



LONDON FIRE BRIGADE

Decision title

Youth Engagement and Intervention Annual Report, 2018–19

Recommendation by

Assistant Commissioner, Fire Safety

Decision Number

LFC-0231x-D

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Publication status: Published in full

Summary

LFC-0231x provides an overview of all of the Brigade’s children and youth engagement and intervention schemes in 2018/19 with all the key outcomes, outputs, successes, issues and lessons learnt.

Decision

The London Fire Commissioner approves the Youth Engagement and Intervention Annual report 2018/19 and agrees for it to be published and communicated to appropriate audiences.

Tom George

Deputy London Fire Commissioner

Date 2/10/2019.

Access to Information – Contact Officer

| | |
|------------------|-------------------------------|
| Name | Steven Adams |
| Telephone | 020 8555 1200 |
| Email | governance@london-fire.gov.uk |



LONDON FIRE BRIGADE

Report title

Youth Engagement and Intervention Annual Report, 2018-19

Report to

Operations DB
Commissioners Board
Fire and Resilience Board
London Fire Commissioner

Date

18 July 2019
28 August 2019
24 September 2019

Report by

Head of Community Safety

Report number

LFC-0231x

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Summary

This report provides an overview of all of the Brigade's children and youth engagement and intervention schemes in 2018/19 with all the key outcomes, outputs, successes, issues and lessons learnt.

Recommended Decision(s)

That the London Fire Commissioner approves the Youth Engagement and Intervention Annual report 2018/19 and agrees for it to be published and communicated to appropriate audiences.

Background

1. The Brigade has a long standing history of delivering a number of children and youth engagement, intervention and education schemes in order to reduce fire risk, raise awareness of fire danger, safety, prevention, detection and escape from fire in the home. These schemes are aimed mainly at primary and secondary age children and young people but some also cover ages 0-5 including visits to nurseries and children's centres. All of the youth programmes delivered by the Brigade are attended by a wide range of participants and also provide the opportunity to increase awareness of the Brigade to diverse communities.
2. Youth engagement and intervention is an integral part of the delivery of London Safety Plan 2017 including a target to reach 100,000 children and young people annually to deliver fire prevention and safety messages. The Brigade's children and youth programmes includes a central core offer of the Education Team, Fire Cadets, Crossfire, Local Intervention Fire Education (LIFE) and Juvenile Firesetters Intervention Scheme (JFIS). From August 2017, this also included a new Outreach Team focusing on the recruitment of firefighters which has involved a significant amount of work with young people on career pathways. There are also a range of wider youth engagement schemes delivered at borough level including visits to low and medium risk primary schools and nurseries, Junior Citizens, Prison-Me-No-Way and The Prince's Trust. Members were previously updated on the individual progress of all the Brigade's youth engagement/intervention programmes at Strategy Committee on 12th November 2013 (FEP2173).
3. All youth engagement and intervention initiatives that individual boroughs are involved in are outlined in Appendix A. It is estimated that including all the above initiatives and local borough and station based initiatives that the Brigade work with around 200,000 children and young people annually.

Youth intervention updates

Local Intervention Fire Education (LIFE)

4. LIFE is an intensive four-day course facilitated by Fire and Rescue staff and firefighters at fire stations for young people between the ages of 14 and 17. The course is based on the role of the firefighter and participants take part in a range of activities which include using ladders, wearing breathing apparatus, carrying out casualty rescue techniques and first aid. The programme offers the opportunity to develop a range of skills which include leadership, social skills, communication and team work. In addition to this participants are educated about fire safety prevention, consequences, healthy living, and road safety. The aim of the course is to develop skills and experience to deter young people from anti-social behaviour, as well as learn skills to enable them to succeed and live safe and healthy lives.
5. The LIFE scheme was established in the Brigade in June 2002 to address a specific problem in Tower Hamlets. Fire crews at Shadwell Fire Station were suffering attacks and abuse from young people when attending incidents (including deliberate fire setting) in local housing estates. Positively engaging with the young people to prevent future attacks proved to be an effective strategy, and as a result this has become a mainstream youth intervention scheme specifically focussed on preventing and reducing anti-social behaviour. In 2012, LIFE celebrated 10 years of delivery and it is now estimated that over 10,000 young people have completed the course since it's inception. In 2018/19 LIFE delivered 63 courses in the financial year engaging with 824 young people. This includes 4 Feltham Youth Offending Institute courses, 3 ONE LIFE multi agency courses with the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) and London Ambulance Service (LAS). The LIFE team piloted 8 Early Intervention Courses for 11-13 year olds and supported 3 Outreach Employability Days for young people.
6. Bespoke courses were also delivered to specific needs. This included working with young people who had been affected by the Grenfell Tower disaster in Chelsea and Kensington. Three sessions were delivered with local youth organisations and support from clinical psychologists to monitor the well being and provide mental health support for the young people impacted by the tragedy.

