



LOCAL PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

SCOTTISH BORDERS



SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
Working together for a safer Scotland

Year to Date Report, 1st April – 30th June 2021

**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.

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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 (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 Commander 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.) Jun					RAG rating
	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	YTD
Dwelling fires	19	26	19	20	16	●
All fire casualties (fatal & non-fatal (incl. p/c's))	6	6	3	6	3	●
All deliberate fires excl. dwellings	68	47	50	52	26	●
Special Service - RTCs	22	16	19	5	7	◆
Special Service Casualties - All	24	20	29	8	17	◆
False Alarm - Equipment failure	147	161	143	135	154	◆

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.

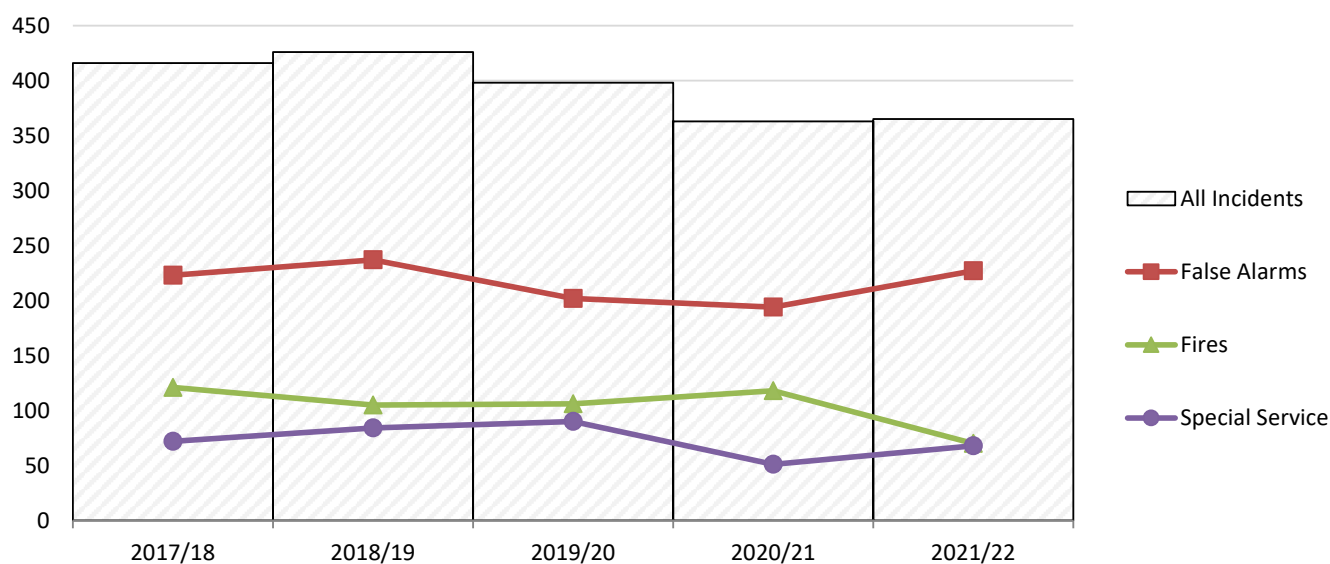
Note

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 period 1st April to 30th June 2021, the SFRS responded to 365 incidents within the Scottish Borders. This is an increase of 2 incidents compared to the same period last year. False alarms accounted for 62% of our emergency calls.

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
<p>The Service must identify, prioritise and plan to meet the risks in each local community.</p> <p>We said we would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • train our staff to deal with our local risks • gather and analyse risk information • work with partners to mitigate risks • deal with major events
<u>Train our staff to deal with our local risks</u>
<p>Our operational staff have continued to undertake routine and risk specific skill acquisition and maintenance training. During 2021-22, all firefighters in the Scottish Borders will participate within the Training for Operational Competence Programme. Core skills including pumps, ladders, breathing apparatus and incident command continue to be practiced on a regular basis.</p>
<u>Gather and analyse risk information</u>
<p>Our operational staff continue to gather and analyse local risk information and operational intelligence which is used in our preparations to resolve incidents.</p> <p>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.</p>
<u>Work with partners to mitigate risks</u>
<p>We continue to be an active member of the Lothian and Borders Local Resilience Partnership.</p> <p>We share information with local authority partners and other key stakeholders (e.g. Police Scotland) to ensure emergency risks are mitigated.</p>
<u>Deal with major events</u>
<p>The Service did not deal with any “major events” in the Scottish Borders during the reporting period.</p>

*

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

Scottish target of a 10% reduction, over a three-year rolling period.

