



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:	East Renfrewshire Cabinet (Police and Fire)
Date of Report:	3rd February 2017
Report by:	David Proctor, Local Senior Officer (LSO) Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

Subject:	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) Report
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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 1st October to 31st December 2016 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 2014-2017. 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 decreased from **15** in the same period in 2015/16 to **13** in the current reporting period.
- b. The total number of All Non-Fatal Fire Casualties decreased from **4** in the same period in 2015/16 to **1** in the current reporting period.
- c. The total number of incidents involving Deliberate Fire Raising decreased from **34** in the same period in 2015/16 to **27** in the current reporting period.
- d. The total number of Fires in Non-Domestic Buildings decreased from **9** in the same period in 2015/16 to **6** in the current reporting period.
- e. The total number of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signal incidents decreased from **77** in the same period in 2015 to **54** in the current reporting period.

- f. The total number of Road Traffic Collisions incidents attended by SFRS which resulted resulting in non-fatal casualties, increased from **3** in the same period in 2015 to **4** in the current reporting period. The number of recorded casualties increased from **6** in the same period in 2015 to **8** in the current reporting period. There was one fatality within the 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. In support of partnership working the Community Action Team attended a careers night at Woodfarm High.
- c. The Community Action Team and Retired Employee Association (REA) volunteers have conducted 22 HFSV's for East Renfrewshire Telecare.
- d. The Community Action Team conducted Fireworks talk in all High Schools in East Renfrewshire speaking to nearly 2000 pupils and staff.
- e. Lead up to 5th November:
 - Working in partnership with education department to deliver bonfire safety talks to all East Renfrewshire secondary schools and youth zones.
 - SFRS crews working with the Local Authority to highlight illegal bonfires within the area and subsequent removal.
 - Raising awareness in partnership of secondary fire hotspots and working with Police Scotland to reduce any anti-social behavior. No Acts of Violence was recorded in East Renfrewshire over the Bonfire Period.

- f. A total of 435 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. Of these HFSVs:
 - i. 122 of these HFSV were as a result of high risk referrals from East Renfrewshire Community Planning partners to SFRS.
 - ii. 62 were as a result of Post Domestic Incident Responses (PDIR). The SFRS conducts a PDIR at all domestic dwelling incidents (includes fire alarm actuations and special services). This involves positive engagement with the occupier(s) of the affected property and neighbouring properties by SFRS personnel. Fire safety advice and support are provided; where required SFRS provide and fit 10 year battery powered smoke detectors.