7. Work with other emergency blue light partners has been delivered through a programme titled One Life. These are one day programmes in areas where the Police and Fire service have identified as hotspots for anti-social behaviour, deliberate fire setting or attacks against the emergency services. The Police specifically recruit those identified as involved in this behaviour to attend this interactive day and receive education about the dangers and consequences of knife crime, fire setting and first aid training by the LAS. This programme has been so effective it reduced levels of anti-social behaviour to zero during the holiday when delivered. The boroughs of Hillingdon, Hounslow and Hammersmith have seen positive results.
8. Promoting bespoke courses have proved very successful in attaining funding from partners by tailoring the course content to address current issues such as gang violence, abuse to young women, grooming, victims of crime, and healthy well being. Partners such as the Police and local authorities have funds to address current issues that are high on the political and social agenda. This approach is essential to ensuring the longevity of LIFE and delivering a value for money service that meets local needs and priorities. The team have generated over £50k of funding from various sources including MOPAC from Bromley, Dagenham, Bexley and Kensington & Chelsea, Housing Associations including (Clarion Housing, Family Mosaic, Charlton Triangle Housing), Newham Community Safety Partnership and the Jack Petchey Foundation.

Juvenile Firesetters Intervention Scheme (JFIS)

9. The Juvenile Firesetters Intervention Scheme (JFIS) was launched in 2001 and has since received over 4,000 referrals to the service. JFIS works in all 33 London boroughs with children up to the age of 18 years (25 years where there are learning disabilities) who have demonstrated any type of fireplay or firesetting behaviour; from curiosity fireplay in younger children to deliberate firesetting and arson in older children.
10. The education-based programme works with the child and their family to address the firesetting behaviour through identifying its cause, looking at the consequences of such actions and providing one to one, tailored fire safety education and advice. Research has evidenced that without intervention, as many as one in two firesetters will go on to repeat the behaviour.
11. Referrals are accepted from families and professionals including Brigade staff, social care departments, the police, youth offending teams, child and adolescent mental health teams and schools.
12. The majority of JFIS referrals involve liaison with at least one other agency and in many cases multiple agencies. Since the inception of the scheme in 2001 the complexity of referrals made to the scheme has increased, meaning mental health and social care services involvement are frequent factors in JFIS case work. The changing nature of the referrals reflects the wider agenda of a children's workforce where all agencies have an increased duty to safeguard and act in cases of child protection. JFIS helps support the child in a specialised area where their own (and their family's) safety can be at risk. Its key priorities are to prevent and reduce firesetting, reduce anti social behaviour and offending.
13. Alongside the central caseworkers the scheme recruits volunteers from all parts of the Brigade allowing for the current pool of advisors to reflect the diversity of the Brigade and London and contribute their life experiences to the programme. Volunteers are also afforded the opportunity to widen their skills and knowledge in new areas of work that brings uniformed and FRS staff together across the various grades and ranks. The direct work with families is offered at a variety of venues to best meet the child's individual needs e.g. at home, school or Brigade HQ.
14. In January 2018 a pilot project was launched which sees JFIS delivering one to one fire safety sessions in Feltham Young Offenders Institute (YOF). The aim is to work with young people and impart fire safety education to reduce conviction of arson and deliberate firesetting. Tailored sessions are delivered focusing on key areas of fire safety, the dangers of fire and consequences of actions. Intervention is currently being delivered with feedback being gathered from the partner agencies and young people to evaluate the scheme and measure impact. Outcomes from the pilot will hopefully show:

- Contribution to preventing and reducing fire related crime amongst young offenders
 - Educating young people about responsible decision making and learn how the consequences of their behaviour impacts their families, the wider community and their futures
 - A personal achievement of participating for the young person
 - Better partnership work between LFB and Feltham YOI
 - A widening of skill set and experience for the caseworkers
15. JFIS has been working with BCs offering advisory support to tackle arson and deliberate fires at borough level. The team have created a number of resources including a leaflet 'Putting a Stop to Arson' and a Handbook to assist with developing a local arson strategy. JFIS have met with the BCs of the top five boroughs in London for deliberate fires to look at data and how best to address the issues and promote partnership working with relevant agencies in their area.
 16. In 2018/19, JFIS delivered intervention to 186 children/young people and completed a total of 684 visits this is on par with the previous year's 702 visits when taking into consideration the additional work spent on arson support for BCs by the team. The number of visits includes attending professional's meetings helping to support some of the most vulnerable children in London e.g. children subject to Child Protection Plans, under the care of the local authority and in secure units. Each child is seen for a minimum of three sessions with an average of 5 sessions taking place per child. Effective case management has reduced the number of open cases where we are still working with the young person to 76 as at the end of March 2019, the previous year was 180 open cases. Timely intervention helps significantly reduce the risk of a child already identified as being in need of JFIS intervention setting a further, potentially fatal fire whilst on the waiting list. As part of the JFIS intervention data shows that **50 Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSVs)** were generated through direct engagement with the scheme, 42% of the total number of cases referred to the scheme. This figure does not take into consideration HFSV's completed by crews prior to referral and those families or dwellings e.g. care homes who already have hard wired smoke detection.
 17. The number of referrals to the scheme was 119 in 2018/19. This was a decrease on the previous year by 28% (167 referrals in 2017/18 which had been a 27% increase on 2016/17). At the end of 2017/18, with all caseworkers working at capacity, there were 44 cases on the waiting list with 50% of cases waiting over the target 4 months to be allocated. Due to fewer referrals during 2018/19 we were able to reduce the waiting. At the end of Mar 2019 we had reduced the waiting list to 21 cases with no cases waiting over 3 months to be seen by a caseworker. This is also while establishing the pilot Feltham Project, supporting the BCs with additional resources on arson reduction and working as part of the National Fire Chiefs Council 'Train the Trainer' working group.
 18. Internal referrals accounted for 29% of the total (13% decrease on previous year). A total of 84 referrals were received from external agencies such as police, schools, Youth Offending Teams or a concerned parent/carer. Following intervention with JFIS 13 young people were sign posted on to LIFE courses in 2018/19.
 19. Quarterly figures are sent out to the BCs showing the number of referrals and open cases in each borough. In 2018/19 the number of referrals per borough varied widely. Hounslow had the highest number of referrals to the scheme with 12 referrals, however this figure includes referrals for the pilot project in Feltham YOI. Greenwich was second highest with 9 referrals. There was a large decline in referrals from Bromley and Croydon boroughs during 2018/19 mainly due to the decrease in referrals made internally by crews. Camden, City of London and Richmond Upon Thames had no referrals in 2018/19. Going forward station talks will take place targeting boroughs with low referral numbers to raise the profile of the service and hopefully increase these figures. Business Intelligence are also working with JFIS to produce Power BI visual reports for BCs to highlight JFIS referrals against child set fires recorded on LFBs Information management System (IMS).
 20. Evaluation methods have been reviewed to provide a more systematic approach to assess the effectiveness of the service. Parents and carers who had engaged with JFIS during 2018/19 were asked to rate the service from 1-5 (1 being low and 5 being high). Out of 38 responses 90% rated the overall

impression of the service highly. Approximately 85% of those asked strongly agreed that the scheme had been successful in educating the young person about fire safety and the dangers of firesetting with the same number strongly agreeing that the JFIS intervention had reduced the likelihood of any further firesetting occurring. Further evaluation calls were conducted at six month and two year periods following intervention and 91% said JFIS had had a positive impact on the child or young person.

21. In 2018/19, there has been a number of initiatives that JFIS has delivered to raise awareness of the scheme and subsequently increase referrals across London including:
 - Research into delivering fire safety education to adult firesetters through the University of Kent Adult Firesetters Programme in partnership with probation and social care services across London.
 - JFIS has taken part in a NFCC working group to develop and train others in a Basic Skills Firesetter Course which launched in November 2018.
22. External funding was secured in December 2018 to deliver adult firesetting awareness and best practice approaches to BCs. An Arson Forum for all BCs was held in April 2019 to share best practice on arson reduction strategies and promote the services available from JFIS and the Education Team.
23. Distribution was made to Fire and Rescue Services across the UK of the printed resource 'Nia's Story', which addresses firesetting and anti social behaviour, received very positive feedback and represents a positive piece of restorative justice work between the LFB and a young person who was convicted of arson and manslaughter.

Outreach recruitment

24. The role of the Outreach Team is to raise awareness of the Fire Fighter role amongst under-represented communities and sections of society which have never considered joining the fire service to increase both diversity and talent into the workforce. The team have attended 181 youth events. 141 were career fairs, and 40 employability workshops.
25. There is a longer term strategy planned to engage with young people aged 14-17 to encourage them to consider a career in the fire service from an early age and challenge stereotypes, through inviting them to 'Fire Brigade Taster days', where they can visit their local stations for organised talks about careers in Brigade and participate in some drills. These are targeted in areas with high Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) communities to encourage them to engage with the Brigade as a uniformed organisation, through a positive experience. Meeting role models from the fire service at their local fire station will be a powerful way to send this message.
26. The team also attended a number of career events such as at the Excel Centre in Newham where nearly 30,000 young people attended. Many were from BAME communities around Newham and this was their first experience speaking to the fire service about careers.
27. The Outreach team visit secondary schools to deliver employability workshops to encourage young people to consider the brigade and educate them about the role. The session is 60 minutes and is presented to classes of usually 20-30 young people at a variety of educational institutions. The interactive employability session encourages young people to think about how they sell themselves and includes exercises which challenge pre existing ideas particularly around gender stereotypes. One of these were organised at City Hall in conjunction with their Education and Youth Team for local youth services. Cadet and LIFE information is widely distributed at the workshops and events.
28. In the current recruitment round May 2019, 13 cadet volunteers and 5 cadets have successfully applied to be a firefighter and were provided with Outreach support. There have also been three BAME appointments into FRS roles in Community Safety and one female firefighter completing her training who was recruited at the Excel event.

