

The Highland Council
Sutherland County Committee
30 November 2016
Scottish Fire and Rescue Area Committee Performance
Report for Q1 and Q2 2016-17
Report by Local Senior Officer for Highland

Agenda Item	4.
Report No	SCC/ 21/16

Summary

This report provides an update to Sutherland County Committee Members on progress against the priorities outlined in the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Area Committee Plan for Caithness and Sutherland 2016-2017.

Priority areas are identified through a range of Intervention, Prevention and Protection activities which are delivered through partnership to reduce the risk to the communities of Sutherland.

The report also contains previously agreed information and performance as requested by Local Committees.

1. Sutherland County Performance Report

- 1.1 The attached performance report provides the current figures for Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 of 2016/17 from the central Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) performance management database against the key indicators and timelines from previous reports.
- 1.2 In achieving the priorities within the Area Committee Plan for Caithness and Sutherland 2016-2017 a number of activities are being progressed including: the delivery of free home fire safety visits (HFSVs) and post domestic incident response (PDIR) aimed at reducing dwelling house fires. SFRS continues to play an active part in the delivery of partnership safety initiatives including the Driving Ambition road safety programme and the reduction of fire-related antisocial behaviour through targeted youth engagement activities (such as HIFiReS) and thematic action plans.

- 1.3 It must be emphasised that the baseline figures for some of the indicators within the report are very low and this can make meaningful statistical analysis challenging.
- a. The occurrence of Accidental Dwelling Fires attended by SFRS in Sutherland in Q1 of 2016/17 remained the same as the previous quarter before dipping to zero (0) in Q2. This null return in Q2 is the lowest quarterly total for this incident type since Q1 of 2012/13. Of the four (4) fires in Q1 only one caused serious damage. SFRS continues to work with a range of partner agencies to identify the households which are deemed most vulnerable to accidental dwelling fires and then seek to deliver a free Home Fire Safety Check. Following each dwelling fire SFRS also conducts Post Domestic Incident Response activities in the immediate vicinity. Home fire safety advice is distributed and Home Fire Safety Visits offered.
 - b. There were zero (0) Fatal Fire Casualties in Sutherland during Q1 and Q2 of 2016/17. This indicator has therefore returned to the baseline figure which has been prevalent over the last five years. SFRS is not complacent and constantly seeks improvement in its preventative fire safety activities. A series of Multi-Agency Case Conferences have been chaired by SFRS over the last year to identify how recent domestic fire deaths in Highland could have been prevented. Improvements have been identified, implemented and are being monitored by SFRS and its local partner agencies to pro-actively protect householders found to have vulnerable lifestyles or health conditions.
 - c. There have been zero (0) Non-Fatal Fire Casualties at fire incidents attended by SFRS in Sutherland during Q1 and Q2 of 2016/17. This indicator has now returned to the baseline figure which has been prevalent over the last five years. The relevant multi-agency Case Conferences also seek to address the prevention of circumstances which may give rise to these fire related injuries.
 - d. Over the last five years there has been a steady decline in the number of Deliberate Fires attended by SFRS in Sutherland. The vast majority of these have been seasonal wildfires which occurred between the months of March and April. Two (2) of the four (4) deliberate fires during Q4 of 2015/16 and Q1 of 2016/17 were wildfires. SFRS continues to collaborate with local land managers and land users to reduce the occurrence of wildfires through media messages, responsible muirburn practices and the development of protocols for joint operational response when such incidents occur.

- e. There was a relatively constant number (2 or 3) Special Service Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs) attended by SFRS in Sutherland during each of the four quarters of 2015/16. During Q2 of 2016/17 there was a peak of seven (7) RTCs but none of these required crews to extricate any vehicle occupants. Six (6) incidents involved a single car, one (1) was a motorbike and one (1) involved a car and a large vehicle. SFRS continues to work with other agencies to deliver Driving Ambition and Safe Highlander events which educate young people on driver and road safety.
 - f. Following a peak in the number of Unwanted False Alarm Signals (UFAS) attended by SFRS in Q3 of 2015/16. There was a significant reduction in Q4 2015/16 which has continued into Q1 and Q2 of 2016/17. SFRS continues to work with the responsible person for any premises which generates repeated false alarms. The aim is to prevent the occurrence of these types of incident by advising on fire detection equipment and its management.
- 1.4 SFRS has recently refined the Retained Duty System (RDS) recruitment process to meet local needs and managers continue to target key stations and communities across Highland - including the Sutherland Area. SFRS personnel are promoting the campaigns with partner agencies, local media and are seeking continued local area support in the communities identified. The communities of Lochinver and Bettyhill continue to receive priority attention to achieve Firefighter recruitment and train sufficient numbers of personnel to carry out breathing apparatus, incident command and response driving roles.

