



LEICESTERSHIRE FIRE and RESCUE SERVICE

NEWS RELEASE

Issued on: Wednesday 15 November 2017

2017 WHOLETIME RECRUITS PASSING OUT PARADE

Following an extensive recruitment process which commenced in February this year, Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service are pleased to announce that 24 new wholetime firefighter recruits (the first cohort to join the Service in over five years) have successfully completed their initial training.

The passing out parade took place on Friday 10 November at Fire Service College, Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire. During this, the new recruits were given the opportunity to showcase their new skills to their family and friends, as well as the senior management team from the Service.

The next stage for the new recruits is to spend a week with the Services' Learning and Development department, undergoing conversion training, where they will be taught operational techniques that are specific to Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service. They will then spend a week on annual leave before being assigned to stations across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

Chief Fire and Rescue Officer, Steve Lunn, said: "This is a fantastic achievement, to not only have been successful in the recruitment process, but to have passed eight weeks of intensive training at the Fire Service College."

"This is a huge milestone for the Service, and we look forward to seeing each of our new recruits, all of the highest calibre, progress in their careers as firefighters with Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service".

"We hope the new recruits are looking forward to life on station and the hard work that it comes with – it's not long now and our stations cannot wait to welcome them."

"What an exciting time for everyone involved."

END

Notes to editors: Please see below for a selection of photos taken on the day. Interviews are available at request 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.

Contact:

Corporate Communications

0116 229 2178

corporate.communications@lfrs.org

The recruits, which are the first cohort to join the Service in over five years, have spent the past eight weeks at the Fire Service College in Moreton-in-Marsh, undergoing intensive training.