

## ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

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<b>COMMITTEE</b>	Communities, Housing and Public Protection Committee
<b>DATE</b>	05 September 2024
<b>EXEMPT</b>	No
<b>CONFIDENTIAL</b>	No
<b>REPORT TITLE</b>	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service - Thematic Report Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals.
<b>REPORT NUMBER</b>	SFR/24/236
<b>DIRECTOR</b>	Andrew Wright, Local Senior Officer, SFRS
<b>CHIEF OFFICER</b>	Andrew Wright, Local Senior Officer, SFRS
<b>REPORT AUTHOR</b>	Gary McArthur, Group Commander, SFRS
<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE</b>	2.20

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### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The main purpose of this report is to advise members of the impact of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals on the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) and the business community across Aberdeen City and the effect on this incident type since a Policy change on 01 July 2023.

### 2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Committee :-

- 2.1 Consider and note the attached thematic report relating to Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals across Aberdeen City and consider the impact since the SFRS changed their response model on 01 July 2023.

### 3. CURRENT SITUATION

- 3.1 This report provides an overview of the demands placed on the SFRS and the impact on local businesses across Aberdeen City due to Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals. The SFRS have attended 512 UFAS Incidents in Aberdeen City from 01 July 2023, which is a 61% reduction when considered against 804 Non-Attendance calls for the same period. This has realised a number of benefits not only for the SFRS but for the business community in Aberdeen City, including the following:

- The number of unnecessary blue light journeys have been significantly reduced. This has also reduced the road risk around these journeys and carbon emissions from our fire appliances.
- SFRS Crews have had more time available for critical training and prevention initiatives.

- Dutyholders / occupiers have taken more ownership of the alarm activations within their premises or site.
- The time lost by businesses while waiting for SFRS to arrive and verify a false alarm and been greatly reduced.

The report provides the opportunity for members to maintain scrutiny of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals, to ensure positive outcomes for the businesses within Aberdeen City.

#### 4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no significant financial implications for the Council.

#### 5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no significant legal implications for the Council.

#### 6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Not applicable

#### 7. RISK

Not applicable

Category	Risks	Primary Controls/Control Actions to achieve Target Risk Level	*Target Risk Level (L, M or H)  *taking into account controls/control actions	*Does Target Risk Level Match Appetite Set?
Strategic Risk				Yes/No
Compliance				Yes/No
Operational				Yes/No
Financial				Yes/No
Reputational				Yes/No
Environment / Climate				Yes/No

#### 8. OUTCOMES

<u>COUNCIL DELIVERY PLAN 2024-2025</u>	
	Impact of Report
Aberdeen City Council Policy Statement	n/a

<a href="#"><u>Working in Partnership for Aberdeen</u></a>	
<a href="#"><u>Aberdeen City Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-26</u></a>	
Prosperous Economy Stretch Outcomes	Whilst not specific to any Stretch Outcome, the paper seeks contribution to fire safety which will assist achieve a safer place to live, work and visit.
Prosperous People Stretch Outcomes	<p>The proposals within this report support the delivery of the following LOIP Stretch Outcomes</p> <p>10. 25% fewer people receiving a first ever Court conviction and 2% fewer people reconvicted within one year by 2026.</p> <p>11. Healthy life expectancy (time lived in good health) is five years longer by 2026.</p> <p>The paper seeks contribution to the Strategic Plan to reduce instances of deliberate fire setting and improve fire safety and prevention.</p>
Prosperous Place Stretch Outcomes	Whilst not specific to any Stretch Outcome, the paper seeks contribution to fire safety which will assist achieve a safer place to live, work and visit.
<b>Regional and City Strategies</b>	n/a

## 9. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Not applicable

Assessment	Outcome
<b>Integrated Impact Assessment</b>	No Assessment required
<b>Data Protection Impact Assessment</b>	No Assessment required
<b>Other</b>	

## 10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 none

## 11. APPENDICES (if applicable)

11.1 Scottish Fire and Rescue Service - Thematic Report Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals.

## 12. REPORT AUTHOR CONTACT DETAILS

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