Youth engagement update

Education Team

29. The Brigade has run an educational programme in schools since 2001 with over 1.7 million school children and young people learning about fire safety in the home to date. The programme focuses on visiting very high and high risk priority schools by the central Education Team, and annually offers visits to three year groups: year 2 (children aged 6-7), year 5 (children aged 9-10) and year 8 (age 12-13). In a 60 to 75 minute classroom based session, Brigade education officers use a range of media to educate pupils about the dangers of fire in the home. They focus on the principle messages of prevention, detection and escape from fire. In 2018/19, 3,388 fire safety workshops were delivered to 101,640 primary school aged children in 847 schools. This was an increase compared to 2017/18 when 811 schools were visited.
30. In terms of how schools are chosen for visits, data from the Incident Risk Analysis Toolkit (iRAT) identifies those areas in London where accidental fires in the home are most likely to occur on a ward by ward basis. This information is overlaid with the location of every primary school within Greater London. Schools are then risk ranked to reflect the likelihood of children attending them experiencing a fire at home and each school is placed into one of four risk categories (VH, H, M and L). Schools are then prioritised accordingly, and visits are targeted to those primary schools risk ranked as VH and H.
31. During the financial year 2018/2019 the Education Team have also seen the following:
 - 56 secondary schools with 5,320 pupils seen. Six Special Educational Needs (SEN) schools were visited, with 138 pupils seen. SEN schools are seen on a request basis, and these have less students within each class so the groups that are visited are smaller,
 - Presentation deliveries to non-core remit groups, such as nurseries and other year groups outside of years 2, 5 and 8 are also provided. The Education Team attended 156 schools, which resulted in a further 7020 children receiving fire safety input.
32. In addition to the central Education Team, fire station personnel have now been provided with comprehensive education resource packs to assist with visiting the low and medium risk priority schools across London. The introduction of these resources to fire stations ensures that firefighters are able to provide consistent fire safety messages to those delivered by the Education Team. In 2018/19, visits to low and medium schools by firefighters and visits to fire stations by children and young people to receive fire safety input also accounted for a further estimated 100,000 of children and young engaged with. This breaks down as follows:
 - Number of visits to low and medium schools by Firefighters – 1,760 seeing 76,725 pupils
 - Number of visits to fire stations by schools – 1,830 seeing 26,058 pupils

Fire Cadets (FC)

33. The FC programme has been running since 2009, following the Young Firefighters scheme which was originally piloted in Bexley and Hackney in 2008. FC is now a nationally recognised and delivered long term youth engagement programme. In its original form it was a 12 month intervention programme that took place during term time for 14-18 year olds. In LFB, FC has progressed considerably over the last five years since it was agreed to move over to a volunteer trainer model in January 2013.
34. Currently young people who attend FC follow a modular national programme where they can achieve an Edexcel Level 2 BTEC Award in Fire and Rescue Services in the Community. FC now has an established progression route for young people which means they can stay on after their initial year and apply for promotion to work up the ranks of Officer Cadets and develop their skills and responsibilities at each stage to achieve greater responsibility as well as another BTEC Level 2 qualification in Teamwork and Personal Development. All the young people who join Fire Cadets can stay on until they are 18 years old if they are successful in each promotion process, when they can then become adult Volunteer Cadet Instructors.
35. Cadets attend a fire station one evening a week for three hours to take part in Brigade led activities with a personal developmental and educational outcome and they experience working alongside operational firefighters, FRS staff and community volunteers. All adults involved in the programme as instructors are

volunteers and attend the cadet units in their own time to support young people. FC includes a wide range of practical, physical, community and classroom based elements where young people get the opportunity to experience new challenges, learn new life skills and widen their knowledge about the Fire Brigade, other emergency services and the community they serve.

