The Highland Council

Agenda Item	3
Report No	DSA/19/26

Committee: **Dingwall and Seaforth**

Date: **25th October 2026**

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** 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)** -

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 2026 – 27 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 continues within our current HFSV framework as we continue with 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 has again been delivered to all Secondary schools (S4, S5) across the Highlands.

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 5 Accidental Dwelling fires (ADF's) recorded in this reporting period. This figure is an increase from the previous reporting period. On all occasions that we attend ADF's, we offer a Home Fire Safety Visit (HFSV) and if necessary appropriate partner agency referrals.

Fatalities/ Casualties - There was 0 Fire Fatalities and 2 Non-fatal Fire Casualties. Unfortunately, there was 1 Non-Fire Fatalities which is a slight increase on the previous reporting period and 3 Non-Fatal Non-Fire Casualties as well as 5 people rescued by firefighters during this reporting period.

Non-Domestic Fire – There was 0 Non-Domestic Fires which is a reduction on previous years reporting.

Deliberate Fires - There were 3 Deliberate Fires in this reporting period which is a similar position to the previous reporting period.

Special Service – there was 1 recorded road traffic collisions (RTC) reported during this period which resulted in 1 person being rescued by Firefighters.

We attended 1 Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS), which is a significant drop, following the trend on reduction following the changes made in July 2023 on how we respond to UFAS. For all these incidents that we attend we will engage with the duty holder to further reduce incidents of this nature.

Home Fire Safety Visits – A total of 54 Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSV's) were carried out during this period. 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 are now seeing additional referrals coming into us and as a result an increase in the visits that we carry out.

Appliance availability remains good with 1st appliance showing over 99%, and the 2nd appliance showing over 61% on average.

We currently have an establishment of 16 personnel at the station. Local management are continuing with recruitment activities to fill these vacancies. Continued progress is evident with Firefighters in their development stage on station and additional recruitment secured for the immediate future.

Designation:	Local Senior Officer for Highland
Date:	25th October 2026
Author:	Station Commander Paul Young
Background Papers:	Highland – Dingwall and Seaforth, Area Committee-Performance Report
Appendices:	



Highland

Dingwall and Seaforth Area Committee

2026-27 Q1 & Q2

Scrutiny Report

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Highland

Dingwall and Seaforth 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.

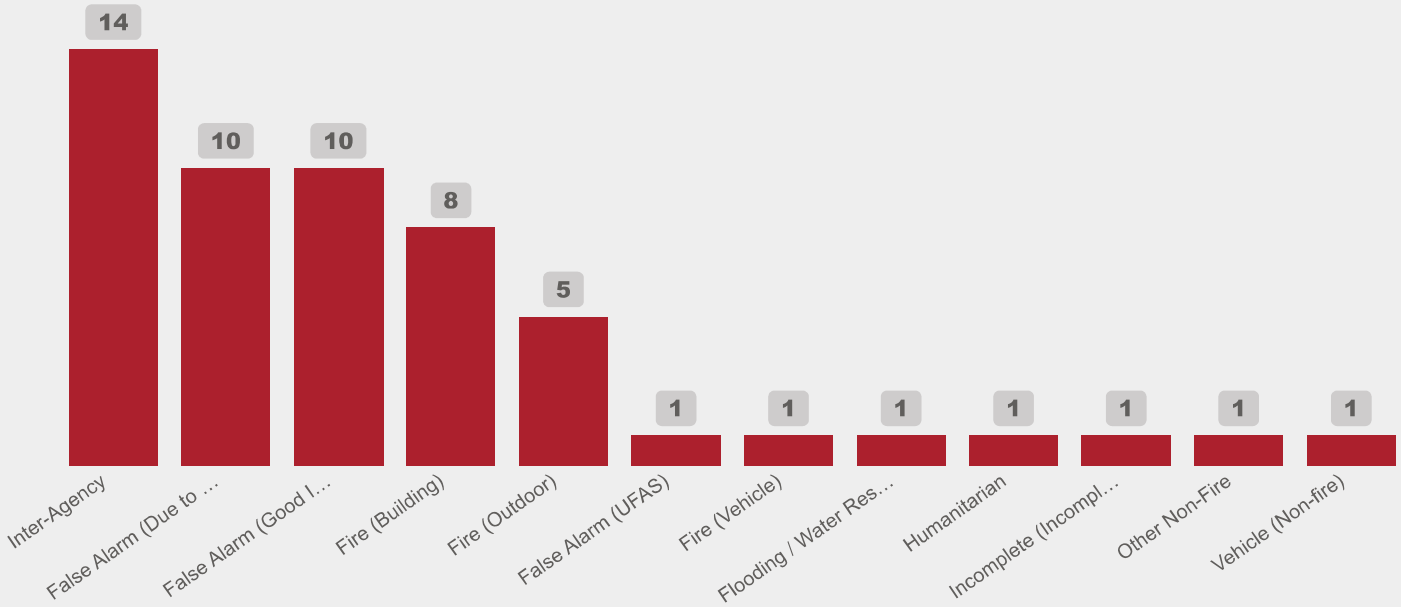
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1. Summary

