

Report to:	Renfrewshire Council Housing and Community Safety Policy Board
Date of Report:	13th October 2016
Report by:	David Proctor, Local Senior Officer (LSO) Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

Subject:	Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) Report
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PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to inform the Housing and Community Safety Policy Board of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service's (SFRS) performance and activities during the 1st July to 30th September 2016 reporting period.

PERFORMANCE

2. The information provided in this report and attached appendix relates to the specific key performance indicators detailed in the Renfrewshire Local Fire and Rescue Plan 2014-2017. The SFRS Local Senior Officer will be happy to meet with any Elected Members who wish to discuss specific Ward issues.

A summary of the key performance indicators is detailed below:

- a. The total number of Accidental Dwelling Fires increased from **42** in the same period in 2015 to **44** in the current reporting period.
- b. The total number of All Non-Fatal Fire Casualties increased from **6** in the same period in 2015 to **8** in the current reporting period.
- c. The total number of incidents involving Deliberate Fire Raising decreased from **140** in the same period in 2015 to **138** in the current reporting period.
- d. The total number of Fires in Non-Domestic Buildings decreased from **31** in the same period in 2015 to **18** in the current reporting period.

- e. The total number of Road Traffic Collisions (RTC) incidents attended by SFRS which resulted in casualties, increased from **6** in the same period in 2015 to **14** in the current reporting period. The number of recorded casualties increased from **13** in the same period in 2015 to **19** in the current reporting period. Within this year's figures there is 1 fatality included.
- f. The total number of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signal (UFAS) incidents decreased from **210** in the same period in 2015 to **203** in the current reporting period.

PRIORITIES & INTERVENTIONS

- 3. SFRS is committed to working in partnership with Community Planning partners in the public, private and voluntary sectors in order to work together for a safer Scotland. Strengthening our relationship with and working in partnership to add value to our communities is critical to the success of our strategy.

The following activities are illustrative of SFRS arrangements in terms of partnership working and targeted engagement:

- a. The Local Area Liaison Officer (LALO) or Community Action Team (CAT) officer attends Tasking Meetings within Renfrewshire Safety Hub three mornings a week and provides statistics of incidents within the Renfrewshire area to ensure partners are aware of all fire related anti-social activity. Over the past few weeks operational crews from Paisley have been visiting the Hub to learn how it operates and how they can contribute to the information gathering and collation process. These sessions have been well received by all parties.
- b. Adult and Drugs Partnership (ADP) and SFRS are progressing a partnership to improve referrals between both agencies. This will include the SFRS delivering Alcohol Brief Interventions (ABIs) and cross agency training of personnel with respect to fire hazard awareness and alcohol/ drug misuse recognition. This piece of work will enhance joint working with this vulnerable sector of our community.
- c. As part of "Fresher" week SFRS CAT officers supported the UWS student fire wardens and delivered training to the fire wardens on reducing fire risks within the University and Accommodation blocks. This joint initiative has now resulted in the UWS student fire

warden delivering training to the new students who are joined the university at the start of the academic year. This initiative is hoped to reduce the impact and number of fire alarm actuations involving student accommodation.

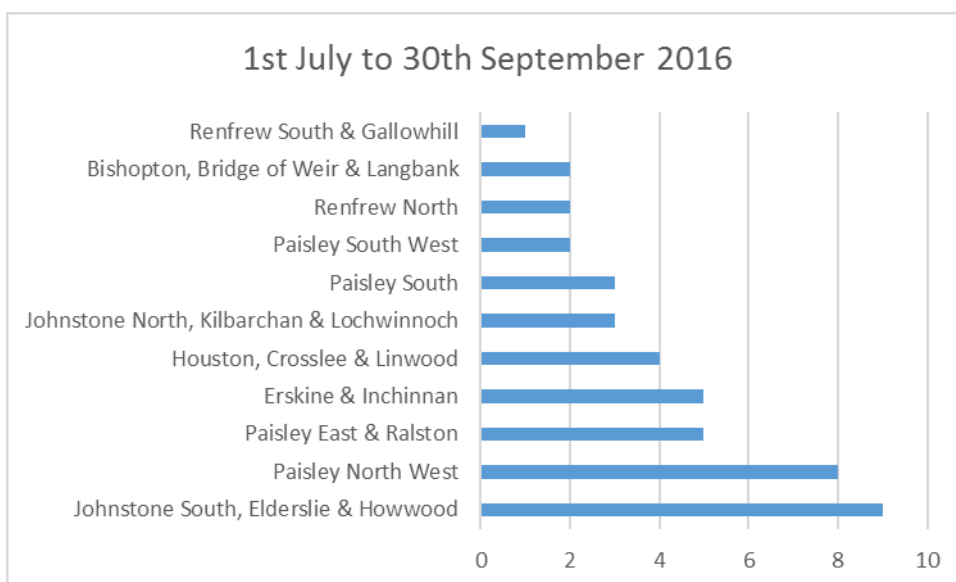
- d. The Fire Engine Rally and the Festival of Fire were held in Johnstone on the 13th of August. This event provided an excellent opportunity to engage with the local community and promote the work of the SFRS over the history of the service. It was fully supported by Renfrewshire Council, Police Scotland and the Community Warden Service.
<http://www.firescotland.gov.uk/news-campaigns/news/2016/08/fire-engine-rally-in-renfrewshire-went-down-a-storm-at-the-weekend.aspx>
- e. A total of 430 Home Fire Safety Visits were carried out by in Renfrewshire during the reporting period. Of these:
 - i. 62 were as a result of high risk referrals from Renfrewshire Community Planning partners to SFRS.
 - ii. 82 were as a result of Post Domestic Incident Responses (PDIR). The SFRS conducts a PDIR at all domestic dwelling incidents (includes fire alarm actuations and special services). This involves positive engagement with the occupier(s) of the affected property and neighbouring properties by SFRS personnel. Fire safety advice and support are provided; where required SFRS provide and fit 10 year battery powered smoke detectors.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Housing and Community Safety Board members are asked to note the contents of this report and the attached appendix.

