

The Highland Council

Agenda Item	3
Report No	DSA/22/25

Committee: Dingwall and Seaforth

Date: 27 November 2025

Report Title: Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
Area Committee Performance Report – Q1+Q2

Report By: Local Senior Officer - Highland

1 Purpose/Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report provides an update to Dingwall and Seaforth, Area Committee Members on progress against the priorities outlined in the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Area Committee Plan for Dingwall and Seaforth.
- 1.2 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 Dingwall and Seaforth.
- 1.3 The report also contains previously agreed information and performance as requested by Area Committees.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 Committee Members are invited to **comment**, **scrutinise** and **note** 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)** -
- 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 Dingwall and Seaforth, Area Committee Performance Report

4.1 The attached performance report provides the current figures for Quarters Q1 & Q2 of 2025 – 26 and from the previous four reporting years from the central Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) performance management database against the key indicators and timelines from previous reports. Please note that turnaround times and statistics available at this time of year can be delayed and some that have not yet been processed may carry forward to the next quarter.

4.2 In achieving priorities within the Area Plan work is ongoing within our current HFSV framework as we move towards the implementation of a new system which will significantly increase information sharing between partner agencies and ensure our resources are targeted towards the most vulnerable in our communities. PDIR's are routinely carried out at all domestic incidents regardless of type which are aimed at reducing accidental dwelling house fires following our attendance.

Local managers continue to support the partners in delivering the road safety programme Rider refinement which was delivered during the summer months with Police Scotland. The New Drivers Early Intervention Scheme continues to be delivered to all Secondary schools (S4, S5) across the Highlands and Biker down courses have begun to demonstrate what to do when things go wrong. 6 Biker down courses were delivered this year during biker season with some amazing feedback.

4.3 Staff also undertake Operational Intelligence (OI) visits to the higher risk premises in Dingwall and Seaforth, to gather vital information on the hazards and risks on these sites which can help our operational response and firefighter safety.

4.4 It must be emphasised that the baseline figures for some of the indicators within the report are low and this can make meaningful statistical analysis challenging. The low figures can also make it inappropriate to provide detailed data analysis which could compromise personal information.

4.5 The performance report shows

There were 7 Accidental Dwelling fires (ADF's) recorded in this reporting period. The majority are classed as low severity, requiring little or no intervention from the Fire Service and minimal fire damage. On all occasions we attend ADF a Home Fire Safety Visit (HFSV) was offered and if necessary appropriate partner agency referrals.

Fatalities/ Casualties - There was 0 Fire Fatalities and 0 Non-fatal Fire Casualties. There was 1 Non-Fire Fatality and 4 Non-Fatal Non-Fire Casualties during this reporting period.

Non-Domestic Fire – There was 1 Non-Domestic Fire which is an increase from the previous years reporting.

Deliberate Fires - There were 6 Deliberate Fire in this reporting period which is a slight reduction from the previous reporting period.

Special Service – there was 1 recorded road traffic collisions (RTC) reported during this period which resulted in 1 non-fatal casualties and 1 person that was rescued by Firefighters.

There were 20 Non-Fire Emergency related incidents in this reporting period.

Fire Alarms – We attended 5 Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS), which continues to remain low following the changes made in July 2023 on how we respond to UFAS. Demonstrates a dramatic drop from the previous 4 reporting years.

Home Fire Safety Visits – A total of 47 Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSV's) were carried out during this period. 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 are now seeing an initial decline in referrals and HFSV's whilst the new system and referral pathways are embedded.

Appliance availability remains good with 1st appliance showing 99.96%, and the 2nd appliance showing 59.14%.

We currently have an establishment of 15 personnel at the station. Local management are continuing with recruitment activities to fill these vacancies. This has recently led to a very successful campaign with new recruits now on board.

Designation: Local Senior Officer for Highland

Date: 3rd November 2025

Author: Station Commander Paul Young

Background Papers: Highland – Dingwall and Seaforth, Area Committee-
Performance Report

Appendices:



Highland Dingwall and Seaforth Area Committee

**2025-26 Q1 & Q2
Scrutiny Report**



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

**Working together
for a safer Scotland**

Highland

Dingwall and Seaforth Area Committee

2025-26 Q1 & Q2

Scrutiny Report

Contents

1	Summary
2	Trends
3	Accidental Dwelling Fires (ADFs)
4	Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties
5	Non-Fire Casualties
6	Deliberate Fires
7	Non-Domestic Fires
8	Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS)
9	Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs)
10	Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSVs)
11	Fire Safety Enforcement
12	Station Availability and Establishment
13	Community Safety & Engagement
14	Glossary of Terms

