



SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
Working together for a safer Scotland

**Working together
for a safer Scotland**


Renfrewshire
Council

Report to:	Police and Fire & Rescue Scrutiny Sub Committee
Date of Report:	14th December 2017
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 Police and Fire & Rescue Scrutiny Sub Committee of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service's (SFRS) performance and activities during the reporting period October and November of 2017/18. This report reflects the Ward structure prior to the Election in May 2017. SFRS ICT colleagues are working on the reporting tools used for data analysis and will make the amendment to boundaries for future reports

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 decreased from **27** in the same period in 2016/17 to **22** in the current reporting period.
- b. The total number of All Non-Fatal Fire Casualties decreased from **4** in the same period in 2016/17 to **1** in the current reporting period.
- c. The total number of incidents involving Deliberate Fire Raising decreased from **112** in the same period in 2016/17 to **77** in the current reporting period.
- d. The total number of Fires in Non-Domestic Buildings remained constant with **4** in the same period in 2016/17 and **4** in the current reporting period.

- e. The total number of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signal incidents increased from **146** in the same period in 2016/17 to **172** in the current reporting period.
- f. The total number of Road Traffic Collisions incidents attended by SFRS which resulted resulting in non-fatal casualties, decreased from **23** in the same period in 2016/17 to **13** in the current reporting period. The number of recorded casualties decreased from **20** in the same period in 2016/17 to **17** 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) attends the Daily Tasking Meetings within Renfrewshire Safety Hub on a daily basis and provides statistics of incidents within the Local Authority Area to ensure partners are aware of all fire related activity. This forum continues to deliver on achieving joint positive initiatives and outcomes.
- b. In support of partnership working the Community Action Team (CAT) have engaged with a number of key partners to promote Fire Safety within the home and have been closely working with the Local Authority post Grenfell to provide reassurance visits to residents within High rise buildings.
- c. The CAT conducted a number of information/awareness events to support the work of the SFRS Autumn Thematic Action Plan including talks on deliberate fires.
- d. A total of 397 Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSV) was carried out in Renfrewshire during the reporting period. These HFSVs are carried out by our operational personnel and CAT officers who will conduct these visits jointly with partner agencies where deemed appropriate.

e. Of these HFSVs:

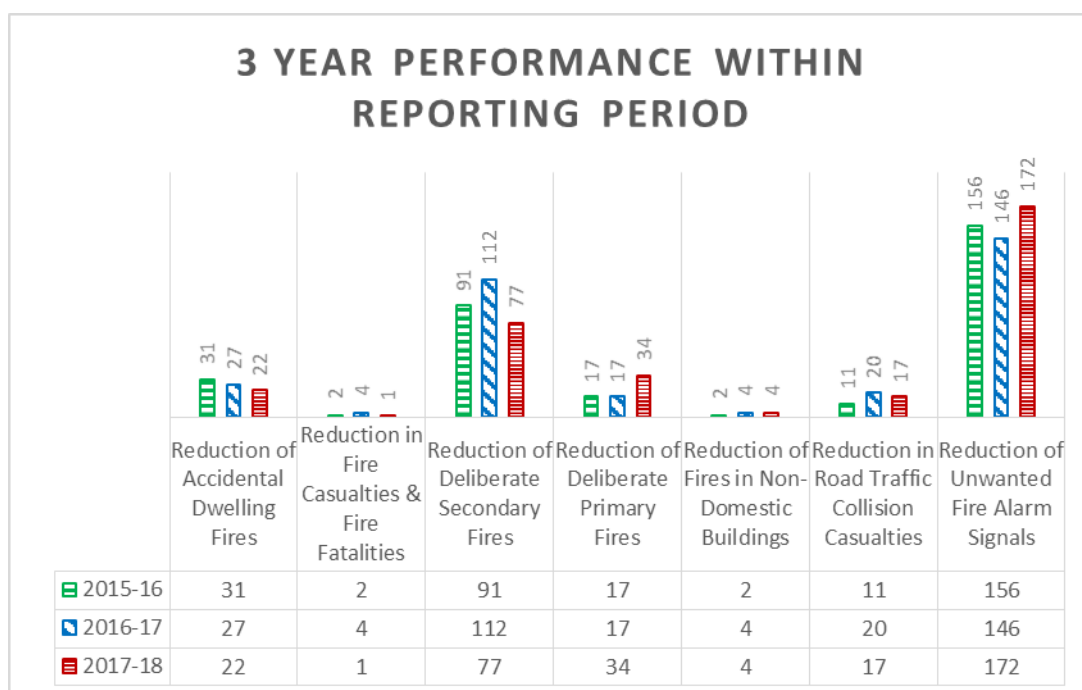
- i. 165 were as a result of high risk referrals from Renfrewshire Community Planning partners to SFRS.
- ii. 183 were as a result of Post Domestic Incident Responses (PDIR). The SFRS conducts a PDIR at all domestic dwelling incidents (includes fire alarm actuations and special services). This involves 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

