



**SCOTTISH**  
**FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**  
Working together for a safer Scotland

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for a safer Scotland**



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Report to:	<b>East Renfrewshire Cabinet (Police and Fire)</b>
Date of Report:	<b>9<sup>th</sup> May 2018</b>
Report by:	<b>Graeme Binning, Local Senior Officer (LSO) Scottish Fire and Rescue Service</b>

Subject:	<b>Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) Report</b>
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## **PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT**

1. The purpose of this report is to inform the Cabinet of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service's (SFRS) performance and activities during the 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018 reporting period.

## **PERFORMANCE**

2. The information provided in this report and attached appendix relates to the specific key performance indicators detailed in the East Renfrewshire Local Fire and Rescue Plan 2017-2018. The SFRS Local Senior Officer will be happy to meet with any Elected Members who wish to discuss specific Ward issues.

A summary of the key performance indicators is detailed below:

- a. The total number of Accidental Dwelling Fires increased from **15** in the same period in 2016/17 to **26** in the current reporting period.
- b. The total number of All Non-Fatal Fire Casualties increased from **3** in the same period in 2016/17 to **5** in the current reporting period.
- c. The total number of incidents involving Deliberate Fire Raising decreased from **22** in the same period in 2016/17 to **16** in the current reporting period.
- d. The total number of Fires in Non-Domestic Buildings unchanged from **6** in the same period in 2016/17 to **6** in the current reporting period.
- e. The total number of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signal incidents increased from **61** in the same period in 2016/17 to **63** in the current reporting period.

## 16

- f. The total number of Road Traffic Casualty incidents attended by SFRS which resulted resulting in non-fatal casualties, decreased from **11** in the same period in 2016/17 to **7** in the current reporting period.

### **PRIORITIES & INTERVENTIONS**

1. SFRS is committed to working in partnership with Community Planning partners in the public, private and voluntary sectors in order to work together for a safer Scotland. Strengthening our relationship with and working in partnership to add value to our communities is critical to the success of our strategy.

The following activities are illustrative of SFRS arrangements in terms of partnership working and targeted engagement:

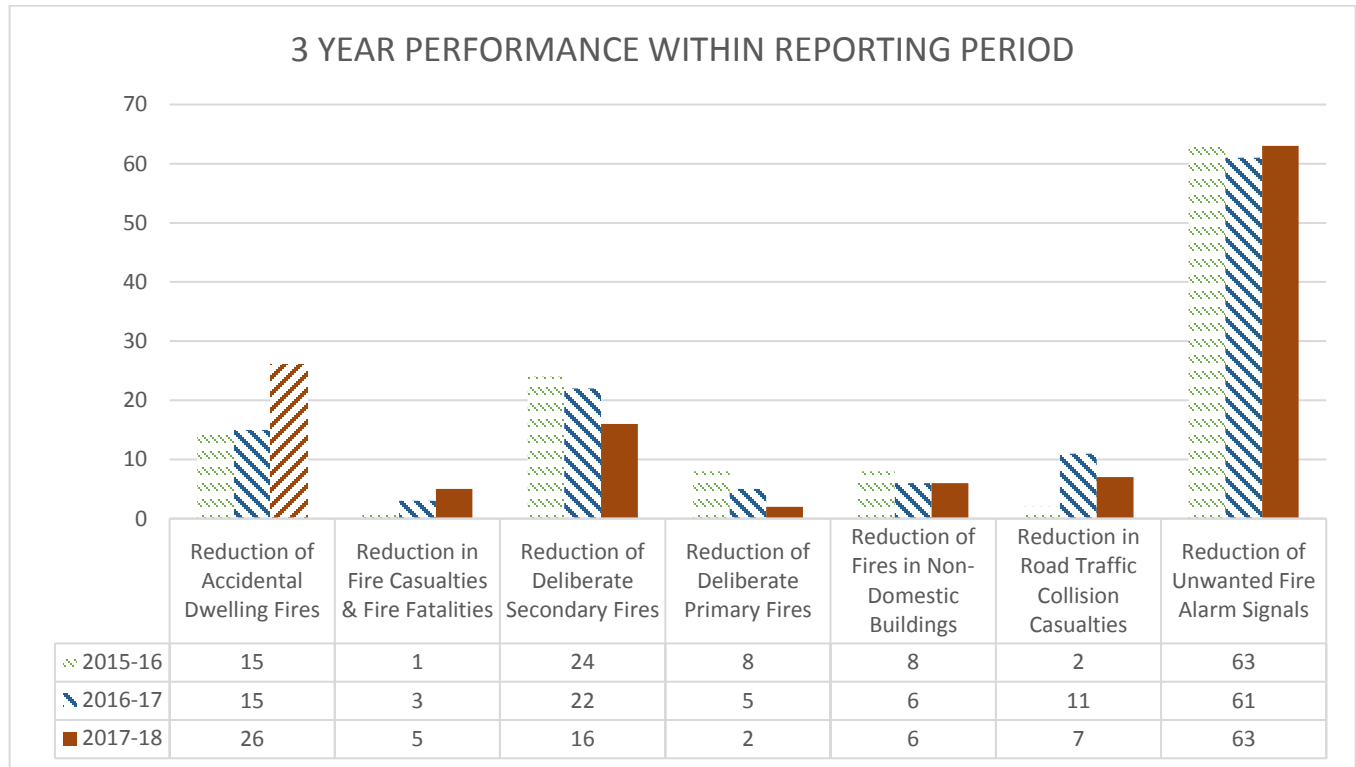
- a. The Local Area Liaison Officer (LALO) attends the Greater Results in Partnership (GRIP) Meetings within East Renfrewshire on a weekly basis and provides statistics of incidents within the Local Authority Area to ensure partners are aware of all fire related activity. This forum continues to deliver on achieving joint positive initiatives and outcomes.
- b. Community Action Team staff continue to support local area housing officers with a number of joint visits throughout the last quarter.
- c. A joint initiative was delivered to all the secondary schools in the East Ren area along with Police Scotland in highlighting the risks and effects of bin fires have in the local community.
- d. Working alongside our colleagues from Police Scotland we were able to deliver a bespoke presentation to 24 young people who are part of the Police Scotland Youth Volunteers. Amongst the topics covered we delivered CPR training to all the volunteers which was warmly appreciated
- e. A total of 388 Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSV) was carried out by in East Renfrewshire during the reporting period. These HFSVs are carried out by our operational personnel and Community Action Team officers who will conduct these visits jointly with partner agencies where deemed appropriate.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Cabinet members are asked to note the contents of this report and the attached appendix.

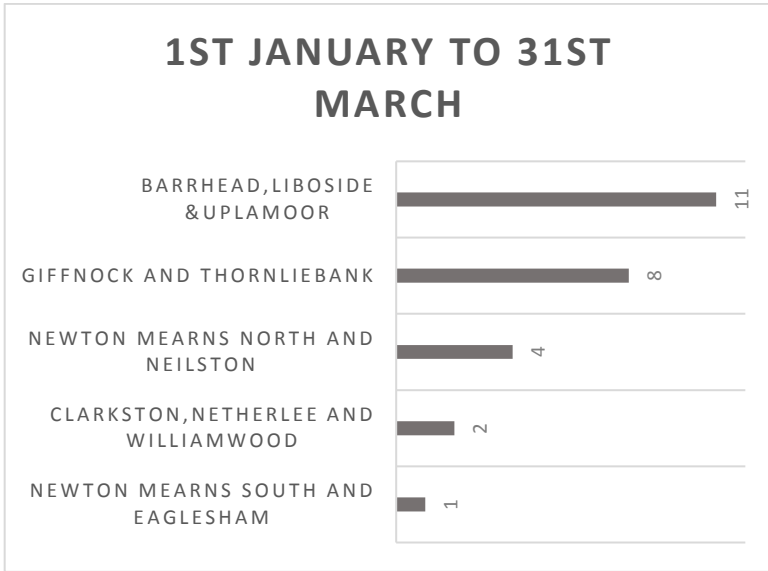
The graph below provides a comparative overview of the activity levels within the reporting period over the last 3 years.