36. FC benefits young people who are looking for a new activity/interest or friends, are interested in a career in the Fire Brigade, have been excluded socially or educationally, are lacking in confidence or self esteem, are at risk of anti-social behaviour and/or those with little or no direction in life. Becoming a fire cadet gives young people the opportunity to:
- enhance key citizenship skills and build confidence,
 - develop transferable, practical skills for future training or employment,
 - gain a nationally recognised BTEC qualification,
 - progress through an established graduate cadet programme until adulthood,
 - get involved in positive social action activities,
 - represent Fire Cadets across London and nationally,
 - play supportive roles in their local community and develop positive peer relationships,
 - work in partnership with other uniformed cadet groups,
 - represent London Fire Brigade at prestigious events,
 - raise knowledge of community fire safety and empower them to educate family and friends in community fire safety.
37. FC also offers adults from the local community the opportunity to become involved in volunteering for the London Fire Brigade as Volunteer Cadet Instructors (VCIs) Many young people that start as fire cadets also progress on to become VCIs once they turn 18 years old. Other successes have been that fire cadets and VCIs have gone on to secure employment within the London Fire Brigade such as Apprentices, Firefighters, Control staff, Education Officers and Fire Safety inspecting officers.
38. In August 2018, 13 Fire Cadet units were successfully completed in Newham, Hackney, Tower Hamlets, Haringey, Havering, Bexley, Brent, Croydon, Bromley, Southwark, Merton, Lewisham and Westminster with 161 participants completing BTEC level 2 qualification (running from September 2017 – July 2018). All units are currently supported by approximately 100 community and operational VCIs. We also completed the 1st year of the pilot Junior Fire Cadets Unit.
39. Over the academic year 2018-19, 19 Fire Cadet units were run in the London Boroughs of:
1. Newham
 2. Hackney
 3. Tower Hamlets
 4. Haringey
 5. Westminster
 6. Bexley
 7. Brent
 8. Bromley
 9. Croydon
 10. Lewisham
 11. Havering
 12. Merton
 13. Barking and Dagenham
 14. Barking & Dagenham Junior Cadets
 15. Bromley Junior Cadets
 16. Marine Fire Cadets – Lambeth
 17. Southwark
 18. Islington
 19. Kensington & Chelsea

Over the academic year, 2018/19, 20 Cadet units are currently running in:

1. Barking & Dagenham juniors at Dagenham Fire Station (FS)
2. Bexley at Erith FS
3. Brent at Wembley FS
4. Bromley at Orpington FS
5. Croydon at Croydon FS
6. Hackney at Shoreditch FS
7. Haringey at Tottenham FS
8. Havering at Harold Hill FS
9. Islington at Holloway FS
10. Lewisham at New Cross FS
11. Merton at Mitcham FS
12. Southwark at Old Kent Road FS
13. Tower Hamlets at Shadwell FS
14. Westminster at Paddington FS
15. Marine at Lambeth River Station

The following units opened in February and March 2019:

16. Barking and Dagenham standard unit at Dagenham FS
17. Bromley Juniors at Orpington FS
18. Kensington and Chelsea – FS TBC
19. Lambeth at Clapham FS
20. Newham at Plaistow FS

40. In March 2019, LFB secured £1.1million funding from the Mayor and GLA to open up a Fire Cadet unit in all remaining 15 London Boroughs so that from April 2020 all London Boroughs will have a Fire cadet unit. Work is currently underway to set up these new units, recruit staff, volunteers, young people and carry out any physical works required to fire stations .

41. In addition to being part of a Fire Cadet unit, young people can build on their confidence and leadership further by becoming part of the Fire Cadet Ceremonial Team, or applying to be a 'Fire Cadet Ambassador'. The Ceremonial Team contains 20 cadets and adult volunteers and acts as the showcase for the programme attending formal events such as remembrance day services or the annual carol service. There are currently 9 Fire Cadet Ambassadors from the Officer Cadet rank structure. Both the Ceremonial Team and Fire Cadet Ambassadors roles open up more opportunities to represent the Brigade at prestigious corporate and public events with Senior Officers and VIPs.

The types of events (many charity fundraising) that many of our Fire Cadets have attended are varied and multiple including:

- Firefighters Memorial Trust events
- LFB Carol Service
- London Marathon Water Station
- Moreton-On-The-Marsh Firefighter training school
- Remembrance Services across many London boroughs
- Worshipful Company of Firefighter Charity Dinner
- International Women's Day Reception at City Hall
- Open days, car washes, local community events
- Role-playing at large-scale multi-agency training events
- Armed Forces Day Parades
- National Youth Voice Events
- Charity climbs of Iconic Buildings across London