The Police and Fire & Rescue Scrutiny Sub Committee members are asked to note the contents of this report and the attached appendix.

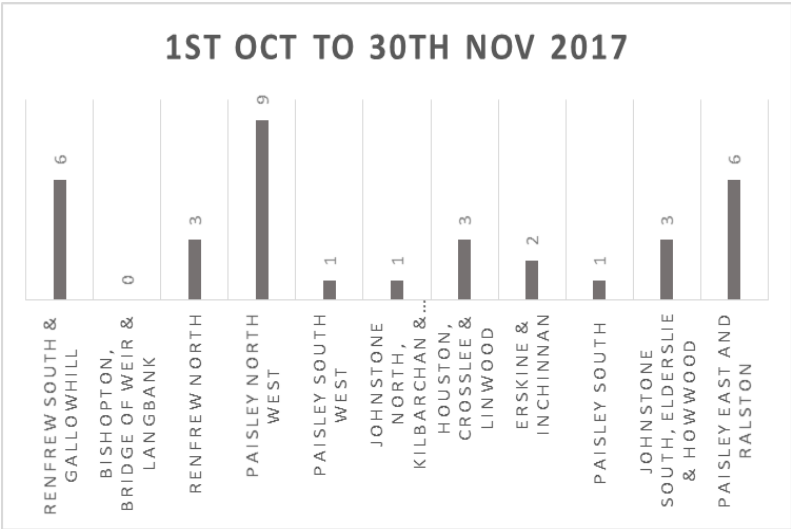
The graph below provides a comparative overview of the activity levels within the reporting period over the last 3 years.

1. THREE YEAR PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW



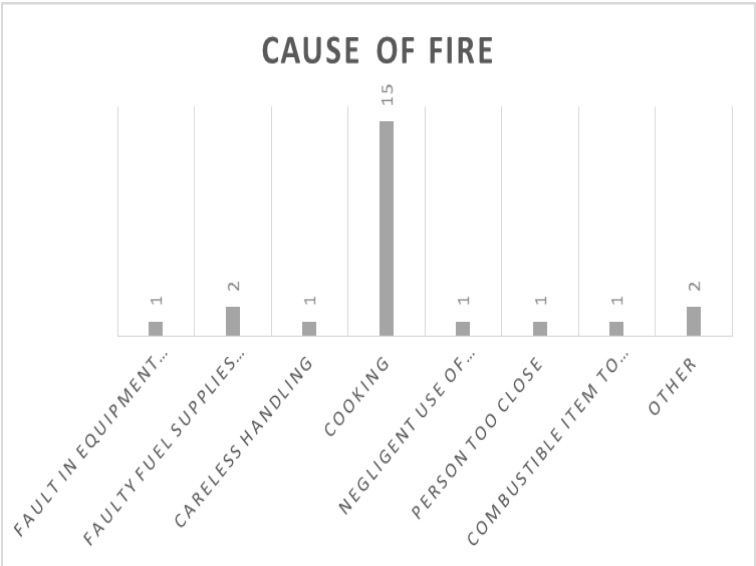
2. REDUCTION OF ACCIDENTAL DWELLING FIRES

2.1. Incidents by Ward



The slightly lower level of activity in a number of Wards is a direct correlation to the number of residents and homes within each locality.

2.2. Cause of Fire



As is evident from graph 2.2 cooking remains the most significant cause of accidental dwelling fires in Renfrewshire. However further analysis of the information has shown that the majority of the incidents are small in nature and require no action by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS). The increase in detectors within homes has provided early warning and intervention.

2.3. Location of Fire



The information within this graph links directly to 2.2 above where cooking was identified as the most common cause of fire and this is further confirmed with 17 fires starting within the kitchen.

