



SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
Working together for a safer Scotland

**Working together
for a safer Scotland**


Renfrewshire
Council

Report to:	Renfrewshire Council Housing and Community Safety Policy Board
Date of Report:	16 December 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 October to 30th November 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 decreased from **31** in the same period in 2015 to **22** in the current reporting period.
- b. The total number of All Non-Fatal Fire Casualties increased from **3** in the same period in 2015 to **4** in the current reporting period.
- c. The total number of incidents involving Deliberate Fire Raising increased from **108** in the same period in 2015 to **121** in the current reporting period.
- d. The total number of Fires in Non-Domestic Buildings decreased from **11** in the same period in 2015 to **10** 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 **10** in the current reporting period. The number of recorded casualties increased from **11** in the same period in 2015 to **14** in the current reporting period.
- f. The total number of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signal (UFAS) incidents decreased from **155** in the same period in 2015 to **138** 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. There have been positive outcomes through joint partnership working in respect to the identification and apprehension of fire setters.
- b. CAT staff presented at the Renfrewshire Adult Support and Protection (ASP) staff awareness day that was attended by various departments within Renfrewshire council and the NHS. This was well received and provided partners insight into fire hazard perception and fire risk assessment; this will lead to improved high risk referrals from partners to SFRS.
- c. CAT and Operational officers engaged with schools across Renfrewshire and engaged with 5000 young people in the period leading up to bonfire night.
- d. The multi-agency engagement programme leading up to the bonfire period resulted in reduced fire related anti-social behavior against previous years. The uplift service in particular contributed significantly to the reduction of deliberate secondary fires involving rubbish and bonfires.

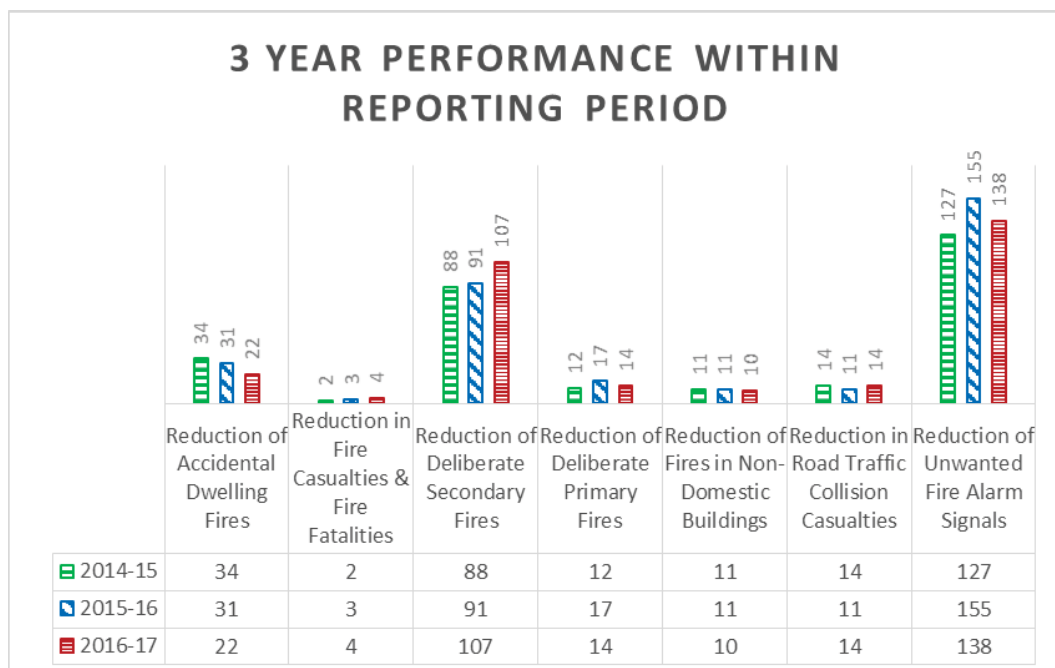
- e. A total of 377 Home Fire Safety Visits were carried out by in Renfrewshire during the reporting period. Of these:
 - i. 80 were as a result of high risk referrals from Renfrewshire Community Planning partners to SFRS.
 - ii. 53 were as a result of Post Domestic Incident Responses (PDIR). The SFRS 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.

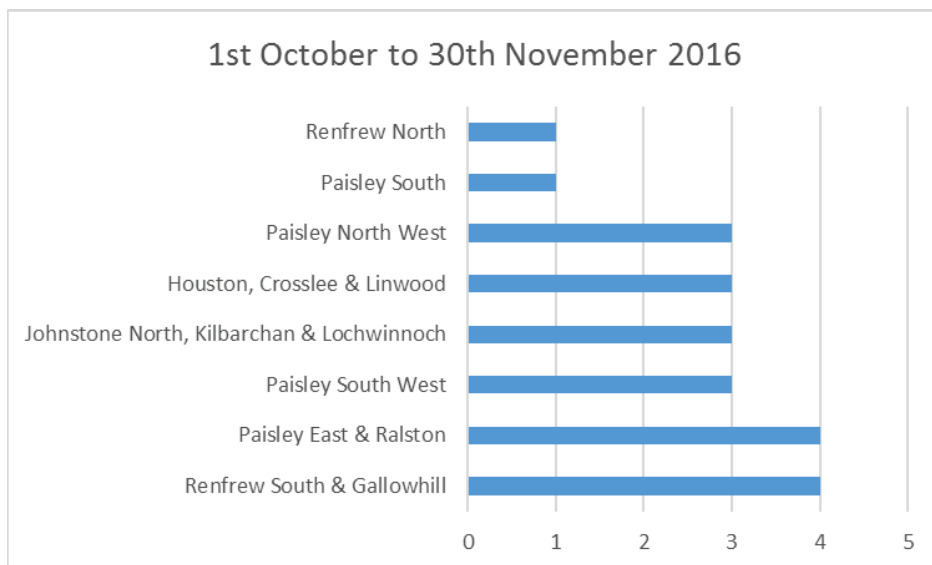
1. THREE YEAR PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW (APRIL to NOVEMBER)

