



# LOCAL PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT SCOTTISH BORDERS



**SCOTTISH**  
**FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**  
Working together for a safer Scotland

Year to Date Report, 1<sup>st</sup> April – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018

**Working together  
for a safer Scotland**



#### DISCLAIMER

The figures included in this report are provisional and subject to change as a result of quality assurance and review. The statistics quoted are internal management information published in the interests of transparency and openness.

The Scottish government publishes Official Statistics each year which allow for comparisons to be made over longer periods of time.

Please ensure any external partners in receipt of these reports are aware of this.

<b>CONTENTS</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
1 <b>Introduction</b>	<b>3</b>
2 <b>Performance Summary</b>	<b>4</b>
3 <b>Progress on local fire &amp; rescue plan priorities</b>	
<i>Local Risk Management and Preparedness</i>	<b>5</b>
<i>Dwelling fires</i>	<b>7</b>
<i>All fire casualties (fatal &amp; non-fatal (incl. p/c's))</i>	<b>9</b>
<i>All deliberate fires excl. dwellings</i>	<b>11</b>
<i>Special Service - RTCs</i>	<b>13</b>
<i>Special Service Casualties - All</i>	<b>15</b>
<i>False Alarm - Equipment failure</i>	<b>17</b>

## **Introduction**

The priorities contained within the Local Fire and Rescue Plan and our strategies for service delivery are clearly aligned to the Community Planning Structure, which supports the delivery of the Community Planning Partnership priorities and activities in the Scottish Borders. The priorities in the Local Fire and Rescue Plan also contribute to Scottish Governments National Outcome, O9: We live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger.

The aims of the local 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 Community Fire and Rescue Plan for the Scottish Borders, five priorities for the local Fire and Rescue Service to work towards have been identified for 2018/19 (listed below).

1. As part of a Community Partnership approach, we will make people safer in their homes
2. We will promote Community Resilience whilst contributing to improved outcomes for people involved in non-fire emergencies
3. Together with our Community Partners, we will contribute to making Scottish Borders roads safer
4. As part of a Community Partnership, we will challenge Anti-social Behaviour
5. In partnership, we will aim to reduce the occurrence and impact of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals.

Area Manager Stephen Gourlay, Local Senior Officer for the Scottish Borders

## Performance Summary

We measure how well we are meeting our priorities using 6 key indicators, depicted below

Key performance indicator	Apr to (& incl.) Dec					RAG rating
	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	YTD
Dwelling fires	60	85	69	71	76	▲
All fire casualties (fatal & non-fatal (incl. p/c's))	9	15	20	14	12	●
All deliberate fires excl. dwellings	79	89	78	139	104	●
Special Service - RTCs	78	79	77	65	67	▲
Special Service Casualties - All	52	92	111	73	70	●
False Alarm - Equipment failure	494	436	479	482	502	▲

### RAG rating - KEY

◆	RED DIAMOND	10% higher than the previous YTD period, or local target not achieved.
▲	YELLOW TRIANGLE	Up to 9% higher than the previous YTD period, or local target not achieved.
●	GREEN CIRCLE	Equal to or improved upon the previous equivalent quarter (or YTD period), or local target achieved.

