



Report to:
**Scottish Borders Council
Police, Fire and Rescue
Safer Communities Board**

SUBJECT: QUARTER 3 - 2013-14 PERFORMANCE REPORT

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The attached report provides an update on performance against the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for The Scottish Borders 2013.

2. QUARTER 3 OUTPUTS

- 2.1 The following identifies the headline Outputs from Quarter 3, 2013-14:

Accidental Dwelling Fires

The Fire and Rescue Service attended twenty-three accidental dwelling fires during this reporting period, a decrease of seven incidents when compared to the same period during 2012-13.

Fire Casualties/Fatalities

During this reporting period five people received injuries due to accidental dwelling fires this was a decrease of three compared to the same reporting period in 2012-13.

Road Traffic Collisions

During this reporting period, the Fire and Rescue Service attended twenty-one Road Traffic Collisions. This is a decrease of eight incidents compared with the same period during 2012-13. Police Scotland will report on casualties due to Road Traffic Collisions.

Special Services

The Fire and Rescue Service attended forty-one other special service incidents during this reporting period, an increase of eleven incidents when compared with the same period during 2012-13.

Of the forty-one incidents, nine involved flooding and sixteen involved a person being trapped, had fallen, or the FRS were asked to assist the Scottish Ambulance Service to gain entry to a property to tend to a casualty.

Other Primary Fires

There were twelve other primary fires within this reporting period. This is a decrease of eight when compared to the corresponding period of last year.

There was one fire related injury, a decrease of two, this was due a single vehicle road traffic collision where there was a small fire in the engine compartment.

Unwanted Fire Signals

There were two hundred and twenty-six unwanted fire signals during this reporting period, a decrease of twenty incidents when compared to the same period during 2012-13.

A significant piece of work has recently been undertaken by the SFRS to closely monitor and provide guidance to the businesses with the most persistent unwanted signals. Through this dialogue it is hoped a more responsible attitude to automatic fire alarm signals will be adopted by businesses throughout the Scottish Borders.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 The Scottish Borders Police, Fire and Rescue Safer Communities Board is invited to consider and otherwise to note the contents of the performance report.

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Local Senior Officer
Scottish Borders

14th February 2014



Quarterly Performance Report

Quarter 3 2013/14 (1st October – 31st December 2013)

Scottish Borders Council



SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Working together for a safer Scotland

INTRODUCTION

This performance report provides information on our prevention, protection and operational response activities within the Scottish Borders over the third quarter of 2013/14.

The aims of the Fire & Rescue Service in the Scottish Borders are to reduce fire deaths throughout the Scottish Borders area and to reduce injuries from fire and other emergencies in the community. We aim to achieve this by working in partnership, being pro-active and targeting our prevention and protection activities to where they are required, based on evidence.

Within the Local Fire and Rescue Plan 2013 for the Scottish Borders, five objectives for the local Fire and Rescue Service to work towards have been identified for 2013/14.

Objective 1: To reduce the occurrence of road traffic collisions and the resulting in death and injury;

Objective 2: To reduce the occurrence of special service incidents and resulting death and injury.

Objective 3: To reduce the occurrence of accidental fires in the home resulting in deaths and injury;

Objective 4: To reduce the occurrence of other primary fires and resulting death and injury;

Objective 5: To reduce the occurrence of unwanted fire signals the associated disruption;

Summary

Objective 1: To reduce the occurrence of road traffic collisions and the resulting in death and injury.

The Fire and Rescue Service usually only attend the more serious road traffic collisions where a person or persons are trapped within the vehicle due to their injuries or the damage to the vehicle preventing their escape.

During this reporting period, the Fire and Rescue Service attended twenty-one Road Traffic Collisions. This is a decrease of eight incidents compared with the same period during 2012-13.

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service only attend the most serious Road Traffic Collisions, this is only a fraction of those that actually occur. In order to avoid repetition or confusion, the number and severity of injuries due to road traffic collisions will be reported by our colleagues in Police Scotland.

Objective 2: To reduce the occurrence of special service incidents and resulting death and injury.

Special Service incidents are non-fire incidents which require the attendance of one or more fire appliance or officer. This type of incident might include; flooding, rescues of persons, animal rescue or making a hazardous situation safe.

The Fire and Rescue Service attended forty-one Special Service incidents during this reporting period, an increase of eleven compared to the corresponding period of 2012-13. This included sixteen incidents where a person was trapped, had fallen, or the FRS were asked to assist the Scottish Ambulance Service to gain entry to a property to tend to a casualty. The SFRS also attended four lift rescues and nine flooding incidents.

Objective 3: To reduce the occurrence of accidental fires in the home resulting in deaths and injury.

