COMMUNITY SAFETY UPDATE

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 To update Members on Community Safety and Service Delivery activities for the period 1st January to 31st March 2016.

2.0 Introduction

2.1 This report provides an update on community safety activity. Service Delivery is organised around prevention, protection and response services, the focus being to deliver a service which best supports the Authority’s vision and corporate plan.

3.0 Prevention

3.1 Summary of Prevention Activity

3.1.1 The table below provides a headline summary of prevention activities for the last two quarters.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>All Districts</th>
<th>Jan-Mar 2016</th>
<th>Oct-Dec 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Smoke Detectors Fitted</td>
<td>916</td>
<td>921</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Fire Risk Checks</td>
<td>754</td>
<td>740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Setter Referrals</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Safety Events</td>
<td>472</td>
<td>449</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vulnerable Referrals</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.1.2 A breakdown of community safety activity at a district level for smoke alarm fitting and home fire risk checks is shown in the following table. It is important to note that community safety activities are driven by risk information and intelligence as opposed to targets and volume. This risk based approach ensures the best use of resources in delivering prevention activity. Given the broad range of community safety activities undertaken by the Service, the level of activity varies according to local risk and is balanced between prevention activities, essential training and preparedness for emergency response.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Home Fire Risk Checks</th>
<th>Smoke Detectors Fitted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jan-Mar</td>
<td>Oct-Dec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craven</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of York</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harrogate</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hambleton</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryedale</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richmondshire</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scarborough</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selby</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>754</td>
<td>740</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.2 Vulnerable People

3.2.1 Vulnerable Persons' Intervention Partnership (VIP)
The Service has progressed 59 referrals for vulnerable people over the last quarter. This is an increase of nearly a third and is largely due to an increase in the Scarborough area which may be attributable to closer multi-agency working via the Community Impact Team.

3.2.2 Fire Setters
Fire setter referrals remain steady for this period compared with the previous year. Referrals are made from external parties (e.g. Schools, Police, and Parents) and also our staff as they make observations going about their day to day activities.

3.2.3 Referrals to Other Agencies
When carrying out home fire risk checks, Community Safety Officers (CSOs) make referrals to other agencies where necessary and the majority are for the elderly, particularly those with mobility issues. Information, recommendations and actions taken are relayed back to the referring agency and shared with relevant partners. Other referrals dealt with by CSOs concern those at risk from arson, people with communication difficulties and those with medical conditions that would affect their ability to contact the Fire and Rescue Service in an emergency.

3.3 BTEC Level 2 (Fire Services in the Community)

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

3.3.2 BTEC School Scheme
The BTEC Level 2 Certificate continues to run successfully at Stokesley School and involves students attending the scheme one day per week over a 12 month period. Funding for the course is provided by Stokesley School.

3.3.3 BTEC Evening Schemes (Young Firefighters)
The BTEC Level 2 Certificate evening schemes continue to run at Bentham, Grassington, Knaresborough, Northallerton, Tadcaster, Selby and Skipton. The portfolio the students are using has been reviewed and updated in line with current guidance. The course involves young people attending one evening a week over a two year period. The schemes are funded by the Service and run on a voluntary basis.

3.4 Other Prevention Activities

3.4.1 Speed Radar Equipment
New speed radar equipment has been issued to CSOs. Each CSO has two radar boxes which are deployed on request from the Traffic Bureau. Since the new boxes were introduced there have been 114 sets of data collected and returned to the traffic bureau. There are backlogs in York and Harrogate due to the build up of requests whilst waiting for the new equipment to arrive, but plans are in place to reduce these over the next month in collaboration with partners.

3.4.2 Biker Down Courses
A pilot of Biker Down courses, a free training course delivered by firefighters with an interest in motorcycling to members of the public who are motorcycle enthusiasts, has been successfully received and further funding has been agreed. The course uses the expertise of the fire service and road safety officers to prepare motorcyclists should the worst happen on the roads.
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3.4.3 Local Intervention Fire Education (LIFE)
In March, the Harrogate Safety Partnership funded a LIFE course held at Harrogate Fire Station between 7th and 11th of March. Eight students attended and completed the course. There were 44 referrals submitted by agencies for the eight places in the Harrogate area. Funding has been secured for a further course in June for another eight students.

3.4.4 LIFE Funding
Due to a change in the funding arrangements for 2016/17, the Service placed a bid with the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) to fund LIFE courses for the next financial year. The bid was successful and £20,000 was secured which should allow the Service to commit and plan for six more courses in the Service area.

3.4.5 Community Safety Themes
The Service continues to promote safety messages to communities across North Yorkshire and the CSOs and crews will be linking with the Chief Fire Officers Association (CFOA) programme to target campaigns such as Drowning Prevention and Boat Safety Week, Home Safety Week, Business Safety Week and Road Safety Week. Further areas of prevention work will be covered throughout the year including student safety (York and Scarborough area) and electrical safety.

