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SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
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Cambuslang & Rutherglen Area Committee Report

2022/23 Annual Performance & Activity Report

| | | | |
|--------------|----------------------------------|------------|-----------------------------------|
| From: | 1st April 2022 | To: | 31st March 2023 |
|--------------|----------------------------------|------------|-----------------------------------|

Introduction

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide members of Safer South Lanarkshire Board (SSLB) with an update in respect of Scottish Fire and Rescue activity within South Lanarkshire and how this activity measured against agreed targets for the period 2022 – 2023.

2. Background

2.1 On the 1st April 2013, the eight former Fire & Rescue Services within Scotland merged to form a new single Fire & Rescue Service. A key requirement of the new legislation encompassing the single Service is the production of a Local Area Plan aligned to Local Authority boundaries (subject to the approval of the Local Authority) and to provide periodical reports as to progress against the 'Key Priorities' within the Plan.

3. Review of Performance 2022 – 2023

3.1 The current reiteration of the Local Area Plan for South Lanarkshire contains six Key Priorities and are summarised as;

- Reduction of Dwelling Fires
- Reduction of Fire Casualties and Fatalities
- Reduction of Deliberate Fire Setting
- Reduction of Fires in Non-Domestic Properties
- Reduction in Road Traffic Collisions
- Reduction of Unwanted Fire Signals

3.2 From these six Key Priorities, performance targets were devised and incorporated into the Local Area Plan. A of this report with associated activity levels and comments for each of the performance indicator areas is included within this report.

A review of all internal Community Planning arrangements across the area is has been carried out to support the development of a new Scrutiny structure to support SSLB, Community Planning and service delivery arrangements across South Lanarkshire.

| Fire Framework ID | Key Performance Indicator (KPI) |
|-------------------|---|
| 1b | All deliberate primary fires |
| 1c | All deliberate secondary fires |
| 2bi | All accidental dwelling fires |
| 2bii | All accidental other building fires |
| 3ai | All fatal fire casualties |
| 3aii | Non-fatal fire casualties excl. precautionary check-ups |
| 5a | Special Service - RTCs |
| 6c | Special Service - fatal & non-fatal casualties |
| 10 | UFAS (Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals) |

All Deliberate Primary Fires (1b)

| Ward | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 3 Year Average |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| Cambuslang East | 7 | 5 | 6 | 6 |
| Cambuslang West | 3 | 9 | 4 | 5 |
| Rutherglen Central & North | 10 | 3 | 2 | 3 |
| Rutherglen South | 8 | 4 | 7 | 7 |
| Area Committee Total | 28 | 21 | 19 | 23 |

Commentary:

In 2022/23, there has been a reduction in deliberate primary fires compared to the preceding year. The number of incidents decreased from 21 in 2021/22 to 19 in 2022/23.

The locations of all deliberate primary fires are regularly shared with Police Scotland, local authority Housing and Anti-Social Teams to contribute to their community intelligence efforts and identify patterns. Each ward is assigned to a watch at Clydesmill Fire Station, and ongoing analysis of incidents takes place, with potential corrective measures presented to the Station Commander.

Subsequently, collaboration occurs at the local Problem-Solving Groups and the Weekly Anti-Social Community Safety Hub to prevent future incidents from happening again.

All Deliberate Secondary Fire (1c)

| Ward | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 3 Year Average |
|-----------------------------|------------|------------|------------|----------------|
| Cambuslang East | 60 | 44 | 73 | 59 |
| Cambuslang West | 29 | 61 | 69 | 53 |
| Rutherglen Central & North | 48 | 63 | 69 | 60 |
| Rutherglen South | 47 | 42 | 52 | 47 |
| Area Committee Total | 136 | 168 | 211 | 171 |

Commentary:

Our operational crews and Community Action Team continue to monitor for hotspots and carry out engagement at local schools and areas of known activity. This is supported by our new Power BI system which helps us make data informed decisions when we target areas specific areas of anti-social behaviour within our community. We look to identify areas of illegal fly tipping and liaise with the local environmental teams to arrange uplift.

Again, each ward is the designated responsibility of a watch within Clydesmill Fire Station and all incidents are analysed on an on-gong basis with proposed remedial action presented to the Station Commander.

All Accidental Dwelling Fires (ADF) (2bi)

| Ward | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 3 Year Average |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| Cambuslang East | 8 | 5 | 8 | 7 |
| Cambuslang West | 6 | 12 | 14 | 11 |
| Rutherglen Central & North | 13 | 19 | 17 | 16 |
| Rutherglen South | 17 | 10 | 6 | 11 |
| Area Committee Total | 44 | 46 | 45 | 45 |

Commentary:

Accidental Dwelling Fires have decreased by 1 in 2022/23 from the previous reporting period.

SFRS have an on-going programme of Fire Safety engagement and education to contribute to the reduction of ADF.

We continue to carry out Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSV) to ensure that all properties have a means of detection within their property and we have carried out 483 visits in the last year.

We are involved in a number of initiatives with key partners to actively encourage “at risk” households to engage with ourselves. Our Community Action Team are currently delivering Fire Safety Risk Recognition Training to our all partners to increase our pathway referral process for high risk Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSV).

We work closely with Social Work, Housing and various other partners to ensure that any members of the local community, who are identified as Adults at Risk are fully supported and care packages are put in place to keep them safe.

As well as TV, Radio and Local Newspapers the service utilises social media to help promote fire safety within our local communities.

Following all incidents at a domestic property we will carry out a Post Domestic Incident Response (PDIR) to offer advice and re-assurance to the property affected along with surrounding properties.