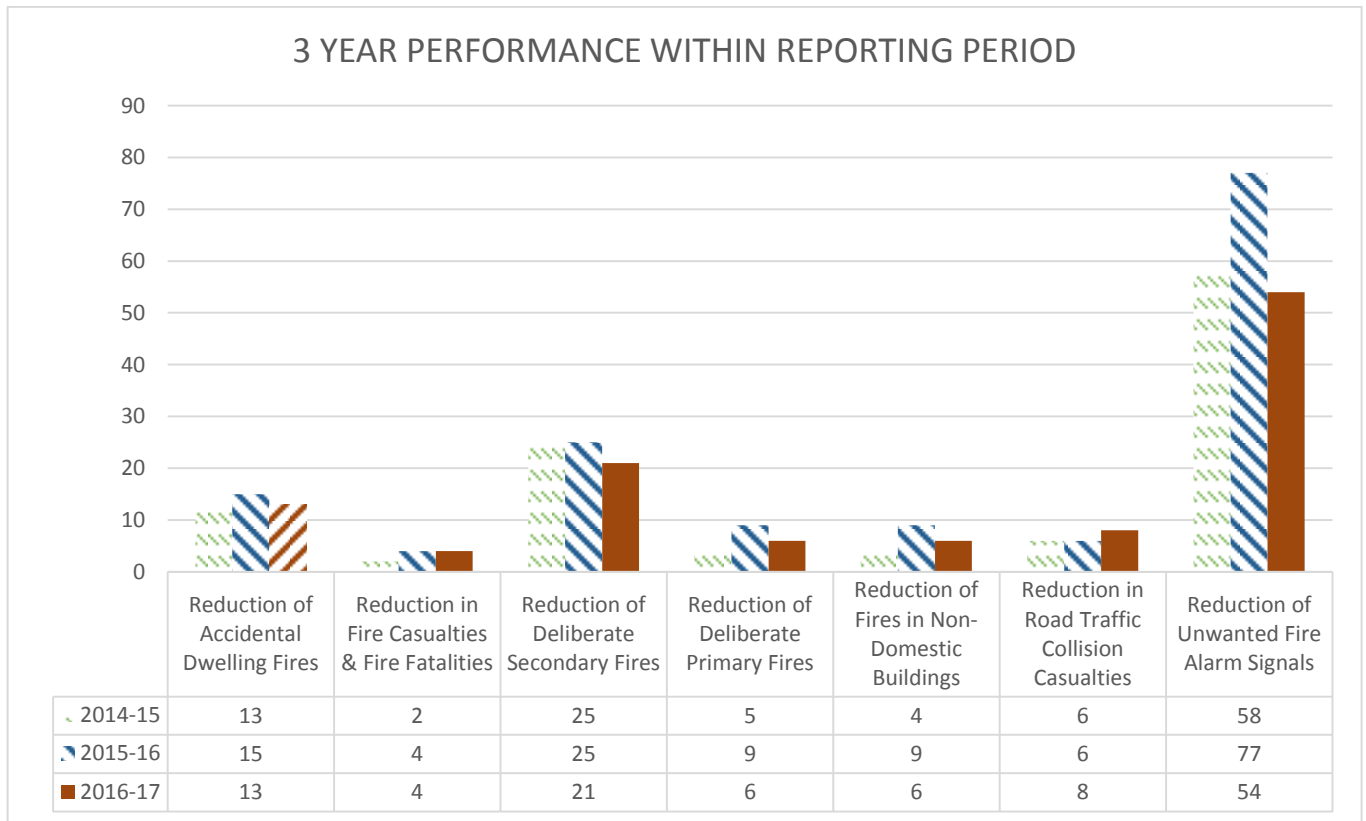
RECOMMENDATIONS

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

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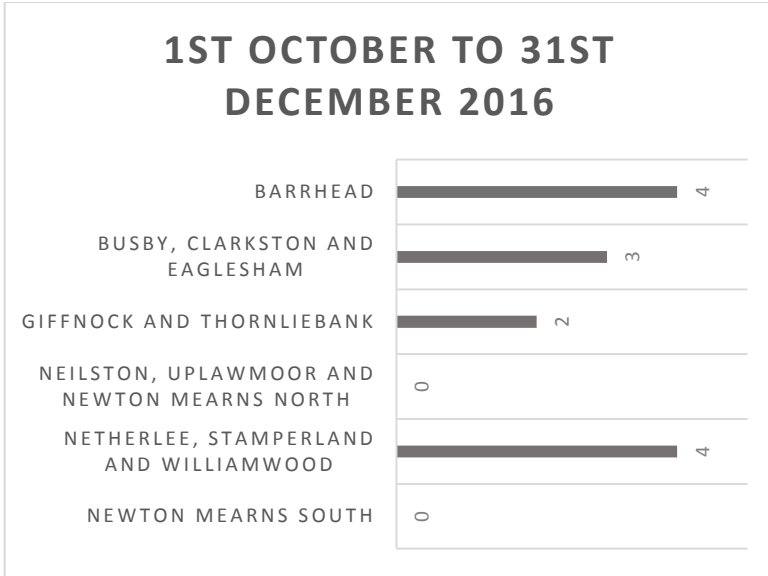
The graph below provides a comparative overview of the activity levels within the reporting period over the last 3 years.

1. THREE YEAR PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW



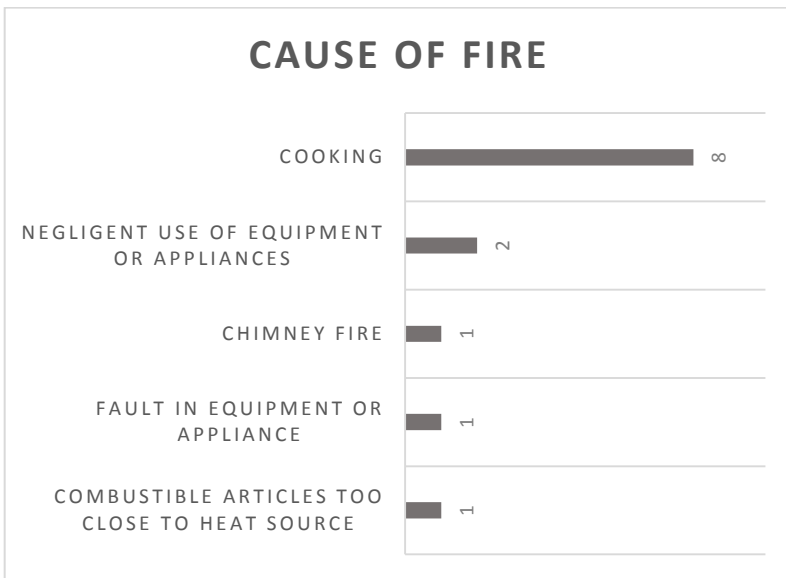
2. REDUCTION OF ACCIDENTAL DWELLING FIRES