4.0 Protection

4.1 Summary of Protection Activity

4.1.1 A summary of legislative fire safety audits carried out for the period 1st January – 31st March is shown in the following table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Jan-Mar</th>
<th>Oct-Dec</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Legislative hours completed by specialist officers</td>
<td>2215</td>
<td>1986</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislative hours completed by operational crews</td>
<td>557</td>
<td>495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total legislative fire safety hours completed</strong></td>
<td><strong>2772</strong></td>
<td><strong>2481</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audits undertaken by specialist officers</td>
<td>292</td>
<td>286</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audits undertaken by operational crews</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total fire safety audits undertaken</strong></td>
<td><strong>484</strong></td>
<td><strong>476</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.1.2 The Service uses a risk based audit schedule to undertake audits of commercial premises. In addition to this, audits will be carried out following:

- Receipt of Building Regulations Completion Certificates/Final Notices.
- Notification of a fire incident in a premises covered by the Regulatory Reform Order.
- Notification from operational personnel of a serious risk to persons due to the lack of fire protection measures within a premises.
- An application for a new licence under other statutory regulations.
- Receipt of a fire safety complaint.
4.1.3 The focus of the audit is to educate and give guidance to the responsible person at the premises and only where necessary are enforcement options considered. During the reporting period 484 building consultations were undertaken by Technical Fire Safety (TFS) staff.

4.1.4 TFS staff are preparing for the latest version of CFRMIS, the fire safety database. The latest version has been tested to identify and resolve any issues. CFOA have published a new short audit that will enable less complex premises that are complying with regulations to be audited in a less intrusive manner. This has been supported by the Regulatory Department as the purpose of the new format is to reduce the burden of audits on commercial organisations. Finally a new suite of standard letters is being introduced which will allow Fire and Rescue Services to be more detailed in their recommendations when informing the responsible person of any deficiencies or non compliance. It is anticipated that these upgrades, and the associated training, will take place in the autumn once they are available on CFRMIS.

4.1.5 CFOA has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Environment Agency (EA) encouraging closer and clearer working arrangements. As part of this, NYFRS has jointly prepared a Local Working Arrangement with the EA regarding waste sites that is in the process of being signed by both organisations.

4.1.6 The inaugural regional CFOA Heritage meeting has taken place with members attending from the National Trust, Historic Housing Association and CFOA, as well as the regional Fire and Rescue Services. The aim of the group is to enhance working between Fire and Rescue Services and the owners of heritage buildings and artefacts. Discussions and reviews of case studies will help Fire and Rescue Services to apply the Regulatory Reform Order (RRO) in a sympathetic yet diligent manner to ensure the safety of the occupants without compromising the heritage of the buildings and their contents.

4.2 Fire Safety Enforcement Activity

4.2.1 Under the RRO there are three relevant notice types;

- An alterations notice - notification that the premises constitutes, or may constitute, a risk if an alteration is made to them or the use to which they are put. Where a notice has been served the responsible person must notify the enforcing authority of any proposed changes.

- An enforcement notice – notification of a failure to comply with any provision of the Fire Safety Order 2005 or of any regulations made under it.

- A prohibition notice – notification that use of premises involves or will involve a risk to persons so serious that use of the premises needs to be prohibited or restricted.

4.2.2 Enforcement activity undertaken by NYFRS under the RRO between 1st January and 31st March 2016 is shown in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Jan-Mar</th>
<th>Oct-Dec</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Statutory Alterations Notices</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statutory Enforcement Notices</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statutory Prohibition Notices</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4.2.3 Following a fire in a flat at 11-12 High Skellgate, Ripon, the Responsible Person was issued with an enforcement notice. The subsequent investigation has resulted in the case being passed to NYFRS legal team for prosecution under the RRO.

4.2.4 Following a successful prosecution, NYFRS were recently featured in the Serious and Organised Crime Local Partnerships Bulletin for working in collaboration with the North Yorkshire Gain Partner Agencies UK. As a result of information sharing via the GAIN network, a fraud and fire safety prosecution case was commenced by the North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority (NYFRA) against Tokyo Industries (One) Ltd and others. Twenty four premises were identified across several counties and, with support from Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Authority (LFRA), NYFRA conducted a series of inspections under the RRO. On 5th October 2015 at York Crown Court, the Responsible Person was found guilty and fined a total of £173,000.

4.3 Fire Investigation

4.3.1 The specialist fire investigation team recorded 48 investigations within North Yorkshire in the first four months of 2016 (since the last report). A total of 465 hours were recorded to fire investigation activity by the fire investigation team during this period.

4.3.2 There have been four fatal fire investigations carried out within North Yorkshire during this period. These occurred in Malton, Ferrensby (near Knaresborough), Selby and Egton (near Whitby).

