



CFRS Weekly Update – 5/6/26

Weekly Update – At a Glance

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**** 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

A66 Northern Trans-Pennine Project Advanced Works lane and road closures

As the A66 Northern Trans-Pennine (NTP) Project moves towards main construction, installation of CCTV cameras between M6 junction 40 and Temple Sowerby will require five overnight full closures of the A66 on both the eastbound and westbound carriageways between Kemplay Bank roundabout and Temple Sowerby. During the closures a strategic diversion will be in place along the A69. This will also require an overnight full closure of the eastbound carriageway of the A66 between M6 Junction 40 and Kemplay Roundabout.

Hardening of the central reservation between M6 junction 40 and Kemplay Bank roundabout will mean there will be just one lane running on the A66 on both the eastbound and westbound carriageways between M6 Junction 40 and Kemplay roundabout, including both roundabouts and approaches over three consecutive weekends in June.

Dates for all work:

- ▶ **Friday 12 June to Monday 15 June, Friday 7pm to Monday 6am** – A66 one lane running in each direction including both roundabouts and approaches. M6 J40 and Kemplay Bank roundabout.
- ▶ **Monday 15 June to Friday 19 June (five nights), 12 midnight to 6am** – A66 full closures Both carriageways Kemplay Bank Roundabout to Temple Sowerby.
- ▶ **Friday 19 June to Monday 22 June, Friday 7pm to Monday 6am** – A66 one lane running in each direction including both roundabouts and approaches. M6 J40 and Kemplay Bank roundabout.
- ▶ **Sunday 21 June, 12 midnight to 6am** – A66 full closure Eastbound only M6 junction 40 to Kemplay Bank.
- ▶ **Friday 26 June to Monday 29 June, Friday 7pm to Monday 6am** – A66 one lane running in each direction including both roundabouts and approaches. M6 J40 and Kemplay Bank roundabout.

Emergency access will be retained throughout the full closures.

Dean Readman

Station Manager – LCU 5, Penrith and Prevention (Road Safety, Home Fire Safety)

Mobile Data Terminals (MDT)

Please can you ensure that you are logging onto the MDT when you are the OIC – this is important for various reasons including:

- ▶ The rank of the OIC can affect the actions NWFC take for that incident type
- ▶ To ensure our records are accurate and the correct OIC is attached to the IRS Report
- ▶ To remove the previous OIC from that appliance ensuring they can log onto another appliance

If you are having issues sending the crewing status, please contact Ops Planning with the details and we will resolve: OpsPlanning@cumbriafire.gov.uk

If you have more than one contract, for example wholetime and on-call, you will need to have two separate IDs set up with North West Fire Control if not already done so.

Kasey Grainger

Station Manager – Operational Planning

Site Specific Risk Information (SSRI)

When you are reviewing or submitting new SSRI information please can you ensure that the hazards are included/marked on the plans that you submit.

If you require any support or guidance with this, please get in touch:

OpsPlanning@cumbriafire.gov.uk

Kasey Grainger

Station Manager – Operational Planning

North West Regional Tactical Firefighting Challenge



We are excited to invite you to participate in the upcoming second NW Regional Tactical Firefighting Challenge! This event is designed to bring together the best firefighting teams from across the region to showcase their skills, share knowledge, and foster camaraderie.

Date: Friday 10 July 2026

Time: ALL DAY including evening event

Location: Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service Training Centre

Registration deadline: Friday 26 June 2026

Teams will compete in realistic firefighting scenarios to test their tactical skills and teamwork as a crew of five. We are looking for the following:

- ▶ Incident Commander (must hold ICL 1 qualification OR working towards)
- ▶ Driver/pump operator
- ▶ BA Entry Control Operative
- ▶ 2x BA wearers

Learn from industry experts about the latest techniques and technologies in firefighting, connect with fellow firefighters and industry professionals, and attend a regional evening event held at Aintree Racecourse. Expenses paid, food and refreshments provided to all attending including three-course evening meal and accommodation for the Saturday night.

We will be holding a training session for the chosen team to represent us and showcase our service on this regional stage. In addition to the five-person competing team, CFRS has further spaces available for personnel wishing to attend the event. Interest will be on a first-come, first-serve basis for this fantastic opportunity.

To register your interest or if you would like further information please contact Station Manager Tom Harding (tom.harding@cumbriafire.gov.uk) or Crew Manager Tom Jermy (thomas.jermy@cumbriafire.gov.uk)

Tom Harding

Station Manager – Learning & Development

Reminder of staff guidance following change of UK Threat Level

The UK's national terrorism threat level changed from SUBSTANTIAL to SEVERE as a precautionary measure last month. This change is not based on a specific threat and the advice to the public is to be alert but not be alarmed by this change.