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



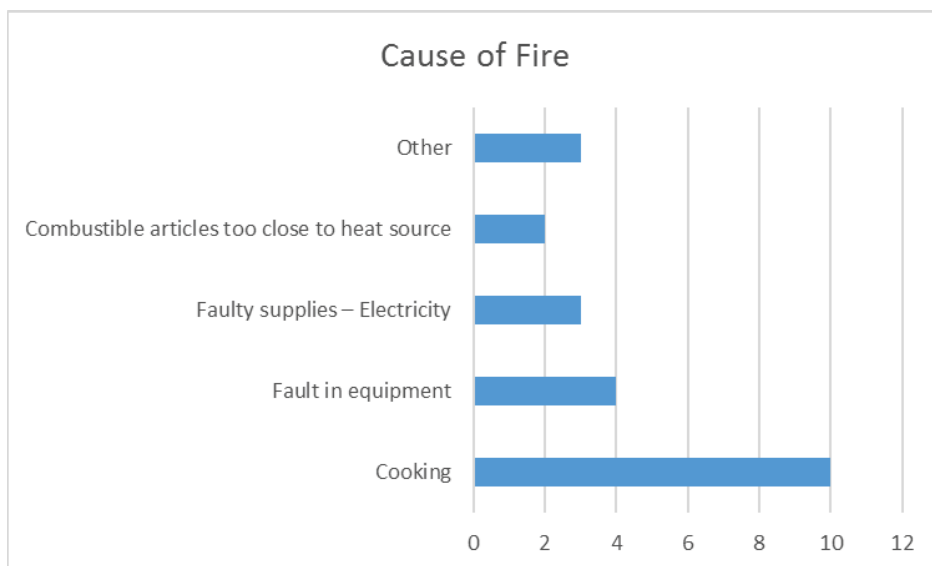
2. REDUCTION OF ACCIDENTAL DWELLING FIRES

2.1. Incidents by Ward



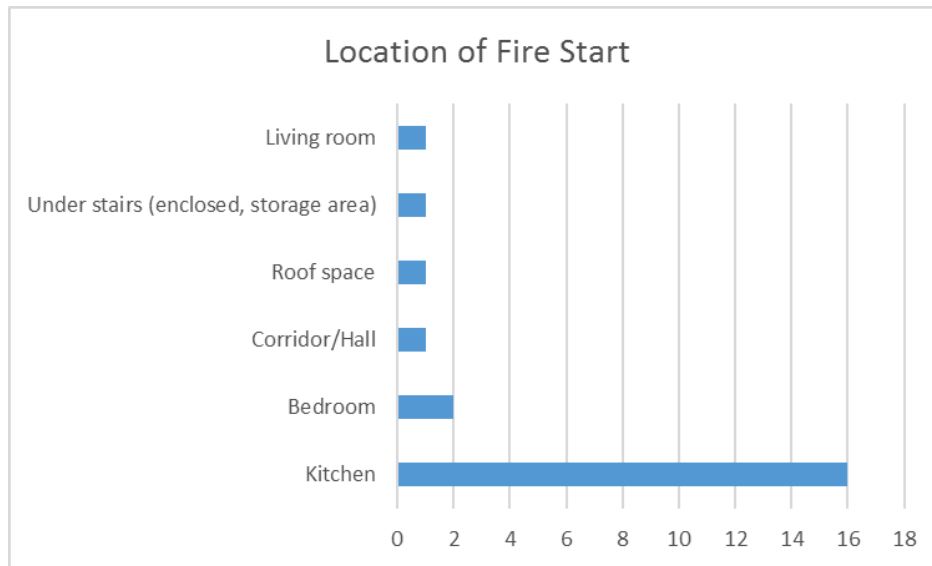
There are no specific trends or areas of concern.

2.2. Cause of Fire



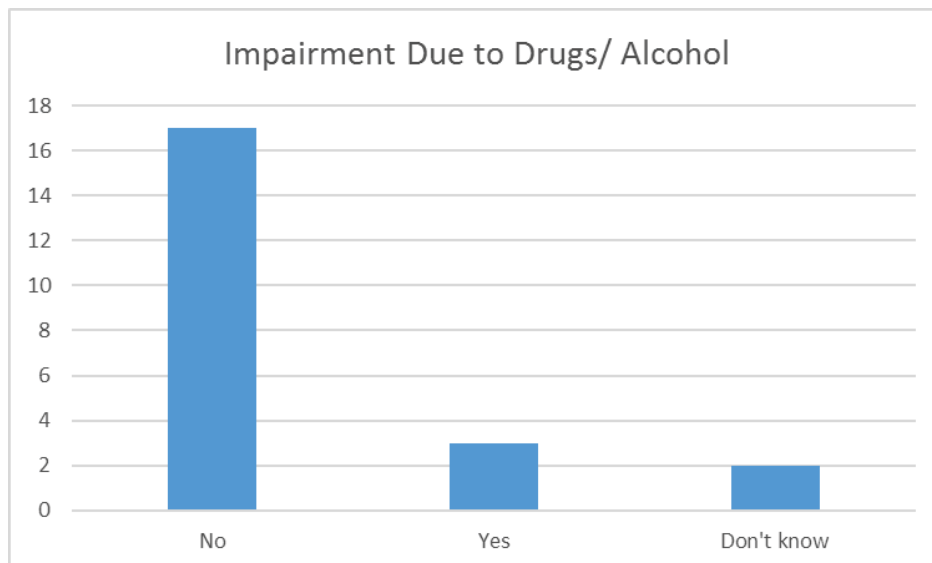
Cooking related incidents remain the most common, the majority of these are extinguished by removal from heat source.

