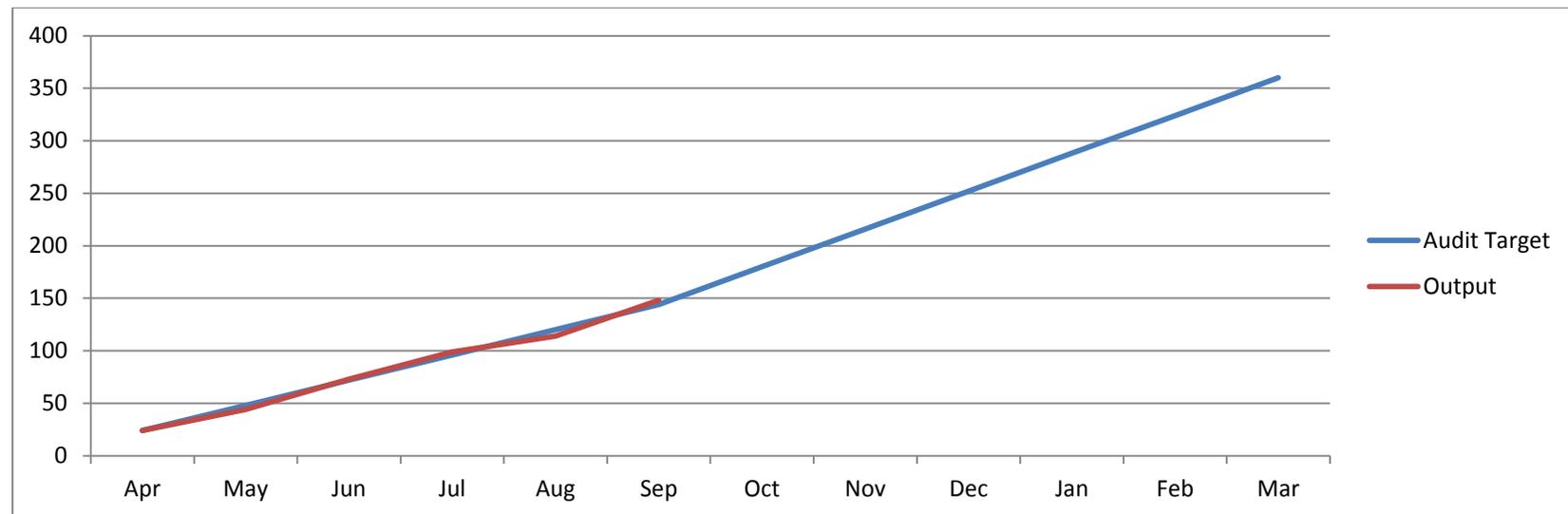


# Prevention & Protection Activities

## 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. This quarter has again seen us exceed target. It should be noted that during quarter two we had two FSEO's instead of our normal compliment of three, therefore targets have been adjusted to account for this. Quarter 3 has seen the return to full establishment and we now have three FSEO's established with targets adjusted accordingly.

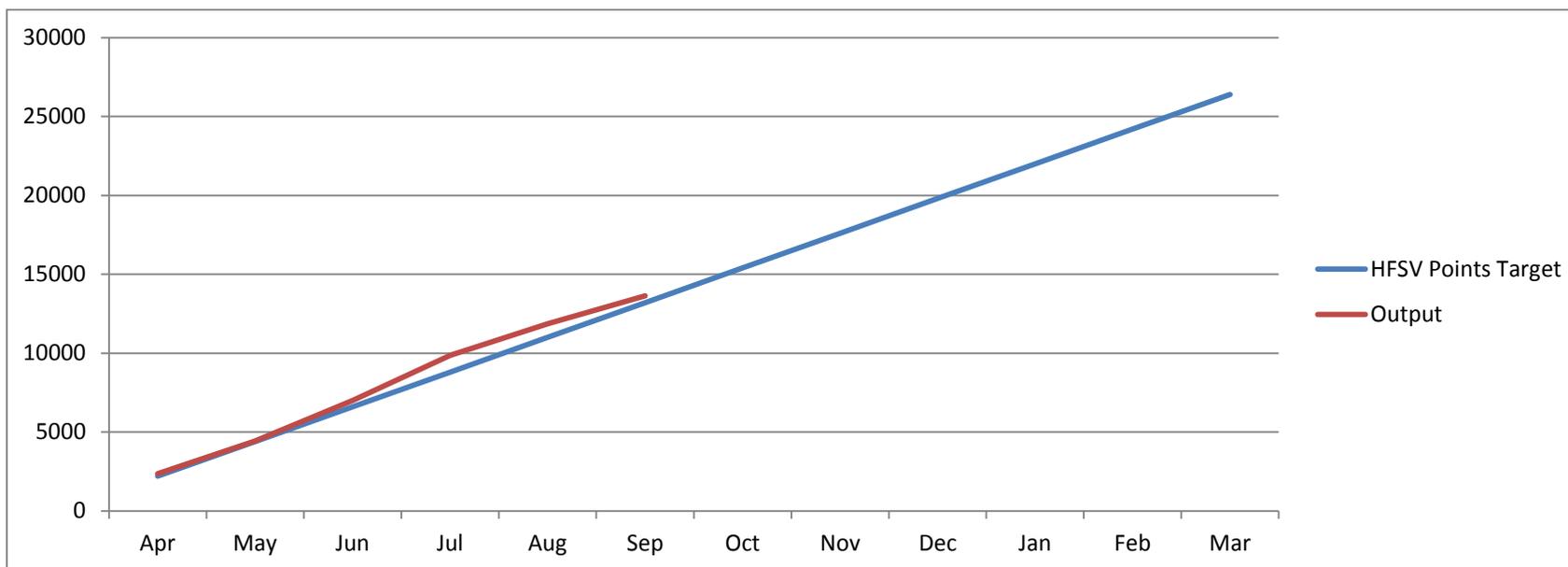
	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Target:	24	48	72	96	120	144	180	216	252	288	324	360	360
Completed:	24	44	73	99	114	148							



