



SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE THEMATIC REPORT ENGAGEMENT

Community Engagement – SFR/21/314

1 RECOMMENDATION

The Aberdeen Public Protection Committee is recommended to:

- 1.1 Consider and note the information provided in this report in relation to prevention and protection.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) is committed to Working Together for a Safer Scotland. This is at the core of everything we do. Incorporating our values of safety, teamwork, respect and innovation, we work alongside communities and in partnership with others in the public, private and third sectors to keep Scotland Safe.

3 ENGAGEMENT

- 3.1 Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSV's) and supply and fitting of appropriate detection, are the most effective tool available to SFRS to decrease the risk of harm in the home from fire.

3.2 From 1 April 2021 to 31 October, SFRS personnel have delivered 897 HFSV's in Aberdeen City and work hard to ensure "pending lists" are managed and controlled appropriately. The lifting of some COVID restrictions has enabled the numbers carried out each month to increase. 621 of these were carried out by station personnel with 276 carried out by community action team members.

April – Oct 21	April – Oct 20	April – Oct 19
897	249	1689

- 3.3 Fire safety advice / HFSV phone calls have continued as best practice and a tool for measuring risk rating. Community Safety Engagement (CSE) teams complete a home safety questionnaire for all contacts and schedule a physical visit for any member of the public identified as at risk. All properties without detection are classed as high risk and visited as a priority.
- 3.4 Engagement opportunities in Schools and with Public groups have remained limited due to COVID restrictions however with tools such as Microsoft Teams and social media, we have supplied relevant Fire safety information through presentations electronically for key subjects such as Fireworks and Bonfire safety.

- 3.5 Referrals and requests from key partners continue as business as usual with fire-retardant bedding and fireproof letterboxes (mail guards) ensuring the most vulnerable in our communities are protected.
- 3.6 CSE teams continue to work in partnership through various safety Hubs and with partners in areas such as Case conferences and fire setters.
- 3.7 Managers attend Corporate Parenting, Community Justice, Adult Protection Community Planning and North-East Road Safety meetings contributing wherever possible and sharing relevant information internally and externally with partners.

4 THEMATIC ACTION PLAN (TAP)

4.1 Bonfire and fireworks safety partnership work led by SFRS produced:

- An operational plan for the City of Aberdeen
- Social media safety posts
- Partnership presentations to schools
- Media campaign and press release
- All SFRS bonfire/firework safety literature, presentations, YouTube videos shared with schools.
- Evening meetings via Microsoft Teams with Ops Fawkes partners and subsequent evening meetings via Microsoft Teams with on- duty watch/Senior Officer and Operations control

25 schools contacted and information shared

27 secondary fires were reported within the Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire & Moray (19 fires on 5 November) No reports of violence toward fire crews

Aberdeen City secondary fires for the months of October & November 2021 – 27 (2020 – 36, 2019 - 48)

Bonfire Night: 5 November 2021 - 19 incidents required SFRS attendance. On analysis of the incidents 6 of these incidents were Bonfires under the supervision of a competent person or the remains of smouldering Bonfires. 11 were classed as small fires in open or refuse bins lit by persons unknown, with 2 Bonfires having to be extinguished due to being unattended. Incident locations, although across all of the city, were predominately in the Northfield & Mastrick North, Tillydrone, Seaton & Old Aberdeen and Torry & Ferryhill areas.

5 FUTURE & ONGOING

- 5.1 A Multi-Agency training scenario is in the late stages of planning and is due to take place late November. The scenario is a multi-agency response to a Road Traffic Collision and water rescue incident. This is a great opportunity for engagement with partners and joint learning.
- 5.2 Partnership working with Station House Media Unit - SHMU - Murray Dawson and his team supporting the Blue Watch at North Anderson Drive Community Fire Station led by one of the Watch Commanders has produced an updated Gramps Walks and Talks presentation including partners video links with possible interactive footage.