4.3.3 Three fatal fire investigations were undertaken within neighbouring services that involved NYFRS Level Three Fire Investigation Officers (FIOs) as part of the regional Fire and Rescue Services’ Level 3 Memorandum of Understanding.

4.3.4 Court summonses have been served on a number of officers to attend both Crown and Coroners’ Court. Currently there are five cases in Crown Court for arson and potentially five cases to be heard by the Coroners’ Office. On average for Crown Court, officers are being asked to plan to be in court for between 2-3 days. Coroners’ Court hearings normally last up to one day. One officer has been requested to attend court in regards to the Wagstaff’s Fire (Great Heck) as a witness on behalf of a prosecution being brought by the Environment Agency.

5.0 Response

5.1 Fire Cover Review Implementation

The Response section is heavily involved with the Fire Cover Review Implementation projects and in particular the purchase of the Tactical Response Vehicles (TRV). Various visits have been made to potential vehicle suppliers and other Fire and Rescue Services to explore options of vehicle style and configuration. A final equipment list with weights of equipment has been reached which enables a vehicle specification to be agreed. Opportunities to purchase the vehicle through an open framework with Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service are being used, which will speed up the procurement process. Work is in progress to consider how the special skills and appliances will be crewed upon full implementation of the TRVs.

5.2 Christmas 2015 Flooding

The wide spread flooding over the Christmas 2015 period resulted in a number of items of equipment and crew flood suits being worn out and requiring replacement. As a result the flood suits carried on all appliances have been replaced and upgraded with a two piece more durable suit to improve crew safety and comfort. Similarly, a new push rescue boat has been provided for the Selby Technical Water Rescue Team which will boost their operational capability. An internal and multi agency debrief was held to learn from the flooding and the Response section are working through the issues identified for areas that may require further improvement.
5.3 Emergency First Responder Scheme (EFR)

The EFR scheme implemented at Lythe, Pickering and Helmsley attended 83 incidents in total during the first three months of implementation. One incident which the EFR scheme attended was successful in resuscitating a gentleman suffering from cardiac arrest. Three new vehicles have been received and are being prepared with response equipment, they will replace the temporary vehicles used during the first three months.

6.0 Communications and Media Update

6.1 Between January and March the Service issued media information on the following key messages:

- North Yorkshire Flood Appeal, following the flooding which occurred over the Christmas period
- Consultation on Budget Proposals

6.2 The Service promotes key safety messages and incident information through social media.

6.3 The Communications and Media Team have been supporting the Prevention and Protection section with the production of a publicity plan to highlight key safety messages throughout the year.

6.4 The Service’s Facebook ‘likes’ now stand at 2,298 up from 2,125 at the last report and 13,867 Twitter followers up from 12,707.

7.0 District Based Activity – Highlighted Examples

7.1 Hambleton and Richmondshire

7.1.1 Prevention Activity

7.1.2 Prevention work during the last quarter has focused on the Group Community Safety Plan which is detailed in the following section.

7.1.3 Regular meetings of the Road Safety Task Group determine the actions carried out by the Fire Service and Community Safety Officers (CSOs) deployed speed recording devices and matrix safety signs across the Hambleton & Richmondshire area throughout this reporting period. Additional activity included:

- Promoting ‘Biker Down’ courses across the Hambleton & Richmondshire area – The launch of the event took place at Northallerton fire station and 3 courses, all fully booked, were delivered in Northallerton and Richmond.
- Teasdale Motorcycles (Thirsk), in partnership with the Service, are promoting biker safety by giving motorcyclists safety information which is distributed to the biker community in Thirsk market place by the local CSO.
- Presenting ‘Drive Alive’ to 170 pupils at Thirsk 6th Form College.
- CSOs deployed 28 RADAR (speed recording devices) throughout the area and followed up with the placement of matrix signs, where required.

7.1.4 Fire safety instruction remains at the core of our educational programme and during this reporting period staff have visited 11 schools to deliver key stage training packages. This work has been supported by the delivery of educational presentations to other groups including:

- Bespoke fire safety advice to farm owners and workers within areas affected by arson/fire setting activity, in collaboration with North Yorkshire Police.
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- A presentation to the Women’s Institute at Ravensworth Village Hall.
- Meeting with maintenance staff from Richmondshire District Council to deliver vulnerable persons/hoarding toolbox talks, with a view to reinforcing our partnership arrangement.
- Fire safety education presentations delivered to; Thirsk Rotary Club, elderly persons at ‘The Limes’ sheltered housing complex and children and staff from the Great Smealton Cubs Group.
- Multi-agency education and support was also provided for vulnerable children living at care homes in Northallerton and Brompton.

7.1.5 Social media is fast becoming a pivotal communication tool in our community safety tool box; on Twitter, CSOs have 650 followers that regularly retweet safety messages posted on our sites – we also retweet messages from partner agencies. This is a communication platform that is rapidly expanding and whilst we don’t rely on social media alone, it does provide us with a channel to deliver safety messages in a very timely way.

