Agenda Item	**3**
Report No	**CIA/44/26**

The Highland Council

Committee: City Of Inverness Area Committee

Date: 16 November 2026

Report Title: Scottish Fire and Rescue Area Committee Performance Report

Report By: Local Senior Officer for Highlands

1 Purpose/Executive Summary

1.1 This report provides an update to City of Inverness Area Committee Members on progress against the priorities outlined in the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Area Committee Plan.

1.2 Priority areas are identified through a range of Intervention, Prevention and Protection activities, delivered through partnership, to actively reduce the risk to the communities of the City of Inverness.

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 City Of Inverness Area Committee

4.1 The attached performance report provides the current figures for Quarters Q2 & Q3 of 2026 – 27 and from the previous three 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 addressing key priorities within the Area Plan, we continue to work towards implementation of our updated Home Fire Safety Visit framework. This will significantly improve information-sharing with partner agencies and ensure our resources are targeted towards the most vulnerable in our communities. Our Post Domestic Incident Response activity continues to be implemented at all domestic incidents, regardless of type, aimed at reducing accidental dwelling fires.

In relation to commercial, relevant premises, the continued application of our Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals Policy actively reduces the number of calls to focus on essential emergency responses.

4.3 It must be emphasised that the baseline figures for some of these indicators within the report are very 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.

4.4 There were **14 Accident Dwelling Fires** (ADF) which is comparable with previous reporting period and is just below the 3-year average.

The majority are classed as low severity, requiring little or no intervention from the Service and minimal fire damage.

There were **0** Accidental Dwelling Fire fatalities and **2** Accidental Dwelling Fire casualties, again a reduction from the last reporting period. We are pleased to note that there were only **19** Non-Fatal Non-Fire Casualties and **24** People Rescued by Firefighters which are both reductions compared to the previous period.

All Accidental Dwelling Fires will invoke our Post Domestic Incident Response Policy, offering Home Fire Safety Visits and agency referrals where necessary.

Our personnel undertook **195 Home Fire Safety Visits** within this reporting period, continuing to target those most at risk within our communities.

There were **48 Deliberate Fires, 10 of which was a Deliberate Primary Fire, 38 being Deliberate Secondary Fires.** The recent high prevalence of deliberate secondary fires is being proactively addressed through partnership working with Police Scotland.

There were **8 Non-Domestic Building Fires** which is slightly lower than the previous period.

We attended **7 Road Traffic Collisions** (RTCs) which is lower than the previous report.

There were **1 RTC-related fatalities** and **2 RTC-related injuries**.

Our Prevention team continues to work with partner agencies through a myriad of initiatives, to proactively reduce RTC-related statistics.

We attended **142 Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals** showing an Increase from the last reporting period and when compared to the 3-year average.

Recent changes in our Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals Policy continue to show a significant downturn in such incidents, allowing focus on essential emergency response.

Designation: Local Senior Officer for Highlands

Date: 21/10/2026

Author: Station Commander Allan McLean

Background Papers: City Of Inverness Committee Performance Report

Appendices:



Highland

City of Inverness Area Committee

2026-27 Q1 & Q2

Scrutiny Report

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FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
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Highland

City of Inverness Area Committee

2026-27 Q1 & Q2

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.

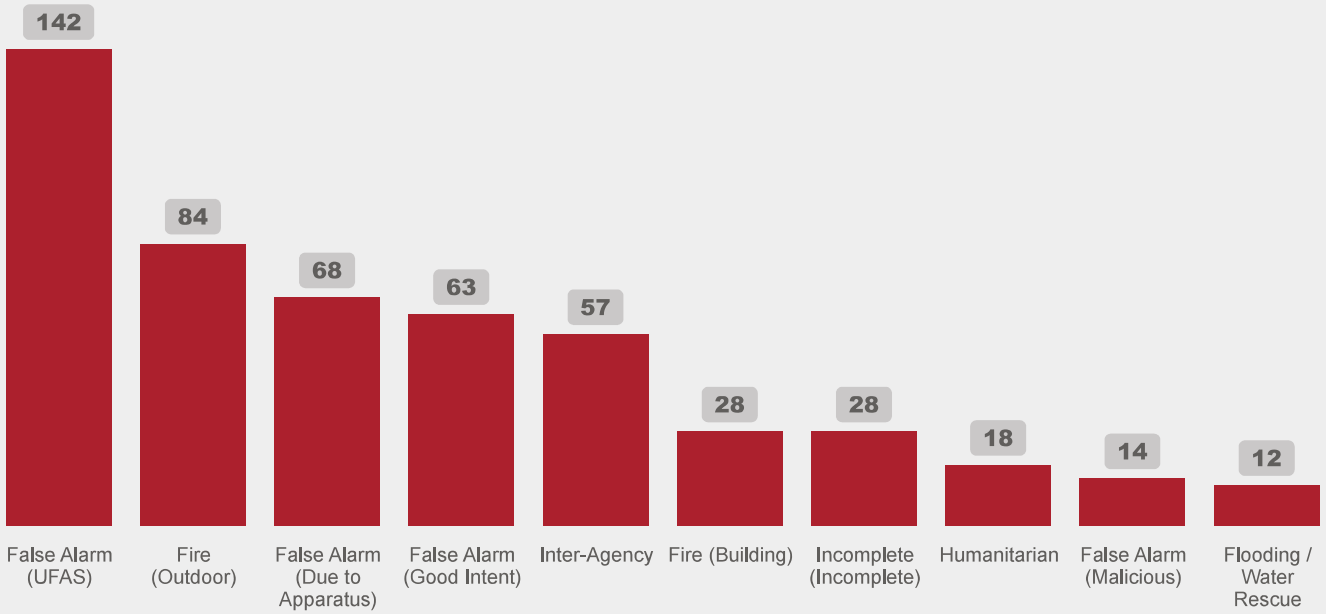
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1. Summary

2026-27 Q1 & Q2

551 Total Incidents (Incl. Incompletes)	**123** Fires	**113** Non-Fire Incidents	**287** False Alarms	**142** UFAS
24 People Rescued by Firefighters	**2** People Receiving First Aid or Hospital Treatment (Fires)	**0** Fire Fatalities	**19** People Receiving First Aid or Hospital Treatment (Non-Fire)	**7** Non-Fire Fatalities
195 Home Fire Safety Visits	**47** Fire Safety Audits			

Top 10 Incident Types



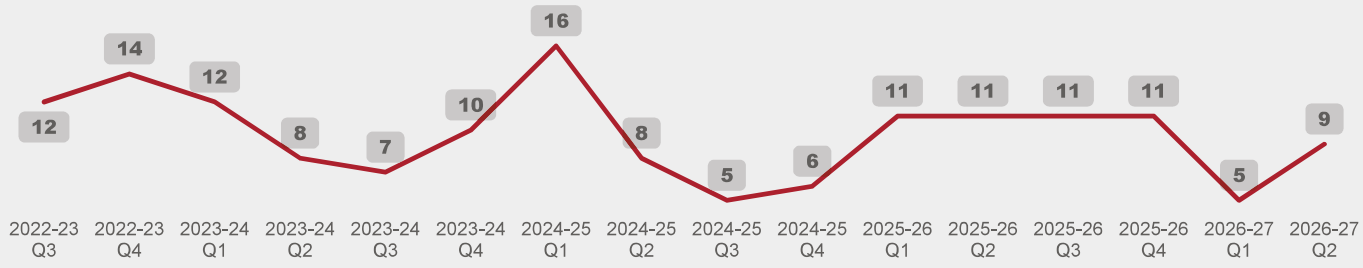
The information above provides a summary of the six-months (1 April - 30 September 2026) activity against headline indicators. It aims to provide - at a glance - our direction of travel during the current reporting period.