2026-27 Q1 & Q2

54 Total Incidents (Incl. Incompletes)	**14** Fires	**18** Non-Fire Incidents	**21** False Alarms	**1** UFAS
5 People Rescued by Firefighters	**2** People Receiving First Aid or Hospital Treatment (Fires)	**0** Fire Fatalities	**3** People Receiving First Aid or Hospital Treatment (Non-Fire)	**1** Non-Fire Fatalities
54 Home Fire Safety Visits	**3** Fire Safety Audits			

Top 10 Incident Types



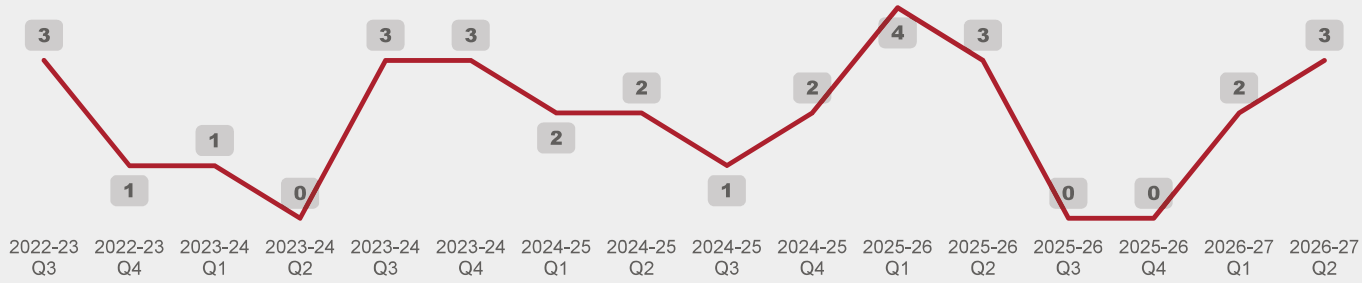
The information above provides a summary of the six-months (1 April - 30 September 2026) activity against headline indicators. It aims to provide - at a glance - our direction of travel during the current reporting period.

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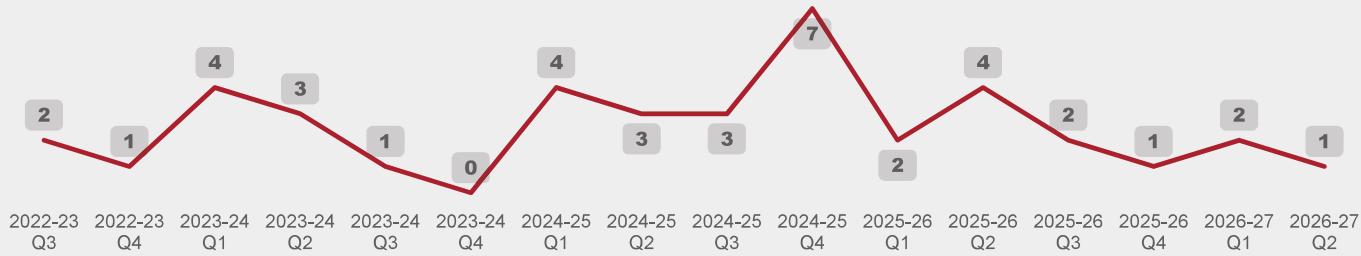
2. Trends