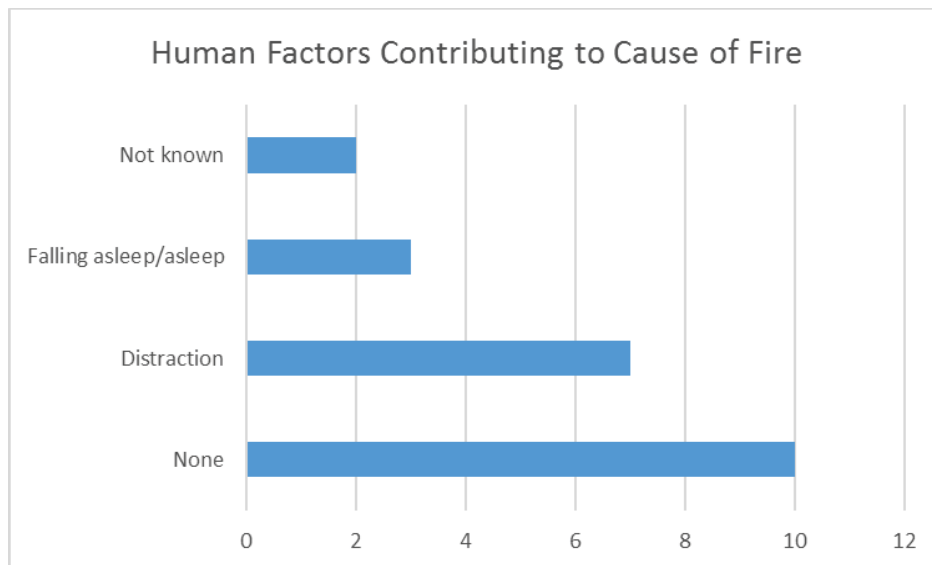
2.3. Location of Fire



The location of where fires are starting reflect the trend in Table 1.2. Cooking related fires remain the most common; other fires in kitchens include faulty electrical appliances.

2.4. Human Factors



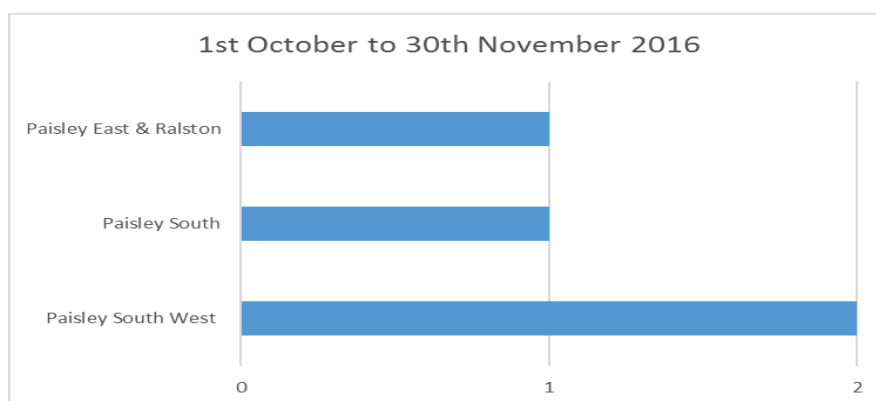


From the table above distraction includes incidents of individuals falling asleep being under influence and mental capacity. There are instances specifically linked to cooking where an individual may get distracted by dealing with young children, phone call or similar which results in ignition of items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

As part of the Home Fire Safety Visit our personnel highlight the importance of ensuring when cooking activities are undertaken that the occupiers are fully focussed on the task at hand.

3. REDUCTION OF FIRE CASUALTIES

3.1. Casualties by Ward

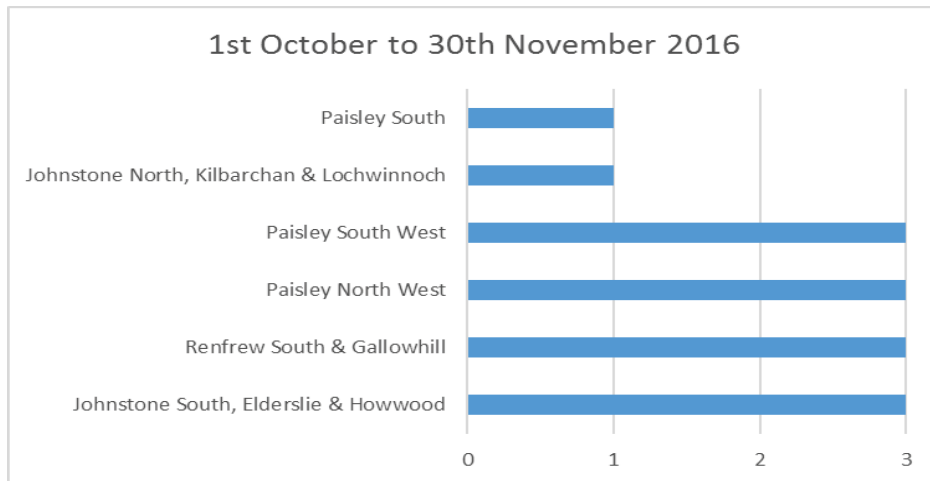


Two casualties were removed to hospital suffering from slight affects of smoke inhalation; both casualties were females (Aged between 30 to 49) and both suspected to be under the influence of alcohol/ drugs. The remaining two were checked at the scene and required no further medical interventions.

