



**SERVICES FOR THE COMMUNITY POLICY AND DEVELOPMENT SCRUTINY PANEL**

**SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE LOCAL PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT**

**REPORT BY HEAD OF HOUSING, CUSTOMER AND BUILDING SERVICES**

**A. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report is to update Panel Members on the Local Plan Performance for the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service in West Lothian for the period 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021-31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.

**B. RECOMMENDATION**

Panel members are asked to note the contents of the report.

**C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

<b>I Council Values</b>	Being honest, open and accountable; Focusing on our customers' needs; Making best use of our resources; and Working in partnership.
<b>II Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)</b>	The production and Council approval of the Local Police and Local Fire and Rescue Plan is a statutory requirement of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012.
<b>III Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers</b>	None at this stage.
<b>IV Impact on performance and performance Indicators</b>	There is no direct impact however this report is part of the agreed process for strategic performance reporting.
<b>V Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement</b>	<p>This report will have a positive impact on the following SOA indicators:</p> <p>We live in resilient, cohesive and safe communities.</p> <p>People most at risk are protected and supported to achieve improved life changes.</p>
<b>VI Resources – (Financial, Staffing and Property)</b>	The council contributes directly and in partnership to the delivery of the plan.
<b>VII Consideration at PDSP</b>	Yes.
<b>VIII Consultations</b>	Council Executive, Community Planning Partners, Elected Members.

## **D. TERMS OF REPORT**

The West Lothian Scottish Fire and Rescue Local Plan set out the local fire and rescue priorities and objectives for West Lothian and is a statutory requirement of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012.

Council Executive has agreed that the monitoring of performance against the plans will be reported and considered on a quarterly basis by the Services for Community Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel. This report covers the period from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021-31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.

## **E. CONCLUSION**

This report provides an update on the performance to enable panel members to scrutinise the work of the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service.

## **F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES**

**Appendix 1:** Local Plan Performance Report for West Lothian Q4 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021-31<sup>st</sup> March 2021

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**Ann Marie Carr**  
**Head of Housing Customer and Building Services**

Date of meeting: 1<sup>st</sup> June 2021



# LOCAL PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR WEST LoTHIAN



**Year to Date Report, 1st January 2021 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 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 national priorities for the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) are set out in the Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland. The SFRS Strategic Plan 2019-2022 outlines how the SFRS will deliver against these priorities and the outcomes against which this delivery can be measured.

The priorities contained within the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for West Lothian 2018 contribute towards the priorities within the West Lothian Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2013-2023 and the Community Safety Strategic Assessment 2015-18.

The aims of the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service in West Lothian are to reduce fire deaths throughout the West Lothian 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 Local Fire and Rescue Plan for West Lothian 2018, seven objectives for the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service to work towards have been identified for 2018 onwards (listed below):

Priority i: Local Risk Management and Preparedness

Priority ii: Domestic Fire Safety

Priority iii: Deliberate Fire Setting

Priority iv: Non Domestic Fire Safety

Priority v: Road Safety

Priority vi: Unintentional Harm and Injury

Priority vii: Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals.

Area Commander Dave Sharp  
Local Senior Officer for Falkirk & West Lothian  
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## Performance Summary

We measure how well we are meeting our priorities using 7 key indicators, depicted below

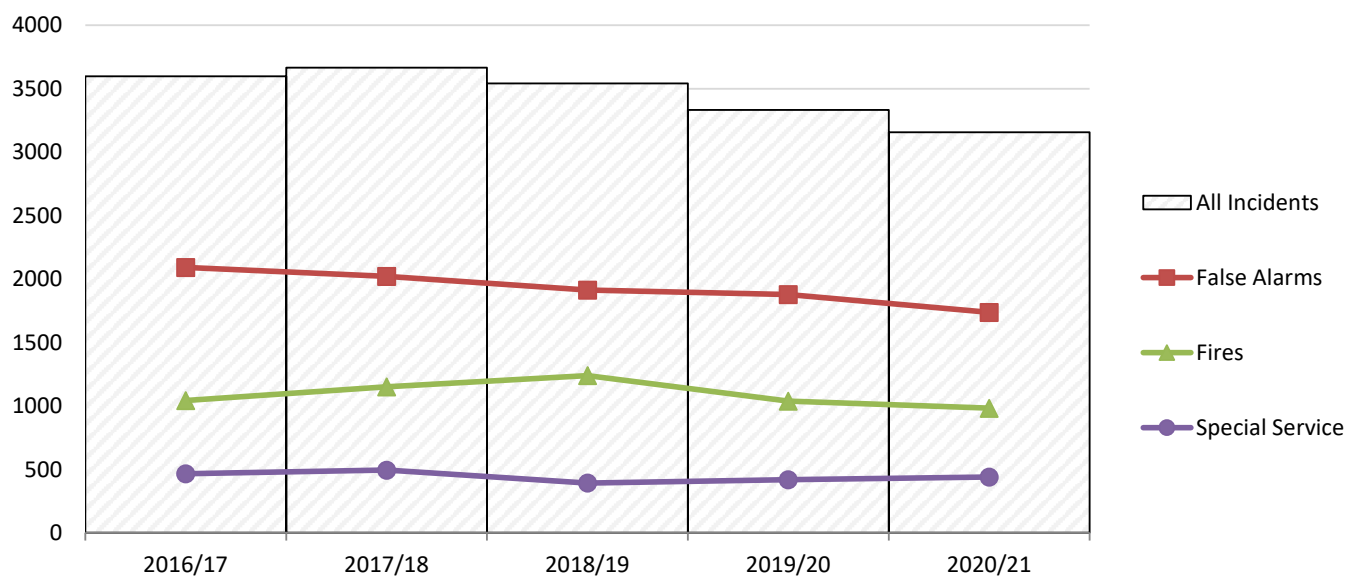
Services for the Community PDSP 1 June 2021  
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	Apr to (& incl.) Mar					RAG rating
Key performance indicator	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	YTD
All accidental dwelling fires	124	149	140	112	98	●
All accidental dwelling fire casualties (fatal & non-fatal)	26	24	23	20	25	◆
All deliberate fires	709	805	833	762	661	●
Non domestic fires	75	75	71	76	60	●
Special Service - RTC casualties	65	62	49	62	44	●
Special Service - Non RTC casualties	106	71	38	61	48	●
False Alarm - UFAs	1126	1040	1014	1005	798	●

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 reporting periods.
Incident Overview
SFRS has responded to a total of 3,169 incidents within the West Lothian area year to date 2020/21. This is a reduction of 5.25% when compared to the corresponding period 2019/20.

