



LEICESTERSHIRE

FIRE and RESCUE SERVICE

www.leicestershire-fire.gov.uk



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protecting our communities

• Our Ref:
• Your Ref:
• Please ask for: Stef Douglas
• Date: 05/7/16

Market Harborough Fire Station,
Fairfield Road,
LE16 9QJ

Dear Parish Councillor,

My name is Stefan Douglas and I am a District Manager for Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service. I am responsible for all the fire service resources in the Harborough District.

Part of the remit of any fire service is to respond to emergencies but another equally important part of the fire service remit is to help prevent emergencies taking place.

Our goal throughout Leicestershire is to make communities safer whenever and wherever we can.

As part of this drive to make the people of Leicestershire as safe as possible a lot of work goes on with the Local Resilience Forum (LRF) to develop emergency contingency plans for villages to help them manage in the event of flooding, snow, prolonged power outage etc.

LFRS has input into those plans both in the development and testing phases and this has created a good number of plans that cover many of the villages in the Harborough District.

Alongside these contingency plans I would like to create a closer and more effective relationship between your communities and your fire service. We are blessed to live in one of the most beautiful parts of the country with some of the best villages and small communities to be found anywhere in the UK.

I see the role of the parish council being instrumental in fostering this closer relationship with the Fire Service, developing it and ensuring it is sustainable.

To this end my aim is to have a nominated '**Fire Ambassador**' in every parish council across the Harborough District. This person would be my primary point of contact within the villages. Information that I have could be passed to this person and shared with the parish. Equally any questions or concerns from the residents could be passed through the '**Fire Ambassador**' to me for dealing with.

I would try and get a member of my team to attend a parish meeting if required and I would invite the nominated ambassador to relevant safety events that take place in the district.

Having this point of contact would help us to identify and assist with some of the most vulnerable of your local residents. You know your communities far better than I ever will and if this knowledge combined with my resources can really make a difference to those who need help most.

I firmly believe the establishment of this informal role within Parish Councils will be of great benefit to both councils and the Fire Service. If you agree and can suggest an appropriate person then I would be most grateful.

If you have any questions then please let me know.

Yours faithfully,

Stef Douglas (Stefan.douglas@lfrs.org) 07800 709840)

Manager of the Harborough District