2.1. Incidents by Ward



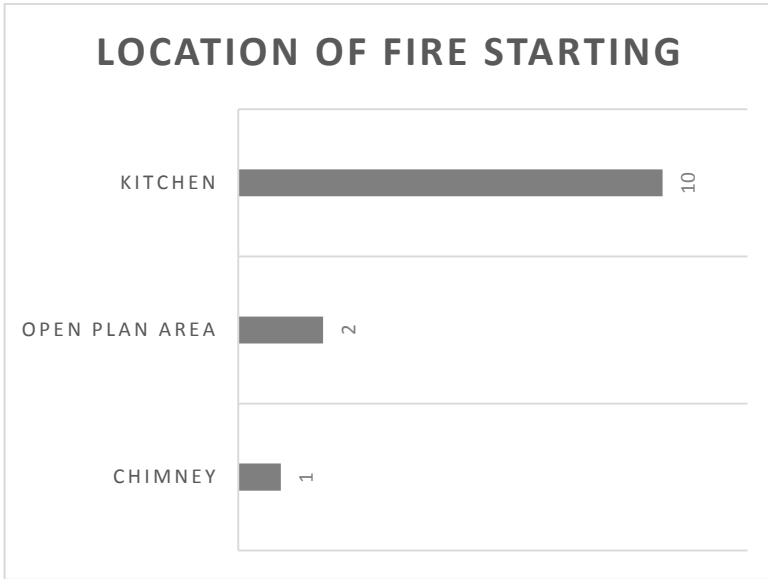
The slightly higher level of activity in a number of wards but this is a direct correlation to the number of residents and homes within each locality.

2.2. Cause of Fire



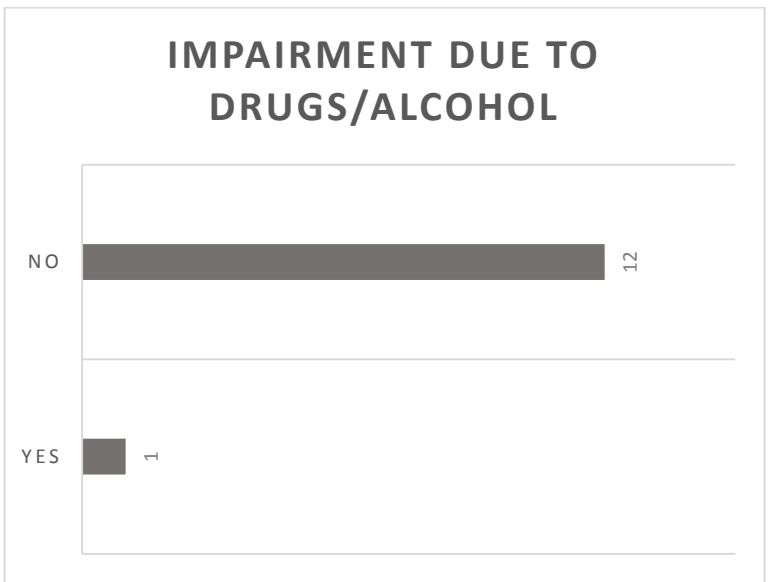
As is evident from graph 2.2 cooking remains the most significant cause of accidental dwelling fires in Inverclyde. However further analysis of the information has shown that the majority of the incidents are small in nature and require no action by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS). The increase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