7.1.6 Both CSOs are actively engaged with the ‘Dementia Action Alliance’. Dementia is an increasing problem nationally and the Alliance was set up to provide support at a local level. We attend regular meetings and have booked a place on the Alzheimer’s Society tour bus in June, which will be visiting market town venues across Richmondshire & Hambleton, to offer bespoke advice to carers and the general public.

7.1.7 Response Activity

7.1.8 Operational crews from Northallerton and Richmond provide a combination of Service Delivery activities in prevention, response and protection. To ensure all crews from across Hambleton & Richmondshire are able to demonstrate operational competence, an annual tactical exercise programme is in place. The exercise programme is designed to replicate a range of emergency incidents at local risk sites. The last training exercise took place at Hawes fire station and replicated a 2 vehicle road traffic collision.

7.2 Harrogate and Craven

7.2.1 Prevention Activity

7.2.2 Road safety- Educating younger people new to driving is a crucial activity and the ‘Learn and Live’ road safety presentation is delivered at a range of establishments in the Harrogate and Craven Districts. This package is a hard hitting, multi-agency presentation which uses real life experiences and stories to deliver a strong message, aimed at influencing the behaviour of young drivers and passengers and consequently reducing injuries and fatalities in this particular age group.

7.2.3 Our involvement in the ‘Speed Management Protocol’ continues, with the two CSOs (of which there are one in each of the districts) deploying portable speed matrix recorders at locations across both districts. This is essential information gathering which is analysed on a regular basis in order to prioritise prevention activities via the local Road Safety Partnership Groups.

7.2.4 We undertake Home Risk Assessments and fit smoke alarms (including deaf alarms), making good use of referrals received from a number of different agencies and sources in the community. We encourage referrals from key agencies and provide awareness talks to them to enable this, such as a Health and Adult Services presentation delivered in Knaresborough this quarter. The Service also refers vulnerable people to other agencies, where appropriate, to ensure that the right care package is provided for them by the relevant agencies.
7.2.5 The Service has agreed different safety themes throughout the year to coincide with a nationally recognised safety programme. The majority of the themes are Service wide but consideration is also given to local risks before finalising what activity is required throughout the year.

7.2.6 Operational crews deliver safety presentations in local schools, with CSOs delivering the same to more rural/outlying establishments. The delivery of education in line with the specific themes is incorporated into the presentations. Other specific talks are provided, such as ‘Arson and Hoax’ presentations, which have been delivered to secondary schools in Boroughbridge and Pateley Bridge in this quarter.

7.2.7 The Harrogate District Community Safety Local Delivery Team funded a Local Intervention Fire Education (LIFE) course which was held at Harrogate Fire Station. A range of agencies in the Harrogate area put forward 44 referrals for the places, with eight students subsequently taking part and completing the five day course. The Local Delivery Team has also funded a further course to take place in June for another eight students. Members are invited to attend the Passing Out Ceremony which is due to take place at Harrogate Fire Station on the 10th June.

7.2.8 Response Activity

7.2.9 A number of exercises have been carried out using realistic venues, in preference to Fire Service premises, wherever possible. This provides valuable opportunities to test skills across themed topics and enhances the Service’s intervention capability, increasing firefighter safety in the process.

7.3 Scarborough and Ryedale

7.3.1 Prevention Activity

7.3.2 The CSOs and operational crews are delivering Key Stage 1, 2 and 3 schools’ presentations to different age ranges of children across the districts. The CSOs are supporting the multi agency Crucial Crew schools’ education event that runs over a two week period starting on the 6th May 2016.

7.3.3 Road safety activity supports the aims and objectives of the Service, the 95 Alive partnership and the Local Delivery Teams. Monthly road safety meetings include staff from the NYCC Road Safety Team, Fire and Rescue, North Yorkshire Police, the Local Delivery Team and Public Health. These meetings are used to target road safety activities in the areas where they are needed most.

Examples of recently delivered road safety activity in Scarborough and Ryedale:

- Young driver safety at the Yorkshire Coast College.
- Young driver safety with the Dame Kelly Holmes Foundation at Scarborough Fire Station.
- Eskdale School presented Passenger Power, the Fatal Four and a Road Traffic Demonstration.
- Road Safety event at Yorkshire Coast College involving a Road Traffic Demonstration.
- Drink driving education event in Scarborough at the pedestrian precinct outside the Brunswick Shopping centre.
- Enforcement activity event in Eastfield.
7.3.4 On the 27th April 2016 a multi agency road safety event was held in Whitby on the back of the Tour De Yorkshire cycle race. NYFRS crews and a NYFRS First Responder worked with NYCC Road Safety Officers, Whitby Leisure Centre, Sainsburys, Dr Cranks (bike shop) and Whitby Wheelers to promote road safety, particularly linked to cycling safety. Fire crews cycled the distance (122 miles) of one of the Tour De Yorkshire’s days on a static bicycle. Members of the public were encouraged to take part in a competition to cycle one mile in the fastest time. School children attended the event and were taught first aid techniques from the First Responder, as well as being issued with high visibility back pack covers and reflective clips.

