

QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT



Quarter 2 2014-2015 (1 July - 30 September)

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 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.

This information is provided for members of Scrutiny Committees in line with local engagement timeframes.

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*The KPIs above are extracted from the suite of KPIs contained within the Fire and Rescue Framework Document 2013, Annex A <u>http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0041/00416181.pdf</u>

The KPIs also reflect the main priority areas for the Fire and Rescue Service in Highland area. These were identified during Ward consultations sessions on the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Highland 2014-2017 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)

Supplementary statistics are also provided referencing the following;

- RDS staff availability and establishment figures by station
- Operational incident statistics by type for each Ward area of Highland

I. Introduction

This performance report provides information on our prevention, protection and operational response activities within Highland over the period Quarter 2 2014-2015, (1 July – 30 September).

The Scottish Government provides an overarching vision for public services. This vision is supported by 16 National Outcomes which demonstrate commitment to creating a more successful country, with opportunities for all of Scotland to flourish, through increasing sustainable growth. The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) can make a significant contribution to improving these outcomes in Highland area by contributing to the Community Planning arrangements across the area.

The national priorities for the SFRS are set out in the Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2013. The SFRS Strategic Plan 2013-2016 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 Highland 2014-2017 reflects the Highland Community Planning Partnership Strategic Assessment and Priorities and the Highland Community Planning Partnership, Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) 2013-19. The SOA includes a range of key themes focused on delivering improved outcomes for the communities of Highland. The key themes which this plan contributes to are;

- Economic Recovery and Growth,
- Early Years, Children and Young People,
- Safer, Stronger Communities and Reducing Reoffending,
- Health Inequalities and Physical Activity,
- Outcomes for Older People,
- Poverty and Welfare Reform.

The aims of the local Fire and Rescue Service in Highland are to reduce deaths, injuries and damage to property from fires and other emergency events. We aim to achieve this by working in partnership, being pro-active and targeting our prevention and protection activities to where they are most required, based on evidence.

Within the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Highland 2014 - 2017, 7 priorities for the local Fire and Rescue Service have been identified;

- Priority I. Local Risk Management and Preparedness
- Priority 2. Reduction of Accidental Dwelling Fires
- Priority 3. Reduction in Fire Casualties and Fatalities
- Priority 4. Reduction of Deliberate Fire Setting
- Priority 5. Reduction of Fires in Non Domestic Property
- Priority 6. Reduction in Casualties from Non Fire Emergencies
- Priority 7. Reduction of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals

All accidental dwelling fires



Commentary

The tables above represent the number of accidental dwelling house fires that occurred in Highland area. Tolerances are set in context of the number of previous incidents by reporting period 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.





Commentary

The tables above 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.

We will continue to deliver free home fire safety visits (HFSV) to advise and inform residents in the dangers of fire in the home. We will also continue to work with partner agencies through a range of initiatives, e.g. Healthy Homes for Highland, which includes installation of free smoke detectors.

Non-fatal accidental dwell. fire casualties (excl. precautionary checkups)



Commentary

The tables above 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 recognises that the reduction in the number of dwelling house fires will have the greatest impact on the number of fire relates casualties and fatalities. Therefore we will continue to work closely with partner agencies to identify those households that would benefit most from the delivery of a home fire safety visit.



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, as indicated in the Seasonal Community Safer Calendar 2014 in Appendix A, targeting these types of incidents.

The Service is working with partner agencies 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.



Commentary

Special Service incidents involves 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 are as a result of road traffic collisions 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 communities of the Highlands.

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



Commentary

The Service responds to a number of false alarms over the reporting year, most of which are unwanted fire alarm signals (UFAS). While we attended a decreased number of UFAS during Quarter 2, we continue to work closely with duty holders to reduce the number of UFAS events. This quarter reduction is in line with the decreasing trend of the previous three reporting years.