Previous 16 quarters (4 years)

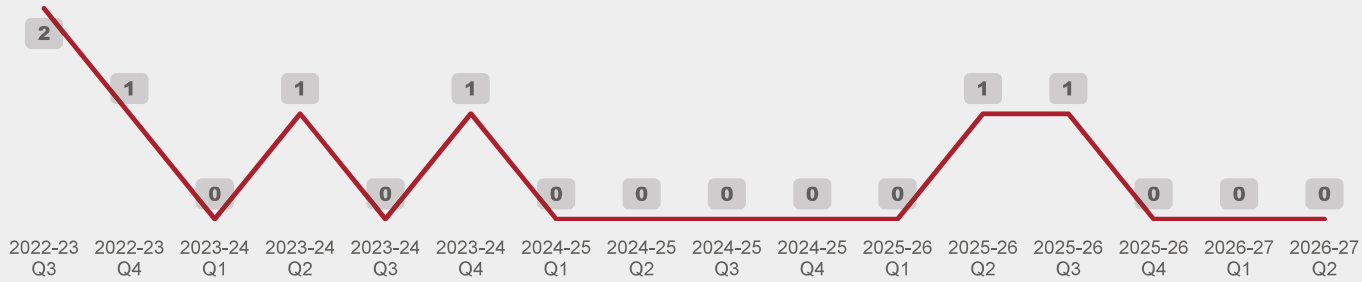
Accidental Dwelling Fires



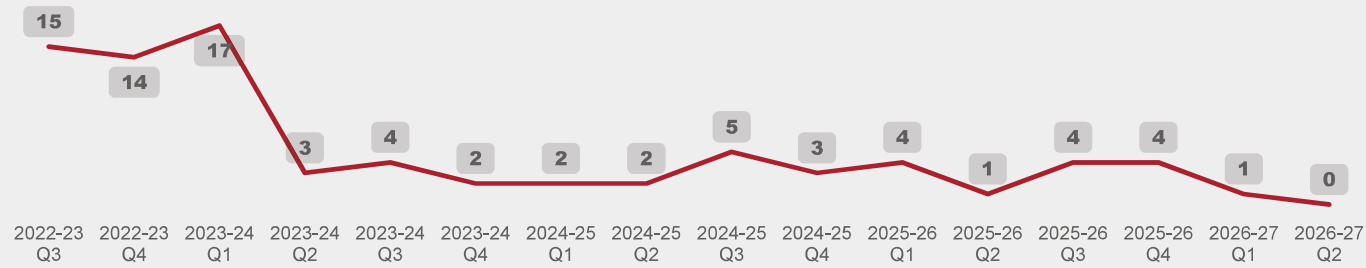
Deliberate Fires



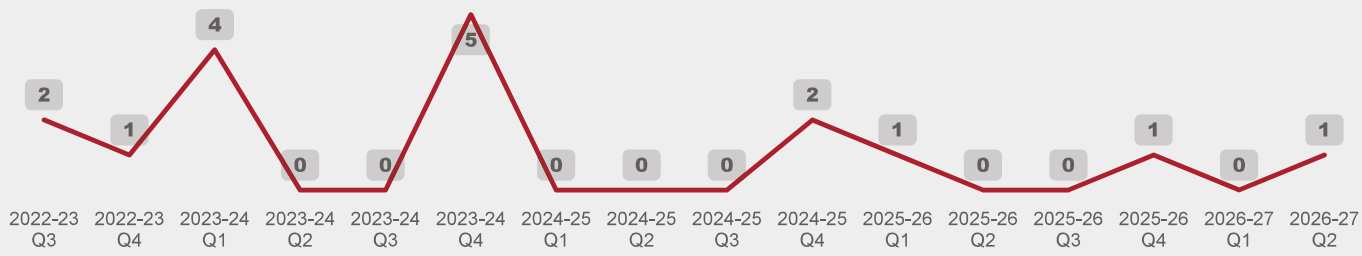
Non-Domestic Fires



Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals



Road Traffic Collisions