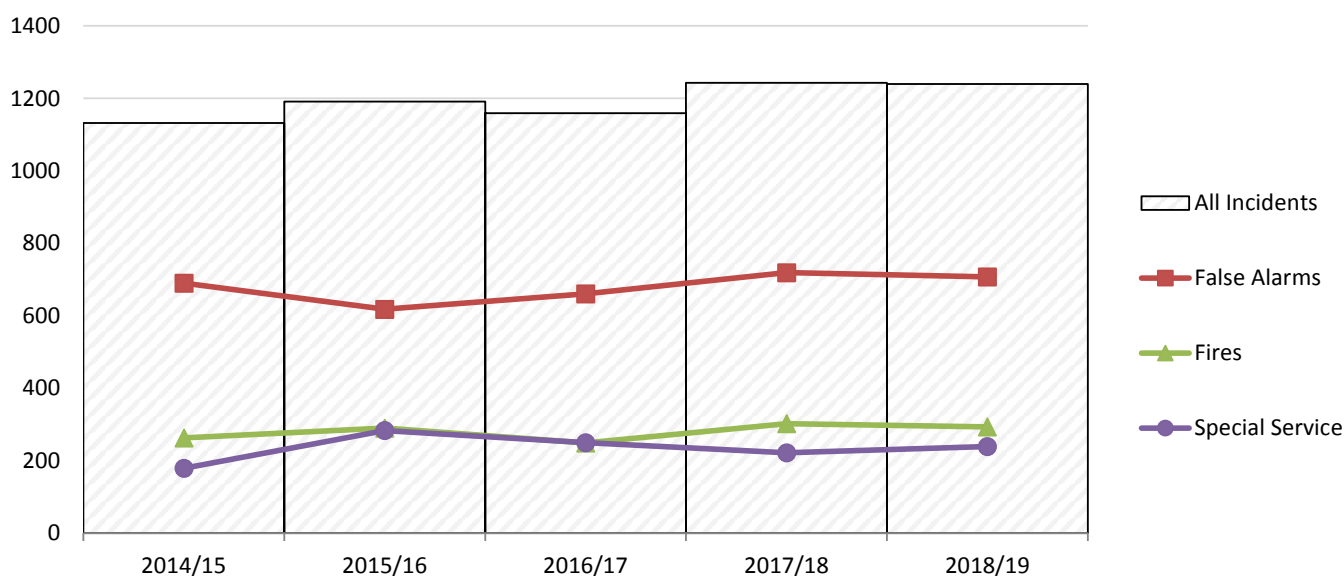
### Note

Quarterly comparison RAG rating = the reporting period compared to the average of the three previous quarterly reporting periods  
 Year to Date RAG rating = the cumulative total of all quarterly performance in current year compared to cumulative total of all quarterly performance in the previous year.

### Incident Overview

During the YTD period 1st April to 31st Dec 2018, the SFRS responded to 1239 incidents within the Scottish Borders, this is 4 less incidents than the same period last year. False alarms accounted for 57% of our emergency calls for the year so far.

The chart below illustrates incidents YTD attended within Scottish Borders council over the last 5 fiscal years



**Progress on local fire & rescue plan priorities**

**Local Risk Management and Preparedness**

The Service must identify, prioritise and plan to meet the risks in each local community.

We said we would:

- train our staff to deal with our local risks
- gather and analyse risk information
- work with partners to mitigate risks
- deal with major events

Train our staff to deal with our local risks

Our operational staff have continued to undertake routine and risk specific skill acquisition and maintenance training. During 2018-19, all firefighters in the Scottish Borders will participate within the Training for Operational Competence Programme. Current modules for the year to date period include Ladders, Water Awareness, Incident Command, Health, Safety and Risk Management and Petrochemical and Gases.

Gather and analyse risk information

Our operational staff continue to gather and analyse local risk information and operational intelligence which is used in our preparations to resolve incidents. We conduct Post Incident Debriefs using a Structured Debrief Process to identify any lessons that can be learned from our preparedness and response to emergency events.

Work with partners to mitigate risks

We continue to be an active member of the Lothian and Borders Local Resilience Partnership. We share information with local authority partners and other key stakeholders (e.g. Police Scotland) to ensure emergency risks are mitigated.

Deal with major events

The Service did not deal with any “major events” in the Scottish Borders during the reporting period.

\*

## Reduction of 'Dwelling fires'

Dwelling fires can have devastating effects on our communities. The reduction of dwelling fires, accidental or deliberate, continues to be a priority for the SFRS in the Scottish Borders. We adopt a targeted approach whilst sharing information with partners in order to drive down the risk of fire within local communities with an emphasis on those who are particularly vulnerable through age, isolation or addiction.

### Results

We will seek a year on year reduction in dwelling fires, which will contribute towards the Scottish target of a 10% reduction, over a three-year rolling period.

There have been 76 dwelling fires recorded compared to 71 for the same YTD period last year, this represents a 7% increase. Eleven of these fires were started deliberately.