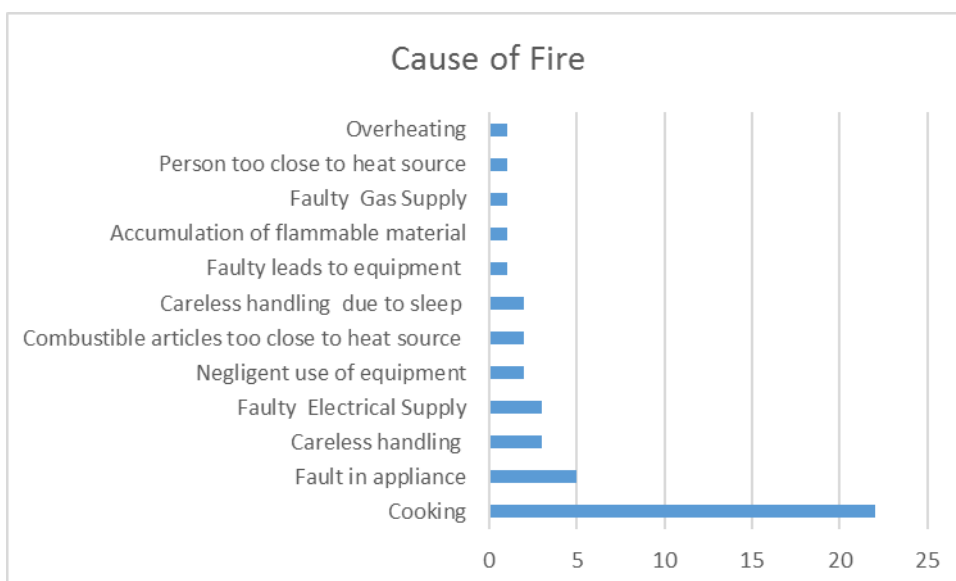
1. REDUCTION OF ACCIDENTAL DWELLING FIRES

1.1. Incidents by Ward



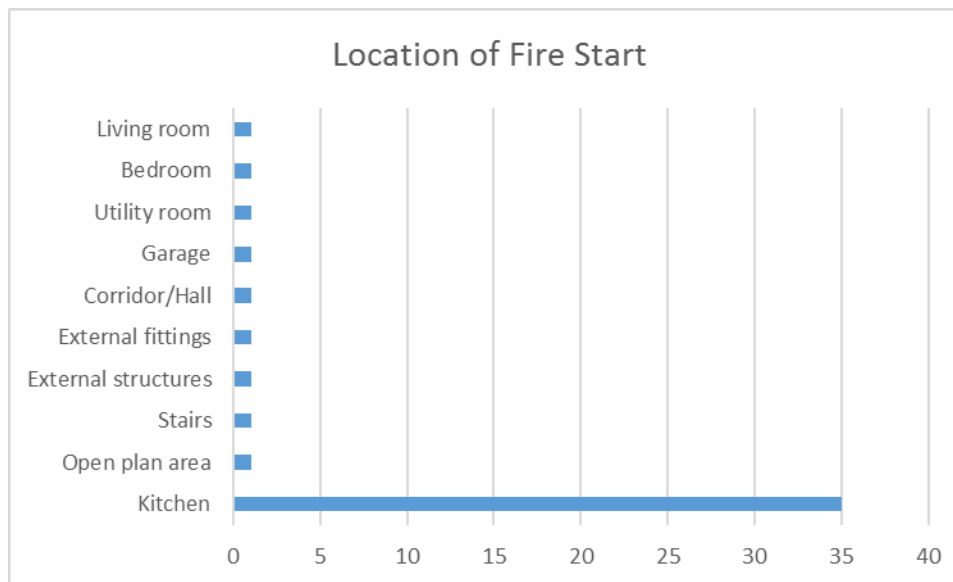
There were 5 separate incidents at Altpatrick Gardens Sheltered Housing all due to cooking; no casualties resulted from these incidents which were all minor in nature. A total of 11 (25%) incidents were at sheltered housing accommodation.

1.2. Cause of Fire



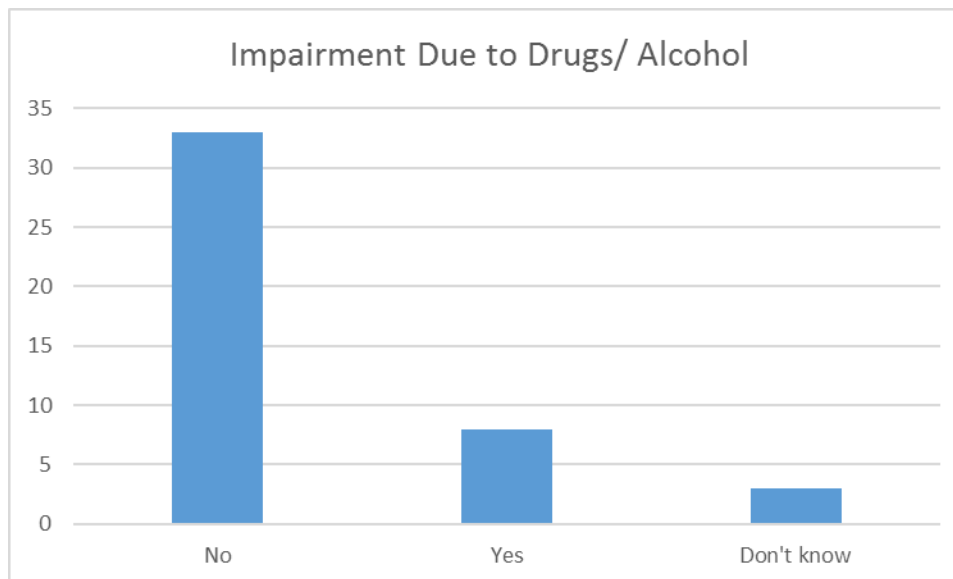
Cooking related incidents remain the most common, the majority of these are extinguished by removal from heat source.

