



OFFICIAL

# Performance Against Response Indicators

## Community Safety Committee

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Date: 26 January 2024

Agenda Item:

06

Submitted By: Director of Service Delivery

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<b>Purpose</b>	To inform Members of Community Safety Committee of the performance against the 2023 / 24 performance outcome targets. The report specifically looks at performance covering 01 April 23 – 31 December 2023.
<b>Recommendations</b>	That Members of the Community Safety Committee note the contents of the report.
<b>Summary</b>	Members of the Community Safety Committee are presented this report as part of an ongoing commitment to demonstrate how the service delivery activities undertaken by WYFRS contribute to 'Making West Yorkshire Safer'.

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Local Government (Access to information) Act 1972

Exemption Category: None

Contact Officer: Scott Donegan, AM Operations Response  
[Scott.Donegan01@westyorkshire.gov.uk](mailto:Scott.Donegan01@westyorkshire.gov.uk)

Background papers open to inspection: None

Annexes: None

## 1 Introduction

- 1.1 This performance report covers the period from 01 April 2023 to 31 December 2023.
- 1.2 A narrative against key performance indicators is provided at whole service level.

## 2 Information

- 2.1 The OneView system allows managers and staff to monitor incident activity using real time data sets. Incidents are plotted geographically which allows for the identification of trends and a more thorough understanding of what is driving the indicators.
- 2.2 The attached reports provide a narrative alongside the performance indicators against the three-year average for the period.
- 2.3 It must be acknowledged that when comparing against the three-year average we are including a 'Covid Year' which is not representative of normal community behaviour. For this reason, a comparison to the same period 2022 / 23 will also be provided.

### Service Level Performance Indicators

#### All Incidents

- 2.4 In this reporting period we have responded to 20020 incidents. This is 249 more than the three-year average, however, 1412 fewer than the same period last year. Summer activity tends to be weather driven and although we have seen the eight warmest summer on record, a period of unsettled weather through July and August contributed to a reduction in secondary fires.

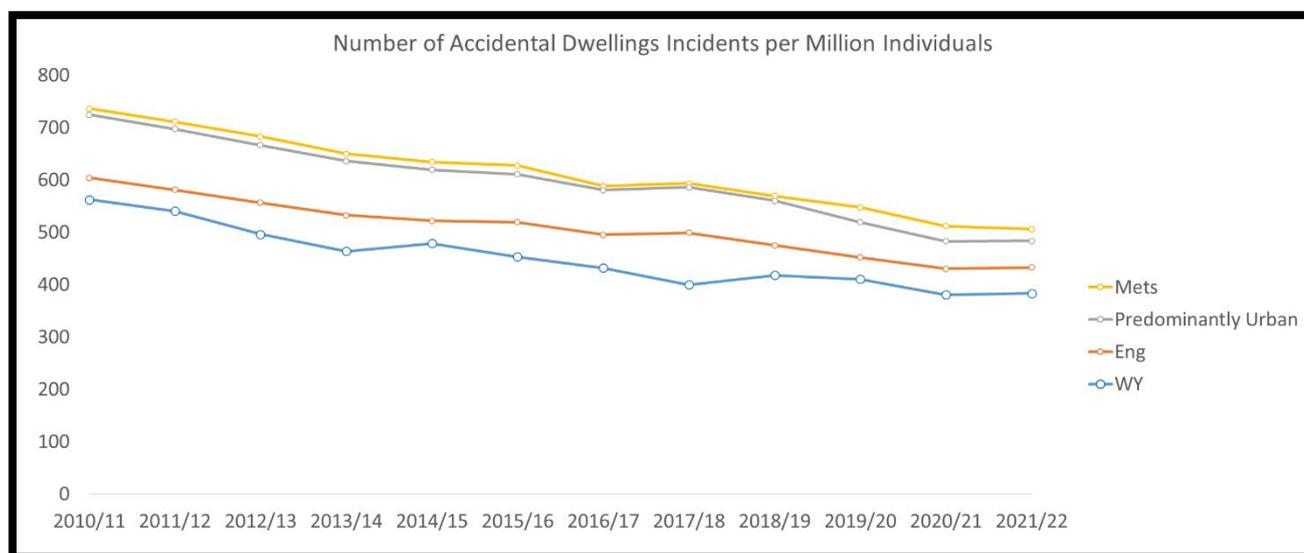
#### Incident Demand

- 2.5 The peak period for operational mobilisations continues to be between 15:00 and 22:00. During this reporting period, on average, operational demand over the weekend increases by 9.8% when compared to weekday.
- 2.6 Performance against the agreed Risk Based Planning Assumptions (RBPA) continues to be strong with the RBPAs being met for 94% of mobilisations.

RiskScore	Incident s	Met RBPAs	% met	% missed	Av Response Time
Very High	2442	2333	95.54	4.46	00:06:21
High	3354	3228	96.24	3.76	00:06:25
Medium	3826	3659	95.64	4.36	00:06:48
Low	4890	4641	94.91	5.09	00:07:10
Very Low	5508	5026	91.25	8.75	00:08:26
<b>Total</b>	<b>20020</b>	<b>18887</b>	<b>94.34</b>	<b>5.66</b>	<b>00:07:13</b>