About the statistics within this report

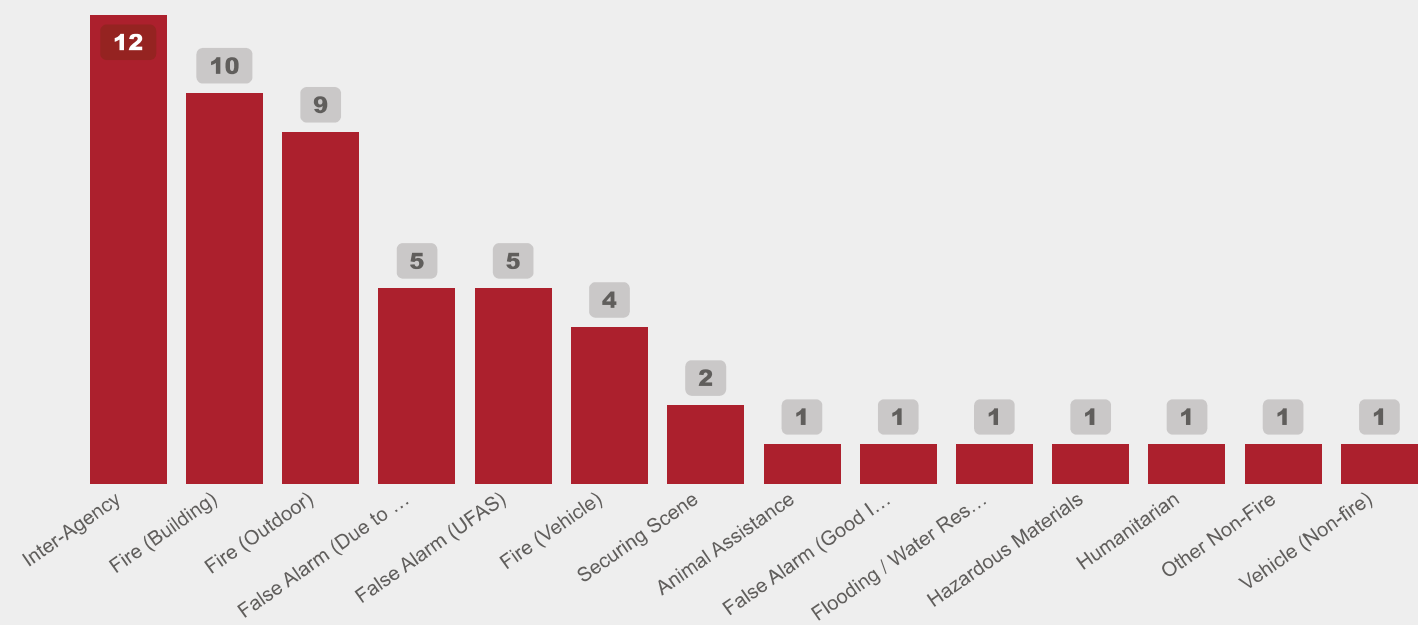
The activity totals and other statistics quoted within this report are published in the interests of transparency and openness. They are provisional in nature and subject to change as a result of ongoing quality assurance and review. Because all statistics quoted are provisional there may be a difference 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

2025-26 Q1 & Q2

 54 Total Incidents (Incl. Incompletes)	 23 Fires	 20 Non-Fire Incidents	 11 False Alarms	 5 UFAS
 8 People Rescued by Firefighters	 0 People Receiving First Aid or Hospital Treatment (Fires)	 0 Fire Fatalities	 4 People Receiving First Aid or Hospital Treatment (Non-Fire)	 1 Non-Fire Fatalities
 47 Home Fire Safety Visits	 4 Fire Safety Audits			

