

Item: 3

Police and Fire Sub-committee: 18 November 2025.

Performance against Orkney Fire and Rescue Plan.

Report by Robert Lennox, Local Senior Officer.

1. Overview

- 1.1. All matters concerning the scrutiny of and engagement with the Police services and the Fire and Rescue Services in terms of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 and the Fire (Scotland) Act 2025 respectively, fall within the remit of the Police and Fire Sub-committee.
- 1.2. The quarterly performance report, attached as Appendix 1 to this report, reflects the performance outcomes outlined within the Orkney Fire and Rescue Plan, and provides performance information for the period 1 July to 30 September 2025.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. It is recommended that members of the Sub-committee:
 - i. Scrutinise the statistical performance of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Services, Orkney Islands area, for the period 1 July to 30 September 2025, detailed in the Quarterly Performance Report, attached as Appendix 1 to this report, in order to obtain assurance that progress is being made against the objectives.

For Further Information please contact:

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Implications of Report

1. **Financial:** None arising directly from this report.
2. **Legal:** None arising directly from this report.
3. **Corporate Governance:** Not applicable.
4. **Human Resources:** Not applicable.
5. **Equalities:** An Equality Impact Assessment is not required in respect of performance monitoring reports.
6. **Island Communities Impact:** An Island Communities Impact Assessment is not required in respect of performance monitoring.
7. **Links to Council Plan:** The proposals in this report support and contribute to improved outcomes for communities as outlined in the following Council Plan strategic priorities:
 - ☐ Growing our economy.
 - ☐ Strengthening our Communities.
 - ☐ Developing our Infrastructure.
 - ☐ Transforming our Council.
8. **Links to Local Outcomes Improvement Plan:** The proposals in this report support and contribute to improved outcomes for communities as outlined in the following Local Outcomes Improvement Plan priorities:
 - ☐ Cost of Living.
 - ☐ Sustainable Development.
 - ☐ Local Equality.
 - ☐ Improving Population Health.
9. **Environmental and Climate Risk:** Not applicable.
10. **Risk:** Not applicable.
11. **Procurement:** Not applicable.
12. **Health and Safety:** Not applicable.
13. **Property and Assets:** Not applicable.
14. **Information Technology:** Not applicable.
15. **Cost of Living:** Not applicable.

List of Background Papers

Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Orkney.

Appendix

Appendix 1: Quarterly Performance Report for the period 1 July to 30 September 2025.



Orkney Islands

2025-26 Q2

1 July - 30 September 2025

Scrutiny Report



SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
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ORKNEY
ISLANDS COUNCIL

Orkney Islands

2025-26 Q2

Scrutiny Report

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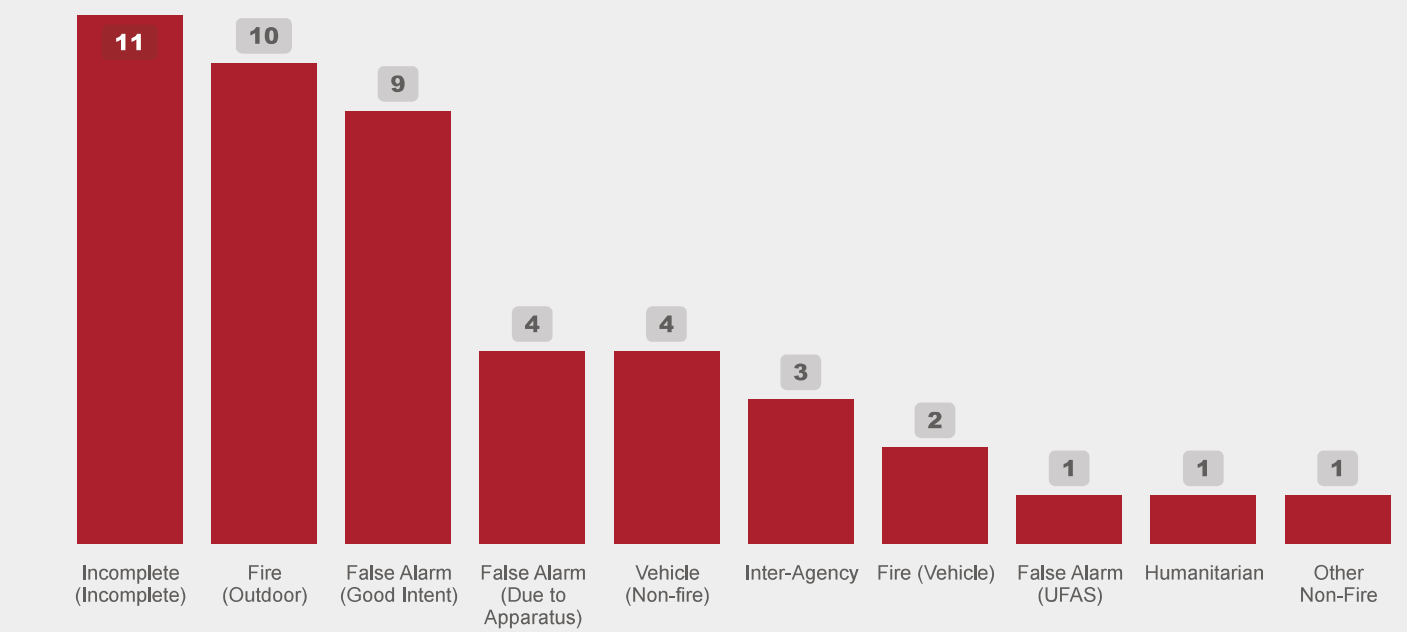
1	Summary
2	Trends
3	Accidental Dwelling Fires (ADFs)
4	Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties
5	Non-Fire Casualties
6	Deliberate Fires
7	Non-Domestic Fires
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About the statistics within this report

