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"Keeping People Safe"

Teviot & Liddesdale Area Forum January 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 December 2014.

Response & Resilience activity in the Teviot & Liddesdale Area.

Incident type	Occurrences	Detail	Casualties
Fire- House	5	1x major fire (8 fire engines in attendance) 3 x chimney fires, 1 x kitchen fire.	0
Fire- Open	2	1 x caravan (deliberate ignition), 1 x bin (deliberate ignition)	0
Special Service	2	1 x road traffic collision, 1 x person fallen (assist Scottish Ambulance Service)	2 casualties
Unwanted Fire Signals	10	Various	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.

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

- 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.
- 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.
- 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 Planning

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

The winter season thematic period is now active and focuses on the following:

- Festive Safety
- Safety at Home
- Fire and Alcohol
- Cooking Safety

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

- a) Reduce the overall number of accidental fires in the home
- b) Reduce the overall number of accidental fire casualties and fatalities
- c) Minimise the number of accidental fires and fire casualties in the home involving persons over 60 years of age
- d) Target HFSV at high risk households (those most at risk and/ or most in need)
- e) Facilitate multi-agency partnership working to ensure the safety and wellbeing of vulnerable persons
- f) Provide relevant winter public safety information and advice
- g) Highlight the increased risk from fire and accidents over the festive period due to alcohol consumption

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