2.3. Location of Fire



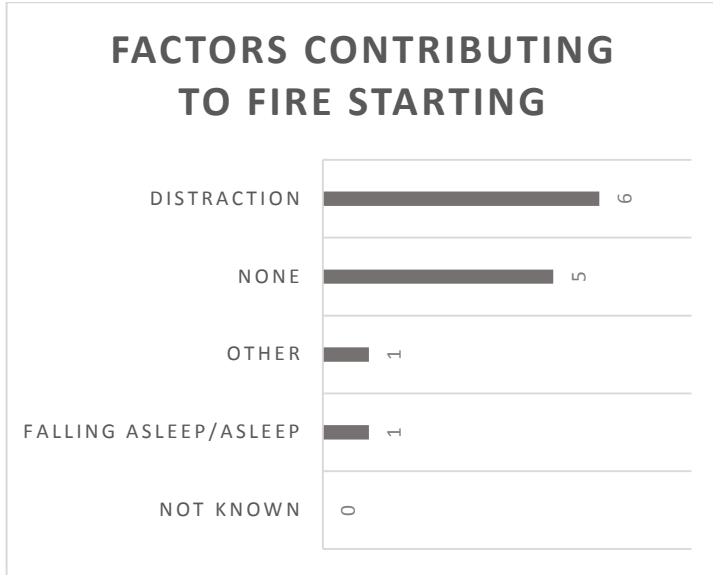
The information within this graph links directly to the 2.2 where cooking was identified as the most common cause of fire.

2.4. Human Factors



It is encouraging to see that in 12 out of the 13 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 was only 2 recorded casualty during the reporting period and this was in the Barrhead and Busby, Clarkston and Eaglesham Ward. In comparison to the same period last year this is a reduction of 2 less recorded fire casualties.

3.2. Casualties by Age and Gender

One casualty was male in the 20 to 29 age range. The other casualty was female; in the 90 to 99 age group category. This fire casualty profile is 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

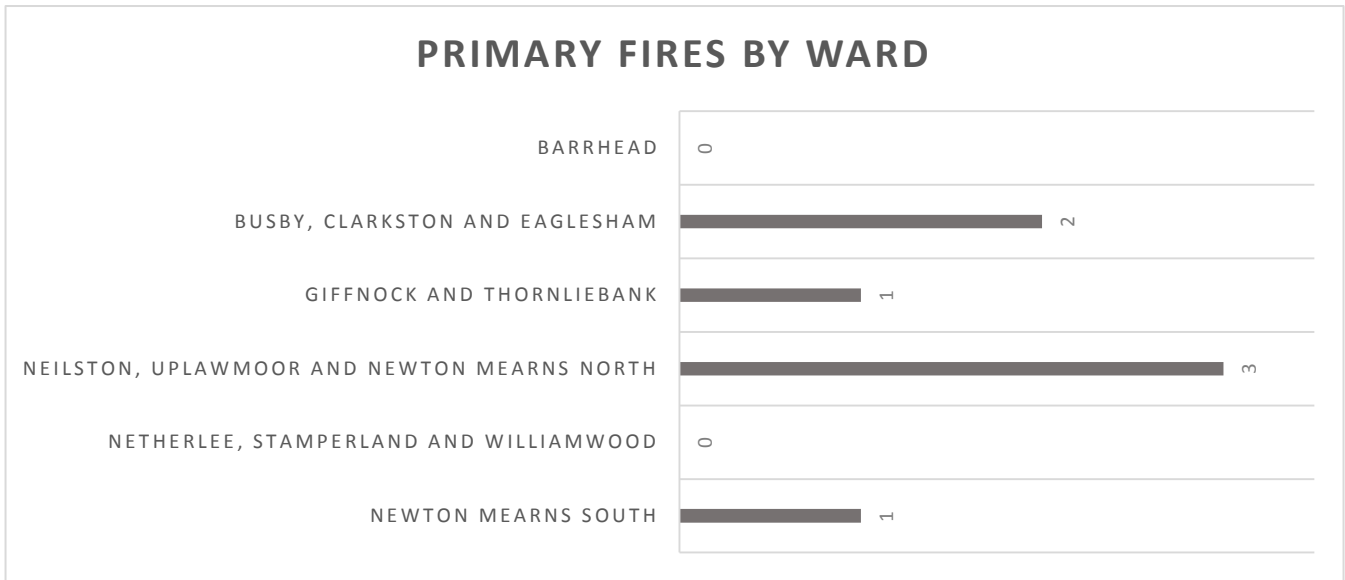
The majority of the incidents resulted in slight injury or requirement for a precautionary check at hospital. The positive impact of early warning of fire provided by either standalone or linked smoke alarms is evident in terms of the reduction in the number of severe dwelling fires and the associated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