Top 10 Incident Types

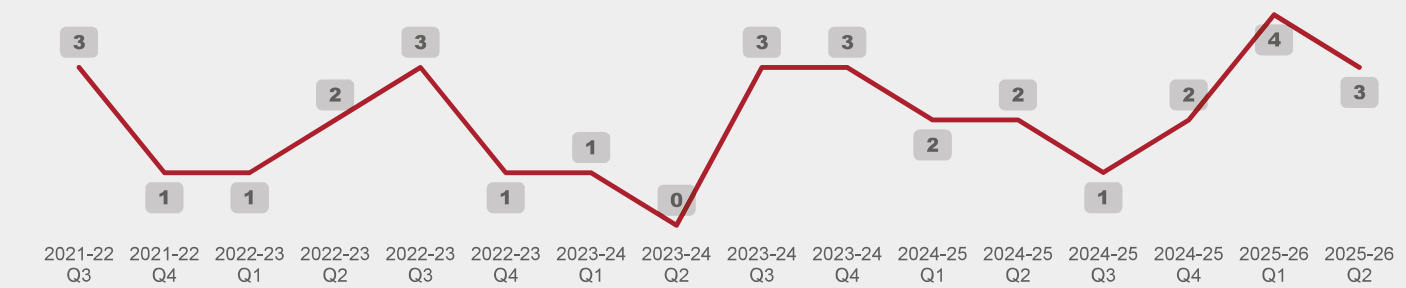


The information above provides a summary of the six-months (1 April - 30 September 2025) activity against headline indicators. It aims to provide - at a glance - our direction of travel during the current reporting year.

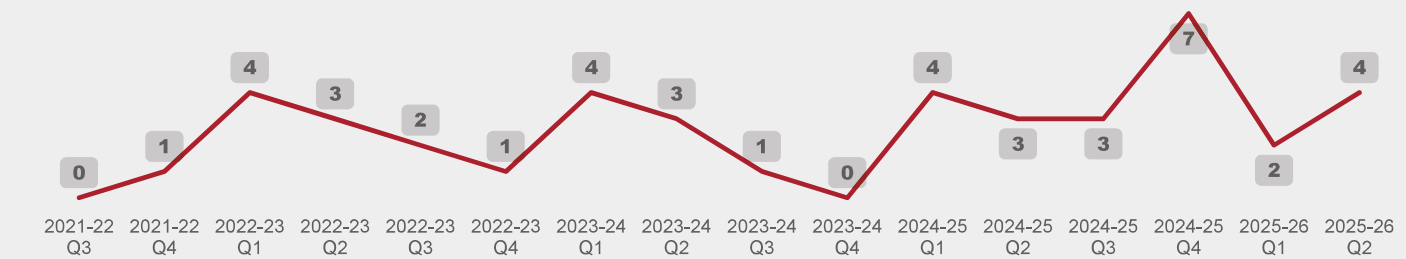
2. Trends

Previous 16 quarters (4 years)

