

The Highland Council

Agenda Item	4
Report No	SR/17/26

Committee: Isle of Skye and Raasay Area Committee

Date: 31st August 2026

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

Report By: Local Senior Officer for Highland

1 Purpose/Executive Summary

- 1.1 This document presents a progress update to the Isle of Skye and Raasay Area Committee regarding the implementation of the priorities specified in the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Area Committee Plans for Skye and Raasay Area.
- 1.2 Priority areas are delineated based on a comprehensive framework of intervention, prevention, and protection strategies. These initiatives are implemented collaboratively to mitigate risks faced by communities in the Skye and Raasay area.
- 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 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 Isle of Skye and Raasay Area Committee Performance Report

- 4.1 The enclosed performance report delineates the current metrics for Quarters 3 and 4, covering the period from 1 October 2025 to 31 March 2026. It benchmarks these figures against data from the past three reporting years retrieved from the central performance management database of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS), focusing on key performance indicators and timelines previously established. It's important to note that the turnaround times and statistics are subject to delays, and any unresolved data may be carried over into the next reporting quarter.
- 4.2 In advancing the objectives outlined in the Area Plan, ongoing efforts within our current Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSV) framework are being enhanced as we transition to a new information-sharing system. This system aims to facilitate improved inter-agency collaboration, ensuring that resources are effectively allocated to the most vulnerable segments of our communities. Post Domestic Incident Reports (PDIR) are systematically conducted at all domestic incidents, irrespective of their nature, with a focus on mitigating the risk of accidental dwelling fires subsequent to our intervention.
- 4.3 The Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) Policy is designed to address the frequent false alarm incidents that our Service encounters at specific premises. By implementing targeted engagement strategies, we aim to mitigate the volume of these calls. This initiative has led to a revision of duty-holder responsibilities upon alarm activation, and we are actively assisting the affected premises in adapting to the new response protocols. This strategic shift in our incident response approach has resulted in a significant reduction in unnecessary deployments, thereby enhancing our operational capacity. Consequently, we are now better positioned to increase our engagement in community safety initiatives, enhance staff training, and minimise operational road risks.
- 4.4 It is important to note that the baseline values for several indicators in the report are quite low, which poses challenges for conducting robust statistical analyses. These low figures also raise concerns about the appropriateness of providing in-depth data analysis, as it may risk compromising individual confidentiality.

The performance report reveals that the incidence of Accidental Dwelling Fires in the region has slightly increased, with five incidents recorded during the current reporting period. Notably, there were no reported fire-related fatalities or non-fatal injuries.

The report noted four occurrences of primary or secondary fire incidents in terms of deliberate fires, marking a slight reduction since the previous reporting period. Furthermore, one non-domestic fire incidents were documented, this remains a low figure and is a reduction when compared to the previous period for such events.

During this reporting period there was one non-fire fatal casualty and seven non-fire non-fatal casualties which is a slight reduction when compared to the previous year.

During this reporting period, six Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs) were documented, which is slightly lower compared to the previous reporting period. These collisions resulted in zero fatal casualties and five non-fire non-fatal casualties.

Our Prevention team continues to work closely with partner agencies. This collaborative approach has contributed to a reduction in road traffic collisions and improved road safety outcomes across our communities.

- 4.5 Effective from 1 July 2023, the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) has implemented the Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) incident procedure in accordance with insights garnered from our previous public consultation. During this reporting period, we recorded attendance at 25 UFAS incidents, a figure that remains below levels observed prior to 2023. In light of this trend, our personnel will persist in collaborating strategically to eliminate all incident types through focused preventative measures and targeted engagement with the relevant premises.

For more information : [Scottish Fire & Rescue Service: Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals \(UFAS\) \(firescotland.gov.uk\)](https://firescotland.gov.uk)

Station personnel, in collaboration with Community Safety Advocates (CSA), conducted 16 Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSVs), primarily focusing on vulnerable populations and individuals at heightened risk within the community.