## 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 put to use with greatest effect. This quarter has seen us maintain our points total ahead of target.

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Target	2200	4400	6600	8800	11000	13200	15400	17600	19800	22000	24200	26400	<b>26400</b>
Completed	2360	4444	7004	9856	11868	13632							



**Total Number Of Home Fire Safety Visits By Risk Category**

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
High	59	56	64	77	54	43						
Medium	92	68	89	95	65	70						
Low	61	50	71	62	49	43						

**Total Number Of Smoke Detectors Fitted By Risk Category**

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
High	54	30	17	27	25	20						
Medium	39	44	48	45	39	42						
Low	27	24	34	15	22	23						

## Community Safety Engagement

ACTIVITY	SCOTTISH BORDERS
Enhanced Home Safety Visits (No. of households/occupiers visited)	16
Visits to Schools	0
Nursery Visits	3
Road Safety Education (No. of Talks)	1 (86 students)
Firesetters Intervention Programme (No. of sessions with youths)*	0
Community Safety Talks / Attendance at Community Events**	53
Number of students attending Crucial Crew***	1,171
Fire Safety Inspections (CGA) in Tenement Stairs	0

### Definitions

\*A one to one counselling session with a young person to discuss the consequences of being involved in wilful fire raising.

\*\*Comprises non-school events including: appliance visits to community groups (fetes, galas etc); group visits to fire stations; specific campaigns (Stair Aware, Cooking Safety, etc); and Community Fire-fighter talks/stall events.

\*\*\*Crucial Crew programme runs only in school Autumn term.

## Partnership Working

Borders Community Action team (CAT) have been preparing for Crucial Crew updating the set with new props and equipment. Crucial Crew started on September 23rd and finished on October 9th, 1,171 primary seven pupils from 62 schools from across the Scottish Borders have completed the home fire safety interactive training workshop in addition to the seven other safety workshops presented at the event.

Planning meetings have taken place for a pilot of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) Fireskills Employability Programme in the Borders in November. The Station Manager (SM) and Local Authority Liaison Officer (LALO) have been consulting with partner agencies including Police Scotland and Education to establish criteria for candidate referrals. The CAT have all received additional youth engagement policy and procedure training to ensure all staff have full awareness of the course requirements and format. The learning outcomes of the course fit with the Curriculum for Excellence and link into the Scottish Credits and Qualifications Framework Level 4.

Galashiels Green watch visited Langlee Early Years Centre for an evening family event (5-8 year olds and parents) to promote the role of the SFRS within local communities. White watch Galashiels hosted a visit by Action for Children to the station supporting young people expressing an interest in the fire service as a career. The CAT has been liaising with local schools to forward plan for bonfire and firework presentations and continue to deliver work to meet the objectives of the Autumn Thematic Action Plan which focusses on informing the public including young people of the risks associated with bonfire/firework events.

In September, the CAT visited Selkirk High School to deliver a talk addressing false alarm calls to the SFRS caused by malicious breakage of call points in the school building.

We continue to receive and process adult protection referral forms in line with the SFRS Safeguarding Policy and Procedures for the protection of Children and Adults at Risk of Harm, the total number of referrals for this quarter being 10. Work is ongoing for 4 separate case conferences in the Scottish Borders for vulnerable adults with complex needs – 2 are SFRS driven, the other two lie with partner agencies.

Partnership working with statutory, public and third sector agencies continues to enable the CAT to focus on the vulnerable members of the community and achieve a joint approach to ensuring the safety and care of high-risk adults in their homes.

