

# The Highland Council

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Report No</b>	<b>CC/17/25</b>

**Committee:** Caithness Area Committee

**Date:** 15/07/25

**Report Title:** Scottish Fire and Rescue Area Committee Performance Report

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

## **1 Purpose/Executive Summary**

- 1.1 This report provides an update to Caithness Area Committee Members on progress against the priorities outlined in the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Area Committee Plan for Caithness.
- 1.2 Priority areas are identified through a range of Intervention, Prevention and Protection activities which are delivered in partnership to reduce the risk to the communities of Caithness.

## **2 Recommendations**

- 2.1 Members are asked to comment on and scrutinise the attached Area Performance Report.

## **3 Implications**

- 3.1 **Resource** - There are no implications arising from this report
- 3.2 **Legal** - There are no implications arising from this report
- 3.3 **Community (Equality, Poverty, Rural and Island)** - There are no implications arising from this report
- 3.4 **Climate Change / Carbon Clever** - There are no implications arising from this report
- 3.5 **Risk** - There are no implications arising from this report
- 3.6 **Health and Safety (risks arising from changes to plant, equipment, process, or people)** – There are no implications arising from this report
- 3.7 **Gaelic** - There are no implications arising from this report

## **4 Caithness Area Committee Performance Report**

- 4.1 The attached performance report provides the figures for Quarters three and four which covers the six-month period between 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025. The tables also identify the four-year average from the central Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) performance management database.
- 4.2 The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service has introduced a new, modernised Home Fire Safety Visit (HFSV) system that enhances how we identify, assess, and support those most at risk from fire. 2025 is a transitional year as we embed these new systems and referral pathways, and as a result, we may initially see a decline in referrals and HFSVs. However, we are working hard at a local level to ensure we continue reaching the most vulnerable in our communities. We are actively encouraging new and existing partner organisations to sign up to our Data Sharing Framework (DSF), which enables secure, GDPR-compliant referrals and supports timely, person-centred interventions. Please share this information with your networks, and if interested in establishing a referral pathway, we encourage you to contact the Highland Community Action Team to arrange a local, face-to-face discussion and begin the sign-up process.

In achieving priorities within the Area Plan and the implementation of a new HFSV system will significantly increase information sharing between partner agencies and ensure our resources are targeted towards the most vulnerable in our communities. Post Domestic Incident Response (PDIR) are routinely carried out at all domestic incidents regardless of type which are aimed at reducing accidental dwelling house fires following our attendance.

Local crews are continually supporting community safety initiatives throughout the area, including the reduction of fire-related antisocial behaviour through engagement activities and thematic action plans.

Our local Community Safety Advocate (CSA) and station personnel have been proactive in co-ordinating local multi-agency initiatives in Caithness, with the aim of engaging with all persons within the district. We have also been actively working to identify and target specific trends which have been identified and allow us to focus specifically on identified topics such as ADF'S, RTC's, Deliberate fires, etc...

In addition to our business-as-usual commitments, we successfully delivered another Fire skills Program in March 2025 ensuring our commitment to our young people within the area, with further courses being planned for 2025/26

Please see some examples of our Community Engagement opportunities within Section 13 of the report.

## **5 Operational Incidents**

- 5.1 As per our previous reporting, the contained information has been collated over a six-month period, this allows for a more accurate analysis of the figures for comparison against previous reports.

The following summaries will also break down the content into additional reporting headings which will allow for more specific comparisons to be made.

The figures which are low in comparison to other districts, make it inappropriate to provide more detailed data analysis which could compromise personal information.

Of the KPIs, the following performance should be noted for the six-month period 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025.

- There were **6 Accident Dwelling Fires (ADF)**.

The majority are classed as low severity, requiring little intervention from SFRS and minimal fire damage.

There was 1 ADF Fatality and also 1 Non-fatal Casualty resulting from these ADF incidents.

As standard procedures, all ADF's are offered Home Fire Safety Visits and agency referrals completed where required.

- There were **11 Non-Fire Casualties** over this reporting period, made up from 1 Fatality and 10 Non-Fatal casualties. (Further breakdown within report)
- There was **7 Deliberate Fires within this period**. (Further breakdown within report)  
Referrals are made to other agencies for those at work within our communities.
- There were **0 Non-Domestic Building Fires**.
- We attended **8 Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS)** showing another decrease since our last report.

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.

- We attended **7 Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs)** which is a slight increase upon last report.  
There was 0 RTC related fatalities and 3 RTC related injuries.

Our Prevention teams are working with partner agencies through the Highland Road Safety group, also specific Older Driver Virtual Reality Scheme and Road Safety Scheme for new drivers. We are also very active with our preventative measures to target specific groups such as 16-18 year olds within our Schools.

- Statistics for Home Fire Safety Visits are not currently available due to a system change. Our Business Intelligence Team are actively working in collaboration with our Digital and Technology Services and Community Safety Team to ensure suitable quality for future reporting.

We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause but can assure the committee that our Community Safety Advocates and Station personnel are still working hard to maintain visits for those most at risk within our communities.