Designation: Local Senior Officer for Highland

Date: 23rd July 2026

Author: Station Commander Stuart Fraser

Background Papers: Highland - Isle of Skye and Raasay Area Committee Performance Report



Highland Isle of Skye and Raasay Committee

**2025-26 Q3 & Q4
Scrutiny Report**



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Highland

Isle of Skye and Raasay Committee

2025-26 Q3 & Q4

Scrutiny Report

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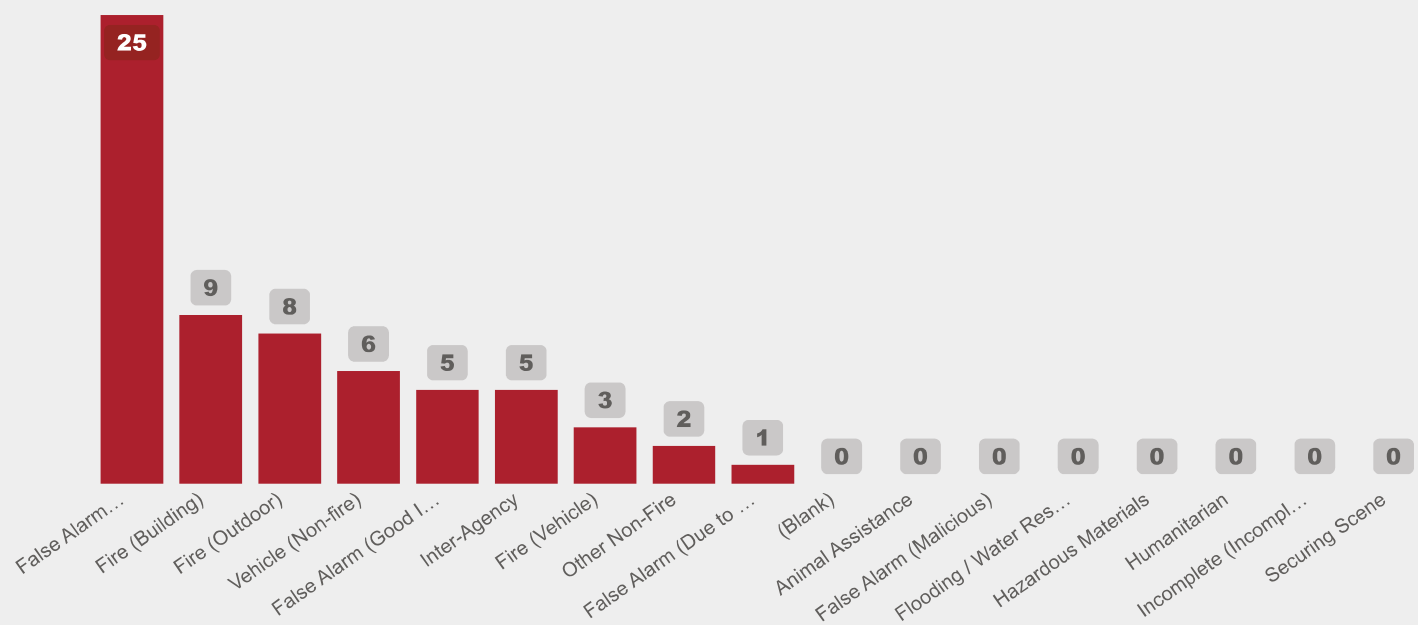
1	Summary
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About the statistics within this report

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.

 64 Total Incidents (Incl. Incompletes)	 20 Fires	 13 Non-Fire Incidents	 31 False Alarms	 25 UFAS
 1 People Rescued by Firefighters	 0 People Receiving First Aid or Hospital Treatment (Fires)	 0 Fire Fatalities	 7 People Receiving First Aid or Hospital Treatment (Non-Fire)	 1 Non-Fire Fatalities
 16 Home Fire Safety Visits	 9 Fire Safety Audits			

Top 10 Incident Types

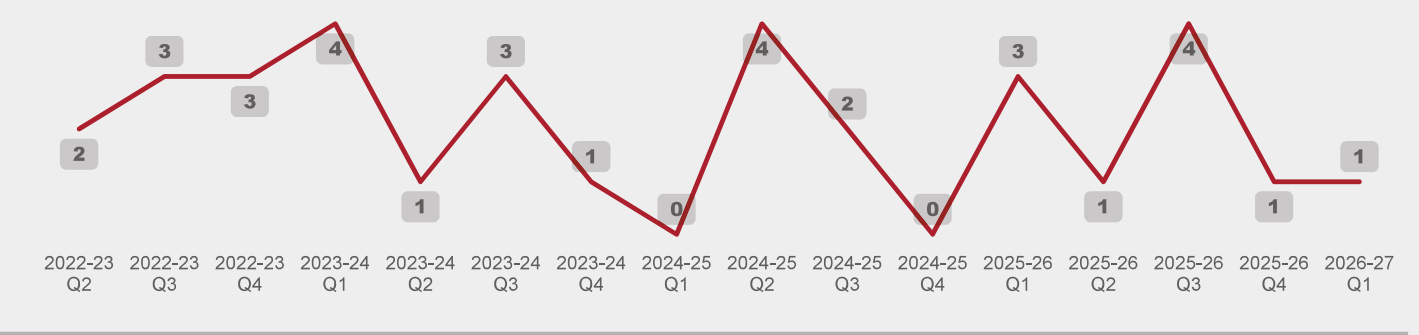


The information above provides a summary of the six-months (1 October 2025 - 31 March 2026) activity against headline indicators. It aims to provide - at a glance - our direction of travel during the current reporting period.