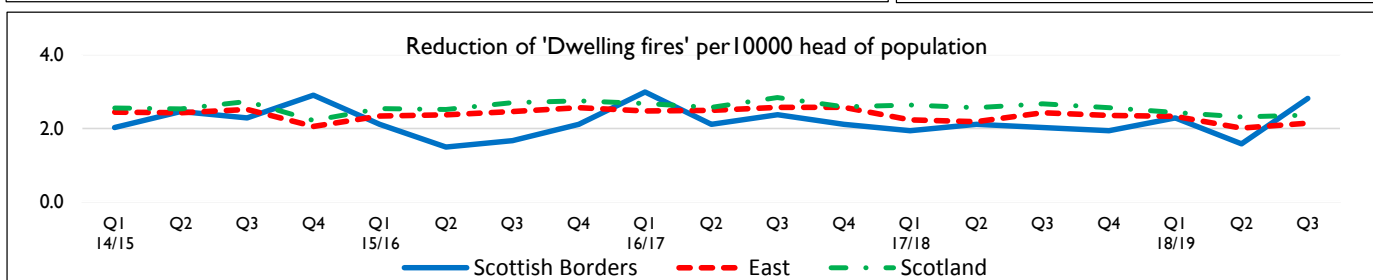
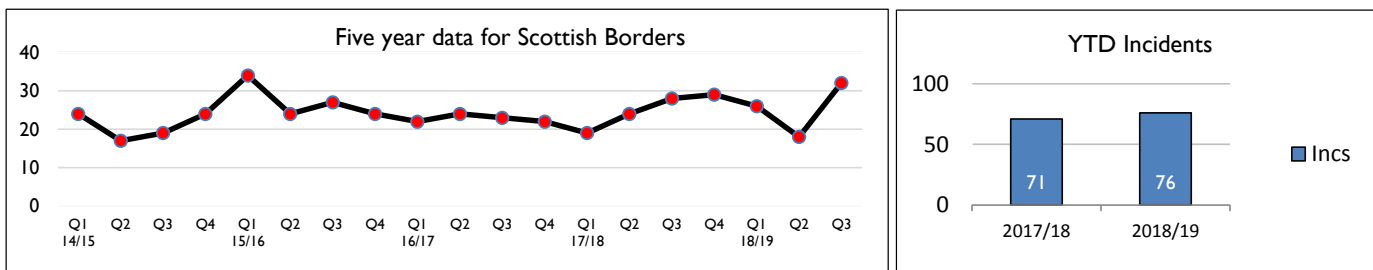
### Reasons

Cooking accounted for 28 of these dwelling fires with a further 5 attributable to careless disposal of smoking materials. Analysis highlights 50% of these incidents originated in the kitchen with 63% involving adults 18-64 years.

### Actions

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service conduct Post Domestic Incident Response (PDIR) following all domestic dwelling fires. We also work closely with partners in order to identify persons at risk from fire, this often results in cross agency referrals or joint home safety visits.

Serious fires are subject to detailed investigation and depending on the circumstances can result in multi-agency case conferences.



YTD ward ave. for Scottish Borders - 7	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	Sparklines
Scottish Borders	60	85	69	71	76	
Tweeddale West	3	5	5	5	8	
Tweeddale East	3	4	3	0	3	
Galashiels & District	12	16	10	20	11	
Selkirkshire	3	4	8	5	9	
Leaderdale & Melrose	9	7	2	4	9	
Mid Berwickshire	6	6	7	10	9	
East Berwickshire	5	13	10	5	6	
Kelso & District	3	8	7	5	7	
Jedburgh & District	3	6	2	3	5	
Hawick & Denholm	7	5	6	8	5	
Hawick & Hermitage	6	11	9	6	4	





## Reduction of 'All fire casualties (fatal & non-fatal (incl. p/c's))'

Fire casualty and fatality rates provide an indication of the amount of serious, life-threatening injuries that occur due to fire. This can indicate not only the success of SFRS in reducing the number of life risk fires through community fire safety and similar activities, but also their success in response activity in saving lives.

