

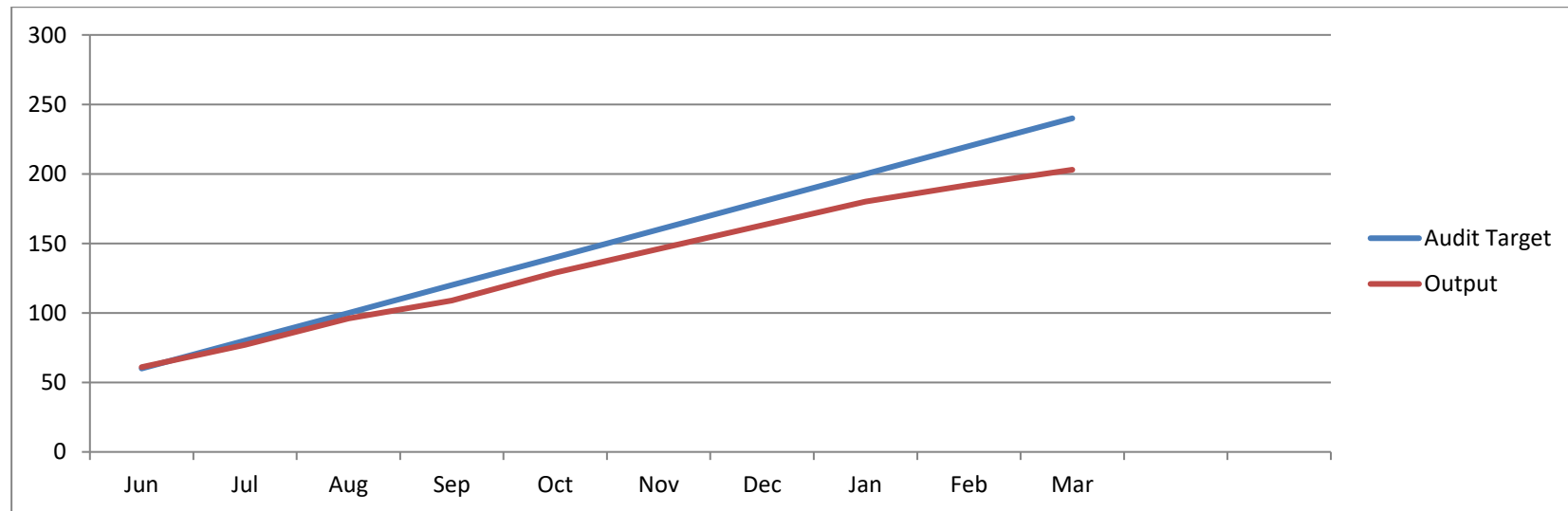
# Prevention & Protection Activities

Quarter 4 2018/2019: (1<sup>st</sup> January 2019 to 31st March 2019)

## Fire Safety Enforcement Audits

The figures represent the audit workloads delivered by the Scottish Borders Fire Safety Enforcement Officers (FSEOs). Following the SFRS Enforcement Framework, local deployment ensures compliance for relevant premises in terms of the Fire Scotland Act (2005) and associated Fire Safety Regulations. The Fire Safety Enforcement team are based at Galashiels Fire Station. It should be noted that those properties identified within our framework as high risk have been audited. Our annual targets have not been achieved. This is due to new staff joining our team and not being fully trained so therefore unable to carry audits. This will be addressed over the coming months.