The chart below illustrates incidents YTD attended within West Lothian council over the last 5 fiscal years



<b>Progress on local fire &amp; rescue plan priorities</b>	
<b>Local Risk Management and Preparedness</b>	Services for the Community PDSP 1 June 2021 Item 5
<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"> <li>• train our staff to deal with our local risks</li> <li>• gather and analyse risk information</li> <li>• work with partners to mitigate risks</li> <li>• deal with major events.</li> </ul>	
<u><b>Train our staff to deal with our local risks</b></u>	
<p>Our operational staff continue to undertake routine and risk specific skill acquisition and maintenance training. All firefighters have participated in the modular 'Training For Operational Competence' programme. Firefighter safety is one of the Values of SFRS and this underpins all our activities. Theoretical inputs are confirmed with practical sessions and exercises. COVID-19 and HSE restrictions during this reporting period have impacted on our ability to physically exercise at local venues and COMAH sites, alternative solutions have been sought such as virtual Table Top exercising to ensure response plans are continually tested.</p>	
<u><b>Gather and analyse risk information</b></u>	
<p>Operational staff continue to gather and analyse local risk information and operational intelligence which is used in our preparations to ensure the successful resolution of operational incidents. Fire Safety Enforcement Officers and Operational Crews have been continuing to gather and maintain our Operational Intelligence through remote auditing due to restrictions imposed by the ongoing COVID Pandemic.</p> <p>We conduct Post Incident Debriefs through the use of a Structured Debriefing process, to identify any lessons that can be learned from our preparedness and response to emergency events.</p>	
<u><b>Work with partners to mitigate risks</b></u>	
<p>We continue to be an active member of the Lothians and Borders Local Resilience Partnership and share appropriate information.</p> <p>We share information with local authority partners and other key stakeholders (e.g. Police Scotland) to ensure emergency event risks are mitigated and prepared for.</p>	
<u><b>Deal with major events</b></u>	
<p>During this reporting period, SFRS responded to a wide variety of incidents across the West Lothian area. During Quarter 4 of this reporting year 2020-21, SFRS responded to 28 requests from partner agencies to effect entry for persons in distress or requiring medical attention. In February six fire appliances and one height appliance attended a significant fire at Uphall Golf Club. In March, crews responded to a Water Rescue incident in Bathgate, this was a multi-agency response with assistance from Police Scotland and SAS. Over this reporting period SFRS have been actively involved in supporting national efforts with the ongoing COVID pandemic.</p>	

Accidental dwelling fires (ADFs) can have devastating effects on our community. The SFRS is committed to keeping people safe in their homes. We have developed information sharing protocols and referral processes with our partners to ensure that SFRS access the homes in our community, particularly those who are vulnerable due to age, isolation or addiction. Reduction of ADFs contributes to the West Lothian CPP Local Outcome Improvement Plan, SOA1304\_14 Number of accidental dwelling fires per 10,000 population. We aim to reduce ADFs in West Lothian by 3% per year, which contributes towards the SFRS target for reducing ADFs.

## Results

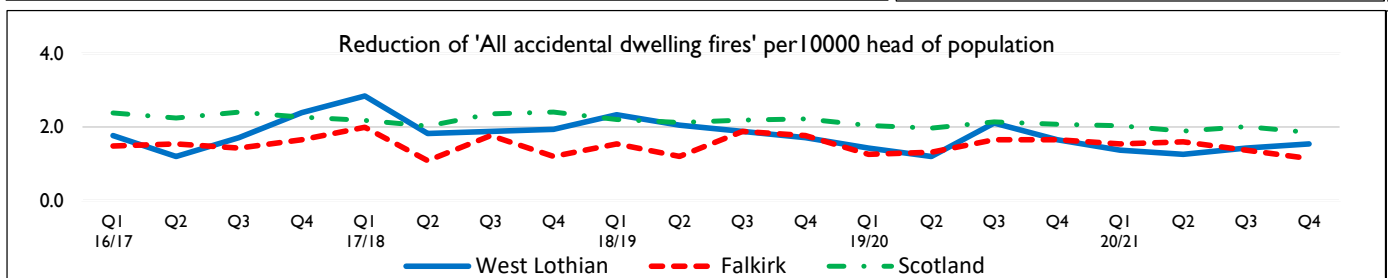
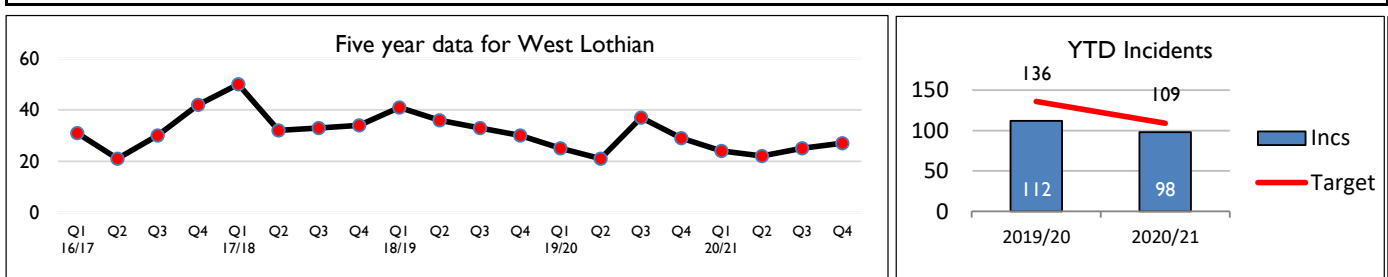
The YTD Incidents chart below shows the actual number of incidents during the year to date period of 2019/20 against the target for that period, aligned to the actual number of incidents and target for the same period for 2020/21. There has been an decrease of 2 incidents [7%] when compared to Q4 2019/20 and an increase of 2 incidents [7%] compared to the previous reporting period in Q3 2020/21. The per 10,000 population trendline over the previous five years shows the West Lothian area is generally below that of Scotland and slightly above that of a comparator local authority.

## Reasons

The vast majority of fires attended relate to cooking, with 10 incidents [37%] involving burning foodstuff as the main cause of the fire. 9 incidents [33%] were caused by a person over the age of 65 years, with a further 15 incidents [56%] in the age group 18 - 64 years. In 16 incidents [60%], distraction, falling asleep or a medical condition was identified as contributing to the cause. In 9 incidents [33%], the consumption of alcohol or drugs was suspected as being a contributory factor.

## Actions

SFRS will continue to identify and develop means to reduce and mitigate accidental dwelling fires. Appendix I provides further details on our prevention activities in relation to this priority.