Crossfire

42. Crossfire uses education and intervention as a dual approach to reduce anti social behaviour, deliberate fires and hoax calling. All of its projects are run in conjunction with numerous other agencies which are recruited and co-ordinated by the Crossfire team. Crossfire deliver a range of educational programmes in primary schools, secondary schools, pupil referral units, colleges, youth clubs and other community groups. This multiagency approach enables Crossfire to tailor the content of its programmes to meet the specific needs of the schools or local communities. - Crossfire provides three main educational programmes which are coordinated and delivered at a local level. Junior Impact Factor days are delivered to Years 1, 4, and 6, with a variety of partner agencies such as the MPS, NSPCC, Dogs Trust and LAS. Within primary schools a variety of fire safety messages are delivered to three year groups. As the children progress through the school these workshops build on the messages from previous years to provide continuity in the child's learning.
43. Impact Factor is a programme for young people aged between 12 and 14 (Year 8 and 9) to support citizenship and personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) programmes within secondary schools. This one day programme explores decision making, choices, and consequences through real life re-enactments of critical incidents. Partners include the MPS, Rape Crisis, Generation F, Safer London Foundation, LAS and charities like The Blue Cross.
44. The All Ages Family Safety Challenge (AAFSC) is a project designed to improve the safety of Croydon's households. It covers a variety of topics including fire, water, road and internet safety as well as first aid. These inputs are delivered to community members of all ages. The aim of the AAFSC is to illustrate that the awareness of safety in households is not always just the responsibility of the adults and that the whole family can work together to improve their awareness of safety issues.
45. Across the breadth of its educational engagement schemes, Crossfire delivers workshops to over 20,000 children and 1,000 adults each year. The majority of these sessions are accompanied by other agencies co-ordinated by the Crossfire Team. This unique selling point enables Crossfire to secure funding streams every year from a multitude of sources. This project is now running in Croydon, Bromley, Lewisham, Southwark, Tower Hamlets, , Kensington and Chelsea, Newham and Haringey.

Local Borough Initiatives

46. Every BC works with partners in their borough to develop, implement, and increase the Brigade's children and youth engagement schemes at a local level. BCs also work to support partner children and youth engagement interventions and schemes and these cover a wide variety of themes including health, anti-social behaviour, crime and gang prevention, employment and training. For the more established Brigade children and youth engagement schemes, BCs continue to work hard with partners to promote their merits and benefits. Staff from Area Community Safety Teams have supported a range of initiatives with partners such as at Transport for London's Museum as part of Be Safe week, an event open to the public attended by multiple agencies.
47. Safe Drive, Stay Alive (SDSA) is seen as an excellent youth intervention in the sixteen boroughs it is delivered in. SDSA is a road safety theatre production education initiative. The main method for safety message delivery is through five speakers who share stories of personal experiences with road traffic collisions. It is aimed at young people (aged 17 to 25 inclusive) pre-learner, learner, newly qualified drivers and their passengers. SDSA seeks to influence young people's attitudes and behaviours toward five risk-relevant driving practices (distractions such as mobile phones, seat belt use, drink and drug driving, speeding, and peer-pressure to engage in risky driving). In the borough of Barnet, the BC has used the initiative to try and raise awareness of driving safely as the borough has had a higher number of young people involved in car accidents due to the affluence of the area and the access to major road networks. SDSA is delivered to in excess of 20,000 young adults per year.
48. In Bromley, the BC has worked in partnership with the local authority's Road Safety Team to help deliver their week long 'Driven by Consequences' (DBC) road safety initiative. This initiative targets young people who have recently passed their driving test or who are learning to promote safe driving practices. Students from all over the borough are invited to attend during the week.

49. The Road Safety Team is often invited to attend schools and specific groups to deliver targeted road safety advice. This can be in the form of classroom delivery or practical demonstrations. Where possible we carry out this work and see many different groups, with thousands of children seeing and listening to the advice we give.
50. With recent improvements in virtual reality (VR) equipment, the Road Safety team have been able to deliver classroom VR experiences to young adults across the capital further explaining the consequences of bad driving habits. This presentation has recently been delivered to the Harlequins rugby academy players – the sporting stars of tomorrow – and have interest from the other top London rugby clubs. The equivalent football youth clubs are next to see these presentations and wear the VR headsets. In addition to this, we have managed to get access to the London military establishments to work alongside the military master drivers in improving the road safety messaging to young military personnel.