This does not include hotels, hostels or residential institutions, but does include any non-permanent structure used solely as a dwelling, such as a caravan or houseboats. An accidental dwelling fire where the cause is not known or unspecified is also included.

The Fire and Rescue Service attended twenty- three Accidental Dwelling fires during this reporting period. This was a decrease of seven in the corresponding period of last year.

Fire Casualties/Fatalities

There were five reported casualties from dwelling fires during this reporting period this is a decrease of three during the same reporting period of 2012-13.

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service continue to analyse data from accidental dwelling fires in an effort to target our resources more effectively and consequently reduce fires in the home. We also utilise our Community Safety Engagement Toolkit to focus our resources on those most vulnerable from fire.

Objective 4: To reduce the occurrence of other primary fires and resulting death and injury.

These are fires in Buildings or Caravans not used for domestic purposes as well as Vehicles, Outdoor storage and Agricultural premises. This may also include any other fire involving casualties, rescues, or a fire attended by five or more appliances.

There were twelve fires within this category during the reporting period, this is a decrease of eight when compared to the corresponding period of last year

There was one fire related injury, a decrease of two, this was due a single vehicle road traffic collision where there was a small fire in the engine compartment.

Objective 5: To reduce the occurrence of unwanted fire signals the associated disruption.

A large number of buildings are now fitted with Automatic Fire Detection. The Fire and Rescue Service, when called, respond to all incidents where the Automatic Fire Detection system has activated. This also includes all domestic property with single point fire detection. The vast majority of these activations transpire to be a false alarm.

There were two hundred and twenty-six Unwanted Fire Signals during this reporting period. This is an decrease of twenty compared with the same reporting period last year.

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OBJECTIVE 1: TO REDUCE THE OCCURRENCE OF ROAD TRAFFIC COLLISIONS AND THE RESULTING IN DEATH AND INJURY.

Road Traffic Collisions

Definition: When a road vehicle collides with another vehicle, pedestrian, animal, road debris, or other stationary obstruction, such as a tree or utility pole.

	2011		2012		2013	
	Q3	YTD Total	Q3	YTD Total	Q3	YTD Total
Road Traffic Collisions	22	58	29	59	21	59
East Berwickshire Ward	1	6	4	6	0	2
Galashiels and District Ward	4	12	1	6	3	8
Hawick and Denholm Ward	0	1	3	4	1	3
Hawick and Hermitage Ward	1	1	0	0	1	2
Jedburgh and District Ward	2	5	3	7	3	10
Kelso and District Ward	1	1	3	8	2	3
Leaderdale and Melrose Ward	2	6	7	9	1	7
Mid Berwickshire Ward	1	4	0	4	3	7
Selkirkshire Ward	3	6	2	5	1	3
Tweeddale East Ward	2	6	3	3	3	7
Tweeddale West Ward	5	10	3	7	3	7

The Fire and Rescue Service attended twenty-one road traffic collisions during this reporting period; this demonstrates a decrease of eight incidents compared to the same period during 2012-13.

As in previous reports, the Fire and Rescue Service do not report on Road Traffic Collision casualties as Police Scotland reports this to the board.

Action:

The Fire and Rescue Service is a member of a multi-agency approach to reducing Road Traffic Collision's and the associated casualties and fatalities.

OBJECTIVE 2: TO REDUCE THE OCCURRENCE OF SPECIAL SERVICE INCIDENTS AND RESULTING DEATH AND INJURY

Special Service resulting in Death or Injury

Definition: Non-fire incidents which require the attendance of an appliance or officer and include: flooding, rescues of persons, making safe etc.

	2011		2012		2013	
	Q3	YTD	Q3	YTD	Q3	YTD
Other Special Services	27	69	30	96	41	104
East Berwickshire Ward	3	6	0	8	4	14
Galashiels and District Ward	1	10	8	16	6	15
Hawick and Denholm Ward	2	6	4	7	3	7
Hawick and Hermitage Ward	2	4	5	9	7	15
Jedburgh and District Ward	2	4	3	13	5	9
Kelso and District Ward	1	3	2	5	2	5
Leaderdale and Melrose Ward	1	8	0	9	3	5
Mid Berwickshire Ward	2	6	2	7	2	7
Selkirkshire Ward	3	7	0	1	1	7
Tweeddale East Ward	5	5	2	5	3	8
Tweeddale West Ward	5	10	4	16	5	12

Societal costs are given at £2080 per incident as per CFSA

The Fire and Rescue Service attended forty-one Special Service incidents during this reporting period, an increase of eleven compared to the corresponding period of 2012-13. This included nine flooding incidents and sixteen incidents where a person had fallen, were trapped or to assist the Scottish Ambulance Service to gain entry to a property to tend to a casualty.