There have been 16 dwelling fires recorded compared to 20 for the same YTD period last year, this represents a 20% decrease. 1 of these fires were started deliberately.

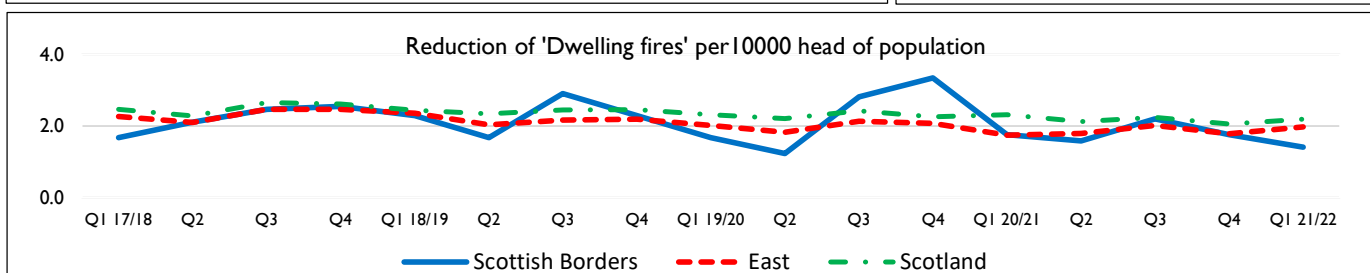
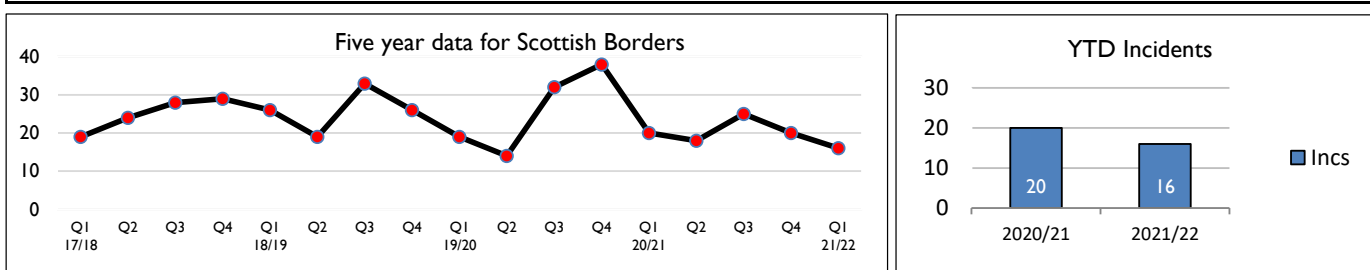
Reasons

Cooking appliances accounted for 5 of these dwelling fires with 3 due to negligent use of equipment and 1 attributable to overheating due to unknown cause. Analysis highlights 10 of these incidents involving adults 18-64 years and 3 in the 65+ age range.

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 - 1	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Sparklines
Scottish Borders	19	26	19	20	16	
Tweeddale West	0	2	2	1	2	
Tweeddale East	0	2	1	2	0	
Galashiels & District	5	3	6	4	1	
Selkirkshire	2	5	3	2	1	
Leaderdale & Melrose	3	4	1	1	3	
Mid Berwickshire	2	3	2	1	3	
East Berwickshire	1	2	1	2	1	
Kelso & District	0	2	1	1	1	
Jedburgh & District	1	1	0	1	0	
Hawick & Denholm	2	1	2	2	1	
Hawick & Hermitage	3	1	0	3	3	

