

CITY OF YORK COUNCIL

COMMUNITY SAFETY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

November 2013

North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service Community Safety Update York

Report of Group Manager David Dryburgh

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1.1 To advise members of the City of York Council, Community Safety and Overview Committee of community safety activity involving North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (NYFRS) and to provide an update regarding other issues from within the York District.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The following report covers the period 1st October 2012 to 30th September 2013.
- 2.2 The activities detailed in this report contribute to the vision of NYFRS which states that 'over the ten years to 2014, in North Yorkshire and the City of York, 125 people will still be alive through the work of the new Fire & Rescue Service. This will be due to the Service having significantly reduced the likelihood and severity of fire and other emergencies. We will achieve this through the dedication of our staff working in partnership with other agencies in the community.'
- 2.3 The most recent figures show that due to the efforts of NYFRS working alongside partners this vision should be achieved and it is currently being exceeded (based on current figures, which can change, 151 people will still be alive).
- 2.4 Locally, within The City of York, we ensure that our three main strands of activity; intervention (attending and dealing with emergencies), prevention (proactive community safety work) and protection (technical fire safety activity) all contribute towards delivering against our vision.

3.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY OVERVIEW

- 3.1 The following activity list provides an overview of the Community Safety initiatives conducted in The City of York area in the past 12 months.

Community Fire Safety (Prevention)	October 2012 to September 2013
Smoke Alarms fitted	572
Home Fire Risk Assessments	492
Matrix deployments	6
Targeted driving campaigns	7
School talks promoting community safety	29
Other community fire safety activities	117

Technical Fire Safety (Protection)	
Number of Fire Safety Audits Completed	424
All TFS job types completed	1093
Prohibition Notices Served	6
Enforcement Notices Served	5

- 3.2 Home Fire Risk Assessments and the fitting of smoke alarms in domestic properties are considered amongst the most effective measures for reducing risk and increasing the chance of survival if a fire does occur in the home.
- 3.3 To maximize the efficiency of our resources and ensure we target risk where it is highest we have mapped the risk across the City of York by 'super output area'. This process allows us to assign a risk score against each area and target those areas most at risk for prevention activities. However, we recognize that there are vulnerable people in those areas not falling within the highest risk so amongst other activities we work with partners within a Vulnerable Persons Referral Framework to pass on details of any individuals we consider to be at particular risk and likewise we accept and act on referrals from partner agencies.
- 3.4 Part of the '125 Alive' vision is targeting those who die in Road Traffic Collisions. To influence this we work in partnership with the York Road Safety Task Group to deliver campaigns targeted at vulnerable drivers

and to deploy speed matrix warning signs and radar recording devices to highlight where the greatest areas of risk lie.

- 3.5 'Other community fire safety activities' covers a wide variety of activities from bonfire awareness through to safety on water awareness campaigns. However it is worth noting from this list that following any fire in a domestic property, which would require NYFRS to act in its intervention capacity, we 'hot spot' the surrounding area. This allows us to carry out community safety prevention activity when vulnerable persons are most receptive to ensuring the risk is minimized in their own homes.
- 3.6 Complementing our prevention and intervention activities we also have a risk based inspection program to ensure that there is compliance with relevant fire safety legislation.
- 3.7 This protection activity involves NYFRS staff assuring that suitable risk assessments are in place under the Regulatory Reform Order (Fire) and where they are not, working with businesses and other stakeholders to ensure safety standards are raised.
- 3.8 As can be seen from the table above, in some cases, where breaches of the legislation are more serious it will be necessary to issue enforcement notices or to prohibit the use of part or all of a building where there is a serious risk to public safety.
- 3.9 Our protection activity also involves a wider range of activities beyond enforcing the Regulatory Reform Order (Fire) such as consulting on building regulations submissions and providing advice alongside partners at the Safety Advisory Group and Safety at Sports Ground Group.

4.0 YORK PROJECT UPDATE

- 4.1 The 'York Project', to relocate staff and appliances from their current location at Clifford Street to a purpose built station at Kent Street and the existing station at Huntington is progressing well and we plan to have relocated to both sites before the end of Spring next year.
- 4.2 Work is well underway at the Kent Street site where one appliance and the water rescue unit will be located and works are expected to commence imminently at Huntington station where an extension will be built at the rear of the station to house the aerial ladder platform

from Clifford Street and one fire appliance which will be located in the existing station.

- 4.3 It is not anticipated that this project will have any negative impact on the Service's prevention and protection activities but it is intended to deliver a more effective intervention service.
- 4.4 The project will be reviewed one year after its completion.

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 That Members note the activities that have taken place.

Reason: To enable Members to be kept informed of the work of the North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service in respect of community safety.

David Dryburgh
Group Manager York

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