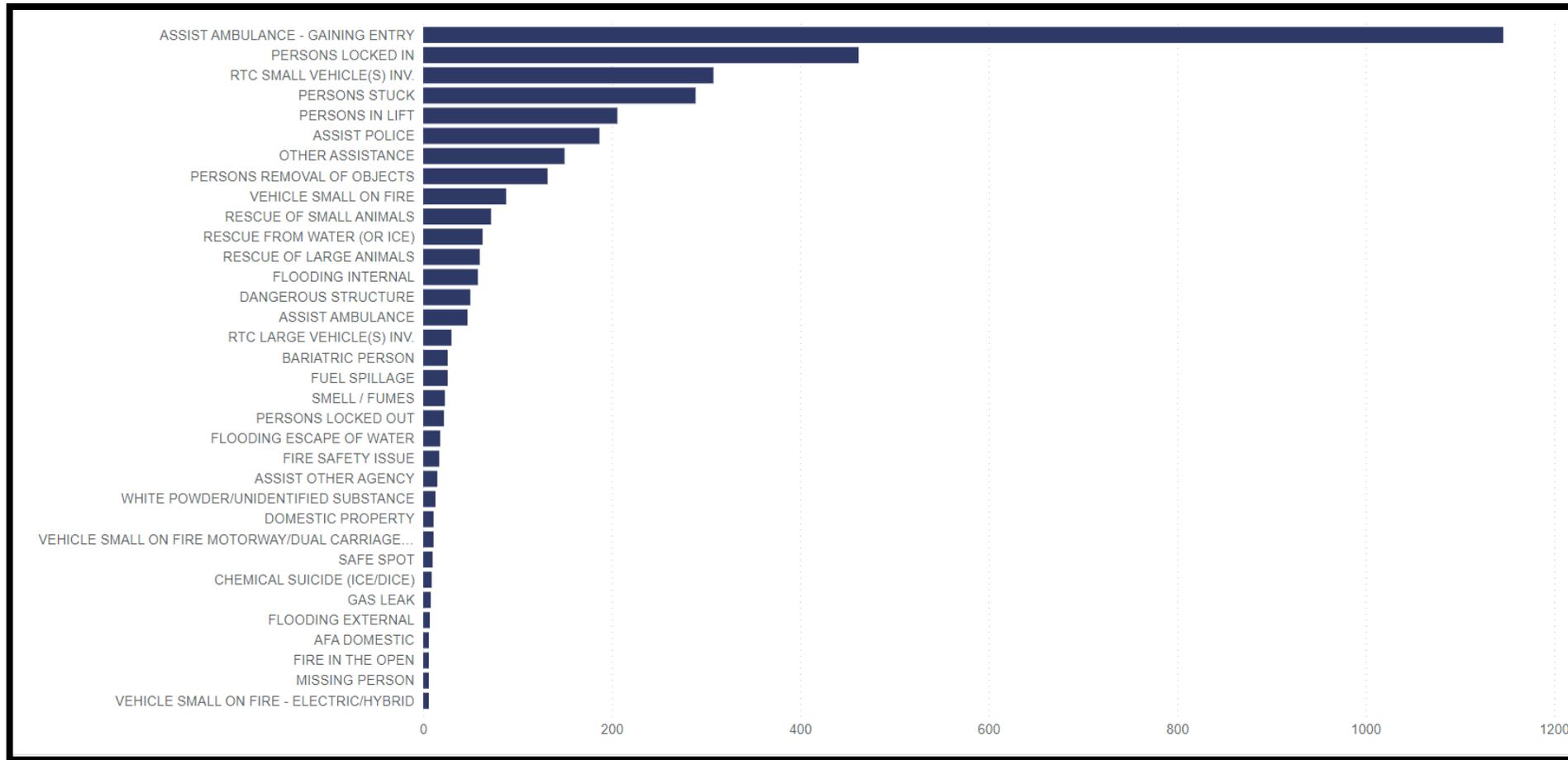
## Fires

- 2.7 We have responded to 7153 fires since 01 April 2023, this is 672 fewer than the three yearly average and 1942 fewer than the same period last year. 36% of all emergencies attended are fires. This is a reduction from 42% for the same period last year.
- 2.8 Deliberate fires account for 4208 incidents, this is 618 fewer than the three-year average and 1321 fewer than the same period last year.
- 2.9 Since 01 April 2023 we have responded to 724 accidental dwelling fires. This is 54 fewer than the three year average and 20 more than the same reporting period last year. Although this is a slight increase Members should be encouraged by our performance relative to other fire and rescue services which can be seen below.



- 2.10 When considered as a wider sector it can be seen that West Yorkshire is performing strongly. In order to continue achieving our ambition of Making West Yorkshire Safer; we evaluate risk to inform our decision and improve the services we provide. It has been identified that a significant proportion of our dwelling fires start in the kitchen and in response to this we have recently introduced heat detection alongside advice on safer cooking as part of our standard offer during safe and well visits.
- 2.11 We have now introduced an intelligence led direct approach based on likelihood and consequence of fire for Safe and Well visits which will enable us identify those people in our communities who are not known to other services or do not understand their risk from fire.
- 2.12 During this reporting period we have completed 8300 safe and well visits. This is an 9% increase on the same period last year.
- 2.13 **Non-Fires** – Non fires were previously reported as Special Service Calls and include incident types such as effecting entry for partners, RTCs, lift rescues, technical rescues etc.
- 2.14 There have been 3651 non-fires in this reporting period. This is 433 more than the three year average and 286 more than the same period last year. Non-fires account for 18% of total operational demand.

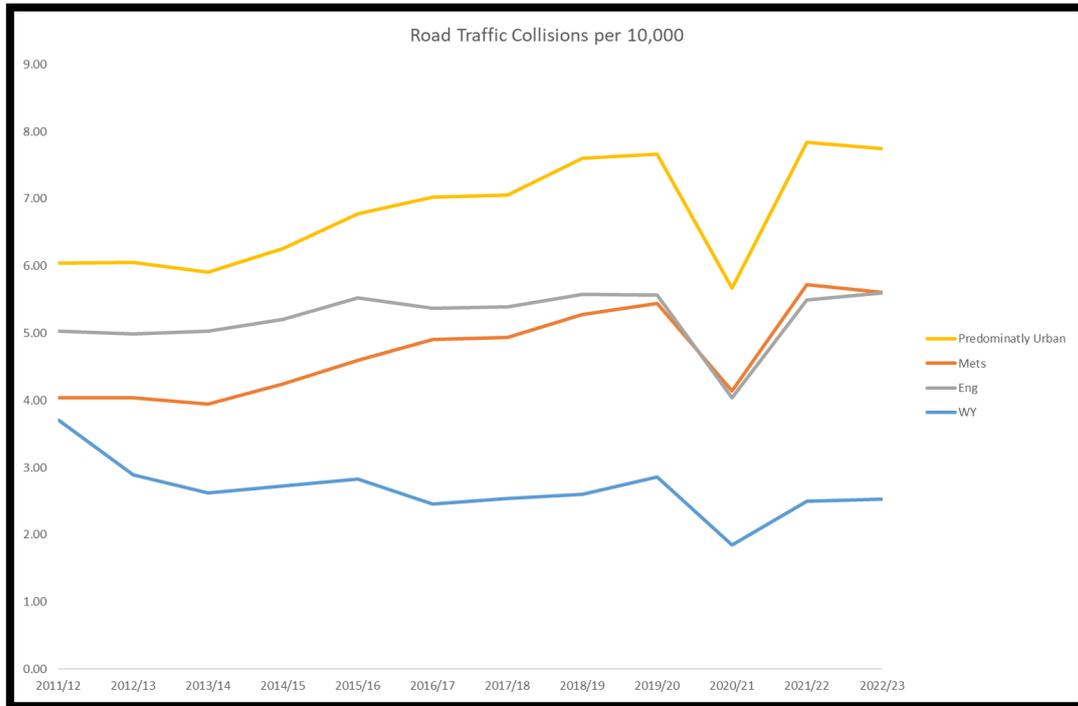
2.15 Over the reporting period the most common non-fire incidents are:



- 2.16 **False Alarms** – During this period we have attended 9216 false alarms. This is 488 more false alarms when compared to the three year average and 289 more than the same period last year. False alarms account for 46% of operational demand during this reporting period. Of the false alarms attended 2271 have been in non-domestic properties.
- 2.17 6487 false alarms result from apparatus, this is an increase of 617 when compared to the same period last year.
- 2.18 Malicious false alarms (227) are down by 17.5% when compared to last year (275) and down 14% against the three year average (264). We continue to challenge people at point of call where it is thought a request may be malicious and a robust process is in place to review all malicious false alarm reporting for accuracy.
- 2.19 **Fire Related Injuries and Fatalities** – In this reporting period there have been 85 fire related injuries and nine fire related fatalities. This is five more compared to the three year average and 11 fewer than last year. Of the injuries, 74 were considered slight, 17 appeared serious and 4 were unknown.
- 2.20 Fire investigation indicates six of the fatalities resulted from accidental dwelling fires resulting from smoking (2), Candles (2), cooking (1) and a faulty electrical appliance.
- 2.21 Two of the fatalities resulted from deliberate ignition and one from an accident involving controlled burning.
- 2.22 **Injuries and Fatalities** – In this reporting period there have been 185 non-fire related fatalities. This is 37 more than the same period last year. The main causes are 136 of these result from incidents where partners have requested our attendance. 14 from RTCs, 15 from attendances at suicide and 7 following water related incidents.
- 2.23 There have been 957 non fire related injuries, 37 more than the three year average and 11 fewer than last year. The major contributors are 365 linked to RTCs and 249 linked to effecting entry and cause for concern from members of the public.
- 2.24 **Victims Rescued** – Over the reporting period 1728 people have been rescued by firefighters. This 172 more than last year and 344 more than the three year average. 1658 of these rescues were undertaken by firefighters not wearing breathing apparatus. This continues to demonstrate how the balance has shifted in terms of ‘fire’ compared to ‘rescue’ service. That said, the requirement to train operational to the highest standard of firefighting will always remain a key priority.
- 2.25 **Road Traffic Collisions** – There have been 475 RTCs in this reporting period, 69 more than the three year average and 32 more than last year. RTCs are responsible for 2% of the service’s overall operational demand. Of these RTCs 134 have required firefighters to employ full extrication techniques.
- 2.26 We continue to work in partnership with District Road Safety Partnership and the service is represented at the West Yorkshire Vision Zero Board. A Nitrous Oxide campaign has been running throughout out 2023, this picked up momentum through the summer and recent legislative changes mean that since the 8<sup>th</sup> November 2023, Nitrous Oxide is subject to the Psychoactive Substance Act 2016.

2.27 There is innovative prevention and education activities being undertaken across the districts and by the Youth Intervention Team with aim of tackling the fatal five and reducing RTCs. An example of this is the tyre checks the service will be undertaken as part of charity events to support the road worthiness of vehicles.

2.28 Although we have seen a slight increase in RTCs over this period it is important to consider ourselves against other fire and rescue services. The chart below shows how West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service is performing against other services when looking at number of RTCs attended.



### 3 Financial Implications

3.1 There are no financial implications resulting 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 Human Resource 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 prevention 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

Are the recommendations within this report subject to Equality Impact Assessment as outlined in the EIA guidance? ( <a href="#">EIA guidance and form 2020 form.docx (westyorksfire.gov.uk)</a> )	Yes / <u>No</u>
Date EIA Completed	DD/MM/YY

Date EIA Approved	DD/MM/YY
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The EIA is available on request from the report author or from [diversity.inclusion@westyorksfire.gov.uk](mailto:diversity.inclusion@westyorksfire.gov.uk)

## 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. 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

8.1 We will continue to monitor response activity related to climate change and through the CRMP process develop our operational response and prevention resource to manage the 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.
- Plan and deploy our resources based on risk.
- Focus our prevention and protection activities on reducing risk and vulnerability.
- Collaborate with partners to improve all of our services.
- Continuously improve using digital and data platforms to innovate and work smarter.

## 10 Conclusions

10.1 Members of the Community Safety Committee are presented this report as part of an ongoing commitment to demonstrate how the service delivery activities undertaken by WYFRS contribute to 'Making West Yorkshire Safer'.

10.2 We have seen strong performance against the number of fires we have attended and have plans to further improve how we tackle accidental dwelling fires and RTCs. The Effecting Entry MoU with YAS continues to result in increasing demand for our services and provides an opportunity to reach vulnerable people.

10.3 Changes to the AFA policy are due to be implemented from March 2024. This will highlight to the responsible person the need to maintain safe working environments and requirement for managed fire detection systems. This will reduce the number of mobilisations to automatic fire alarms and provide additional capacity for training, prevention and protection duties.