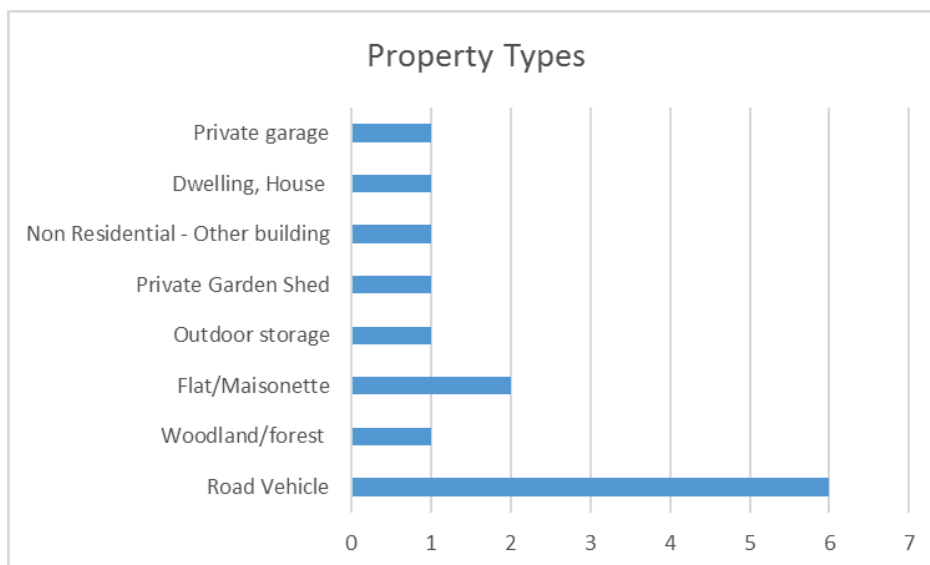
4. REDUCTION OF DELIBERATE FIRE SETTING

4.1. 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 or a Community Action Team officer attends the Tasking Meetings within Renfrewshire Safety Hub to provide fire activity overviews for action as appropriate.

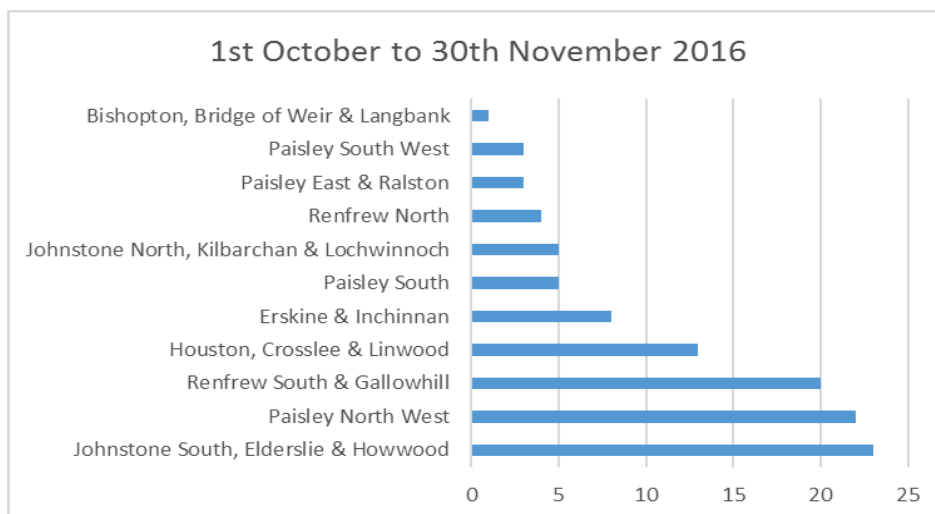
The most significant incident was the fire involving a block of new build homes off Beith Road, Johnstone on the 23rd October 2016. This incident is being investigated by Police Scotland.

Sub note as requested at pre-agenda

In terms of the information in this report; the range of primary fire incidents are sporadic in nature and no specific trends or area of concerns have been identified. The most significant fire was highlighted in this report being the incident off Beith Road, Johnstone on the 23rd October 2016. The timber structure was totally destroyed by fire and the cause of the fire was being investigated by Police Scotland; SFRS has no further information in respect to this fire.