We have received Home Fire Safety Visit (HFSV) referrals from Borders Homelessness Services, Domestic Abuse Advocacy Service and Marac, Police Scotland, NHS Borders, Criminal Justice, and mental health teams in the newly integrated Borders Health and Social Care service.

Fire safety and fire risk recognition staff training has been organised, in some cases completed, for the following agencies:

- New Horizons Borders – mental health charity
- Home Energy Scotland
- NHS Occupational Therapy Team Kelso
- Borders Penumbra
- Victim Support
- Border Women's Aid
- Alzheimer's Scotland

Driving into the Future took place after the summer break on September 11th at Jedburgh High School. A total of 86 S5 and S6 students received the SFRS road safety input with the demonstration crash vehicle highlighting the effects of a vehicle collision and the wider consequences of an RTC within the community. Interactive discussions also focus on potential causes of crashes – speeding, drink/drug driving, mobile phones and general distraction.

#### Referrals:

- HFSV self-referrals for this period total 355 with self-referrals the largest source of HFSV requests in both this and the previous quarter.
- Partnership working in the Borders with British Red Cross has resulted in a steady increase in referral numbers (total Q2 19) and, significantly, these referrals are all high risk category
- Housing association referrals total 35
- Police Scotland referrals total 5
- 5 referrals from the newly launched Selecta DNA forensic marking joint initiative with Police Scotland
- Negotiations to improve HFSV referral numbers from social care and health services are on-going

The first Farm Fire Safety and Crime Prevention event in the Borders was successfully run on July 1st at Timpendean, Jedburgh and although attendee numbers were low, the feedback was very positive. The event takes a joint agency approach with Police Scotland and NFU Scotland and seeks to engage with the often hard to reach farming community. SFRS is carrying out this prevention work as farms fall into the high-risk category and we have well over 1100 registered farms.

Planning work has been completed (including media coverage) for the next event on October 26th 2015, moving to the east side of the Borders at Whitsome East Newton farm and simultaneously we are supporting Police Scotland with the Selecta DNA forensic marking initiative which enables us to offer HFSVs through direct contact with 200 separate 'farming' households.

Galashiels Doors Open day took place on September 19th with approximately 300 attendees. The CAT supported this event facilitating the attendance of both the Community Safety Vehicle and the SFRS Mobile Museum and delivering home fire safety information.

CAT attended Greenvale staff information days and provided a home fire safety stall, over 50 attendees at this event.

In July, CAT delivered home fire safety visit advice and support to on site gypsies and visitors to the St Boswell's Gypsy Fair which included distribution of smoke detectors to caravans.

The LALO is involved in the Langlee Alcohol Community Project and sits on the steering group for this project. The people of Langlee are being consulted on how they view alcohol issues within their area and the results of this public consultation work will be fed back to enable a community led response, assisted by services, to tackling issues identified and overcoming barriers to improvement. Alcohol is one of the main contributory factors to accidental dwelling fires and SFRS supports cross agency prevention work aimed at reducing risk of fire presented by alcohol related issues including fire related anti-social behaviour and householders affected by alcohol misuse and addiction.

CAT are trialling a new pilot scheme to protect vulnerable adults who are at risk of misusing a gas cooker. Scottish Borders along with Fife and the city of Dundee are running this pilot in association SGN (Scottish Gas Network).

This scheme is likely to be of particular interest to staff in

- Social work
- Carers
- Health
- Fire and Rescue service
- Housing Associations
- Third sector organisations offering services to vulnerable older people
- Families

On referral through Social Work, SGN will fit free of charge, a lockable gas valve to allow family and carers to use a gas cooker and to lock it so preventing a vulnerable adult (one who is at a high risk of misusing the cooker) from using the equipment. This is a pilot but if successful SGN wish to roll this out across their

entire network which covers all of Scotland (32 local authorities and most of southern England over 90 local authorities).

The LALO has met with the recently appointed acting Group Manager for Mental Health & Addictions in the Borders and discussed the importance of embedding home fire safety in the new Mental Health strategy, which is currently being drafted. The LALO and CAT contact details have been circulated around all mental health care and support teams who have been restructured because of health and care integration to promote improved partnership working and more coordinated agency response to keeping people safe in their homes.

After the presentation in August by Stephen Fox (Border Services Alzheimer's Scotland) on Dementia awareness and the members of the CAT becoming Dementia Friends, the LALO has progressed further actions with Stephen to ensure our HFSV service is available to all those affected by Dementia and Alzheimer related illness.

SFRS HFSVs will be promoted through Borders Alzheimer's Scotland Service newsletter, on line social media and local free press outlets. A further agreed action was for the LALO to provide Community Safety Engagement Toolkit training and fire risk recognition training for Dementia Link /support workers.

The LALO is part of a joint agency initiative through the council's Safer Communities to provide local private landlords with support and information to assist them in achieving best practice in managing their tenants and rented property. The event will have three inputs – fire service, anti-social behaviour unit and safer housing options worker input.