2.4. Human Factors

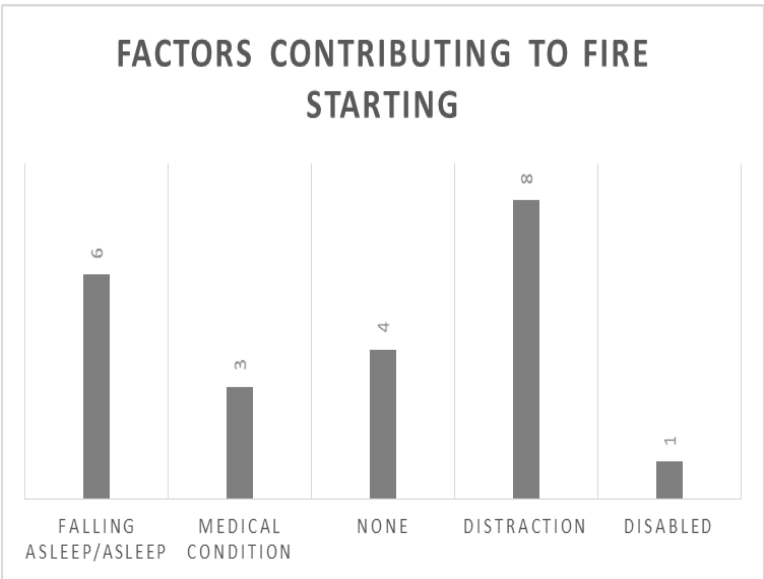


It is encouraging to see that in 17 out of the 22 incidents that alcohol or drugs were not a factor.

However distraction still has a bearing on accidental fires and this is a hard factor to resolve.

Partnership working to address alcohol and drug related incidents is central to reducing the risk to the individuals

3. REDUCTION OF FIRE CASUALTIES



Distraction includes conditions such as alcohol/ drug (prescribed or other) use, mental health, capability and individuals dealing with other matters and forgetting that they have left something cooking. Falling asleep or asleep contributed to 6 fires. The fires having other or no contributory factors are considered purely accidental.

3.1. Casualties by Ward

There were only 12 recorded casualties during the reporting period and these were in the Renfrew North, Paisley North West, Erskine and Inchinnan, Paisley East and Ralston, Johnstone North and South, Renfrew North and Rebefrew South and Gallowhill Wards.

3.2. Casualties by Age and Gender

Six casualties were male in the 30 to 39, 40 to 49, 50 to 59 (2), 70 to 79 and 80 to 89 age ranges. The other six casualty were female in the 10 to 19, 20 to 29, 30 to 39 (2), 50 to 59 and 60 to 69 age group category. This fire casualty profile is not reflective of the Scottish profile, which over the past two years has seen a growing trend of older females being the most at risk of harm from fire.

3.3. Extent of Harm

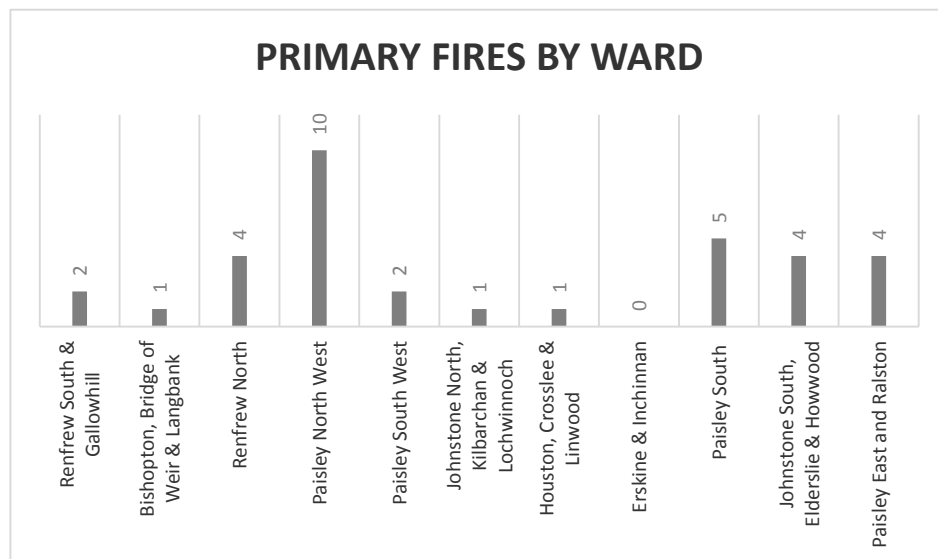
All of the incidents resulted in slight injury or requirement for a precautionary checks at the scene. The positive impact of early warning of fire provided by either standalone or linked smoke alarms is evident in terms of the reduction in the number of severe dwelling fires and the associated level of fire related injuries compared to 10 years ago.