Recommendation

The Committee is invited to **comment** on and **scrutinise** the attached Area Performance Report.

Group Manager Mark Loynd

17 November 2016

Attachment: Highland – Sutherland County Committee - Performance Report



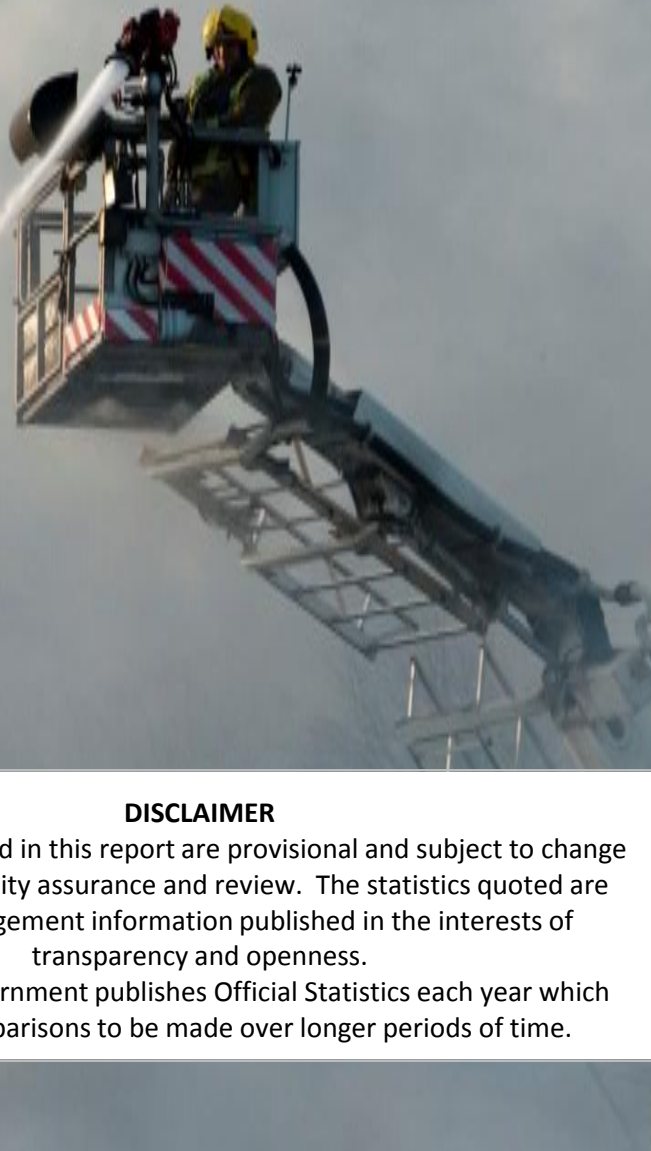
SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Working together for a safer Scotland

Highland

**Sutherland
Local Committee**

Performance Report



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.

ID	Key Performance Indicator (KPI)	Pg
2bi	All accidental dwelling fires	3
3bi	All fatal accidental dwell. fire casualties	4
3bii	Non-fatal accidental dwell. fire casualties (excl. precautionary checkups)	5
1a	All deliberate fires	6
5a	Special Service – RTCs	7
10d	False Alarm – Equipment failure	8
	Station Availability	9

Commentary

The key performance indicators (KPIs) above have been extracted from the suite of KPIs contained within the Scottish Fire and Rescue Framework Document 2013.