4. REDUCTION OF DELIBERATE FIRE SETTING

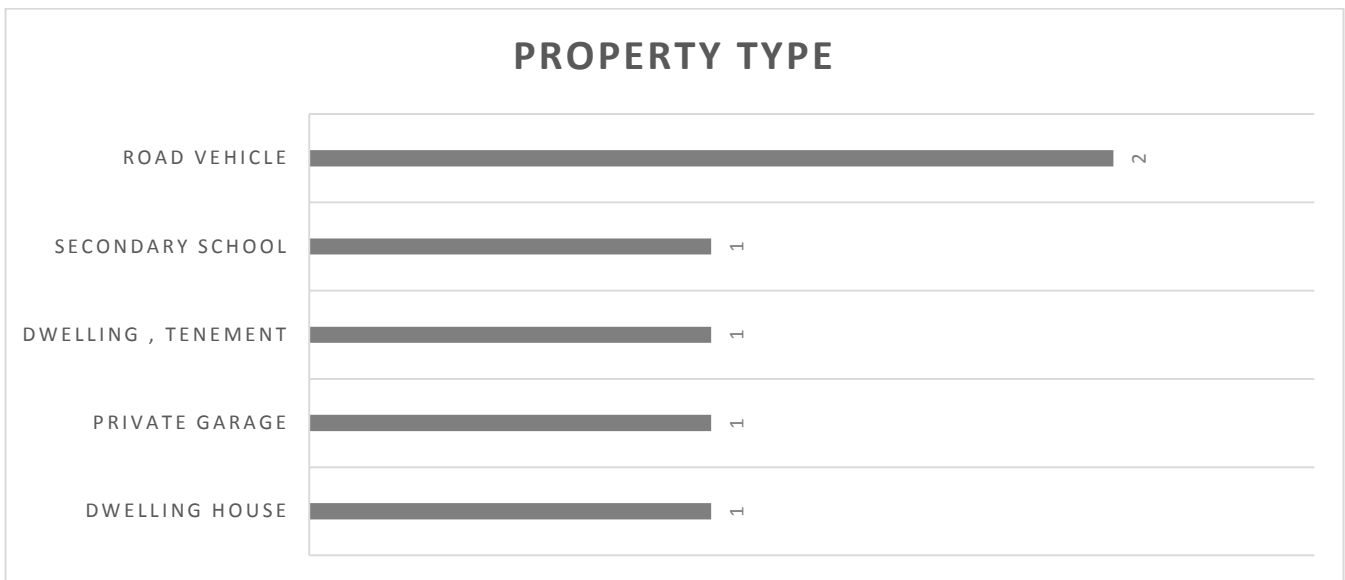
4.1. Primary Fires

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. During the third quarter of the 2016/17 reporting period there were a total of 6 deliberate primary fires; this is no reduction when compared to the same period in 2015/16 when there were also 9 deliberate primary fires.

4.1.1. Incidents by Ward



4.1.2. Property Types



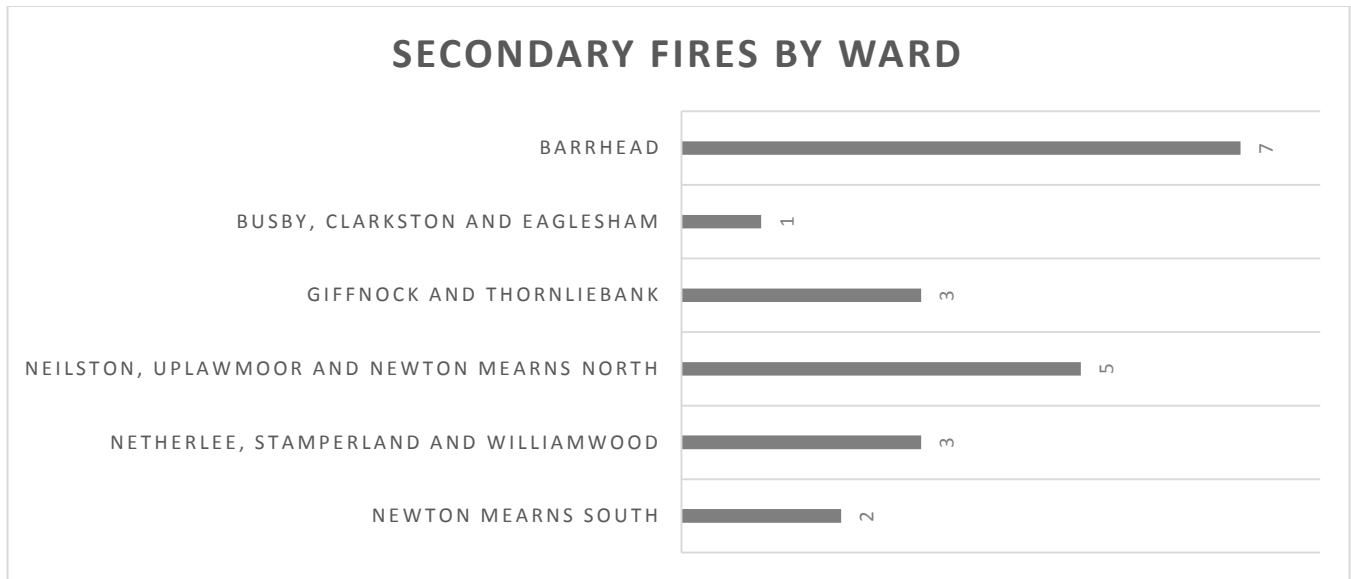
Deliberate fire setting is a criminal offence and SFRS will request Police Scotland to attend suspected deliberate primary fires when deemed appropriate. The SFRS Local Area Liaison Officer attends the GRIP Meetings within East Renfrewshire to provide fire activity overviews for action as appropriate.