The activity totals and other statistics quoted within this report are published in the interests of transparency and openness. They are provisional in nature and subject to change as a result of ongoing quality assurance and review. Because all statistics quoted are provisional there may be a difference in the period totals quoted in our reports after local publication which result from revisions or additions to the data in our systems. The Scottish Government publishes official statistics each year which allow for comparisons to be made over longer periods of time.

 46 Total Incidents (Incl. Incompletes)	 12 Fires	 9 Non-Fire Incidents	 14 False Alarms	 1 UFAS
 1 People Rescued by Firefighters	 0 People Receiving First Aid or Hospital Treatment (Fires)	 0 Fire Fatalities	 1 People Receiving First Aid or Hospital Treatment (Non-Fire)	 0 Non-Fire Fatalities
 35 Home Fire Safety Visits	 9 Fire Safety Audits			

Top 10 Incident Types



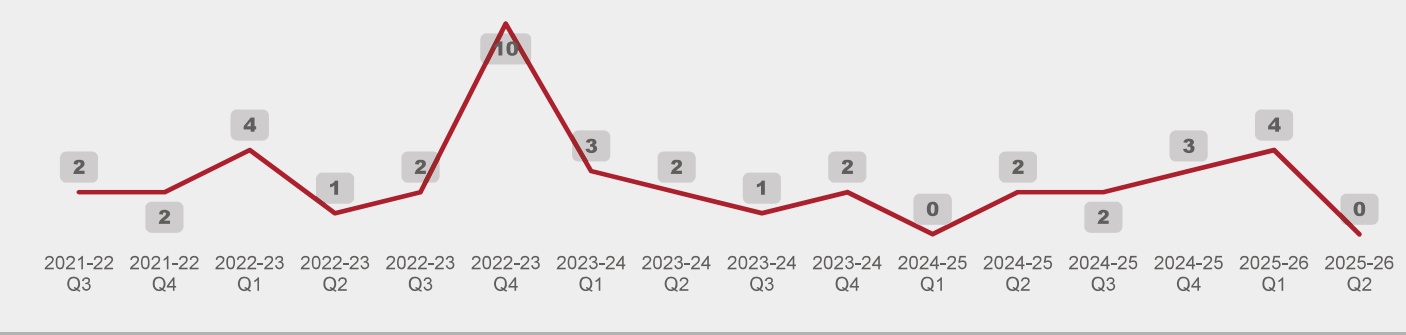
The information above provides a summary of the three-months (1 July - 30 September 2025) activity against headline indicators. It aims to provide an at a glance view of our performance during the current reporting year.

Activity has been well within the operational capacity for our Orkney based resources.