1. THREE YEAR PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW



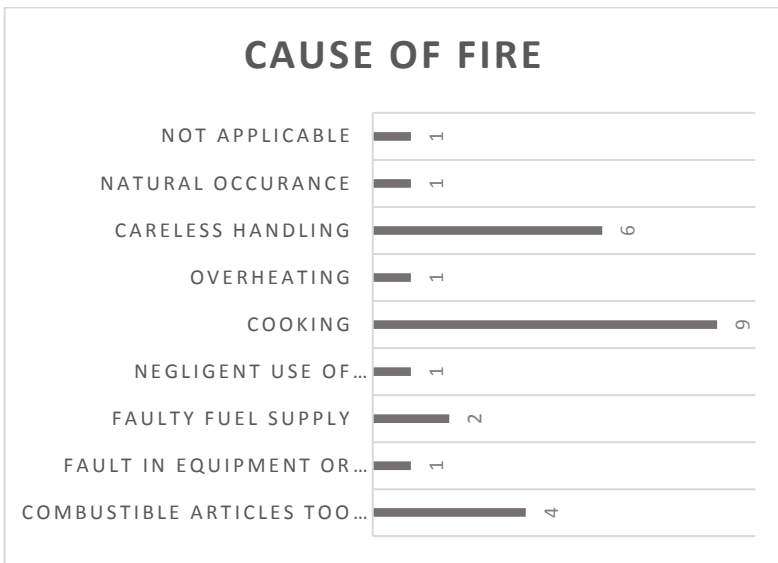
2. REDUCTION OF ACCIDENTAL DWELLING FIRES

2.1. Incidents by Ward



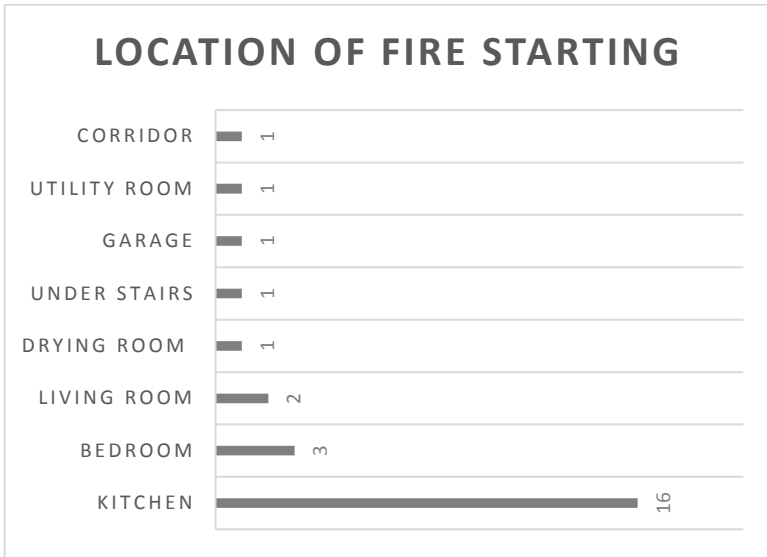
There are slightly higher level of activity in a number of wards however this is a direct correlation to the number of residents and homes within each locality.