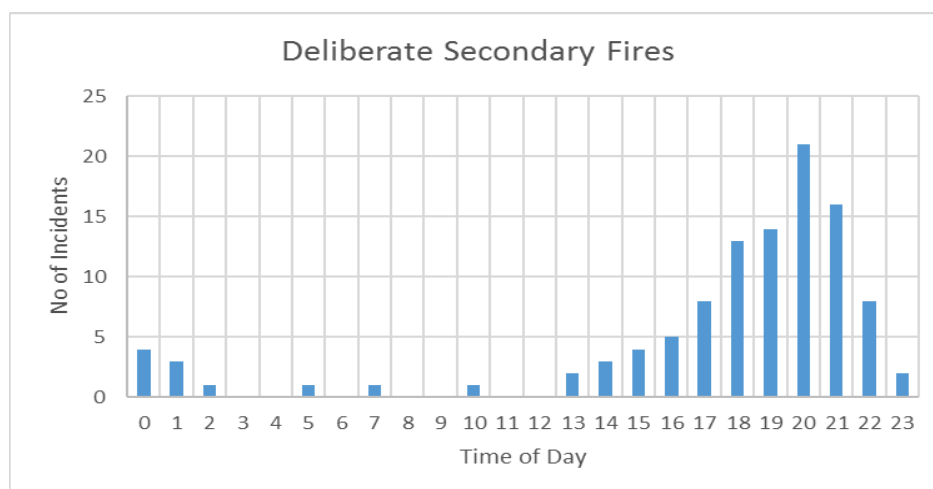
4.2. Secondary Fires

4.2.1. Incidents by Ward



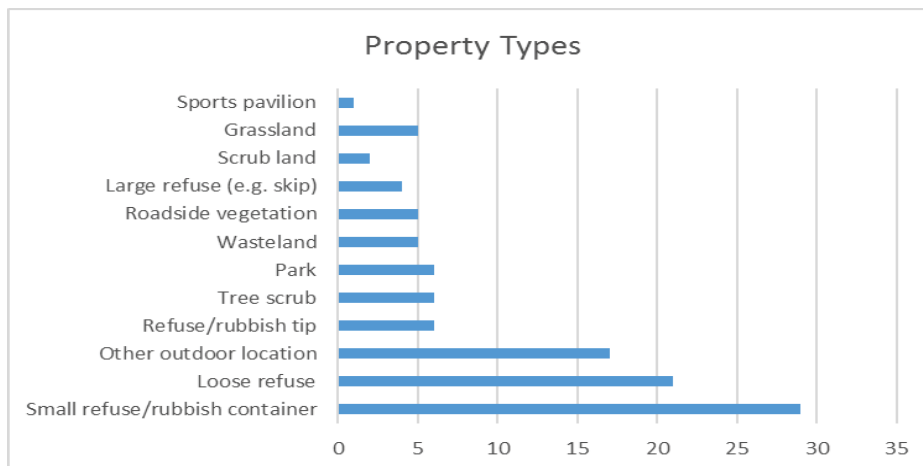
There has been an increase in secondary fire activity compared to the same period in 2015; in part this is linked to weather conditions being dryer this year. However there have been a number of linked incidents which are being progressed through the Safety Hub meetings supported by the Community Planning Partnership.

4.2.1.1. Time of Day



The majority of these incidents (72) still occur after school hours between 3:30pm to 9:30pm; which suggests the firesetters are likely young people of school age. Notwithstanding this there are also incidents (9) 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.

4.2.2. Property Types



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

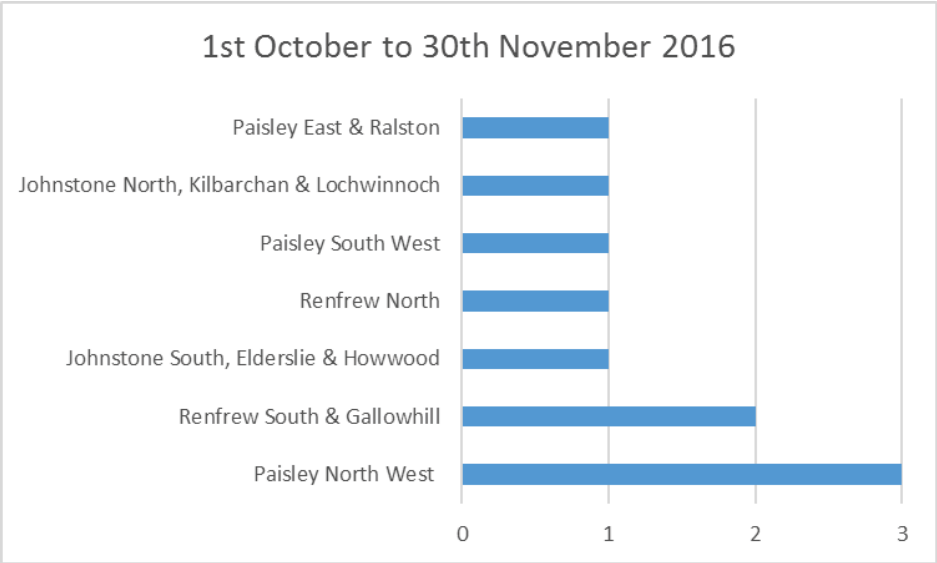
- Amochrie Road, Paisley (3)
- Netherhill Road, Paisley (3)
- Ettrick Terrace, Johnstone (4)
- Mossspark Square, Renfrew (5)
- Oakridge Crescent, Paisley (8)
- Paisley Road, Renfrew (5)
- Park Drive, Erskine (4)
- Quarrelton Road, Johnstone (3)
- Tannahill Crescent, Johnstone (7)

