

Agenda item	<b>3</b>
Report no	<b>SCC/17/23</b>

## THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL

**Committee:** Sutherland County Committee

**Date:** 31.10.2023

**Report title:** Scottish Fire and Rescue Committee Performance Report for Q2 July – September 2023

**Report by:** Local Senior Officer for Highland

### 1. Purpose/Executive Summary

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

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 data as requested by Area Committees.

### 2. Recommendation

- 2.2 Committee Members are invited to **comment on** and **scrutinise** the attached Sutherland Performance Report.

### **3. Sutherland SFRS Performance Report**

3.1 The attached performance report provides the current figures for Quarter 2, July to September 2023 from the central Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) performance management database against the key indicators and timelines of previous reports.

3.2 In achieving the priorities within the Local Committee Plan for the Sutherland area in 2023 a number of activities continue to form a significant part of our prevention and protection plan with a view to reducing accidental domestic property fire and serious injuries and deaths resulting from accidental property fire. Free Home Fire Safety Visits remain a key part of the prevention work undertaken by personnel across Sutherland, targeting High, Medium and Low risk households to prioritise those most at risk within our community.

### **3.3 Operational Incidents**

Analysis of the detail behind the performance report for the Sutherland area shows very positive outcomes across the performance indicators during Q2, July to September 2023 when compared with the previous reporting periods. However, it must be emphasised that the baseline figures for some indicators are very low and this can make meaningful statistical analysis challenging.

a. The occurrence of two (2) Accidental Dwelling Fires attended by SFRS in Q2

The crews continue to provide post domestic incident response (PDIR) in the community to provide reassurance and advice with positive results reflected in only one accidental domestic property fires.

b. During Q2 of 2023 SFRS attended zero (0) Fatal Accidental Dwelling Fires in the Sutherland area. This continues the pleasing current trend.

c. There were Zero (0) Accidental Fire Casualties across Sutherland for Q2 of the 2023 reporting period, which again provides pleasing reporting. The service remains committed to supporting communities through the Home Fire Safety programme and continues to work closely with partner agencies to identify those most at risk and provide early preventative support and advice.

d. There were one (1) Deliberate Fires attended by SFRS during Q2. and crews will continue to engage with local partners and communities to reduce this.

e. SFRS attended four (4) Special Service Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs) during Q2 in 2023.

f. A total of eight (8) occurrences of Unwanted False Alarm Signals (UFAS) were attended by SFRS during Q2 in the Sutherland area. This represents a slight decrease from the same reporting period last year, with year to date figures at 18 (eighteen)

Crews are continuing to engage with premises to identify causes and reduce occurrences.

**SFRS have now implement the new UFAS response policy 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023 and this is reflected in the reduction in figures year to date.**

### 3.4 **Station Crewing Levels**

SFRS continues to actively deliver and refine its Retained and Volunteer Duty System (RVDS) recruitment and training processes to meet national and local needs. Key stations and communities are targeted across the Sutherland area. SFRS promotes campaigns within partner agencies, through local media and key community contacts. Continued local area support is requested for recruitment in the following communities:

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service has made significant investment in RVDS Recruitment with an RVDS support team now in place and working at a national level. The team has been put together with personnel from all three service delivery areas to support key issues, including staff recruitment and retention.

Recruitment banners and advertising material have been produced for all stations across the Highlands to raise awareness of the RVDS roles within communities.

- Bettyhill
- Bonar Bridge
- Dornoch
- Durness
- Golspie
- Helmsdale
- Kinlochbervie
- Lairg
- Lochinver
- Scourie
- Tongue

## **4. Implications**

4.1 Not applicable.

Date: 17/10/2023

Author: **Station Commander Mark Leavey**

Attachment: Highland – Sutherland County - Performance Report



## SUTHERLAND COUNTY 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.



**SCOTTISH**  
**FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**  
Working together for a safer Scotland

**Working together  
for a safer Scotland**

**QUARTER 2  
JULY – SEPTEMBER 2023**

## **ABOUT THE STATISTICS IN THIS REPORT**

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)

## PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

The table below provides a summary of the three months (1 July to 30 September) activity and year to date (YTD) progress, based on annual targets set against headline indicators. It aims to provide – at a glance – our direction of travel during the current reporting year.

