



CFRS Weekly Update – 01/08/25

Weekly Update – At a Glance

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- An introduction to Fire Fighters Charity

**** Please note that the above information should be shared with all staff on parade.**

Detailed information for each of these headlines can be found below.



Risk Critical / Operational

Safe reversing of appliances

The Health and Safety Executive has recently successfully prosecuted a grocery wholesaler who was found responsible for the tragic death of a worker who was crushed by a reversing HGV.

The wholesaler was fined £1 million for the death of the father of two. This serves as a reminder of the risks we face when safe reversing procedures using bankspersons are not followed.

Please find a reminder [here](#) of the precautions to take when reversing appliances.

Duncan Taylor

Health and Safety Manager

Adverse Safety Event form update

The form 400 *Adverse Safety Event Investigation Report* has been updated to reflect the new SharePoint ASE form to be completed prior to FireWatch implementation.

Section 3.5 of the report asks if “CCTV has been obtained or viewed” as part of the investigation – this is mainly to satisfy vehicle accidents, however this is not exclusive and can be used in other adverse safety event investigations where necessary.

Please can all personnel required to carry out investigations download the new template to ensure the changes are included in their future reports.

Luke Russell

Health and Safety Advisor



Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

ED&I groups in Cumbria

Over the past few months, I've had the privilege of attending a variety of community events across Cumbria, engaging with a wide range of communities, charities, and local organisations.

I've been truly humbled and inspired by the incredible work being done to make Cumbria a safer, more inclusive, and welcoming place to live, work, and visit.

From initiatives tackling racism through education and action, to projects supporting refugees, promoting mental health and suicide prevention, and strengthening interfaith relations, the dedication and compassion shown by these groups is remarkable.

At Cumbria FRS, our Core Code of Ethics reminds us to always put our communities first.

In support of this, I've compiled an updated list of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) groups across Cumbria.

I encourage everyone to take time at your stations to review this list and consider connecting with these groups as part of your community engagement and prevention work.

If you know of any other groups doing great work, please get in touch so I can add them to the directory.

 [ED&I groups in Cumbria 2025 update.docx](#)

Kelly Drury

Watch Manager, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion



Vacancies

Secondment opportunity within the National CBRN Centre

The National CBRN Centre is looking for a suitably experienced and qualified Fire and Rescue Service (FRS) Watch/Station Manager for a two-year secondment to work within the Centre's Capabilities team.

Applicants are required to have current knowledge and experience of FRS National Resilience CBRN assets and FRS core functions. They must also have a CBRN responder background, in addition to experience in multi-agency working, and stakeholder engagement.

Senior Officer approval is required when applying for this role.

The successful applicant will be required to undertake vetting to SC and MV.

The position is graded and payable at Station Manager Competent 'B' Level plus 20 per cent Flexi-Duty System allowance.

Closing date: Sunday 17 August 2025

You can find out more about this fantastic opportunity [here](#).

Tom Wright

National Resilience SPOC



Other

Ella puts Cumbria on the map at 2025 British Firefighter Challenge



Ella Stevens represented Cumbria Fire & Rescue Service last weekend at the 2025 British Firefighter Challenge in Watford.

A magnificent effort from Ella saw her come out on top with first place in her age group, while she also finished third in the open female relay – a remarkable achievement.

The challenge is an annual sporting event organised by – and for – firefighters.

You can view the full results from the weekend here:

britishfirefighterchallenge.co.uk

North West Regional Tactical Firefighting Challenge success

A combined wholetime and on-call crew represented Cumbria at the inaugural North West Regional Tactical Firefighting Challenge in Cheshire last weekend and put in an

outstanding performance up against teams from Lancashire, Greater Manchester, Merseyside, and Cheshire.

As part of the event firefighters had to resolve a high-stakes mass casualty triage simulation – and our team came out on top, winning a VR headset prize!

Young people do service proud in National Fire Cadet Games



Our fire cadets did themselves and Cumbria Fire & Rescue Service proud at the National Fire Cadet Games in Cardiff.

The cadets took part in activities around virtual reality and trauma, as well as some engaging workshops, before the main challenge saw them put their skills to the test.

The event was a chance for the young people to meet and engage with other cadets from all over the country and will no doubt be a priceless occasion they remember for a long time.

Firefighters' Pensions Schemes bulletin 95 – July 2025

Colleagues should be aware that the new Firefighters' Pensions Schemes bulletin 95 – July 2025 **FPS Bulletin** has been issued by the Firefighters Pension Scheme Advisory.

Melissa Taggart

HR and Pensions Development Assistant

An introduction to Fire Fighters Charity

We wanted to take a moment to remind you about Fire Fighters Charity and its huge range of support – available to you, at the end of the phone or at the click of a button.

While many of you will likely know about Jubilee House, the charity's centre in Penrith, their support stretches far beyond this fantastic Cumbria-based facility.

On top of Jubilee House and its other two centres – Harcombe House in Devon and Marine Court in West Sussex – Fire Fighters Charity offers a huge range of clinical care, wellbeing support, practical help and timely information and advice, online as well as face-to-face – so you never have to face physical, emotional, or social challenges alone.

Whether you're a wholetime or on-call firefighter, control officer, part of a support team, retired staff, or a loved one, Fire Fighters Charity provides the care and support you need to manage the impact of service – both during and after your time in role.

The charity understands the unique demands of the job and is there to provide tailored health and wellbeing services, for anything from injury and illness to stress, trauma, or life changes after retirement.

Whatever you're dealing with – during or after service – you don't have to face it alone. The charity is there to help, in confidence and without judgement. It's *your* charity.

In the coming weeks, we'll be sharing a look at some of the specific services available to you through the charity – and ways you can support it, both at work and at home.

Find out more at firefighterscharity.org.uk

Fire Fighters Charity

To have your news included in this section please email:

CFRS.update@cumbriafire.gov.uk