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

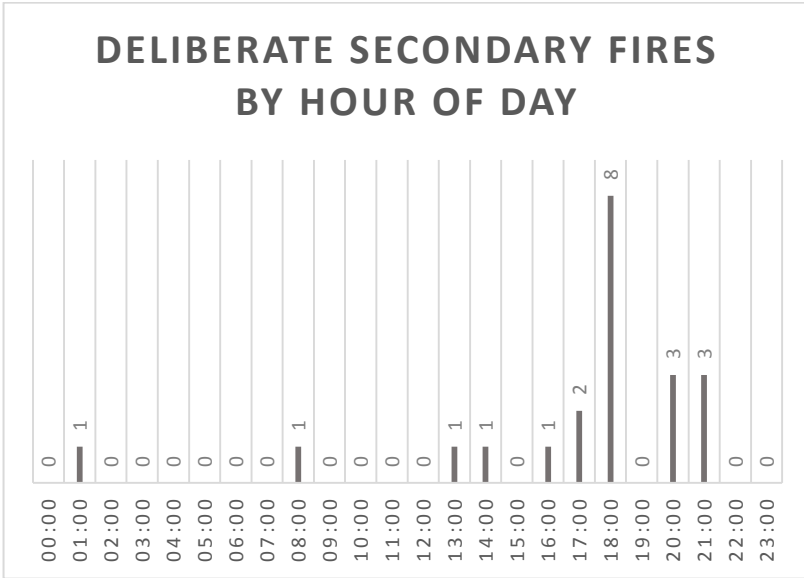
Secondary fires are classed as those involving derelict property (structures or vehicles), refuse, grassland and scrubland. During the third quarter of the 2016/17 reporting period there were a total of 21 deliberate secondary fires; this is a decrease when compared to the same period in 2015/16 when there were 25 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. 11 of the fires relates to the period around Guy Fawkes Night.

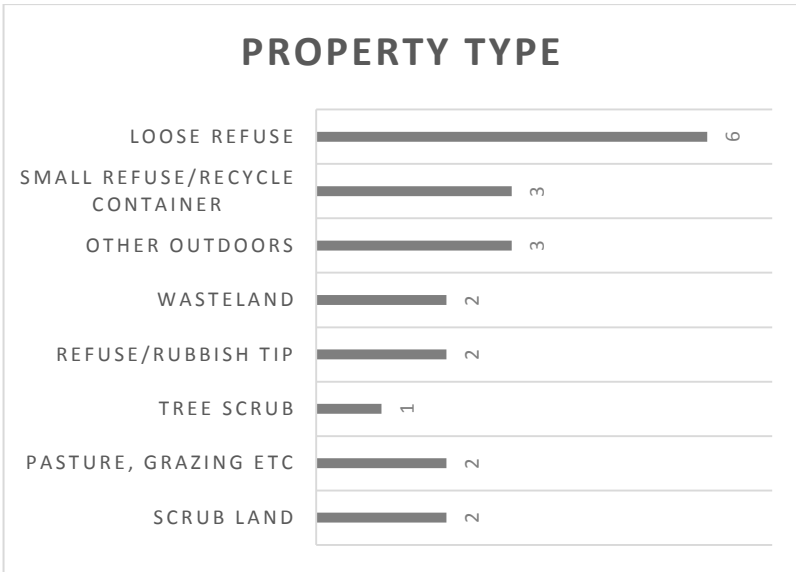
4.2.2. Time of Day



Graph 4.2.2 shows it is evident the vast majority of fires occurred between 16:00hrs to 21:00hrs; 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. The higher level of loose refuse fires was linked to bonfires during and surrounding the 5th of November. Loose refuse fires accounted for 6 of the deliberate secondary fires.

