



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

SUBJECT: QUARTER 4 - 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 4 OUTPUTS

- 2.1 The following identifies the headline Outputs from Quarter 4, 2013-14:

Accidental Dwelling Fires

The Fire and Rescue Service attended thirty accidental dwelling fires during this reporting period, this is a disappointing increase of eight over the corresponding period last year. However, fifteen of the accidental dwelling fires we attended had been extinguisher prior to our arrival, and only four required the use of breathing apparatus.

Fire Casualties/Fatalities

During this reporting period eleven people received injuries due to accidental dwelling fires this was an increase of ten compared to the same reporting period in 2012-13. Ten the eleven casualties suffered only slight smoke inhalation, with only three, from a single incident being taken to hospital for further precautionary checks.

Road Traffic Collisions

During this reporting period, the Fire and Rescue Service attended sixteen Road Traffic Collisions. This is a decrease of eleven 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 twenty-seven, although a significant decrease compared to the previous quarter, there was an increase of five incidents when compared with the same period during 2012-13.

Of the twenty seven-incidents, six involved flooding due to domestic plumbing failures, four were to assist the Scottish Ambulance Service a person who had fallen, and two were small animal rescues.

Other Primary Fires

There were twenty-two other primary fires within this reporting period. This is increase of seven compared to the corresponding period of last year.

Included in this category of fires were five motor vehicles, three sheds and a portable accommodation unit.

Unwanted Fire Signals

There were one hundred and eighty-three unwanted fire signals during this reporting period, a decrease of thirty incidents when compared to the same period during 2012-13.

Objective	4 th Quarter 2012/13	4 th Quarter 2013/14	+/-
Reduce road traffic collisions	27	16	-11
Reduce special service incidents	22	27	+5
Reduce accidental dwelling fires	22	30	+8
Fire related injuries	1	11	+10
Fire related deaths	0	0	0
Reduce other primary fires	15	22	+7
Reduce unwanted fire signals	213	183	-30

Objective	Year 2012/13	Year 2013/14	+/-
Reduce road traffic collisions	86	75	-11
Reduce special service incidents	117	131	+14
Reduce accidental dwelling fires	100	101	+1
Fire related injuries	12	26	+14
Fire related deaths	0	0	0
Reduce other primary fires	86	82	-4
Reduce unwanted fire signals	913	842	-71

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.

PETER HEATH
Local Senior Officer
Scottish Borders

9th May 2014



Quarterly Performance Report

Quarter 4 2013/14 (1st January – 31st March 2014)

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.

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.

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.

Fire Casualties/Fatalities

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.

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.

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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	
	Q4	YTD Total	Q4	YTD Total	Q4	YTD Total
Road Traffic Collisions	19	77	27	86	16	75
East Berwickshire Ward	1	7	2	8	1	3
Galashiels and District Ward	3	15	4	10	2	10
Hawick and Denholm Ward	0	1	0	4	0	3
Hawick and Hermitage Ward	1	2	1	1	0	2
Jedburgh and District Ward	2	7	6	13	3	13
Kelso and District Ward	0	1	1	9	0	3
Leaderdale and Melrose Ward	4	10	4	13	1	8
Mid Berwickshire Ward	4	8	0	4	2	9
Selkirkshire Ward	3	9	2	7	2	5
Tweeddale East Ward	0	6	2	5	4	11
Tweeddale West Ward	1	11	5	12	1	8

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

During 2013 -14 the Fire and Rescue Service attended eleven fewer road traffic accidents than the previous year.

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	
	Q4	YTD	Q4	YTD	Q4	YTD
Other Special Services	20	89	22	117	27	131
East Berwickshire Ward	5	11	2	10	3	17
Galashiels and District Ward	5	15	3	19	4	19
Hawick and Denholm Ward	2	8	5	12	1	8
Hawick and Hermitage Ward	1	4	1	10	7	22
Jedburgh and District Ward	1	5	1	14	2	11
Kelso and District Ward	1	4	0	5	1	6
Leaderdale and Melrose Ward	2	10	3	12	4	9
Mid Berwickshire Ward	1	7	3	10	1	8
Selkirkshire Ward	2	9	3	4	0	7
Tweeddale East Ward	0	5	0	5	1	9
Tweeddale West Ward	0	10	1	16	3	15

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

The Fire and Rescue Service attended twenty-seven other special service, this is an increase of five on the seven compared to the same period last year.