YTD ward ave. for West Lothian - 11	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Sparklines
West Lothian	124	149	140	112	98	
Linlithgow	9	12	10	8	7	
Broxburn, Uphall & Winchburgh	9	12	8	9	9	
Livingston North	12	17	16	11	14	
Livingston South	18	17	15	12	9	
East Livingston & East Calder	10	14	15	13	10	
Fauldhouse & the Breich Valley	20	21	18	12	6	
Whitburn & Blackburn	19	24	25	19	16	
Bathgate	15	17	17	16	13	
Armadaile & Blackridge	12	15	16	12	14	



Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualty and Fatality rates provide an indication of the amount of serious, life-threatening injuries that occur due to fires in the home. 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. We aim to reduce Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties in West Lothian by 3% per year, which contributes towards the SFRS target for reducing Fire Casualties.

## Results

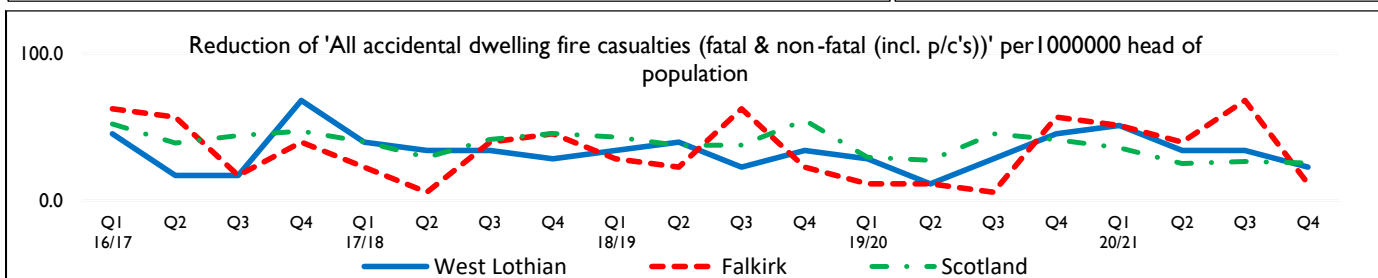
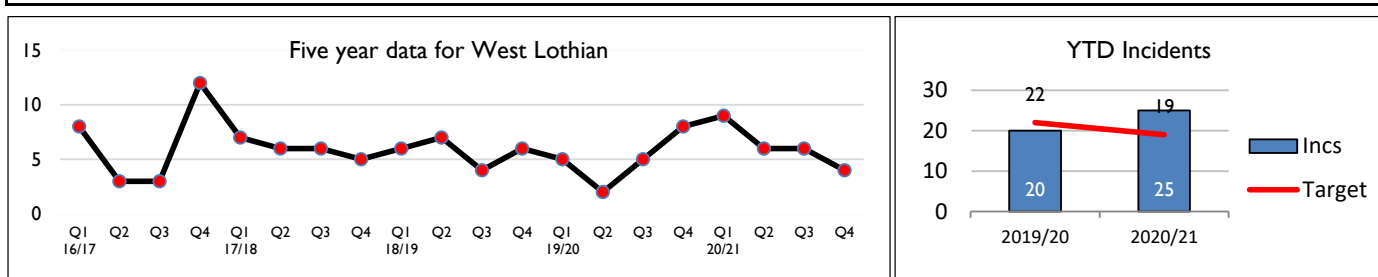
The YTD chart below shows the actual number of casualties during the year to date period of 2019/20 against the target for that period, aligned to the actual number of casualties and target for the same period for 2020/21. There has been a decrease of 4 casualties when compared to Q4 2019/20 and a decrease of 2 casualties when compared to the previous reporting period in Q3 2020/21. The per 1,000,000 population five year trendline shows the West Lothian area is below Scotland and slightly above that of a comparator local authority.

## Reasons

The number of persons reported to SFRS as having sustained injury due to being involved in an Accidental Dwelling Fire (ADF) remains relatively low, with 4 casualties being reported during Q4 2020/21. These casualties were as a result of separate ADFs, unfortunately all of the casualties suffered smoke inhalation, with 2 casualties being aged 60-69, 1 casualty aged 70-79 and 1 casualty aged 30-39. These incidents started in the Kitchen and bedroom areas. All casualties went to hospital for further treatment following being treated at the scene by SFRS Crews.

## Actions

Our Home Safety Visit (HSV) referrals and Post Domestic Incident Response (PDIR) programmes continue to provide the main platform for accessing homes to provide fire safety advice. Partner referrals facilitate SFRS access to the more vulnerable members of the community, where we can provide life saving advice and install smoke detection within domestic premises. Appendix I provides further details on our prevention activities in relation to this priority.



YTD ward ave. for West Lothian - 3	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Sparklines
West Lothian	26	24	23	20	25	
Linlithgow	3	2	0	0	1	
Broxburn, Uphall & Winchburgh	0	2	0	0	7	
Livingston North	1	5	2	3	1	
Livingston South	1	1	2	0	2	
East Livingston & East Calder	3	2	2	1	3	
Fauldhouse & the Breich Valley	0	1	1	3	4	
Whitburn & Blackburn	8	2	6	6	2	
Bathgate	3	3	7	7	1	
Armadaile & Blackridge	7	6	3	0	4	

## Reduction of 'All deliberate fires'

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Deliberate fire setting is a significant problem for the SFRS and partners in West Lothian. In the main, deliberate fires are secondary fires categorised into either refuse, grassland or derelict buildings incidents. There is a close link between deliberate secondary fires and other forms of anti-social behaviour. Reduction of Deliberate Fire Setting contributes to the West Lothian CPP Local Outcome Improvement Plan, SOA1304\_13 Number of deliberate fires per 10,000 population and SOA1304\_37 Antisocial Behaviour Incidents per 10,000 population. We aim to reduce Deliberate Fires in West Lothian by 5% per year, which contributes towards the SFRS target for reducing Deliberate Fires.