Action:

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service are currently working with other members of the Community Planning Partnership in developing a project to encompass all aspects of home safety particularly for older people in the Scottish Borders.

OBJECTIVE 3: TO REDUCE THE OCCURRENCE OF ACCIDENTAL FIRES IN THE HOME RESULTING IN DEATHS AND INJURY.

Accidental Dwelling Fires

Definition: Building occupied by households, excluding hotels, hostels and residential institutions. In 2000, the definition of a dwelling was widened to include any non-permanent structure used solely as a dwelling, such as caravans, houseboats etc. Caravans, boats etc. not used as a permanent dwelling are shown according to the type of property. Accidental includes fires where the cause was not known or unspecified.

	2011		2012		2013	
	Q3	YTD	Q3	YTD	Q3	YTD
Accidental Dwelling Fires	35	76	30	79	23	71
East Berwickshire Ward	3	8	4	7	1	5
Galashiels and District Ward	4	14	3	14	1	9
Hawick and Denholm Ward	5	8	2	9	1	5
Hawick and Hermitage Ward	3	10	2	8	3	5
Jedburgh and District Ward	2	3	3	6	1	3
Kelso and District Ward	4	7	1	3	1	8
Leaderdale and Melrose Ward	1	6	2	5	6	9
Mid Berwickshire Ward	4	7	4	10	1	8
Selkirkshire Ward	1	2	1	2	2	3
Tweeddale East Ward	3	3	3	6	3	8
Tweeddale West Ward	5	8	5	9	3	8

Chief Fire Officer Association (Scotland) Community Fire Safety Assessment 2010 (CFSA) applies a societal cost of £25,500 per incident.

The Fire and Rescue Service attended twenty-three accidental dwelling fires during this reporting period. This was a decrease of seven in the corresponding period of last year. Whilst the majority of the wards show a pleasing downward trend, for the second consecutive quarter there has been an increase in dwelling fires in the Leaderdale and Tweeddale ward.

Action:

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service continue to analyse data from accidental dwelling fires in an effort to target our resources more effectively and consequently reduce fires in the home. We also utilise our Community Safety Engagement Toolkit to focus our resources on those most vulnerable from fire.

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service conduct a Post Domestic Incident Response following all domestic dwelling fires. This involves fire crews offering reassurance and fire safety advice to all households within the vicinity of the incident immediately or soon after the incident.

The Fire and Rescue Service are working closely with the Registered Social Landlords within the Scottish Borders to generate Home Safety visits particularly amongst vulnerable groups living in our communities.

Fire Fatalities as a direct result of Accidental Dwelling Fires

Definition: A person whose death is attributed to a fire is counted as a fatality even if the death occurred weeks or months later.

	2011		2012		2013	
	Q3	YTD	Q3	YTD	Q3	YTD
Fire Fatalities From Accidental Dwelling Fires	0	0	0	0	0	0
East Berwickshire Ward	0	0	0	0	0	0
Galashiels and District Ward	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hawick and Denholm Ward	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hawick and Hermitage Ward	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jedburgh and District Ward	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kelso and District Ward	0	0	0	0	0	0
Leaderdale and Melrose Ward	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mid Berwickshire Ward	0	0	0	0	0	0
Selkirkshire Ward	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tweeddale East Ward	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tweeddale West Ward	0	0	0	0	0	0

Fire Fatalities

Economic cost of fire (Department of Communities and Local Government) model attributes a cost of £1,546,688 per fatality.

There were no reported fire fatalities resulting from Accidental Dwelling Fires during this reporting period.

Non-Fatal Fire Casualties as a result of Accidental Dwelling Fires

Definition: Total number of non-fatal casualties, injured as a direct result of a fire attended by the service. Does not include injuries to fire service personnel.

	2011		2012		2013	
	Q3	YTD	Q3	YTD	Q3	YTD
Non-Fatal Fire Casualties excl. precautionary check-ups	8	13	8	11	5	15
East Berwickshire Ward	2	3	1	1	0	0
Galashiels and District Ward	0	0	0	1	0	1
Hawick and Denholm Ward	3	3	1	1	0	1
Hawick and Hermitage Ward	0	1	0	1	3	3
Jedburgh and District Ward	1	1	1	2	0	0
Kelso and District Ward	0	0	0	0	0	0
Leaderdale and Melrose Ward	0	3	0	0	1	2
Mid Berwickshire Ward	2	2	0	0	0	4
Selkirkshire Ward	0	0	1	3	0	1
Tweeddale East Ward	0	0	1	1	1	2
Tweeddale West Ward	0	0	0	1	0	1

Fire Casualties

Costs attributed are: Burns injury - £174,354 - Smoke/fumes injury - £44,019 - Precautionary check-up /other - £574 (source: DCLG)

There were five reported casualties from dwelling fires during this reporting period this is a decrease of three during the same reporting period of 2012-13. The majority of these injuries were smoke inhalation with only one being requiring hospital treatment.