2.2. Cause of Fire



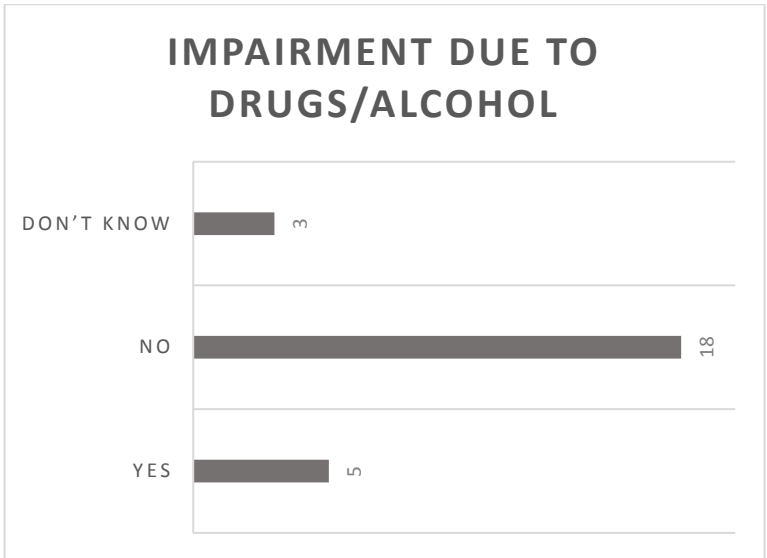
As is evident from graph 2.2 cooking remains the most significant cause of accidental dwelling fires in East Renfrewshire. However further analysis of the information has shown that the majority of the incidents are small in nature and require no action by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS). The increase in detectors within homes has provided early warning and intervention.

2.3. Location of Fire



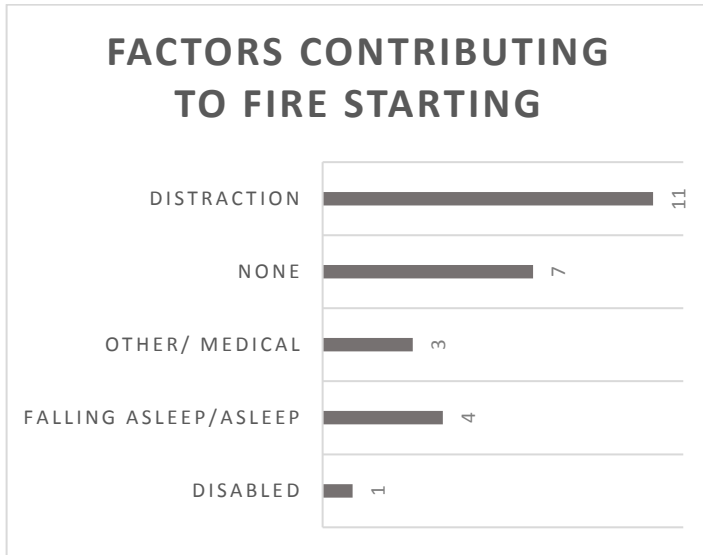
The information within this graph links directly to the 2.2 where cooking was identified as the most common cause of fire.

2.4. Human Factors



It is encouraging to see that in 21 out of the 26 incidents that alcohol or drugs were not a factor. However distraction still has a bearing on accidental fires and this is a hard factor to resolve.

### 3. REDUCTION OF FIRE CASUALTIES



Distraction includes conditions such as alcohol/ drug (prescribed or other) use, mental health, capability and individuals dealing with other matters and forgetting that they have left something cooking.

#### 3.1. Casualties by Ward

There were 5 recorded casualties during the reporting period. In comparison to the same period last year this is an increase of 2.

#### 3.2. Casualties by Age and Gender

Two casualties were female in the 40 to 59 age range. The other 3 casualties were male; in the 50 to 59 age group category. This fire casualty profile is not reflective of the Scottish profile over the past two years there has been a growing trend of older females being the most at risk of harm from fire.

#### 3.3. Extent of Harm

The majority of the incidents resulted in slight injury or requirement for precautionary checks. Only one casualty required to go to hospital for precautionary checks. The positive impact of early warning of fire provided by either standalone or linked smoke alarms is evident in terms of the reduction in the number of severe dwelling fires and the associated level of fire related injuries compared to 10 years ago.

