



**TEVIOT AND LIDDESDALE
AREA FORUM
TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, 20TH
SEPTEMBER, 2016**

Please find attached Scottish Fire and Rescue Service report in respect of Item No. 10 on the agenda for the above meeting

10.	Scottish Fire & Rescue Service (Pages 1 - 4) Update report by Russell Bell, Station Commander, detailing ongoing work and initiatives in the Teviot and Liddesdale Area. (To follow).	10 mins
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**Teviot & Liddesdale Area Forum September 2016.
Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Report.**

Station Manager Russell Bell.

Purpose of the Report;

The purpose of this report is to inform the Teviot & Liddesdale Area Forum on Scottish Fire and Rescue Service activity for the month of August 2016.

Service Delivery activity in the Teviot & Liddesdale Area.

Incident type	Occurrences	Detail	Casualties
Fire- House	2	Accidental	3- Slight injuries requiring first aid from Fire & Rescue staff.
Fire- Open/ other	2	1 x Woodland, 1 x outdoor structure	0
Special Service	4	1 x Water rescue 1 x Assist Police 1 x Effect entry 1 x Out of hospital cardiac arrest	1 Fatality
Unwanted Fire Alarm Signal	13	Mixture of commercial and domestic properties.	0

Swift water rescue training

Hawick Wholetime crews have completed their initial swift water rescue training and now have all staff trained to enter the water and a proportional number also trained as boat operators. Maintenance training is now taking place, primarily with crews from Galashiels who already have this skill set. The go live date is yet to be determined which will see Hawick become a national asset with regard to the ability to respond to water related incidents.

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The high volume pump will, as previously reported, leave Hawick as the swift water rescue skillset is realised.

Flood response training

Hawick Retained crew are receiving flood first responder training at the moment. This skill set will train and equip the staff to be effective with low level work during flooding incidents such as assessing pumping out flooding premises, and assisting with rescues during low level flooding.

Service Transformation

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service realise as a public Service that we need to diversify and innovate as the needs of our communities become sharper into focus.

One of these focus areas is out of hospital cardiac arrest, where the survival rate is very low if no immediate assistance is available.

Following guidance from the Scottish Ambulance Service, Hawick was deemed a suitable location to trial** the Scottish Fire and Rescue Services out of hospital cardiac arrest response.

Crews (both Whole time and Retained Duty System) have received enhanced joint training, (focussing on cardio pulmonary resuscitation and defibrillator use) from Scottish Fire and Rescue Service training staff and Scottish Ambulance Service partners which allows a response to local cardiac arrest emergencies, where appropriate. Hawick is now a 'live asset' and is on standby to meet the needs of our local communities.

**The trial has been extended for a further 6 months, from April 2016.

Prevention and Protection activity.

Recent activity

Within the month of August, SFRS staff were active in supporting two community events, the annual Steve Hyslop Memorial Run and Hawick International Day, both of which took place on Sunday 28 August.

Fire prevention and protection activity over recent years has been key to reducing the number of fires, casualties and losses in Scotland thus minimising the economic and social impact of fire on communities. The seasonal community safety calendar provides the catalyst for a number of initiatives and schemes throughout the calendar year.

Activity, which is ongoing at the moment within the Teviot & Liddesdale area;

- Community Planning Partnership- Scottish Fire and Rescue Service have been active within the local Resilient Communities groups, and have submitted proposals supporting the Burnfoot Community Futures strategy for the Hub. We have also been actively supporting local elected members who have highlighted combustible materials on common stairwells.

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- Driving Into the Future- is an initiative aimed at educating new/ potential drivers. PowerPoint presentation in the classroom is followed by practical education with a crashed car in conjunction with local Scottish Fire and Rescue Service crews. This initiative has been running at Hawick High School and has received encouraging feedback from both students and staff.
- Scottish Fire and Rescue Service staff in all our local stations provide Home Fire Safety Visits all year round. The visits provide the householder with a home visit, focussing on identifying and reducing the risks of fire in the home. Smoke detectors with a 10-year battery life are provided as part of this free service. Freephone number for this service is 0800 0731 999.
- Firesharp is an initiative for Primary 6 pupils, providing face-to-face education within our local Primary schools on matters of fire risk and prevention.
- Crucial Crew is the practical follow up to the P6 educational input. All P7 pupils in the area attend a multi-agency event at Tweedbank where they are placed in real life scenarios and guided on the appropriate safe actions.
- Fire Safety Audits provide a targeted examination of a business premises and their relevant documents to ascertain how the premises are being managed regarding fire safety. The enforcement officer also engages with members of staff to confirm their level of fire safety awareness.
- Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals are being addressed by our phased intervention actions which identifies premises which are producing 'false alarms'. It provides guidance on how to reduce a reoccurrence, and can also evoke legislation if occurrences fail to reduce in number- operationally, this can result in a reduction in the number of fire engines which will attend a 'repeat offender'.
- Fire Case Study and Adult & Child Protection Policies ensure multi agency involvement is provided for the support and protection for our higher risk members of the community.

Thematic Action Planning

The Prevention & Protection (P&P) departments of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service initiate thematic plans throughout the year aimed at making our communities safer.

The summer season thematic period has now commenced (27 June – 29 August) and covers the following:

- Fire Related Anti-Social Behaviour
- Holiday Safety
- Countryside and Outdoor Safety

For the summer thematic period, P&P management will be required to report our level of success against the following indicators:

Reduce the number of deliberate primary* and secondary** fires

1. Reduce the number of fires in derelict/unoccupied buildings
2. Reduce the number of fires involving refuse/rubbish
3. Reduce the number of outdoor fires involving grass/heather/heathland and/or forested areas.

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4. Reduce fire related antisocial behaviour
5. Promote fire safety within seasonal sleeping risks (including, hotels, guest houses/boarding houses, caravan/camping sites and holiday centres)
6. Promote water safety and reduce the number of fires and accidents involving boats, leisure craft and ferries
7. Contribute to the delivery of summer road safety initiatives.

**Primary fires include buildings (including mobile homes) which are fit for occupation and those under construction. Caravans & vehicles (not derelict). Outdoor storage, plant and machinery. Agricultural and forestry premises & property.*

***Secondary fires include single derelict buildings. Grassland including heath, hedges, railway embankments and single trees. Intentional straw or stubble burning. Outdoor structures including lamp-posts, traffic signs, playground furniture, hoardings etc. Refuse and refuse containers. Derelict vehicles*

Multi Ward Operating Plan

The Multi Ward Operating Plan for Teviot & Liddesdale, covering the Hawick & Hermitage/ Hawick & Denholm Wards is available. The plan sets out the priorities and objectives for the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) within the area. The SFRS will continue to work closely with our partners in Teviot & Liddesdale to ensure we are all 'Working Together for a Safer Scotland'. The plan can be accessed electronically via the following link;

[Http://www.firescotland.gov.uk/your-area/east/ward-operational-plans.aspx](http://www.firescotland.gov.uk/your-area/east/ward-operational-plans.aspx)

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