11 Performance 2023 / 24





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# Primary Authority Scheme

## Community Safety Committee

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Date: 26 January 2024

Agenda Item:

**07**

Submitted By: Director of Service Delivery

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<b>Purpose</b>	This report provides information to Members of the Community Safety Committee on the reintroduction of the Primary Authority Scheme.
<b>Recommendations</b>	That Members of the Community Safety Committee note the contents of this report
<b>Summary</b>	<p>The Primary Authority Scheme was introduced in 2014. At that time WYFRS adopted the scheme and created partnerships with businesses from all sectors including housing, banking, insurance and retail.</p> <p>Following the Grenfell tower fire we saw an increase in the number of competent inspecting officers leaving the organisation and taking employment externally due to the pull of increased salaries. We therefore found ourselves in a position whereby we need to recruit and develop a number of new inspectors into the Fire Protection Team, in order to do this we needed to look and assess our workloads and this resulted in the suspension of the Primary Authority Scheme which was reported to Community Safety Committee on 15 January 2021.</p> <p>This report provides members with an update on the recommencement of the Primary Authority Scheme.</p>

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Local Government (Access to information) Act 1972

Exemption Category: None

Contact Officer: Chris Kemp – Senior Fire Protection Manager

[christopher.kemp@westyorksfire.gov.uk](mailto:christopher.kemp@westyorksfire.gov.uk)

Background papers open to inspection: None

Annexes: None

## **1 Introduction**

- 1.1 In 2020 the Primary Authority Scheme (PAS) was placed on hold due to the need to focus our resources on the Building Risk Review programme and to support the delivery of training for new staff entering Fire Protection.
- 1.2 Primary Authorities play a valuable role in leading and shaping the regulation of businesses that partner with them. In doing so, they deliver benefits for the regulatory system, for the businesses they partner with, and for those that the regulations are designed to protect, consumers, workers, and the environment.
- 1.3 As an Authority with PAS partnerships, we are responsible for providing fire safety advice to our partners, that advice can then be adopted by the partner across all their sites in England and Wales, all other Fire and Rescue Authorities are statutory bound to accept this advice.

## **2 Information**

- 2.1 When PAS was first introduced under the Localism Act 2011, its primary focus was to support companies with multiple sites across different regions and thus different regional regulators. Recent changes to PAS have amended these rules which now allow for any business to enter into a partnership, regardless of size or demographic location.
- 2.2 Since 2020 we have maintained the principles of PAS by still providing reactive support to our partners, this occurs when enforcement action is taken against them by other Fire & Rescue Authorities.
- 2.3 We have supported partners who needed to progress with proactive work by revoking some partnerships to enable those partners to progress with a new Primary Authority. Over the last 3 years our partnerships have decreased from 21 to 13.  
  
This decrease has been with partners from both the banking sector and retail.
- 2.4 Moving forward there is an expectation that we partake in PAS and there is recognition of this in the Protection Fire Standard, however, there is no definition of what level of engagement is expected and as such many FRS's are adopting PAS in differing ways.
- 2.5 The recent changes now provided us with an opportunity to review the scheme and consider how we reintroduce PAS back into our Protection business as usual activities. We are mindful that that whilst the BRR programme is complete, we are still progressing with development of new staff, and in April 2024, we will see one of the biggest changes to how high-rise buildings are regulated with the commencement of the inoccupation stage of the Building Safety Regulators new regime. These factors will mean that we need to maintain as many resources on front line protection activities to deliver these essential statutory duties.
- 2.6 Currently there is a significant focus on how FRS Protection teams prioritise their resources, ensuring that we target resources to risk. In line with the national work ongoing which is considering risk we are to align our PAS function to mirror that risk profile.
- 2.7 We will achieve this by reintroducing PAS based on the following principles:

- We will maintain our current partnerships on a reactive process.
- We will reintroduce full PAS (proactive and reactive work) with partners whose main business incorporates premises deemed as having a higher risk occupancy. (High-rise, Care Homes and Hospitals).
- Commence a process to offer PAS partnerships to all the organisations we have concordats with and whose main business falls into the above occupancy types, this will include but not limited to In Communities, Wakefield District Housing, Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing, Leeds City Council and Calderdale Council.

2.8 The benefits this will create include:

Work activities aligned to PAS will support our overall reduction of risk targeted to higher risk premises.

Ensures any resources required are not diverted from higher risk activities to lower risk.

Demonstrate active participation in PAS to meet Fire Standard / HMICFRS requirements.

Better way of formalising current partnership agreements with Local Authorities.

### 3 Financial Implications

3.1 The Primary Authority Scheme runs on a cost recovery basis, and therefore is self-sufficient. The recommendations in this report will limit the amount of work which is able to be cost recovered and as such income generation will be lower than when the scheme was previously operated.

### 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 Human Resource and Diversity Implications

5.1 There are no Human Resource or Diversity implications arising from this report.

### 6 Equality Impact Assessment

Are the recommendations within this report subject to Equality Impact Assessment as outlined in the EIA guidance? ( <a href="#">EIA guidance and form 2020 form.docx (westyorksfire.gov.uk)</a> )	Yes / No
Date EIA Completed	DD/MM/YY
Date EIA Approved	DD/MM/YY

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

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

7.1 The principles set out in this report support the health and safety of our communities by working with partners of the scheme to promote good fire safety management.

## **8 Your Fire and Rescue Service Priorities**

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

- 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.

## **9 Conclusions**

9.1 The Primary Authority Scheme has been on hold for just over 3 years and to be fair to our partners and to demonstrate full participation in the scheme we have now reviewed and developed a way forward to recommence the scheme.

9.2 The approach we have developed aligns with the national picture of risk and demonstrates how we utilise our resources to target the highest risk occupancies.

9.3 The benefits of this approach ensure that smaller local enterprises benefit from the PAS and not just large multi national companies.



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# Spotlight On Reports

## Community Safety Committee

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Date: 26 January 2024

Agenda Item:

**08**

Submitted By: Director of Service Delivery

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<b>Purpose</b>	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.
<b>Recommendations</b>	That Members of the Community Safety Committee note the contents of this report.
<b>Summary</b>	The 'Spotlight On' case studies highlight just some of the excellent work that is being delivered across the communities of West Yorkshire.