### Results

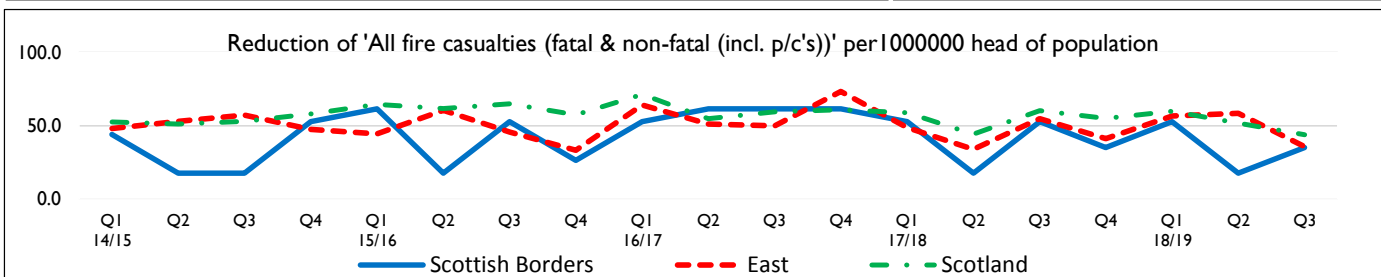
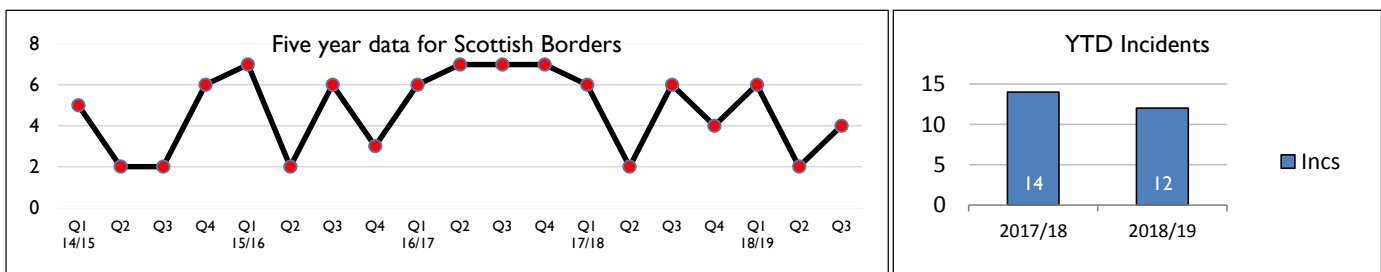
We aim to reduce Fire Casualties in the Scottish Borders year on year that contributes towards the SFRS target of reducing Fire Casualties by 5% per year, over a three-year rolling period. There have been 12 casualties in the YTD period, this is two less than the same period last year.

### Reasons

Oxygen was administered by SFRS at the scene to all casualties. Three of the casualties were led to safety by firefighters. Seven casualties were required to go to hospital with slight injuries and 5 received first aid at the scene only.

### Actions

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service conduct a Post Domestic Incident Response (PDIR) 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. Crews also proactively target 'at risk groups' including elderly people who are more likely to suffer a fire in their home.



YTD ward ave. for Scottish Borders - I	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	Sparklines
Scottish Borders	9	15	20	14	12	
Tweeddale West	0	1	4	0	1	
Tweeddale East	0	0	0	0	0	
Galashiels & District	0	3	0	8	1	
Selkirkshire	0	0	3	0	1	
Leaderdale & Melrose	2	2	1	1	1	
Mid Berwickshire	3	2	3	5	0	
<b>East Berwickshire</b>	1	0	1	0	<b>2</b>	
<b>Kelso &amp; District</b>	0	1	1	0	<b>5</b>	
Jedburgh & District	1	3	0	0	1	
Hawick & Denholm	1	1	2	0	0	
Hawick & Hermitage	1	2	5	0	0	



## Reduction of 'All deliberate fires excl. dwellings'

Reduction of Deliberate Fire Setting continues to be a priority for the SFRS in the Scottish Borders. Deliberate fires of this nature typically involve grassland, refuse or derelict buildings. Evidence shows that there is a close link between deliberate secondary fires and anti-social behaviour.