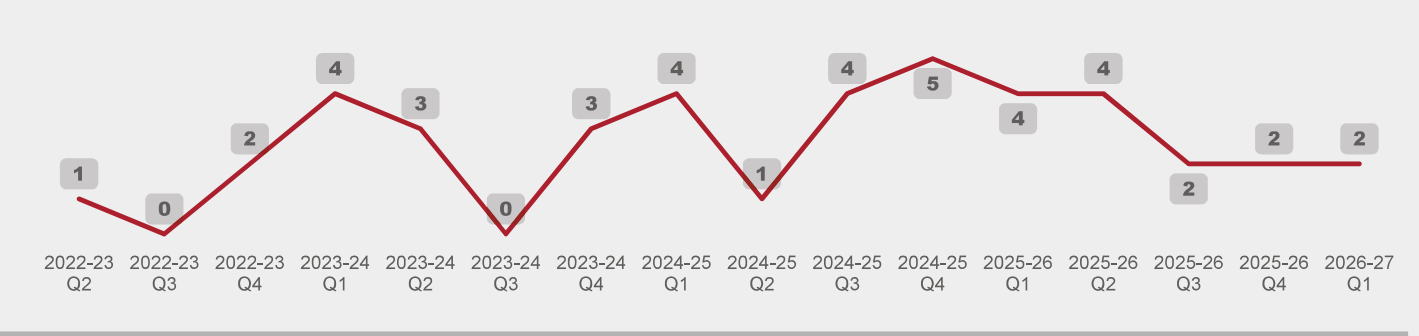
2. Trends

Previous 16 quarters (4 years)

