



Safest People, Safest Places

Performance Committee

6 March 2025

Letters of Appreciation

Report of the Deputy Chief Fire Officer

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to provide details of Letters of Appreciation received by the Service for the period 1 October 2024 – 31 December 2024.

Letters of Appreciation Received

2. 12 letters were received in the reporting period.
3. A summary of the Letters of Appreciation received for the period is attached to this report at Appendix A.

Recommendations

4. Members are requested to note the report.

Appendix A

Letters of Appreciation – 1 October 2024 – 31 December 2024

No	Date	Watch/Personnel involved	Brief Details
1	25/10/2024	Spennymoor Green Watch	<p>Spennymoor Green Watch were sent the thank you letter below after attending Bowburn Fun Day.</p> <p>‘Dear County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service,</p> <p>We at the Bowburn fun day planning committee would like to express our thanks for your participation in our recent family fun day.</p> <p>Your support helped make the day a resounding success.</p> <p>All the attendees, especially the children and young people, really enjoyed the opportunity to explore the fire engine and talk with the firefighters.</p> <p>Thank you once again for your time and support.</p>
2	1/11/2024	Peterlee White Watch	<p>Cotsford Primary School thanked Peterlee White Watch who delivered a brilliant Bonfire safety talk to youngsters at their school.</p>
3	8/11/2024	Durham Green Watch	<p>Well done to Durham Green Watch who have been praised following a visit by young carers in County Durham last week!</p> <p>The crew gave the young people an insight into the day-to-day life of firefighters as they showed them around the fire station, including advice on fire safety in the home.</p>

4	21/11/2024	High Handenhold RDS	<p>A letter of thanks has been received from former MP Kevan Jones (now Lord Beamish) and his wife.</p> <p>The letter thanked High Handenhold RDS for their assistance following the Wreath Laying at the Remembrance Parade in Pelton Fell on the 10th November.</p>
5	22/11/2024	Peterlee White Watch	A thank you card was received thanking Mick Corfield for his kindness during an incident.
6	27/11/2024	High Handenhold Green Watch	We received an email from the British Transport Police asking us to pass on their thanks to High Handenhold Green Watch after they attended an incident at Chester-Le-Street. BTP mentioned specifically the professionalism and respect the crew showed during this time.
7	29/11/2024	Spennymoor RDS	<p>Our firefighters from Spennymoor RDS have received an adorable card from Year One pupils at Tudhoe Colliery Primary School. The children visited the station on Tuesday, November 19 and had such a great time they sent a handmade thank you card praising the crew. Well done to Crew Managers Jonny Sloan, Adam McHugh and Chris Amos and Firefighters Lee Purvis and Stephen Blakey for making the visit so special for the children!</p> <p>Teacher Mrs Winter wrote from the school to express her thanks: Thank you so much for welcoming year one into the fire station yesterday. The children had a fantastic morning and really enjoyed all the activities you had organised. We even managed to complete the fire engines yesterday afternoon! Please extend our gratitude to all your colleagues, the children really enjoyed their morning.</p>
8	6/12/2024	Crook RDS	<p>Well done to the Crook RDS who attended the Green Fair at Willington Open Door Methodist Church on 21 November.</p> <p>During the event, FF Sichert and FF Whitfield provided fire safety advice to the public and offered Home Fire Safety Visits.</p> <p>Organisers said the crew's involvement was greatly appreciated and sent the letter of thanks below to Watch Manager Gavin Meisuria:</p> <p>Hi Gavin,</p>

			<p>Thank you so much for arranging attendance at our Green Fair. The gentlemen were absolutely lovely, and we received a lot of positive feedback from the public regarding the information they provided. If you have any feedback about our event, we would love to hear it as we are always looking to improve what we do. Thank you again for coming, and I hope it was enjoyable.</p>
9	16/12/2024	Green Watch Durham, High Handenhold & Spennymoor	A thank you card was received from a member of the public following her involvement in an road traffic collision. She wanted to express her immense gratitude for the fantastic service and comfort the crews provided during the incident.
10	20/12/2024	Fire & Rescue Service	A letter was received from Cllr. Liz Brown, Mayor of Durham thanking the service for their attendance at the Durham City Remembrance Parade, she remarked on how 'very well turned out' they all were and said they conducted their duties with dignity and honour.
11	20/12/2024	Fire & Rescue Service	A letter was received from Mrs Sue Snowdon, Lord Lieutenant who asked for her thanks to be passed on to everybody involved in the Durham City Remembrance Parade, she said 'you were a great credit to your service and to your own profession.
12	23/12/2024	Fire & Rescue Service	<p>An email was received from two retirees following their Control Visit afternoon. It read:</p> <p>'On behalf of Paul, myself and all the NARF members who attended the get together on Wednesday at Control, could you please pass on our sincere gratitude to everyone concerned, but in particular Steve for making the visit very interesting. We were made to feel very welcome and the atmosphere was relaxed and convivial. We sincerely hope that we can do this again in the future and strengthen the ties between the service and the retired members</p> <p>Thanks again for everything and we'd just like to wish you all a verry Merry Christmas and a Happy and prosperous 2025.</p>