In addressing the number of UFAS incidents across Scotland, the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) will introduce a national UFAS Reduction Procedure on 1 December 2014. The key aim of this procedure will be the implementation of a standard management model to reduce the number of unwanted alarm signals across all areas of Scotland. This will be achieved in a number of ways:

- Working more closely with all 'duty holders' post UFAS events to review, and where appropriate, improve management arrangements within premises
- Effectively managing an appropriate response to repeat UFAS calls from known premises

Legislative Fire Safety – Priorities 5 and 7

Fire Safety Audits Completed - Monthly Overview									
Highland	Apr	Мау	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Quarter 2 Actual	Quarter 2 Target	%
Number of Audits	28	29	44	23	44	39	207	264	78%



Commentary

Fire Safety Enforcement Officers (FSEOs) based in Highland have delivered a total of 106 Fire Safety Audits during Quarter 2 of 2014-15. This represents 80% of the Q2 target.

This audit activity, combined with the performance from Q1 provided an overall total of 207 completed audits against a mid-year target of 264 audits. This equates to 78% of target delivery to date.

The difference between possible and actual target delivery is largely due to ongoing staff vacancies within the local cadre of FSEOs.

Filling vacant posts remains a priority and is currently being progressed. Support from other areas in Scotland is being examined to ensure all planned audits are performed for the reporting year 2014-15.

Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSV) - Priorities 2, 3 and 4

Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSV) Total in Highland - 2014/15 Q2

		CSET Risł	<	
	High	Medium	Low	Total 2014/15 Q2
No. of HFSVs	407	292	210	909
No. of HFSVs with Detectors Fitted	61	94	71	226
No. of HFSVs with Advice Only	346	198	139	683

Commentary

Staff within Highland area delivered a total of 909 home fire safety visits in Quarter 2 2014-15. This represents 91% of Q2 target.

These visits can be further broken down into 407 high risk visits, 292 medium risk visits and 210 low risk visits.

The table above also identifies the number of homes where smoke detectors were fitted during HFSV activity. Detectors are fitted to premises where no working smoke detector is fitted or where the provision of additional detectors will increase fire safety and detection within the home.

The statistic above confirm fire and rescue service commitment to target those most vulnerable in our communities and thereby ensures the necessary fire safety advice and guidance is provided to make people safer in their homes.

At this mid-point in the reporting year, Service staff have delivered 1696 home fire safety visits which equates to 85% of target. This key work in addressing those most at risk in the communities will continue, nevertheless wherever and whenever a request for a free HFSV is received, our staff will carry this out. To arrange a free home fire safety visit please visit: <u>www.firescotland.gov.uk</u>, telephone 0800 0731 999 or text "Check" to 61611.

Proportion of Station Hours Available – Priority I

	2013-14	2013-14	2013-14	2014-15	2014-15
Station Availability %	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Highland	84.9%	85.5%	87.4%	86.4%	84.7%
Highland and Islands Average	86.6%	86.4%	88.5%	86.9%	84.9%



Commentary

The Service uses a Retained Availability system for staff who work on the Retained Duty System (RDS) to record when station staff are off-call, and how this affects the availability of the station's fire appliances.

The chart shows that the availability of stations in Highland area for Q2 has decreased by 2% to 84.7% when compared to the previous quarter, Q1 2014-15.

The availability is slightly lower than the average of 84.9%.

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. The following hyperlink takes you to the Service Recruitment website: www.myjobscotland.gov.uk

Injury Accidents – Priority I

	2013/14 Q2	2013/14 Q3	2013/14 Q4	2014/15 Q1	2014/15 Q2
Total Injury Accidents	4	4	1	4	7
of which are RIDDOR Injuries	0	0	0	1	3
Near Miss Incidents	8	0	4	7	6



Commentary

The Service aims to reduce the number of accidents that result in injury, and in particular the number of more serious injuries which must be reported to the Health & Safety Executive under the Reporting of Incidents Diseases and Dangerous Occurrence Regulations 1995 (RIDDOR). From 6 April 2012, the Fire Service must report any incident which results in an absence from work of seven days or more.

We actively encourage the reporting of near misses as identification of sources of potential harm before injury occurs to allow proactive action to be taken.