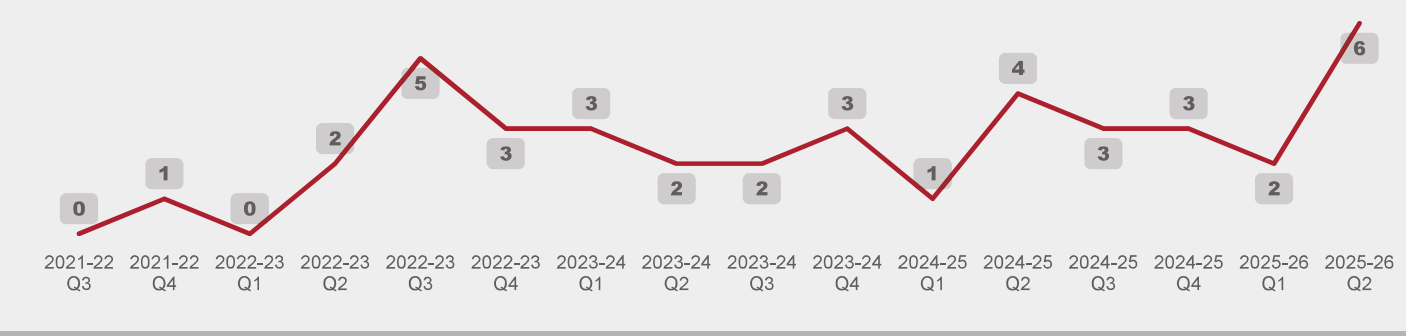
2. Trends

Previous 16 quarters (4 years)