### Results

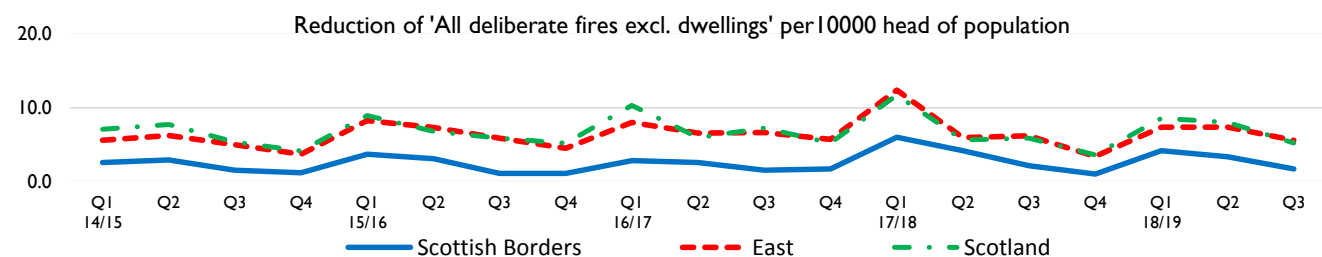
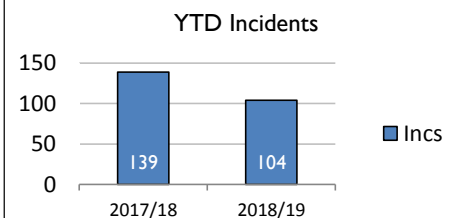
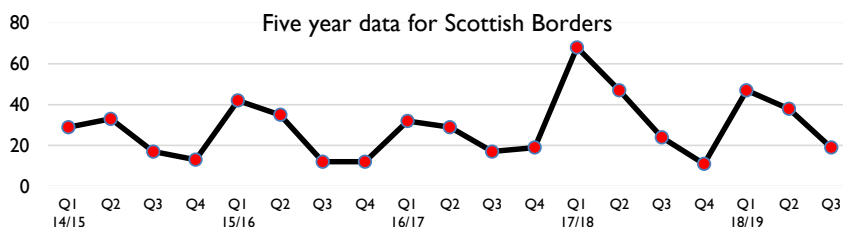
There have been 104 incidents of this nature in the YTD period, this is a 25% decrease for the same reporting period last year.

### Reasons

Secondary fires involving refuse, grass, scrub and woodland accounted for 69% of all deliberate fires. 30% of these fires occurred in the Galashiels and District ward a continued decrease for the area.

### Actions

The SFRS carry out seasonal campaigns with the purpose of warning and educating the public regarding dangers, risks and safety measures. Where trends or patterns are identified, the SFRS will work with community partners to mitigate the risk of recurrence. Where required the SFRS offer a one to one service for young fire setters.



YTD ward ave. for Scottish Borders - 9	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	Sparklines
Scottish Borders	79	89	78	139	104	
Tweeddale West	6	13	4	13	3	
Tweeddale East	7	16	7	6	8	
Galashiels & District	17	17	17	58	29	
Selkirkshire	8	3	6	11	3	
Leaderdale & Melrose	5	6	6	4	8	
Mid Berwickshire	8	4	7	7	5	
East Berwickshire	3	2	3	3	11	
Kelso & District	3	6	4	12	12	
Jedburgh & District	6	9	12	5	6	
Hawick & Denholm	12	11	9	15	10	
Hawick & Hermitage	4	2	3	5	9	



## Reduction of 'Special Service - RTCs'

While much of this risk is out with the control of SFRS, responding to Road Traffic Collisions is a key part of our intervention activities. The SFRS is committed to working with partners and other stakeholders in order to reduce the amount of RTC's that occur in the Scottish Borders.