4. REDUCTION OF DELIBERATE FIRE SETTING

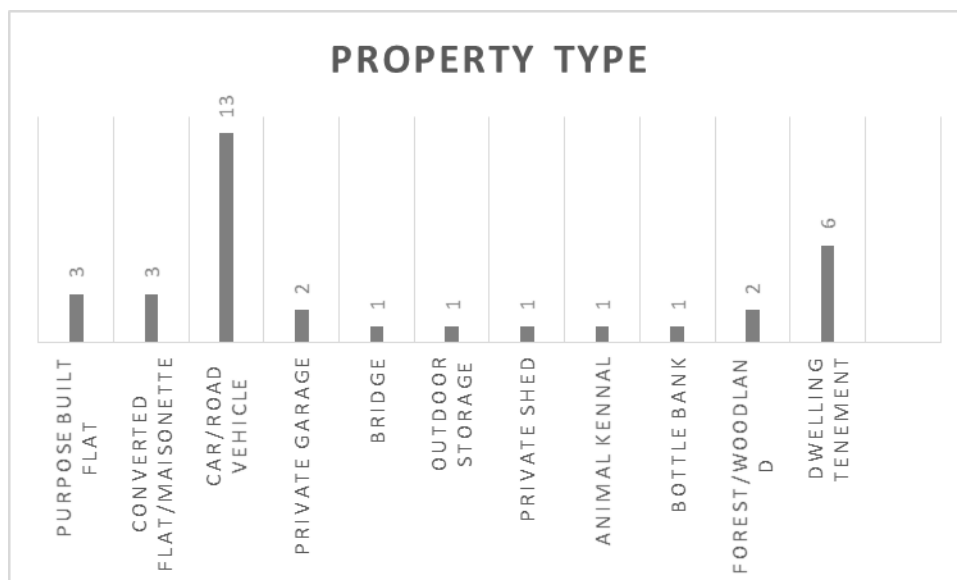
4.1. Primary Fires

Primary fires are classed as those involving property which has a specific private or commercial value; and generally relates to building, structures or vehicle fires. During the reporting period there were a total of 34 deliberate primary fires; this is an increase when compared to the same period in 2016/17 when there were 17 deliberate primary fires.

4.1.1. Incidents by Ward



4.1.2. Property Types



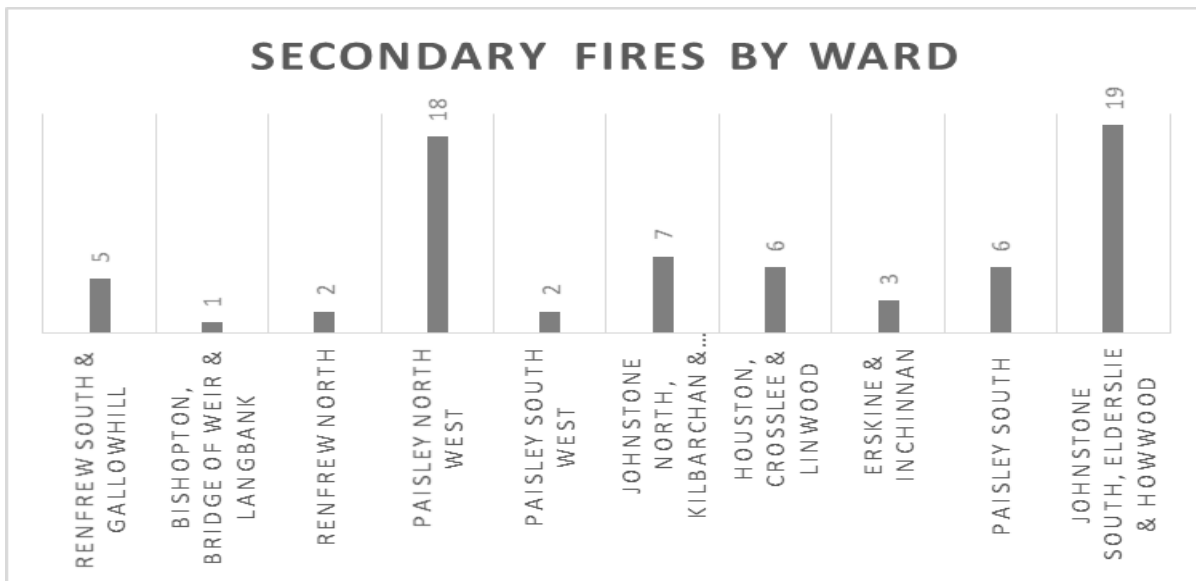
Deliberate fire setting is a criminal offence and SFRS will request Police Scotland to attend suspected deliberate primary fires when deemed appropriate. The SFRS Local Area Liaison Officer (LALO) attends the Daily Tasking meeting in Renfrewshire to provide fire activity overviews for action as appropriate.