7.3.5 Response Activity

7.3.6 North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service has entered into an agreement with Yorkshire Ambulance Service (YAS) to utilise specially trained fire staff to respond to certain types of medical emergencies in a dedicated Emergency Fire Response vehicle.

The type of incidents that NYFRS First Responder staff will attend are:

- Cardiac Arrest
- Respiratory Arrest
- Chest Pain
- Breathing Difficulty
- Collapse
- Cold and Clammy
- Cyanosed (Peripherally Blue)

Emergency First Responders are trained in basic life support and the use of a defibrillator. They attend potentially life threatening emergency situations in addition to YAS personnel. The aim is to reduce the amount of pre-hospital deaths from cardiac arrest in line with the National Service Framework for Coronary Heart Disease.

This agreement with YAS is currently being trialled at three fire stations. The stations involved are:

- Lythe (Live on the 17th December 2015)
- Pickering (Live on the 16th December 2015)
- Helmsley (Live on the 13th January 2016)

The scheme was officially launched on the 2nd April 2016 at the Memorial Hall in Pickering. Since the trial started, North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service First Responders have been mobilised to 83 medical emergencies during the first three months of implementation.

7.3.7 Malton station personnel have undertaken training for incidents which involve animal rescue. The equipment listed below is located at Malton fire station:

- Head Sheets - used to protect the animal's head whilst moving across the ground
- Personal protection shields – used to protect the animal rescuer and casualties near animals
- Rescue Sling Beam Kit – contains a quick release beam and animal rescue slings for moving animals
- ‘Down a Cow’ Harness - used on cows and breeding bulls
- Strop Guides - used to attach slings and lines under the animal keeping the animal rescuer out of the kick zone
- Hobbles – used to lift animal by its legs
- Lead lines and various size halters - used for keeping control of the animal whilst rescuing and after
- Strops and slings - used for lifting and moving animals
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- Leg and neck crooks - used for catching animals and moving limbs
- Mud lance – used to free animals stuck in mud
- Pig boards – used to move pigs

7.4 York and Selby

7.4.1 Prevention Activity

7.4.2 As with previous years, there will be an emphasis across the district focusing on drowning prevention and water safety. This is a community safety priority following the disproportionate number of drownings in the rivers of York over the last few years.

7.4.3 Local staff have been meeting with representatives from York St John’s University to arrange water safety advice from the Fire Service for all new students arriving in the City of York. The Service has an established relationship with the University of York and will look to foster a similar relationship with York St John University. Students are seen as a particularly vulnerable group in relation to water safety, both as a result of their unfamiliarity with the layout of the city and their regular involvement with the night time economy. The focus of the advice delivered will be around taking personal responsibility for one’s self and one’s colleagues to prevent either getting into danger.

7.4.4 Additionally, several hundred students from Selby College and York College attended ‘Drive Alive’; multi agency, road safety events supported by the Service. Drive Alive is based on ‘hard hitting’ interactive educational material for young adults who have just started, or are just about to start, driving.

7.4.5 Fire Safety education is delivered to schools across the district and to groups of children who have learning disabilities supported by their carers. These children and young adults can be more vulnerable to the impact of fire.

7.4.6 This quarter we have continued to build on our relationship with the Blind and Partially Sighted Society, visiting people referred to us from that Society in their own homes to undertake Home Fire Risk Assessments, as well as sending out over a thousand flyers through their network of contacts to offer our services to others who find themselves in a similar position and are more vulnerable to fire as a result.

7.4.7 Response Activity

7.4.8 The York and Selby District hosted the Service’s annual Brigade exercise during this quarter. The Brigade exercise is a large scale exercise which has the purpose of bringing together operational staff from the tactical, operational and strategic levels of the Service to tackle a realistic and challenging incident.

7.4.9 The exercise was located at The Retreat Hospital in York who had offered the use of a redundant three storey building scheduled for demolition. Uniquely, this allowed us to smoke log an unknown property and treat the building as we would during a normal incident, including the deployment of firefighting jets both internally and externally.

7.4.10 During the exercise the Service was able to realistically test the full deployment of the revised national guidance for the use of breathing apparatus. These new procedures, which have introduced significant changes to the way such incidents are commanded, controlled and organisationally set up, have been a particular focus for smaller exercises across the Service over the last year following a substantial roll out programme. The exercise, on the whole, was a success although significant learning points will be disseminated throughout the Service through the incident debrief system.
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7.4.11 In Tadcaster a temporary footbridge across the River Wharfe means that those operational staff who reside on the opposite side of the river to the fire station can now turn out to incidents from home, maintaining operational resilience at that station. A Fire Service vehicle has been located on the Fire Station side of the bridge which allows staff to walk over the footbridge and then proceed together to the station using the transport provided. Work has commenced on repairing the road bridge but it is estimated that it will take up to 12 months to complete.

