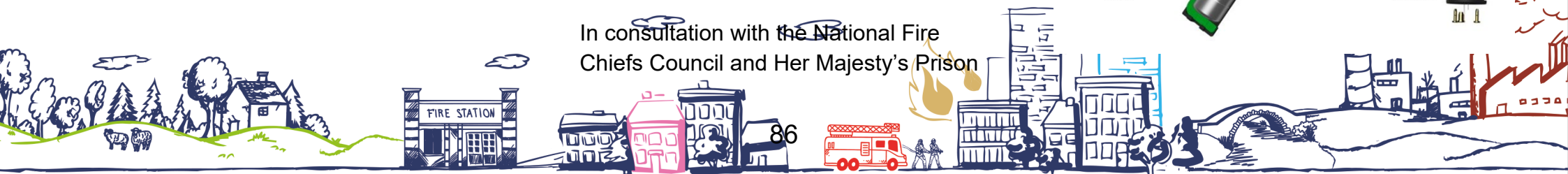


### What are we doing next?

With the new incident reporting form, we hope to see more cases referred to and approved by the CPS. There have been instances in the UK where up to two years were added to a sentence. If such a case occurred in one of our Leeds District sites, it could serve as a powerful deterrent.

In consultation with the National Fire Chiefs Council and Her Majesty's Prison

Service Health, Safety, and Fire leads, a tamper-proof vape system has been developed by Moja. In this system, the battery cell is welded directly to the circuit board, preventing rewiring and misuse of the heating element. Any attempt to open the vape body destroys the circuit board, rendering the device unusable. These will replace all vape pens in HMP establishments by October this year. We are advocating for our three sites to receive them ahead of schedule.



reduce mobilisation to these very small isolated fires.

As part of our commitment to the JESIP doctrine when attending incidents with Category 1 or 2 responders, we are exploring ways to support the development of on-scene commanders—both within our service and HMP. To this end, the Prison Liaison Officer has developed a command training programme for managing fires in secure accommodation sites. This programme mirrors our own command assessments, which all officers must complete every two years. By delivering this training to prison managers, we aim to improve mutual understanding and operational effectiveness between fire crews and HMP staff. The training will be delivered to all custodial managers as part of their quarterly CPD and will be supplemented with practical exercises involving Leeds fire crews, including simulated cell fires and larger-scale incidents in areas such as workshops.

We are also undertaking a review of the pre-determined attendance to cell fires to



## Contact

 Lee Miller

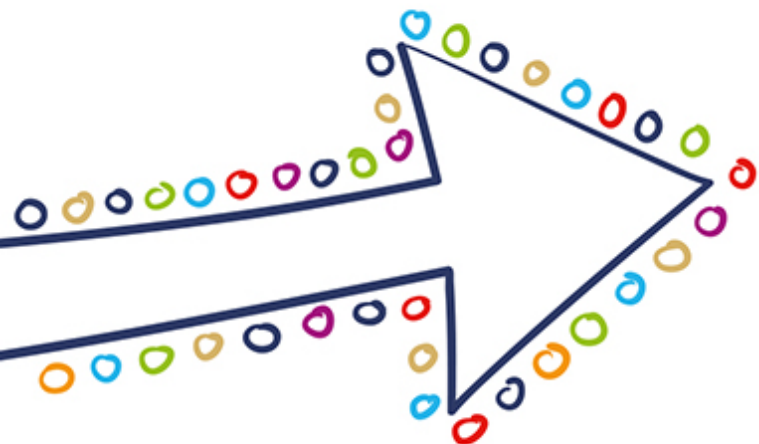
 075552283472

 [Lee.Miller@westyorksfire.gov.uk](mailto:Lee.Miller@westyorksfire.gov.uk)









# Spotlight on...

## Wakefield



**Wakefield District – working within the community to improve safety.....**

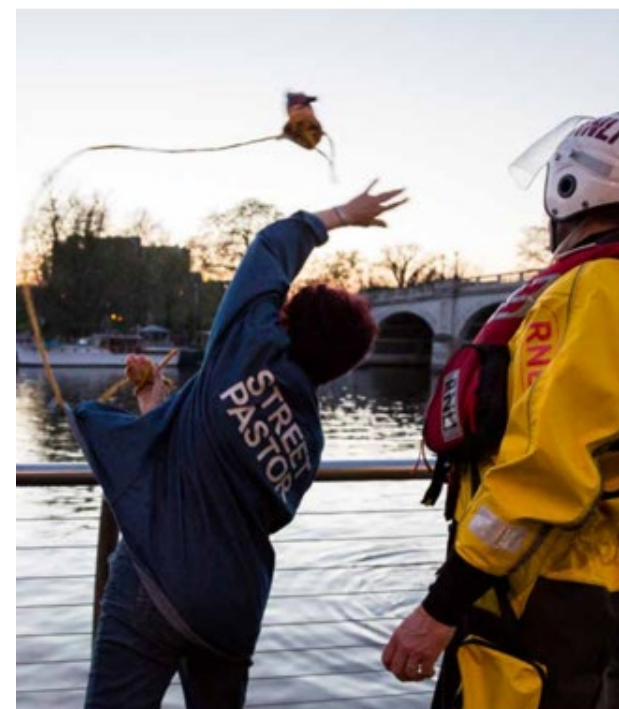


### ➡ What was the need, how was it identified?

Due to the continuing trend of water related incidents, crews have been targeting various educational establishments and bank side businesses to help reduce these types of incidents.