### Results

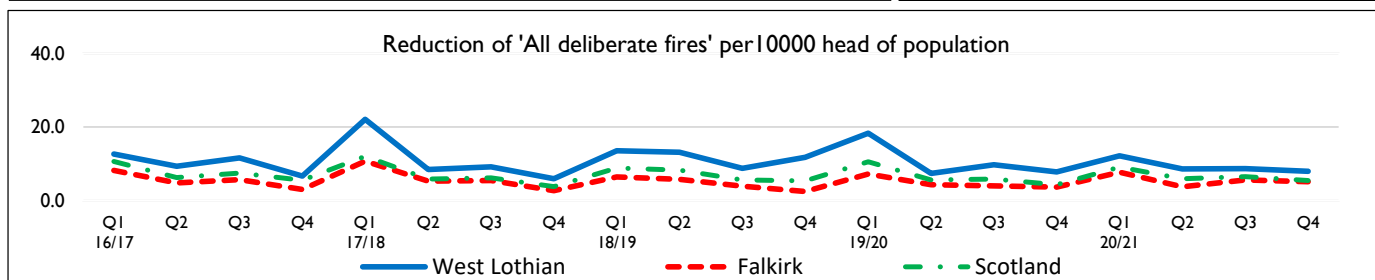
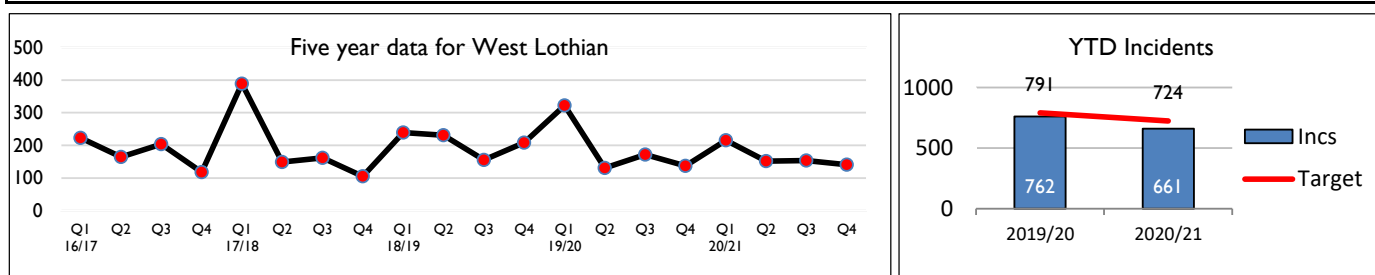
The YTD Incidents chart below shows the actual number of incidents during the year to date period of 2019/20 against the target for that period, aligned to the actual number of incidents and target for the same period for 2020/21. There has been an increase of 4 incidents [3%] compared to Q4 2019/20 and a decrease of 12 incidents [11%] compared to the previous reporting Q3 2020/21. The per 10,000 population trendline over the previous five years shows West Lothian to be slightly higher than a comparator local authority and Scotland.

### Reasons

The majority of deliberate fires involved Wheelie Bins, Loose Refuse, Grassland/Woodland/Scrub areas and land contained within gardens which are recorded as deliberate secondary fires. SFRS attended 126 deliberate secondary fires which correlates to [88]% of all deliberate fires in the West Lothian area during this reporting period. This is mainly aligned to some stable weather experienced and the change in behaviours and peoples activities due to COVID-19 restrictions which both contributed to this incident type. The majority of deliberate Primary fires involved Outdoor sheds, outbuildings and light vehicles.

### Actions

We use a range of methodologies and local initiatives as part of our Thematic Action Plans throughout the year. Knowledge input to schools plays a key part in reducing Deliberate Fire Setting and anti-social behaviour. Linking in with our partners on initiatives to provide a more targetted approach. SFRS are endeavouring to use social media to deliver community safety messages to augment messaging through GLOW. Appendix 2 provides further details on our prevention activities in relation to this priority.



YTD ward ave. for West Lothian - 73	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Sparklines
West Lothian	709	805	833	762	661	
Linlithgow	8	22	29	27	42	
Broxburn, Uphall & Winchburgh	72	70	102	79	77	
Livingston North	133	147	85	82	68	
Livingston South	117	112	105	92	81	
East Livingston & East Calder	95	109	148	101	100	
Fauldhouse & the Breich Valley	86	90	87	137	71	
Whitburn & Blackburn	58	100	72	94	78	
Bathgate	93	92	117	80	67	
Armadaile & Blackridge	47	63	88	70	77	

Fires in Non-Domestic Property can have a detrimental effect on the built environment and the prosperity of the local area. Non-domestic fires are classed as fires which took place in buildings that are not domestic households. Reduction of Non Domestic Property contributes to the West Lothian CPP Local Outcome Improvement Plan, SOA1304\_13 Number of deliberate fires per 10,000 population. We aim to reduce fires in Non Domestic property in West Lothian by 3% per year, which contributes towards the SFRS target for reducing Fires in Non-Domestic Property.

### Results

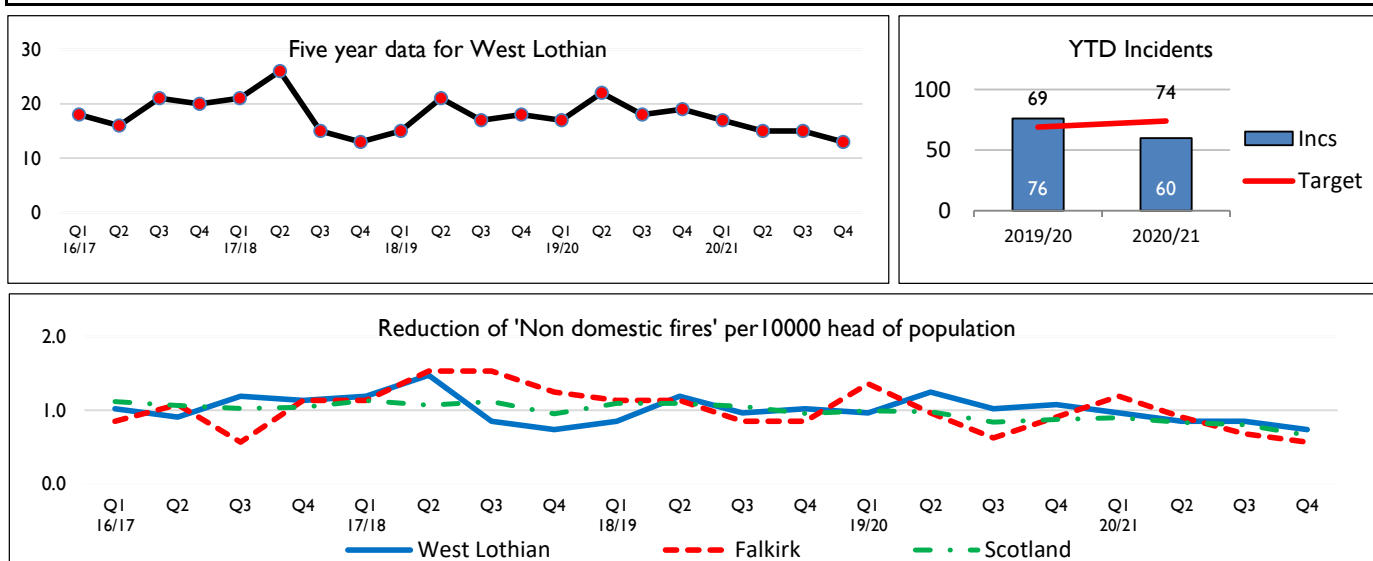
The YTD Incidents chart below shows the actual number of incidents during the year to date period of 2019/20 against the target for that period, aligned to the actual number of incidents and target for the same period for 2020/21. There have been 13 incidents which is a decrease of 6 incidents [32%] when compared to Q4 2019/20 and a decrease of 2 incidents [14%] when compared to the reporting period Q3 2020/21. The majority of these incidents occurred within Secure Premises, Nursing/Care Homes and Small Businesses. The per 10,000 population trendline over the previous 5 years shows the West Lothian area being similar to Scotland and a comparator local authority.