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 2 recorded deliberate fires in non-domestic premises during the reporting period in 2 Wards:

- Busby, Clarkston and Eaglesham (1)
- Neilston, Uplawmoor and Newton Mearns North (1)

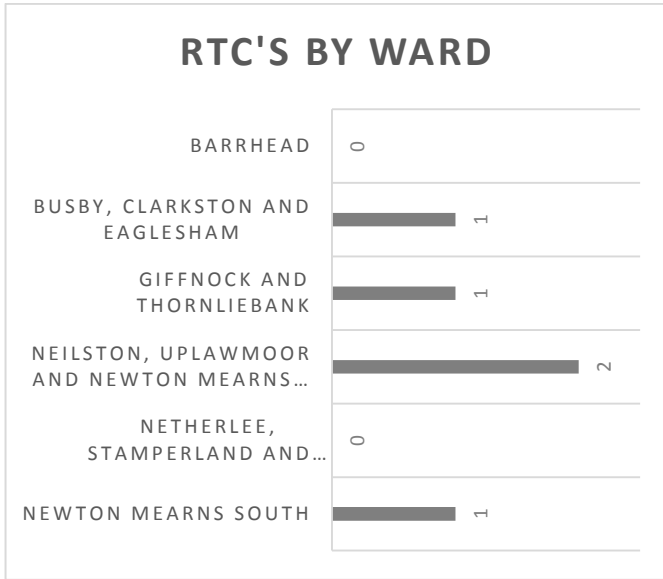
5.2. Property Types

1 incident was a private garage and extinguished by a hose reel jet. The other was at Williamwood High School within a toilet and was extinguished prior to arrival of the fire service.

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.