### Results

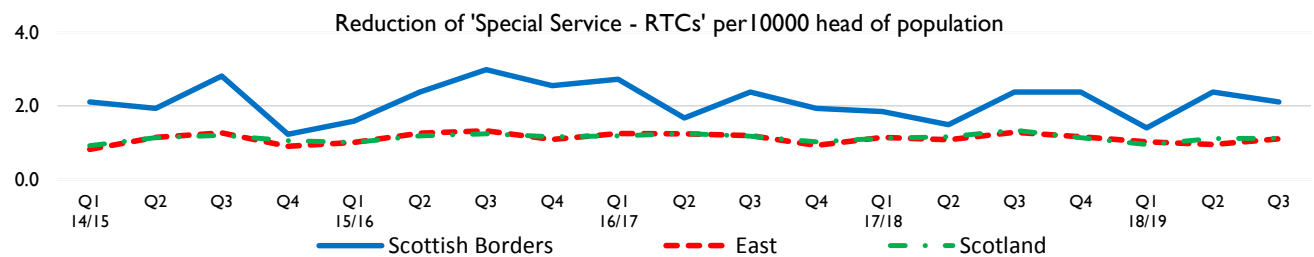
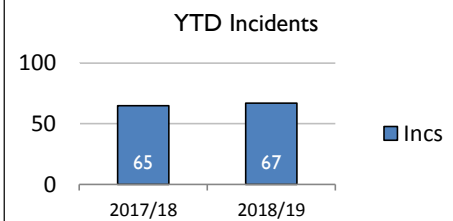
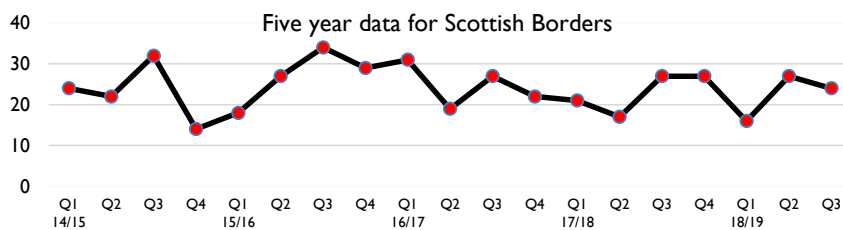
The SFRS attended 67 RTC's YTD, this represents a slight increase of 3% compared to the same period last year. Further analysis indicates that hydraulic rescue equipment was used on 22 occasions to extricate persons trapped in vehicles. The remaining incidents required limited intervention from the SFRS including administering first aid and making the vehicle or scene safe.

### Reasons

Police Scotland are responsible for determining the causes of RTC's, however, the SFRS have a significant part to play in preventing RTC's. The SFRS respond to RTC's whenever it is confirmed persons are within the vehicle, regardless if they are trapped or not. As highlighted in the previous paragraph, this can mean that on many occasions limited intervention is required by our crews.

### Actions

The SFRS are part of the Safer Communities Unit and a member of the Road Safety Working Theme Group. CAT and operational staff attend educational establishments such as schools and the Borders College to deliver inputs to young drivers regarding the consequences of RTC's. We also participate in partnership initiatives such as the Scottish Borders Drivewise Event.



YTD ward ave. for Scottish Borders - 6	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	Sparklines
Scottish Borders	78	79	77	65	67	
Tweeddale West	14	6	3	13	10	
Tweeddale East	12	10	8	4	7	
Galashiels & District	10	11	10	8	9	
Selkirkshire	5	3	6	3	3	
Leaderdale & Melrose	8	12	8	7	7	
Mid Berwickshire	6	3	7	3	7	
East Berwickshire	6	12	5	7	8	
Kelso & District	5	7	8	4	0	
Jedburgh & District	8	9	14	11	8	
Hawick & Denholm	2	4	4	3	4	
Hawick & Hermitage	2	2	4	2	4	



## Reduction of 'Special Service Casualties - All'

The figures below pertain to all non-fire related casualties and represent the diverse nature of incidents the SFRS attend in the Scottish Borders other than fires and UFAS. As the traditional role of the Fire and Rescue Service expands, the SFRS is committed to working with partners and other stakeholders in order to reduce not only the amount of RTC related casualties and fatalities, but other casualties including victims of flooding and medical emergencies.