### Reasons

The number of incidents remains low against this priority. The main sources of ignition have been identified as heat sources and combustible materials brought together [5 incidents] followed by overheating appliances [3 incidents] and faulty electrical supplies and cable/leads being the sources of ignition for [2 incidents]. This equates to 77% of all incidents recorded across this reporting period.

### Actions

SFRS engagement with duty holders is assisting in reducing incidents of this type. Appendix 3 provides further details on our prevention activities in relation to this priority.



YTD ward ave. for West Lothian - 7	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Sparklines
West Lothian	75	75	71	76	60	
Linlithgow	5	6	4	7	2	
Broxburn, Uphall & Winchburgh	11	8	7	3	4	
Livingston North	4	4	8	4	3	
Livingston South	14	15	17	9	13	
East Livingston & East Calder	9	15	3	10	6	
Fauldhouse & the Breich Valley	7	12	16	21	12	
Whitburn & Blackburn	6	5	3	11	5	
Bathgate	14	6	7	7	5	
Armadale & Blackridge	5	4	6	4	10	

## Reduction of 'Special Service - RTC casualties'

Services for the Community PDSP 1 June 2021

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Whilst much of this risk is outwith the control of SFRS, responding to Road Traffic Collisions (RTC) is a key part of our intervention activities. The SFRS is committed to working with partners and other stakeholders to drive continuous improvement in this area. Reduction of Casualties from Road Traffic Collisions contributes to the West Lothian CPP Local Outcome Improvement Plan, SOA1304\_12 Number of People killed or seriously injured in road accidents. We aim to reduce casualties and fatalities from Road Traffic Collisions in West Lothian by 2% per year, which contributes towards the SFRS target for reducing casualties from Special Service.

### Results

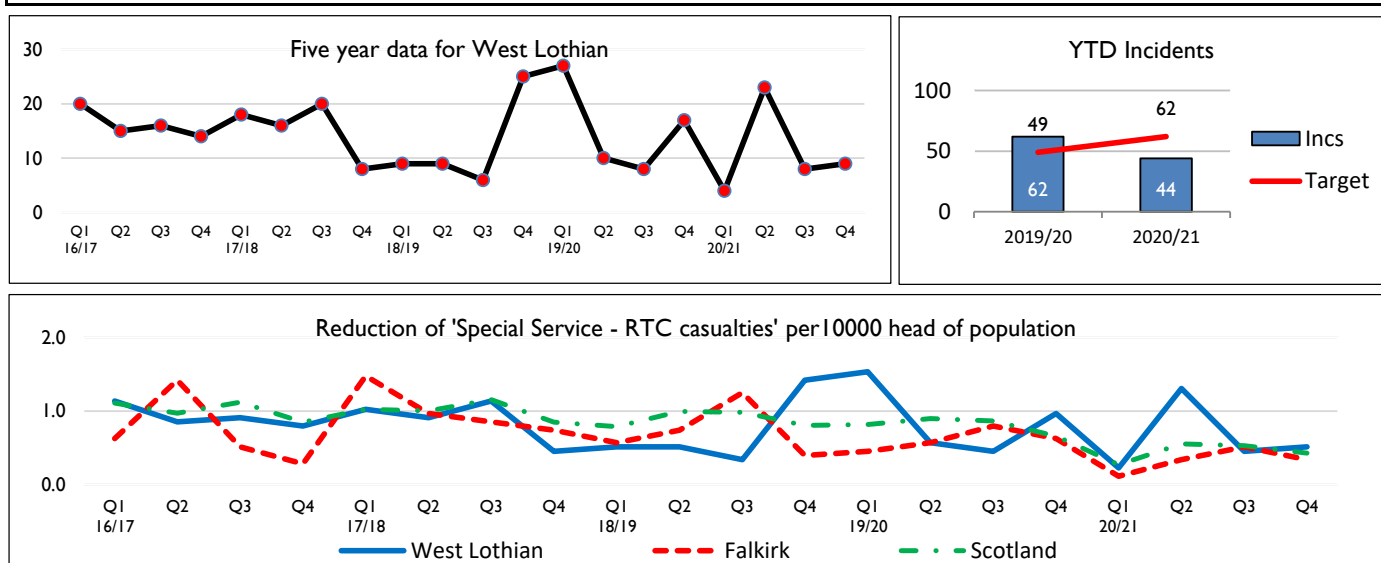
The YTD chart below shows the actual number of casualties during the year to date period of 2019/20 against the target for that period, aligned to the actual number of casualties and target for the same period for 2020/21. There has been a decrease of 8 casualties [53%] when compared to Q4 2019/20 and an increase of 1 casualty [11%] compared to previous reporting Q3 2020/21. The change in behaviours and peoples activities due to the COVID-19 restrictions are considered as contributory factors. The per 10,000 population trendline over the previous five years shows the West Lothian area being slightly higher than a comparator local authority and Scotland.

### Reasons

Out of the 9 casualties reported this period, fortunately this has resulted in no fatalities, however 5 casualties attended hospital for further treatment and for further checks to be undertaken with 1 casualty suffering serious injuries. Only 1 casualty required to be rescued by Firefighters through extrication, with the others self extricating prior to SFRS arrival. All casualties were as a result of Road Traffic Collisions involving Cars.

### Actions

SFRS continues to work with partners to drive down Road Traffic Collision's and associated casualties. Appendix 4 provides further details on our prevention activities in relation to this priority.



YTD ward ave. for West Lothian - 5	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Sparklines
West Lothian	65	62	49	62	44	
Linlithgow	8	9	5	6	3	
Broxburn, Uphall & Winchburgh	10	1	9	5	5	
Livingston North	4	3	1	9	0	
Livingston South	6	6	2	3	2	
East Livingston & East Calder	4	6	4	8	3	
Fauldhouse & the Breich Valley	11	5	9	4	0	
Whitburn & Blackburn	13	20	6	12	16	
Bathgate	9	11	1	10	9	
Armadaile & Blackridge	0	1	12	5	6	

Whilst much of this risk is outwith the control of SFRS, responding to Non-Fire Emergencies is a key part of our intervention activities. The SFRS is committed to working with partners and other stakeholders to drive continuous improvement in this area. Reduction of Casualties from Non-Fire Emergencies contributes to the West Lothian CPP Local Outcome Improvement Plan, SOA1304\_12 Number of People killed or seriously injured in road accidents. We will monitor the number of Non-Fire Emergency Casualties that we attend to and look to work in partnership with other stakeholders to put in place appropriate preventative activities.