7.4.12 Following the large scale deployment of national assets to assist with the recent flooding across the district, further national assets were received into the Service to assist with a collapsed property in Haxby, at which there was one fatality. This is believed to have been the result of a gas explosion.

7.4.13 On this occasion the Service called on an Urban Search and Rescue Unit which, in this instance, came from West Yorkshire. The Urban Search and Rescue Unit provides operational firefighters who have received enhanced training in shoring up, moving through, searching and removing debris from collapsed structures. The teams carry a significant amount of specialist equipment to assist with this type of work and work in conjunction with local operational staff that are familiar with their working methods.

8.0 Sample of Notable Incidents

8.1 Hambleton and Richmondshire Area

Date: 05/01/2016
Location: Newton on Ouse, York

Water Rescue: A school bus with 23 children on board had attempted to drive through flood water approximately 3 to 4 feet deep. The bus had ended up with its front end in the road side ditch. The bus was lower at the ditch side and flood water had entered the bus and covered the seats at the near side. All passengers needed rescuing from the bus through the still flood water. The children were shocked, cold and wanted to leave the bus on the arrival of the first appliance.

Date: 31/01/2016
Location: Kirkby Fleetham

Animal Rescue: Incident involved a cow trapped in a slurry pit. Crews used Swift Water Rescue equipment, strops, small gear and were assisted by the farmer and his fork lift truck to lift the animal.

Date: 08/02/2016
Location: Snape

Farm Fire: Incident involved a fire to an agricultural workshop measuring approximately 80M x 80M. There were acetylene cylinders involved in the fire and a tank containing 5000L of diesel. The cylinders were cooled and removed. All of the diesel in the tank burned off.

Date: 25/03/2016
Location: Sutton under Whitestonecliffe

RTC: RTC involving two vehicles, crews removed the roof from one of the vehicles to release the occupants. The driver of the vehicle was removed on a stretcher and taken to hospital via air ambulance. The passenger was able to exit the vehicle with assistance from the paramedics and was taken to hospital via road ambulance. The occupants of the second vehicle were out of the vehicle on arrival and were taken to hospital via road ambulance. Crews used hydraulic cutting equipment.

8.2 Harrogate and Craven Area

Date: 23/01/2016
Location: Harrogate

Special Service Fatality: Incident involved a BBQ which had been lit in a bedroom. Ambulance was in attendance giving CPR to a casualty who was unfortunately confirmed as deceased. BBQ out on arrival, fire crews assisting in ventilation only.
Date: 29/01/2016  
Location: A1 N J47  
**RTC:** RTC involving 2 large goods vehicles and a motorcycle. The motorcyclist was taken to hospital via air ambulance. The driver of the first LGV was trapped by the steering wheel and crews used hydraulic cutting equipment to release them. The driver was then taken to hospital for a precautionary check up. The driver of the second LGV was uninjured.

Date: 02/02/2016  
Location: Harrogate  
**RTC:** Single vehicle RTC. The vehicle had left the road and ended up in a ditch with 2 persons trapped. Crews assisted the Ambulance Service with the extrication of the casualties who were then taken to hospital by road ambulance.

Date: 14/02/2016  
Location: A65, Clapham  
**RTC Fatality:** Two vehicle RTC involving a car and a motorcycle. The motorcyclist was unfortunately pronounced dead at the scene. Both the driver and the passenger of the car were taken to hospital via road ambulance.

Date: 15/02/2016  
Location: Ferrensby  
**Fire Fatality:** Incident involved a fire in a bungalow, the fire was discovered by a friend who alerted nearby workmen who smashed a window and pulled the casualty from the property. Crews carried out CPR and first aid until the arrival of the paramedics who unfortunately confirmed the casualty as deceased. Crews used one hose reel, breathing apparatus and a defibrillator.

Date: 01/03/2016  
Location: Knaresborough  
**Animal Rescue Fatality:** Horse rescued from mud and ditch using a large animal strop. Vet on scene put the horse to sleep after an examination.

Date: 11/03/2016  
Location: Roundabout with A65, A59  
**RTC:** Two vehicle RTC. The driver of one of the vehicles was trapped in the vehicle. The casualty was released using hydraulic cutting equipment and transported to hospital via road ambulance. Crews used hydraulic cutting equipment, lighting and a crow bar.

8.3 Scarborough and Ryedale Area

Date: 01/01/2016  
**Other Special Service Fatality:** Incident involved a deceased bariatric casualty. Crews used various equipment to remove the deceased from the property.