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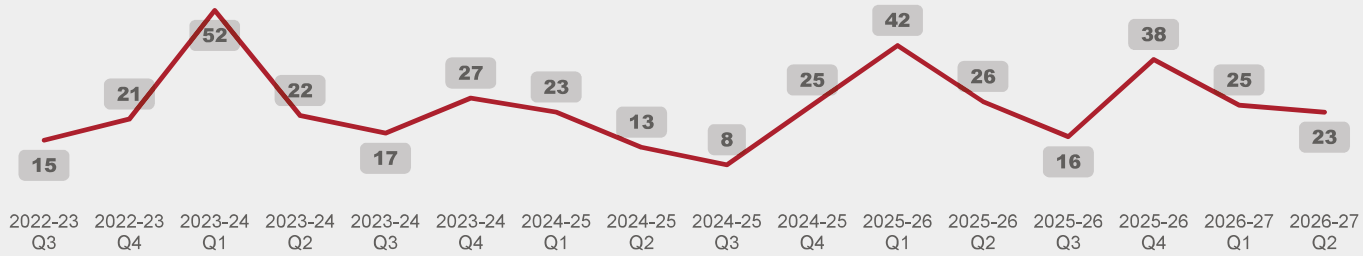
2. Trends

Previous 16 quarters (4 years)