### Results

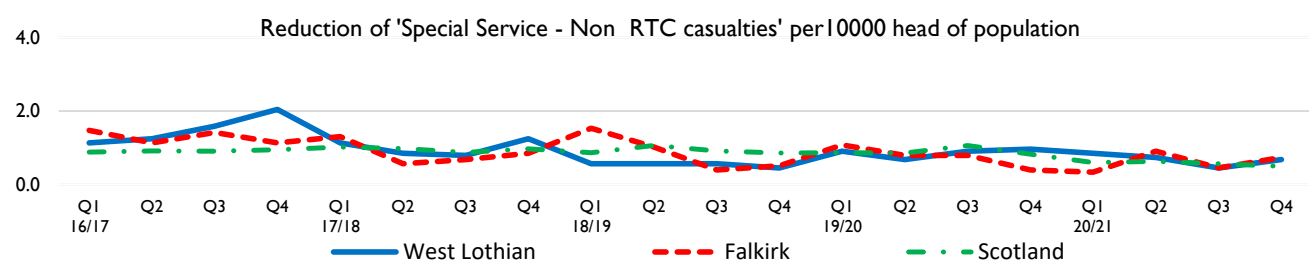
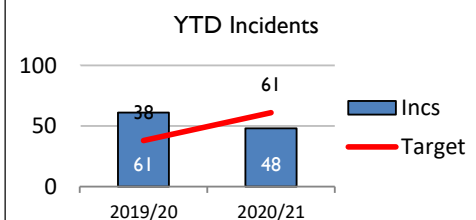
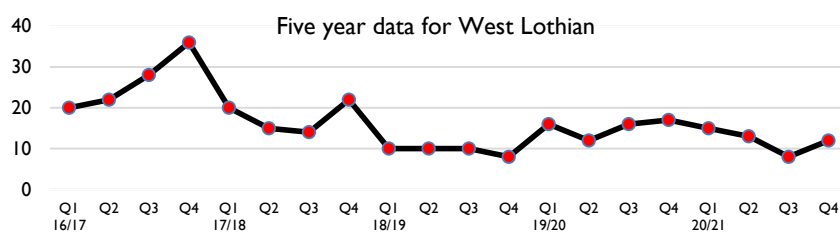
The YTD chart below shows the actual number of casualties during the year to date period of 2019/20 against the target for that period, aligned to the actual number of casualties and target for the same period for 2020/21. There was a decrease of 5 casualties [30%] when compared to Q4 2019/20 and an increase of 4 casualties [34%] compared to the previous reporting period Q3 2020/21. The per 10,000 population trendline over the previous five years shows the West Lothian area slightly below that of a comparator local authority and Scotland.

### Reasons

Casualties numbers resulting from Non RTC special service incidents were mainly as a result of the SFRS attending incidents to assist other partners. Effecting entry made up the majority of incidents with SFRS also involved in recovering casualties from water and from entrapment within machinery.

### Actions

SFRS continues to work with partners to identify opportunities to drive down the number of persons involved in Non RTC Special service casualties. Appendix 5 provides further details on our prevention activities in relation to this priority.



YTD ward ave. for West Lothian - 5	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Sparklines
West Lothian	106	71	38	61	48	
Linlithgow	10	9	5	5	5	
Broxburn, Uphall & Winchburgh	7	6	6	9	1	
Livingston North	10	9	2	1	5	
Livingston South	6	6	2	6	6	
East Livingston & East Calder	11	3	2	3	7	
Fauldhouse & the Breich Valley	9	7	5	4	3	
Whitburn & Blackburn	25	12	5	8	4	
Bathgate	20	13	6	16	14	
Armadaile & Blackridge	8	6	5	9	3	

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) are defined as incidents where an automated fire alarm system activates and results in the mobilisation of SFRS resources, where the reason for that alarm turns out to be something other than a fire. The SFRS is committed to working with partners and other stakeholders to reduce Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals. We aim to reduce UFAS in West Lothian by 5% per year, which contributes towards the SFRS target for reducing the number of UFAS incidents attended in non-domestic premises.

### Results

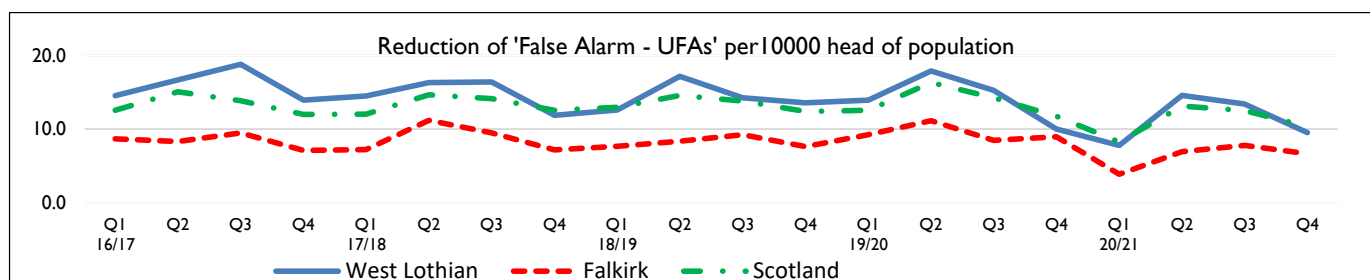
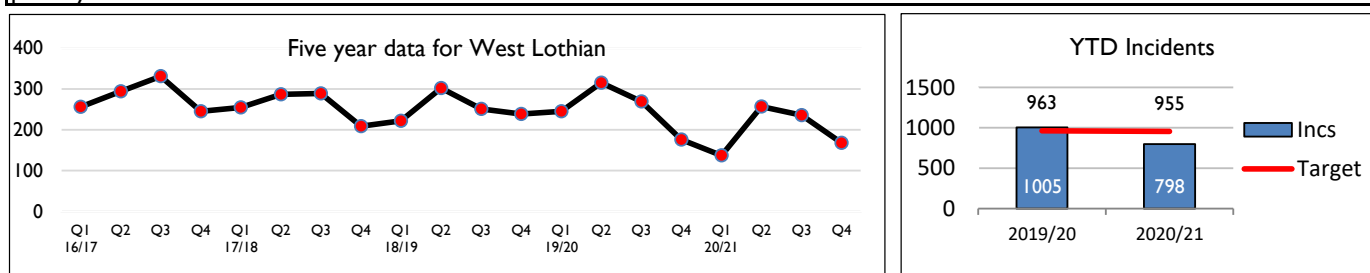
The YTD Incidents chart below shows the actual number of incidents during the year to date period of 2019/20 against the target for that period, aligned to the actual number of incidents and target for the same period for 2020/21. There was a decrease of 8 incidents [5%] when compare to Q4 2019/20 and a decrease of 68 incidents [29%] compared to previous reporting in Q3 2020/21. The change in behaviours and peoples activities due to lockdown and the COVID-19 restrictions are considered as contributory factors. The per 10,000 population trendline over the previous five year shows the West Lothian area to be higher than a comparator local authority but below that of Scotland.