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

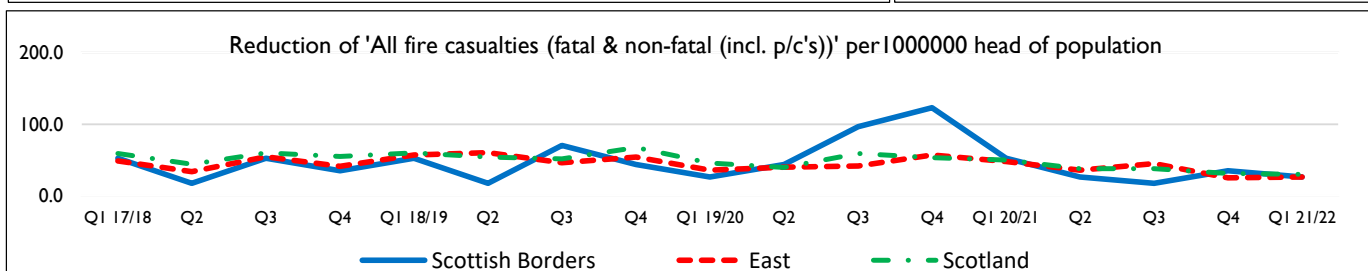
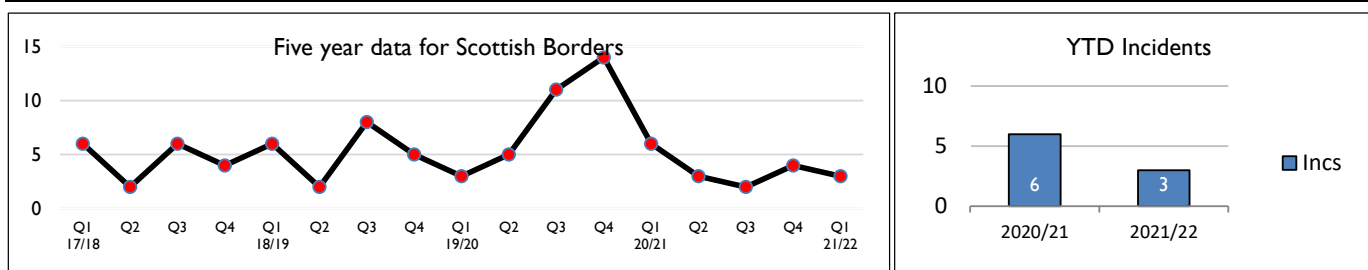
We aim to reduce Fire Casualties in the Scottish Borders year on year that contributes towards the SFRS target of reducing Fire Casualties by 5% per year, over a three-year rolling period. There have been 3 casualties in the YTD period, this is 3 less than the same period last year.

Reasons

Oxygen was administered by SFRS at the scene on 1 occasion. 1 of the casualties was suffering from smoke inhalation, 1 with slight burns. 1 casualty required to go to hospital with slight injuries and no serious injuries.

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 - 0	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Sparklines
Scottish Borders	6	6	3	6	3	
Tweeddale West	0	1	0	1	0	
Tweeddale East	0	0	0	0	0	
Galashiels & District	2	1	0	2	0	
Selkirkshire	0	1	2	0	0	
Leaderdale & Melrose	1	1	0	1	1	
Mid Berwickshire	3	0	1	0	0	
East Berwickshire	0	0	0	0	0	
Kelso & District	0	2	0	0	1	
Jedburgh & District	0	0	0	0	0	
Hawick & Denholm	0	0	0	0	0	
Hawick & Hermitage	0	0	0	2	1	