1.3. Location of Fire

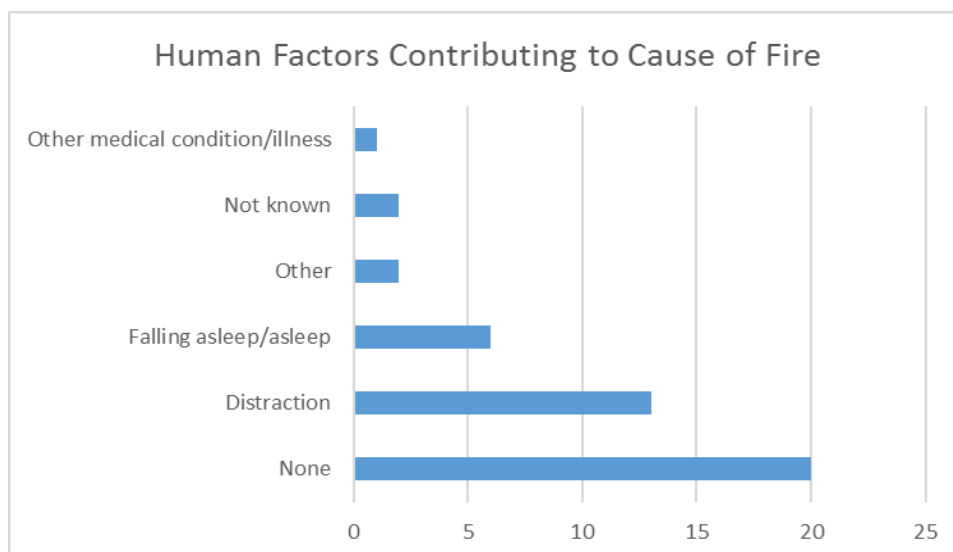


The location reflect the trend in Table 1.2.; fires involving cooking related fires to be the most common. Other fires in kitchens include faulty electrical appliances.

1.4. Human Factors



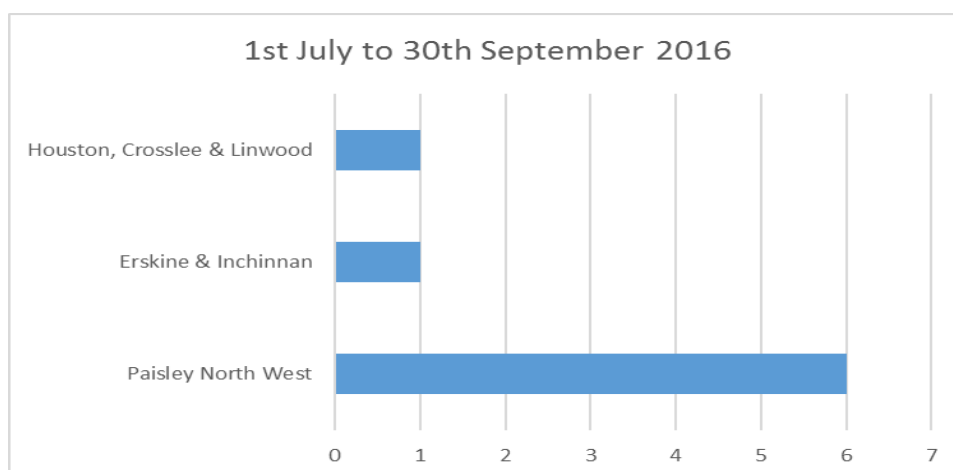
From the analysis carried out the highest risk group due to alcohol/ drugs being a contributory factor remains males in the 30 to 39 age group. This group is very difficult to engage with and further joint agency initiatives are being developed to improve the impact of interventions to reduce fires and the associated fire related casualties linked to alcohol and drug misuse.



From the table above distraction includes incidents of individuals falling asleep being under influence and mental capacity. There are instances specifically linked to cooking where an individual may get distracted by dealing with young children, phone call or similar which results in ignition of items being cooked due to being left unattended.

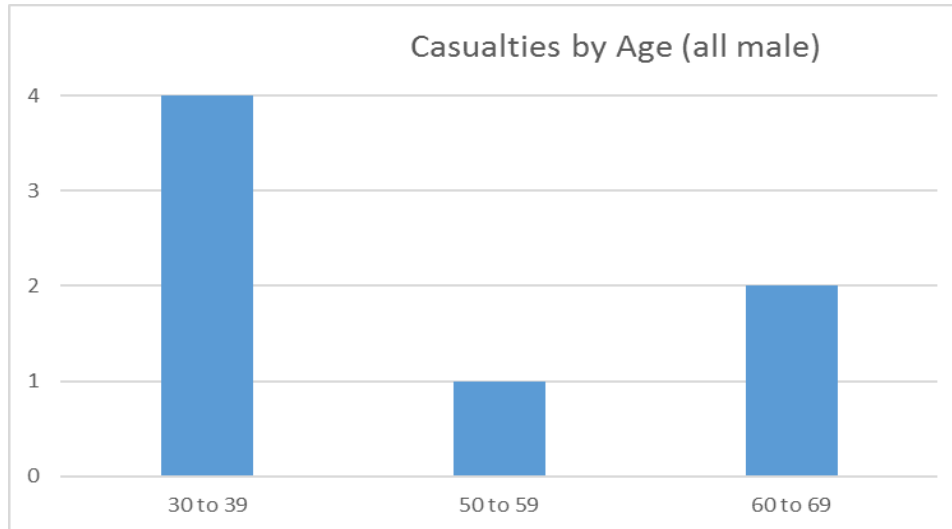
2. REDUCTION OF FIRE CASUALTIES

2.1. Casualties by Ward



One casualty removed to hospital with serious injuries following a fire involving a road vehicle.. Another two casualties were taken to hospital suffering slight effects of smoke inhalation; the remaining five were checked at the scene and required no further medical interventions.