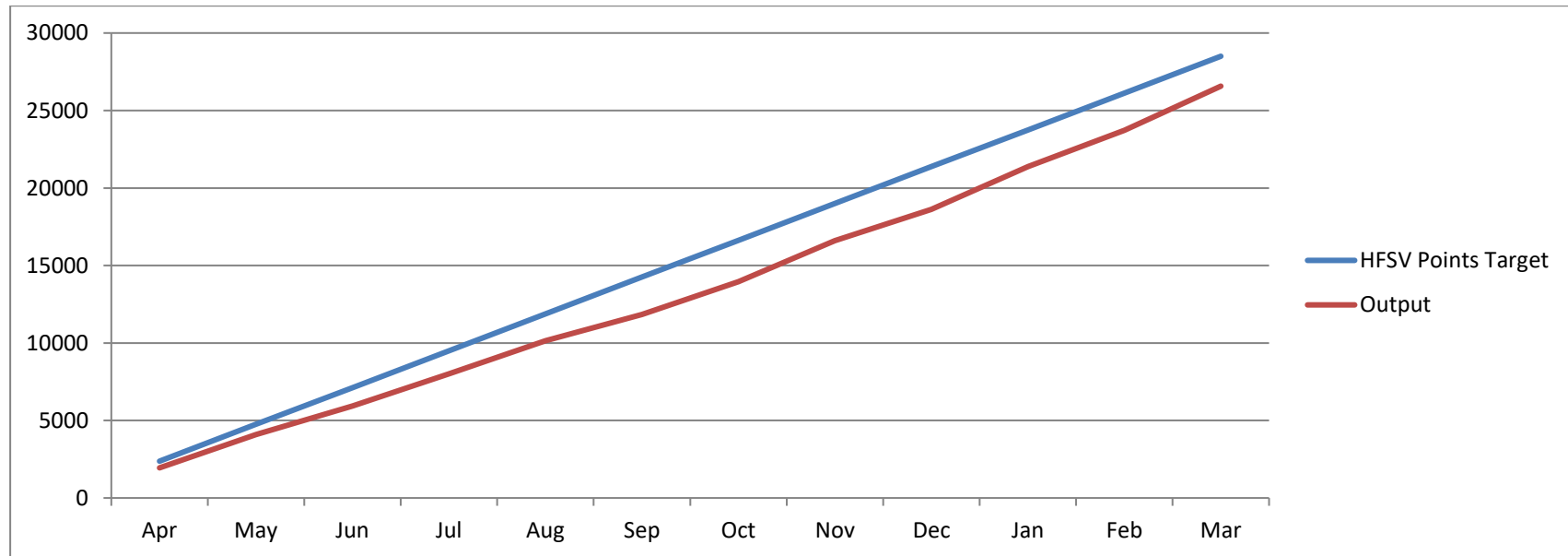
	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Target:	20	40	60	80	100	120	140	160	180	200	220	240	<b>240</b>
Completed:	20	43	61	77	96	109	129	146	163	180	192	203	<b>203</b>



## Home Fire Safety Visits

The delivery of Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSVs) is the corner stone of the SFRS Community Safety Engagement framework. By visiting households and providing fire safety advice and smoke alarms, the numbers of dwelling fires and casualties will be reduced. To target the highest risk households across the Scottish Borders, a points target based on risk has been set (24 points per high, 8 per medium, 4 per low risk visit). In order that we focus our resources on those at greatest risk of fire, SFRS decided earlier this year that those properties which scored either medium or low after a visit, would not be automatically offered a revisit after a specific period of time. This has had an impact on the number of HFSVs generated as can be seen from the points below. We have just reviewed current reporting arrangements in relations to points per visit. This has been increased for each station within the area. However, the main focus will always be to provide a HFSV to those persons at greatest risk of fire.

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Target	2375	4750	7125	9500	11875	14250	16625	19000	21375	23750	26125	28500	<b>28500</b>
Completed	1944	4096	5944	8004	10144	11832	13948	16604	18624	21372	23724	26571	<b>26571</b>



**Total visits delivered in 2018/19 by ward area of the Scottish Borders:**

The following table gives a good indication of the coverage across the Scottish Borders where the SFRS delivers Home Fire Safety Visits.

Ward Area	Visits delivered in Q1 2018/19	Visits delivered in Q2 2018/19	Visits delivered in Q3 2018/19	Visits delivered in Q4 2018/19
East Berwickshire	17	27	22	59
Galashiels and District	98	81	115	105
Hawick and Denholm	68	66	97	96
Hawick and Hermitage	96	98	72	120
Jedburgh and District	34	25	34	34
Kelso and District	22	21	28	48
Leaderdale and Melrose	39	41	71	49
Mid Berwickshire	26	29	18	30
Selkirkshire	40	35	32	42
Tweeddale East	24	20	21	27
Tweeddale West	23	19	19	32
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>487</b>	<b>462</b>	<b>529</b>	<b>642</b>

## Partnership Working

### Youth Engagement

During this Quarter, the Community Action Team (CAT) have delivered and supported Fire skills programmes in the Scottish Borders (Hawick High School) and East Lothian. In addition to these core activities, the CAT continues to support the delivery of youth engagement through Fire skills with young offenders at Polmont YOI and the Risk Factory initiative in Edinburgh.