The graph shows the number of injury accidents and the number of those which were RIDDOR injuries within the Service, and compares the figures for this Quarter against the same period in 2013-14.

Workforce Statistics for Highland RDS – Priority I

The tables below provide information on the current workforce within Highland area as at 30 September 2014. It details the gender breakdown within each category of staffing and role within the Highland area.

		Workforce	Actual in post	Male	Female
CAITHN	ESS, SUTHERLAND, R&C				
RETAIN	ED				
	Watch Manager B	27	27	27	0
	Crew Manager	57	50	44	6
	Firefighter	264	210	194	16
SUB TO	TAL	348	287	265	22
CRU	Watch Manager A	3	3	3	0
	Crew Manager	6	5	4	1
	Firefighter	21	16	15	1
SUB TO	TAL	30	24	22	2
CFS	Watch Manager A	0	0	0	0
	Crew Manager	0	1	1	0
	Firefighter	0	8	8	0
SUB TO	TAL	0	9	9	0

Table: I Gender of Workforce within Highland North

		Workforce	Actual in post	Male	Female
I&N, B&	S,				
RETAIN	ED				
	Watch Manager B	10	9	9	0
	Crew Manager	22	18	18	0
	Firefighter	104	88	79	9
SUB TO	TAL	136	115	106	9
CRU	Watch Manager A	3	3	3	0
	Crew Manager	6	2	2	0
	Firefighter	21	23	20	3
SUB TO	TAL	30	28	25	3
CFS	Watch Manager A	0	0	0	0
	Crew Manager	0	0	0	0
	Firefighter	0	0	0	0
SUB TOTAL		0	0	0	0
	Tables 2 Conder	of Workforco wi	thin Highland Ce	atual	

 Table: 2 Gender of Workforce within Highland Central

		Workforce	Actual in post	Male	Female
LOCHAE	BER, SKYE & LOCHALSH				
RETAIN	ED				
	Watch Manager B	15	15	13	2
	Crew Manager	32	26	25	1
	Firefighter	149	114	101	13
SUB TO	TAL	196	155	139	16
CRU	Watch Manager A	3	2	2	0
	Crew Manager	6	3	3	0
	Firefighter	21	13	12	1
SUB TO	TAL	30	18	17	1
CFS	Watch Manager A	0	0	0	0
	Crew Manager	0	1	1	0
	Firefighter	0	4	4	0
SUB TO	TAL	0	5	5	0

 Table: 3 Gender of Workforce within Highland West

Station Statistics – Priority I

Caithness and Sutherland Area - 2014/15 Q2

Station	Availability	Staff
	%	
Bettyhill	67	7
Bonar Bridge	78	7
Dornoch	98	11
Dunbeath	77	11
Durness	96	9
Golspie	88	12
Helmsdale	89	11
John O Groats	90	10
Kinlochbervie	75	7
Lairg	99	11
Lochinver	70	5
Lybster (CRU)	n/a	10
Scourie	90	7
Thurso	90	21
Tongue	78	6
Wick	83	19
Caithness and Sutherland Area Totals		164

City of Inverness Area - 2014/15 Q2

Station	Availability	Staff
	%	
Beauly	89	11
Cannich	57	5
Drumnadrochit	97	8
Fort Augustus	97	10
Foyers	76	8
Inverness Retained	95	14
Inverness Wholetime	n/a	74
City of Inverness Area Totals		130

Nairn and Badenoch and Strathspey Area - 2014/15 Q2

Station	Availability	Staff
	%	
Aviemore	84	13
Carrbridge (CRU)	n/a	10
Grantown	74	18
Kingussie	99	11
Naim	77	22
Nethybridge (CRU)	n/a	7
Newtonmore (CRU)	n/a	11
Nairn and Badenoch and Strathspey Area Totals		92

Station Statistics – Priority I

Lochaber Area - 2014/15 Q2

Station	Availability	Staff	
	%		
Acharacle	84	9	
Fort William	89	22	
Kilchoan	91	8	
Kinlochleven	55	13	
Lochaline	89	9	
Mallaig	72	7	
Muck (CRU)	n/a	6	
Spean Bridge (CRU)	n/a	9	
Strontian	88	11	
Lochaber Area Totals		94	