Date: 08/01/2016  
Location: Whitby  
**Animal Rescue:** Crews were called upon to rescue a Doberman dog that had chased a deer and got stuck on a ledge in a ravine. Crews used working at height gear to reach the dog, harness him and lead him to safety. The dog was reunited with his owners, happy again and unharmed by his ordeal.
Date: 10/01/2016  
Location: Malton  
**Water Rescue:** Van occupied by 3 people had attempted to travel through flood water. Vehicle engine had stalled and became stranded. Crews used level 2/3 water rescue equipment to rescue all occupants. This incident was followed by crews assisting a member of the public who was attempting to walk through flood water to deliver food and medical supplies to elderly relatives in Brawby. Crews transferred the person through flood water using the boat and associated equipment, and awaited their return before transferring them back to their parked vehicle.

Date: 17/01/2016  
Location: Helmsley  
**Special Service Fatality:** First responder assisted ambulance crews with CPR after a casualty suffered an apparent cardiac arrest. The casualty died at the scene.

Date: 18/01/2016  
Location: Helmsley  
**Special Service Fatality:** Incident involved a person who was reported to have had a cardiac arrest on top of scaffolding whilst replacing a sash window. Co-responder from Helmsley attended first then requested an appliance to attend. CPR carried out by ambulance personnel but casualty was unfortunately pronounced dead at the scene. Fire crews assisted ambulance personnel with removing the casualty.

Date: 22/01/2016  
Location: Malton  
**Fire Fatality:** Incident involved fire in a bungalow. Breathing apparatus wearers tackled the fire and a casualty was located but was confirmed deceased.

Date: 03/02/2016  
Location: Scarborough  
**Special Service:** Fire crews assisted ambulance crews to remove suspected Cardiac patient from premises. Crews used manpower to assist paramedics in lifting the patient into the ambulance.

Date: 04/02/2016  
Location: Layby off A64 Knapton  
**Chemical/HAZMAT:** HAZMAT major incident. HGV containing 35x25 litre drums containing corrosive acid leaked from one drum only. Cause was cross threaded lid. No damage caused. Two breathing apparatus, 2 gas tight suits and litmus paper were used to confirm the acid. The acid evaporated and no spillage was left. Leaking drum was isolated and the incident was left with the chemical company that was in charge of the transportation.

Date: 07/02/2016  
Location: A64, Between Rillington and West Knapton  
**RTC Fatality:** Five vehicle RTC. One person was confirmed dead at the scene. The car had clipped several others before going head on into another. The casualty is believed to have suffered a medical occurrence whilst driving. All other persons out on arrival of fire crews and treated on scene by ambulance staff. Crews administered first aid to the casualties.

Date: 24/02/2016  
Location: Scarborough  
**Water Rescue Fatality:** Crews assisted police, ambulance and mountain rescue with the recovery of the deceased.
**NORTH YORKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY**

**Date:** 26/02/2016  
**Location:** Whitby  
**Fire Fatality:** Incident involved a detached cottage, in which the fire is believed to have originated in the kitchen and spread throughout the property. One person and two dogs were confirmed dead at the scene. Equipment used included breathing apparatus, hose reels, ladders and small tools.

**Date:** 01/03/2016  
**Location:** A169 Saltergate  
**RTC Fatality:** Two vehicle RTC involving an LGV and a car. LGV driver was suffering from shock. The driver of the car was trapped inside the vehicle and was being given CPR by the RAF Police. The driver of the car was cut from the vehicle using cutting gear and CPR continued on the roadside. The driver was pronounced dead at the scene. The passenger of the car was out on arrival of the fire service suffering from significant injuries. Fire crews assisted paramedics with first aid on the passenger, who was taken to hospital via road ambulance. Crews used hydraulic cutting equipment and first aid kit.

**Date:** 03/03/2016  
**Location:** Malton  
**RTC:** RTC involving a car and an animal transporter. Driver of the transporter out on arrival of the fire service and the driver of the car was trapped in the vehicle. Crews removed the door using stabilisation equipment and hydraulic cutting equipment. The driver was then transported to hospital by road ambulance.

**Date:** 03/03/2016  
**Location:** B1257, Helmsley  
**RTC:** Incident involving one LGV, one casualty was extricated using electric cutting gear, vehicle stabilisation props and platforms.

**Date:** 07/03/2016  
**Location:** Scarborough  
**RTC:** Incident involved a two vehicle RTC, the front seat passenger was extricated by the crews removing the roof and placing the casualty on a spinal board. Casualty was transferred to hospital via road ambulance. Crews used stabilisation, airbags, cutting equipment and sharps kit.

**Date:** 08/03/2016  
**Location:** Scarborough  
**Fire:** Incident involved a person who had set fire to their bedding. Crews treated the casualty at the scene for smoke inhalation using oxygen therapy. The casualty was taken to hospital via road ambulance.

8.4 **York and Selby Area**  
**Date:** 13/01/2016  
**Location:** East of River Wharfe, A64E, between A162 and A659  
**RTC:** Involving two vehicles, a HGV and a minibus. Crews assisted with transporting one casualty to the air ambulance. The driver of the minibus and both occupants of the HGV were without injuries. Crews also assisted police with reopening carriageway.