All Accidental Other Building Fires (2bii)

| Ward | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 3 Year Average |
|-----------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------------|
| Cambuslang East | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0.33 |
| Cambuslang West | 4 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| Rutherglen Central & North | 2 | 5 | 3 | 3 |
| Rutherglen South | 2 | 2 | 4 | 3 |
| Area Committee Total | 9 | 7 | 8 | 8 |

Commentary:

2022/23 seen an increase of 1 in Accidental Building Fires compared to the previous reporting year.

Should SFRS attend any incident in any property other than a dwelling then we will complete a Risk Assessment Failure Form, which is passed to our Fire Safety Enforcement Officers (FSEO) in Lanarkshire.

The FSEO will then in turn provide advice and guidance on fire safety issues or carry out a formal Post Fire Audit, depending on the nature of the incident. FSEO within Lanarkshire also carry out Fire Safety Audits on a rolling programme in high risk premises such as sleeping risks and high risk commercial and industrial premises, ensuring that the responsible person is complying with their statutory duties.

Fire Crews with Clydesmill also carry out Operational Intelligence and familiarisation visits to ensure that they are fully aware of any risks in their local area.

All Fatal Fire Casualties (3ai)

| Ward | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 3 Year Average |
|-----------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------------|
| Cambuslang East | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0.33 |
| Cambuslang West | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Rutherglen Central & North | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Rutherglen South | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Area Committee Total | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0.33 |

Commentary:

SRFS have recorded one fire fatality with the 2022/23 reporting period.

Non-fatal Fire Casualties (excl. precautionary check-ups) (3a ii)

| Ward | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 3 Year Average |
|-----------------------------|-----------|----------|----------|----------------|
| Cambuslang East | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0.33 |
| Cambuslang West | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0.66 |
| Rutherglen Central & North | 4 | 3 | 0 | 2.33 |
| Rutherglen South | 7 | 3 | 0 | 3.33 |
| Area Committee Total | 13 | 7 | 0 | 6.66 |

Commentary:

There was a decrease in non-fatal fire casualties compared to the previous year increasing from 7 to 0.

Each fire casualty results in a reporting procedure followed by the operational crews which informs the Station Commander of the details, circumstances and extent of injury after each of these incidents. Following every incident in a domestic dwelling our crews will carry out a PDIR to offer re-assurance and a HFSV should they require it with detection fitted if necessary.

We work closely with Social work, housing and various other partners to ensure that any members of the local community who are identified as Adults at Risk are fully supported and care packages are put in place to keep them safe.

Special Service – RTCs (5a)

| Ward | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 3 Year Average |
|-----------------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| Cambuslang East | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1.66 |
| Cambuslang West | 0 | 3 | 6 | 3 |
| Rutherglen Central & North | 6 | 7 | 1 | 4.66 |
| Rutherglen South | 1 | 3 | 5 | 3 |
| Area Committee Total | 8 | 14 | 15 | 12.33 |

Commentary:

The number of Road Traffic Collisions (RTC) in 2022/23 have increased by 1 to 15 incidents within the 2022/23 reporting period.

RTC's remain a priority in Lanarkshire and SFRS works closely with partner agencies to reduce the risk on our roads and we deliver education programmes to assist in prevention, such as weekly Virtual Reality (VR) Road Safety input to our Fire Reach groups, local youth groups and colleges.

We work closely with local Community Police Officers to increase Road Safety awareness and risk-taking behaviours to local high schools and SFRS will continue with our communication and engagement with various social media campaigns.

Special Service – fatal & non-fatal casualties (6c)

| Ward | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 3 Year Average |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| Cambuslang East | 1 | 5 | 1 | 2.33 |
| Cambuslang West | 4 | 8 | 4 | 5.33 |
| Rutherglen Central & North | 10 | 6 | 8 | 8 |
| Rutherglen South | 3 | 6 | 11 | 6.66 |
| Area Committee Total | 17 | 25 | 24 | 22 |

Commentary:

There has been a decrease to the number of these casualties from 25 in 2021/22 to 24 in 2022/23.

As stated previously we continue to work with partner agencies to look to reduce the number of casualties from special service incidents. Over half of the casualties are from RTC's, but we are now seeing a significant increase in requests for assistance from partner agencies to gain entry to properties for emergency medical incidents.

UFAS (10)

| Ward | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 3 Year Average |
|-----------------------------|------------|------------|------------|----------------|
| Cambuslang East | 37 | 24 | 34 | 32 |
| Cambuslang West | 58 | 69 | 90 | 72 |
| Rutherglen Central & North | 65 | 64 | 75 | 68 |
| Rutherglen South | 18 | 26 | 38 | 27 |
| Area Committee Total | 178 | 183 | 237 | 199 |

Commentary:

SFRS have seen an increase in UFAS activity from the previous reporting period, moving from 183 incidents in 2021/22 to 237 in 2022/23. SFRS response to fire alarms in commercial business and workplace premises is changing from the 1st of July 2023.

Every year SFRS attend around 28,000 automatic fire alarm (AFA) call outs to commercial business and workplace premises each year. From the 1st July 2023, we will stop attending AFA call outs to commercial business and workplace premises, such as factories, offices, shops and leisure facilities unless a fire has been confirmed.

Operations Control colleagues will now be asking anyone who reports a fire alarm to investigate and confirm there is an actual fire or signs of fire, before sending the nearest response.

This change does not apply to sleeping premises, such as hospitals, care homes, hotels or domestic dwellings.

Lawrence Murphy

Station Commander – Clydesmill / Lesmahagow / LSO Support

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