



CFRS Weekly Update – 10/4/26

Weekly Update – At a Glance

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- ▶ Sort your new tax year in 10 minutes (Corporate Staff only)

**** 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

Long-serving Watch Manager retires after 39 years



On Wednesday 8 April Watch Manager Graham Taylor attended his last drill night at Bootle Fire Station after 39 years' dedicated service.

Graham joined Bootle crew on 1 January 1987 and has experienced all the major changes through the service, from fire kit upgrades and equipment to big changes in the fire appliances themselves.

Graham is a big part of the community at Bootle, attending hundreds of incidents.



It was great to see former Station Manager Roger Exley attend to present Graham with his presentational axe.

A big thank you from Cumbria FRS for your dedicated service and we wish Graham a long and happy retirement.

Kevin Vannet

Station Manager

Three decades of service comes to a close for on-call firefighter



Lazonby on-call firefighter Dan Metcalfe celebrating more than 30 years of unwavering commitment and passionate service for his community as he retired this week.

Joining the service as an on-call firefighter at Lazonby Fire Station on 14 February 1996, Dan has proudly served ever since and was presented with a commemorative axe, long-service medal, and certificates of achievement.

As well as being a professional and dedicated firefighter, Dan has also attended community events and school visits over the years representing the service, as well as supporting youth engagement schemes such as the Developing Resilience Programme, Youth Firefighter courses, and our Fire Cadets units.

The thanks of everyone at Cumbria Fire & Rescue Service goes to Dan and his family, who have supported him over the years with the understanding needed throughout a career on call.

Cumbria Local Resilience Forum Newsletter April 2026

Please use the link below to read the April 2026 issue of the Cumbria Local Resilience Forum newsletter

[Click here to read the latest newsletter](#)

Kasey Grainger

Station Manager – Operational Planning

Invitation to retirement of Watch Manager Stuart Graham (Fire Protection)

Watch Manager Stu Graham will be retiring on Thursday 30 April 2026 after nearly 32 years' service for Cumbria FRS, with the last 18 years in Fire Protection.

A small presentation will take place at Carlisle East Fire Station on Friday 24 April at 2pm for family and friends, please feel free to attend.

Stu would like to invite you to attend Lloyds Wetherspoons, Botchergate, Carlisle on Saturday 9 May for drinks and a good craic from 1.30pm onwards. Please feel free to share this with former colleagues from the service.

Deadline approaching for industrial action responses (Operational Staff only)

Quick reminder to complete the survey before Friday 17 April.

Link: **<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZZPYGK6>** or please scan the QR code:



Please take a few minutes to submit your response – your input matters.

Thanks to those who have completed so far.

Jemma Taylor and Helen Clark

HR Managers



Other

Action needed before HQ kitchen deep clean

Please be aware that the Main Kitchen at Penrith HQ will be deep cleaned on **Monday 13 April**. Please make sure that you remove any items you have in the fridges **before** Monday morning.

If the fridges still have items in they will not be cleaned so anything left in the fridges on Monday morning will be removed and destroyed.

Thank you for your understanding and support with this matter.

Jane Walker

Business Support Team Leader

Updating personal details in iTrent

Please can you make sure that all your personal details are up to date in iTrent. The system we use for Occupational Health pulls information from iTrent.

If you change any of your personal details in FireWatch, they will also need changed on iTrent.

Melissa Taggart

Occupational Health and Wellbeing Coordinator

Internal mail reminder

Please be aware that the internal courier delivers items across Cumbria to fire stations, council buildings and police stations.

Could you please ensure when sending out letters/parcels or anything else via internal post that it is clearly indicated that it is meant to go to a **Fire Station**.

Jane Walker

Business Support Team Leader

Sort your new tax year in 10 minutes (Corporate Staff only)



New tax year, fresh start. Set up a Shared Cost AVC in 10 minutes: [Set up a Shared Cost AVC today](#)

Attend a free financial coaching call in 20 minutes or join a [free webinar](#) in 45.

Jemma Taylor and **Helen Clark**

HR Managers

To have your news included in this section please email:

CFRS.update@cumbriafire.gov.uk