## **6 Station Availability and Establishment**

SFRS continues to actively deliver and refine its On-Call RDS/VDS recruitment and training processes to meet national and local requirements. Recruitment and Retention is constantly being promoted within all areas of Caithness utilising local crews, banner advertising, leaflet drops, partner agencies, third-sector groups, local employers, and other key community contacts.

## **7. Community Safety and Engagement**

Throughout the reporting period, we have been working continuously to ensure we maintain and build upon all engagement opportunities within our communities. Section 13 within the report contains a sample of some of the engagement opportunities we have undertaken within Quarters 3 & 4.

## **8 Questions and Answers**

Within Section 14, we have included some Frequently asked Questions and Answers regarding some of the current topics being dealt with by SFRS within our communities.

Designation: Local Senior Officer for Highland

Date: 15/07/25

Author: Station Commander Gary Cringles

Background Papers: Highland – Caithness Area Committee – Performance Report



# Highland Caithness Committee

## 2024-25 Q3 & Q4 Scrutiny Report



**SCOTTISH**  
**FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**

Working together for a safer Scotland

**Working together  
for a safer Scotland**

# Highland Caithness Committee

## 2024-25 Q3 & Q4 Scrutiny Report

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### About the statistics within this report

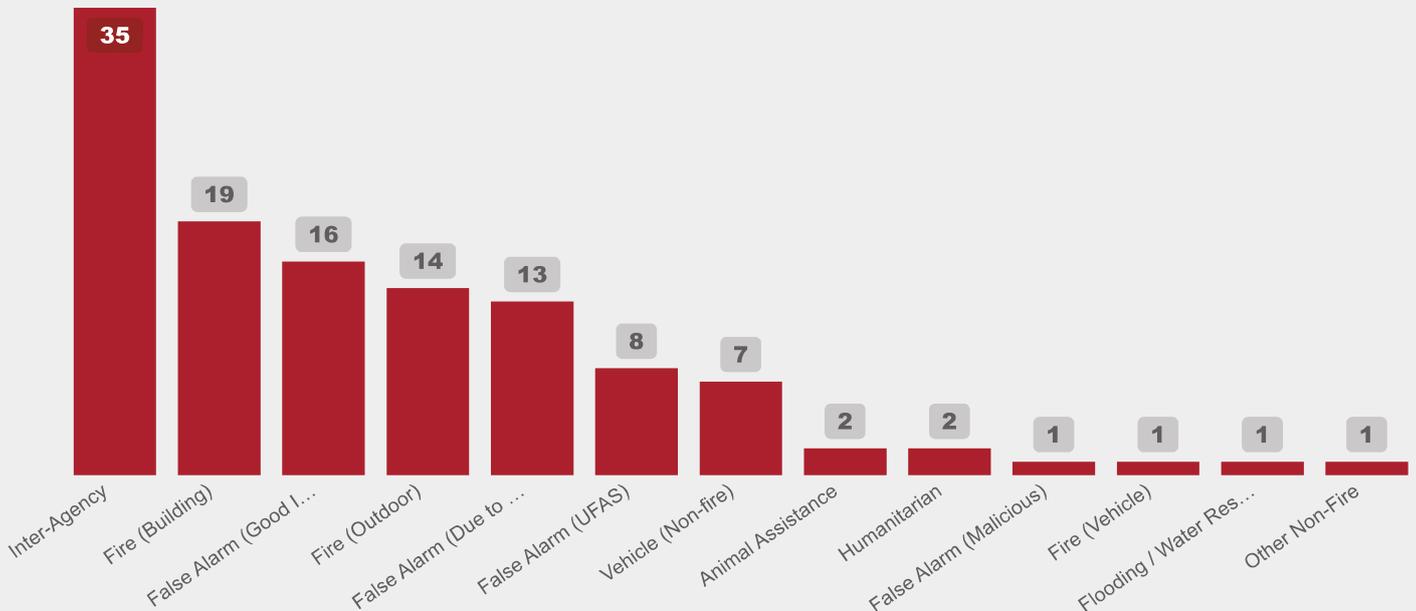
The activity totals and other statistics quoted within this report are published in the interests of transparency and openness. They are provisional in nature and subject to change as a result of ongoing quality assurance and review. Because all statistics quoted are provisional there may be a difference in the period totals quoted in our reports after local publication which result from revisions or additions to the data in our systems. The Scottish Government publishes official statistics each year which allow for comparisons to be made over longer periods of time.