The CAT have also had **5** Fire setter Intervention referrals from Police Scotland during this reporting period.

### Safeguarding (Vulnerable persons)

Close collaboration with our partner organisations across the public and third sector continues to generate our HFSV referrals. The local crews within the Scottish Borders continue to proactively deliver the Adult/Child protection policy and procedure and have generated **8** Social Work referrals during this period.

The Local Authority Liaison Officer (LALO) continues to attend or provide information relevant to fire for the monthly Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) and successful actions from these meetings have been delivered.

### Referrals

Home Fire Safety Visits are generated via several pathways involving partner agencies. Generation of referrals from partners is key to identifying individuals most at risk of fire within the home. Our LALO role supporting this is vital. This is an ongoing task, with new referral pathways being created regularly. Recent initiatives facilitated by our LALO has seen the number of referrals received increasing every month. This quarter we received just under **400** referrals. We have recently agreed to train approx. **900** SB Cares staff, which will generate additional referrals. This is a great example of partnership work supporting the identification of those individuals at greater risk, facilitating SFRS interventions and risk reduction measures.

In addition to MARAC outcomes, the CAT have facilitated a further **17** referrals from the Domestic Abuse Advocacy Service (DAAS) in partnership with the Safer Housing options worker for the Scottish Borders Council.

Housing Association partner referrals total **60**. Our LALO continues to actively engage in communicating with Housing Associations to deliver further training and familiarisation in Fire Safety and the referral process. This is supporting our objective of identifying persons most at risk of fire within the home.

NHS provided **8** referrals and Social Services **10**. The LALO continues to work closely with these respective partners and attends their regular team meetings to provide support and further training on the referral process.

Within the Scottish Borders we continue to develop partnership links with the Cheviot Community Health Care team (NHS) through the development of the Living Safely in the Home (LSITH) pilot project. This relates to falls assessment screening and referrals.

SFRS staff have been involved in the delivery of 65 Community Safety events in Scottish Borders during this period. This includes fire safety talks, liaising with other services and road safety initiatives as detailed below.

## **Road Safety**

The scheduled Drivewise event was cancelled, however, SFRS supported a similar event for drivers over 65 years of age. This was delivered over two days in March.

## **Other Work Completed or In Progress**

The information detailed below is further work the CAT have completed for this quarter or is in progress for the next quarter.

- Our LALO continues to work as an integral partner within the Safer Communities Team
- SFRS staff continue to attend monthly MARAC meetings
- We have delivered Home Fire safety awareness training as part of the Adult Protection training arrangements within the Borders. This is aimed at managers and practitioners
- CAT delivered Anti-Social Behaviour talks for all 2nd year pupils at Hawick High School
- Our LALO continues to attend the Community Learning & Development Target Setting Steering Group meetings
- The CAT continues to support 2 x Wholetime and 11 RDS stations with the delivery of HFSV's and Seasonal Thematic Action Plans
- Our LALO attended Falls Strategy Review forum at Borders General Hospital
- The CAT attended Borders Advanced Motorist Group open day
- We continue to support the Falls Strategy Review forum at Borders General Hospital.

## **Future Work Streams**

As we plan for the future, we are actively involved in several areas of work, including;

- We are actively looking for ways to reduce the number of UFAS calls we attend across Scotland. At previous Scrutiny meetings we have presented papers outlining the issues we face and how we propose to address them. SFRS are about to engage directly with SBC Education to assess the impact of UFAS within Schools and other educational premises. It is hoped that this exercise will promote a considerable reduction in UFAS and subsequent SFRS attendance to SB Schools. This initiative is still being actively pursued by SFRS and we await communication from our partners at Scottish Borders Council.
- One of our primary aims is to reduce fires, fire deaths and injuries. As can be seen from this report, we are focusing on the creation of Home Fire Safety referral pathways with other partners/agencies. This is an ongoing initiative and we will provide regular updates in relation to the number of partners we train and referrals received.