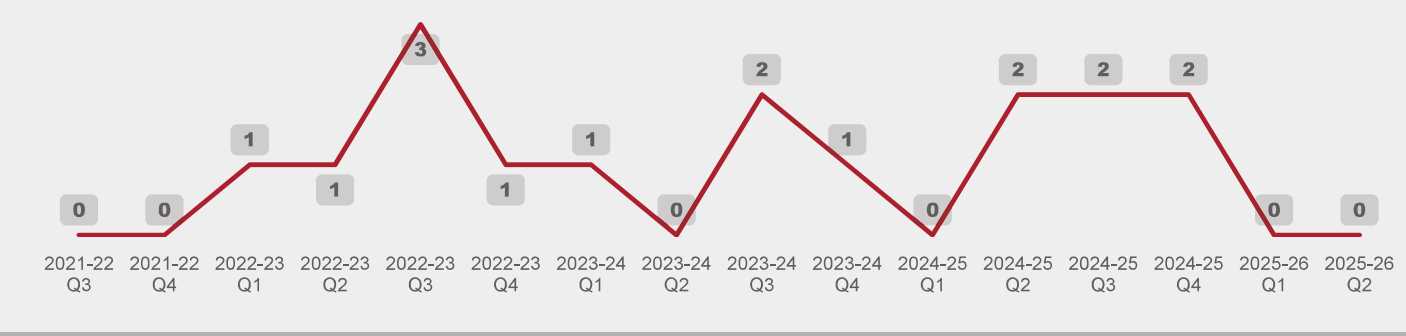
Accidental Dwelling Fires



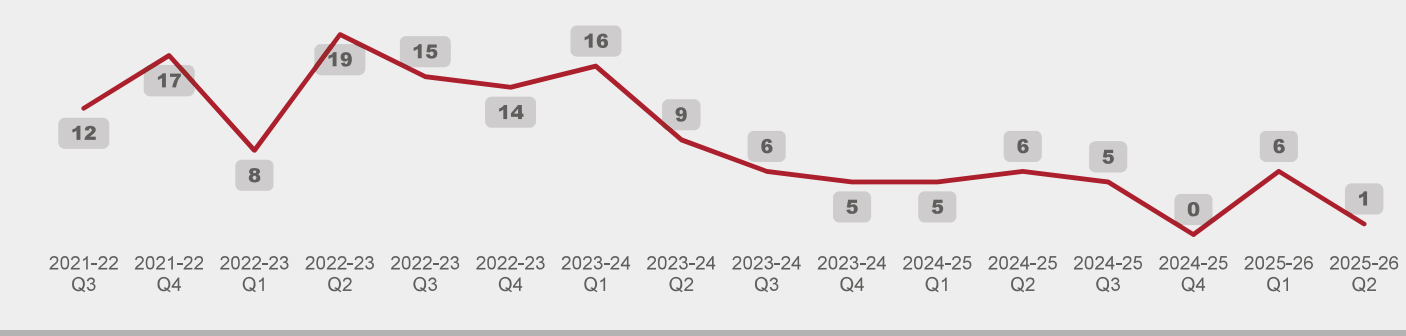
Deliberate Fires



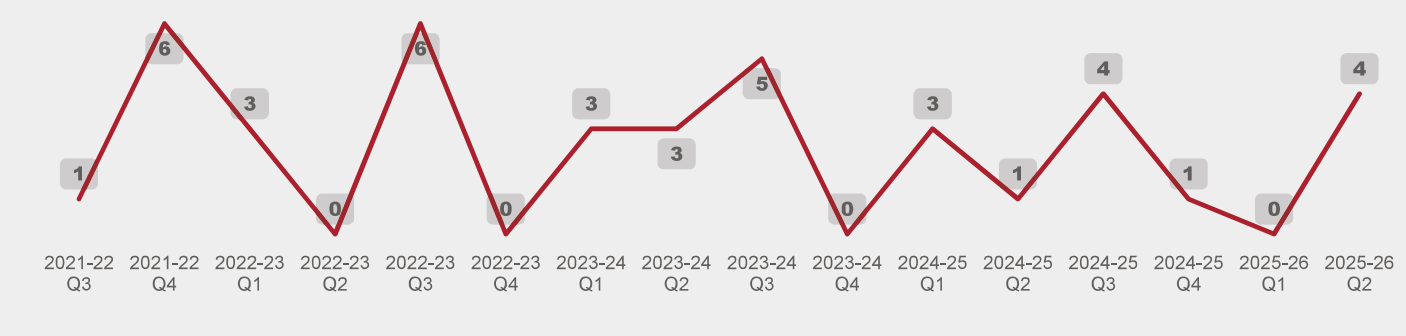
Non-Domestic Fires



Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals



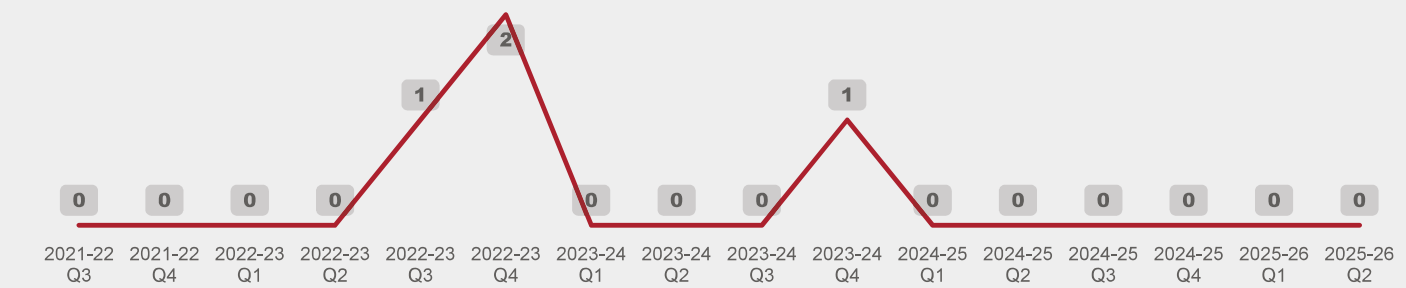
Road Traffic Collisions



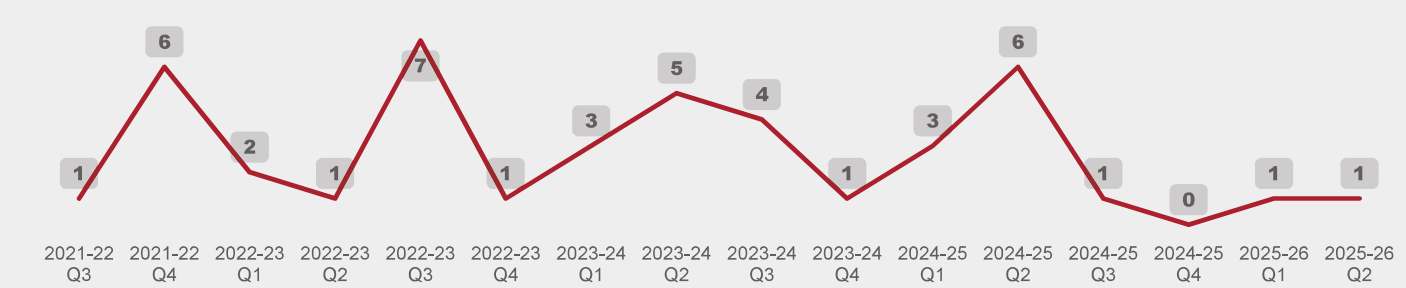
2. Trends

Previous 16 quarters (4 years)

