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For Immediate Release

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Emergency services team up for Kendal open day

A dramatic river rescue, road traffic collision exercise and a house fire drill are all set to be on show when emergency services join forces for a major public open day in Kendal.

Cumbria County Council's Fire and Rescue Service, the police, ambulance service, mountain rescue and a host of other organisations are all taking part in the multi-agency event on Saturday October 1 from 1pm-4pm at Kendal fire station on Buser Walk and on the River Kent.

The open day is aimed at giving the community a flavour of the type of work the emergency services undertake and it's a chance for them to display their life-saving skills in front of large crowds of people.

Members of the public will also get the chance to ask questions and chat to representatives of the organisations on show.

And the centre piece exercise featuring the river rescue promises to wow the crowds with Cumbria County Council's fire and rescue service teaming up with Kendal Mountain Rescue team, Bay Rescue and possibly an air ambulance helicopter to rescue the occupants of a car trapped in the River Kent.

As well as the rescue exercises there will be fun for all the family with a host of activities and displays including a fleet of vintage fire engines, community safety stalls, a climbing wall, a street soccer cage and face-painting.

The road traffic crash scenario will involve the fire and rescue service, ambulance and police and the fire service will again be demonstrating their skills in the house fire drill.

The South Lakeland Community Safety Partnership (SLCSP) - an organisation made up of South Lakeland District Council, Cumbria County Council, Cumbria Constabulary, NHS Cumbria, Cumbria Police Authority, Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service and Cumbria Probation Trust - who work together to tackle crime and disorder - will also be on hand to give out community safety information and details on the work of the partnership.

Other activities are set to include demonstrations from the Environment Agency and the county council's resilience unit, which looks after emergency planning, to show people how to protect their properties from flooding.

The police could also be opening up their custody suite to the public to give them a taste of what being locked up in the cells feels like.

William Wyllie, Cumbria Fire & Rescue Service's Kendal locality manager, said: "This open day should be a fantastic event and will allow us as the emergency services to give local people a taste of what we do and how we work together while everyone has fun.

"It should be of interest to all age groups and I'd encourage people to come along on the day and see what it's all about - the more we have along the better the atmosphere will be and it promises to be a day to remember.

"The rescue scenarios are pretty dramatic to watch and children will be able to get involved with activities on the climbing wall, soccer cage and face-painting as well."

ENDS

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