### ➡ What did we do?

Working in conjunction with the RLNI we have now delivered training sessions for several businesses who border a water source, the training includes information on what to do if someone is in trouble but also the supply of equipment to enable them to carry out a first intervention. Fire crews will be continuing this training across the district.



### ➡ What was the need, how was it identified?

Wakefield District – Collaboration with the Armed Forces Covenant Wakefield Branch

The district has been a representative on this Forum for the past 18 months and has become a permanent member, along with statutory, third sector and charitable organisations who support our military personnel, veterans past and present – from all branches of the Armed Forces – Army; Navy and Air Force

Our aim within Wakefield District is to support the transition of veterans from military service into civilian life

This has several challenges, some of the key risks that are regularly presented being.

- PTSD
- Drug Misuse
- Alcohol addiction
- Medication addiction
- Social Isolation
- Mobility Concerns

We have established a referral process via the forum and regularly attend the forum meetings and carry out Safe and Well visits to those veterans who have been referred to us because of the risks that they are presenting linked with fire.



- As the photograph shows we made the most of our moment being a celebrity with the TV Presenter Josie Gibson, happy to show her support for our efforts
- An interview with Radio Leeds also ensured that we reinforced our commitment to the residents to keep them safe but also show that we play an active role in all thing's community.

## ➡ What was the need, how was it identified?

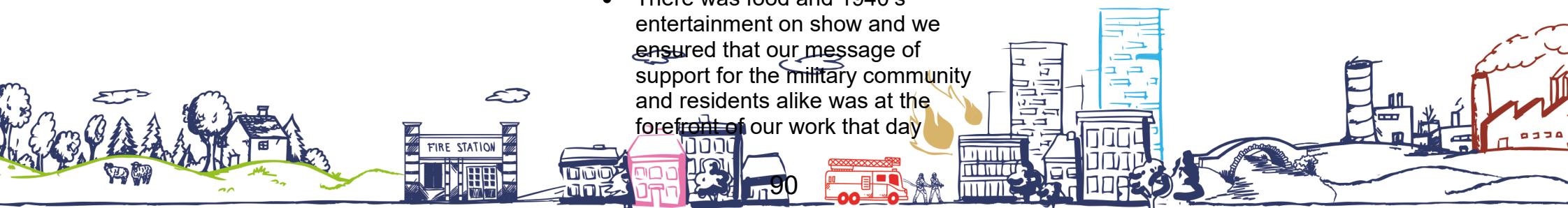
VE Celebrations 8<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Wakefield Prevention were proud to play a part in the recent VE Celebrations supporting our veterans, past and present

- We joined the local community within the Wrenthorpe Area who hosted a huge day of celebration with an indoor street party and media attention from ITV's This Morning and Radio Leeds.
- There was food and 1940's entertainment on show and we ensured that our message of support for the military community and residents alike was at the forefront of our work that day

## ➡ What was the need, how was it identified?

Wakefield District have implemented OpSnap across the service to tackle poor and dangerous driving standards, submissions to the Police portal have already been sent, this will hopefully see driving standards and attitudes improve reducing incident.







➡ What did we do?

Crews have been busy carrying out various charity car washes across the district, South Kirkby and Normanton Crews have raised an impressive £807.50, the majority of which will be donated to the Fire Fighters Charity, a donation of £125 was given to help in Church Roof repairs!

Tyre Safe also attended the event carrying out free tyre safe checks helping us work towards Vision Zero for West Yorkshire



➡ What did we do?

Our water safety work continues throughout the district, we have visited colleges and schools carrying out water safety advice and cold-water shock training.





- RTC awareness sessions @ Pontefract New College.
- Armed Forces Covenant/ Networking event at FSHQ on the 27<sup>th</sup> of June.

As further validation of our commitment to support our military personnel we are again playing a huge role in the forthcoming Armed Forces Day Event at Pontefract Park on the 6<sup>th</sup> of July 2025

Between 10,000 to 20,000 people attend the event each year and Wakefield District Operational Crew and Prevention Staff attend and showcase our work and commitment to keeping WY Safer.

We will be showcasing our response vehicles; water rescue units; search dogs and prevention displays whilst engaging with the public regarding careers pathways within WYFRS.



## Contact



Name DC Paul Daly



Telephone 07552283496



[paul.daly@westyorksfire.gov.uk](mailto:paul.daly@westyorksfire.gov.uk)

## What are we doing next?

We have lots planned over the next few months, some of the highlights are:

- Ackworth Gala, Ackworth Sat 28<sup>th</sup> June

