

ESSEX COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

## RETIRED MEMBERS ASSOCIATION

### NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2024



Secretary: Barry Cable, "Briarlea" Southend Road, Billericay CM11 2PR

Email: [barryccable@gmail.com](mailto:barryccable@gmail.com) Telephone: 01277 624152 or mobile: 07850 984593

RMA Website: <https://www.essex-fire.gov.uk/retired-members-association>

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## A NEW YEAR AND

## A NEW FEATURE FOR OUR NEWSLETTER ....

### Message Board

"Message Board" is a new feature which, if proven popular, will be included in future newsletters.

You may have some news which you would like to share with other members, post a request for information or just want to write something which may be of interest, in which case this feature may be suitable. Material submitted should fall within the following general guidelines:-

- Content should be non-political, respectful of race, gender, religion, language and decency.
- Posts should not be unreasonably critical or derogatory.
- Posts should observe Data Protection and Copyright Law.
- Any item submitted for inclusion in a Newsletter must be received ideally one week before the end of the previous month.
- Posts should be concise, suitable and ready for publication.
- If you expect a personal response from any member(s) you will need to include your name and contact details.
- Size and number of photographs should be kept to a minimum as there is limited space.

Material should be submitted by email to [barryccable@gmail.com](mailto:barryccable@gmail.com) and include your contact details.

### NEW MEMBER

We are pleased to welcome Dave Elwell as a new member of the RMA.

### OBITUARIES

It is with great sadness that we have to report that Lloyd Morgan lost his long battle on the 16<sup>th</sup> December. He always had time for other people, even though he was fighting a serious illness himself. He will be sorely missed. Our sincere condolences go to his family and friends.

## RMA ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION



Time is running out for you to revise your Standing Order for your RMA subscription which increases to £3 per annum on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024



## ECFRS Leadership Team

The Service Leadership Team leads our Service under the direction of Rick Hylton, our Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive.

They assist the Essex Police and Fire Crime Commissioner, Roger Hirst, to meet his requirements to establish and oversee the corporate governance arrangements of our Service.

## Chief Fire Officer/Chief Executive Rick Hylton

As Chief Fire Officer/Chief Executive, Rick has delegated authority and ultimate responsibility for the running of the Fire and Rescue Service in Essex. He appoints Directors who form the Service Leadership Team.

Rick says: *"I am exceptionally proud to lead this great organisation alongside Moira.*

*"It is our role to make sure all of our colleagues flourish and provide the best possible service to the people of Essex.*

*"Our ambition is to be one of the best fire and rescue services in the country – it is what our communities deserve, and it is an ambition that I believe is achievable."*

## More about Rick

Rick joined Essex County Fire and Rescue Service in 2019 as Deputy Chief Fire Officer. He had responsibilities for strategic planning, assurance and performance and was the strategic lead for collaboration, working with partners to deliver on the Police Fire and Crime Commissioners local business case. In January 2022, Rick became Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive for the Service.

Rick is also the co-chair of the Essex Resilience Forum and co-led the Strategic Communication Group throughout the pandemic.

Rick started his fire service career with Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service in 1997. He was appointed Head of Community Safety in 2010, where he delivered a progressive approach to targeted home safety. Focusing on data sharing arrangements with partners to identify, triage and deliver to the most vulnerable. Rick established the first joint education and enforcement team with Peterborough City Council and Cambridgeshire Police, in addition to implementing the Service's first volunteer scheme.

During this time Rick led a review of the protection function implementing the business safety competence framework including the up-skilling of operational crews and delivering the county's business safety hub. A joint initiative between district and county council that built upon primary authority schemes to provide businesses with a simpler process to access advice from a range of regulators. In 2015 Rick led the service to achieve Excellence in equality and inclusion.

In 2016, Rick was appointed Assistant Chief Fire Officer with responsibilities for service delivery and operational support, where he led the Service Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) implementation including changes to crewing systems and the introduction of portable misting systems for vulnerable people. Rick was the executive officer responsible for leading Cambridgeshire through the first His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) inspection process.

Rick has led the Home Safety Committee since 2015. In addition, he was the National Fire Chief Council gold group lead for prevention through the pandemic response.

Rick has a master's in public administration from Warwick University. He is married with two children.



## Deputy Chief Fire Officer

### Moira Bruin

Our Deputy Chief Fire Officer leads organisational learning and continuous improvement in policy and practice by reviewing Service performance.

Moira's other key responsibilities:

- Deputising for the Chief Fire Officer in his absence
- Responsibility for making sure our Service meets its statutory duties, follows national guidance and meets fire standards and improvement objectives
- Responsibility for strategic planning and risk identification – ensuring that we are capable of responding safely and effectively to foreseeable risks. This includes producing and effectively managing the Strategic Risk Register and Strategic Assessment of Risk
- Responsibility for making sure we learn as an organisation by holding effective debriefs with any learning points fed back into improved practices
- Holding our Service to account in the delivery of performance, ensuring improvements are efficient, effective, and give value for money
- Is the lead executive officer responsible for ensuring our Service is compliant with the Health and Safety at Work Act
- Is responsible for effective business continuity arrangements to enable Essex County Fire and Rescue Service to discharge its legal responsibilities including but not limited to - times of Industrial Action.
- Is the escalation point for Industrial Relations
- Is the lead executive officer for the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex's Performance and Resources Board

## More about Moira

Moira has been in the fire service sector for over 25 years and is currently the Deputy Chief Fire Officer for Essex County Fire and Rescue Service. She transferred to Essex in 2012 where she served as the Operations Manager. She then moved on to Head of Training and then onto Area Manager, before becoming the Assistant Chief Fire Officer/ Director of Operations, with overall responsibility for Protection, Protection and Response.

Moira holds a Master's degree in occupational psychology, is a graduate of the Fire Service National Executive Leadership Programme and is a member of the Institute of Directors and the Institute of Fire Engineers.

Having trained as a teacher, Moira had a change of career in 1994 when she joined the then Lothian and Borders Fire and Rescue Service as a firefighter in the City of Edinburgh. Moira served at every rank in the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, up to Group Manager including a secondment to the Scottish Government/Police National CBRN Centre at Ryton-on Dunsmore to plan multi-agency response to Terror incidents.

Moira is proud to have been part of Essex County Fire and Rescue Service's huge cultural journey, and to be part of a leadership team that has a 50/50 gender mix (the only Fire and Rescue Service in the Country to have this). Moira is passionate about inclusion, seeing people thrive and continuing to make a difference together with her colleagues.

Operationally, Moira has served as bronze, silver and gold commander, she is an incident command assessor, and represents ECFRS at a Strategic/Gold Incident Command level.

Moira is a recent graduate of the National NFCC sponsored Fire Service Executive Leadership Programme, through Warwickshire Business School.

*The above information has been taken from the ECFRS Website*