# 1. Summary

2024-25 Q3 & Q4

 <b>120</b> Total Incidents (Incl. Incompletes)	 <b>34</b> Fires	 <b>48</b> Non-Fire Incidents	 <b>38</b> False Alarms	 <b>8</b> UFAS
 <b>10</b> People Rescued by Firefighters	 <b>1</b> People Receiving First Aid or Hospital Treatment (Fires)	 <b>1</b> Fire Fatalities	 <b>10</b> People Receiving First Aid or Hospital Treatment (Non-Fire)	 <b>1</b> Non-Fire Fatalities
 Home Fire Safety Visits	 Fire Safety Audits			

## Top 10 Incident Types

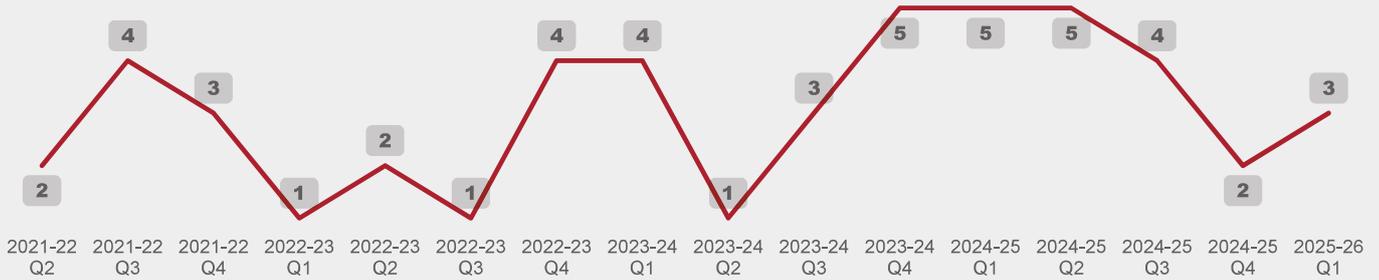


The information above provides a summary of the six-months (1 October 2024 – 31 March 2025) activity against headlines indicators. It aims to provide – at a glance – our direction of travel during the current reporting year.

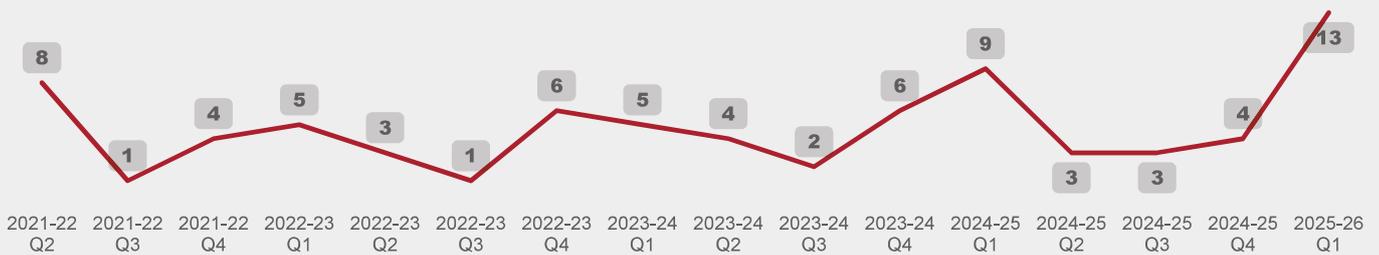
## 2. Trends

Previous 16 quarters (4 years)