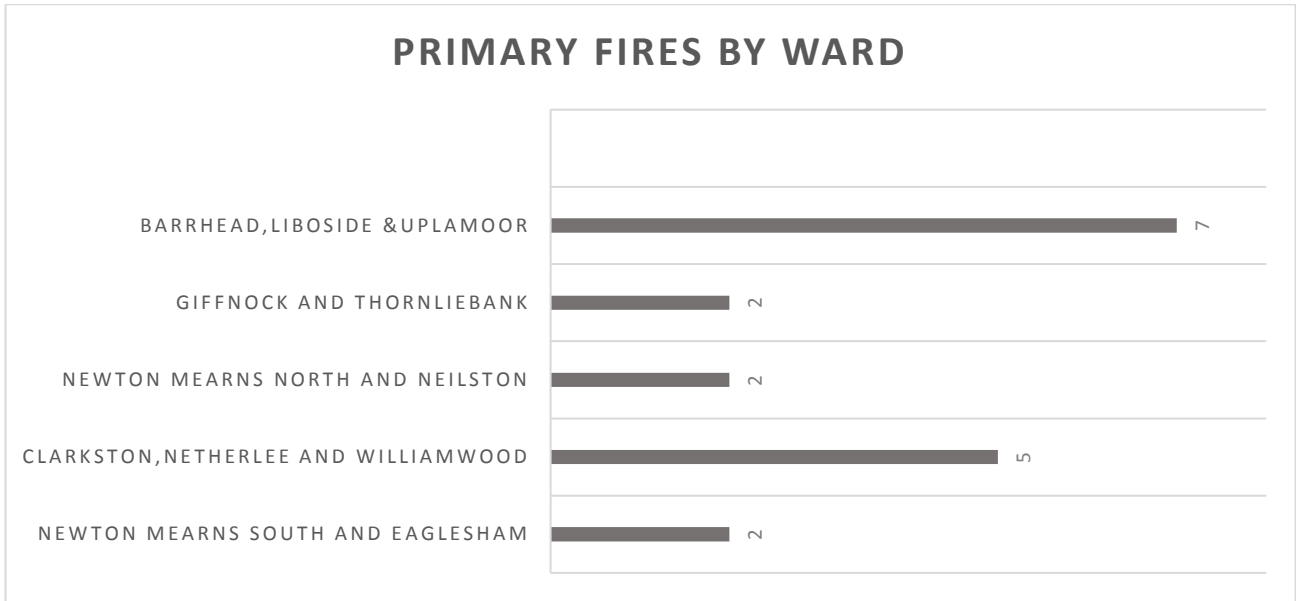


4. REDUCTION OF DELIBERATE FIRE SETTING

4.1. Primary Fires

Primary fires are classed as those involving property which has a specific private or commercial value; and generally relates to building, structures or vehicle fires.

4.1.1. Incidents by Ward



4.1.2. Property Types



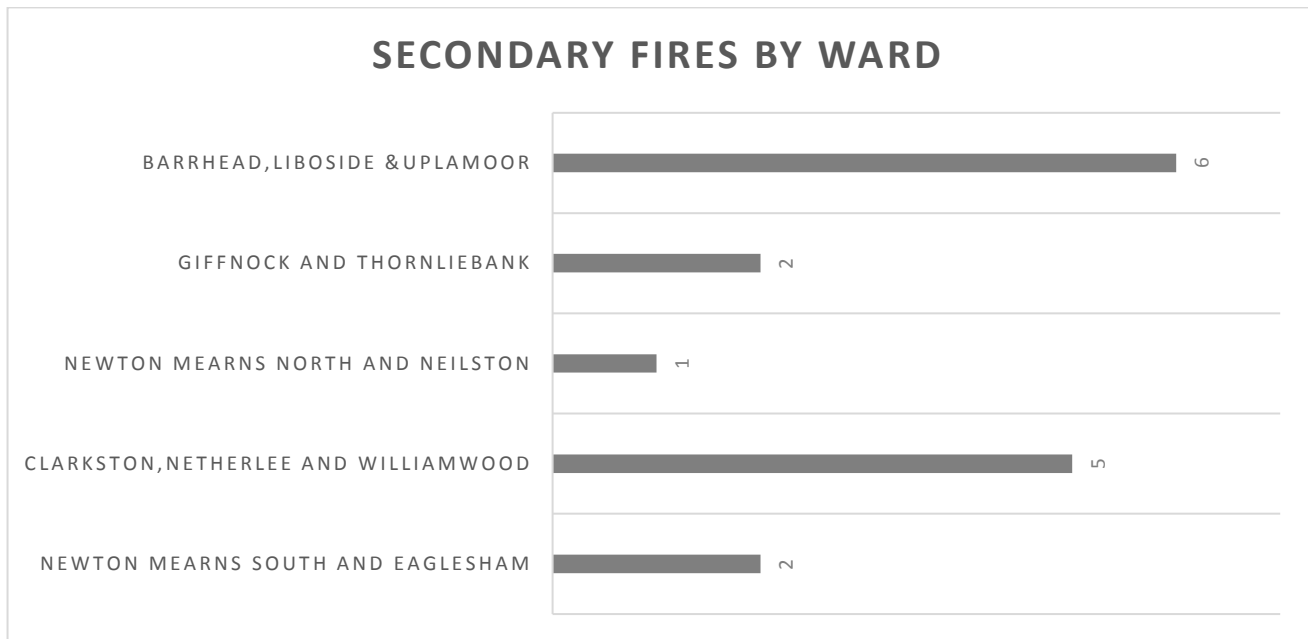
Deliberate fire setting is a criminal offence and SFRS will request Police Scotland to attend suspected deliberate primary fires when deemed appropriate. The SFRS Local Area Liaison Officer attends the GRIP Meetings within East Renfrewshire to provide fire activity overviews for action as appropriate.