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Local Government (Access to information) Act 1972

Exemption Category: None

Contact Officer: Scott Donegan, Operations Response AM  
[Scott.Donegan01@westyorksfire.gov.uk](mailto: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 belief, 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 Human Resource and Diversity Implications

5.1 The ‘Spotlight On’ Case studies illustrate how the Authority meets the needs of service users who share a protected characteristics and how it fosters good relations, two key requirements of the Public Sector Equality Duty.

## 6 Equality Impact Assessment

Are the recommendations within this report subject to Equality Impact Assessment as outlined in the EIA guidance? ( <a href="#">EIA guidance and form 2020 form.docx (westyorkfire.gov.uk)</a> )	<u>No</u>
Date EIA Completed	DD/MM/YY
Date EIA Approved	DD/MM/YY

## 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**

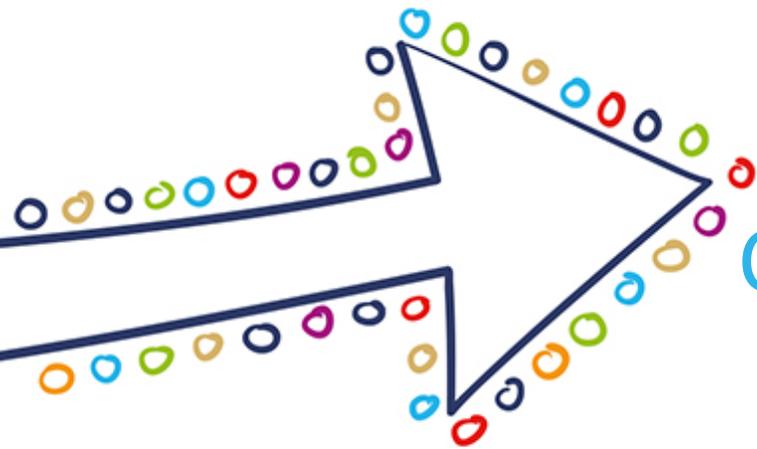
- 9.1 The Spotlight On case studies attached provide examples of how we deliver against the following key service priorities 2020 - 23:

- We will reduce the risks to the communities of West Yorkshire
- We will work efficiently to provide value for money and make the best use of reserves to provide an effective service
- We will be innovative and work smarter throughout the service
- We will support, develop and enable our people to be at their best
- We will continue working towards delivering a more inclusive workforce, which reflects and serves the needs of the diverse communities of West Yorkshire

## **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...

## Community Bonfire Initiatives



West Yorkshire  
Fire & Rescue Service

ASB which can lead to firefighter attacks. This allowed WYFRS and partners to engage and build relations with the local community.



*Wm Craig Kettlewell delivering Bonfire education package at Lidget Green Primary School*

Our prevention strategy targeted schools in the higher risk areas across Bradford. The Bradford district team worked with the Police 'safer school's officers' in BD3, BD4 and BD10.



*Casualty being treated after a firework went off in their hand.*

The new education package, which was delivered by fire crews, contained two short videos highlighting the dangers of fireworks and ASB. Delivery was aimed at year 9/10/11 and some local primary schools which had been highlighted by the Youth Intervention team. Other schools were also given the educational package with the prompt for teachers to deliver the information themselves.

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

The bonfire period is a busy time of year for WYFRS; engagement with the local community is key to prevent incidents and keep people safe. By using various sets of data, we are able to identify key areas with high incident numbers, anti-social behaviour (ASB) and a history of firefighter attacks. Information is shared with partner agencies in the build-up to the bonfire period to carry out joint initiatives. Areas which have experienced high Incident numbers in previous years have seen a reduction this year.

### ➡ What did we do?

This data highlighted concerns in areas such as Bradford Moor, Tong, Holmewood, Thornbury, Great Horton. This information was shared in the build up to the bonfire period with ward officers and other community workers along with local police, to prevent escalation of

## ➔ What difference did we make?

This year we delivered education to over 4400 students. Providing key Bonfire safety messages. Fire crews liaised with Bradford council representatives and the public in identifying and risk assessing planned Bonfires within the district. We worked collaboratively with agencies allowing for unsafe Bonfires to be removed and for public reassurance to be provided.

Representatives from WYFRS attended regular partnership meetings at both tactical and operational levels, providing guidance and information where required.

## ➔ What are the keys to our success?

We created a successful partnership with Bradford City Football Club who delivered our key bonfire messages through prerecorded videos narrated by the first team players. This was shown at halftime on the big screens. They also held a Bonfire football tournament with support from operational crews which included a Bonfire / Fireworks safety workshop. Banners were placed in strategic places within the stadium which contained the QR codes which directed users to WYFRS bonfire page.



Bradford City Bonfire Media Launch Day



District Commander Benjy Bush interviewed at Bradford City Football Club by Pulse

## ➔ What are we doing next?

We will be looking at continuing to work with our partners for National Road Safety week from the 19<sup>th</sup> to the 25<sup>th</sup> of November and continue with our Winter Water safety messages.



Five people die on roads every day Why do we still think it's OK to speed?

[www.brake.org.uk/RoadSafetyWeek](http://www.brake.org.uk/RoadSafetyWeek)   

## ➔ Contact



Name: District Commander – Benjy Bush



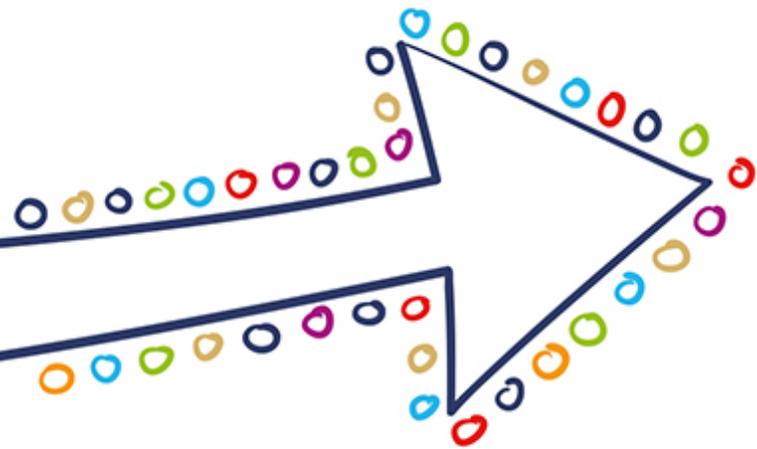
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# Spotlight on...

