



Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service

Youth Engagement Team
St Albans Community Fire Station
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AL11TQ

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We are a small newly formed specialist team based at St Albans Community Fire Station with a County wide remit to develop Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service (HFRS) youth engagement activity within the county and also build partnerships that will link into the Hertfordshire County Council strategic objectives to reduce criminal damage, deliberate fire setting, antisocial behaviour, and the young people Not in Education Employment and Training (NEETS)

We are already engaged in activities that are designed to divert young people from these behaviours but we are looking to move into an 'Intelligence led' youth engagement phase. This work has already underway with clear lines of communication with key partners in the MIDAS and Youth Connexions being developed and information exchanged. We have also identified that to be fully integrated, we need to understand the CAF more fully and be involved in 'the team around the child' if required.

We are very interested in being part of the Multi Agency Support Teams (MAST) and feel that a positive relationship would benefit the children and young people involved.

Here is a very brief overview of the main schemes that we are currently facilitating.

Local Intervention Fire Education (LiFE) 13-19

The LiFE Scheme is managed by Kevin Smith from the Youth Engagement Team. The course is an intensive 5 day practically based activity scheme which is delivered on a fire stations by service personnel that are specially trained to deliver this intervention to challenging young people . It constantly pushes the young people and challenges their behaviours. The week cumulates in a pass out parade attended by their parents or family members where they get a chance to show off their new found self - confidence and teamworking skills. Following the week the young people are signposted to 6 week continuation training, which covers other pressing issues like sexual health, drug awareness and citizenship.

Fire Setter Intervention Scheme (FSIS) 5-16

The FSIS is managed by Sue Hunt in the Youth Engagement Team. Children and young people are signposted to our team of advisors from different partners; Youth Offending Teams, Schools, Courts or Parents. Two advisors are allocated a child and work with the child and the parents to address their behaviour .All advisors are CRB checked.

Crucial Crew 11-12 (Year 6 children)

We take part in the Crucial Crew events held in Broxbourne, East Herts and Hertsmere. This is managed by our District Community Safety Co-ordinators

Cadet Units 12-17

Our Cadet schemes were launched in 1995. We have three Cadet Units, based at community fire stations (Potters Bar, Royston & Watford) These schemes are managed by the Station Commanders and the instructors are made up of both uniformed and non uniformed employees as well as volunteers.

Princes Trust 16-25

For the past nine years HFRS has been interacting with the Prince's Trust Volunteer Teams (YMCA) throughout Hertfordshire. Watford, Broxbourne, Hatfield & Stevenage

The HFRS Community Safety Task Force led by Peter Chapman now interacts with all four teams ensuring a standard delivery of course content and a standard outcome from each team.

We facilitate activities during Week 1, Week 5, and Week 10 & Week 12 Young people receive a certificate from the service which helps to build towards their Btec recognition.

Duke of Edinburgh Schemes

The individual stations link with Liz Clarke to facilitate the DOE activities

Brief Outline

- 13-19 year old
- Persistent offenders, youngsters at risk of exclusion
- Instructors 2:1 ratio
- One week with daily assessment
- 7.00am-3.30pm
- Works out £600 per person
- One course each month Oct=Hatfield, Nov= Bishops Stortford, Jan=Welwyn
- Local course £5000 for 16 children in St Albans?