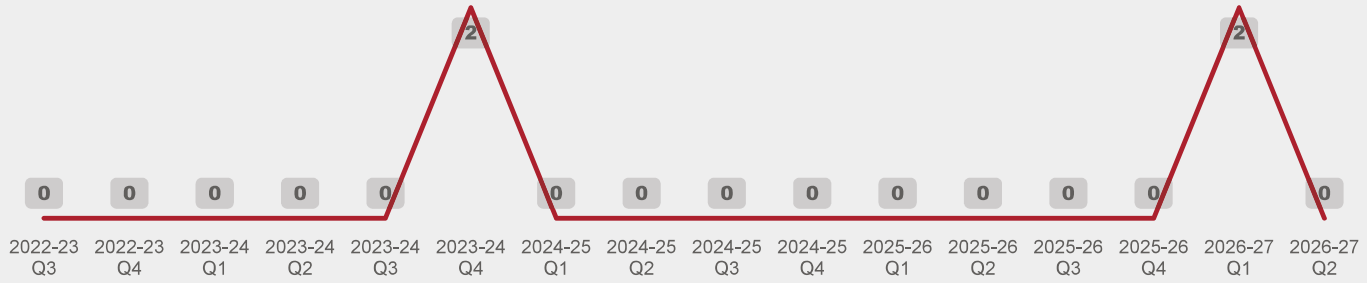


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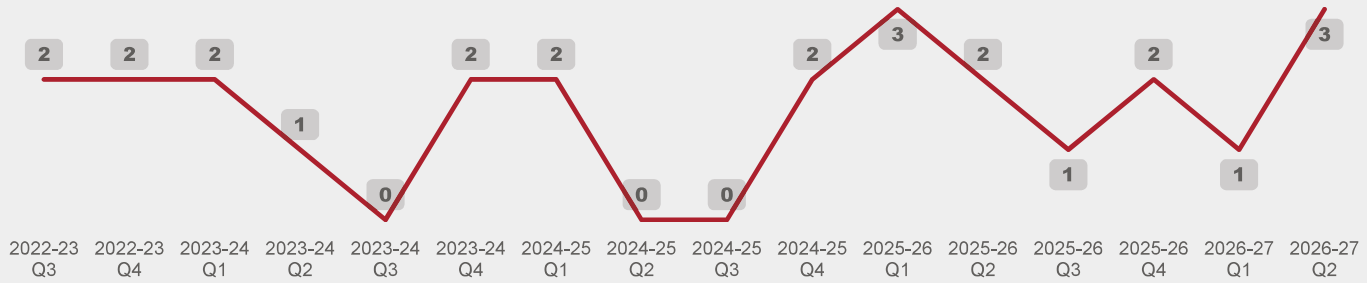
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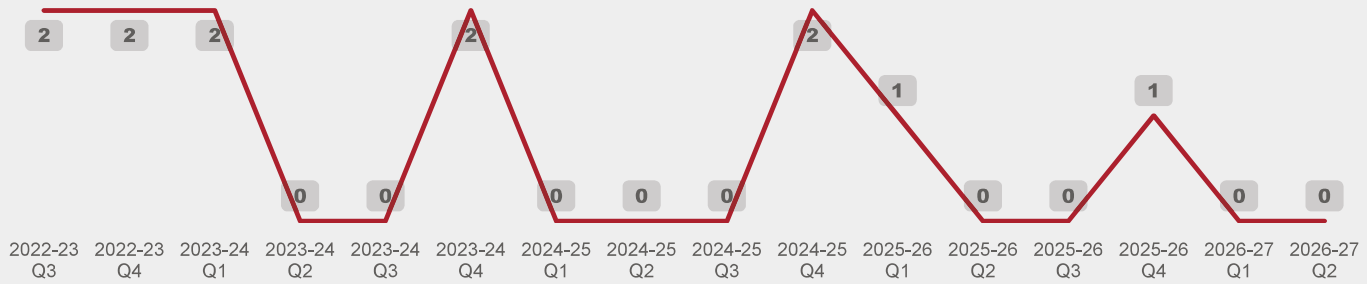
Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties



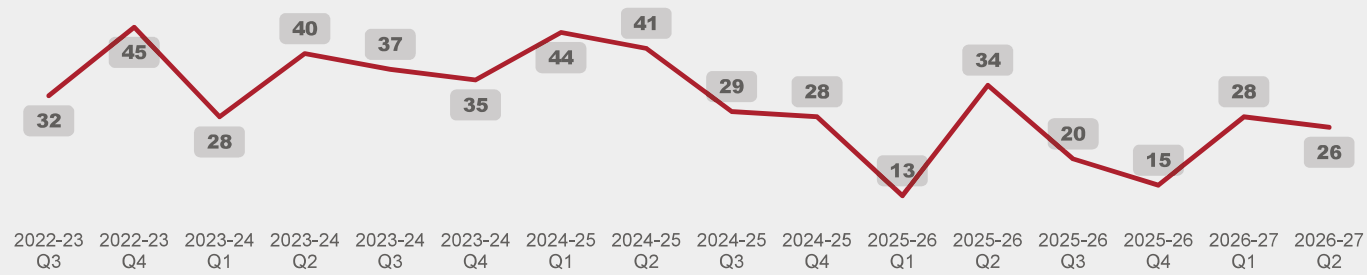
Non-Fire Casualties



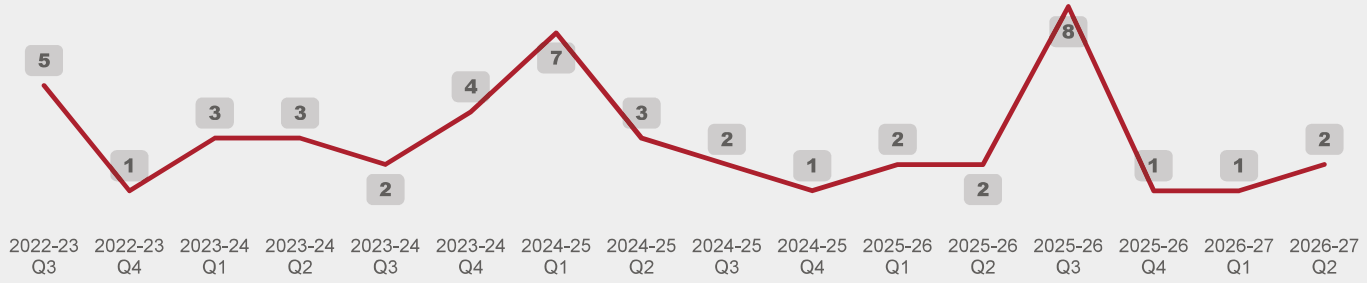
Road Traffic Collision Casualties



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

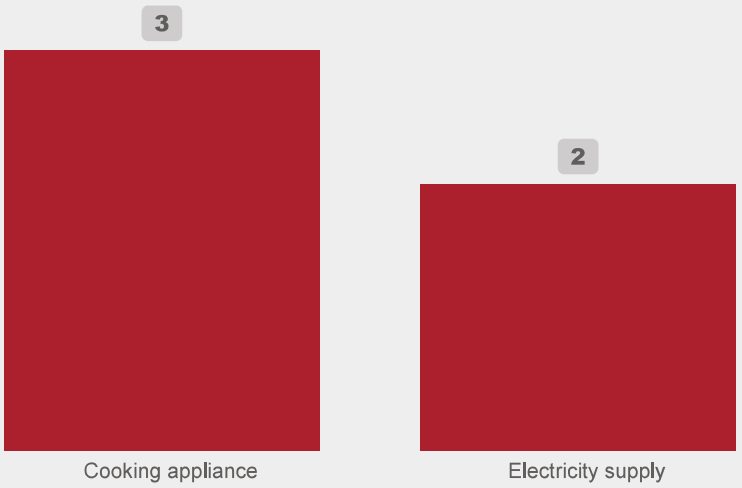


Extent of Damage	Incidents
Limited to item 1st ignited	2
Limited to room of origin	2
Not applicable	1

5

Accidental Dwelling Fires in this period

Source of Ignition (Top 10)



There were **5 Accidental Dwelling Fire (ADFs)** within this reporting period, which is an increase when compared to the previous reporting period.