SFRS officers will also complete Community Intelligent Reports at incidents where deliberate fire setting occurs; these are passed to Police Scotland where relevant information is gathered and used to support further investigation.

4.2. Secondary Fires

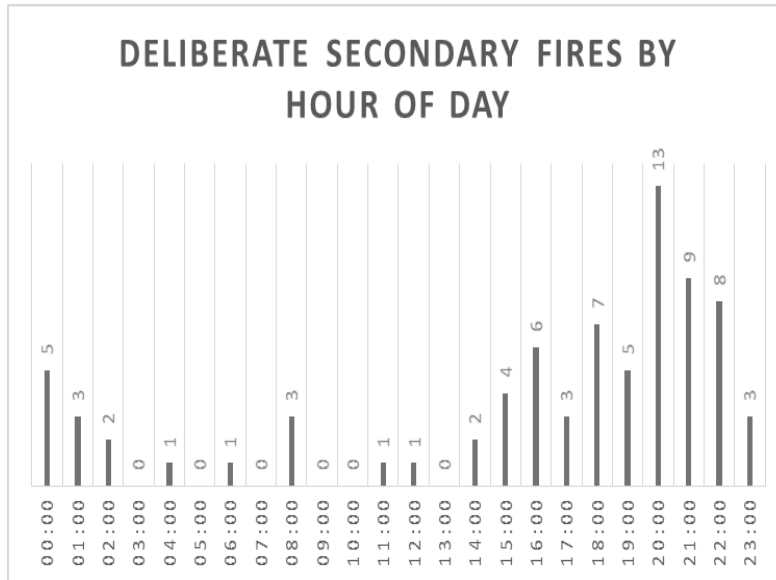
Secondary fires are classed as those involving derelict property (structures or vehicles), refuse, grassland and scrubland. During the reporting period there were a total of 302 deliberate secondary fires; this is a decrease when compared to the same period in 2016/17 when there were 430 deliberate secondary fires.

4.2.1. Incidents by Ward



SFRS works closely with our partners to provide appropriate engagement, education and intervention approaches. Schools in localities identified as having higher fire incidents are targeted and the CAT officers actively engage with the pupils to educate them on the dangers and subsequences of wilful fire setting.

4.2.2. Time of Day



Graph 4.2.2 shows it is evident the vast majority of fires occurred between 16:00hrs to 22:00hrs; this pattern leads us to believe the majority of these fires have been started by school age young people who outwith these times will either be in bed or at school.

The Fireskills programme also addresses wilful fire setting and educates young people on the impact of available front line emergency resources attending secondary fires and not being available for life threatening emergencies. The Prevention and Protection team is currently looking at funding streams to run more Fireskills courses.

4.2.3. Property Type



Work has been on-going through daily tasking to identify specific area of activity through sharing of information. This has resulted in an increased presence of Wardens, SFRS personnel and Police Scotland in the areas identified. There has also been on-going work with operational staff during the SFRS Summer Thematic Action Plan.

5. REDUCTION OF FIRES IN NON-DOMESTIC PREMISES

This category includes commercial premises, private lockups/ garages and other structures. These incidents are included in the Deliberate Primary Fires referred to in section 4.1.

