



"Keeping People Safe"

**Teviot & Liddesdale Area Forum June 2015
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 May 2015.

Service Delivery activity in the Teviot & Liddesdale Area.

Incident type	Occurrences	Detail	Casualties
Fire- House	1	Fire in common stairwell of flats.	0
Fire- Open/ other	0		N/A
Special Service	3	2 x assist fallen person, 1 x flooding.	0
Unwanted Fire Signals	9	4 x sheltered housing, 3 x hospital, 1 x community centre, 1 x industrial premises.	N/A

Prevention and Protection activity.

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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- Young Drivers S6 Programme- 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', 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 is now active active (29 June – 28 August) and focusses on 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 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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