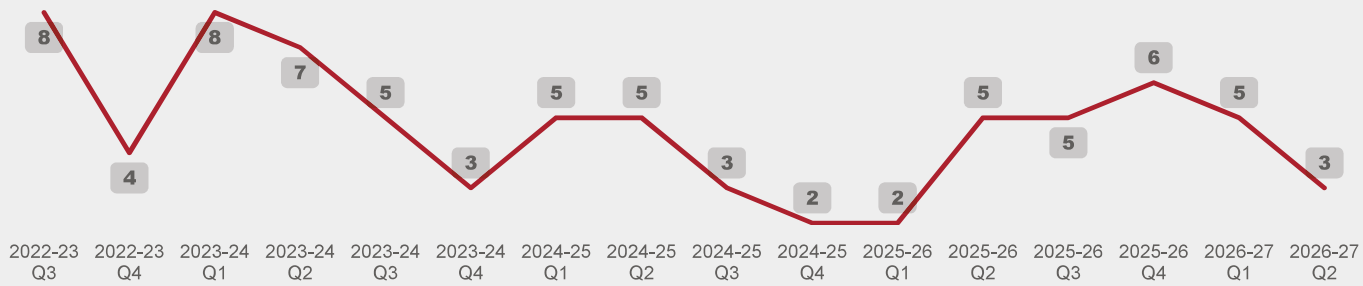
Accidental Dwelling Fires



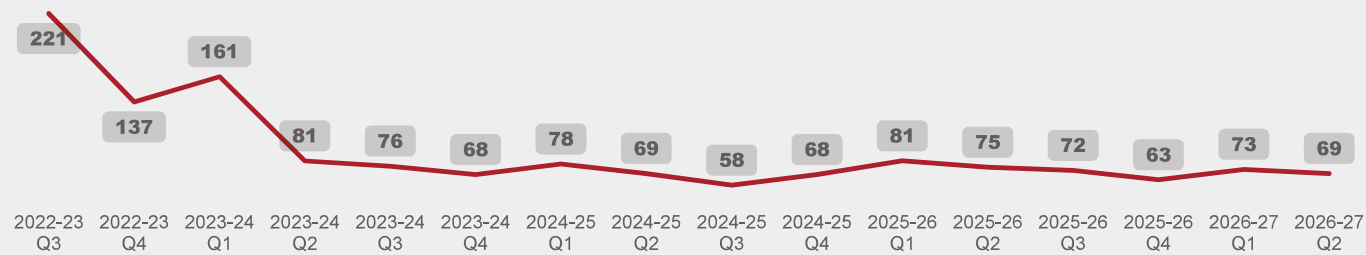
Deliberate Fires



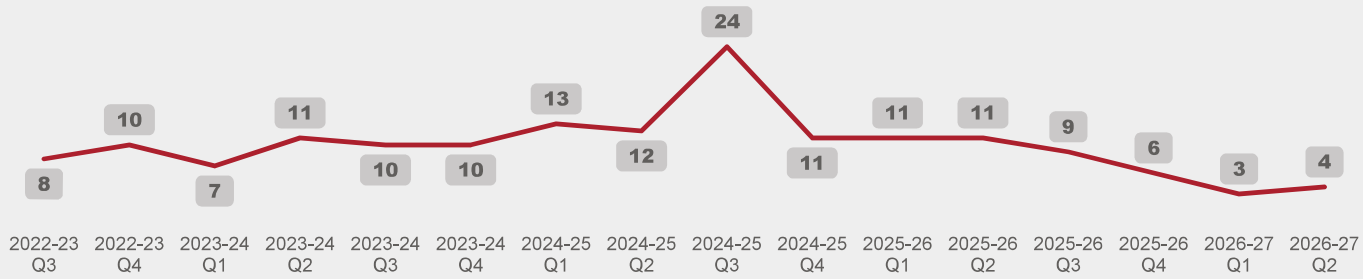
Non-Domestic Fires



Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals



Road Traffic Collisions

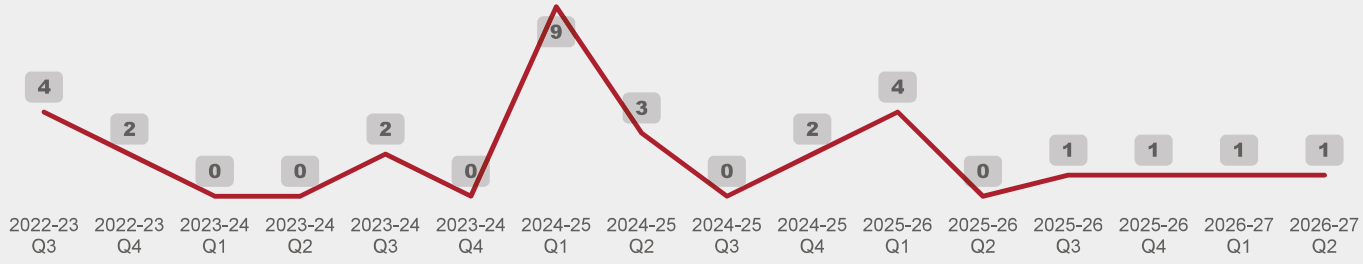


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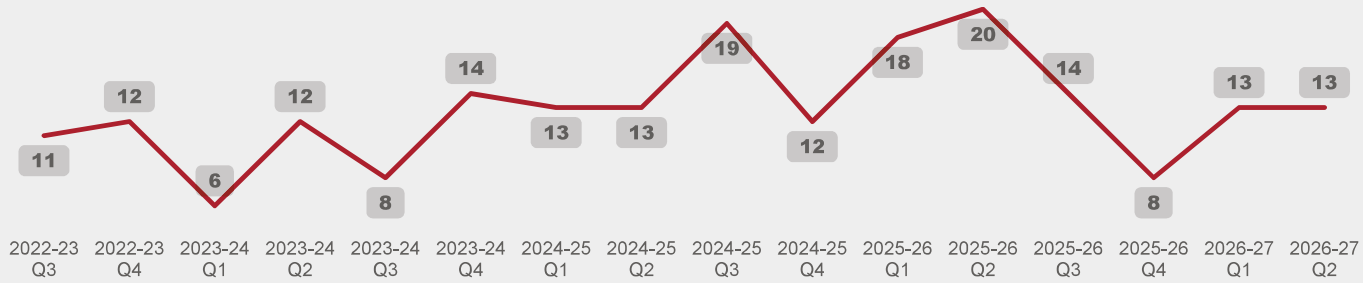
2. Trends

Previous 16 quarters (4 years)

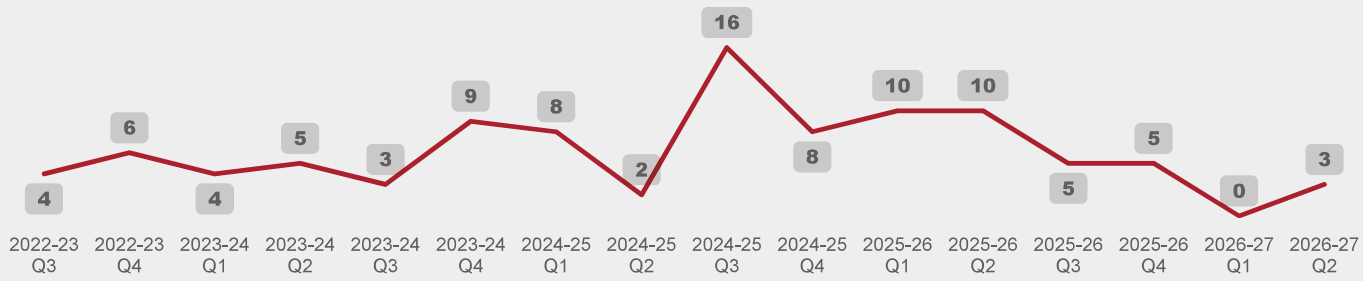
Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties



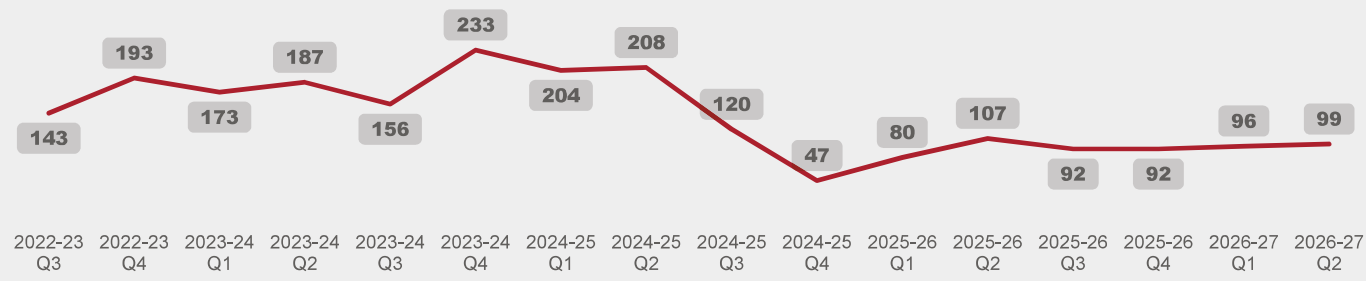
Non-Fire Casualties



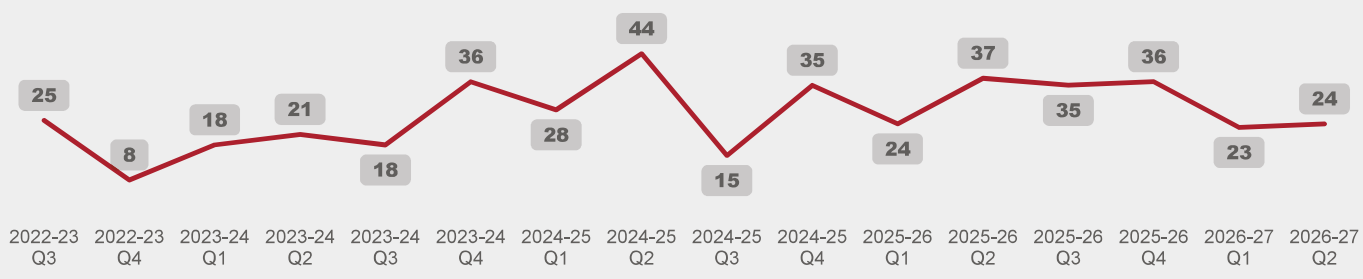
Road Traffic Collision Casualties



Home Fire Safety Visits



Fire Safety Audits



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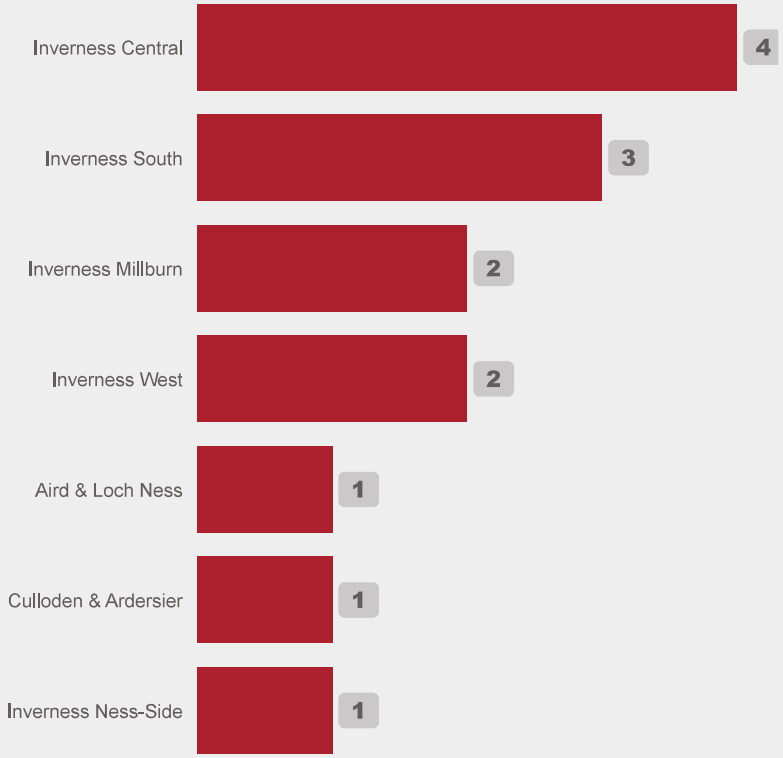
3. Accidental Dwelling Fires

2026-27 Q1 & Q2

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Incidents by Ward

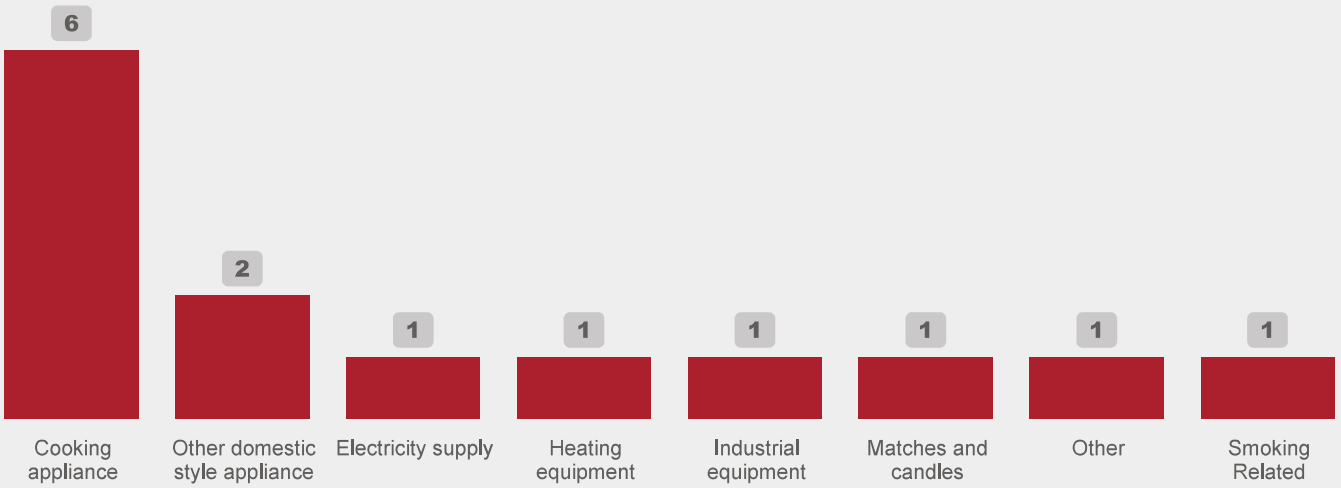


Extent of Damage	Incidents
Limited to room of origin	4
Limited to item 1st ignited	3
Not applicable	3
Limited to floor of origin (not whole building)	2
Roof space and other floors(s)	1
Whole building	1

14

Accidental Dwelling Fires in this period

Source of Ignition (Top 10)



During this reporting period, there were **14 Accidental Dwelling Fires (ADFs)**, which is a reduction compared to the previous period. The majority were classed as low severity, requiring little or no intervention from the Service and minimal fire damage.

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4. Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties

2026-27 Q1 & Q2

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Nature of Injury/Cause of Death	Casualties
Back / Neck injury (spinal)	1
Other	1

Casualties by Ward



2 Non-Fatal Casualties

0 Fatal Casualties

0 People Rescued by Firefighters

Extent of Harm (Non-Fatal)

1 First Aid Given at Scene

1 Hospital Slight Injuries

0 Hospital Serious Injuries

During this reporting period there were **2 Non Fatal ADF Casualties**, this is comparable to the previous period. It should be noted that these figures do not include those who have been recommended to have a precautionary check up.

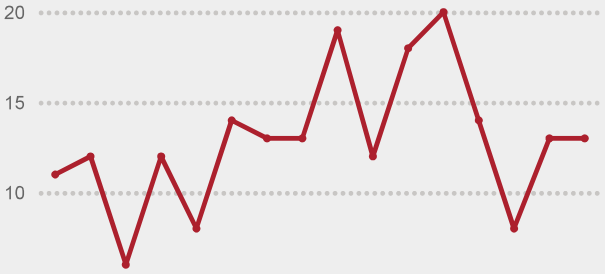
All ADFs are offered Home Fire Safety Visits and agency referrals where required.

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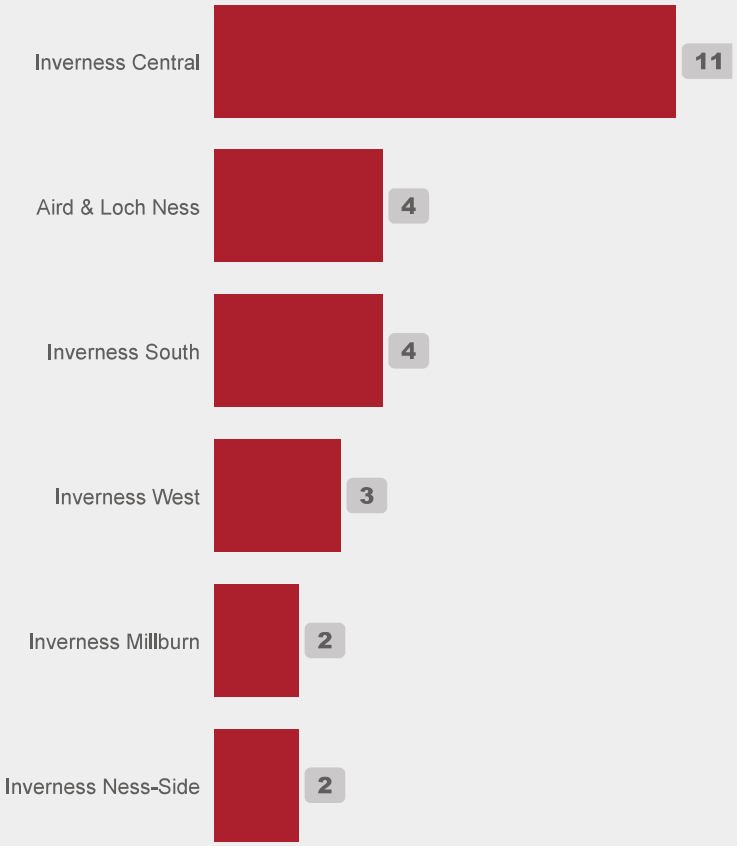
5. Non-Fire Casualties