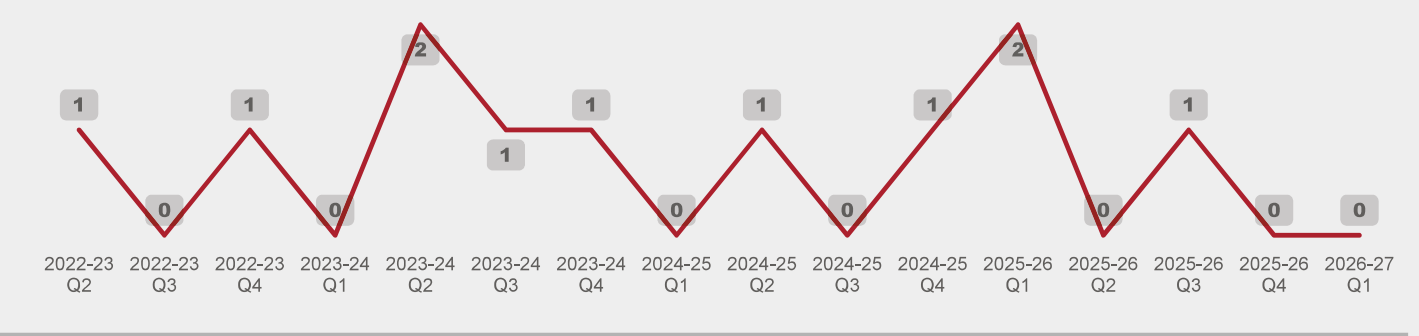
Accidental Dwelling Fires



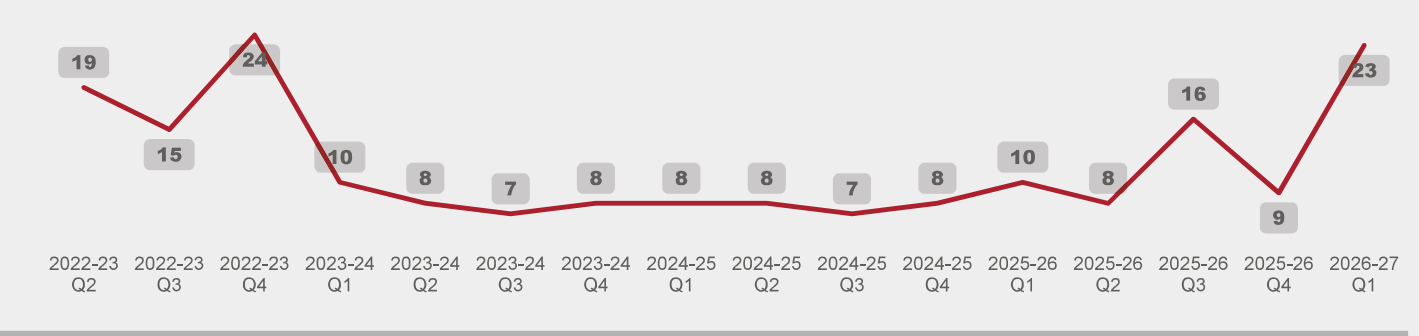
Deliberate Fires



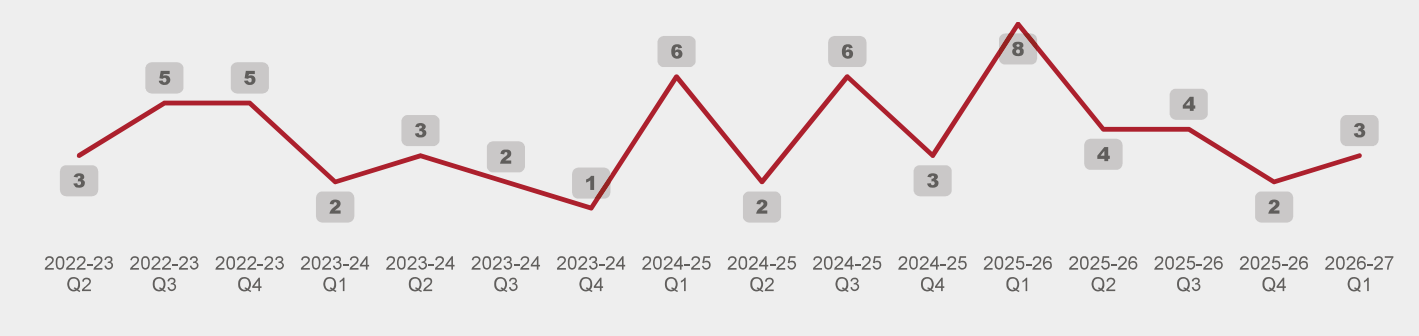
Non-Domestic Fires



Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals



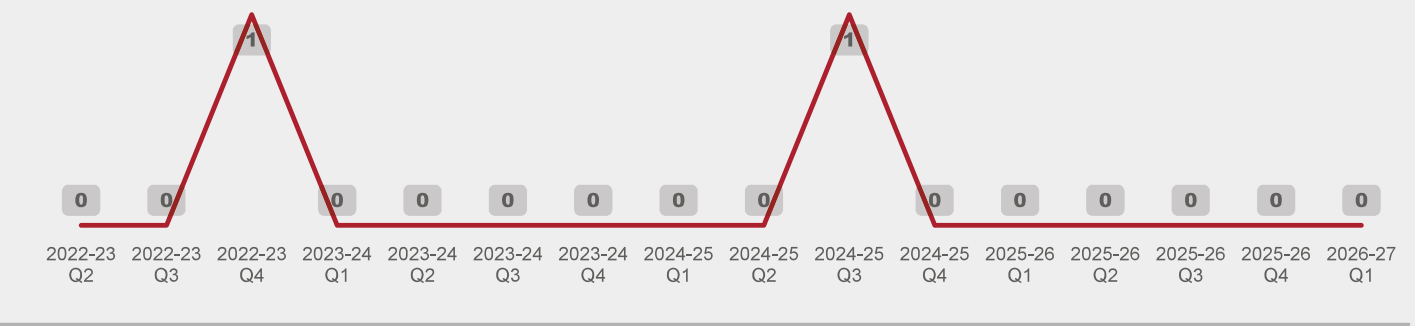
Road Traffic Collisions



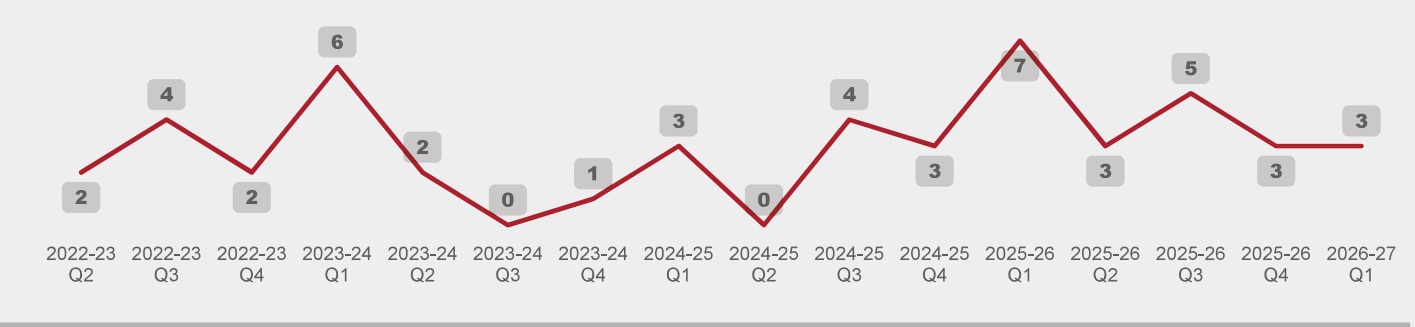
2. Trends

Previous 16 quarters (4 years)

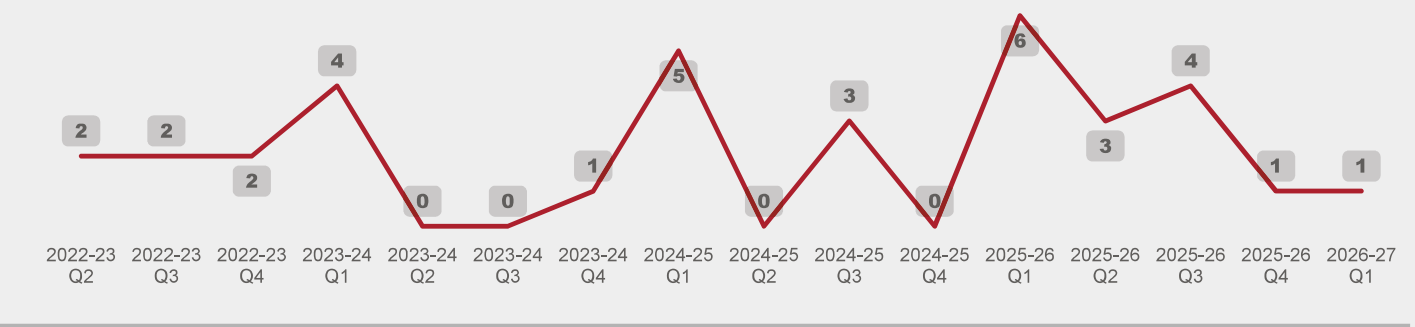
Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties



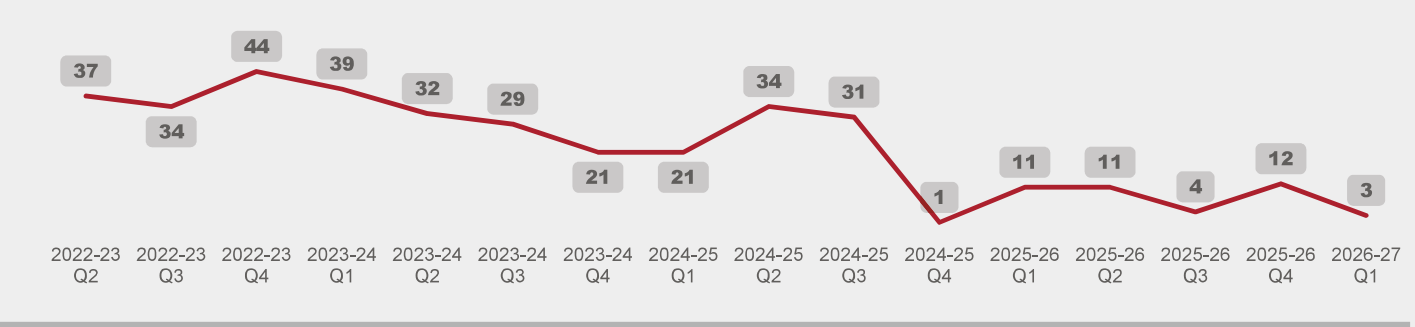
Non-Fire Casualties



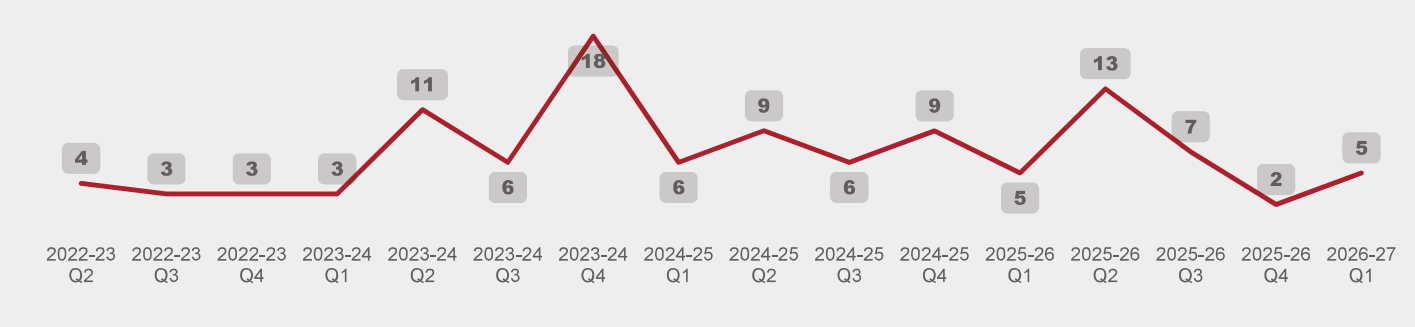
Road Traffic Collision Casualties



Home Fire Safety Visits



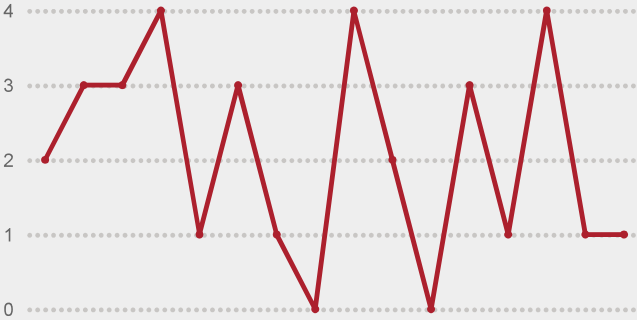
Fire Safety Audits



3. Accidental Dwelling Fires

2025-26 Q3 & Q4

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



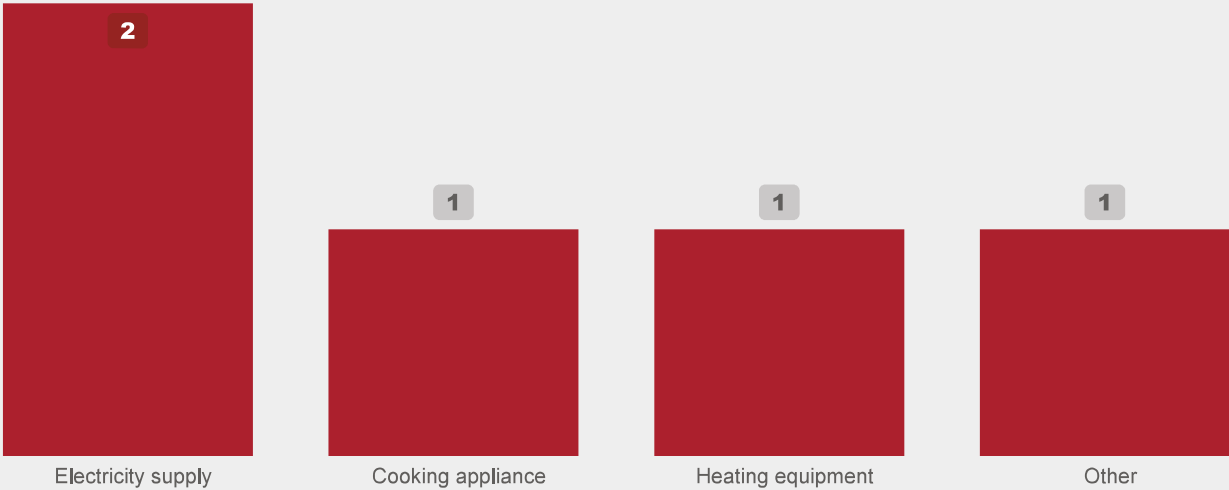
Extent of Damage	Incidents
Limited to item 1st ignited	3
Limited to room of origin	2

Incidents by Ward

Eilean a'Cheo



Source of Ignition (Top 10)



5

Accidental Dwelling Fires
in this period

During this reporting period there were **5 Accidental Dwelling Fires (ADFs)**, which is a slight increase when compared to the previous period. The majority of these were classed as low severity, requiring little or no intervention from the Service and minimal fire damage.

All ADFs are followed up with a HFSV and agency referrals where required.

4. Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties

2025-26 Q3 & Q4

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

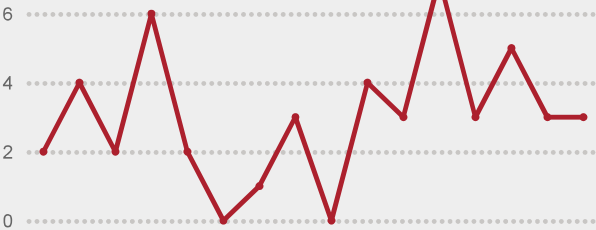
Hospital Slight Injuries

0

Hospital Serious Injuries

We are pleased to report that there were **0 ADF Fatalities** and **0 ADF Casualties** in this period, which is comparable to the previous reporting period. It should be noted that these figures do not include those who have been recommended to have a precautionary check up.

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Casualties by Ward



Nature of Injury/Cause of Death	Casualties
Fracture	3
Bruising	2
Chest / Abdominal injury	1
Chest pain / Heart condition / Cardiac arrest	1
Other	1

7

Non-Fatal Casualties

1

Fatal Casualties

1

People Rescued by Firefighters

Extent of Harm (Non-Fatal)



0

First Aid Given at Scene



6

Hospital Slight Injuries



1

Hospital Serious Injuries

During this reporting period there was **1 Non-Fire Fatal Casualty** and **7 Non-Fire Non-Fatal Casualties** which is a slight reduction when compared to the previous year. The number of people requiring rescue has decreased in this period.

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Property Type	Incident
Grassland, woodland and crops	2
Refuse	2

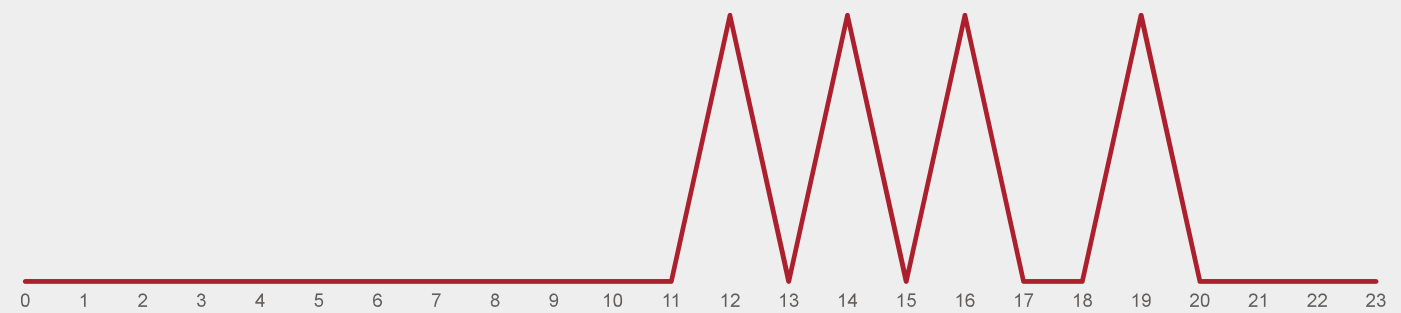
Incidents by Ward



4

Deliberate Fires
in this period

Hour of Day



There were **4 Deliberate Fires** in this reporting period, which is a decrease when compared to the previous reporting period. Referrals are made to other agencies for those at work within our communities.

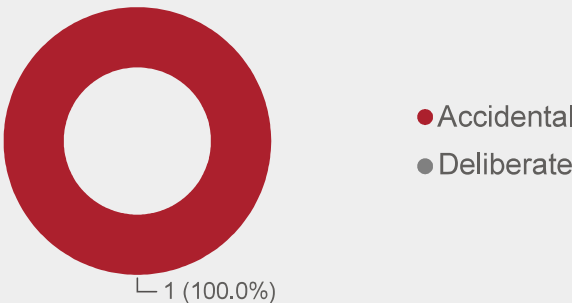
Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Top 15 Property Types

Property Type	Incidents
Permanent Agricultural	1

Incidents by Ward



1

Non-Domestic
Fires in this
period

Extent of Damage

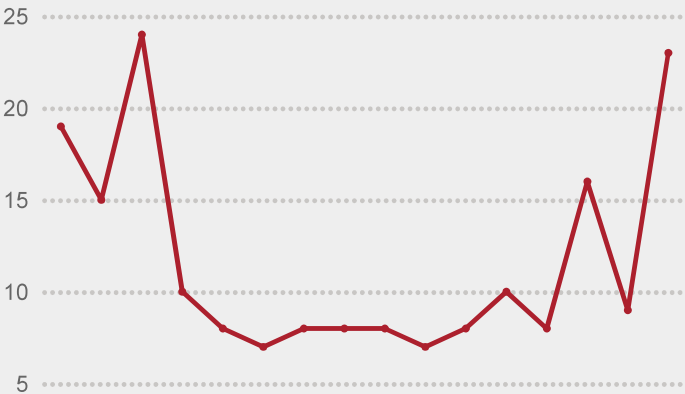


The number of Non-Domestic Fires within the area remains low, with only **1 Non-Domestic Fire** during this reporting period. This is a reduction when compared to the previous period.

8. Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals

2025-26 Q3 & Q4

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Incidents by Ward



Top 15 Property Types

Property Type	Incidents
Hotel/motel	14
Food and Drink	2
Residential Home	2
Retail	2
Education	1
Hospitals and medical care	1
Industrial Processing	1
Other Residential Home	1
Public admin, security and safety	1

25

Unwanted Fire Alarm
Signals in this period

During this reporting period we attended **25 Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals** which is an increased compared to the previous period.

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



6

Road Traffic Collisions in this period

Property Type	Incidents
Car	6

Incident Type	Incidents
Vehicle (Non-fire)	6

Incidents by Ward

Eilean a'Cheo

6

5

Non-Fatal Casualties

0

Fatal Casualties

0

People Rescued by Firefighters

Extent of Harm (Non-Fatal)



0

First Aid Given at Scene



5

Hospital Slight Injuries



0

Hospital Serious Injuries

We attended **6 Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs)** during this period, which is lower when compared to the previous reporting period. These resulted in **5 Non-Fatal RTC Casualties** which is lower than the previous period.

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

HFSVs by Ward

16

Home Fire
Safety Visits



11. Fire Safety Enforcement

Job Type	Count
Audit	9
Consultation	1

Audits by Ward



We undertook **16 Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSVs)** within this reporting period. With the introduction of the new, modernised Home Fire Safety Visits 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 system and referral pathways are embedded in.

Our Fire Safety Enforcement Officers and Auditing Officers have conducted **9 Audits** and **1 Consultation** within this period.

- 6 x On-Call Retained Duty System appliances across 6 Stations

These Stations serve the Isle of Skye and Raasay population

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

Station	Oct – Nov 25* Availability %	Staff 30/11/25	Dec 25 – Mar 26* Availability %	Staff 31/03/26
Broadford	35.83%	7	61.31%	8
Dunvegan	58.95%	8	81.74%	8
Portree	79.17%	7	60.97%	7
Raasay	59.82%	7	5.06%	6
Staffin	0%	0	0%	0
Uig	60.25%	7	55.37%	7

Due to a change in systems the availability has been split into two time periods to account for the change over date.

Reindeer Parade

In December crew from Portree Fire Station participated in the local Reindeer Parade, promoting recruitment opportunities and Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSVs).

Delivering Fire Safety Messages

Throughout the reporting period crews were actively involved with visits to the stations, visits to schools, nurseries and visiting Liveras Park Residents Community Action Group, delivering messages about fire safety and a presentation about Home Fire Safety Visits. Crews from Portree and Broadford were also at their local Co-op's to hand out fire safety leaflets.

Muirburn Message

Crew Commander Roddy MacLeod from Broadford Station worked proactively with SFRS Media and Skye Radio to deliver clear messages regarding the purpose of muirburn. This followed a number of social media posts on the Skye and Raasay community page questioning recent muirburn activity. Most notably was the request for support which was received in February and a response was provided immediately with all activity completed by close of business the same day.

Defibrillators installed at Dunvegan Fire Station



A public access defibrillator was installed at Dunvegan Fire Station by Lucky2BHere. Funding was secured through contributions from a local garage and predominantly the Dunvegan Community Trust.

Fire and Rescue Day at Portree Fire Station

Pupils from the Rural Skills team at Portree High School took part in a Fire and Rescue day at Portree Fire Station, learning about the skills required to become a firefighter and also about fire safety.



Joint Training Exercise



In March, On Call Firefighters from Skye took part in a joint training exercise with the RNLI. The exercise was to respond to an incident on the Isle of Raasay and crews worked in partnership with the colleagues based at Portree' RNLI Lifeboat Station.

The lifeboat launched from Portree Harbour and carried the crew across to the simulated incident in Raasay. The scenario allowed the crews to test resilience, strengthen operational readiness and highlighted the importance of working closely with multi-agency partners to help keep local communities safe. It was very successful day of collaboration, shared learning and teamwork.



14. 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.



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Design, figures and charts by the Business Intelligence team.