Skye, Ross and Cromarty Area - 2014/15 Q2

Station	Availability	Staff
	%	
Achiltibuie	96	8
Applecross	91	8
Aultbea	91	9
Balintore (CRU)	n/a	9
Broadford	98	10
Cromarty (CRU)	n/a	6
Dingwall	69	17
Dunvegan	92	10
Fortrose	68	10
Gairloch	96	10
Glenelg	83	8
Invergordon	62	17
Kinlochewe	75	7
Kyle	99	12
Lochcarron	90	10
Portree	98	11
Raasay	85	6
Ratagan (CRU)	n/a	2
Staffin	95	10
Tain	84	11
Torridon	94	11
Uig	79	7
Ullapool	81	15
Skye, Ross and Cromarty Area Totals		224

Operational Activity by Ward – Priorities 1-7

The figures shown are the number of incidents attended from 1 April to 30 September 2014.

								•
	Fires		Chimney False					
			Fire	Ala	Alarm		lices	
WARDS	Primary	Secondary	Chimney	Equipment	Other	Road Traffic Collision	Other	TOTALS
Aird and Loch Ness	13	23	9	13	25	10	13	106
Badenoch and Strathspey	10	16	7	38	34	13	17	135
Black Isle	7	5	3	4	21	5	2	47
Caol and Mallaig	6	24	8	14	10	11	1	74
Cromarty Firth	5	6	4	17	21	11	5	69
Culloden and Ardersier	5	13	2	29	19	3	7	78
Dingwall and Seaforth	8	5	2	32	27	3	5	82
East Sutherland and Edderton	6	5	13	17	21	2	8	72
Eilean a'Cheo	6	5	12	13	37	6	11	90
Fort William & Ardnamurchan	10	19	5	18	36	13	7	108
Inverness Central	19	24	1	77	83		24	228
Inverness Millburn	9	8		57	45	3	9	131
Inverness Ness-Side	6	15		16	17	2	14	70
Inverness South	9	10		21	16	3	6	65
Inverness West	10	7		39	46	1	9	112
Land Caithness	10	4	2	9	29	5		59
Nairn	10	4		3	26	2	12	57
North, West and Central Sutherland	10	15	7	8	7	1	9	57
Tain and Easter Ross	6	6	2	4	11	3	3	35
Thurso	5	1	1	7	20	1	2	37
Wester Ross, Strathpeffer and Lochalsh	9	11	3	17	31	11	24	106
Wick	7	5	3	22	19	2	7	65
TOTALS	186	231	84	475	601	111	195	1883

Incidents/Activities of Note

Incidents/Activities of Note – Priorities 1-7

Kitchen Fire – Grantown

Crews from Grantown on Spey community fire station attended an incident at premises in Chapel Court, Grantown on 7 August 2014 at 2318 hours.

The incident involved a fire within a kitchen which started as a result of a dishwasher malfunction and caused considerable damage to the area through smoke and direct burning. Two appliances from Grantown and a total of 11 personnel were on scene. The crew faced a considerable amount of heat and smoke and successfully extinguished the fire using Breathing apparatus and two hose reel jets.

The notable part of the incident was that the residents of the house were alerted by their smoke detector. The prompt actions by the householder in getting the family together and escaping from the house then alerting the fire service was critical in preventing a more serious incident. The early detection from the installed smoke detector undoubtedly prevented serious injury and potential loss of life and property.

This incident underlines two key messages promoted by fire service staff which are; ensuring you have a working smoke alarm installed in your home as it will save your life and, having a bedtime routine that includes switching off all electrical appliances before you go to bed. If you or someone you know would benefit from receiving a free home fire safety visit, please visit the website: www.firescotland.gov.uk. phone 0800 0731 999 or text "Check" to 61611.

Timber Yard Fire – Fort William



Firefighters from Fort William community fire station prevented a major fire at one of the largest timber yards in Europe in the early hours of 30 September 2014.