### Results

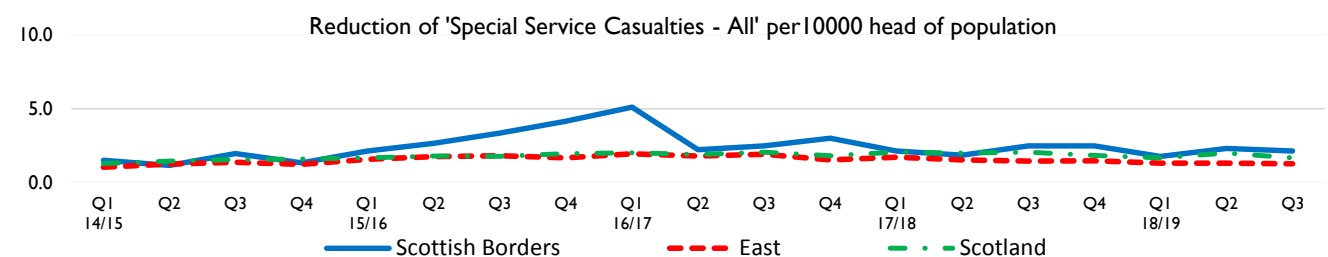
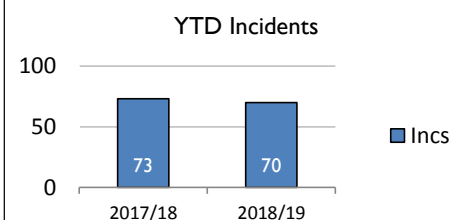
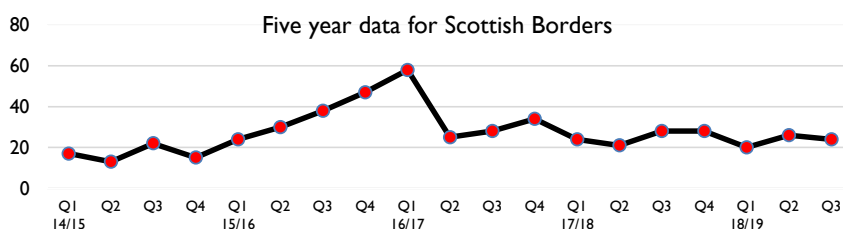
There have been 70 Special Service casualties during the reporting period, a 4% decrease in comparison to the same period last year. A snapshot analysis of incident and casualty type is included in the report summary page.

### Reasons

The amount of “non-traditional” incidents the SFRS are mobilised to has increased markedly over the last few years. These types of incident include assisting our Scottish Ambulance colleagues with effecting entry for emergency medical response and persons who have fallen in the home. Traditional Special Service response includes, RTC’s, Water Rescue, Hazmat and rescues from height.

### Actions

CAT staff and operational crews participate regularly in partnership initiatives that target high risk groups with the specific aim of highlighting the potential severity and far reaching consequences of RTC’s. SFRS crews are providing CPR and defibrillator training to local communities. By training members of the public in CPR, those suffering an out of hospital cardiac arrest have a better chance of survival due to early intervention.



YTD ward ave. for Scottish Borders - 6	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	Sparklines
Scottish Borders	52	92	111	73	70	
Tweeddale West	6	19	7	15	9	
Tweeddale East	5	4	8	5	3	
Galashiels & District	7	14	16	10	10	
Selkirkshire	3	3	7	9	5	
Leaderdale & Melrose	5	10	7	4	7	
Mid Berwickshire	5	4	9	8	8	
East Berwickshire	6	12	6	5	3	
Kelso & District	3	5	15	3	5	
Jedburgh & District	6	14	18	7	8	
Hawick & Denholm	5	4	9	4	8	
Hawick & Hermitage	1	3	9	3	4	





## Reduction of 'False Alarm - Equipment failure'

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) are defined as incidents where an automated fire alarm system activates and results in the mobilisation of SFRS resources, when the reason for that alarm turns out to be something other than a fire emergency. The SFRS is committed to working with partners and other stakeholders to reduce Unwanted Fire Alarm signals.