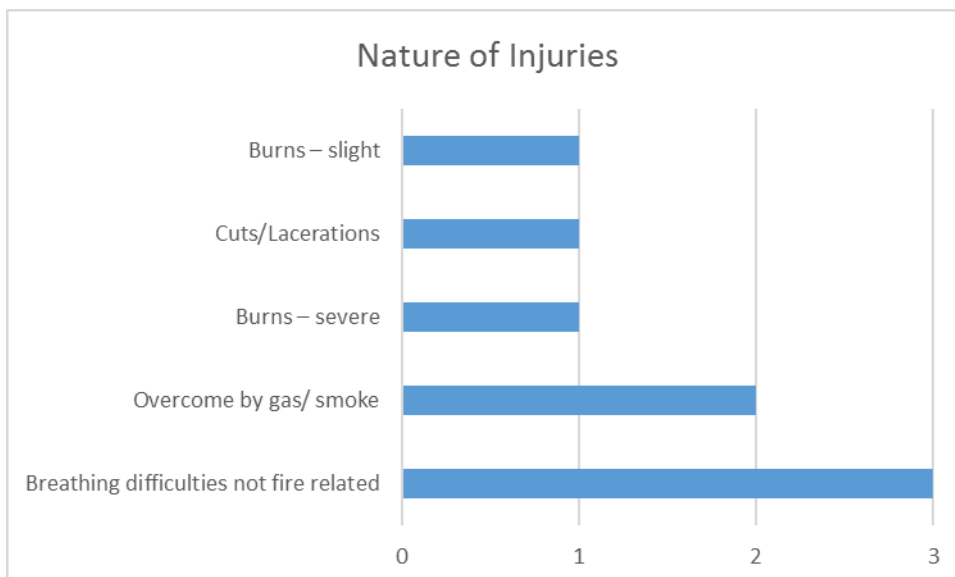
2.2. Casualties by Age and Gender



Renfrewshire's fire casualty profile with a predominant number of males recorded is outwith the Scottish profile. In Scotland over the past two years there has been a growing trend of older females being the most at risk of harm from fire.

Four of the fire related casualties in the 30 to 39 age group all had alcohol/ drugs recorded as contributory factor.

2.3. Nature of Injury

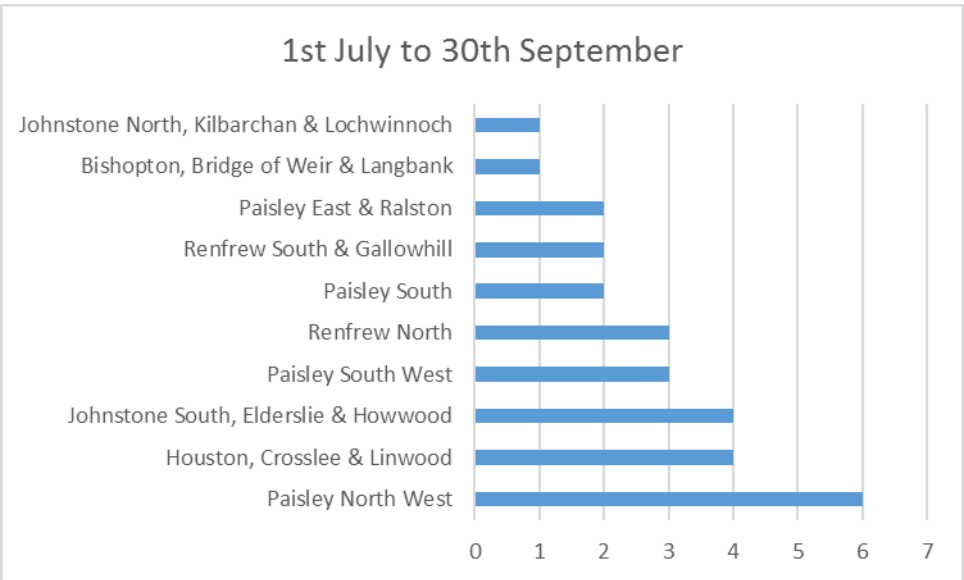


During the reporting period there has been no fire related fire fatalities. The majority of fire incidents related to these casualties were minor in nature.

