

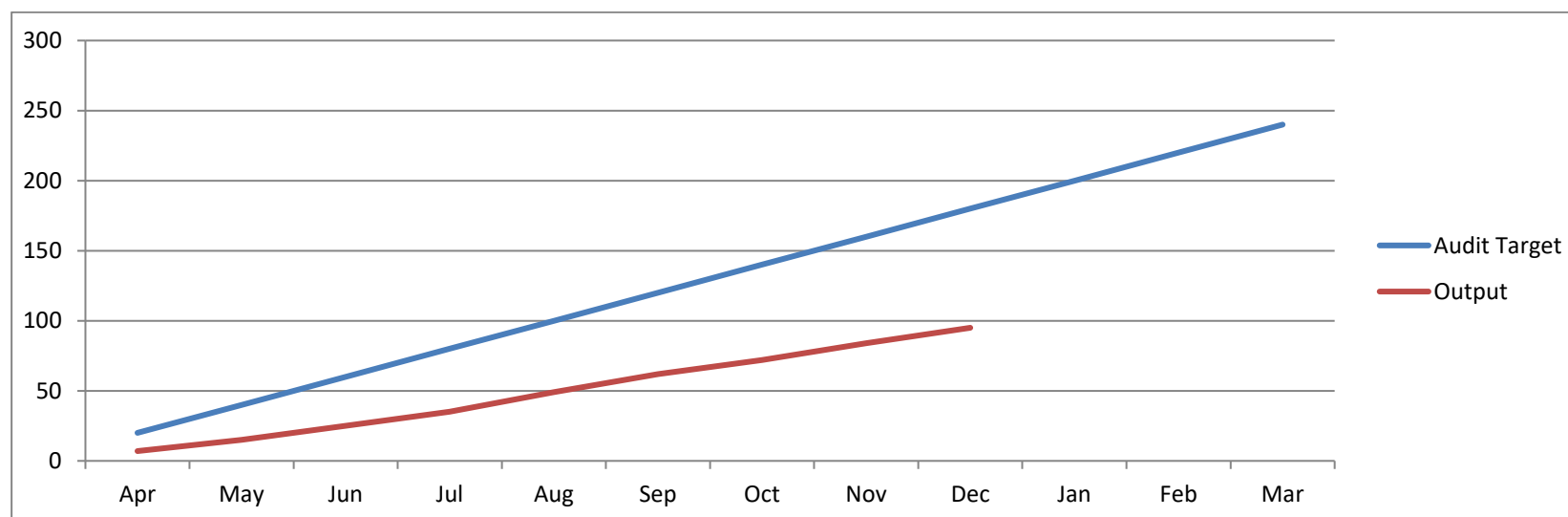
Prevention & Protection Activities

Quarter 3. 2021/2022: (1st October to 30th December 2021)

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. In line with the SFRS enforcement framework all of the area high risk sleeping premises receive an annual audit and this includes hospitals, care homes, houses of multiple occupation, hostels and hotels. We continue to experience the consequences of the COVID 19 lockdown, however, we are attending an increased number of premises for audit with our focus on those that present a higher risk of fire.