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

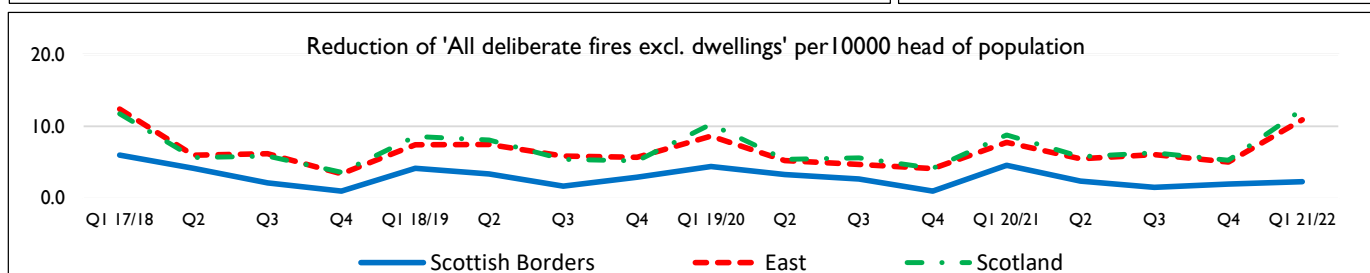
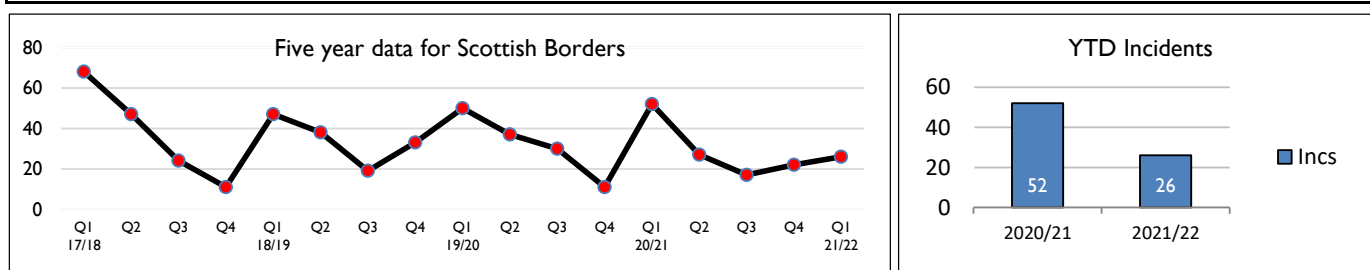
There have been 26 incidents of this nature in the YTD period, this is a decrease of 26 when compared to the same reporting period last year.

Reasons

Secondary fires involving refuse, grass, scrub and woodland accounted for 81% of all deliberate fires.

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 reoccurrence. Where required the SFRS offer a one to one service for young fire setters.



YTD ward ave. for Scottish Borders - 2	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Sparklines
Scottish Borders	68	47	50	52	26	
Tweeddale West	8	3	6	5	3	
Tweeddale East	3	4	6	7	1	
Galashiels & District	32	12	8	8	1	
Selkirkshire	5	1	2	1	2	
Leaderdale & Melrose	1	2	2	3	2	
Mid Berwickshire	4	2	8	6	4	
East Berwickshire	1	5	5	1	6	
Kelso & District	6	5	0	3	1	
Jedburgh & District	1	3	0	1	2	
Hawick & Denholm	5	5	11	11	2	
Hawick & Hermitage	2	5	2	6	2	

