

News Release

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Passing Out Parade for New Wholetime Firefighters

Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service welcomed eight new wholetime firefighters to the Service last week, after successfully completing their training.

At a passing-out parade at Beaumanor Hall in Woodhouse, Leicestershire, on Friday 28 June, the eight new recruits formally joined the Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service family.

Chief Fire and Rescue Officer, Rick Taylor, said: "The passing-out parade marks the end of their intensive 12-week training course and the beginning of their operational career.

"During the last 12-weeks, the trainees have developed their skills and knowledge in all aspects of fire and rescue. The passing-out parade was an opportunity to celebrate their achievements with their friends and family, and to be officially welcomed to the Service.

"I wish the recruits the very best as they start their careers as firefighters with Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service."

In front of senior fire and rescue officers, friends and family, the firefighters demonstrated their newly acquired skills by carrying out a simulation of a road traffic collision involving a number of trapped people.

Following the demonstration, in a formal ceremony, Chief Fire and Rescue Officer Rick Taylor awarded the new firefighters with a certificate for the completion of their training.

In addition to the certificates, awards were given out for the most improved and outstanding firefighter:

- Firefighter Bryn Herbert received the Silver Axe Award for Outstanding Firefighter

- Firefighter Jamal Masri received the Endeavour Award for Most Improved Firefighter

Now they have completed their training, the next stage for the new recruits will be for them to be assigned to stations across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. Joining stations, they will be working alongside other firefighters, responding to emergency incidents.

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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