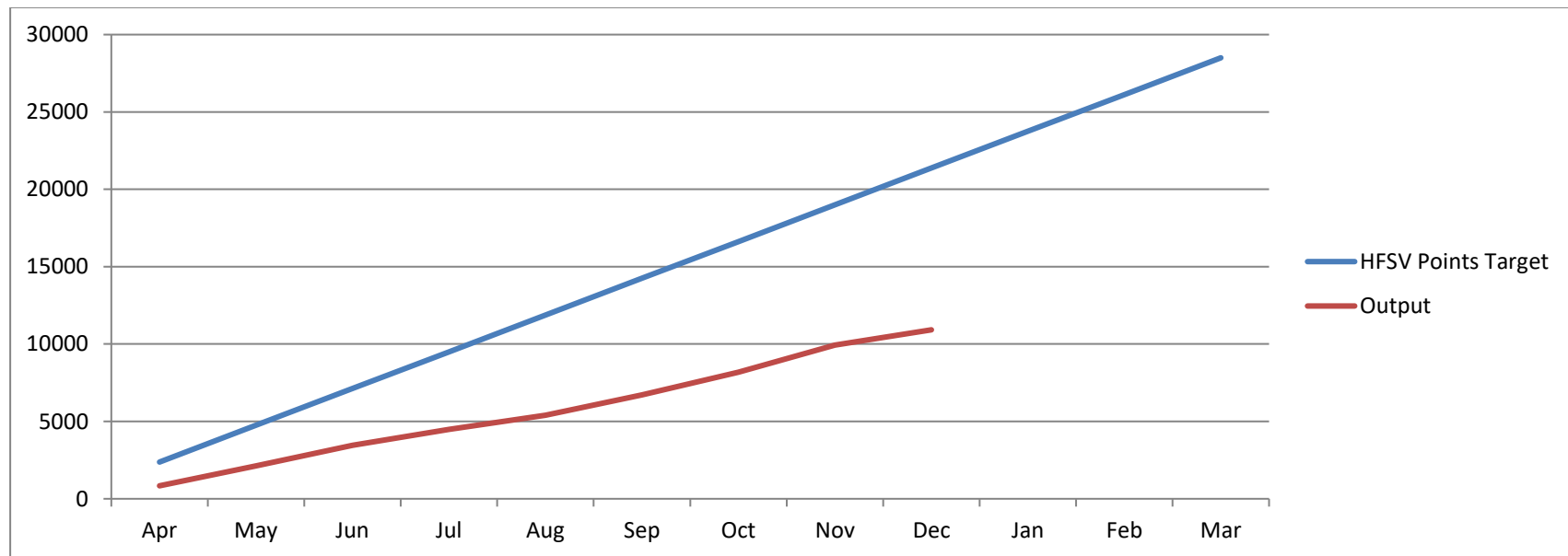
	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Target:	20	40	60	80	100	120	140	160	180	200	220	240	240
Completed:	7	15	25	35	49	62	72	84	95				



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 allocation based on risk and associated target has been set (24 points per high, 8 per medium, 4 per low risk visit). This will ensure valuable resources are used with greatest effect. Once again COVID restrictions limited opportunities to engage more widely and offer our HFSV services to all households with High Risk referrals only being offered a visit. A **total of 277** HFSVs were delivered in the Scottish Borders in **Q3**.

	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	28500
Completed	840	2120	3453	4488	5392	6712	8188	9928	10920				



Total visits delivered in 2021/22 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 2021/22	Visits delivered in Q2 2021/22	Visits delivered in Q3 21/22	Visits delivered in Q4 2021/22
East Berwickshire	13	7	19	
Galashiels and District	24	36	33	
Hawick and Denholm	25	31	67	
Hawick and Hermitage	26	28	38	
Jedburgh and District	6	12	15	
Kelso and District	27	17	13	
Leaderdale and Melrose	26	19	17	
Mid Berwickshire	20	26	13	
Selkirkshire	14	13	11	
Tweeddale East	24	28	30	
Tweeddale West	7	14	21	
TOTAL	212	231	277	

Partnership Working

Youth Engagement

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, our usual Youth engagement programmes have not been delivered. We have however, maintained contact with many partner groups, providing advice via social media and delivering thematic information such as autumn/winter safety and deliberate fire-setting. Further information within Thematic Action Plans section below.

During this period our local teams have been preparing Bonfire and Road Safety videos that will be delivered across the Scottish Borders. These presentations have been created in partnership with Police Scotland and SBC.

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 with referrals (AP1) made to Social Services during this period.

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

Thematic Actions Plans

During this period our safety initiatives focused on several areas including;

- Older & Vulnerable people
- Road Safety
- Safety in the Home
- Festive Safety
- Bonfire Night

Locals Fire crews supported by our Community Action Team delivered relevant safety messages to Schools, Youth and Community Groups and the wider public using various methods, including virtual platforms, direct engagement and social media.

Bonfire Night Activity

As a result of our prevention activities, delivered with partners, including Police Scotland and SBC, I am pleased to report that the immediate period leading up to and including the 5th of November was very quiet in relation to deliberate fires, with only one incident recorded on Bonfire night. Equally pleasing to report was that there were no physical or verbal attacks on Fire crews during this period.

Reducing Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) Update.

Further to previous updates re the above project which looked at options to reduce the number of UFAS calls SFRS respond to;

The 12-week public consultation concluded on 11 October 2021, with a total 567 responses received by the Service and around 200 engagement activities conducted during the consultation period to raise awareness and seek feedback.

After review of all feedback and other contributions, a preferred option detailing response criterion has now been approved by SFRS Board. Further engagement and communication with local stakeholders will commence early 2022. It is anticipated that this new response model will be implemented April 2023.