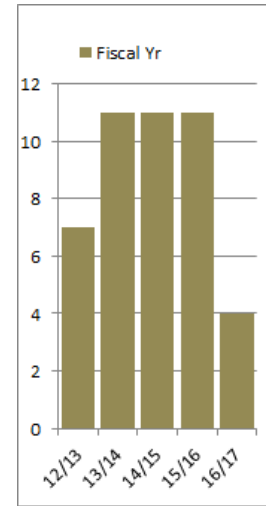
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0041/00416181.pdf>

The KPIs above also represent the main priority areas for the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, identified by elected members and communities during the ward consultation sessions in 2013 as;

- Reducing accidental dwelling house fires and the resultant fatalities and casualties
- Reducing deliberate fires
- Reducing road traffic collisions
- Reducing the number of attendances to unwanted fire alarm signals (false alarms)

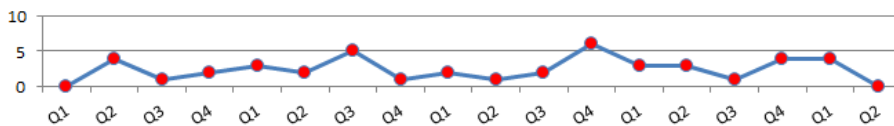
All accidental dwelling fires

Month/Year	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Highland
April	0	1	1	1	1	7
May	0	2	0	2	2	18
June	0	0	1	0	1	9
July	2	2	0	0	0	11
August	0	0	1	2	0	12
September	2	0	0	1	0	16
October	1	1	0	0		
November	0	0	2	0		
December	0	4	0	1		
January	1	1	3	1		
February	0	0	0	1		
March	1	0	3	2		
Fiscal Yr	7	11	11	11	4	73



Month/Year	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Fiscal Yr	7	11	11	11	4

Qtr/Year	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Highland
Quarter 1	0	3	2	3	4	34
Quarter 2	4	2	1	3	0	39
Quarter 3	1	5	2	1		
Quarter 4	2	1	6	4		



Commentary

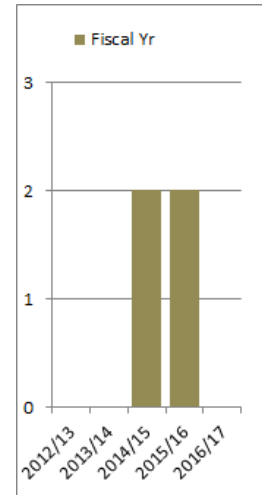
The tables above represent the number of accidental dwelling house fires that occurred within the Area Committee boundary. Tolerances are set in context of the number of previous incidents by reporting month and, where there has been an increase in overall incidents, the colour coding is identified with the application of the red, amber and green (RAG) system.

Trend lines also identify the number of incidents over the reporting 5 year period, both by month and by reporting quarter.

The Service works closely with partner agencies and communities to reduce the number of accidental dwelling house fires through the delivery of targeted home fire safety visits and the installation of free smoke detectors. Supporting the targeted delivery, partner agencies routinely share data identifying residents that would benefit from this free service, aiming to reduce the risk of fire and harm to householders and their property.

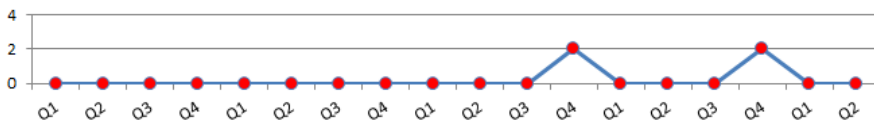
All fatal accidental dwell. fire casualties

Month/Year	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Highland
April	0	0	0	0	0	0
May	0	0	0	0	0	0
June	0	0	0	0	0	0
July	0	0	0	0	0	0
August	0	0	0	0	0	0
September	0	0	0	0	0	0
October	0	0	0	0		
November	0	0	0	0		
December	0	0	0	0		
January	0	0	1	1		
February	0	0	0	1		
March	0	0	1	0		
Fiscal Yr	0	0	2	2	0	0



Month/Year	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Fiscal Yr	0	0	2	2	0

Qtr/Year	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Highland
Quarter 1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Quarter 2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Quarter 3	0	0	0	0		
Quarter 4	0	0	2	2		

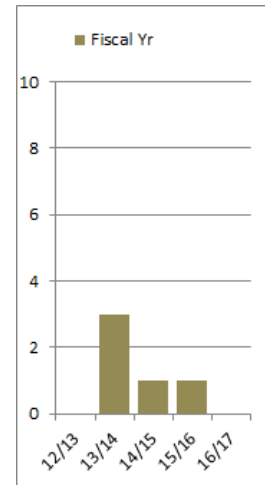


Commentary

The attached tables identify the number of dwelling house fires that have resulted in fire related fatalities over the reporting 5 year period. The Service is committed to reducing this figure to eliminate all events and occurrences that result in a fatality. As identified, partnership working and data sharing supports this key aim and the delivery of targeted life safety advice and information.