2026-27 Q1 & Q2

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Casualties by Ward



Nature of Injury/Cause of Death	Casualties
Fracture	4
Back / Neck injury (spinal)	3
Not known	3
Chest / Abdominal injury	2
Drowning	2
Other medical condition	2
Bruising	1
Chest pain / Heart condition / Cardiac arrest	1
Collapse	1
Cuts/Lacerations	1
Head injury	1
Hypothermia	1
Other	1
Other physical injury	1
Overcome by gas, smoke or toxic fumes; asphyxiation	1
Unconscious, fitting or unresponsive (no other evident significant injury)	1

19
Non-Fatal Casualties

7
Fatal Casualties

24
People Rescued by Firefighters

Extent of Harm (Non-Fatal)

1
First Aid Given at Scene

11
Hospital Slight Injuries

7
Hospital Serious Injuries

There were **7 Fatal Non-Fire Casualties** in this reporting period which is a significant increase when compared to the previous period. We are pleased note that there were only **19 Non-Fatal Non-Fire Casualties** and **24 People Rescued by Firefighters** which are both reductions compared to the previous period.

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6. Deliberate Fires

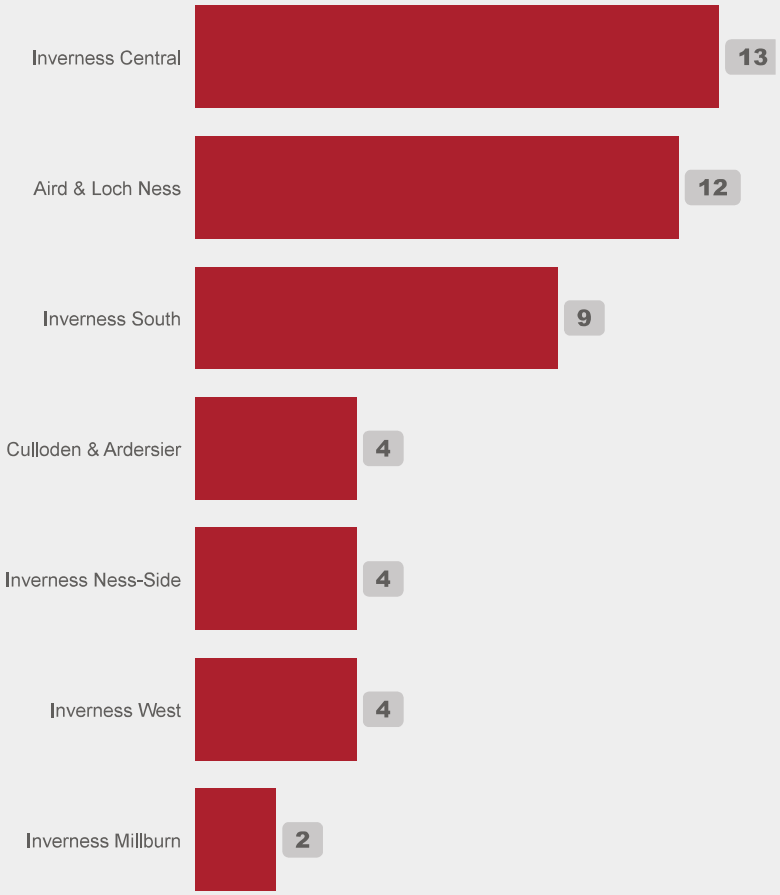
2026-27 Q1 & Q2

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



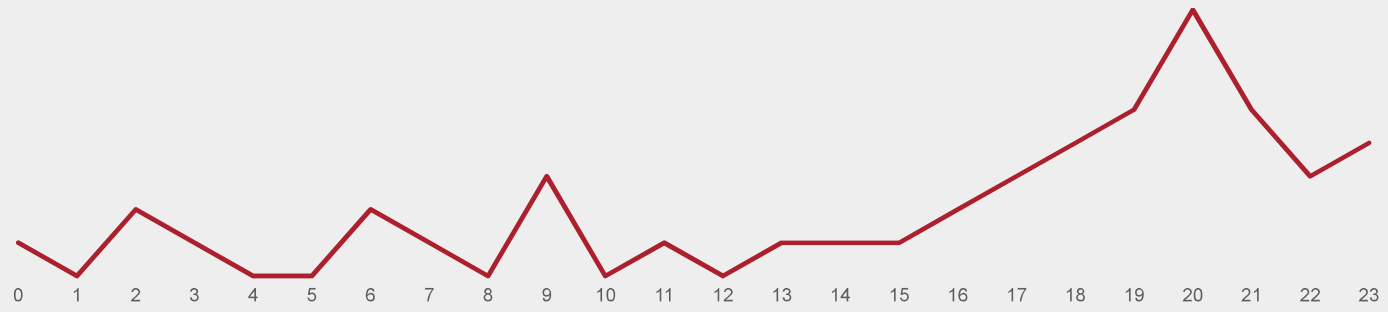
Property Type	Incident
Grassland, woodland and crops	25
Other outdoors (including land)	7
Outdoor equipment and machinery	4
Outdoor structures	4
Refuse	4
Dwelling	2
Non Residential	1
Road Vehicle	1

Incidents by Ward



48 **Deliberate Fires in this period**

Hour of Day



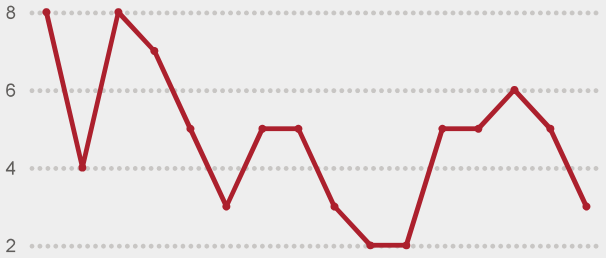
During this reporting period we attended **48 Deliberate Fires**, which is a reduction when compared to the previous reporting period.