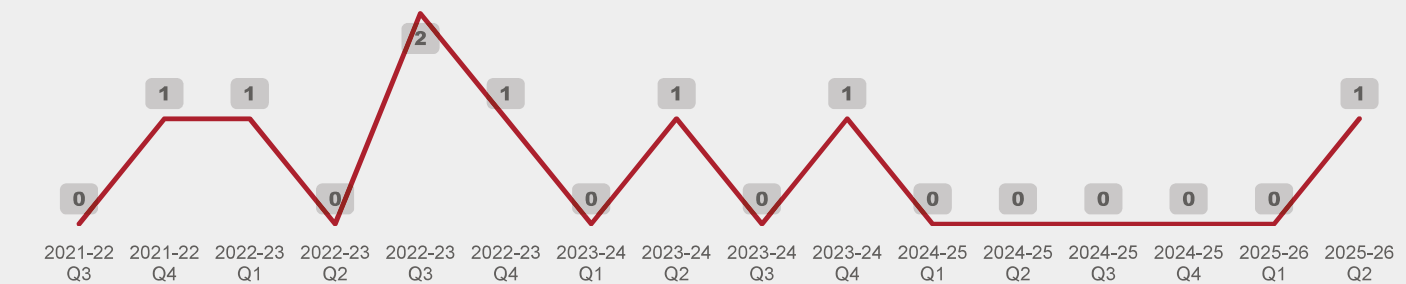
Accidental Dwelling Fires



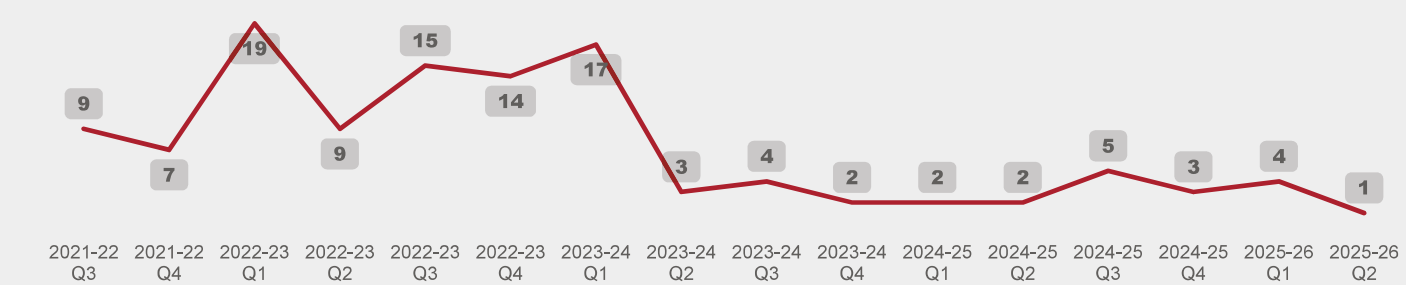
Deliberate Fires



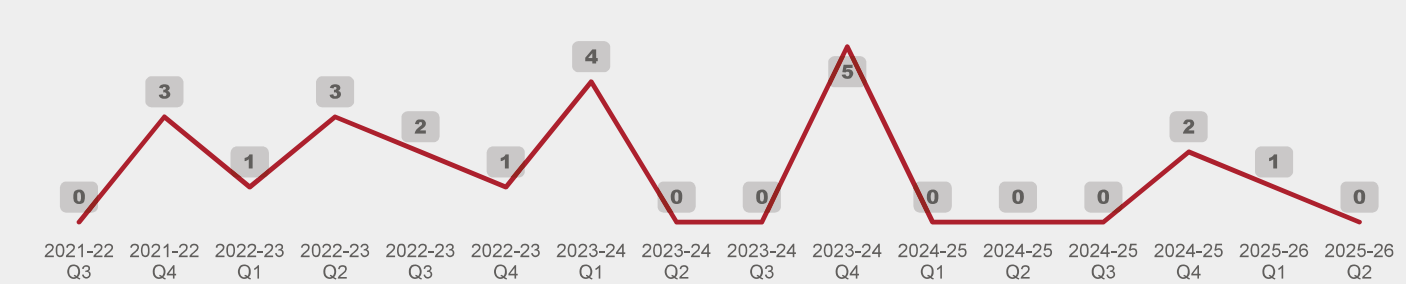
Non-Domestic Fires



Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals



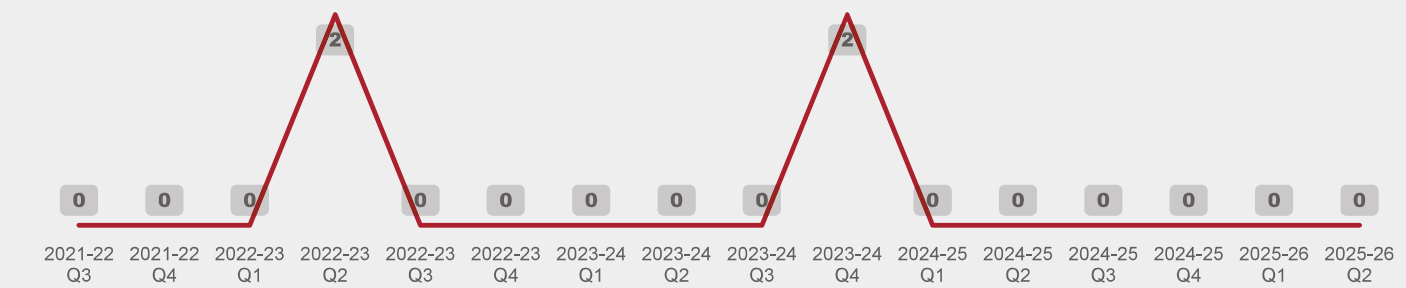
Road Traffic Collisions



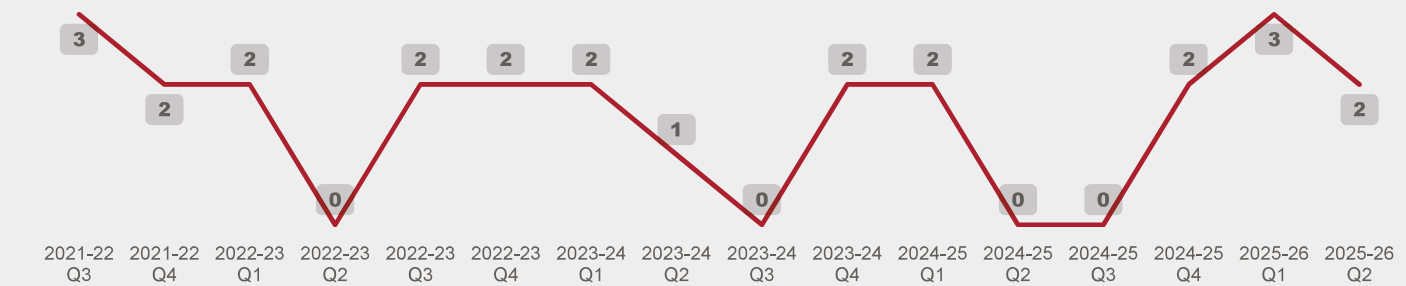
2. Trends

Previous 16 quarters (4 years)

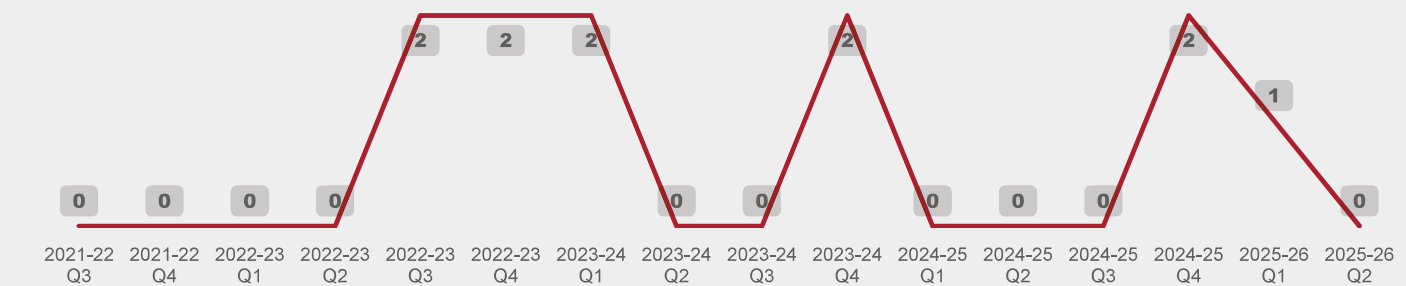
Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties



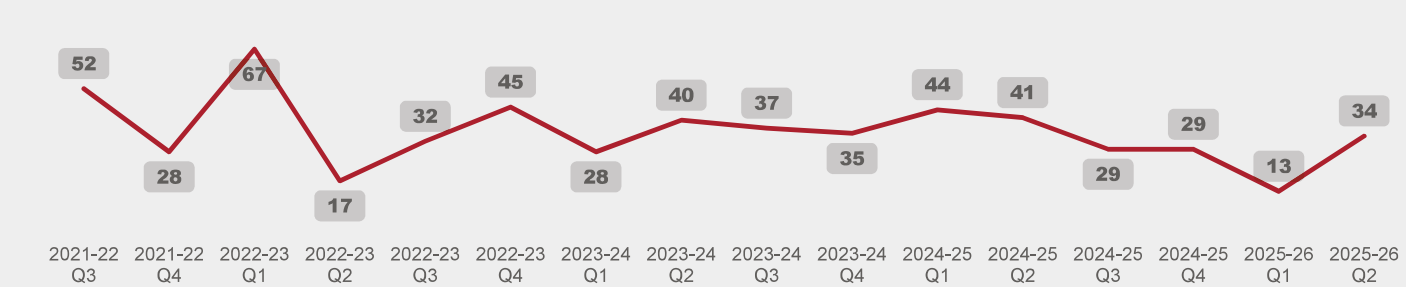
Non-Fire Casualties



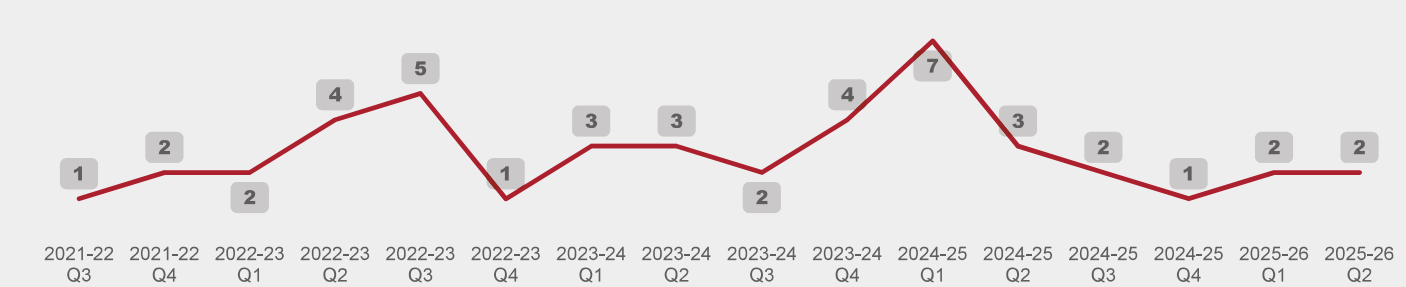
Road Traffic Collision Casualties



Home Fire Safety Visits



Fire Safety Audits



3. Accidental Dwelling Fires

2025-26 Q1 & Q2

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



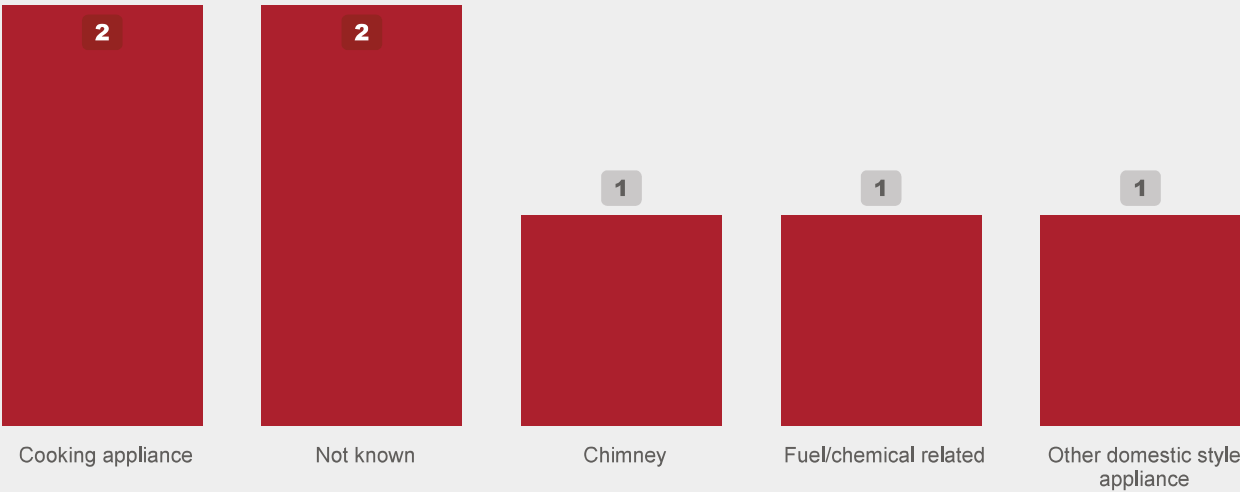
Extent of Damage	Incidents
Limited to item 1st ignited	4
Limited to 2 floors (not whole building)	1
Not applicable	1
Whole building	1

Incidents by Ward

Dingwall & Seaforth

7

Source of Ignition (Top 10)



7
Accidental Dwelling Fires
in this period

There were **7 Accidental Dwelling Fires (ADF)**, the majority are classed as low severity, requiring little or no intervention from the Service and minimal fire damage.

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

4. Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties

2025-26 Q1 & Q2

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Casualties by Ward

Nature of Injury/Cause of Death	Casualties
	▼

0

Non-Fatal Casualties

0

Fatal Casualties

0

People Rescued by Firefighters

Extent of Harm (Non-Fatal)



0

First Aid Given at Scene



0

Hospital Slight Injuries



0

Hospital Serious Injuries

There were 0 ADF Casualties in this period, which is comparable to the previous reporting period.