Over the year the Fire and Rescue Service have attended one hundred and thirty one special service incidents. This is an increase of fourteen, which is largely due to the Scottish Ambulance Service change in policy where the FRS are mobilised to assist the ambulance service when an individual has fallen within their own home.

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	
	Q4	YTD	Q4	YTD	Q4	YTD
Accidental Dwelling Fires	21	92	22	100	30	101
East Berwickshire Ward	0	8	1	8	2	7
Galashiels and District Ward	2	16	7	21	6	15
Hawick and Denholm Ward	0	8	5	14	3	8
Hawick and Hermitage Ward	5	15	3	11	1	6
Jedburgh and District Ward	0	3	0	6	3	6
Kelso and District Ward	3	10	0	3	3	11
Leaderdale and Melrose Ward	0	6	1	6	2	11
Mid Berwickshire Ward	3	10	1	11	2	10
Selkirkshire Ward	3	4	1	3	5	8
Tweeddale East Ward	4	7	1	6	2	10
Tweeddale West Ward	1	5	2	11	1	9

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 thirty accidental dwelling fires during this reporting period. This was a disappointing increase of eight in the corresponding period of last year.

The year 2013-2014 has shown a very similar level of accidental dwelling fires across the Scottish Borders the previous year.

The FRS will continue to work closely with our community planning partners to target our resources to those most at risk in an effort to continue this pleasing downward trend.

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	
	Q4	YTD	Q4	YTD	Q4	YTD
Fire Fatalities From Accidental Dwelling Fires	0	2	1	1	0	0
East Berwickshire Ward	0	0	0	0	0	0
Galashiels and District Ward	0	1	0	0	0	0
Hawick and Denholm Ward	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hawick and Hermitage Ward	0	1	1	1	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	
	Q4	YTD	Q4	YTD	Q4	YTD
Non-Fatal Fire Casualties excl. precautionary check-ups	1	12	1	12	11	26
East Berwickshire Ward	0	3	0	1	0	0
Galashiels and District Ward	0	0	0	1	1	2
Hawick and Denholm Ward	0	1	1	2	3	4
Hawick and Hermitage Ward	0	1	0	1	1	4
Jedburgh and District Ward	0	1	0	2	0	0
Kelso and District Ward	0	0	0	0	2	2
Leaderdale and Melrose Ward	0	3	0	0	2	4
Mid Berwickshire Ward	0	2	0	2	1	5
Selkirkshire Ward	0	0	0	1	0	1
Tweeddale East Ward	1	1	0	2	0	2
Tweeddale West Ward	0	0	0	0	1	2

Fire Casualties

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

There were eleven reported casualties from dwelling fires during this reporting period which is a significant increase on the same reporting period of 2012-13. All but one of the casualties were treated as a precaution for slight smoke inhalation, with three from the same incident, being taken to the Borders General Hospital for further assessment.

Over the previous year there has been a disappointingly significant increase in fire related casualties, the vast majority of the casualties have suffered slight smoke inhalation, received a precautionary check and did not require 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	
	Q4	YTD	Q4	YTD	Q4	YTD
Other Primary Fires Excluding Accidental Dwellings	23	132	15	86	22	82
East Berwickshire Ward	2	23	0	4	2	11
Galashiels and District Ward	5	19	1	8	6	11
Hawick and Denholm Ward	3	8	1	10	2	7
Hawick and Hermitage Ward	2	6	3	6	1	6
Jedburgh and District Ward	1	14	0	13	4	6
Kelso and District Ward	1	11	2	7	2	13
Leaderdale and Melrose Ward	2	15	1	8	1	10
Mid Berwickshire Ward	0	11	2	8	1	7
Selkirkshire Ward	2	8	3	9	0	3
Tweeddale East Ward	3	10	0	5	0	1
Tweeddale West Ward	2	7	2	13	3	7

There were twenty-two other primary fires within this reporting period. This is an increase of seven compared to the corresponding period of last year.