## Calderdale Bonfire 2023



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

In 2022 Calderdale experienced large scale disorder within the Park Ward in Halifax. This disorder was directly linked to the tragic loss of life of one young person. The park ward area of Halifax has had challenges with ASB over the bonfire period, in varying degrees for numerous years. This is previously resulted in attacks on our staff and other emergency services.

As a community safety partnership and district team we learnt the lessons from 2022. Aimed to ensure the events which happened in 2022 did not manifest in 2023.

### ➡ What did we do?

WYFRS chaired the operational group to plan and deliver the CSP's response. The planning was reviewed and focused on a weekly basis throughout October and a two-weekly basis from mid-August. This continued partnership working led to an invested group of tactical leaders from across the CSP. These strong relationships were critical in the success of

2023 bonfire response. The operational group was supported by a silver level steering group which reported into Calderdale's silver CSP.

To support community engagement a multi-agency approach was used to engage with over 750 premises in the park ward area, over 350 of these we're engaged with by Halifax station crews. Spending over 20 hours over a two-month period engaging and reassuring the community while listening to their concerns regarding the bonfire period.

Other communication methods used to share key messages were taking part on a radio show on Radio Sangam and delivering key messages on social media videos developed by MP Holly Lynch

## ➔ What difference did we make?

The community feedback has been very positive, they have said they felt far more engaged, understood more why ourselves and WYP want to speak to all members of the community. The opportunity to speak with crews and police officers on a weekly basis and ask questions around fire safety in the home as well as safety over the bonfire period has helped them to get assistance where required through a number of different agencies.

There were over 350 engagements with houses in the Park Ward area, plus 70 EVA's were carried out and other work was done in local schools. Over 2000 young people in Park Ward received Bonfire Education.



## ➔ What are the keys to our success?

Early planning and a full multi agency approach meant that roles and responsibilities could be shared. Emergency services and local authority working together meant that resources were shared and safety messages were collaborated across all delivery outputs.

Community engagement was a significant focus in the planning stages, to ensure the group can take on board different voices from within the community we were focusing. Instrumental to success was the engagement and passion of a women's advocacy group chaired by MP Holly Lynch. This group supported crews working alongside them when engaging in the community. On the Friday before the bonfire weekend WYFRS staff were invited to speak to over 2000 worshipers in mosques across the Park ward area.

## ➔ What are we doing next?

Review and evaluation of the full process will take place over the next couple of months. The model developed within Calderdale District for the delivery of the bonfire campaign will be reviewed and used as a model for delivering further risk reduction campaigns across all districts.

## ➔ Contact



Laura Boocock, Calderdale DC

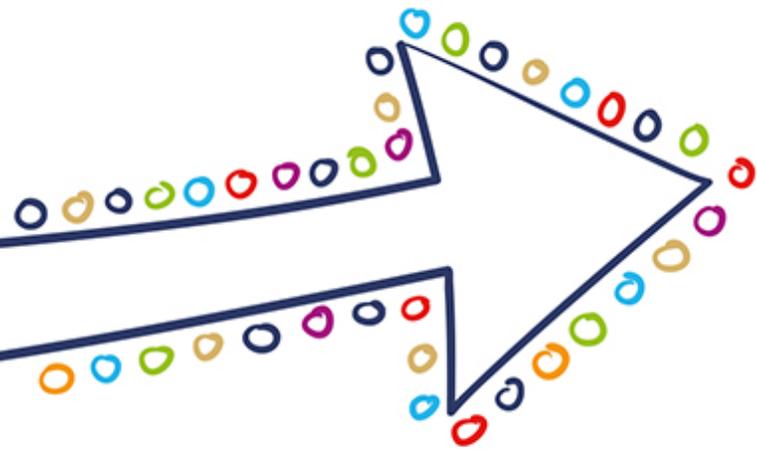


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Laura.boocock01@westyorksfire.gov.uk





# Spotlight on...

## BRAKE Road Safety Week



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

Kirklees District and Youth Interventions took part in multi-agency demonstrations on the impact of speeding vehicles on the road. These took place at Huddersfield Engineering College and Dewsbury College. The young people had the opportunity to gain an appreciation of the dangers of speed, enforcement tactics used for speed limit compliance. There were presentations on the dangers of alcohol and drug driving culminating in an RTC extrication demonstration.

This allowed Kirklees crews the opportunity to display their operational skills and highlight the consequences of being distracted while driving.

The students were able to talk to professionals from the WY Police, Kirklees Safer, Safety Camera Partnership and West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue service.



### What did we do?

There were a variety of activities on the day including a vehicle RTC exercise that was planned by Huddersfield Green watch working closely with the District team. A PA system was used to explain the actions of the fire crews. Youth Interventions undertook a reaction time test with the students. This involved a series of distractions when undertaking a simulated driving scenario, such as loud music, interruptions from passengers and finally the wearing of beer goggles to simulate drinking and driving. The students also had the opportunity to look at the Safety Camera Van from the West Yorkshire Safety Camera Partnership and use the Community Speed Indication Devices (SID) with Kirklees Safer.





## ➔ What difference did we make?



The day allowed all partners to challenge young people's perceptions regarding the use of vehicle speed and enable young people to make informed decisions when using the roads as either a pedestrian, passenger or driver”

Annabel Pugh  
Youth Interventions Team

## ➔ What are the keys to our success?

The contributions of the Youth Interventions team were vital to the success of the event. The team have experience of young people, from this age, being involved in illegal car taking, driving and particularly being passengers in cars that are being driven by high-risk drivers. Their knowledge and delivery style are essential to the success of these programmes. This dovetailed well with the experience of the crews with extractions and

how we work together in a multiagency environment.

## ➔ What are we doing next?

The event was a fantastic success with a debrief providing an opportunity for questions and discussion about what went well and where we could improve. This has resulted in WYFRS being asked to participate in a Safety event day at the John Smiths Stadium on December the 6<sup>th</sup> which will focus on Christmas safety with multiple partners.