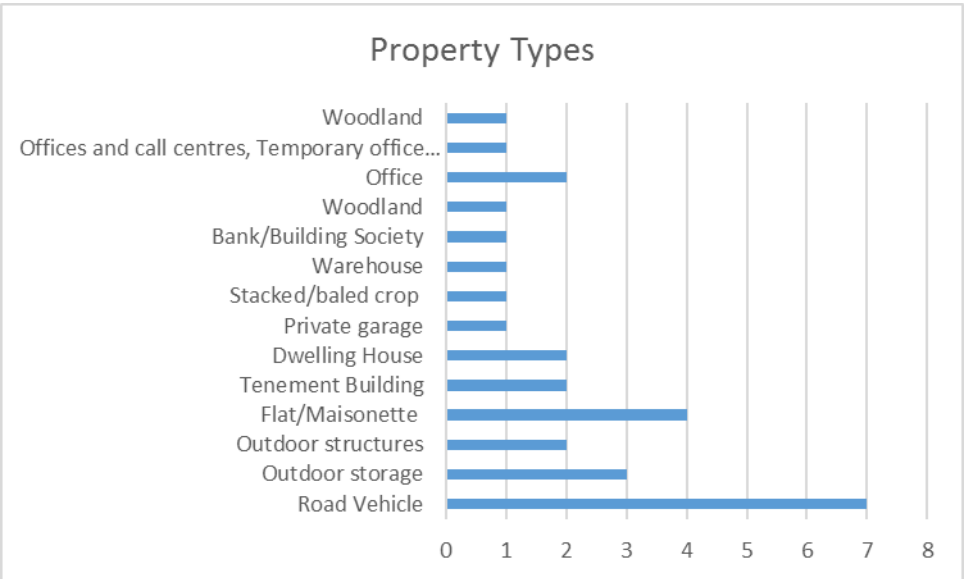
3. REDUCTION OF DELIBERATE FIRE SETTING

3.1. Primary Fires

3.1.1. Incidents by Ward



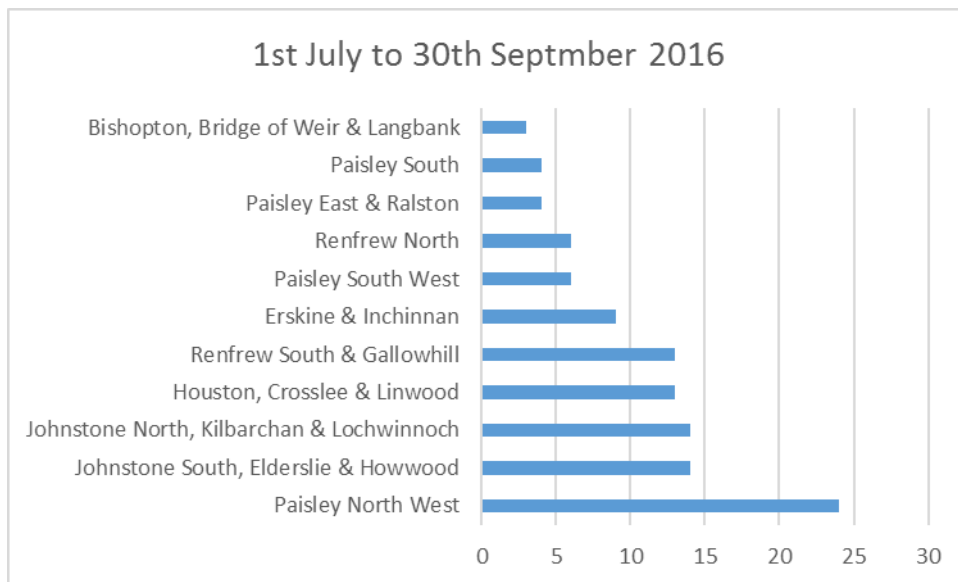
3.1.2. Property Types



Deliberate fire setting is a criminal offence and SFRS will request Police Scotland to attend suspected deliberate primary fires when deemed appropriate. The SFRS Local Area Liaison Officer or a Community Action Team officer attends the Tasking Meetings within Renfrewshire Safety Hub to provide fire activity overviews for action as appropriate.

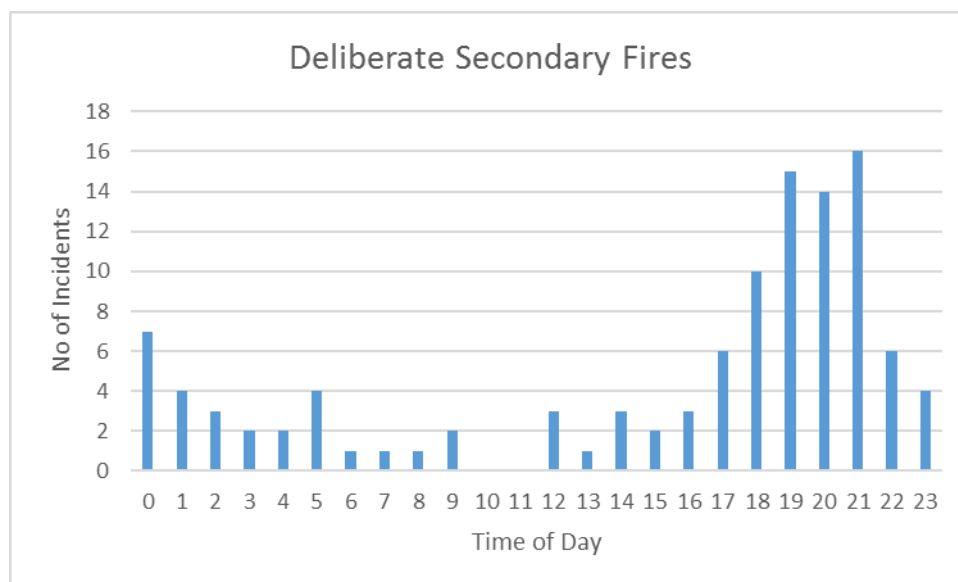
3.2. Secondary Fires

3.2.1. Incidents by Ward



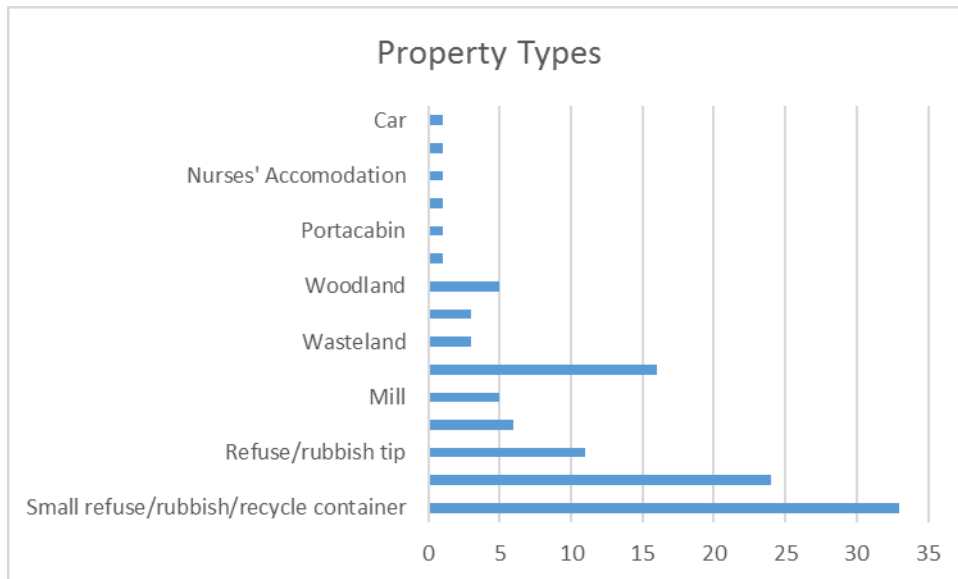
There has been a reduction in secondary fire activity compared to the same period in 2015; this is linked to weather conditions being wetter this year along with positive joint initiatives to tackle fire related anti-social behaviour.

3.2.1.1. Time of Day



The majority of these incidents still occur after school hours between 4pm to 9:30pm; which suggests the firesetters are likely young people of school age. Notwithstanding this there are also incidents (16) occurring in the early hours of the morning all of which involved deliberate firesetting to waste bins/ wheelie bins. Two dates had linked incidents which will be passed to Renfrewshire Safety Hub to highlight locations to all partners.