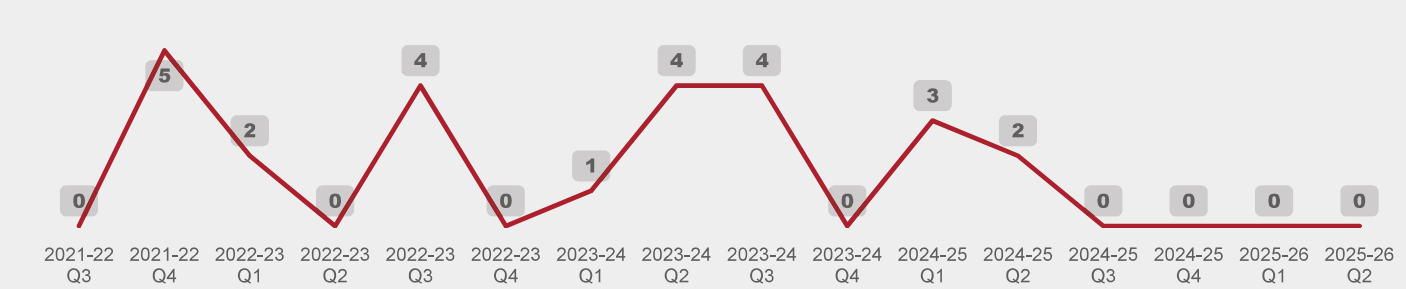
Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties



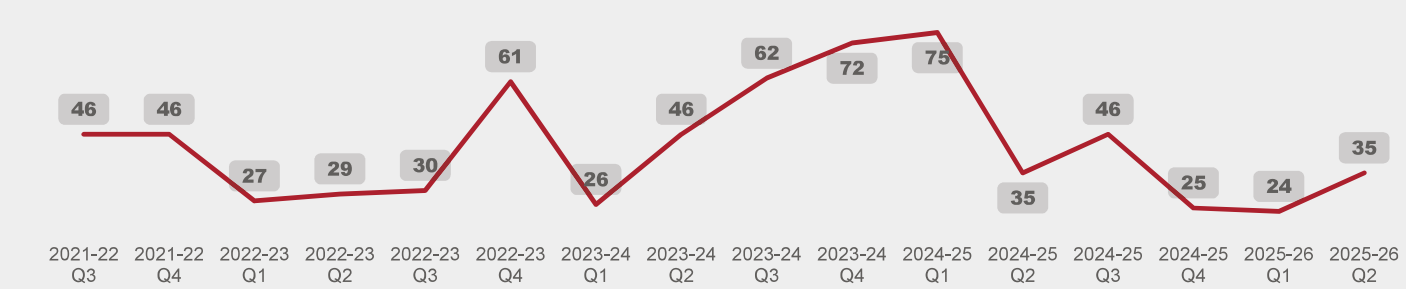
Non-Fire Casualties



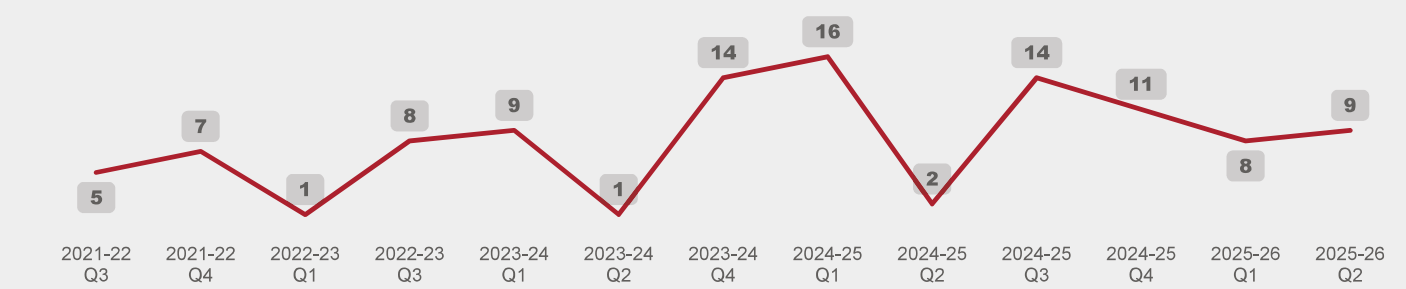
Road Traffic Collision Casualties



Home Fire Safety Visits



Fire Safety Audits



Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Extent of Damage	Incidents
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Source of Ignition (Top 10)