## ➔ Contact



Name Dale Gardiner

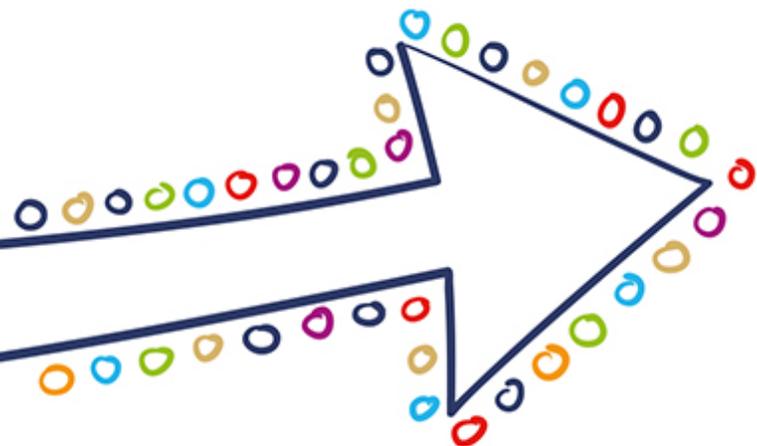


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# Spotlight on...

## Leeds Care Leavers Partnership



West Yorkshire  
Fire & Rescue Service



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

Care Leaver's are young people aged 16-25 years old who have been 'looked after' under the care of the local authority. Care leavers are often required to become independent at a younger age than their peers, many leaving the care system when they are 16-18 years old. They may be expected to become responsible for their own housing, employment, and study without the support system available to many other young people.

This means care leavers are at an increased risk of becoming engaged with ASB and organised crime, exploitation, and an increased fire risk in the home. They can become isolated and may lack the skills to establish positive, pro-social peer relationships.

Living completely independent for the first time often can mean that care leavers are unaware of lifestyle behaviours that can increase the risk of a fire in the home.

Partners from Children social care specialising in care leavers reached out to ask about what fire safety equipment they could add to a care leaver pack. We set up a meeting with them to discuss this further and really understand the issues facing the 700+ care leavers in Leeds annually.



### What did we do?

Realising the potential of a partnership working with the care leavers department of Childrens Service, we began to explore all the potential ways we could be involved with the groups of young people.

The first thing we agree was to commit, with the young persons consent, to a Safe and Well visits to those young people who would be living entirely on their own for the first time. These visits by the Leeds HRI team will come with added team training to understand the circumstances of these young people and additional support networks we can offer for referrals. We will give additional training to cover the vulnerability to exploitation and organised crime that may be present. After discussing what volume of work this might entail, we agreed to use the existing referral process we have in place for children's services but to monitor this with a project code so that we make sure referrals are being processed.

There is a new designated hub, Archway, in Harehills for care leavers and this opened up a much broader opportunity to engage with young people leaving care not just on fire safety but around our youth interventions programmes. Youth Intervention are now working with the Hub leaders to engage with young people around their offer, in addition to this Prevention will deliver any fire safety talks the Hub would like and the

Killingbeck crew will do some active community engagement at the hub too.

### ➡ What difference did we make?

The difference we expect to see is a reduction in potential fire risk from young care leavers in their own homes, reduced ASB and attacks towards fire fighters through positive relationship and engagement, and an opportunity for the young care leavers to build skills and self confidence as well as team building skills with, the youth interventions team.

We hope that collectively this will enable us to spot early signs of risk and reduce the chances of these young people being involved with serious organised crime and gang related activity.

*“Leaving home is a challenge for everyone, but it can be even tougher if you're a young person leaving care!”*

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

The key to this being successful is being open and engagement with the young care leavers to offer them support and skills that will help them for the future.

In addition to this the key to success is listening to partners and offering a much more holistic approach to partnership working that focuses on our service user's needs.

### ➡ What are we doing next?

Immediate next steps are Prevention, Crews and YIT attending the Christmas drop-ins to introduce ourselves to the Archway Hubs users and begin the next steps for relationship building.

Post Christmas we should see some of our first Safe and Well visit request come into the service and the Youth Interventions team designing interventions with the Programme lead from Childrens services.



### ➡ Contact



**Naomi Hirst Leeds District Prevention Manager**

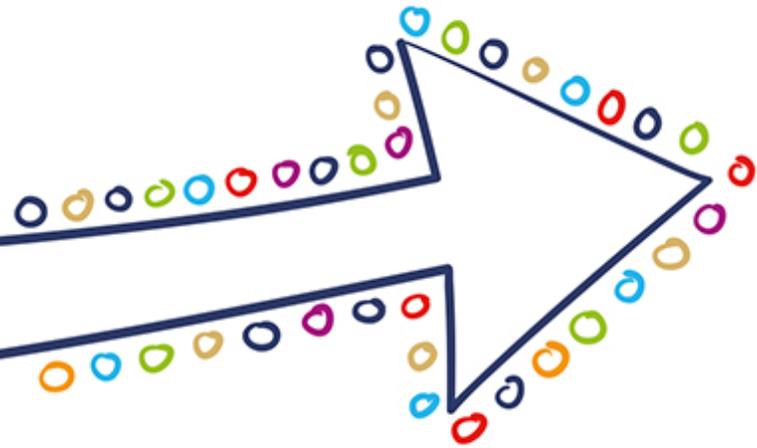


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# Spotlight on...



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



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

A rise in road traffic collisions across the District was identified through WYFRS one view data system, our crews and information West Yorkshire Safer Roads and other partner agencies.



### What did we do?

We have now established a Wakefield District Safer Roads Group to help work towards reducing the rising number of RTC's across the District. The group consists of Blue light partners, council partners, highways teams and charity representatives. The group will coordinate risk reduction work across the District and will feed information into the West Yorkshire wide Safer Roads Group.

During October and November our crews, led by Wc Richard Hames have carried out intervention weeks at colleges across the District to give road safety input to young drivers and road users. The colleges received targeted

presentations to improve their awareness of road safety and live demonstrations of an extraction from an RTC. The intervention weeks reached over 4000 students and positive feedback was received from all involved.



