

**LEICESTER, LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND COMBINED FIRE
AUTHORITY**

14 FEBRUARY 2024

CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Variable Response Vehicles

It's pleasing to share that both Variable Response Vehicles (VRV's) are in service and operationally available. The first became available at Market Bosworth on 1 November last year and has already attended 38 incidents. The second is at Wigston (on-call) and went live on 21 December; this has attended 19 incidents. The vehicles are being monitored throughout the twelve month trial but so far, the feedback has been very positive and operational availability has significantly increased at the trial stations.

Flooding across LLR

The Service responded, as part of the Local Resilience Forum multi-agency response, to recent floodings across LLR. During the storms, a 'major incident' was declared due to multiple communities being required to relocate whilst being flooded. LFRS contributed and deployed assets to support this effort, along with undertaking many rescues from flood water, some of which were lifesaving but many due to poor personal judgement of driving through flood waters. This recent experience reinforces aspects of the CRMP to increase the Service's capabilities for these types of incidents.

Digital Transformation Project

The Service is now undertaking a "Digital Transformation" project. This is in the early stages, but will see a focus on modernising and streamlining the Service's business practices and processes and using available technology to its best to reduce unnecessary bureaucracy and duplication. In effect, this will be an 'invest to save' piece of work, to enable the Service to best serve and deliver more for local communities within the current cost and staff envelope. A full report will be presented to a future meeting of the the CFA or Corporate Governance Committee for oversight.

New Member of Staff

It's pleasing to report that Emma Anderson will be joining the Service in April as the new Area Manager for People and Organisational Development. Emma brings a high degree of experience in HR and transformational change, along with an abundance of enthusiasm.

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