3.2.2. Property Types

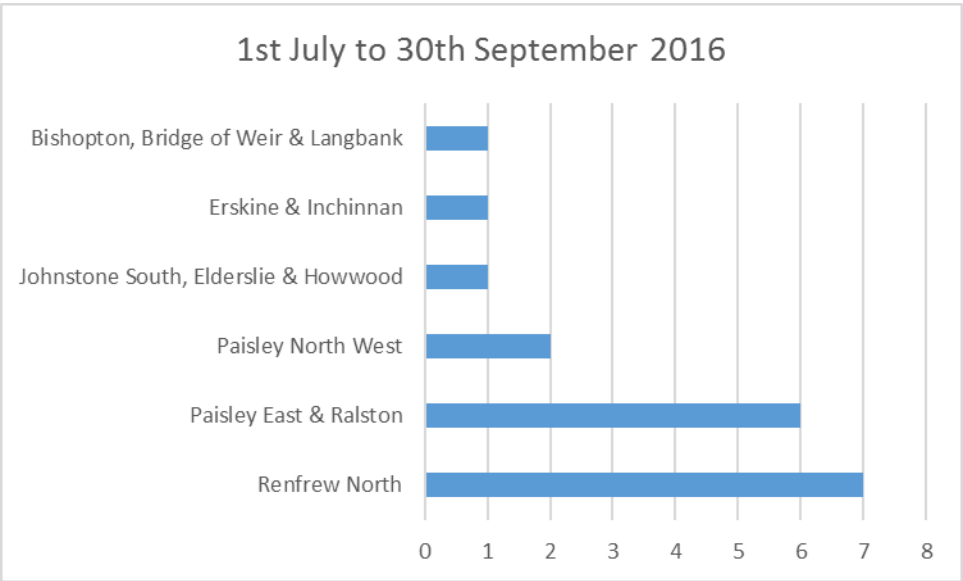


Locations with 3 or more secondary fires during the reporting period include:

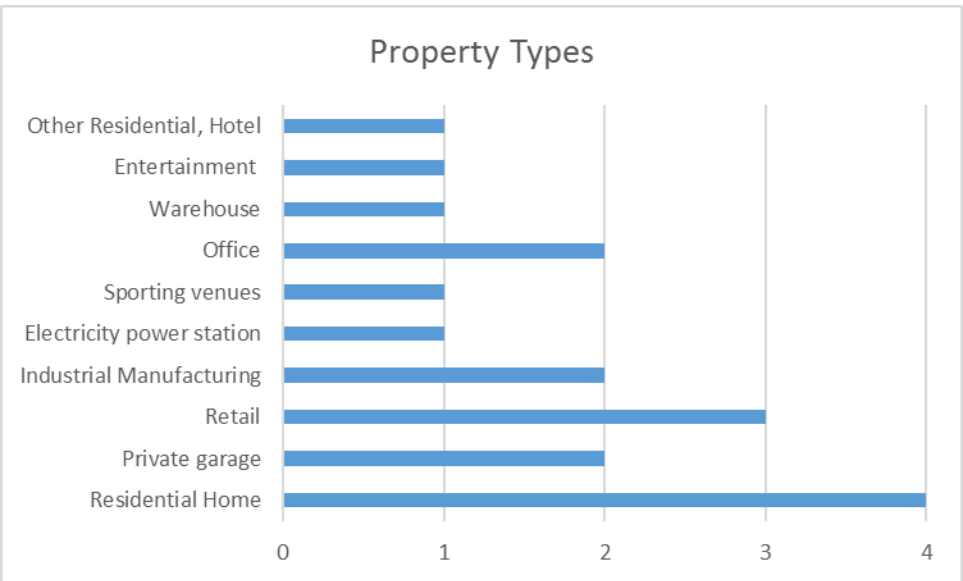
- Brediland Road (3)
- Amochrie Road, Paisley (3)
- Ferguslie Park Avenue, Paisley (6)
- High Street, Johnstone (6)
- Quarrelton Road, Johnstone (3)

4. REDUCTION OF FIRES IN NON-DOMESTIC PREMISES

4.1. Incident by Ward



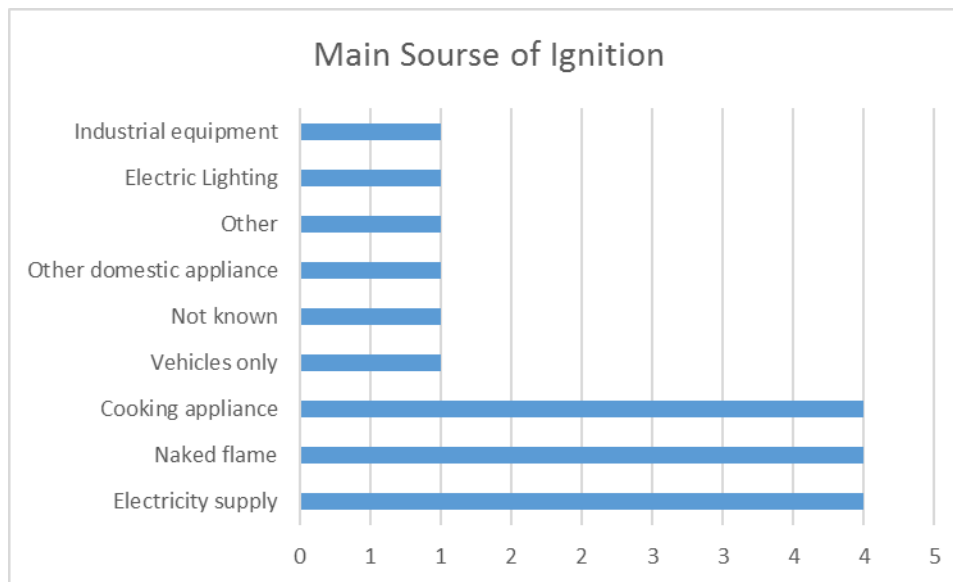
4.2. Property Types



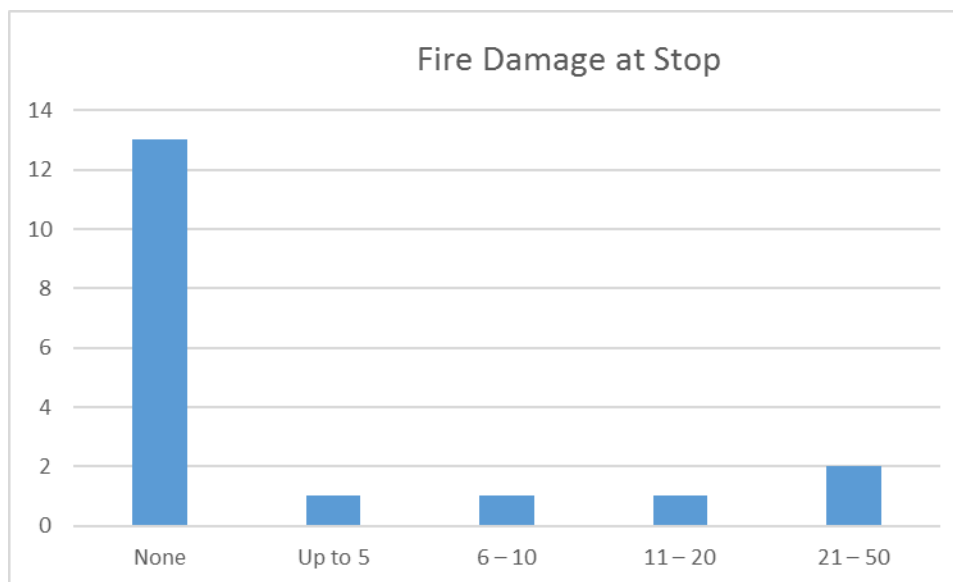
All fires in non-domestic premises which are classed as relevant premises in The Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 are subject to a post fire audit. These are conducted by specialist Fire Safety Enforcement Officers (FSEO) who will carry out a full inspection of the premises and all paperwork required under the Act; where deficiencies in fire safety management arrangements are identified the 'duty holder' will be issued with a notice as appropriate.