Sub note as requested at pre-agenda

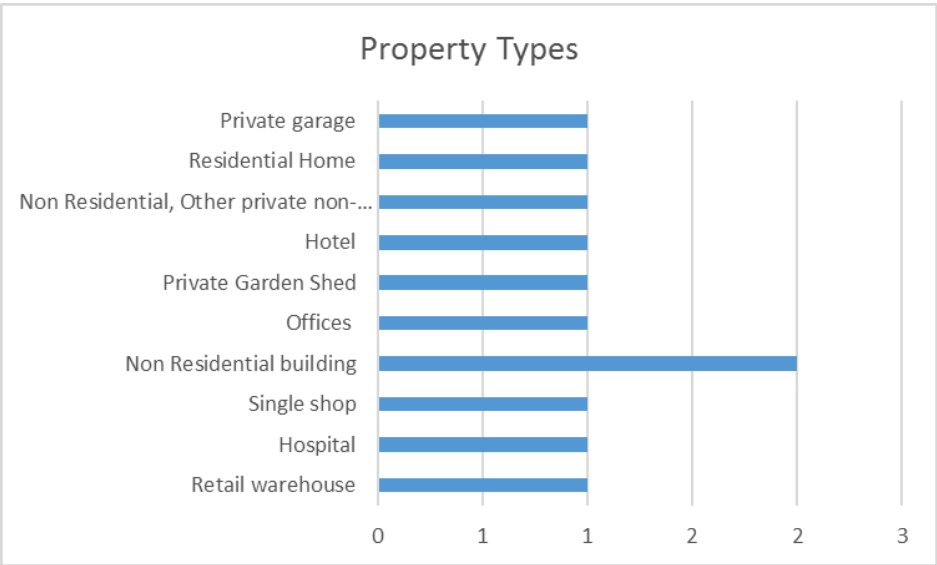
- There was an increased level of deliberate secondary fires involving wheelie bins, rubbish and other small structure in the period leading up to Bonfire night; this was higher than the same period last year which in part is due to the dryer spell of weather this year compared to a higher number of wet days in the same period last year.
- As stated in this report we work closely with partners to identify the offenders; an example of this is the identification and apprehension of a youth linked to the fires in the Ettrick Terrace area. This fire setter is currently being engaged with as part of the SFRS Fire setter programme.
- In respect to the fires in the Tannahill Crescent and Quarrelton Road area of Johnstone no one has been identified as yet; however SFRS personnel have actively engaged with the local schools in the area to educate the pupils of the risks and consequences of fire setting. The same applies to other areas identified in the report as having higher numbers of fire setting SFRS sends resources into the local schools to educate the pupils.

5. REDUCTION OF FIRES IN NON-DOMESTIC PREMISES

5.1. Incident by Ward

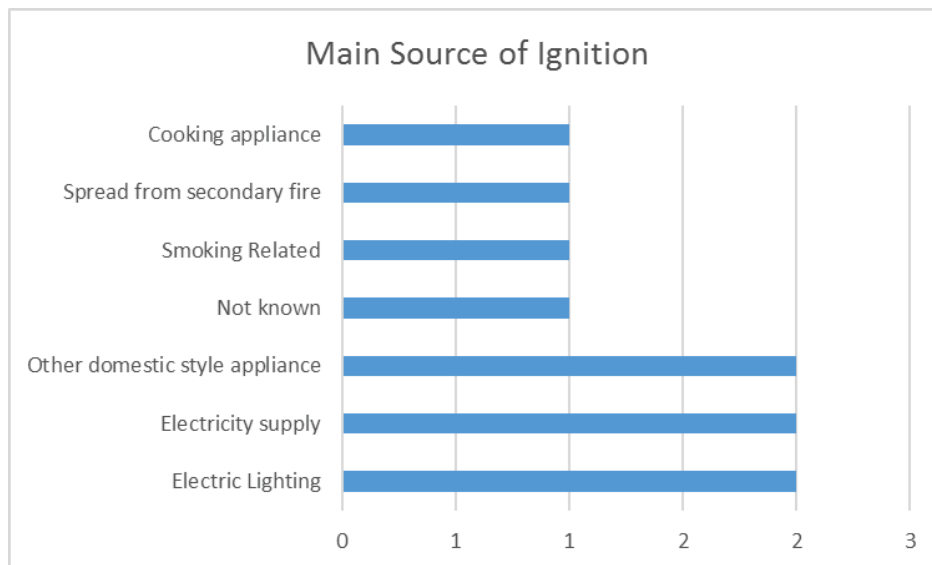


5.2. Property Types

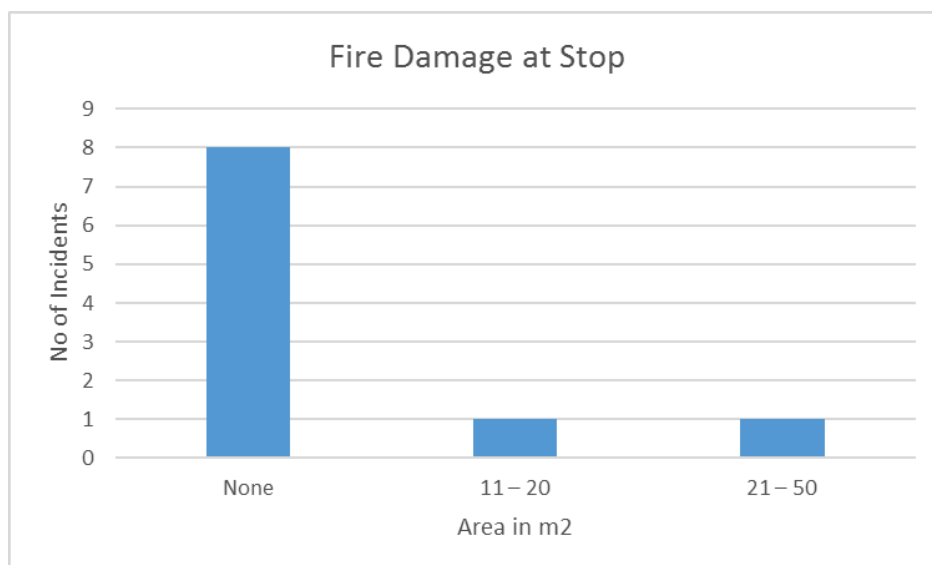


All fires in non-domestic premises which are classed as relevant premises in The Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 are subject to a post fire audit. These are conducted by specialist Fire Safety Enforcement Officers (FSEO) who will carry out a full inspection of the premises and all paperwork required under the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