**Date:** 19/01/2016  
**Location:** Burton Salmon  
**Persons Trapped:** One casualty trapped by their leg, a number of logs had rolled off a pile and pinned the casualty and breaking their leg. Crews had to stabilise the pile of logs, then release the casualty's leg using an airbag.

**Date:** 30/01/2016  
**Location:** York  
**Animal Rescue:** Incident involved a cat on a roof approximately 20 feet high. Crew rescued the cat and returned it to its owner unharmed. The crew used triple extension ladder, roof ladder and safety harness.
Date: 31/01/2016
Location: Selby
RTC: Incident involved a two vehicle RTC between a car and a vehicle towing a horse box, one person was trapped in the car and released by crews. The casualty was transported to hospital via road ambulance. Crews also made both car and horse box safe. Crews used hydraulic cutting equipment, first aid and manpower.

Date: 31/01/2016
Location: Eggborough
RTC: Molten glass pouring from a machine. Approximately 10 tonnes of molten glass leaked before leak was plugged. Six pumps and an aerial ladder platform attended the incident.

Date: 16/02/2016
Location: Selby
Fire Fatality: Incident involved the intentional burning of an old caravan. The fire was believed to have been lit several hours prior to the call to the Fire Service so only a small amount of burning embers remained which crews used buckets of water to extinguish. Unfortunately one person was confirmed dead inside the caravan. This is believed to be the person who was tasked to dispose of the caravan.

Date: 19/02/2016
Location: York
Gas Explosion Fatality: Incident involved an explosion in a detached two-storey house, the house was completely demolished. Severe damage to adjacent properties and various damage to further properties within a 100m radius. One casualty was pronounced dead at the scene. West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service’s Urban Search and Rescue and K9 dog unit were used to search the wreckage and confirmed no other potential for life inside the property. Fire investigation is on going with Police, Fire and Insurers to ascertain the cause of the explosion. Crews extinguished the fire, damped down hotspots and assisted with the removal of the deceased.

Date: 21/02/2016
Location: Tadcaster
Water Rescue Fatality: Incident involved a river rescue. Unfortunately the casualty was pronounced dead at the scene. Crews assisted with the removal of the casualty from the river.

Date: 03/03/2016
Location: Selby
RTC: Incident involved a driver who had mistakenly pressed the accelerator and ended up wedged between a parked car and a garden wall. The driver was trapped in the car but not by their injuries, crews assisted the driver out with manpower.

Date: 03/03/2016
Location: Selby
Persons Trapped: A person had fallen and was unable to get up. Crews gained entry with assistance of the Police and assisted the casualty to their feet and the casualty was checked over by the crews and the Police.

Date: 03/03/2016
Location: York
Persons Trapped: Incident involved a casualty who had their legs trapped in metal railings. Crews used spreaders to release them.
Date: 05/03/2016  
Location: Tadcaster  
**Persons Trapped:** One person trapped under a car due to the vehicle jack failing. The person suffered arm injuries. Airbags and stabilisation gear were used to release the casualty, the crews provided first aid and the casualty was handed into the care of the ambulance crews.

Date: 15/03/2016  
Location: Moor Monkton  
**Fire:** Farmer was using a Bio Mass Burner at the rear of a barn next to piggeries, containing 300 pigs per shed. Also in the vicinity was 20-30 m² of straw stacked next to the barn. When the burner was opened it set fire to the straw which spread to the piggeries. Six pumps were used to supply water and extinguish the fire.

Date: 22/03/2016  
Location: Selby  
**Persons Trapped:** Dangerous structure – loose roof tiles. Roof tile had fallen onto person who suffered minor head injuries. Crews used first aid and provided casualty care. Crews removed roof tiles using 9M ladder and small tools.

Date: 26/03/2016  
Location: York  
**Chemical Suicide:** Incident involved a person who is believed to have committed suicide in a hotel room using a small helium gas canister, pipe and a black plastic bag. Two members of the crew entered the room to isolate the gas supply and left the incident in the care of the Police and Ambulance Service.

**Out of Area Incidents**

Date: 03/02/2016  
Location: Wetherby  
**Fire:** Incident involved a fire in a large commercial packaging factory. West Yorkshire incident - make pumps 20. Assisted West Yorkshire teams with main jets and BA fire. Cause unknown.

Date: 13/03/2016  
Location: A1 N J44  
**RTC:** Incident involved a car which had left the road and rolled, ending up on four wheels under the bridge. The driver was trapped in the vehicle due to their injuries. Crews removed the roof to allow the casualty to be extricated and then the casualty was taken to hospital. Crews used hydraulic cutting equipment.

### 9.0 Recommendations

9.1 That Members note the report.

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**Background Documents**

There are no background documents to this report

North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Thurston Road, NORTHALLERTON, DL6 2ND  
11th May 2016