### Reasons

Common UFAS causes are: System Testing - 18 incidents (11%), accidental activation - 14 incidents (8%), Contaminants - 17 incidents (10%) and faults in system - 49 incidents (30%). The largest amount of UFAS incidents were in Warehouses - 18 incidents (11%), Education/Primary Schools - 17 incidents (10%), Offices - 13 incidents (8%), Cafe/Pubs - 10 incidents (6%) and Residential Care - 10 incidents (6%).

### Actions

SFRS proactively monitor UFAS incidents and our Fire Safety Enforcement (FSE) Officers are actively engaged with dutyholders and alarm providers, to work collaboratively towards reducing the amount of UFAS incidents received and attended. This engagement includes education of duty holders in achieving technical, procedural and management solutions and identification of cost effective solutions in order to reduce future UFAS incidents. Appendix 6 provides further details on our prevention activities in relation to this priority.



YTD ward ave. for West Lothian - 89	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Sparklines
West Lothian	1126	1040	1014	1005	798	
Linlithgow	67	58	76	58	42	
Broxburn, Uphall & Winchburgh	114	94	90	76	85	
Livingston North	113	90	90	105	91	
Livingston South	325	330	300	288	225	
East Livingston & East Calder	151	149	152	144	100	
Fauldhouse & the Breich Valley	75	64	63	64	56	
Whitburn & Blackburn	131	109	132	138	128	
Bathgate	85	90	79	71	36	
Armadaile & Blackridge	65	56	32	61	35	







## Appendix 1

### **Reduction of 'All accidental dwelling fires (ADFs)' & Reduction of 'All fire casualties (fatal & non-fatal incl. precautionary check-ups)'**

A primary activity related to improving the safety of our communities is delivering Home Safety Visits. Evidence identifies that dwelling fires occur more frequently in those premises that are occupied by the more vulnerable members of our community such as the elderly and those with substance and alcohol dependencies.

SFRS continue to deliver HSV and continue to develop Information Sharing Protocols with partners and increase the safety of residents with all agencies making appropriate referrals.

Home Fire Safety Programme visits completed (Year to date).

<b>Year to Date Activity 2020-21</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Total HSVs	90	232	341	663
Q4 2020/21	5	27	43	75

During this reporting period, SFRS continue to work with multi-agency partners including Social Work, Housing providers, Health etc. to target those most vulnerable within our communities, by seeking referrals.

SFRS frontline staff submitted several 'Adult Protection' forms to our partners within the Social Work Department to ensure appropriate support is delivered.

SFRS are expanding the HSV within the guidance set out in the Safer Communities Programme. This will see a further transition towards Home Safety Checks with fire crews submitting referrals for 'slips, trips and falls' and 'sensory impairment' in support of reducing unintentional harm where possible. It is envisaged that whilst keeping vulnerable residents safe in their homes, it will reduce the likelihood of hospitalisation and ease the burden in the Health Sector.

In the near future you will see an increase in knowledge input to partners in Housing Associations to identify vulnerable tenants. SFRS officers will commence the delivery of Hazard identification training to housing managers designed to upskill them to identify any persons at risk.

Whilst we seek to reduce Dwelling Fires even further, it should be noted that the severity of fires is often restricted to item first ignited or room of origin.

In February 2019, the legislation relating to smoke detection in the home was changed by the Scottish Government. This means all domestic properties in Scotland, regardless of tenure, should have the same levels of detection; increasing fire safety.

Given the impact of COVID-19, and the difficulties this has created for people seeking to install new smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, the Parliament agreed to delay the implementation of the new standard until February 2022.

The Scottish Government has provided the SFRS access to a limited number of detectors in order to support the most vulnerable in the community achieving this new detection standard. Through a risk based approach this will be conducted through SFRS Home Fire Safety Visits for the highest risk occupancies.

## **Appendix 2**

### **Reduction of 'All deliberate fires'**

#### **Tasking and Coordinating Group (TAC)**

During this reporting period SFRS along with multi-agency partners, continue to attend 'Tasking and Co-ordinating Group' meetings. The primary focus is on addressing tactical level issues using information sharing, problem profiling and the implementation of measures to reduce both fire related and other anti-social behaviour issues. This process greatly assists with addressing areas of high operational demand with the proactive targeting of those most vulnerable within our communities.

This group has already delivered improved outcomes. Information received within the meetings creates profiles of individuals responsible for anti-social behaviour. This informs diversionary activity and youth engagement through "fireskills" intervention initiatives and other joint initiatives with partners (i.e Youth Action Project).

Collaborative work with partners also attracts referrals for Home Safety Visits for the more vulnerable within our communities. There are ongoing case studies with interventions being discussed at present. The partnership has invested in letterbox blockers to assist households targeted by antisocial behaviour, which are fitted by SFRS on an intelligence and risk based approach.

Multi-agency Environmental Visual Audits (EVA's) continue to be used across West Lothian. These are the result of trends identified at the TAC group. Issues identified by partners are progressed to reduce fire related anti-social behaviour and make identified locations less attractive for youths to gather.

#### **Youth Engagement**

SFRS have developed positive relationships with locality Based Police Officers to ensure a more targeted approach in dealing with secondary fires and anti-social behaviour. SFRS Community Safety Advocates/Community Firefighters and Operational Firefighters, deliver an educational programme within schools to address any developing trends. The purpose of this is to deliver seasonal fire education with the focus on reducing fire related ASB and hoax calls. This will also reduce the financial impact on Local Authority Budgets and protects our built environment.

SFRS Crews pro-actively promoted local diversionary activities. This provided opportunities for our frontline crews to engage with youths and reduce ASB.

Information sharing within the Task and Co-ordinating Group and effective multi-agency partnership working is focussed on reducing deliberate fire setting and fire related anti-social behaviour. This included initiatives aimed at preventing fires within derelict properties and fires involving refuse and wheelie-bins.

Wilful fire raising in wheelie disposal bins remains a problem and is being addressed at Task and Co-ordinating Groups with partners. Guidance has been given to partners and cascaded to residents to be more vigilant and to give consideration when they place bins out for uplift and to retrieve them as soon as possible thereafter.

Our fire setter's intervention programmes continue to target our young people in West Lothian, creating diversionary activities tailored to the reduction of fire related anti-social behaviour.