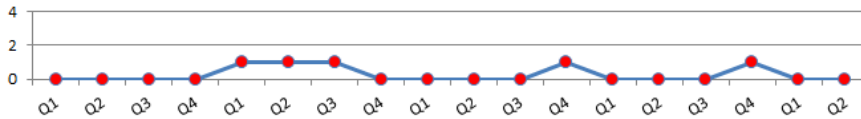
Non-fatal fire casualties (excl. precautionary checkups)

Month/Year	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Highland
April	0	1	0	0	0	2
May	0	0	0	0	0	1
June	0	0	0	0	0	3
July	0	1	0	0	0	2
August	0	0	0	0	0	0
September	0	0	0	0	0	1
October	0	0	0	0		
November	0	0	0	0		
December	0	1	0	0		
January	0	0	1	1		
February	0	0	0	0		
March	0	0	0	0		
Fiscal Yr	0	3	1	1	0	6



Month/Year	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Fiscal Yr	0	3	1	1	0

Qtr/Year	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Highland
Quarter 1	0	1	0	0	0	6
Quarter 2	0	1	0	0	0	3
Quarter 3	0	1	0	0		
Quarter 4	0	0	1	1		



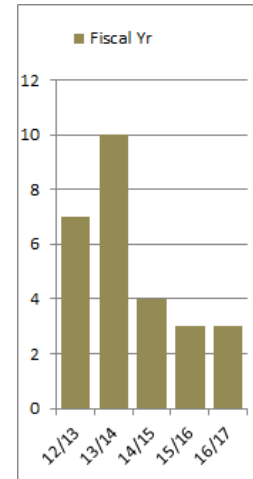
Commentary

The attached tables identify the number of dwelling house fires that have resulted in fire related casualties over the reporting 5 year period. The Service is committed to reducing this figure overall, therefore reducing the impact on the community.

The Service will continue to work hard with partners to reduce the number of casualties.

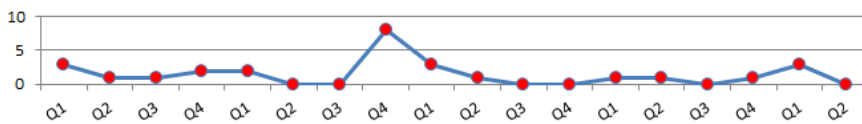
All deliberate fires

Month/Year	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Highland
April	0	1	3	1	2	8
May	1	0	0	0	0	10
June	2	1	0	0	1	17
July	0	0	0	1	0	11
August	1	0	0	0	0	5
September	0	0	1	0	0	15
October	1	0	0	0		
November	0	0	0	0		
December	0	0	0	0		
January	0	0	0	0		
February	0	0	0	0		
March	2	8	0	1		
Fiscal Yr	7	10	4	3	3	45



Month/Year	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Fiscal Yr	7	10	4	3	3

Qtr/Year	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Highland
Quarter 1	3	2	3	1	3	35
Quarter 2	1	0	1	1	0	31
Quarter 3	1	0	0	0		
Quarter 4	2	8	0	1		

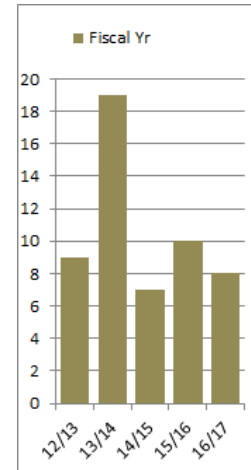


Commentary

Deliberate fires include those as a result of fire related antisocial behaviour (ASB) and wildfires. Analysis of the overall incidents and the periods in when they occur, identify seasonal variations e.g. muirburning season and holiday periods. The Service has introduced a number of fire reduction strategies and thematic action plans targeting these types of incidents. Working in partnership with other key agencies, the Service is working hard to reduce these incidents overall. Examples of which include the promotion of fire reduction through the Safer Highland ASB Group, promoting best practice and partnership working through the Scottish Wildfire Forum (SWF) and targeting key groups ahead of known peak activity periods.