At 0118 hours two appliances from Fort William community fire station were called to a fire within large plant machinery at BSW Timber in Corpach, Fort William.

On arrival crews were met with a large 15 ton machine on fire containing approximately 300 tonnes of wood chip.

Having secured a water supply crews were deployed in breathing apparatus to attack the fire. In addition to water

firefighters also used foam in a sustained attack on the fire, which prevented further fire spread and knocked the flames back.

Operational crews from Fort William performed their roles professionally and in deploying their specialist skills, ensured this incident did not escalate. The use of foam equipment contributed to extinguishing the flames which also involved quantities of diesel.

Thanks go to the combined efforts of fire and rescue service operational crews and staff from BSW who worked closely to effectively extinguish the fire and limit the damage to the business and its operations.

3.

Incidents/Activities of Note – Priorities I-7

Building Fire – Inverness

Firefighters were called to a report of a fire at Dunain House, the former Craig Dunain Hospital on the outskirts of Inverness, on 17 September 2014 at 2230 hours.

Six fire appliances - three from Inverness, and one each from Beauly, Drumnadrochit and Dingwall were all mobilised to the scene. An aerial platform (high reach appliance) and water carrier from Inverness were also involved as were the staff welfare unit and command unit.

On arrival the crews were faced with a well-developed fire. Two operational sectors were established and due to the instability of the building, the fire was effectively managed externally using the aerial platform and its large water monitor as well as four main jets on the ground.



The fire was brought under control at around 0400 hours. Unfortunately, the building suffered a complete collapse of the roof and internal walls.

A joint investigation was carried out with Police Scotland colleagues to determine the cause of the fire.

Barn Fire - Inverness



A major barn fire was reported to Inverness control at 1511 hours on 22 September 2014. It occurred within a 50m \times 30m barn at Redhill Farm, Alturlie just outside Inverness.

The barn contained approximately 3500 bales of hay, straw and assorted farm machinery. Three appliances from Inverness were sent to the scene along with the water carrier.

Two on-site workers suffered smoke inhalation and were treated by Scottish Ambulance Service paramedics and were then taken to Raigmore hospital for further medical treatment.

On arrival, crews used two main jets to tackle the fire. They were assisted by farm personnel who used farm machinery to spread the hay and straw out, assisting crews to extinguish the fire.

The operation continued throughout the night and crews were still at the scene damping down the following day.

This incident was again evidence of multi-agency joint working with Police Scotland and Scottish Ambulance Service providing support at the incident.

Community Engagement

During Quarter 2, community safety staff and firefighters delivered presentations at Driving Ambition events in secondary schools in Inverness, Tain, Dingwall, Fort William, Golspie, Dornoch, Kinlochleven and Wick. These multi agency events provided road safety advice and information to S4 to S6 pupils and for the period reported a total of 549 young people attending the events.



4. 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.

СРР

Community Planning Partnership.

SOA

Single Outcome Agreement.

RTC Road Traffic Collision

UFAS

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals

RDS

Retained Duty System – Staff who are employed on a retained (part time basis) and provide an emergency response within a local area

CRU

Community Response Unit – staff who provide a specific role within a local area e.g. attending RTC or Wildfire type incidents

CFS

Community Fire Safety - CRU staff providing a local prevention and protection role and deliver fire safety advice and information



APPENDIX A

WE ARE CURRENTLY RECRUITING RETAINED FIREFIGHTERS FOR

HIGHLAND AREA

Are you over 18 years of age?

Are you physically fit and in good health?

Do you have good unaided vision and colour perception?

Are you interested in helping to provide an important emergency service for your local community?

Are you available to respond to your **LOCAL** fire station within five minutes to emergency call-outs, between 8am - 5pm?

If you can answer YES to all of these questions, we want to hear from you. The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service seeks to attract talented candidates from across Scotland's diverse communities.

To find out more go to www.myjobscotland.gov.uk







Working together for a safer Scotland

www.firescotland.gov.uk