Please be assured that there is no specific intelligence regarding a threat to our service or the wider county, but we are taking proactive steps to ensure the safety of all employees, contractors and the workplace. All staff are reminded to be vigilant and adhere to the following guidelines:

- ▶ Keep ID badges on and visible in the workplace
- ▶ Make sure access doors are closed and do not share key codes or your electronic fob
- ▶ Politely challenge unknown individuals, and be wary of 'tailgating' – don't allow people to follow you through doors unless they are wearing ID and you are confident they are CFRS staff
- ▶ Keep sites secure by locking doors, windows, stores, lockers, cabinets, and ensuring equipment and personal items are put away and out of sight when you leave
- ▶ Report building defects with doors or windows to our Estates team as soon as possible
- ▶ Report any suspicious activity to your line manager

Cumbria Fire & Rescue Service is liaising with partners to ensure shared situational awareness and joint understanding of risk is developed and maintained.

Operational crews should remain aware when responding to incidents potentially involving hate-related attacks. The advice is to maintain situational awareness at all times.

Thank you for your understanding and your commitment to keeping yourself, your colleagues and the wider public safe.

Mark Nicholson

Area Manager – Preparedness



Vacancies

Secondment Opportunity at HMICFRS – Service Liaison Lead

The following role is currently advertised on Civil Service Jobs and is open to eligible fire and rescue service operational and support staff, subject to service approval.

Job title: Service Liaison Lead

Eligible ranks / grades: Substantive Group Manager or Substantive fire staff equivalent on level transfer. Substantive Station Manager or substantive fire staff equivalent on temporary promotion to their next grade.

Closing date: Monday 8 June 2026

Civil Service Jobs link: [Service Liaison Lead - Secondment - Civil Service Jobs - GOV.UK](#)

Important information

All applicants must have the full support of their service to be eligible to apply and progress through the selection process.

If you have any questions, please contact recruitment@hmicfrs.gov.uk.

Gemma Robinson

HMICFRS Recruitment Advisor



Other

Update on tax codes following PAYE changes

Following the introduction of our new Pay As You Earn (PAYE) reference from 1 April 2026, Cumberland Council payroll team (CFRS' payroll provider) have been made aware of an issue that may affect your tax code.

Due to the timing of the transition, His Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) initially recorded some employees as having two jobs, as the previous PAYE scheme was closed shortly after 31 March to allow all roles to transfer correctly.

Although payroll has now submitted all required final payroll reports, this earlier timing issue has resulted in some incorrect tax code notifications being issued.

You may therefore have received a tax code notice for the 2026/27 tax year that does not reflect your correct position. In many cases, we have not applied these changes to payroll, as they could result in significant overpayments of tax.

The payroll team are working directly with HMRC to resolve this issue in bulk and have requested that all tax code notifications are reissued electronically with the correct details. Once received, we will update records accordingly.

What you need to do:

- ▶ In most cases, no immediate action is required
- ▶ If you believe your tax code is incorrect or you have been impacted, please contact HMRC directly to request a review
- ▶ If an incorrect tax code has been applied to your pay, this will be corrected once HMRC updates are received

Please note that HMRC will only discuss individual tax records directly with you and cannot share this information with payroll or CFRS. You can contact them on 0300 200 3300. You can also create a Personal Tax Account on gov.uk where you can check all your tax details. The link is: [**Personal tax account: sign in or set up - GOV.UK**](#)

We have been made aware that HMRC are informing employees that they require a P45 from CFRS to resolve the issue, this is not our current understanding, but we are exploring this issue with payroll. Further communication about this will be issued in due course.

We apologise that this issue is not yet fully resolved, but payroll are making good progress with HMRC and will continue to provide updates as needed.

Takara Hanks

Senior HR Advisor

Funeral of firefighter Martin Bland

It is with sadness that we announce the death of FF Martin Bland, who passed away peacefully on Sunday 24 May at Furness General Hospital. He was the loving and cherished husband of Carol, a very proud dad of Wayne and Martin and an amazing and loved grandad of Christopher, Violet, Ivy and Bobby.

'Blandy' as he was known joined Barrow Fire Station on 10 August 1978 and retired 1 November 2011. He was a massive character at the station and there was never a dull moment when he was around. He also served Walney as a retained firefighter during his service.

There will be a service held on Monday 8 June at Trevelyan Chapel, Barrow at 12.30pm. The family have requested family flowers only and, if so desired, donations to the Fire Fighters Charity.

Gareth Brownson

Watch Manager – Blue Watch, Barrow Fire Station

Update on P60s following PAYE changes

Following the introduction of our new Pay As You Earn (PAYE) references for CFRS from 1 April 2026, the service centre has been unable to produce employees P60s in MYHR/iTrent as they usually would.

Paper-based P60s have therefore been produced and sent to each employee's home address by post. You may have already received this, but we want to advise you that you do not need to worry. It was only sent in this format due to the change in the PAYE reference. Normal service regarding P60s will resume next year

Jemma Taylor and Helen Clark

HR Managers

How to contact our in-house Occupational Health team

Need to contact the Occupational Health team? To help us to manage queries efficiently, please contact Occupational Health via the main landline – 01768 812600 – or use the team email – occhealth@cumbriafire.gov.uk – rather than individual work mobiles.

Occupational Health team

To have your news included in this section please email:

CFRS.update@cumbriafire.gov.uk

Our Code of Ethics



Putting our
communities
first



Dignity and
respect



Equality,
diversity and
inclusion



Integrity



Leadership