5.3. Main Source of Ignition



5.4. Fire Damage

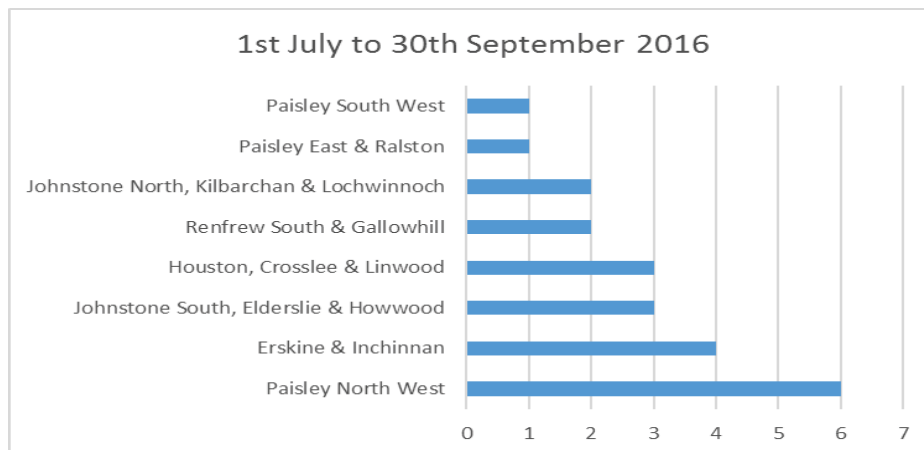


Of the incidents above resulting in fire damage these include:

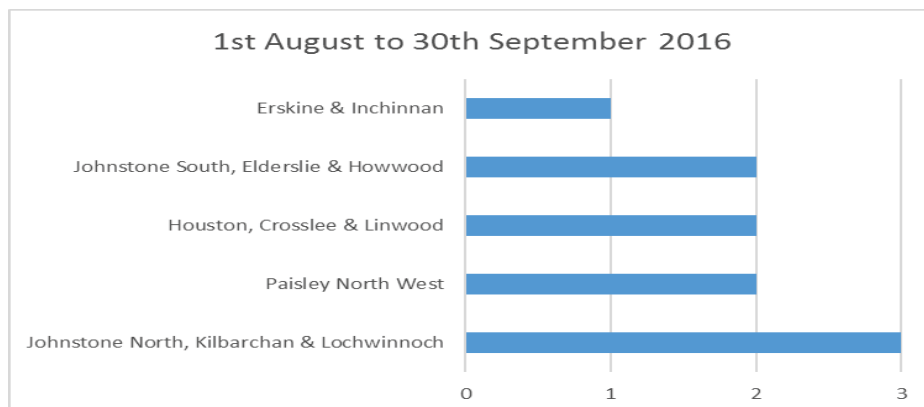
- A fire which destroyed a private garage
- A fire in a restaurant

6. REDUCTION OF CASUALTIES IN NON FIRE EMERGENCIES

6.1. Road Traffic Collision Incidents by Ward



6.2. Road Traffic Casualties by Ward



From analysis of the Road Traffic Collision (RTC) incidents there are no specific accident hotspots.

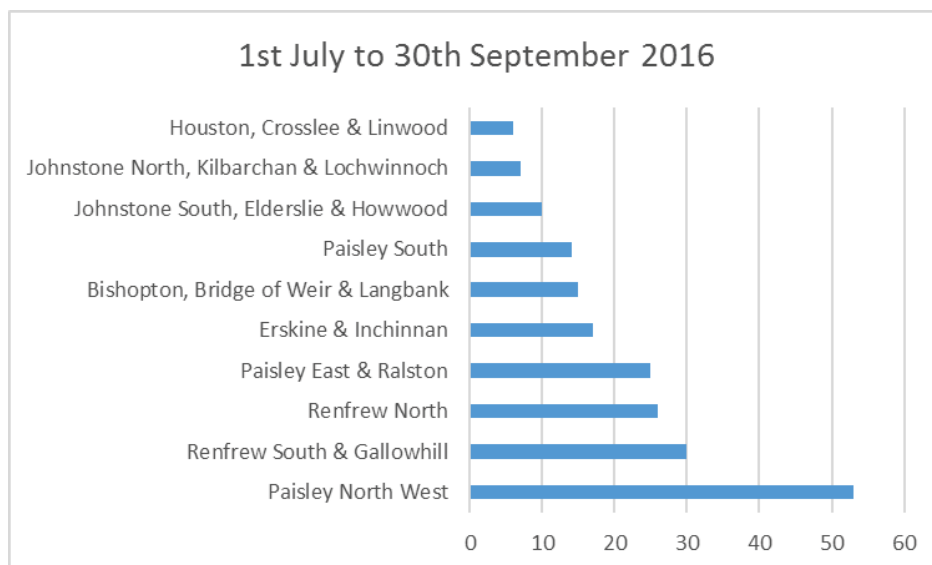
Sub note as requested at pre-agenda

As stated in this report there are no specific trends or hot spots identified for the reporting period; it should be borne in mind that SFRS only attends a small number of the total number of RTCs which occur within Renfrewshire. Our response is generally on request from Police and Scottish Ambulance Service; from the number of casualties (10) recorded against the number of RTCs (22) it is evident that the majority of incidents attended by SFRS are for us to render making the scene safe.