The final quarter figures show a continuing downward trend in other primary fires, showing a 35% decrease in this category over the previous two years.

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	
	Q4	YTD	Q4	YTD	Q4	YTD
Deaths & Injuries From Other Primary Fires	0	8	0	3	0	1
Fatality	0	1	0	0	0	0
Injured (inc. rescue with injury)	0	7	0	3	0	1

There were no fire related injuries in this category during the reporting period.

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	
	Q4	YTD	Q4	YTD	Q4	YTD
Unwanted Fire Signals	214	873	213	913	183	842
East Berwickshire Ward	12	55	10	61	13	53
Galashiels and District Ward	42	151	30	134	30	152
Hawick and Denholm Ward	11	51	12	60	13	58
Hawick and Hermitage Ward	25	98	22	91	17	88
Jedburgh and District Ward	14	66	6	54	7	53
Kelso and District Ward	12	47	16	56	5	57
Leaderdale and Melrose Ward	13	105	25	98	25	79
Mid Berwickshire Ward	12	52	14	61	13	50
Selkirkshire Ward	17	72	20	101	10	74
Tweeddale East Ward	20	66	13	53	13	54
Tweeddale West Ward	36	110	45	143	37	124

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

There were one hundred and eighty-three Unwanted Fire Signals during this reporting period, this a decrease of thirty compared to the same period during 2012-13.

Throughout the year 2013 - 2014 unwanted fire signals have shown a steady decrease, with an overall decrease of 8% over the year.

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 January to 31 March 2014

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 START 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				20	100.0%			6	14	1
B	Care home	36	36				36	100.0%		3	16	21	
C	Houses of multiple occupation (HMO), Tenement	131	27		4		27	100.0%		96	30	5	
D	Dwellings	23								2	21		
E	Hostel	29	3				4			8	18	3	
F	Hotels	185	36		1		35	100.0%		17	144	24	
G	House converted to Flat	1									1		
H	Other sleeping accommodation	482	4		1	2	28	100.0%	2	76	400	4	
J	Further education	13					9		4	8	1		
K	Public building	75	1				2	100.0%	45	21	9		
L	Licensed premises	323	1		1		67	100.0%	100	168	54	1	
M	Schools	205					3		75	126	4		
N	Shops	820	6	1	7	2	72	100.0%	12	461	346	1	
P	Other premises open to public	421	1	1	6		13	100.0%	192	216	13		
R	Factories or warehouse	212					3		188	23	1		
S	Offices	457					5		378	79			
T	Other workplace	2,312	1		2	1	3		1,951	357	4		
	Total	5,746	137	2	22	5	327	100.0%	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

Additional audits have been undertaken within other categories of premises not originally pre-programmed. In effect, this has resulted in many additional audits being carried out over and above the annual target which is set at the commencement of the year. Such amendments are necessary to account for unforeseen work generated during the year, and as such, amendments are made taking cognisance of the risk profile of premises.

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	219	428	188	835
Completed Visits where smoke alarms were installed.	71	186	86	343

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 4: 1st January – 31st March 2014

ACTIVITY	SCOTTISH BORDERS
Enhanced Home Safety Visits (No. of households/occupiers visited)	27
Firesharp (No. of sessions delivered)	13
Firesharp (No. of Pupils)	324
Nursery Visits	0
Road Safety Education (No. of Programmes)	0
Road Safety Education (number of pupils)	0
Firesetters Intervention Programme (No. of sessions with youths)*	0
Community Safety Talks / Attendance at Community Events**	79
Crucial Crew***	N/A
Fire Safety Inspections (CGA) in Tenement Stairs	0

Definitions

*A one to one counselling session with a young person to discuss the consequences of being involved in wilful fire raising.

**Comprises non-school events including: appliance visits to community groups (fetes, galas etc); group visits to fire stations; specific campaigns (Stair Aware, Cooking Safety, etc); and Community Fire-fighter talks/stall events.

***Crucial Crew programme runs only in school Autumn term.