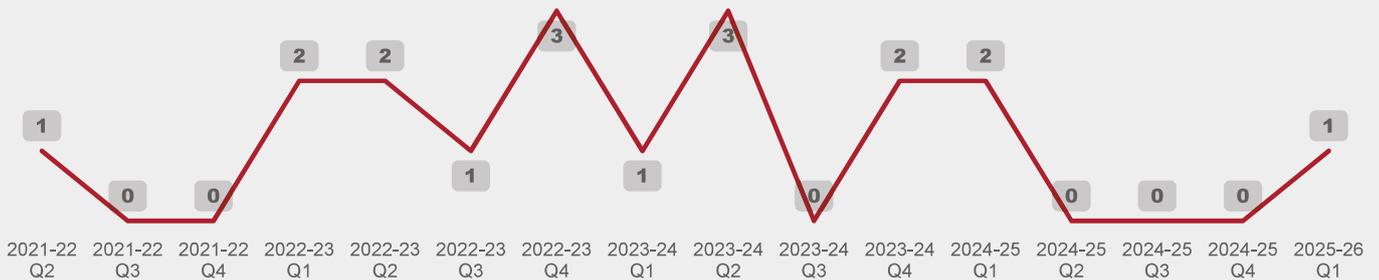
### Accidental Dwelling Fires



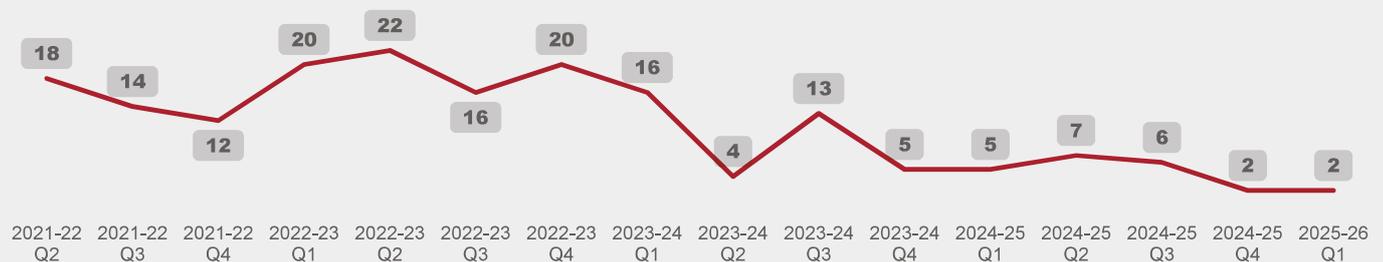
### Deliberate Fires



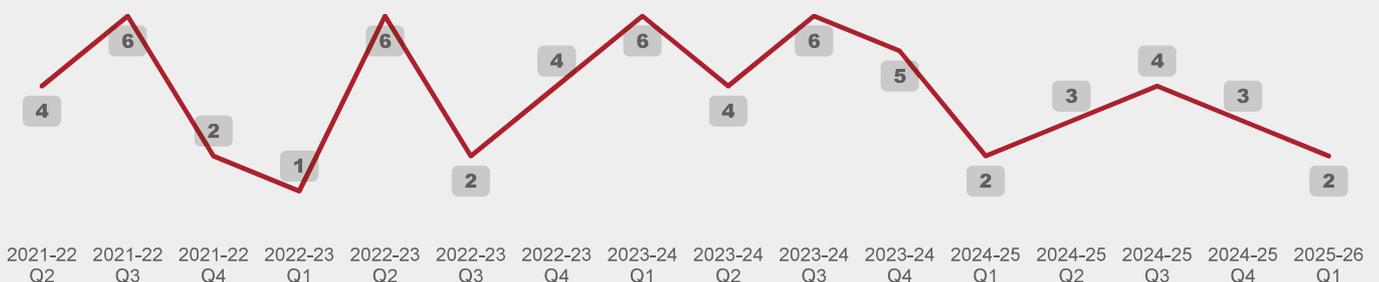
### Non-Domestic Fires



### Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals



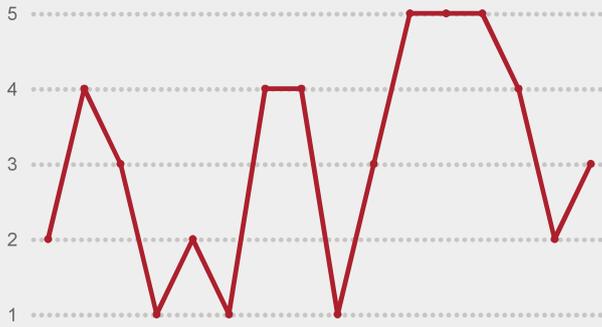
### Road Traffic Collisions



### 3. Accidental Dwelling Fires

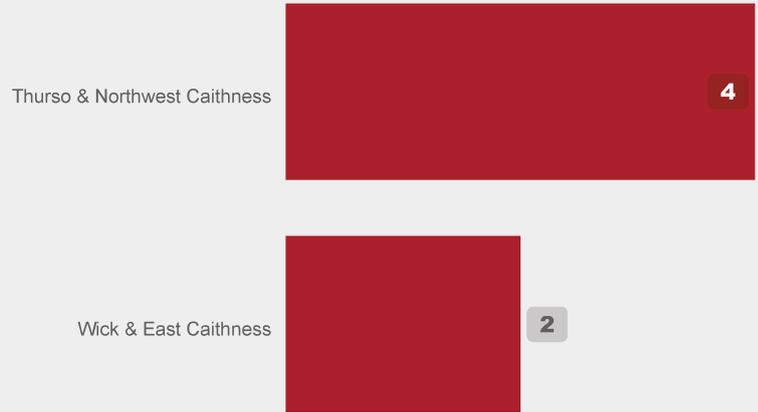
2024-25 Q3 & Q4

#### Trend by Quarter (4 years)

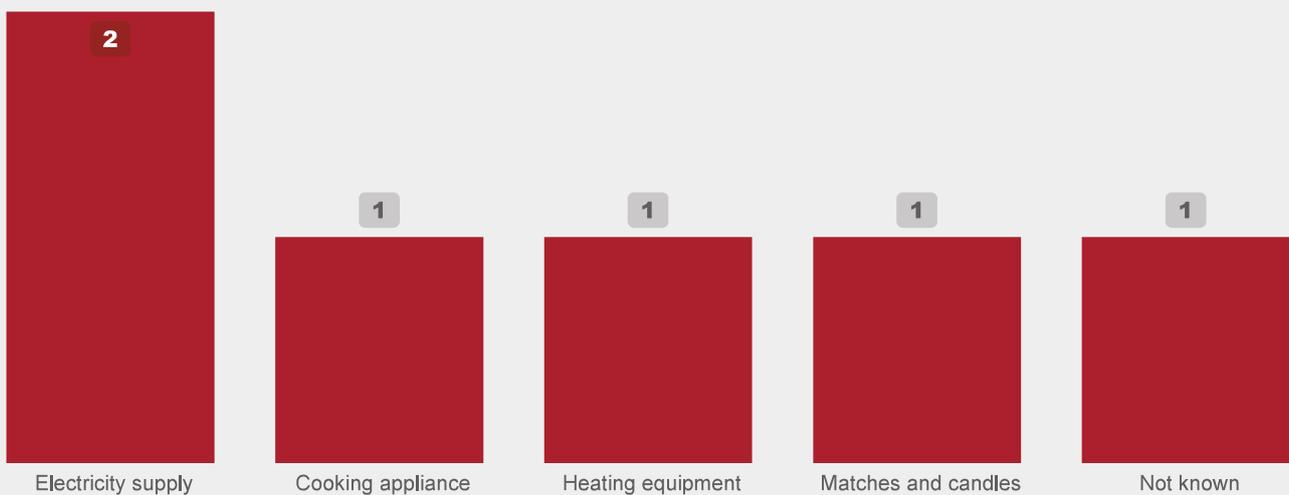


Extent of Damage	Incidents
Limited to room of origin	3
Not applicable	2
Limited to item 1st ignited	1

#### Incidents by Ward



#### Source of Ignition (Top 10)



**6**  
**Accidental Dwelling Fires**  
**in this period**

There were **6 Accidental Dwelling Fires (ADF)**, whilst the majority are classed as low severity, requiring little or no intervention from the Service and minimal fire damage, there was unfortunately one incident which resulted in a fatality.

All ADF's are followed up with a HFSV's and agency referrals where required.

# 4. Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties

2024-25 Q3 & Q4

## Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Nature of Injury/Cause of Death	Casualties
Burns - severe	1
Overcome by gas, smoke or toxic fumes; asphyxiation	1

## Casualties by Ward



## Extent of Harm (Non-Fatal)



**1**

**First Aid Given at Scene**



**0**

**Hospital Slight Injuries**



**0**

**Hospital Serious Injuries**

There was unfortunately **1 ADF Fatalities** and **1 ADF Casualty**. It should be noted that these figures do not include those who have been recommended to have a precautionary check up.