OBJECTIVE 4: TO REDUCE THE OCCURRENCE OF OTHER PRIMARY FIRES AND RESULTING DEATH AND INJURY

Other Primary Fires

Definition: These are fires in Buildings, Caravans, Vehicles, Outdoor storage, Agricultural premises or post boxes, amongst other property types, or any fire involving casualties, rescues, or fires attended by five or more appliances. Excludes accidental dwelling fires.

	2011		2012		2013	
	Q3	YTD	Q3	YTD	Q3	YTD
Other Primary Fires Excluding Accidental Dwellings	28	106	20	71	12	60
East Berwickshire Ward	5	21	0	4	0	9
Galashiels and District Ward	2	14	5	6	2	5
Hawick and Denholm Ward	1	5	2	9	2	5
Hawick and Hermitage Ward	2	5	1	2	1	5
Jedburgh and District Ward	0	11	2	11	1	2
Kelso and District Ward	4	8	3	5	3	11
Leaderdale and Melrose Ward	8	13	2	6	1	9
Mid Berwickshire Ward	1	11	1	6	1	6
Selkirkshire Ward	2	6	0	6	0	3
Tweeddale East Ward	1	7	1	5	0	1
Tweeddale West Ward	2	5	3	11	1	4

There were twelve other primary fires within this reporting period. This is a decrease of eight compared to the corresponding period of last year. None of the wards in the Scottish Borders showed an increase on the corresponding period last year.

It should be noted that there were seventeen chimney fires across the Scottish Borders during this reporting period. This reflects 30% of all fires across the area.

Over recent years, chimney fires have become more common across the Scottish Borders. During the winter months, a campaign using Radio Borders and other local initiatives has been undertaken to raise preventing fires involving traditional chimneys and wood burning stoves.

Action:

All fires occurring in premises which fall under the Fire (Safety) Scotland Regulations 2006 receive an After the Fire Audit from a Fire and Rescue Service Fire Safety Enforcement Officer.

Deaths and Injuries from Other Primary Fires

	2011		2012		2013	
	Q3	YTD	Q3	YTD	Q3	YTD
Deaths & Injuries From Other Primary Fires	3	9	3	3	1	1
Fatality	0	1	0	0	0	0
Injured (inc. rescue with injury)	3	8	3	3	1	1

There was one fire related injury, a decrease of two, this was due a single vehicle road traffic collision where there was a small fire in the engine compartment.

OBJECTIVE 5: TO REDUCE THE OCCURRENCE OF UNWANTED FIRE SIGNALS THE ASSOCIATED DISRUPTION

Unwanted Fire Signals

Definition: Where the FRS attends a location believing there to be a fire incident, but on arrival discovers that no such incident exists, or existed.

	2011		2012		2013	
	Q3	YTD	Q3	YTD	Q3	YTD
Unwanted Fire Signals	235	659	246	700	226	692
East Berwickshire Ward	16	43	20	51	17	40
Galashiels and District Ward	34	109	40	104	43	122
Hawick and Denholm Ward	12	40	14	48	8	45
Hawick and Hermitage Ward	28	73	32	69	24	71
Jedburgh and District Ward	18	52	19	48	18	46
Kelso and District Ward	16	35	10	40	16	52
Leaderdale and Melrose Ward	30	92	27	73	16	54
Mid Berwickshire Ward	20	40	13	47	14	37
Selkirkshire Ward	20	55	28	81	19	64
Tweeddale East Ward	16	46	12	40	13	41
Tweeddale West Ward	25	74	31	99	38	87

Societal costs are given at £848 per incident as per DCLG

There were two hundred and twenty-six Unwanted Fire Signals during this reporting period, this a decrease of twenty compared to the same period during 2012-13.

Action:

The Fire and Rescue Service will also continue work with the Federation of Small Businesses and individual occupiers of premises where there are repeat unwanted fire signals in an attempt to reduce the unnecessary disruption this type of incident can cause.

A significant piece of work has recently been undertaken to closely monitor and provide guidance to the businesses with the most persistent unwanted signals. Through this dialogue it is hoped a more responsible attitude to automatic fire alarm signals will be adopted by businesses throughout the Scottish Borders.

