

News Release

Issued on: Thursday 2 May 2019

Firefighters Issue Advice Following Fatal Fire in Wigston

On Saturday 27 April, we attended a house fire in Salcombe Close, Wigston. Fire appliances from nearby Wigston Fire Station, and the city's Central Fire Station attended the incident, and were supported by Leicestershire Police and East Midlands Ambulance Service.

The incident was dealt with quickly by firefighters and the occupant was transferred to hospital, but sadly passed away. The fire, which is believed to have been caused accidentally by the use of a chip pan, is a terrible tragedy and our thoughts are with the family, friends and acquaintances of the deceased.

As part of our post-incident response procedure, we will be providing reassurance and advice on home fire safety in order to prevent any future similar incidents occurring. Firefighters will be in the local area Friday to Sunday, offering Home Safety Checks to residents.

It is essential that everyone stays safe from fire in their properties. We would like to encourage all residents in the neighbourhood to take advantage of this opportunity, to familiarise themselves with what to do in the event of a fire, but more importantly, how they can prevent fires happening in the first place.

Community Educators and Firefighters from Wigston Fire Station, will be in the Salcombe Close area, door knocking on:

Friday 3 May to Sunday 5 May

Please note, all Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service employees carry identification cards, which they are more than happy to show you. If someone approaches your home posing as an employee of Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service, and are unwilling or unable to show you identification, do not let them in and report them to Leicestershire Police via leics.police.uk/contact-us.

In the meantime, a wide range of tips on how to keep you and your home safe from fire are available on Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service's website, which can be found by visiting leics-fire.gov.uk/your-safety/at-home/.

To request a Home Safety Check, visit lfrs.egressforms.com/Form/HomeFireSafetyCheck.

ENDS

Notes to Editors:

Interviews can be arranged through prior arrangement with Corporate Communications on the details below.

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 43 percent.

During 2016/17, the Service attended 694 road traffic collisions, of which 148 were extrications from vehicles, in addition to 2,259 fires. 272 schools were visited as part of the Service's schools programme, delivering fire and road safety education to pupils. Staff organised or took part in 1,613 community safety events, promoting fire and road safety and arson prevention, and 145 Virtual Fatal Four (VF4) events as part of the Service's young drivers' road safety project.

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