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

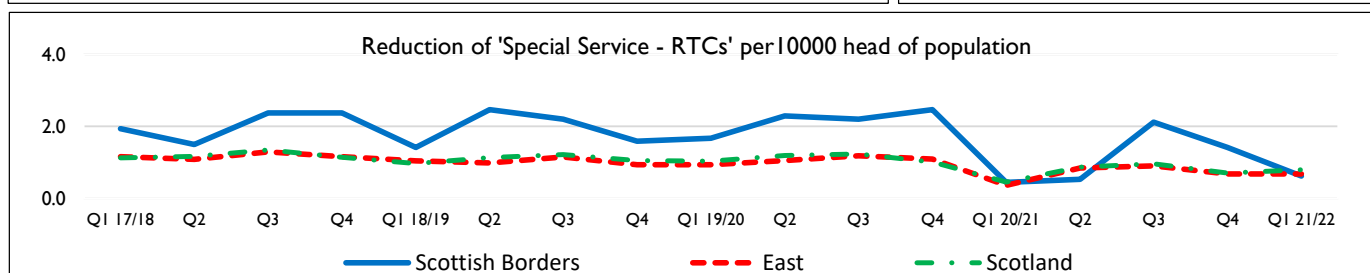
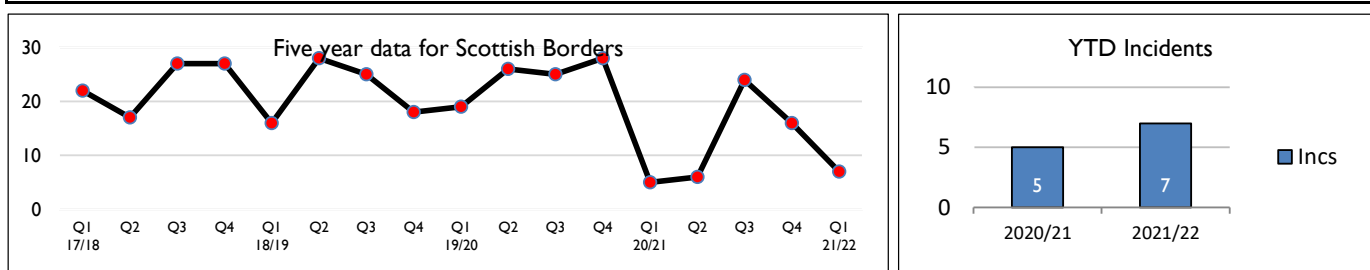
The SFRS attended 7 RTC's in the reporting period, this represents an increase of 2 when compared to last year. Further analysis indicates that hydraulic rescue equipment was used on 6 occasions to extricate persons trapped in vehicles. The remaining incident required limited intervention from the SFRS 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 - I	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Sparklines
Scottish Borders	22	16	19	5	7	
Tweeddale West	5	2	3	0	1	
Tweeddale East	1	2	1	1	0	
Galashiels & District	3	2	2	0	0	
Selkirkshire	3	0	0	0	1	
Leaderdale & Melrose	1	1	2	0	1	
Mid Berwickshire	0	0	1	2	0	
East Berwickshire	2	4	4	0	1	
Kelso & District	1	0	2	0	0	
Jedburgh & District	3	0	1	1	1	
Hawick & Denholm	2	3	1	0	1	
Hawick & Hermitage	1	2	2	1	1	

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

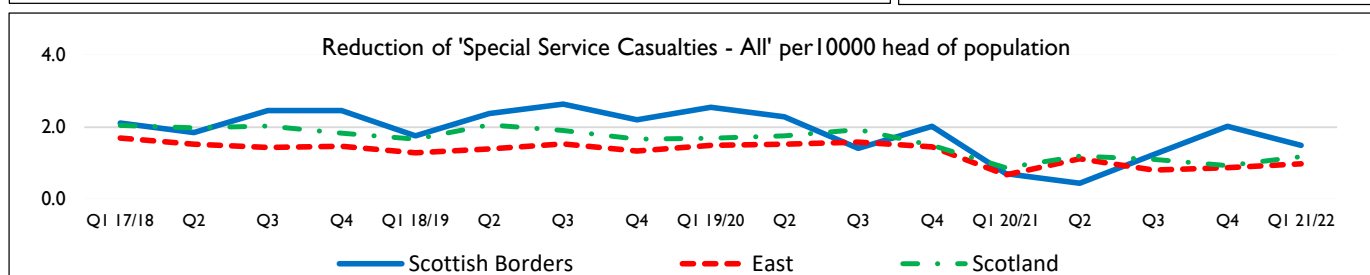
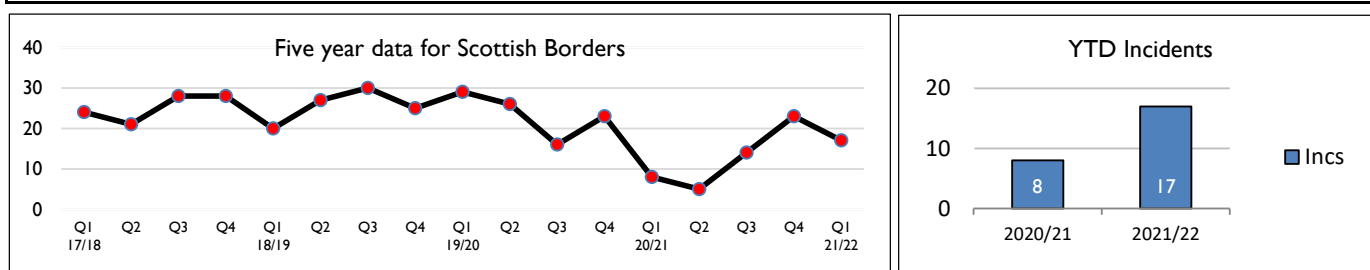
There have been 17 Special Service casualties during the last quarter - an increase of 9 in comparison to the same period last year. A snapshot analysis of incident and casualty type is included in the report summary page.