Complaints against FRS Staff

There were no recorded incidents of complaints against the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service in the Scottish Borders during this reporting period.

Preventative Activities

Fire Protection: Non-Domestic premises audits

Analysis of Audit Activity

District : [Borders](#)

Period : 1 October to 31 December 2013

FSEC	Premises type	Number of known premises in Area as of 31 March 2013	Number of known premises in Area targeted for Pre-Programmed Audits 2013-14	Number Pre-Programmed Audits conducted in reporting period	Total number of Pre-Programmed and Non-Programmed Audits conducted in reporting period	Number of Premises where FSEC type has changed	Cumulative Total Pre-Programmed and Non-Programmed Audits conducted since 1st April to date	Percentage of Pre-Programmed Audits conducted since 1st April to date	FSEC Relative Risk Profile of Area premises as AT CLOSE OF REPORTING PERIOD.				
									Well Below Average (relative risk less than or equal to 3)	Below Average (relative risk greater than 3 and less than or equal to 4)	Average (relative risk is greater than 4 and less than or equal to 5)	Above Average (relative risk greater than 5 and less than or equal to 6)	Well Above Average (relative risk greater than 6)
A	Hospital	21	21	7	7		19	90.5%			6	14	1
B	Care home	40	39	5	5		35	89.7%		3	16	21	
C	Houses of multiple occupation (HMO), Tenement	131	2	1	7		20	50.0%		96	30	5	
D	Dwellings	23								2	21		
E	Hostel	29	3				1			8	18	3	
F	Hotels	185	28	14	16	1	33	96.4%		17	144	24	
G	House converted to Flat	1									1		
H	Other sleeping accommodation	482	3	2	5	18	17	133.3%	2	76	400	4	
J	Further education	13					6		4	8	1		
K	Public building	75	1				1	100.0%	45	21	9		
L	Licensed premises	323	1	1	21	1	36	100.0%	100	168	54	1	
M	Schools	205					1		75	126	4		
N	Shops	820	6	1	12		17	50.0%	12	461	346	1	
P	Other premises open to public	421			4		6		192	216	13		
R	Factories or warehouse	212			1		2		188	23	1		
S	Offices	457			1		3		378	79			
T	Other workplace	2,312	1		3	4	3		1,951	357	4		
	Total	5,750	105	31	82	24	200	86.7%	2,947	1,661	1,068	73	1

A Pre-Programmed Audit is an audit programmed at the commencement of the fiscal year, selected from premises held within the Service's database, based on a risk assessment as defined in the Service's Enforcement Framework.

A Non-Programmed Audit is an audit which can occur throughout the year as a result of a number of reasons which include: complaints; requests from partner agencies; fires within premises; and targeting of specific premises type in line with the Service's Enforcement Framework

Community Engagement

Home Safety Visit Programme

LBFRS prevention programme to reduce accidental dwelling fires and the associated casualties and fatalities

Definitions:

Full HFSV including advice and alarm installations

The FRS must have entered the Householder premises to make a full home fire safety visit where during this visit or a follow up visit to the premises a smoke or heat alarm was installed.

	Low	Medium	High	TOTAL
Total HFSVs	198	393	183	774
Completed Visits where smoke alarms were installed.	78	206	90	374

The Home Safety Visit programme continues to reduce risk in the community by making people safer in their homes. 74.4% of Home Safety Visits completed during this reporting period were in dwellings considered to be at medium or high risk of having an Accidental Dwelling fire.

Community Engagement

QUARTER 3 2013: 1st October – 31st December

ACTIVITY	SCOTTISH BORDERS
*Enhanced Home Safety Visits	26
Firesharp (No. of sessions delivered)	N/A
Firesharp (No. of Pupils)	N/A
Nursery Visits	5
Youth Programmes (Cooldown Crew - No. of Programmes)	N/A
Youth Programmes (Cooldown Crew - No. of youths attending)	N/A
Youth Programmes (Phoenix - No. of Programmes)	N/A
Youth Programmes (Phoenix - No. of youths attending)	N/A
Road Safety Education (No. of Programmes)	0
Road Safety Education (number of pupils)	0
**Fire setters Intervention Programme (No. of sessions with youths)	1
Crucial Crew: number of pupils involved	
Community Safety Talks / Attendance at Community Events	120
Fire Safety Inspections (CGA) in Tenement Stairs	0

*Enhanced Home Safety Visits are usually conducted with partner agencies when an individual or household have been identified as being at high risk from fire in the home.

**The Fire Setters Intervention Programme is designed to support children and families of children who have been involved in fire setting. It is educational and used to inform about fire, the dangers connected with fire and the consequences that may lie ahead if this behaviour continues.