# 5. Non-Fire Casualties

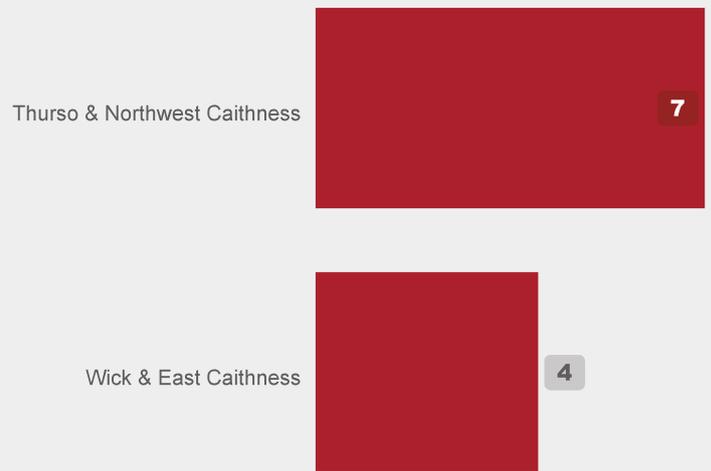
2024-25 Q3 & Q4

## Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Nature of Injury/Cause of Death	Casualties
Chest pain / Heart condition / Cardiac arrest	2
Other medical condition	2
Bruising	1
Collapse	1
Concussion	1
Cuts/Lacerations	1
Fracture	1
Not known	1
Other physical injury	1

## Casualties by Ward



# 10

**Non-Fatal Casualties**

# 1

**Fatal Casualties**

# 10

**People Rescued by Firefighters**

## Extent of Harm (Non-Fatal)



1

**First Aid Given at Scene**



7

**Hospital Slight Injuries**



2

**Hospital Serious Injuries**

The 1 Non-Fire Fatality, 2 Non-Fire Casualties (hospital serious injuries) and 4 Non-Fire Casualties (hospital slight injuries) were at Inter-Agency incidents. The remaining 3 Non-Fire Casualties (hospital slight injuries) were from Road Traffic Collisions incidents.

## 6. Deliberate Fires

2024-25 Q3 & Q4

### Trend by Quarter (4 years)



### Incidents by Ward

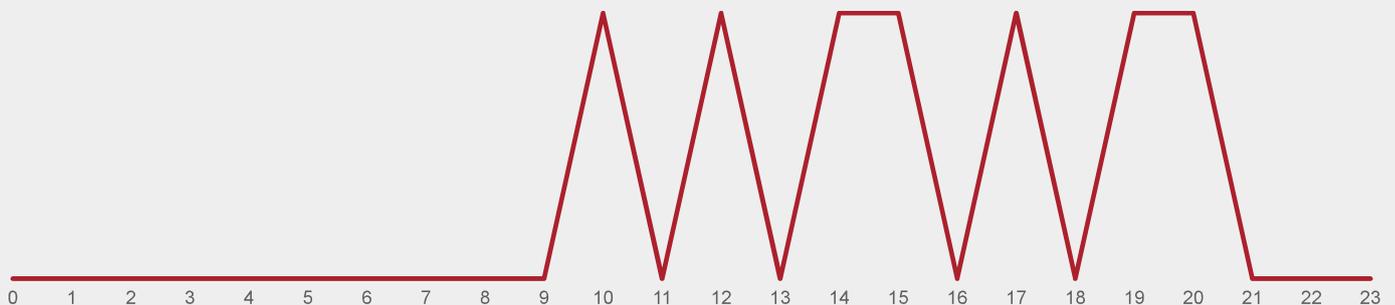


Property Type	Incident
Other outdoors (including land)	3
Refuse	2
Grassland, woodland and crops	1
Outdoor equipment and machinery	1

**7**

## Deliberate Fires in this period

### Hour of Day



There were **7 Deliberate Fires**, which is lower when compared to the previous reporting period. Referrals are made to other agencies for those at work within our communities.