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Casualties by Ward



Nature of Injury/Cause of Death	Casualties
Back / Neck injury (spinal)	3
Burns - severe	1
Fracture	1

4

Non-Fatal Casualties

1

Fatal Casualties

8

People Rescued by Firefighters

Extent of Harm (Non-Fatal)



0

First Aid Given at Scene



2

Hospital Slight Injuries



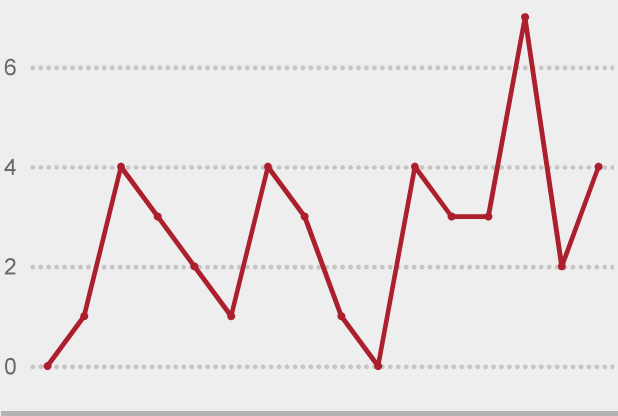
2

Hospital Serious Injuries

During this reporting period, there was **1 Fatal Non-Fire Casualty** and **4 Non-Fatal Non-Fire Casualties**. One of the Non-Fire Casualties was as a result of a Road Traffic Collision, the remaining casualties were from Inter-Agency incidents.

These figures are an increase in comparison to the previous reporting period.

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Property Type	Incident
Grassland, woodland and crops	3
Other outdoors (including land)	1
Refuse	1
Road Vehicle	1

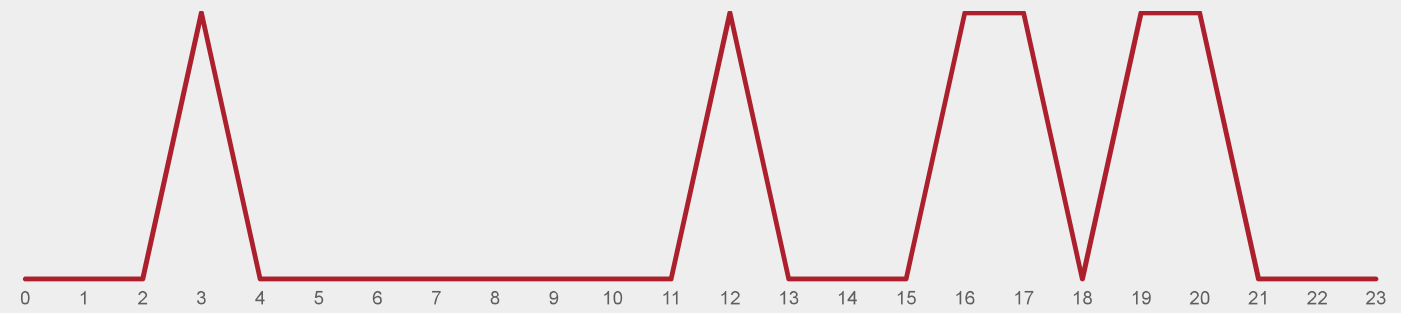
Incidents by Ward



6

Deliberate Fires in this period

Hour of Day

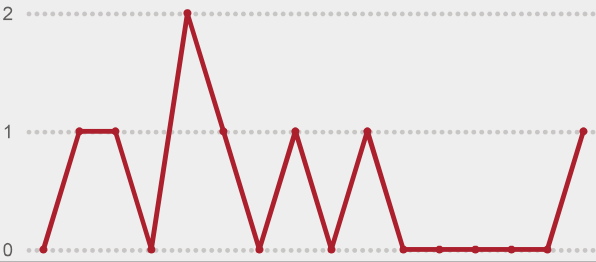


There were **6 Deliberate Fires** during this period, which see a slight reduction in comparison to the previous reporting period.

7. Non-Domestic Fires

2025-26 Q1 & Q2

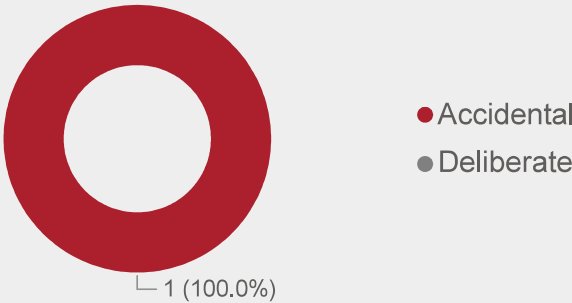
Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Top 15 Property Types

