



LEICESTERSHIRE FIRE and RESCUE SERVICE

NEWS RELEASE

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LEICESTERSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE ARE RECRUITING WHOLETIME FIREFIGHTERS



Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service are excited to announce that this year we have been presented with a fantastic opportunity to recruit 25 new wholetime firefighters. This is the first time in five years that we have been able to do so and is due to our improved financial position.

Today, we are launching our very own **Aspirational To Inspirational** recruitment campaign to increase the number of applicants from underrepresented groups in our communities, especially black and ethnic minorities and women. If successful, this campaign will enable the Service to gain a workforce that better represents the local communities we serve.

The application process will officially open on Monday 10 April at 09:00 hours and close on Monday 17 April at 09:00 hours. As we are expecting huge demand for the 25 positions available, we are advising anyone who is interested to get involved now.

Have A Go taster days will be taking place over the next seven weeks to give people an insight into what the role of a firefighter entails as well as the required strength, fitness and aptitude levels. It will also give them the chance to find out more information on how rewarding a career in the fire and rescue service is and what paths of progression there are. Dates and times of the Have A Go days can be found on the recruitment page on our website.

Steve Lunn, Chief Fire and Rescue Officer, said: "This is a real opportunity for members of our local communities looking for a new job or even a change in their career."

"We hope to be in a position by late September to welcome a new intake of 25 firefighters of the highest calibre, hopefully better representative of our diverse local communities."

"We hope people take up the opportunity to attend one of our Have A Go taster days to get a better insight into what being a firefighter entails and to hopefully encourage them to take that step further to apply."

For more information on our recruitment campaign or to take part in one of the taster days, visit our website www.leicestershire-fire.gov.uk/recruitment.

ENDS

Notes to editors: Interviews can be arranged with prior arrangement via Corporate Communications.

About the Service

Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service provides emergency response, prevention and protection services from 20 stations across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. Its headquarters is based in Birstall, Leicester.

The Service's prevention, education, enforcement and inspection programmes have resulted in significant reductions in the number of incidents. In the last ten years, fire related incidents have reduced by 46 percent.

During 2015/16, the Service attended 666 road traffic collisions, of which 174 were extrications freeing 208 people trapped inside their vehicles and completed 5086 home fire safety checks, fitting almost 4481 smoke alarms. Staff organised or supported almost 1431 events aimed at promoting fire and road safety and arson prevention, whilst also visiting 332 schools to deliver fire and road safety education to pupils.

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