Preventing young people at risk of fire related anti-social behaviour continues to be a focus of our engagement, through our Fire skills programmes which also improve employability and citizenship as well as providing self-confidence and a greater sense of achievement.

## Appendix 3

### Reduction of 'All non-domestic fires'

#### Fire Safety Enforcement Activity

A Pre-Programmed Audit is an audit programmed at the commencement of the fiscal year, selected from premises held within the Service's database, based on a risk assessment as defined in the Service's Enforcement Framework.

A Non-Programmed Audit is an audit that can occur throughout the year. This type of audit would be undertaken because of the following: fire safety complaints, requests from partner agencies or joint initiatives with partners, following any fire within a relevant premise and the targeting of specific premises type in line with the Service's Enforcement Framework.

Our Programmed Audits remain on schedule for completion in 2020/21, however due to lockdown across the auditing year and the mitigating measures required to suppress the Coronavirus moving forward (Tier Levels), it is anticipated that there may need to be a rationalised schedule determined through a risk based approach.

FSEC Code	Premises Type	Number of premises in Local Authority area as of 1 <sup>st</sup> APRIL 2020*	Number of premises subject to pre-planned audit 2020/21	Number of premises audited Q1-Q4 – 2020/21	% of Target Premises achieved
A	Hospital & Prisons	07	07	7	100%
B	Care Home	44	44	44	100%
C	House of multiple occupation (HMO) Tenement	26	08	6	75%
E	Hostels	01	01	1	100%
F	Hotels	119*	13	1	8%
H	Other sleeping accommodation	02*	02	0	0%
J	Further Education	02*	00	0	100%
K	Public Building	32*	00	0	100%
L	Licensed Premises	307*	16	1	6%
M	Schools	119*	39	2	5%
N	Shops	1064*	17	8	47%
P	Other premises open to public	167*	13	3	23%
R	Factories & Warehouses	330*	18	9	50%
S	Offices	635*	08	2	25%
T	Other Workplace	52*	00	0	100%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2272*</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>45%</b>

\*Pre-planned targets are only set for Hospitals, Care Homes, HMO's classed as 'high' risk or in line with licence renewals and other premises classed as 'high' or 'very high' risk.

\*\*Where target is exceeded this is due to non-programmed auditing such as thematic auditing, fire safety complaints or post fire audits.

## **Enforcement/Prohibition Notices**

No Enforcement notices were served within the WL area during this reporting period.

There are 2 prohibition notices remaining (served in previous periods) which are actively being policed by our Enforcement Team.

This is a positive picture as the duty holders across the area are largely in compliance with only recommendations being the main enforcement activities.

Thematic Auditing is being carried out in West Lothian based on trend analysis.

## **Appendix 4**

### **Reduction of 'Special Service – RTC casualties (fatal & non-fatal)'**

SFRS will augment the learning outcomes of the Road Safety Initiative West Drive by implementing our "Make it or Break it programme" which is currently been rolled out in the school environment. This will come in the form of offering tuition to young people on the hazards encountered on our roadways and educating them on safer driving and the consequences of losing concentration at the wheel. SFRS support the Scottish Government's National Road Safety Strategy and support the national road safety campaign to reduce and mitigate the impact from the dangers presented within the road network and by road users. SFRS have a local 'Road Safety' Champion who targets and co-ordinates preventative activities within the West Lothian area.

## **Appendix 5**

### **Reduction of 'Special Service – Non RTC casualties (fatal & non-fatal)'**

SFRS continues to work in collaboration with partners to support the local communities and assist other agencies in delivering services. The Out of Hospital Cardiac Arrest (OHCA) pilot has been paused for some time across the West Lothian area with the outcomes being used to inform the future SFRS Service Delivery at a national level. SFRS support the Scottish Government's National Drowning Prevention Strategy and support the national water safety campaign to reduce and mitigate the impact from the dangers presented by water. SFRS have a local 'Water Safety' Champion who targets and co-ordinates preventative activities within the West Lothian area.

## **Appendix 6**

### **Reduction of 'False Alarm - UFAS'**

A reduction in UFAS incidents has many benefits namely, reducing road risk, reducing SFRS carbon footprint and increasing business continuity. UFAS incidents fall into a range of categories that include. Malicious, Failure of Equipment and Good Intent.

SFRS have developed a UFAS Policy to ensure that persistent UFASs incidents within premises are addressed appropriately. Engagement with key holders is paramount to reducing SFRS attendance. We have programmed engagement sessions with duty holders and alarm providers to discuss solutions to UFASs, with the most recent discussions taking place with West Lothian Council who account for roughly one third of the areas UFAS calls. SFRS have a robust UFAS Policy and analyse trends and engage appropriately with Duty Holders of relevant premises.

A recent “staff alarms” initiative to reduce UFAS has seen a reduction in the number of false alarms in schools. This is being negotiated with other duty holders across the West Lothian Area.

## **Glossary**

### **Primary Fire**

Primary fires include all fires in non-derelict buildings and outdoor structures or any fires involving casualties or rescues or any fires attended by five or more appliances.

### **Secondary Fires**

Secondary fires are the majority of outdoor fires including grassland and refuse fires unless they involve casualties or rescues, property loss or if five or more appliances attend. They include fires in derelict buildings but not chimney fires.

### **Accidental Dwelling Fires**

Building occupied by households, excluding hotels, hostels and residential institutions. In 2000, the definition of a dwelling was widened to include any non-permanent structure used solely as a dwelling, such as caravans, houseboats etc. Caravans, boats etc. not used as a permanent dwelling are shown according to the type of property. Accidental includes fires where the cause was not known or unspecified.

### **Fire Fatality**

A person whose death is attributed to a fire is counted as a fatality even if the death occurred weeks or months later.

### **Fire Casualty**

Non-fatal casualties, injured as a direct result of a fire attended by the service. Includes those who received first aid at the scene and those who were recommended to go for a precautionary check. Does not include injuries to fire service personnel.

### **Deliberate Fire**

Fires where deliberate ignition is suspected

**Special Services**

Special Services are non-fire incidents requiring the attendance of an appliance or officer. The Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 placed a statutory duty on FRS to attend fires and road traffic accidents. It also included an additional function order that covers non-fire incidents such as rescues from collapsed buildings or serious flooding

**CPP**

Community Planning Partnership.

**SOA**

Single Outcome Agreement.

**Year to Date (YTD)**

Year to date is calculated from 1st April on the reporting year

**RTC**

Road Traffic Collision

**UFAS**

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals

## Seasonal Community Safety Calendar

The seasonal calendar depicts a range of initiatives and activities that the SFRS and CPP partners will undertake throughout the year as part of our preventative strategies.



## Seasonal Community Safety Calendar 2020