All 4 recorded incidents in residential homes were minor in nature; 2 involved smell of burning from electrical items and the other two burnt food. All incidents were resolved by isolating the power to the equipment and verifying no further fire risk present.

4.3. Main Source of Ignition



4.4. Fire Damage

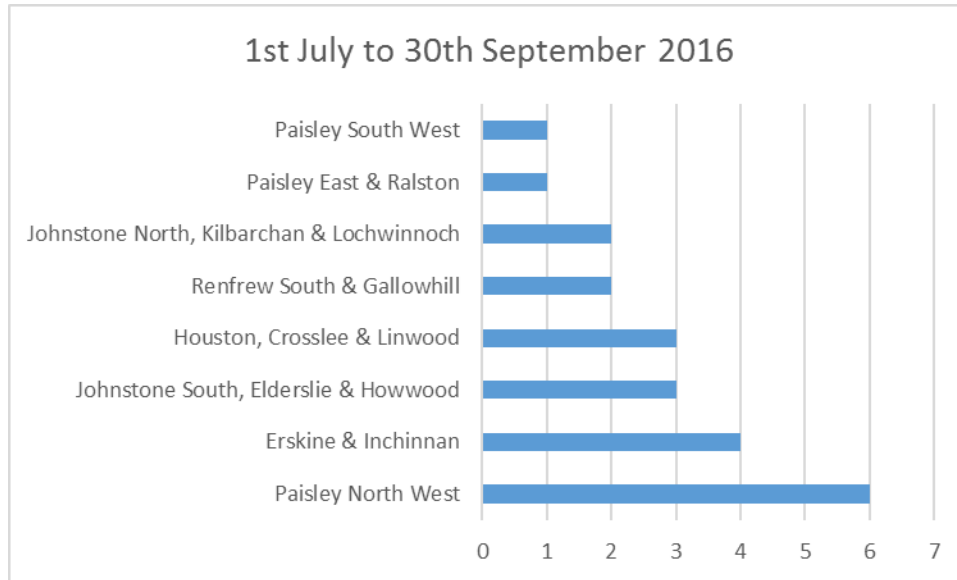


Of the incidents above resulting in fire damage these include:

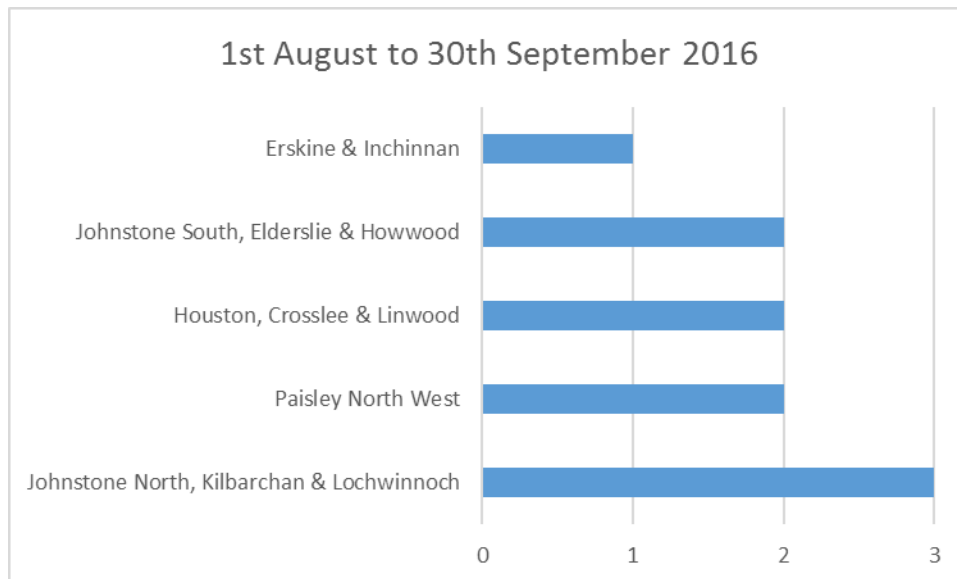
- A fire which destroyed a private garage and the car within.
- A fire adjacent to a private garage causing extensive damage.
- A fire at building site.
- ATM fire damaged.