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4. Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties

2026-27 Q1 & Q2

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Casualties by Ward



Nature of Injury/Cause of Death	Casualties
Overcome by gas, smoke or toxic fumes; asphyxiation	2

2 Non-Fatal Casualties

0 Fatal Casualties

0 People Rescued by Firefighters

Extent of Harm (Non-Fatal)

2 First Aid Given at Scene

0 Hospital Slight Injuries

0 Hospital Serious Injuries

There were **2 Non-Fatal ADF Casualties** in this period which is a slight increase compared 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.

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5. Non-Fire Casualties

2026-27 Q1 & Q2

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Nature of Injury/Cause of Death	Casualties
Back / Neck injury (spinal)	2
Head injury	1
Other	1

Casualties by Ward



3
Non-Fatal Casualties

1
Fatal Casualties

5
People Rescued by Firefighters

Extent of Harm (Non-Fatal)

0
First Aid Given at Scene

2
Hospital Slight Injuries

1
Hospital Serious Injuries

Unfortunately there was **1 Fatal Non-Fire Casualty** within this reporting period which is a slight increase compared to the previous period. There were **3 Non-Fatal Non-Fire Casualties** and **5 People Rescued by Firefighters** which is comparable to the last period.

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6. Deliberate Fires

2026-27 Q1 & Q2

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



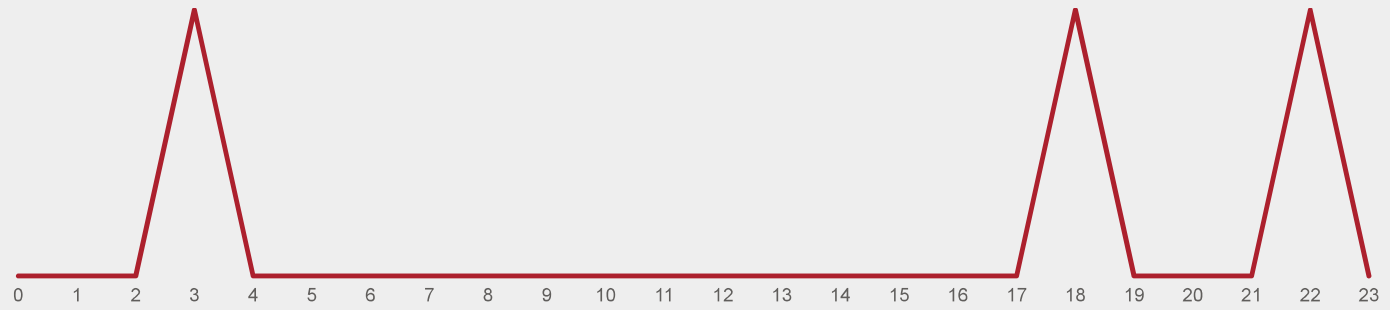
Property Type	Incident
Dwelling	1
Grassland, woodland and crops	1
Refuse	1

Incidents by Ward



3 **Deliberate Fires in this period**

Hour of Day



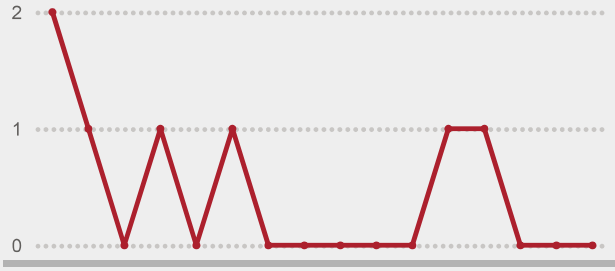
There were **3 Deliberate Fires** in this reporting period, which is comparable to the previous period. Referrals are made to other agencies as required.