SFRS officers will also complete Community Intelligent Reports at incidents where deliberate fire setting occurs; these are passed to Police Scotland where relevant information is gathered and used to support further investigation.

**4.2. Secondary Fires**

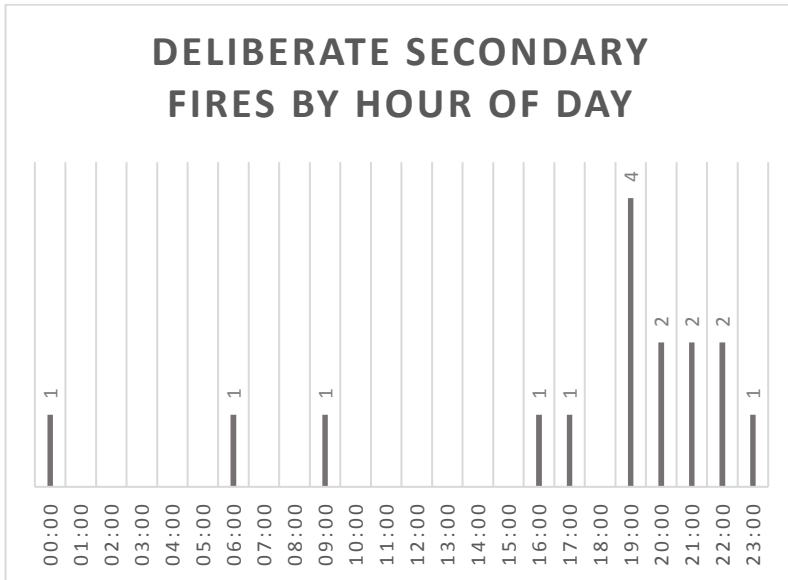
Secondary fires are classed as those involving derelict property (structures or vehicles), refuse, grassland and scrubland. During the fourth quarter of the 2017/18 reporting period there were a total of 16 deliberate secondary fires.

**4.2.1. Incidents by Ward**



SFRS works closely with our partners to provide appropriate engagement, education and intervention approaches. Schools in areas identified as having higher fire incidents are targeted and the CAT officers actively engage with the pupils to educate them on the dangers and subsequences of wilful fire setting..

