

The Highland Council

Community Safety, Public Engagement and Equalities Committee – 12 September 2013

Agenda Item	13
Report No	CPE 39/13

Quarterly Performance Report for Quarter 1 2013/14

Report by Local Senior Officer for the Highland Area Area Manager Scott Hay

Summary

This Report and attached quarterly performance report (QPR) details Fire and Rescue Service performance across a range of Intervention, Prevention and Protection activities in line with set target delivery for 2013/14.

1. Background

- 1.1 Building on previous successes and embedding the key elements of the Safer Firefighter Programme (SFP) and legislative fire safety audits across the Highland area, the maintenance of core and specialist skills and the legislative audit programmes are continuing into the current reporting year.
- 1.2 Delivery of these activities is now well embedded within the Highland area and, where required, is fully supported by additional training and legislative staff from across the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS).

2. Performance Reporting

- 2.1 Performance reporting for 2013-14 is aligned to the planned target delivery of 4000 home fire safety visits (HFSV) and 528 legislative audits across the Highland area. The 4000 HFSV is in line with previous reporting years and reflects the notional target of 40 per 1000 households across Scotland, benchmarking other LA areas. The 528 legislative audits reflect the number of high and very high risk premises across the Highland area.
- 2.2 It is recognised that these activities and performance targets contribute to a reduction in risk in the community, as well as demand on fire and rescue service resources. Therefore, continuing to deliver these activities and analysing the outcomes, ensures continued improvement in the reduction of fires and fire related injuries and unwanted fire alarm signals

3. Key Performance Indicators - Analysis

- 3.1 KP1 and KP2 indicators reflect the continued progress in maintaining the low number of accidental dwelling fires and resultant decrease in fire casualties. Operational manager will work to support continued reductions in this essential life safety measure.
- 3.2 KPI 3 identifies the increase in malicious fires, including deliberate fires, during this reporting quarter. This is a direct result of the increased wildfire activity during April to June. The Service is working closely with land managers and other partner agencies to combat these events ahead of the next Muirburning season. More positively there has been a 24% reduction in the number of refuse fires this quarter.
- 3.3 KPI 4 identifies the number of home fire safety visits (HFSV) performed this quarter. This figure is lower than the targeted delivery of 1000 and relates to the training and implementation of the new community safety engagement toolkit (C-SET). HFSV delivery is expected to increase and improve during quarters 2 and 3.
- 3.4 KPI 5 reflects the increase in false alarms across the Highland area. This is a result of increased activity in legislative fire safety (LFS) audits where the installation of fire alarm systems has increased. SFRS auditing staff will monitor this level of activity and work with duty holders to reduce these numbers overall.
- 3.5 KPI 6 identifies the proportion of station hours available, directly relating to the availability of operational personnel, mostly during the normal 9-5 working day. Operational managers routinely engage with retained staff to support and encourage improvements in day time availability.
- 3.6 KPI 7 identifies the overall number of injury incidents. While the Service actively encourages the reporting of near miss incidents, the total number of injury accidents increased by four during this reporting period. The Service routinely performs a full and joint (FBU and management) investigation process following each event and ensures the resultant outcomes and recommendations are implemented and where appropriate, lessons are learned.

4. Safer Firefighter Programme Update

- 4.1 Tables 1-3 in **Appendix A** reflect current progress against the now embedded SFP and capture data from 1 April to 30 June. Variances also reflect the current availability of operational retained personnel and will increase during the reporting year.

4.2 The Safer Firefighter Programme is now fully implemented across the former Highland and Islands areas and forms part of the national maintenance of skills programme for all operational personnel in the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

5. Driving Ambition Courses

5.1 The SFRS in partnership with Highland Council and Police Scotland continues to deliver the Driving Ambition road safety programme to all high schools in the Highland area. Road safety has been recognised as a main priority in all communities across Highland and the delivery of Driving Ambition plays a key part in educating young and new drivers. To date, the Driving Ambition course has been delivered in eight high schools with a further twelve planned for later in the year. **Appendix B** identifies current and planned delivery.

6. Youth Engagement Programme - HI-Fires

6.1 The legacy HIFRS regularly delivered the HI-Fires youth engagement programme across the Highland and Islands local authority areas. This programme was supported by funding from other agencies ranging from Drug and Alcohol Partnership (DAP), Cashback for Communities, Safer Streets Funding, and Merkinch Partnership etc. and has proved to be extremely effective and beneficial to those young people who attend the ten week programme.

6.2 Two courses have been planned for this year in Inverness, one funded by the Merkinch Partnership (May–August 2013) and one co-funded by Millburn Academy and Ministry of Defence Community Covenant Grant Scheme (September–November 2013)

6.3 The FRS is actively seeking funding opportunities from Cashback for Communities and DAP as the course is an excellent diversionary programme, supporting partnership education in home safety, drug and drink awareness, pro-social behaviour, first aid training and improved teamwork skills.

6.4 The Service will continue to explore funding opportunities, particularly those identified through partnership and across communities and wards, particularly in areas that benefit from the programme delivery.

Recommendation

Committee Members are invited to comment and question the contents of the Report and attached QPR for Quarter 1, 2013-2014.

Signature: Area Manager Scott Hay

Designation: Local Senior Officer for the Highland Area

Date: 1 September 2013

Background Papers:

Highland Quarterly Performance Report: Quarter 1, 2013/14

Appendix A

Table 1 Core Skills

	Student Totals		
	Target	Actual	Variance
	BA Refresher	180	131
Fire Behaviour Training	156	105	67%
Incident Command Training	62	55	89%

Table 2 Core Skills

	Student Totals		
	Target	Actual	Variance
	Road Traffic Collision (RTC)	156	119
Driver Training Initial	7	7	100%
Driver Training Response (ERT)	18	18	100%
Driver Training Response Refresher (ERT Refresher)	21	21	100%
Task & Task Management	24	31	129%

Table 3 Specialist Skills

	Student Totals		
	Target	Actual	Variance
	Level 1 - Shore Based Rescue	168	131
Level 3 - Swift Water Rescue	36	30	83%

Appendix B

2013 Dates	Schools
27 February	Dingwall Academy
05 March	Plockton High
13 March	Charleston Academy
04 June	Invergordon Academy
11 June	Glenurquart High Kilchuimen Academy
26 June	Nairn Academy
28 August	Kingussie High
04 September	Lochaber High Mallaig High Kinlochleven Academy Ardnamurchan High
11 September	Culloden Academy
23 September	Tain Royal Academy
24 September	Golspie High School
25 September	Wick High School
26 September	Thurso High School
01 October	Inverness Royal Academy
30 October	Ullapool High
20 November	Millburn Academy