Junior Citizens

51. Junior Citizens (JC) events are multi agency events coordinated by the Police, Local Authority or a Charity. The Brigade has been participating at borough level in JC events for many years. At the events there are likely to be a wide variety of agencies such as Network Rail, St John's Ambulance/Red Cross, Local Authority, London Transport, Transco, Port of London Authority and others. The events are based around the themes of crime, citizenship and personal safety. The events target school children between 9–11 years old and take them through interactive scenarios from which they learn important safety information.
52. Participating agencies set up interactive 'activity stations' through which children can learn important information. Children take part in each activity station working in groups, spending on average ten minutes in each. Depending on which agencies are present, the following activity stations may be included in the event: fire safety, railway dangers, electrical safety, first aid, drug awareness, stranger danger, road safety, gas safety, public transport safety, street awareness, cycle safety, water safety, suspect packages and construction site safety. The Brigade activity station teaches children about smoke detection and escape from fire. In some JC events the Brigade has two activity stations, the second teaches children about fire hazards and reducing risks of fires in the home. The events usually run for one - two week periods. Typically JC events take place at one location in a borough although some boroughs run the events as road shows.
53. Between 1st April 2018 – 31 March 2019, JCs was delivered in 29 London boroughs (Bexley, Brent, Bromley, Camden, Croydon, Enfield, Greenwich, Haringey, Harrow, Lewisham, Southwark, Hounslow, Ealing, , Barnet, Hillingdon, Hammersmith and Fulham, Kensington and Chelsea, Lambeth, Kingston, Merton, Richmond, Westminster, Wandsworth, Barking and Dagenham, Hackney, Islington, Tower Hamlets, Waltham Forest, Newham, Havering and Redbridge) with the Brigade's involvement lasting between two days to four weeks with over 30,000 young people taking part. The Brigade will continue to support JCs at an individual borough level but the future is very much dependant on funding from external partners in the different boroughs and also the Brigade's ability to facilitate delivery.

Prison Me No Way (PMNW)

54. The No Way Trust is a national educational charity set up in 1993 by prison officers who wanted to make an impact on the lives of young people and turn them away from crime and its consequences. In 1995, Prison! Me! No Way! became a registered charity called The No Way Trust after the huge success of the Prison! Me! No Way! (PMNW) from 1993. The aim of PMNW is to raise awareness amongst young people, aged 8 to 18, about the causes, consequences, penalties and impact of crime.
55. Nationwide, the Trust currently works proactively with over 2,000 secondary schools and more than 1,800 other youth organisations including voluntary youth groups, charities, groups of excluded and disaffected young people, pupil referral units, youth offending teams, magistrates, secure units and attendance centres, police, the Brigade and other Fire and Rescue Services. Schools or other partners commission a PMNW session in a borough and the Brigade supports the delivery of the session.
56. The main delivery tool that the Brigade are directly involved with is multi-agency "Crime & Safety Awareness Days". Pupils in Years 8-10 are removed from their normal daily school cycle for the day and

encouraged to respect the value of their freedom by experiencing the restrictive aspects of prison life first hand through interactive workshops to learn about the possible consequences of becoming involved in antisocial or criminal behaviour.

57. These innovative workshops include meeting a life-term prisoner and hearing a 'no holds barred' account of their experiences, and spending time in a reconstructed, scale mobile prison cell. All PMNW events are facilitated by two members of staff for a full day and the composition of staff attending vary from each area and borough. The Brigade attended 10 PMNW events during 2018/19 and approximately 1,800 children were seen.

Wider youth engagement

Youth Board

58. The London Fire Brigade held three meetings of the Young People's Board (YPB) during 2018/19. The YPB is made up of young people from all over the capital and is designed to provide them with the opportunity to express their views and suggest ideas, improvements and changes to the way the Brigade operates. The young people who attend these meetings are also consulted on a range of topics that impact on their lives and those of their peers. The topics that were covered during these meetings included Arson & Fire Investigation and Blue Light Collaboration.
59. Each meeting included a consultation session with the young people to gauge their opinions on the issues raised. Each of the sessions was attended by over 20 young people.

Quality Assurance

60. Officers quality assure all youth engagement schemes by focusing on four main areas:
- **Planning** – did the delivery staff plan the session appropriately?
 - **Introduction**– did the delivery staff set the scene appropriately?
 - **Session Management** – did the delivery staff manage both the session and the young people appropriately?
 - **Effectiveness** – did the delivery staff check for effectiveness of delivery?
61. Five quality assurance visits were carried out in 2018/19. The findings were very positive with the main recommendations being on how to enhance delivery style of individuals when presenting to young people and also updating some of the fire safety content.

Future Plans

62. Following the funding of additional Fire Cadet units by the London Mayor in March 2019 and the recent HMIC inspection of LFB in July 2019, it now feels the time to formally look and review the youth services and schemes provided by the Brigade. This review will look at outcomes, outputs, funding and future opportunities and will start later in 2019 with a view to reporting back to FRB in 2020.

Conclusion

63. This report provides a snapshot of the extensive activity of youth engagement and intervention within all boroughs. This includes both established Brigade children and youth engagement schemes, new innovative pilot projects and support provided to partner intervention schemes. There is a clear and strong commitment and enthusiasm to children and youth engagement from all the BCs and some suggested improvements which could lead to even better outcomes and outputs.
64. Going forward, the Brigade is committed to continuing to deliver its core youth engagement and intervention offer but also to exploring new opportunities to create career paths into firefighter and other roles within the organisation to take advantage of the diversity within the youth schemes. The youth

schemes will also look to take on raising awareness of new and emerging local borough, partners and organisational issues and concerns.