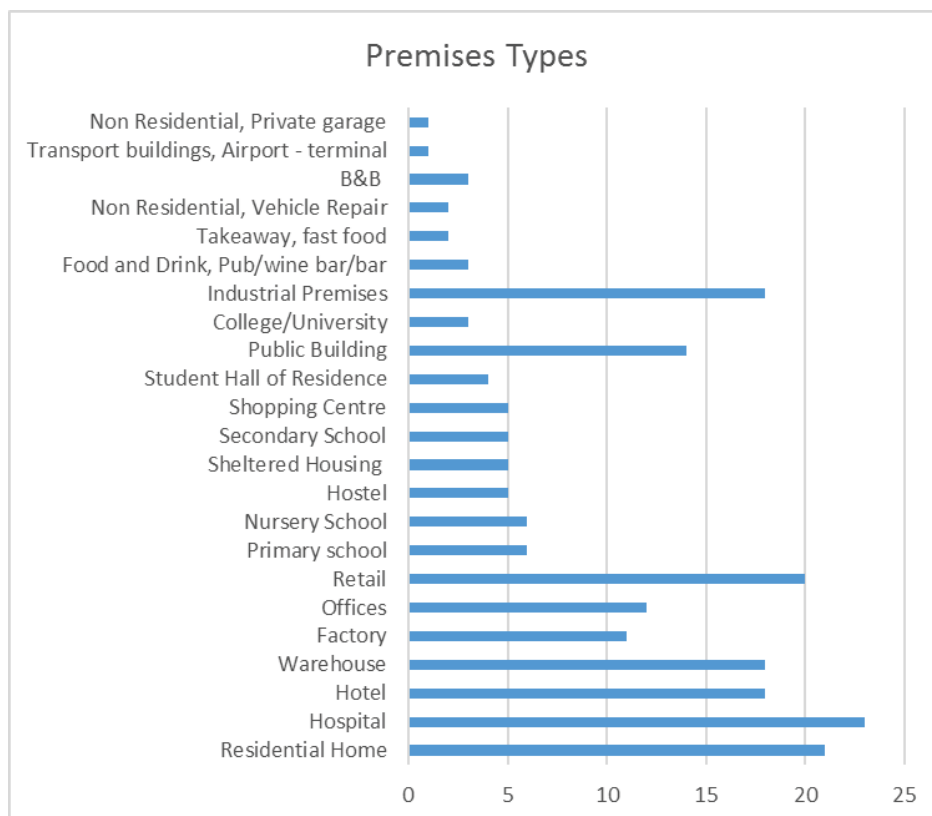
In respect to the tragic incident at Gleniffer Road the details of this incident are subject to a Police enquiry and the SFRS is not in a position to provide information in respect to the incident.

7. REDUCTION OF UNWANTED FIRE ALARM SIGNALS

7.1. Incident by Ward



7.2. Property Types

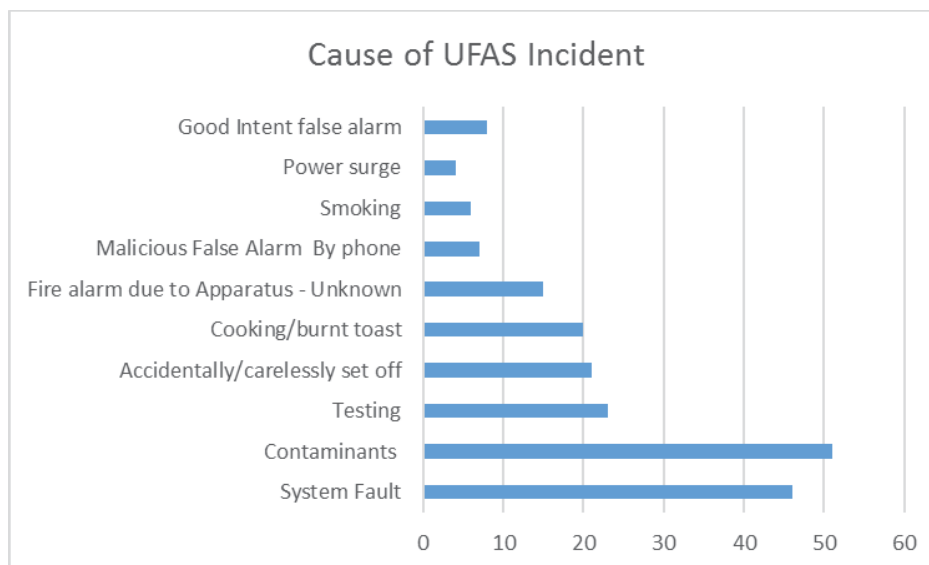


As is evident from the table above the premise types with the highest numbers (15+) of UFAS incidents are:

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

There has been a reduction in the number of alarm actuations at schools over the current reporting period.

7.3. 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. The SFRS policy includes levels of intervention which in turn will attract various levels of intervention at the premises causing the greatest number of unwanted actuations.