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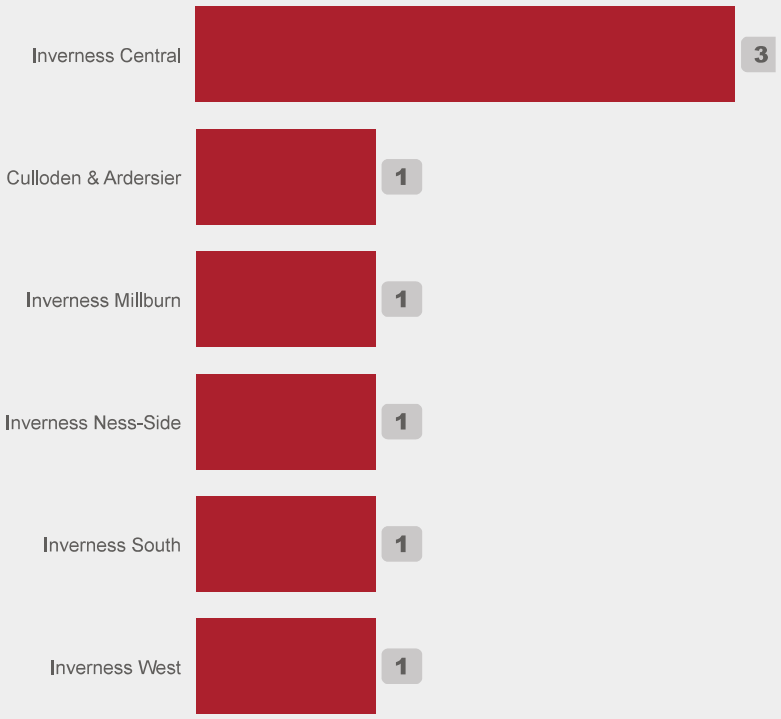
7. Non-Domestic Fires

2026-27 Q1 & Q2

Trend by Quarter (4 years)

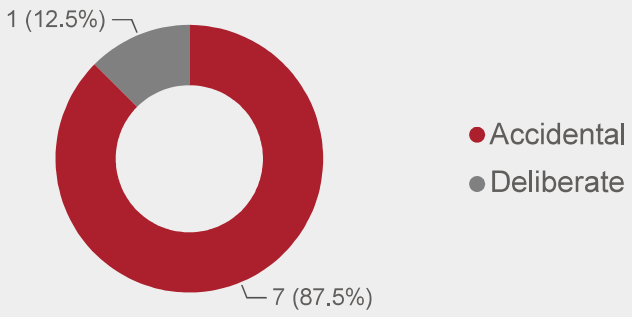


Incidents by Ward



Top 15 Property Types

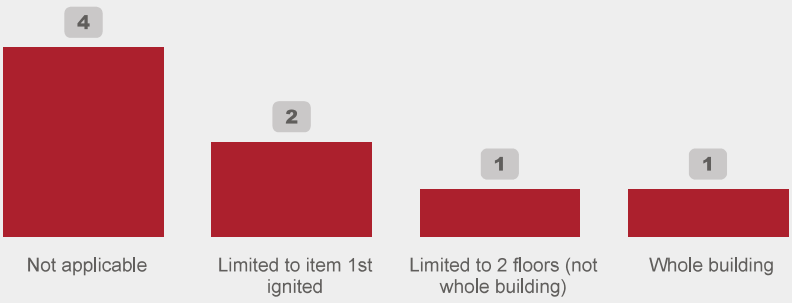
Property Type	Incidents
Food and Drink	2
Residential Home	2
Hospitals and medical care	1
Offices and call centres	1
Retail	1
Warehouses and bulk storage	1



8

Non-Domestic Fires in this period

Extent of Damage



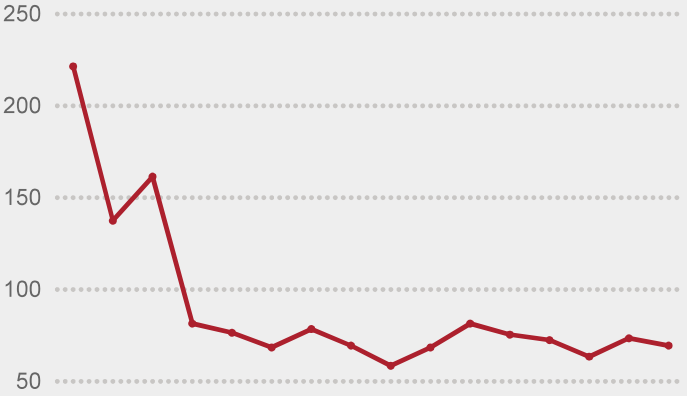
During this reporting period we attended **8 Non-Domestic Fires** which is a slight reduction when compared to the previous period.

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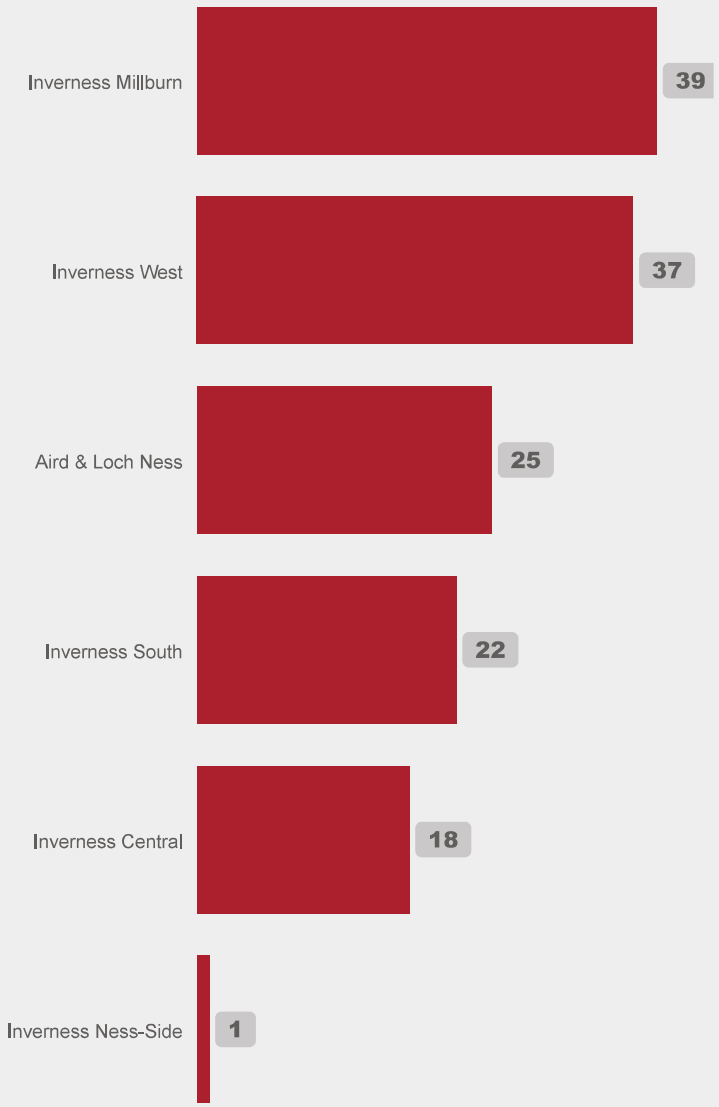
8. Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals

2026-27 Q1 & Q2

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Incidents by Ward



Top 15 Property Types

Property Type	Incidents
Hospitals and medical care	37
Residential Home	32
Hotel/motel	24
Food and Drink	9
Other Residential Home	7
Boarding House/B&B other	6
Hostel (e.g. for homeless people)	5
Student Hall of Residence	4
Boarding House/B&B for homeless/asylum seekers	3
Retail	3
Sheltered Housing - not self contained	3
Education	2
Offices and call centres	2
Other holiday residence (cottage, flat, chalet)	2
Entertainment and culture	1
Nurses'/Doctors' accommodation	1
Religious	1

142

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals in this period

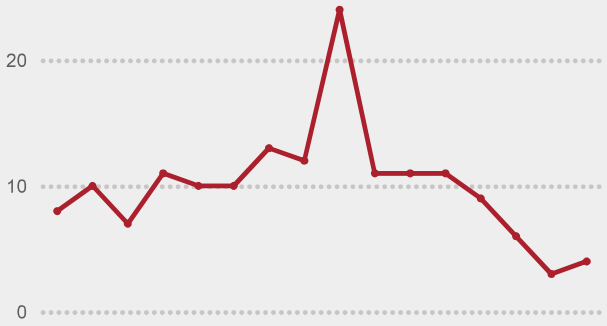
We attended **142 Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS)** this period, which is a slight increase compared to the previous reporting period. The figure continues to remain low following the Service's change to attendance at commercial businesses and workplace premises.

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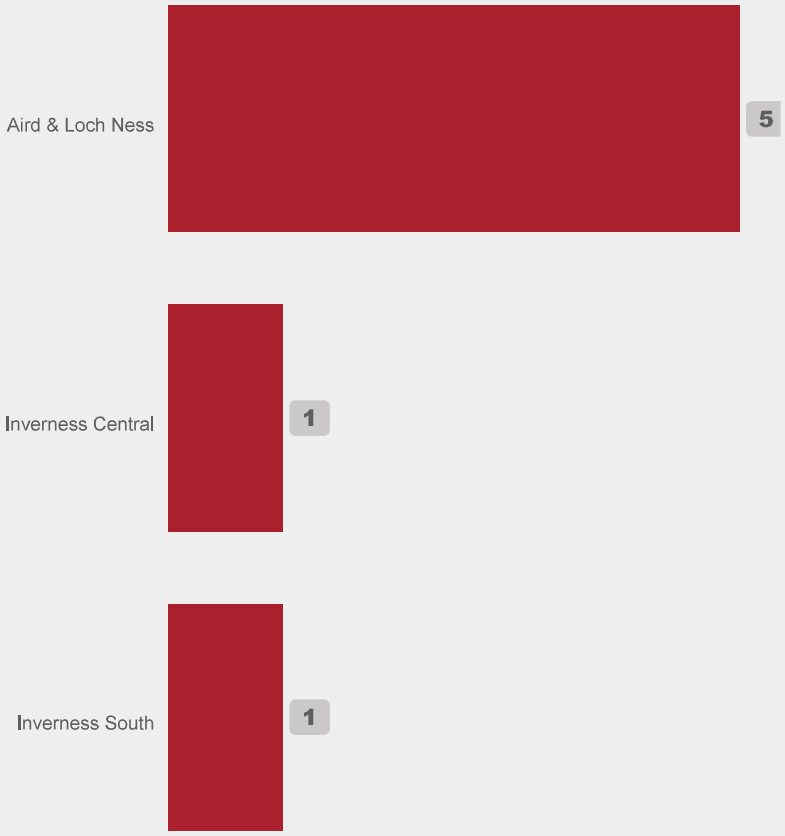
9. Road Traffic Collisions

2026-27 Q1 & Q2

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Incidents by Ward



7 **Road Traffic Collisions in this period**

Property Type	Incidents
Car	4
Multiple Vehicles	2
Other	1

Incident Type	Incidents
Vehicle (Non-fire)	7

2 **Non-Fatal Casualties**

1 **Fatal Casualties**

2 **People Rescued by Firefighters**

Extent of Harm (Non-Fatal)

0 **First Aid Given at Scene**

2 **Hospital Slight Injuries**

0 **Hospital Serious Injuries**

We attended **7 Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs)** during this reporting period, which is a significant reduction compared to the previous period.

Unfortunately there was **1 Fatal RTC Casualty** within this period, however there was only **2 Non-Fatal RTC Casualties** and **2 People Rescued by Firefighters** which is a decrease compared to the previous reporting period.

Our Prevention teams continue to work with partners to reduce RTCs in the area.

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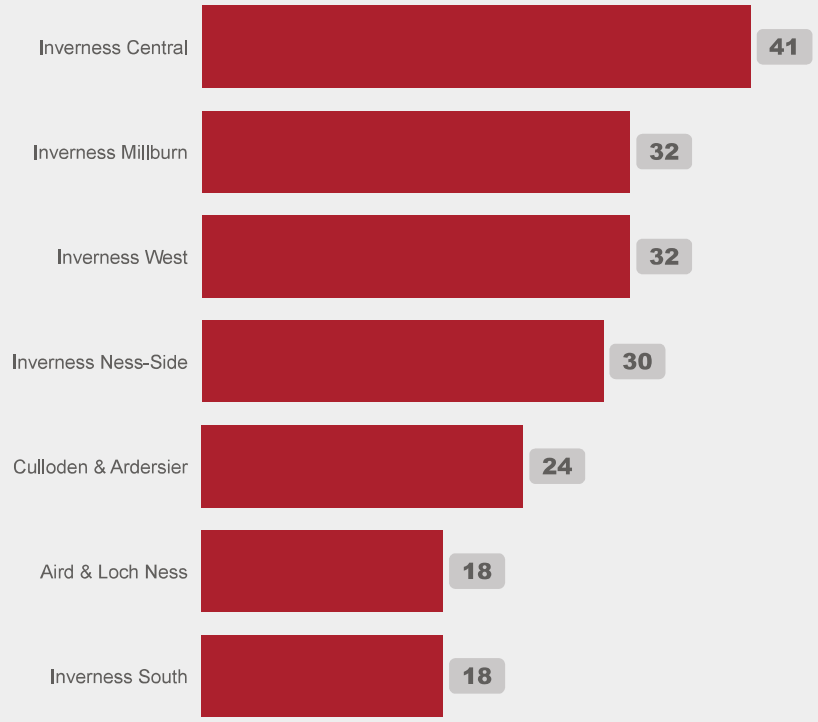
10. Home Fire Safety Visits