Property Type	Incidents
Food and Drink	1

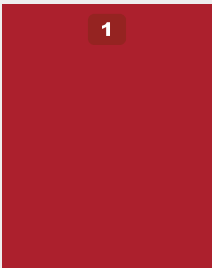
Incidents by Ward



1

Non-Domestic
Fires in this
period

Extent of Damage

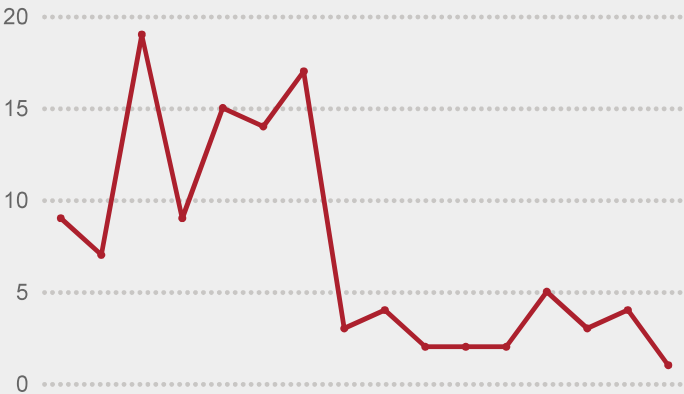


There was 1 Non-Domestic Fire in the reporting period, which shows a minimal increase compared to the previous period.

8. Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals

2025-26 Q1 & Q2

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Incidents by Ward



Top 15 Property Types

Property Type	Incidents
Hospitals and medical care	2
Hotel/motel	1
Residential Home	1
Sheltered Housing - not self contained	1

5

Unwanted Fire Alarm
Signals in this period

The number of UFAS incidents continues to remain low following the changes made in July 2023 on how we respond to UFAS. During this period there were **5 Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS)** which is a reduction from the previous reporting period.

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



1

Road Traffic Collisions in this period

Property Type	Incidents
Car	1

Incident Type	Incidents
Vehicle (Non-fire)	1

Incidents by Ward

Dingwall & Seaforth

1

1

Non-Fatal Casualties

0

Fatal Casualties

1

People Rescued by Firefighters

Extent of Harm (Non-Fatal)



0

First Aid Given at Scene



0

Hospital Slight Injuries



1

Hospital Serious Injuries

The number of Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs) remains low, with only **1 RTC** during this period, however that still resulted in **1 Non-Fatal RTC Casualty** who when to hospital with what appeared to be serious injuries.

10. Home Fire Safety Visits

2025-26 Q1 & Q2

HFSVs by Ward

47

Home Fire
Safety Visits

Dingwall & Seaforth

47

11. Fire Safety Enforcement

Job Type	Count
Audit	4
Specific Visit	1

Audits by Ward

Dingwall & Seaforth

4

With the introduction of the 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.

- 2 x On-Call Retained Duty System appliances across 1 Station

These Stations serve the Dingwall and Seaforth Committee population

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

Station	Apr – Sept 25 Availability* %	Male	Female	Staff
Dingwall – 1 st Appliance	99.96%	13	2	15
Dingwall – 2 nd Appliance	59.14%			

Stay on Side Fireskills



A five-day Stay on Side Fireskills course was held in Dingwall Community Fire Station in June, which was delivered in partnership with Police Scotland and the Highland Council. Twelve pupils from local secondary schools were given the opportunity to meet new people whilst learning valuable new life skills with the following aims and key learning outcomes:



- Develop awareness and understanding of the general working environment and associated key elements.
- Develop safer communities through home fire safety awareness and activities.
- Develop key lifesaving skills.
- Have a greater understanding of road traffic collisions risks to the community.
- Increase knowledge and awareness of Anti-Social impacts on the community.
- Increase knowledge and awareness of consequences that actions have on the public and emergency services.
- Young people involved will develop a positive relationship with each other and the partners involved in course delivery.



All of the pupils that attended were presented with certificates following a Passing Out Ceremony, where they were able to demonstrate some of the new skills learned to family and friends.

CPR and First Aid Training

In September, Dingwall Community Fire Station was the venue for free CPR and First Aid training. Local crews assisted Lucky2BHere in the delivery of this lifesaving training to the local community. This was well received by all attendees, with other similar events planned through the Highlands.



Visit to Army Cadet Autumn Camp



Crew from Dingwall Community Fire Station attended the 1st Battalion Highlanders Army Cadet autumn camp to provide them with an insight into some of the duties of a Firefighter.

There were lots of explanations, questions and practical training to bolster teamwork and fire safety knowledge for all involved.

This was a first for all parties but due to the success, plans are now underway to attend next year's summer camp.



13. 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.