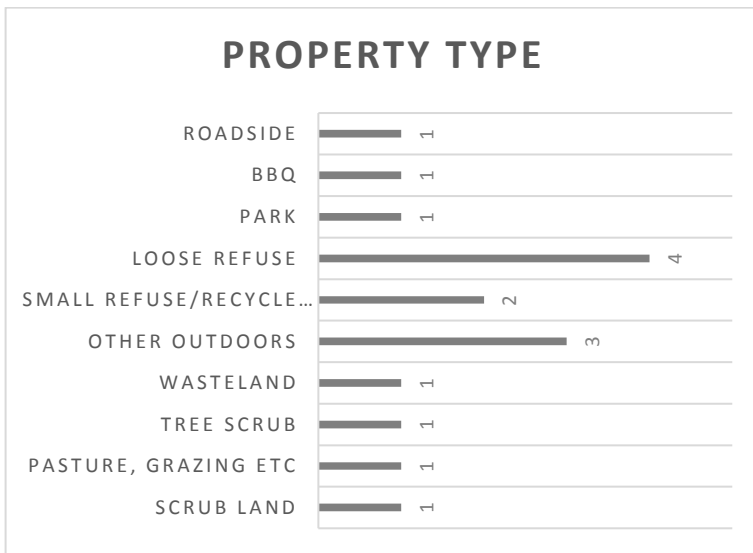
4.2.2. Time of Day



Graph 4.2.2 shows it is evident the vast majority of fires occurred between 16:00hrs to 23:00hrs; this pattern leads us to believe the majority of these fires have been started by school age young people who outwith these times will either be in bed or at school.

The Firereach programme also addresses wilful fire setting and educates young people on the impact of available front line emergency resources attending secondary fires and not being available for life threatening emergencies.

4.2.3. Property Type



Work has been on-going through the GRIP to identify specific area of activity through sharing of information. This has resulted in an increased presence in the areas identified..

**5. REDUCTION OF FIRES IN NON-DOMESTIC PREMISES**

This category includes commercial premises, private lockups/ garages and other structures. These incidents are included in the Deliberate Primary Fires referred to in section 4.1.

**5.1. Incident by Ward**

There were a total of 6 recorded deliberate fires in non-domestic premises during the reporting period in 2 Wards:

- Barrhead, Liboside and Uplawmoor (4)
- Giffnock and Thornliebank (2)

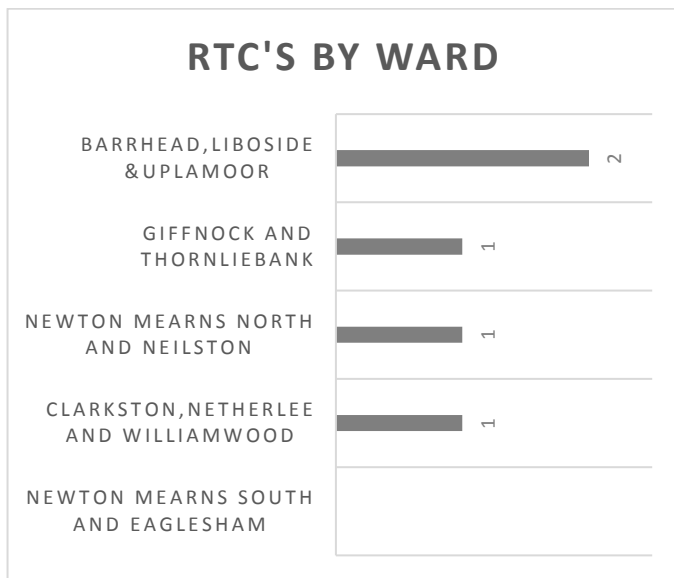
**5.2. Property Types**

1 incident relates to the Leggat Plant fire which is still under investigation. The remainder were classed as accidental and were in Sports Centres, Manufacturing facility and a Primary School.

All fires in non-domestic premises which are classed as relevant premises under The Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 will be subject to a post fire audit. These are conducted by specialist Fire Safety Enforcement Officers (FSEO) who will carry out a full inspection of the premises and all paperwork required under the Act; where deficiencies in fire safety management arrangements are identified the 'duty holder' will be issued with a notice as appropriate.