2026-27 Q1 & Q2

195

Home Fire Safety Visits

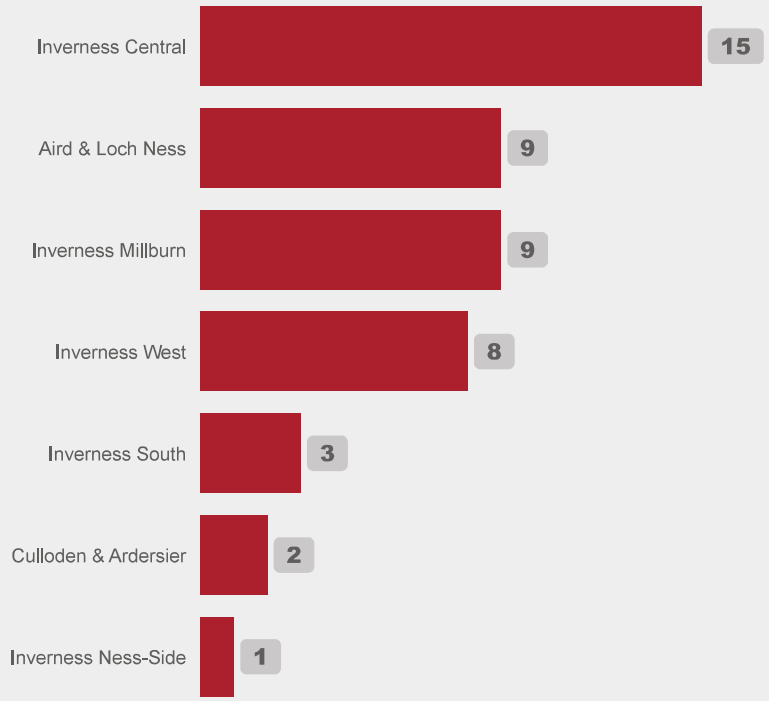
HFSVs by Ward



11. Fire Safety Enforcement

Job Type	Count
Audit	47
Specific Visit	9
Consultation	3

Audits by Ward



We undertook **195 Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSVs)** within this reporting period.

Our Fire Safety Enforcement Officers and Auditing Offers have conducted **47 Audits, 9 Specific Visits** and **3 Consultations** within this period. They also dealt with numerous licensing and short term let applications.

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- 2 x Wholetime Duty System appliances at 1 Station*
- 6 x On-Call Retained Duty System appliances across 12 Stations

These Stations serve the City of Inverness and Inverness-shire population

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

Station	Apr - Sept 26 Availability* %	Staff 30/09/26
Beauly	73.32%	12
Cannich	5.16%	4
Drumnadrochit	73.47%	12
Fort Augustus	80.80%	9
Foyers	58.71%	8
Inverness	73.75%	13
Inverness Wholetime	N/A	67

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Annual Charity Car Wash



Inverness Fire Station personnel were able to support Highland Hospice and the Firefighters' Charity, through their annual charity car wash.

Thanks to the generosity of everyone who came along, an amazing £1,018.80 was raised, with the funds split between both deserving charities.

Remembering Ff Roderick MacLeod



In May, we remembered Firefighter Roderick MacLeod, from Inverness Fire Station, who tragically died in the line of duty whilst tackling a blaze at Aberchalder Lodge, Invergarry on 21st May 1981.

Firefighter MacLeod was on the ground floor of the property with another firefighter, working to extinguish pockets of fire in the living room, when suddenly and without warning the first floor collapsed down onto them, trapping Firefighter MacLeod and despite the best efforts of a local doctor and firefighter MacLeod's colleagues to resuscitate him he was pronounced dead at the scene. Firefighter MacLeod was 25 years old and married having served with the Northern Fire Brigade for four years.

Fireskills Course



Pupils from various school from Inverness and the surrounding areas joined us on a Fire Skills course at Inverness Fire Station.

These courses are run by Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, alongside Police Scotland and Highland Council.

Fire Skills is all about giving young people a chance to work as a team, learn new skills and build confidence through new experiences and challenges. The young people on this course explored a wide range of important topics, such as operating firefighting equipment, learning about Road Safety, such as the role SFRS has at Road Traffic Collisions and how to stay safe as a new driver. They developed lifesaving skills such as CPR. Police Scotland visited them on station to provide valuable insight into their role within the community.

Well done and a big thank you to everyone involved!

Emergency Services Charity Golf Day

Inverness Community Fire Station hosted the 5th Emergency Services Charity Golf Day, with proceeds of £2545.00 going to Highland Action for Little Ones (HALO), a children's charity dedicated to supporting families in the Highlands of Scotland with the essential items that children need to thrive.



A team of 20 golfers from SFRS managed to secure a narrow win against Police Scotland and Scottish Ambulance Service for the 5th year in a row, the event being held at Inverness Golf Club.

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Young Carers



Some of our amazing Young Carers enjoyed a memorable and educational visit to Inverness Fire Station, thanks to the wonderful team from Green Watch.

Our Young Carers gained practical advice from the firefighters on how to stay safe at home, particularly important as many of them help with cooking, cleaning, and other responsibilities as part of their caring roles.

Of course, it wasn't all serious! The visit ended with plenty of fun as the Young Carers got the chance to use the fire hoses, an experience that brought lots of smiles, laughter, and excitement.

Perhaps the most special part of the day was seeing Young Carers from 8 different primary schools come together, make new friends, and share experiences with one another.

Opportunities like this not only build confidence and knowledge but also help create lasting connections and a sense of community.

Biker Down Event

A fantastic group of 40 local riders took part in essential safety training, learning lifesaving skills that could make all the difference on the road.



Special thanks to Scott Ironside from the Scottish Ambulance Service, who delivered expert guidance on CPR, defibrillator use, and helmet removal. Your support made the day even more valuable.

Sea Scouts Visit



White Watch from Inverness Fire Station visited the Sea Scouts, who had a great time seeing the equipment they use and even had a go with a fire hose and trying on some PPE they use.

James Braidwood Commemoration



We were honoured to attend a lovely service at Inverness Cathedral commemorating James Braidwood, widely recognised as the founder of the modern fire service.

The service brought together representatives from Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, London Fire Brigade, The Fire Brigades Union and the Fire Fighters Charity, with SFRS Chief Officer Stuart Stevens, London Fire Brigade Commissioner Jonathan Smith, Sharon Bailey, Director of Services at the Fire Fighters Charity, Ian Murray President of the Fire Brigades Union and local SFRS personnel among those attending.

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Inverness Area Councillors' Event



Inverness Fire Station personnel welcomed local councillors for an experience day, providing an insight into their operational work and community fire safety programmes.

Elected members were very receptive to the interactive programme of events, leaving with a greater understanding of the role of the modern Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

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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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FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Working together for a safer Scotland

BUSINESS

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Design, figures and charts by the Business Intelligence team.