# 7. Non-Domestic Fires

2024-25 Q3 & Q4

## Trend by Quarter (4 years)



## Incidents by Ward

## Top 15 Property Types

Property Type	Incidents
---------------	-----------

- Accidental
- Deliberate

0

**Non-Domestic  
Fires in this  
period**

## Extent of Damage

There were 0 Non-Domestic Building Fires during this reporting period.

# 8. Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals

2024-25 Q3 & Q4

## Trend by Quarter (4 years)



## Incidents by Ward



## Top 15 Property Types

Property Type	Incidents
Residential Home	3
Hospitals and medical care	2
Food and Drink	1
Hotel/motel	1
Nurses'/Doctors' accommodation	1

# 8

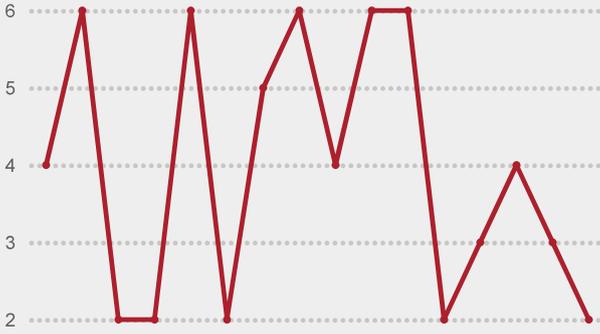
## Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals in this period

We attended **8 Unwanted Fire Alarms Signals (UFAS)** during this period, which is a reduction when compared to the previous reporting period. The figure continues to remain low following the Service's change to attendance at commercial business and workplace premises

# 9. Road Traffic Collisions

2024-25 Q3 & Q4

## Trend by Quarter (4 years)



**7**

**Road Traffic Collisions in this period**

Property Type	Incidents
Car	6
Van	1

Incident Type	Incidents
Vehicle (Non-fire)	7

## Incidents by Ward



**3** Non-Fatal Casualties      **0** Fatal Casualties      **3** People Rescued by Firefighters

## Extent of Harm (Non-Fatal)

 **0**  
First Aid Given at Scene

 **3**  
Hospital Slight Injuries

 **0**  
Hospital Serious Injuries

We attended **7 Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs)** which is slightly higher when compared to the previous reporting period.

Our Prevention teams continue to work with partner agencies through the Highland Road Safety group, older driver Virtual Reality Scheme and Road Safety Scheme of new drivers.

Update as of 2024-25 Q4:

Statistics for Home Fire Safety Visits are not available due to a system change. The Business Intelligence Team is actively working in collaboration with Digital and Technology Services and the Community Safety Team to ensure suitable quality for future reporting. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

## 11. Fire Safety Enforcement

Update as of 2024-25 Q4:

Enforcement data is currently not available due to data quality issues. The Business Intelligence Team is actively working to ensure suitable quality for future reporting. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

Unfortunately the figures for the number of Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSVs) and Fire Safety Enforcement Audits are currently not available as referred to above.

It should be noted that with the introduction of a new, modernised Home Fire Safety Visit (HFSV) system that enhances how we identify, assess and support the most at risk from fire, we may see an initial decline in referrals and HFSVs whilst the new systems and referral pathways are embedded.

## 12. Station Availability and Establishment

2024-25 Q3 & Q4

- 6 x On-Call Retained Duty System appliances across 4 Stations
- 1 x On-Call Volunteer Duty System vehicles/Community Response Units across 1 Station

These Stations serve the Caithness population

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

Station	Oct 24 – Mar 25 Availability* %	Male	Female	Staff
Dunbeath	66.04%	7	0	7
John O'Groats	53.49%	8	0	8
Lybster (CRU)	N/A	5	1	6
Thurso – 1 <sup>st</sup> Appliance	99.48%	13	2	15
Thurso – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Appliance	46.32%			
Wick – 1 <sup>st</sup> Appliance	99.27%	18	0	18
Wick – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Appliance	70.01%			

### Engagement with the Community Oct 2024 – March 2025

Throughout the six month period we have been actively involved in a number of Community Safety & Engagement events, these have included:-

- NHS Caithness community pop-up hubs in Thurso and Lybster
- Attendance at the monthly Caithness Disabled Access Panel
- Fire Safety input to NHS Occupational Therapists
- Fire Safety Talk to the Murkle Women's Institute
- Multi-disciplinary support meetings
- Winter Safety stands with Police Scotland and Women's Aid at Tesco in Thurso and Wick

### Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSVs)

Over the six month period 70 HFSVs were carried out which targeted the high risks within the community. We also undertook 9 joint visits with Hearing and Sight Care to fit hearing impaired detection equipment.