5. REDUCTION OF CASUALTIES IN NON FIRE EMERGENCIES

5.1. Road Traffic Collision Incidents by Ward



5.2. Road Traffic Casualties by Ward

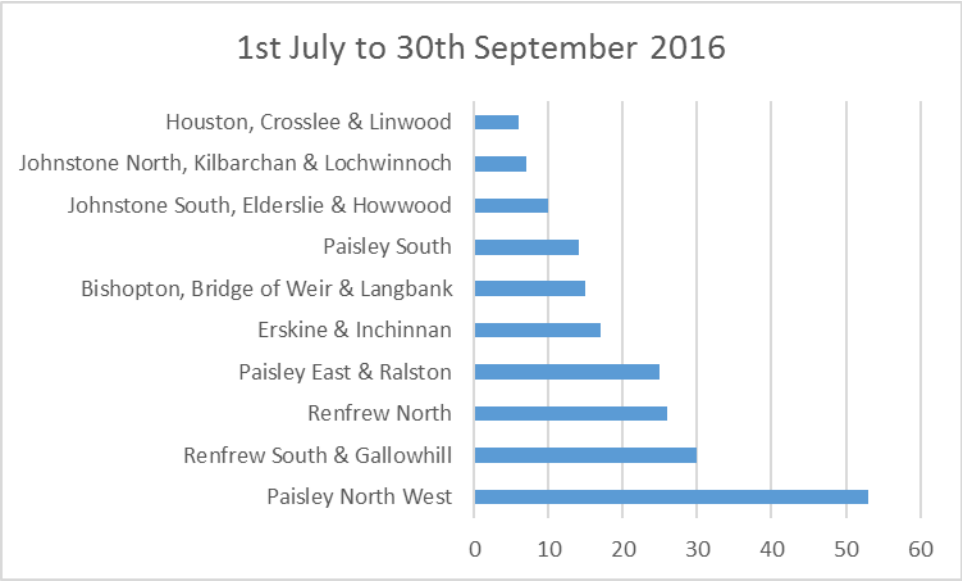


From analysis of the Road Traffic Collision (RTC) incidents there are no specific accident hotspots; there were four incidents on the A737 Howwood Bypass but at different sections of the road. There were also five incidents on the M8 but at different junctions. (Junctions 29 – St James (2), J28 – Glasgow Airport, Junction 27- Arkleston and Junction 30 – Craigton)

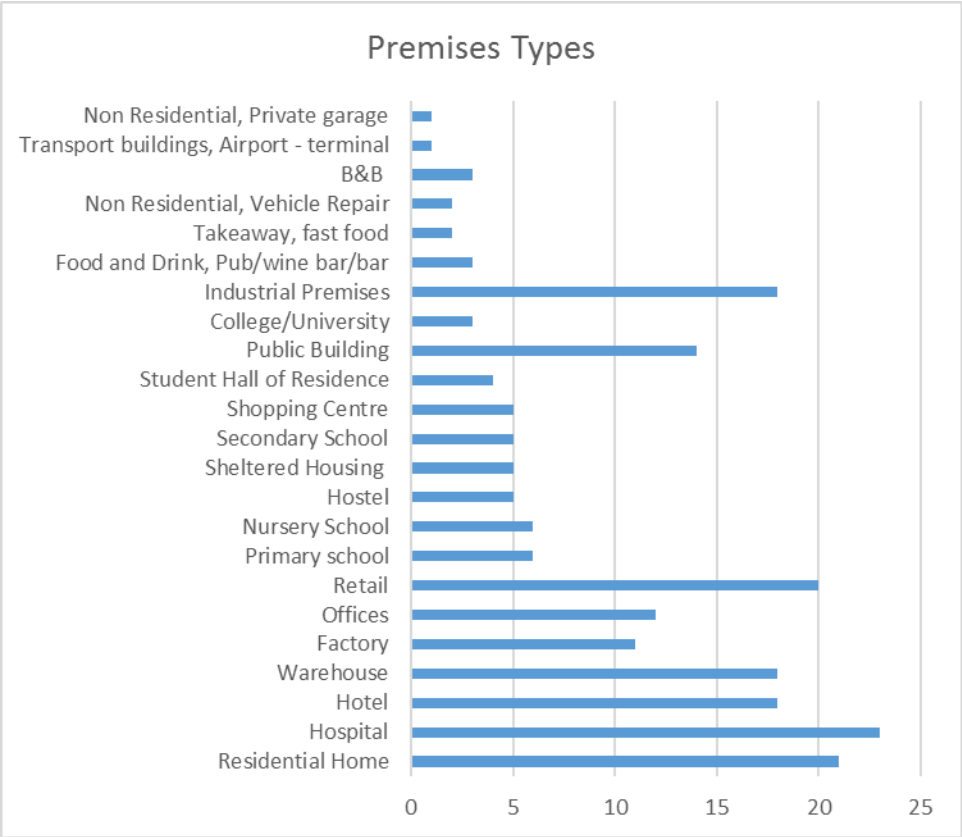
Of the 22 RTC incidents attended by SFRS we had to only extricate persons on 2 occasions.

6. REDUCTION OF UNWANTED FIRE ALARM SIGNALS

6.1. Incident by Ward



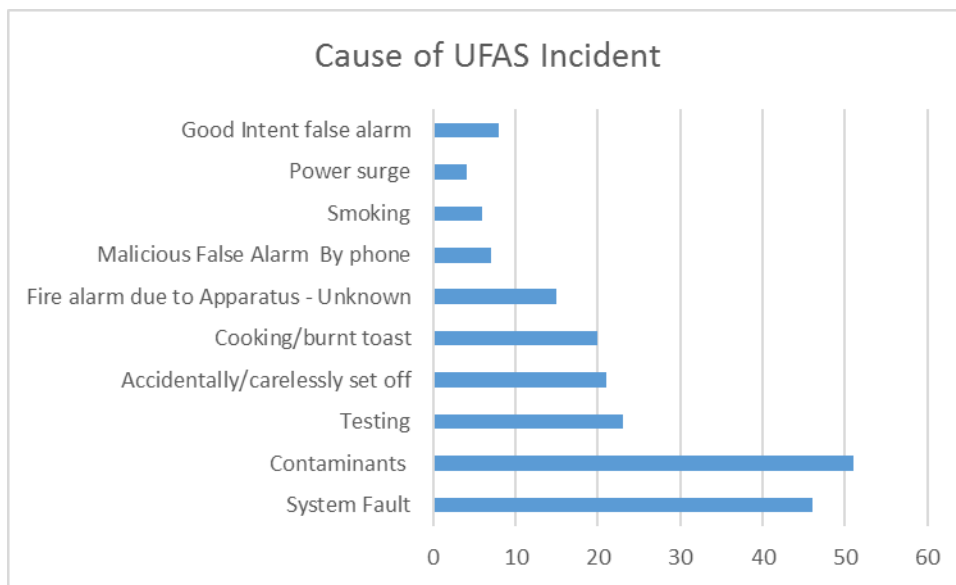
6.2. Property Types



As is evident from the table above the premise types with the highest numbers of UFAS incidents are:

- Hospitals
- Schools
- Industrial Premises
- Warehouses
- Hotels
- Care Homes
- Retail Premises

6.3. Cause of Actuation



The SFRS works closely with all relevant premises where UFAS occur. Where the number of actuations are above acceptable standards the FSEO team will carry out a fire safety audit to identify deficiencies in the management of alarm system and actuations; where deemed necessary notice of fire safety deficiency will be issued.