### What difference did we make?



*'The event was amazing and really powerful. It needs to be rolled out in as many places as possible where there are young people' Cllr Ferguson.*



We are also working with Tyresafe to carry out vehicle safety checks (focussing on poor vehicle maintenance with tread depths and over/under inflation) at charity car washes all over Wakefield in the New Year. We plan to have a car wash in each of our 7 station areas.

Vehicle safety checks and The Fire Fighters Charity car wash events



What was the need, how was it identified?

A significant rise in fires caused by batteries which have been incorrectly disposed off led to us teaming up with Wakefield Council to set up the #neverbinbatteries campaign.



The campaign has been supported at local events, across social media and has also featured on local news TV. It helps residents understand the potential dangers of battery fires and how and where to dispose of these items safely and correctly.

What was the need, how was it identified?

Operation HABB - This is a multi-agency initiative currently being delivered within the area of Abbrigg. The purpose of the operation is to Help Abbrigg Be Better . This is being achieved by partners working together to reduce the

incidents of anti-social behaviour, fire setting ; fly tipping and engaging with the residents to problem solve and foster resilience to make their community better. Partners range from the local NPT ; WYFRS ; Wakefield Council Services – ASB ; Street scene; Youth outreach and local councillors .



What are the keys to our success?

Effective and robust partnership working. Listening to our communities. Being seen to tackle these issues and deliver swift and innovative solutions





# Safer Roads

West Yorkshire

## Contact



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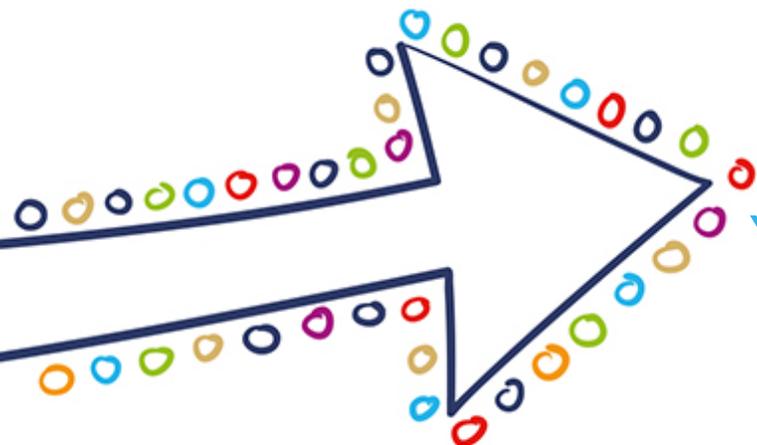
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## What are we doing next?

- Winter Water Safety Awareness across the District.
- High Rise Fire Training for our crews.
- Further Road Safety Awareness Sessions – focusing on the fatal 5.







# Spotlight on...

## Youth Interventions – Bonfire period 2023



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

Through the Bonfire PRRG, WYFRS Youth Interventions team worked alongside the DPMs to identify hotspot areas of ASB or firesetting in the community from September.

The team were then able to approach partner schools, organisations, and youth groups within those locations to offer interactive sessions and information regarding bonfires and fireworks to young people most at risk of becoming involved with ASB during this period.



### What did we do?

Throughout October and November, the Youth Interventions Team engaged with multiple youth groups and schools to deliver bonfire and firework safety talks across West Yorkshire. We also secured funding to enable us to offer Targeted Intervention Days focusing on ASB and misuse of fireworks in hotspot areas.

Seven members of the team successfully engaged with 1036 young people in total, educating about fire safety during bonfire weekend and other cultural celebrations.

The sessions, specifically designed to engage with targeted young people, included a focus on firework facts, age restrictions, bonfire dangers, and used real-life stories, videos, and local incidents to demonstrate the reality of the dangers of misuse.

Taking along dummy fireworks gave a visual aid to the talks and helped us engage with the young people. It also aided us in helping the young people understand how many different types of fireworks there are, as well as an insight into what to look for in fake fireworks.

One activity included arranging photos of bin fires, fireworks through a door, attacks on firefighters and hoax calls in order of danger. This was designed to provoke conversation around the impact of anti-social behaviour and led to discussions about each image, which showed understanding about the wider community impact of these actions.

The session also explored the range of incidents the service attends, including water rescue and road traffic collisions, and a glimpse into what firefighters do on a day-to-day basis. It helped to break down the barriers and perceptions of a uniformed service and it was clear the audience was engaged.

## ➔ What difference did we make?

Feedback received from community partners in the Leeds Outer East area was extremely positive, with praise being given for both the bonfire talks and the on-station interventions. It was reported that the messages that the young people learned had been understood and not only that, but the messages were also being passed on to peers and family.

Partners from West Yorkshire Police in Bradford fed back that the Targeted Intervention Day on station had kept the young people engaged throughout the day. They also reported that from a policing perspective, the information was helpful and relevant. PCSO Hall, who attended Bradford station with a group of young people said, 'Youths were benefitted with the knowledge of how wrong situations could go when they think it's just fun at the time to make hoax calls, start fires and play with fireworks. They were informed of how many fire engines each fire needs to attend and how this could put others in danger or at higher risk when they are attending a hoax or fires started purposefully to get the fire service out. They were also told how this can impact other emergency services.'

## ➔ What are the keys to our success?

Having a dedicated, passionate, and enthusiastic team of people who are committed to improving the lives of young people across West Yorkshire.

Being able to respond to the live incidents that crews were attending, especially deliberate fires or areas where they would usually come under attack from missiles and fireworks, ensured the young people being targeted for the sessions were those most likely to be involved in this behaviour.

A whole team approach to cover the 5 districts of West Yorkshire, especially in the 2-week period leading up to bonfire night and responding to information provided by the DPM's and ADC's.

## ➔ What are we doing next?

As part of the Bonfire PRRG group, Youth Interventions have committed to continuously work with the partner schools and organisations to offer year-long ASB information and break-down the barriers with the uniformed services.

Information gathering of local incidents or footage from this year's bonfire period to use during next year's engagement.

Collaborative meeting of Youth Services will highlight what Youth Interventions can offer and develop a good working approach in the lead up to bonfire night next year.



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