

# News Release

Issued on: Thursday 19 June 2019

## **HMICFRS Report on Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service Released**

In December 2018, inspectors from Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Service (HMICFRS) assessed Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service in three areas - efficiency, effectiveness and people. As part of the assessment they looked into all areas of fire and rescue service work carried out by firefighters and staff at all levels.

Today (Thursday 20 June), HMICFRS published the report with their findings. The report has graded Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service in the three areas, and the judgement in these is reported as 'Requires Improvement'.

The Service welcomes the report and recognises that, even though it is graded 'Requires Improvement' overall, the service is 'Good' in the following areas:

- Understanding the risk of fire and other emergencies
- Preventing fires and other risks
- Responding to national risks
- Making the fire and rescue service affordable now and in the future

The report also positively identified that the Service:

- Has a good understanding of safeguarding responsibilities
- Is the National lead for Virtual Reality
- Prioritises high risk premises for inspections and takes effective action against those that do not comply with fire safety regulations
- Is engaged with mental health training for staff to help recognise those with difficulties
- Supports its staff with good equipment and personal protective clothing

The Service is now in the process of reviewing the report and is looking at how they can address the findings of HMICFRS in the best way, in order to enable them to continue to give the most effective and efficient service to the people of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

Rick Taylor, Chief Fire Officer at Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service, said: "I welcome this report which highlights good practice and identifies areas for us to focus on in order for us to improve as a Service.

"We deliver a cost effective, efficient service to the people of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland, and this has been tested to good effect by a number of very serious and tragic incidents including the Hinckley Road explosion and the LCFC helicopter crash.

"We now look forward to addressing the areas requiring improvement over the coming months and I know our staff will continue to work hard to deliver the service's purpose of 'Safer people, Safer places' within Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland."

You will be able to review the report on Thursday 20 June by visiting our website, [leics-fire.gov.uk/HMICFRS](http://leics-fire.gov.uk/HMICFRS)

**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.

### **Contact:**

Corporate Communications

Direct: 0116 210 5592

[corporate.communications@lfrs.org](mailto:corporate.communications@lfrs.org)



**Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service**

**Headquarters, 12 Geoff Monk Way, Birstall, Leicester LE4 3BU**

**Tel** 0116 2872241

**Fax** 0116 2271330

**Email** [info@lfrs.org](mailto:info@lfrs.org)

**Follow** @LeicsFireRescue