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, Hazardous Materials 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 - 2	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Sparklines
Scottish Borders	24	20	29	8	17	
Tweeddale West	4	1	2	1	2	
Tweeddale East	2	1	4	0	0	
Galashiels & District	2	1	1	1	1	
Selkirkshire	6	2	2	1	4	
Leaderdale & Melrose	0	2	3	0	0	
Mid Berwickshire	3	1	2	3	1	
East Berwickshire	1	2	4	0	4	
Kelso & District	2	2	2	0	0	
Jedburgh & District	0	0	7	0	1	
Hawick & Denholm	1	5	0	1	2	
Hawick & Hermitage	3	3	2	1	2	

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

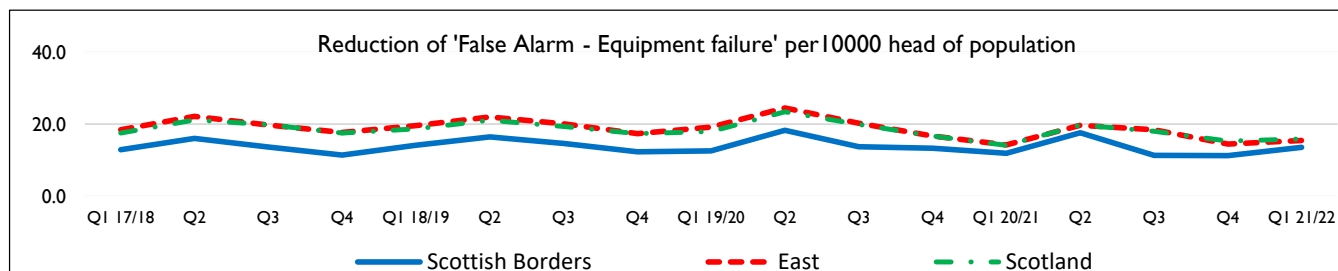
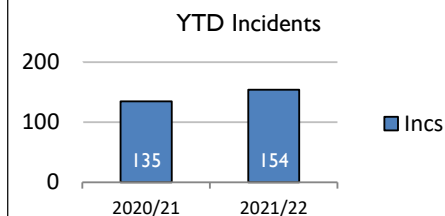
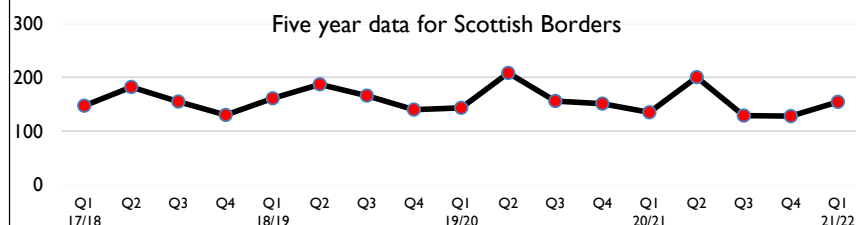
There have been 227 false alarm incidents in the Scottish Borders during this reporting period. Equipment failure accounted for 154 of these incidents with 57 and 16 the figures for good intent and malicious respectively. The figures illustrated in this report relate only to False Alarm equipment failures.

Reasons

Equipment failure accounted for 68% 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. SFRS is currently consulting on proposed changes to its UFAS Policy.



YTD ward ave. for Scottish Borders - 14	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Sparklines
Scottish Borders	147	161	143	135	154	
Tweeddale West	19	13	22	17	17	
Tweeddale East	13	11	3	7	9	
Galashiels & District	22	28	16	20	22	
Selkirkshire	14	19	16	10	16	
Leaderdale & Melrose	15	17	26	21	24	
Mid Berwickshire	7	11	11	11	12	
East Berwickshire	11	14	7	6	12	
Kelso & District	10	20	6	9	4	
Jedburgh & District	2	9	9	7	10	
Hawick & Denholm	14	6	12	19	15	
Hawick & Hermitage	20	13	15	8	13	