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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

● Accidental
● Deliberate

0

Non-Domestic Fires in this period

Extent of Damage

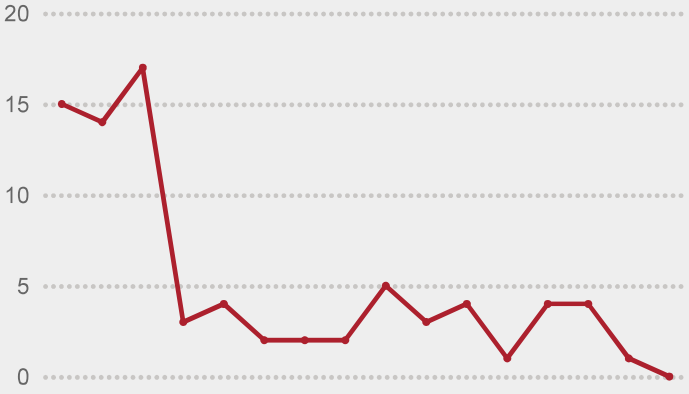
There were **0 Deliberate Fires** in this reporting period, which is a reduction when compared to the previous period.

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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
Hotel/motel	1

1

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals in this period

There was **1 Unwanted Fire Alarm Signal (UFAS)** within this reporting period, which is a significant decrease when compared to the previous period. The figure continues to remain low following the Service's change to their attendance at commercial businesses and workplace premises.

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9. Road Traffic Collisions

2026-27 Q1 & Q2

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



1 **Road Traffic Collisions in this period**

Property Type	Incidents
Van	1

Incident Type	Incidents
Vehicle (Non-fire)	1

Incidents by Ward



0 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

0 Hospital Serious Injuries

We attended **1 Road Traffic Collision (RTCs)** within this reporting period. This resulted in **1 Person Rescued by Firefighters**. There were no other casualties which is a reduction compared to the previous period.

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10. Home Fire Safety Visits

2026-27 Q1 & Q2

54

Home Fire Safety Visits

HFSVs by Ward



11. Fire Safety Enforcement

Job Type	Count
Specific Visit	4
Audit	3
Consultation	1

Audits by Ward



There were **54 Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSVs)** undertaken by our personnel during this period. We continue to work with partners and referring agencies to target those at most need and vulnerable to harm within our communities.

Our Fire Safety Enforcement and Auditing Officers have conducted **4 Specific Visits, 3 Audits** and **1 Consultation** during this period.

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- 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 26 Availability* %	Staff 30/09/26
Dingwall – 1st Appliance	99.96%	16
Dingwall – 2nd Appliance	61.52%	

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Royal Visit to Dingwall







On 7 August 2026, Dingwall personnel had the privilege of meeting His Majesty King Charles III during his visit to Dingwall to mark the town's 800th anniversary since being granted Royal Burgh status.

The event provided an excellent opportunity to represent the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service within the local community and engage with attendees during this significant civic celebration.

Little Staggies Nursery Family Fun Day



On 11 July 2026, personnel attended the Little Staggies Nursery Family Fun Day alongside colleagues from other emergency services. The event provided an opportunity to engage with local families, promote key fire safety messages and raise awareness of on-call firefighter recruitment opportunities within the area. This was one of many events that the crew attended over the summer period.

Cairngorms Wildfire Incident





Throughout the summer, Dingwall crews were heavily involved in supporting operations at the significant wildfire incident in the Cairngorms. In addition to their operational role in tackling the incident, personnel assisted with the coordination and distribution of welfare supplies for responders on the ground. In recognition of their efforts and continued commitment, the local Tesco Community Fund presented the crew with two hampers as a gesture of appreciation.

Enhanced Safe Working at Height Capacity



In September 2026, additional Dingwall personnel successfully completed the Enhanced Safe Working at Height course, building upon the existing cadre of competent firefighters already qualified in this specialist skill. This investment in training has further strengthened the station's operational capability and resilience, providing an expanded resource that can now be utilised to support incidents and specialist operations across the Highland area.

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Multi-Agency Road Traffic Collision Exercise



In April, Dingwall and Cromarty crews participated in a joint training exercise with colleagues from the Scottish Ambulance Service. The exercise simulated a road traffic collision and provided valuable opportunities to strengthen inter-agency working relationships, enhance operational understanding and improve collective response capabilities.







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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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INTELLIGENCE

Design, figures and charts by the Business Intelligence team.