### Results

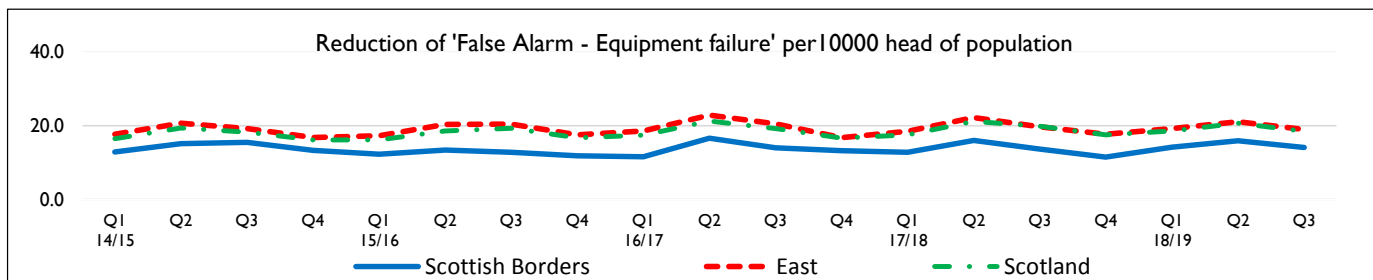
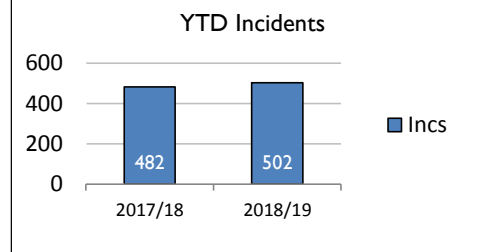
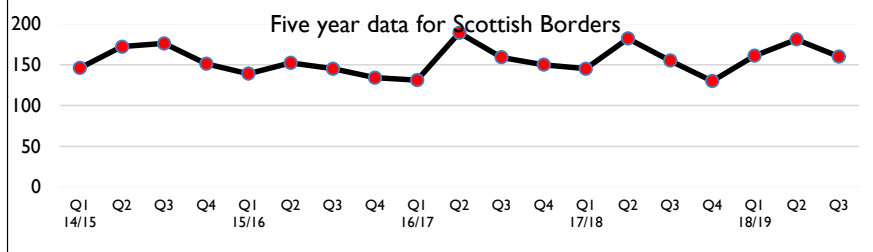
There have been 707 false alarm incidents in the Scottish Borders during this reporting period. Equipment failure accounted for 502 of these incidents with 173 and 33 the figures for good intent and malicious respectively. The figures illustrated in this report relate only to False Alarm equipment failures.

### Reasons

Equipment failure accounted for 71% of all UFAS calls in this reporting period and continues to be the most common cause of these types of incidents.

### Actions

We continue to proactively monitor UFAS calls and our Fire Safety Enforcement Officers work closely with premises to reduce further UFAS incidents. This includes discussing technological, procedural and management solutions in order to prevent future UFAS incidents. This forms part of an incremental approach with the ultimate aim of educating duty holders whilst reducing UFAS calls. The reduction of UFAS across the Borders has been supplemented by appointing one of our Fire Safety Enforcement Officers as UFAS Champion.



YTD ward ave. for Scottish Borders - 46	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	Sparklines
Scottish Borders	494	436	479	482	502	
Tweeddale West	79	66	62	77	52	
Tweeddale East	19	24	26	31	34	
Galashiels & District	73	80	64	78	75	
Selkirkshire	67	44	57	48	47	
Leaderdale & Melrose	67	59	52	48	56	
Mid Berwickshire	42	25	37	27	38	
East Berwickshire	28	26	21	21	46	
Kelso & District	28	19	35	34	48	
Jedburgh & District	23	21	27	17	31	
Hawick & Denholm	22	24	38	38	26	
Hawick & Hermitage	46	48	60	63	49	