### Pennyland School Visit

In February 2025, for their World of Work Week, pupils from P1 and P2 at Pennyland School, attended the fire station and we told them about the roles of the emergency services, smoke detectors, Stop, Drop and Roll and dialling 999. They also received a tour of the station, the appliances and the equipment.

### Seaview Nursing Home Visit

In March, we had a visit from the residents and staff of the Seaview Nursing Home, who were shown around the station and appliances, we explained the role of the emergency services, the job that we as a Service does and our interaction with the elderly demographic.

### Fireskills – Thurso High School



A further Fireskills course began at the end of March, which saw a number of pupils from Thurso High School attend the 5 days course.

### Wildfire prevention campaign launches



You may have already noticed that we issued our first [Wildfire Danger Assessment on Saturday 1 March](#).

Figures show that 80% of large outdoor fires since 2010 were recorded during March and May.

We will promote key prevention messages across our social media channels which will signpost to relevant website pages where people can learn what causes wildfires, how to prevent them and how to keep themselves safe.

Affiliate social media accounts can support the campaign by sharing safety messages on our corporate channels using the hashtag **#WildfirePrevention**.

A [Wildfire Prevention Campaign communications toolkit](#) has been shared all partner organisations.

## HOME FIRE SAFETY VISIT (HFSV)

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service has introduced a new, modernised Home Fire Safety Visit (HFSV) system that enhances how we identify, assess, and support those most at risk from fire. 2025 is a transitional year as we embed these new systems and referral pathways, and as a result, we may initially see a decline in referrals and HFSVs.

However, we are working hard at a local level to ensure we continue reaching the most vulnerable in our communities. We are actively encouraging new and existing partner organisations to sign up to our Data Sharing Framework (DSF), which enables secure, GDPR-compliant referrals and supports timely, person-centred interventions.

Please share this information with your networks, and if interested in establishing a referral pathway, we encourage you to contact the Highland Community Action Team to arrange a local, face-to-face discussion and begin the sign-up process. [Home fire safety visits | Scottish Fire and Rescue Service](#)

## WILDFIRE STRATEGY

We are advancing our Wildfire Strategy, aimed at enhancing our capability to manage and mitigate wildfires across Scotland. We are committed to improving wildfire prevention, response, and partnership efforts, ensuring both local communities and natural landscapes are better protected.

Area Commander Michael Humphreys has taken over as the Wildfire Capability Lead and Chair of the Scottish Wildfire Forum (SWF), following the groundwork laid by DACO Bruce Farquharson. Michael Humphreys said:

*"I am honoured to step into this role, especially as someone who lives and works in the Highlands. I have witnessed first-hand the devastation wildfires can cause to both nature and communities. I'm committed to building on the excellent work started by Bruce Farquharson and continuing to innovate as we implement our Wildfire Strategy. This includes educating communities and visitors to Scotland on wildfire prevention and improving our response capabilities."*

Our Wildfire Strategy focuses on four key pillars: **Partnership Working, Provision of Information, Prevention, and Response.**

**Partnership Working and Information Sharing:** We work closely with the land management sector and other agencies to ensure a unified approach to wildfire prevention. This includes fostering a shared understanding of **Muirburn** and **prescribed burning** practices, alongside utilising the collective expertise of our partners for prevention education and intervention when needed.

The Scottish Wildfire Forum plays a key role in raising awareness and sharing knowledge. Through the **Wildfire Danger Assessments** provided by the SWF, we inform **Tactical Advisors** and the public about wildfire risks using social media and traditional outlets. More information can be found on the [Scottish Wildfire Forum website](#).

**Prevention:** In early 2024, we revamped our wildfire prevention materials and expanded the wildfire section on our website from a single page to seven detailed theme pages. This coincided with a **22-week prevention campaign**, which successfully drove significant traffic and interaction with our online wildfire content. Visit our updated website pages at [Wildfires | Scottish Fire and Rescue Service](#).

**Response:** Our Wildfire Strategy, launched in 2023, is backed by a £1.6 million investment over three years. This includes acquiring all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), trailers, specialist equipment, and four 4x4 support vans, which will be deployed as part of a comprehensive response package.

Despite global challenges impacting supply chains, we continue to progress. Four of the **Tier 2** wildfire stations are set to receive the 4x4 support vans, and **Tier 3** stations will be equipped with ATVs and additional wildfire-specific PPE.

**Tiered Approach:** All SFRS operational personnel are trained to at least **Tier 1** in wildfire response.

**Tier 2 Stations:** 24 stations (13 of which within Highland) have received additional training and specialist PPE, with four stations also set to receive the new 4x4 support vans.

**Tier 3 Stations:** 10 stations (2 of which within Highland) will be equipped with Ford Rangers, trailers, and ATVs.

**Flexi Duty Officers:** These officers have undergone Wildfire Tactical Advisor training and will support wildfire incidents across the country.

## BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS

We can advise, the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) continuously engage with the Scottish Government and Building Standards regarding a range of fire safety issues that may impact on the built environment, of which BESS is one of many priorities.

SFRS do not regulate building standards but can, and do, get involved with consultations for new and emerging premises types with regard to fire risk and fire safety. Specifically, for BESS construction, SFRS continue to engage with building standards and local planning teams on this issue to ensure any additional and exceptional risks from these premise types are identified and managed accordingly. Ultimately, it is the remit for building standards to ensure that appropriate legislation and regulation is in place, and the responsibility of Local Authority Building Control to verify construction projects against the requirements.

SFRS are working closely with the Scottish Government to ensure that the processes in place are appropriate review and comment on these types of premises during the planning stages.

Please be assured that the safety of our firefighters and communities is a priority. The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service will respond to all reports of fire which are received and have the ability to deploy a range of standard and specialist resources as determined by the needs of the incident. At these incidents, personnel will employ a range of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) in order to effectively and safely resolve the incident, alongside working with partner agencies to mitigate the risk and impact to the public and the environment. The SOPs in use by SFRS are informed by the National Operational Guidance (NOG) produced by the National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) and this guidance includes incidents involving rechargeable batteries.

We would advise you to contact the Local Authority Building Control Team with any questions/concerns.

BESS sites do not fall within the building warrant consultation process and we are not made aware of these in the same format as other consultations. That said, we have processes in place to respond to such proposals and make comment where necessary around any concerns or issues we foresee when responding to such incidents and for making effective preparations to deal with any incidents should the need arise.

When considering these proposals, we look at appliance access and water supplies amongst several other things and follow national guidance produced by the National Fire Chief's Council for BESS systems.

## OVERNIGHT CARAVAN / MOTORHOME SPACING IN CAR PARKS

Although a car park area used as a motorhome stopover is not typically considered relevant premises, and therefore outwith the scope of the Fire Scotland Act, the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service recommends that such sites should be risk assessed for fire safety and that this is reflected within the site fire risk assessment.

The Scottish Government's "Guidance for existing premises with sleeping accommodation. Annex 3: Holiday Camping and Caravan sites" which is the benchmark standard that SFRS audits existing caravan/ holiday parks

### Annex 3: Holiday Camping and Caravan Sites

#### Spacing

1. Subject to the variations listed below, the distance between any two units should generally be not less than 6 m for permanent residential sites and touring sites, and 5 m for holiday caravan sites.
2. The 6 m distance between units may be reduced where caravan construction is inherently fire-resistant. Under such circumstances, the distance may be reduced to 5 m. Where there is a mix of fire-resistant and non fire-resistant construction, the larger separation distances apply.

\*Screenshot of Scottish Government guidance:- [Fire safety - existing premises with sleeping accommodation: practical guidance - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/publications/practical-guidance/2019/01/12/fire-safety-existing-premises-with-sleeping-accommodation-practical-guidance-gov.scot/pages/12/)

If SFRS was auditing premises which deviated significantly from the benchmark standard, we would generally look for additional fire safety measures.

## COMMUNITY ASSET REGISTER

- The Community Asset Register is a Scotland wide database of volunteers willing to help during an emergency. The database plots assets on a map so if an emergency incident occurs we can identify those who could help. Assets can be people with either skills or equipment.
- There's no obligation on volunteers to provide support, as we will always respond to deal with emergencies. However, if we believe a volunteer could help, we ask if they're available. If they are, we explain where they should go and what they should do.
- Volunteers acting under our instruction, are insured and can claim certain expenses, such as mileage, however we don't pay hourly rates for their time.

To register: <https://www.firescotland.gov.uk/your-area/community-asset-register/>

## 15. Glossary of Terms

### Term - What it means

#### **ADF**

Accidental Dwelling Fire.

#### **HFSV**

Home Fire Safety Visit.

#### **PDIR**

Post Domestic Incident Response, a term used to indicate actions taken following attendance at a fire or other incident in the home. PDIRs include amongst things the offer of a free follow up home fire safety visit.

#### **RTC**

Road Traffic Collision.

#### **Special Service**

Calls to incidents which are not fires or false alarms such as RTCs, rescues, flooding, incidents involving hazardous materials or the provision of assistance to other agencies.

#### **UFAS**

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals. When an automatic fire detection and alarm system is activated as a result of anything other than an actual fire the activation is classed as a false alarm. If an attendance is made to such an event by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, then the event is recorded as an UFAS incident.

#### UFAS Policy Change

*In response to COVID, on the 6th May 2020, the SFRS decided to send 1 pump to UFAS premises that did not have their own Predetermined attendance (PDA).*

*As of 1st July 2023, the COVID interim 1 pump response was ended and a new UFAS policy was implemented.*

*The new policy is to call challenge all UFAS incidents with the intention of non-attendance. Hospitals, care homes, and sleeping risk premises are all exempt and receive either 2 pumps or their premise specific PDA.*



# SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Working together for a safer Scotland



BUSINESS  
**INTELLIGENCE**

Design, figures and charts by the Business Intelligence team.