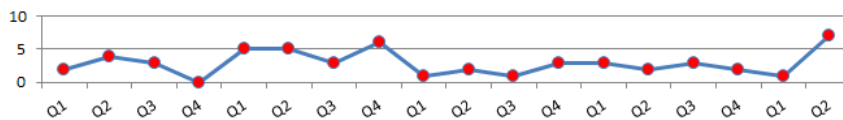
Special Service - RTCs

Month/Year	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Highland
April	0	2	1	0	1	22
May	0	1	0	3	0	12
June	2	2	0	0	0	16
July	3	4	1	0	4	28
August	0	1	1	2	0	21
September	1	0	0	0	3	22
October	0	1	0	0		
November	1	1	1	2		
December	2	1	0	1		
January	0	2	1	1		
February	0	0	1	0		
March	0	4	1	1		
Fiscal Yr	9	19	7	10	8	121



Month/Year	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Fiscal Yr	9	19	7	10	8

Qtr/Year	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Highland
Quarter 1	2	5	1	3	1	50
Quarter 2	4	5	2	2	7	71
Quarter 3	3	3	1	3		
Quarter 4	0	6	3	2		



Commentary

Special Service incidents involve an operational response to a range of emergency activities including life critical road traffic collisions, flooding events, industrial accidents and in support of other emergency service colleagues at larger multi-agency non-fire related events.

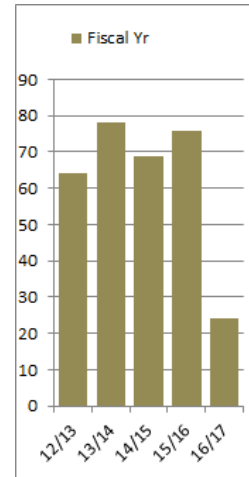
The most common type of special service is as a result of a road traffic collision involving, in most cases, a response from all three emergency services. The Service is working in partnership with other emergency response colleagues and partner agencies through the Safer Highland Road Safety Group to reduce these incidents in the community of Sutherland.

Road safety activities in the area include e.g. Driving Ambition and Safe Highlander, all of which have a focused message of road safety, targeting key groups in the reduction of road related incidents as identified in Scotland's Road Safety Framework to 2020.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/286643/0087268.pdf>

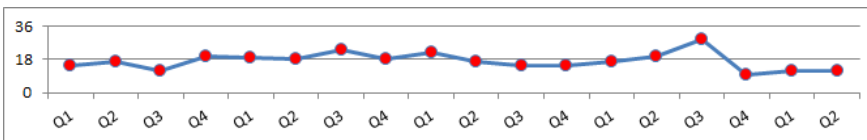
False Alarm - Equipment failure

Month/Year	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Highland
April	3	3	6	5	4	99
May	4	7	8	5	3	94
June	8	9	8	7	5	136
July	3	1	5	6	2	148
August	4	9	7	8	6	138
September	10	8	5	6	4	119
October	8	12	5	12		
November	1	9	5	11		
December	3	2	5	6		
January	8	3	5	4		
February	9	10	6	5		
March	3	5	4	1		
Fiscal Yr	64	78	69	76	24	734



Month/Year	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Fiscal Yr	64	78	69	76	24

Qtr/Year	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Highland
Quarter 1	15	19	22	17	12	329
Quarter 2	17	18	17	20	12	405
Quarter 3	12	23	15	29		
Quarter 4	20	18	15	10		



Commentary

The Service responds to a number of false alarms over the reporting year, most of which are unwanted fire alarm signals (UFAS).

The UFAS policy requires SFRS personnel to work closely with duty holders in order to reduce the number of UFAS events.

Station Availability

Station	Availability %	Male	Female	Staff
Bettyhill	43	5	1	6
Bonar Bridge	85	8	0	8
Dornoch	97	10	0	10
Durness	88	9	0	9
Golspie	99	11	0	11
Helmsdale	93	11	0	11
Kinlochbervie	97	9	0	9
Lairg	99	9	1	10
Lochinver	0	3	2	5
Scourie	88	7	1	8
Tongue	86	8	0	8
Sutherland Local Committee Totals		90	5	95

Commentary

The table shows the current staffing levels on stations and total availability that these individuals have been available for calls, and how this affects the availability of the station's fire appliances.

The Service works closely with employers and RDS staff to support an improvement in availability. However, we recognise the challenges faced by RDS staff when combining primary employment and their operational availability across the communities in Highland area.

The Service is actively recruiting in a number of communities to improve station and fire appliance availability.