Finance comments

65. This report provides an overview of all of the Brigade's children and youth engagement schemes in 2018/19. The report recommends the London Fire Commissioner agrees to publicise to local authorities and other partner staff the positive youth engagement, education and intervention work the Brigade undertakes, particularly helping to identify any potential funding streams for the Brigade to apply for. The cost of this will be contained within the existing youth budget.
66. The report also notes that the Mayor provided additional funding of £1.1m in 2019/20 to open up a Fire Cadet unit in all remaining 15 London Boroughs. This funding is to cover a two year period to 2020/21 with £438k of the £1.1m transferred into an earmarked reserve in 2019/20 to be drawn down in 2020/21.

Workforce comments

67. As this is an information report, no staff side consultations have been undertaken on its contents. The activities reported on within the report are discussed with staff side as appropriate.

Legal comments

68. Under section 9 of the Policing and Crime Act 2017, the London Fire Commissioner (the "Commissioner") is established as a corporation sole with the Mayor appointing the occupant of that office. Section 1 of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 (FRSA 2004) states that the Commissioner is the fire and rescue authority for Greater London.
69. The report sets out the work undertaken by the London Fire Brigade in 2018/2019 in relation to both youth engagement and fire safety work in Greater London.
70. The work undertaken is consistent with the London Fire Commissioner's ('LFC') statutory function under section 6 of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 ('the Act') which requires the LFC to make provision for the purpose of promoting fire safety, and in doing so may make arrangements for the provision of information, provide publicity and encouragement in respect to the steps needed to be taken to prevent fires and death or injury by fire.
71. Section 12 of the Act also enables the LFC to provide the services of any persons employed by her or any equipment maintained to any person for any purpose that appear to the LFC as appropriate. Section 5A of the Act also provides a general power whereby the LFC may do anything she considers appropriate and/or incidental to carrying out any functional purpose .
72. On the basis of the above and the information contained within the report the General Counsel has no further comments and is content with the report to proceed.

Sustainability implications

73. The Brigades youth engagement schemes support the prevention and inclusion themes of the revised sustainable development framework.

Equalities implications

74. The report provides structured options for targeted interventions for groups of children and young people for whom there is an identified risk. Some of the schemes such as Fire cadets are particularly well represented in terms of both BAME and female representation.

List of Appendices

| Appendix | Title | Protective Marking |
|-----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. | Borough Based initiatives | |

Appendix 1 – Breakdown of Borough youth engagement Initiatives (2018/19)

| Borough | LIFE | Cadets | JFIS | Education | SDSA | Junior Citizens | Crossfire | Prison Me No Way |
|------------------------|------|--------|------|-----------|------|-----------------|-----------|------------------|
| Barking and Dagenham | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | | |
| Barnet | | | Y | Y | Y | Y | | |
| Bexley | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Brent | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | | |
| Bromley | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| Camden | Y | | Y | Y | | Y | | |
| City of London | | | Y | Y | | | | |
| Croydon | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Ealing | | | Y | Y | Y | Y | | |
| Enfield | | | Y | Y | Y | Y | | |
| Greenwich | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | | Y |
| Hackney | | Y | Y | Y | | Y | | |
| Hammersmith and Fulham | Y | | Y | Y | | Y | | Y |
| Haringey | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Harrow | | | Y | Y | Y | Y | | |
| Havering | | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | | |
| Hillingdon | | | Y | Y | Y | Y | | |
| Hounslow | Y | | Y | Y | Y | | | |
| Islington | | | Y | Y | | Y | | |
| Kensington and Chelsea | | | Y | Y | | Y | Y | |
| Kingston upon Thames | | | Y | Y | | Y | | |
| Lambeth | Y | | Y | Y | | | | |
| Lewisham | Y | Y | Y | Y | | Y | Y | |
| Merton | | Y | Y | Y | | Y | | |
| Newham | Y | Y | Y | Y | | Y | | Y-X3 sessions |
| Redbridge | | | Y | Y | Y | Y | | |
| Richmond upon Thames | | | Y | Y | | Y | | |
| Southwark | | Y | Y | Y | | Y | Y | |
| Sutton | | | Y | Y | | | | |
| Tower Hamlets | Y | Y | Y | Y | | Y | Y | |
| Waltham Forest | | | Y | Y | Y | Y | | Y |
| Wandsworth | | | Y | Y | | Y | | |
| Westminster | | Y | Y | Y | | Y | | |