5.1. Incident by Ward

There were a total of 34 recorded deliberate fires in non-domestic premises during the reporting period in:

- Paisley North West (10)
- Paisley south (5)
- Paisley east and Ralston (4)
- Renfrew north (4)
- Johnstone south, Elderslie, and Howood (4)
- Renfrew south and Gallowhill (2)
- Paisley south west (2)
- Bishopton, Bridge of Weir and Langbank (1)
- Houston, Crosslee and Linwood (1)
- Johnstone north and Lochwinnich (1)

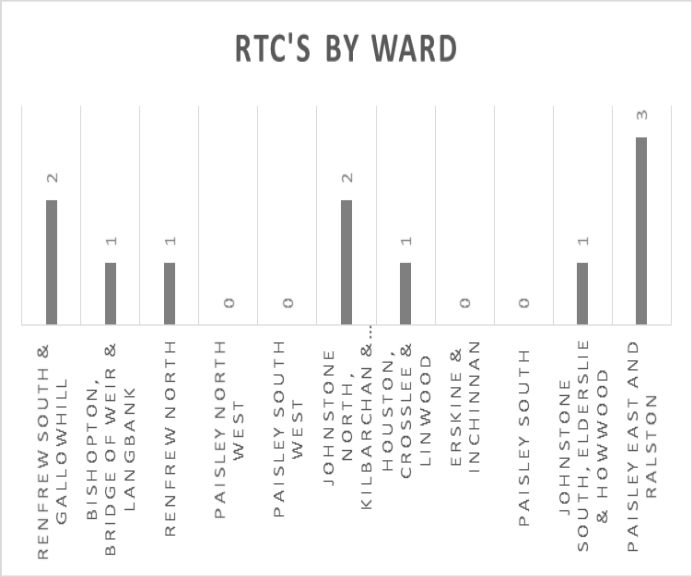
5.2. Property Types

Of the 34 incidents 13 were recorded as Road vehicles, 6 Tenement buildings, 3 purpose built flats.

All fires in non-domestic premises which are classed as relevant premises under The Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 will be 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.

6. REDUCTION OF CASUALTIES IN NON FIRE EMERGENCIES

6.1. Road Traffic Collision Incidents by Ward



There were a total of 11 Road Traffic Collisions (RTC) which SFRS attended in the reporting period; this will not reflect the numbers attended by Police Scotland which will potentially be higher. This is due to the fact SFRS only attends incidents of this nature when requested to assist in extrication of casualties or to make the scene safe.

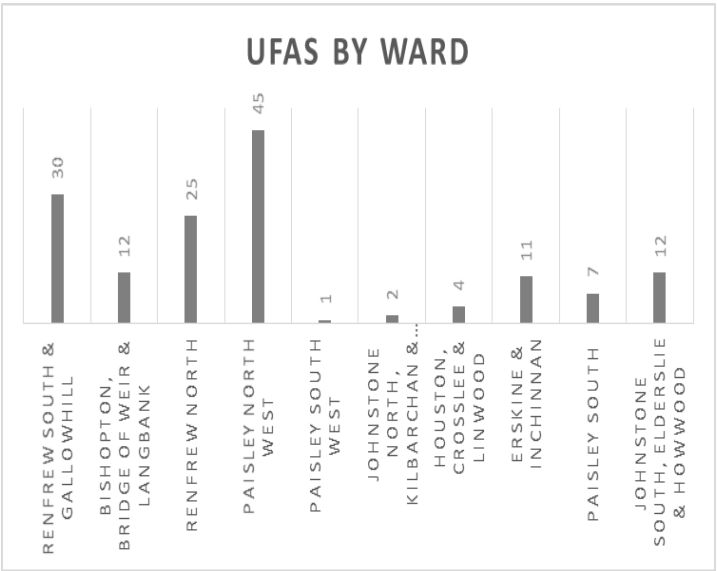
6.2. Road Traffic Casualties by Ward

There were 17 RTC related casualties recorded by SFRS during the reporting period within Renfrewshire.

