

Incident Summary

Fire at;
Selby Salads,
Brigg Lane,
Selby,

20 September 2015.



1.0 Details of the Incident

- 1.1 This incident involved a well developed fire that caused significant damage to an industrial vegetable processing complex.
- 1.2 The complex was made up of of a fourteen hectare greenhouse area, a large, single storey distribution warehouse constructed from light insulated sandwich panels and prefabricated, single storey office and canteen blocks.
- 1.3 The fire is believed to have been started deliberately in a pile of wooden pallets that were being stored in the open between the office block and the distribution warehouse from where it spread to the structure of the property itself. As a result of the fire both the office block and the distribution warehouse were effectively completely destroyed by the fire.
- 1.4 The incident was attended by eight appliances (including appliances from Humberside, West Yorkshire and South Yorkshire), a Water Bowser and an Aerial Ladder Platform.
- 1.5 At the peak of firefighting operations the Incident Commander divided the incident into four sectors to ensure there was the appropriate level of command and control in place and eight hand held branches alongside four ground monitors were employed to extinguish the fire.
- 1.6 To supplement these resources an Aerial Ladder Platform was also used as a water tower and as a result it was necessary to set into an open water supply, using a water relay, which ensured there was an adequate supply of water available to extinguish the fire.
- 1.7 Due to this site sharing a perimeter with Drax Power Station, which is a significant provider of electricity to the National Grid, the incident commander established, during the early part of the incident, through the multi agency network, that there was no risk to that site from the large quantities of smoke being emitted by this fire. When it was established that there was no significant risk the original operational plan was followed through until the fire was safely extinguished.