<b>Q2: All Incidents Attended – 39</b>		
<b>Accident Dwelling Fires (ADF)</b> 	<b>ADF Fatal Casualties</b> 	<b>ADF Non Fatal Casualties</b> 
<b>Q2 – 2 incidents</b> <b>YTD – 7 incidents</b>	<b>Q2 – 0</b> <b>YTD – 0</b>	<b>Q2 – 0</b> <b>YTD – 0</b>
<b>All Deliberate Fires</b> 	<b>Road Traffic Collisions (RTC)</b> 	<b>Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals</b> 
<b>Q2 – 1 incidents</b> <b>YTD – 7 incidents</b>	<b>Q2 – 4 incidents</b> <b>YTD – 7 incidents</b>	<b>Q2 – 8 incidents</b> <b>YTD – 18 incidents</b>

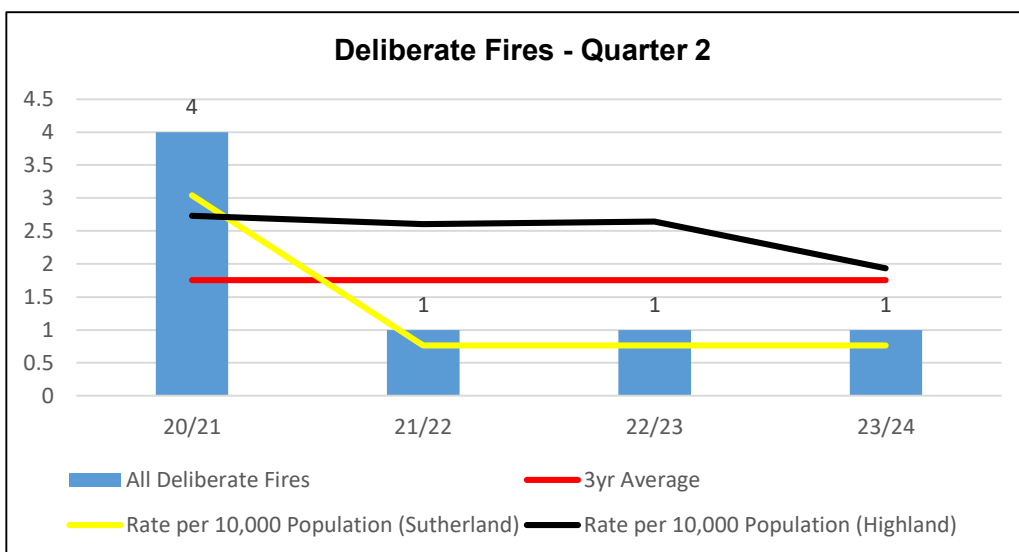
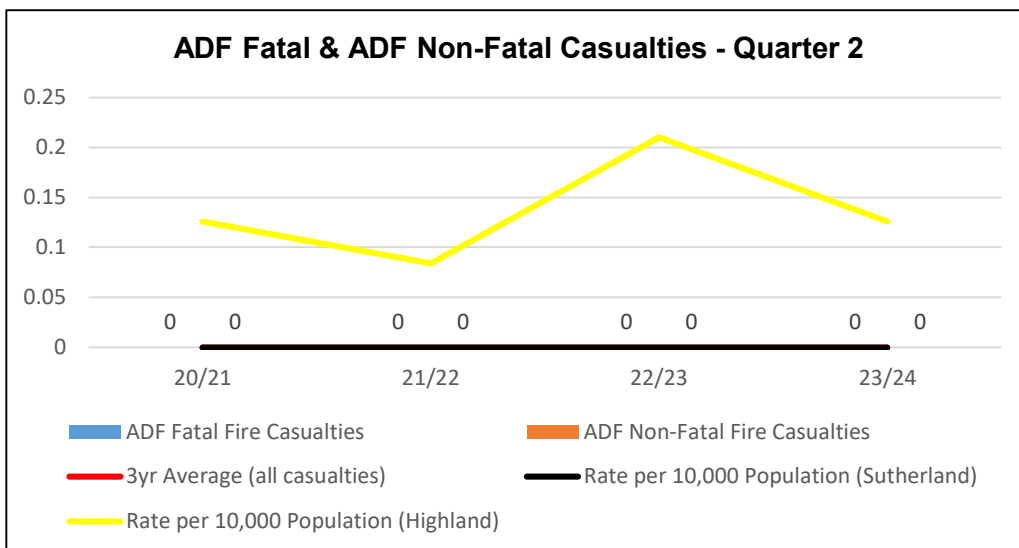
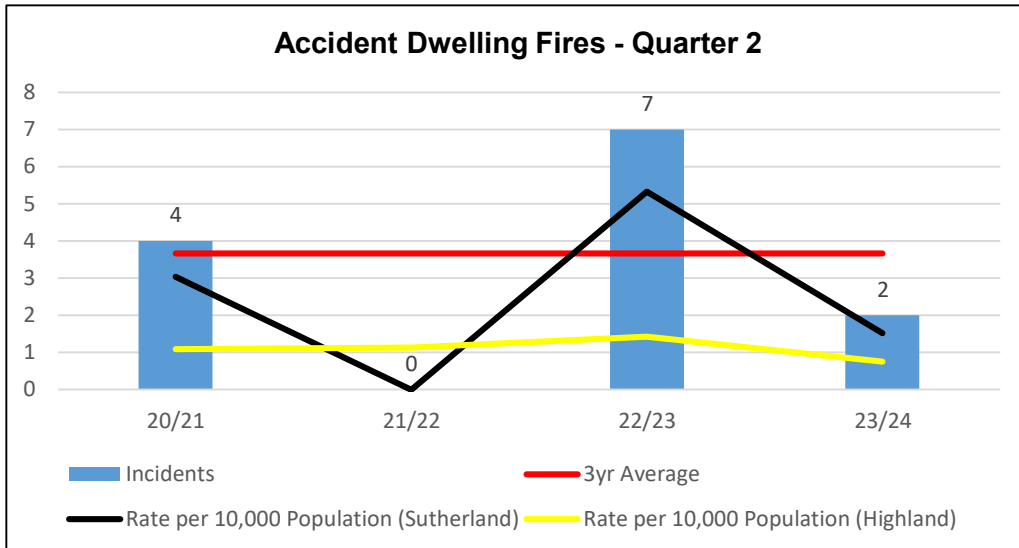
## PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS

Of the 6 KPIs, the following performance should be noted for the three-month period 1 July to 30 September 2023.

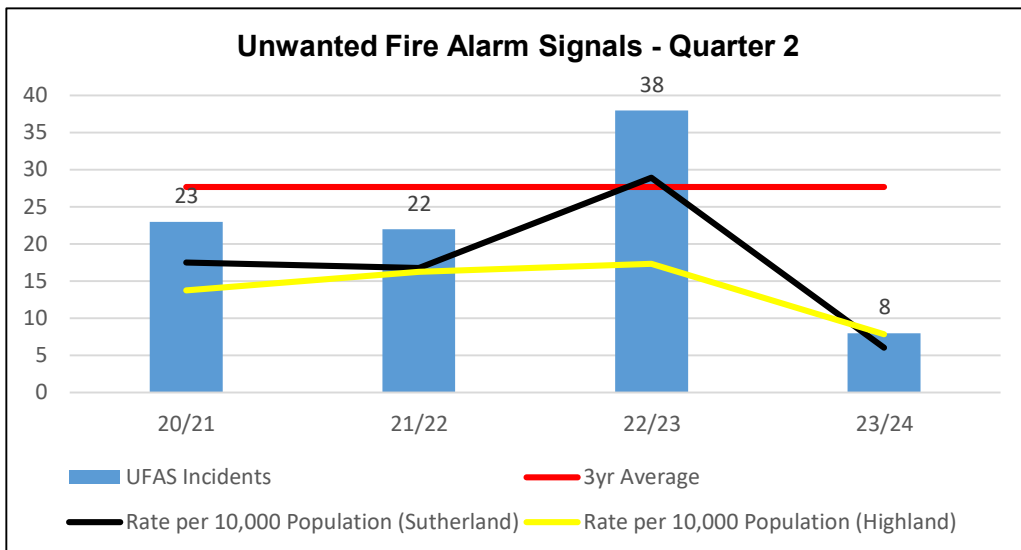
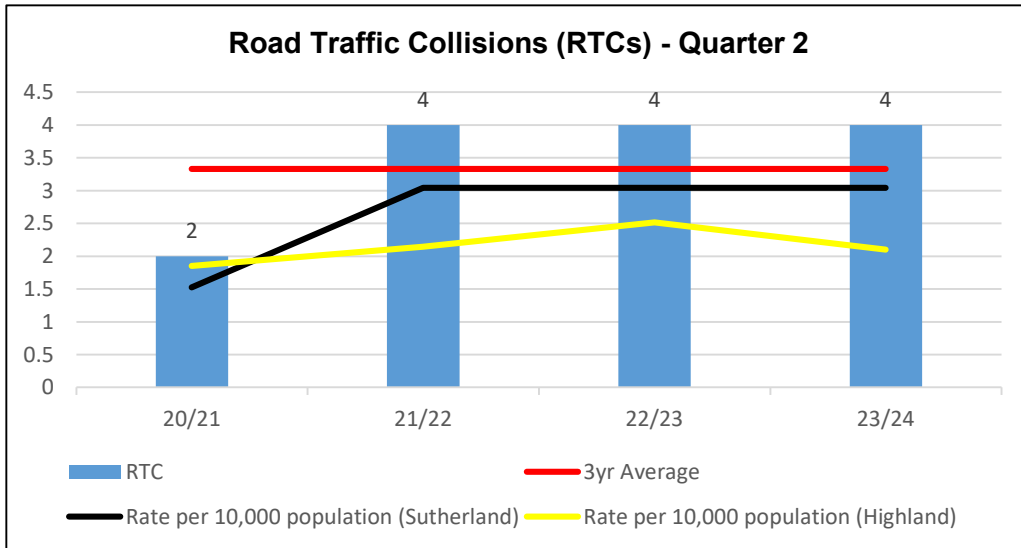
- There were **2 Accident Dwelling Fires (ADF)** which is above the 3-year average. The majority are classed as low severity, requiring little or no intervention from the Service and minimal fire damage. There were **0 ADF Fatalities**, and **0 ADF Casualties**. All ADF's are offered Home Fire Safety Visits and agency referrals where required.
- There was **1 Deliberate Fires**, which was a Deliberate Secondary Fire which is above/below the average. Referrals are made to other agencies for those at work within our communities.
- We attended **4 Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs)** which is above average. There were no RTC Related Fatalities or RTC Related Injuries. Our Prevention teams are working with partner agencies through the Highland Road Safety group, Older driver Virtual Reality Scheme and Road Safety Scheme for new drivers.
- We attended **8 Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS)** showing a trend of a slight increase. From 1 July 2023, we have stopped attending AFA call outs to commercial business and workplace premises, such as factories, offices, shops and leisure facilities unless a fire has been confirmed. Our control room operators now ask anyone who reports a fire alarm to check whether there is an actual fire or signs of fire, before sending the nearest fire appliance. This does not apply to sleeping premises, such as hospitals, care homes, hotels or domestic dwellings who will receive the full pre-determined attendance (PDA). This change follows the SFRS public consultation in 2021.

For more information please visit:

[Scottish Fire & Rescue Service: Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals \(UFAS\) \(firescotland.gov.uk\)](https://www.firescotland.gov.uk/unwanted-fire-alarm-signals-ufas)







## Station Establishment and Availability

- 11 x On-Call Retained Duty System appliances across 11 Stations

These Stations served the Sutherland County population

**\*Please note the availability figures do not include Joint Mobilising availability.**

Station	1 Jul – 30 Sep 2023 Availability %	Male	Female	Staff
Bettyhill	28.19%	5	0	5
Bonar Bridge	10.08%	4	1	5
Dornoch	99.24%	13	0	13
Durness	87.73%	7	0	7
Golspie	86.67%	10	0	10
Helmsdale	78.93%	7	0	7
Kinlochbervie	66.61%	6	1	7
Lairg	91.66%	8	1	9
Lochinver	0%	2	0	2
Scourie	0.99%	2	1	3
Tongue	0%	4	0	4