7. REDUCTION OF UNWANTED FIRE ALARM SIGNALS

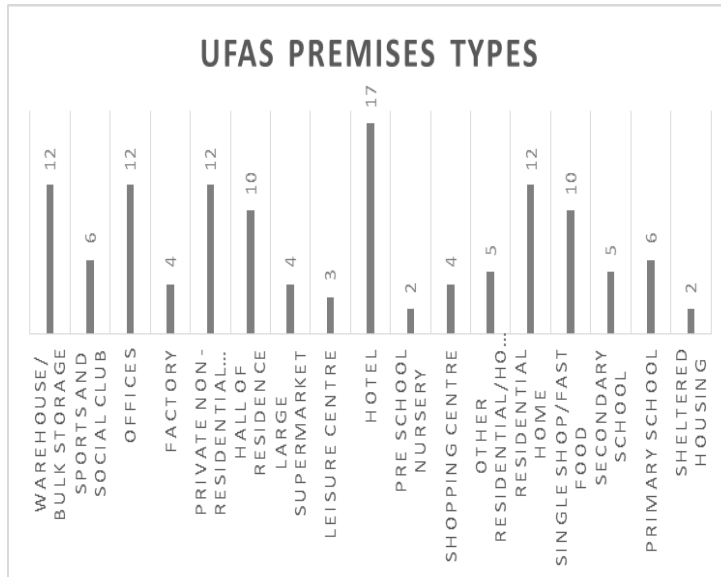
SFRS attends a range of false alarm incidents which include system faults, accidental actuation of fire alarm, malicious calls and good intent calls. SFRS is focused on reducing the associated road risk posed by ‘blue light’ journeys linked to our attendance at Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) incidents. There is a national policy in place which ensures we are adopting a standardised approach to positively engage and educate duty holders at premises which have fire alarm system actuations which are not due to an actual fire.

7.1. Incidents by Ward



Paisley North West has the highest volume of UFAS incidents which has a direct correlation with the number of commercial premises and a Major Hospital in this locality.

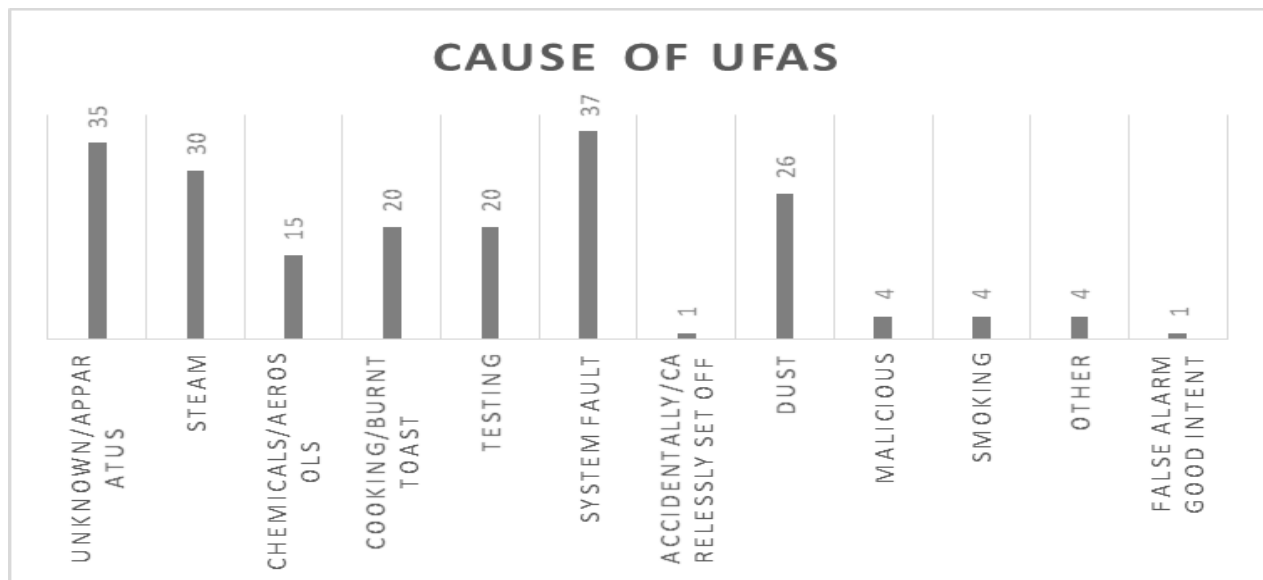
7.2. Property Types



From graph 7.2 it is evident that Residential Care establishments and hotels account for the majority of UFAS incidents in Renfrewshire.

In addition to this Hospitals and Medical facilities including GP surgeries account for 25 UFAS incidents in this reporting period

7.3. Cause of Actuation



The SFRS works closely with all relevant premises where UFAS occur and each incident is monitored locally through operational personnel and the area UFAS champion.