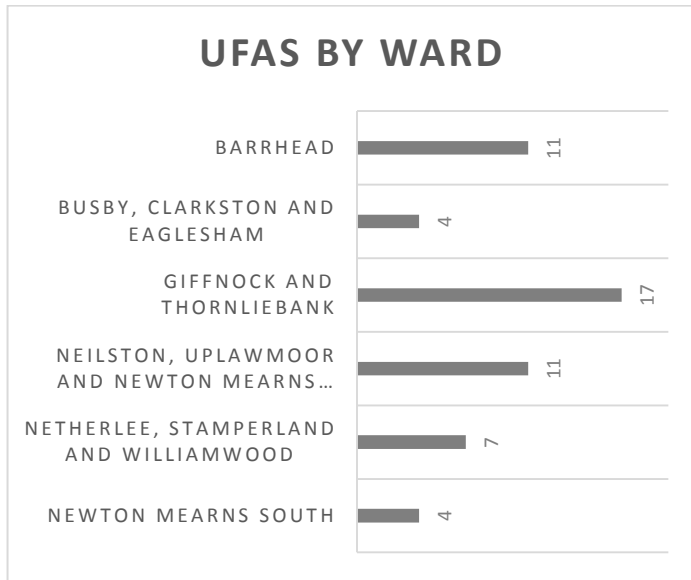
6.2. Road Traffic Casualties by Ward

There were 8 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

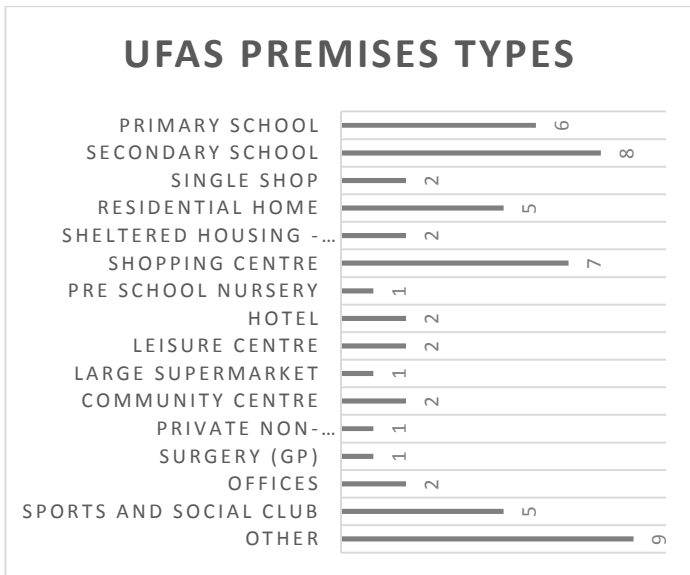
SFRS attends a range of false alarm incidents which include system faults, accidental actuation of fire alarm, malicious calls and good intent calls. SFRS is focused on reducing the associated road risk posed by 'blue light' journeys linked to our attendance at Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) incidents. 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



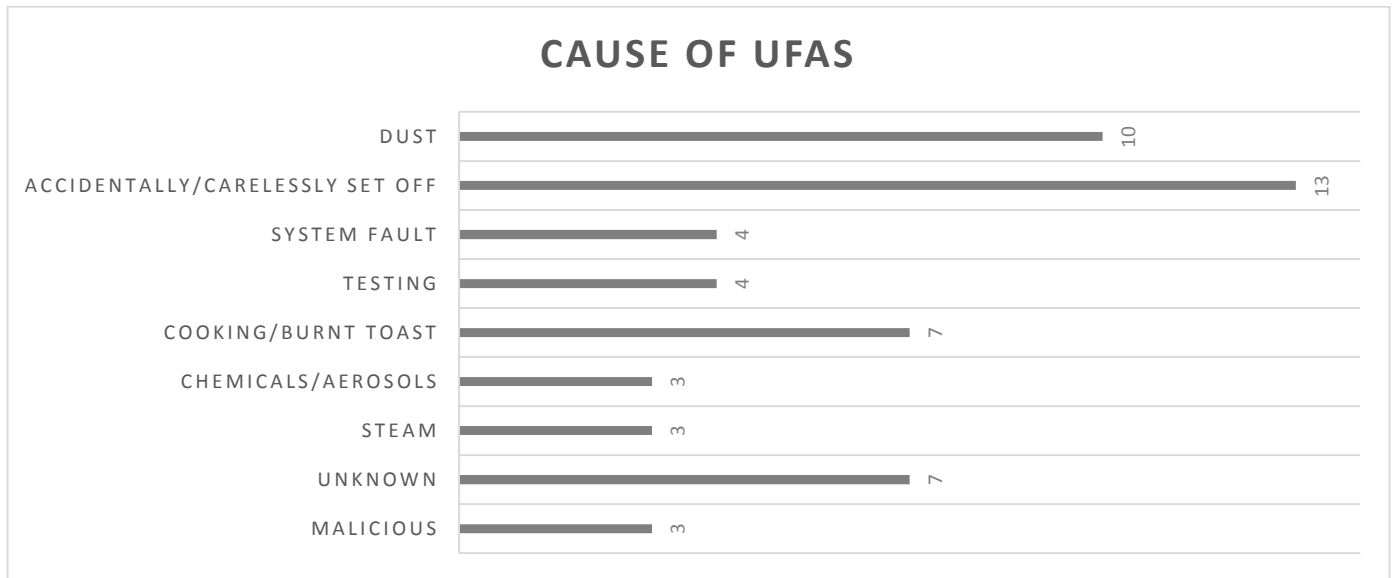
Giffnock and Thornliebank Ward have the highest number (17) of Unwanted Fire Alarm Actuations (UFAS); 6 of these incidents within Educational establishments, 2 in Leisure Centres, 3 in Places of entertainment and the remaining are a mixture of commercial premises.

7.2. Property Types



From graph 7.2 it is evident that schools within East Renfrewshire accounted for a total of 14 UFAS incidents during the reporting period.

7.3. Cause of Actuation



The SFRS works closely with all relevant premises where UFAS occur. Following the last report Station Manager Fothergill has met with Mhairi Shaw, Director of Education, Fiona Morrison and Janice Collins (Heads of Service) to discuss the Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals at ER schools. It was agreed that information provided would be taken by the Heads of Service to the schools causing concern so that the necessary action was taken. The meeting between both parties has opened positive dialogue and through partnership working it is hoped that a reduction in call to schools will be evident over the coming months.

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