**6. REDUCTION OF CASUALTIES IN NON FIRE EMERGENCIES**

**6.1. Road Traffic Collision Incidents by Ward**



There were a total of 5 Road Traffic Collisions (RTC) which SFRS attended in the reporting period; this will not reflect the numbers attended by Police Scotland which will potentially be higher. This is due to the fact SFRS only attends incidents of this nature when requested to assist in extrication of casualties or to make the scene safe.

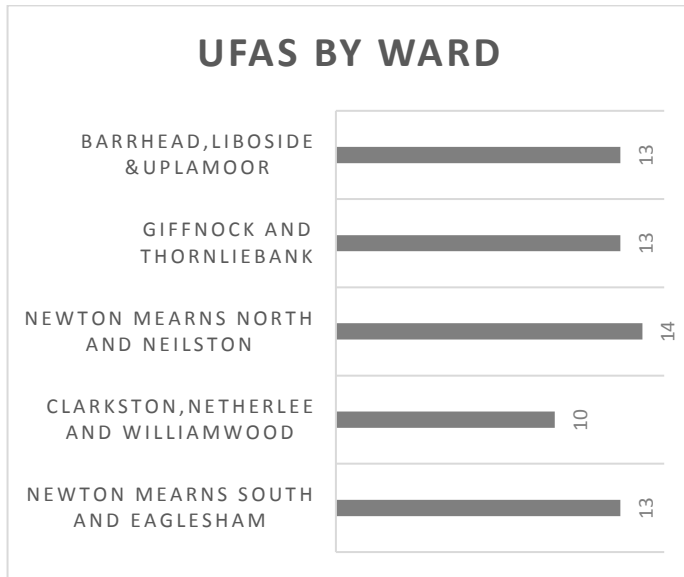
**6.2. Road Traffic Casualties by Ward**

There were 7 RTC related casualties recorded by SFRS during the reporting period within East Renfrewshire. All casualties' injuries were slight and only required precautionary checks.

**7. REDUCTION OF UNWANTED FIRE ALARM SIGNALS**

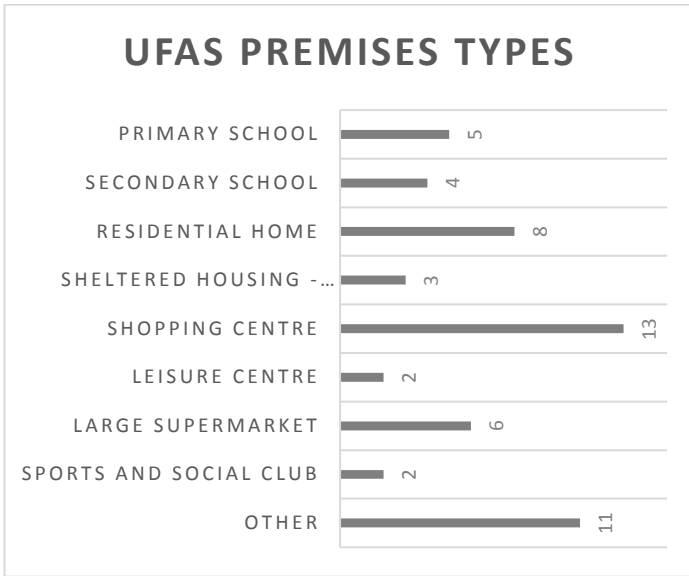
SFRS attends a range of false alarm incidents which include system faults, accidental actuation of fire alarm, malicious calls and good intent calls. SFRS is focused on reducing the associated road risk posed by 'blue light' journeys linked to our attendance at Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) incidents. There is a national policy in place which ensures we are adopting a standardised approach to positively engage and educate duty holders at premises which have fire alarm system actuations which are not due to an actual fire.

**7.1. Incidents by Ward**



Newton Mearns North and Neilston Ward have the highest number (14) of Unwanted Fire Alarm Actuations (UFAS);

7.2. Property Types



From graph 7.2 it is evident that the Avenue shopping centre and Main street shopping Barrhead centre within East Renfrewshire accounted for a total of 13 UFAS incidents during the reporting period.

7.3. Cause of Actuation