Incidents by Ward

0

Accidental Dwelling Fires
in this period

There were **0 Accidental Dwelling Fires (ADFs)** in this period which is lower than the previous reporting period.

The communities of Orkney has demonstrated some very positive outcomes against this indicator with limited occurrences of accidental dwelling fires (ADF). This is the second time across the last 4 years where we have seen 0 ADFs

Targeted interventions through partnership working and strong educational messaging has contributed positively in this area.

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Nature of Injury/Cause of Death	Casualties
	▼

Casualties by Ward

0

Non-Fatal Casualties

0

Fatal Casualties

0

People Rescued by Firefighters

Extent of Harm (Non-Fatal)



0

First Aid Given at Scene



0

Hospital Slight Injuries



0

Hospital Serious Injuries

There were 0 ADF Fatalities and 0 ADF Non-Fatalities for this period.

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Casualties by Ward



Nature of Injury/Cause of Death	Casualties
Fracture	1

1

Non-Fatal Casualties

0

Fatal Casualties

1

People Rescued by Firefighters

Extent of Harm (Non-Fatal)



0

First Aid Given at Scene



1

Hospital Slight Injuries



0

Hospital Serious Injuries

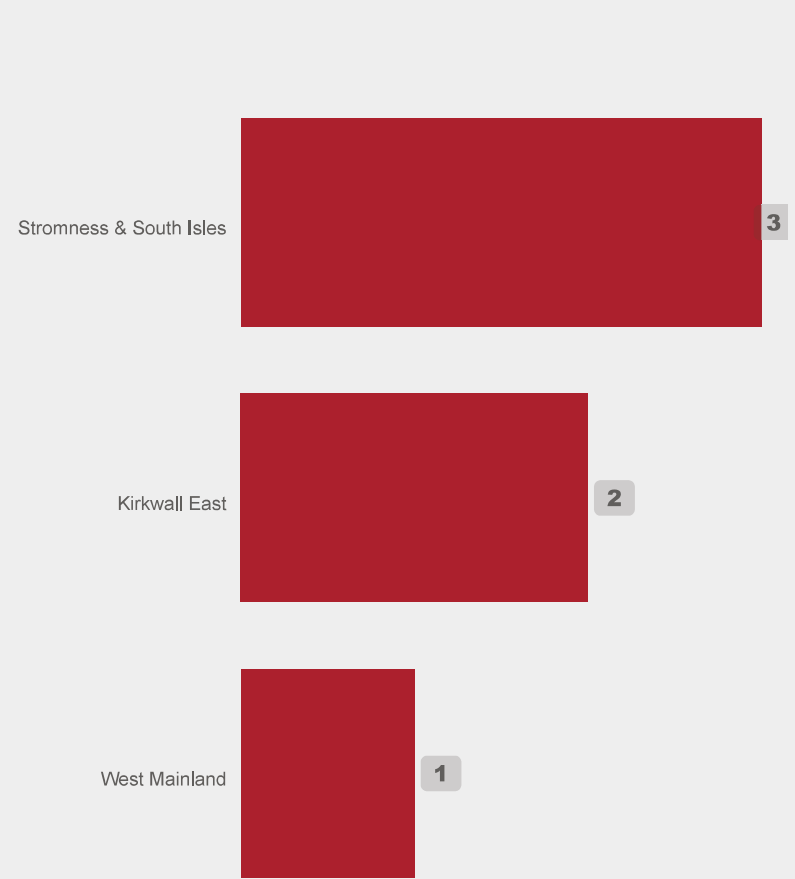
During this reporting period there was 1 Non-Fatal Non-Fire Casualty.

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Property Type	Incident
Grassland, woodland and crops	6

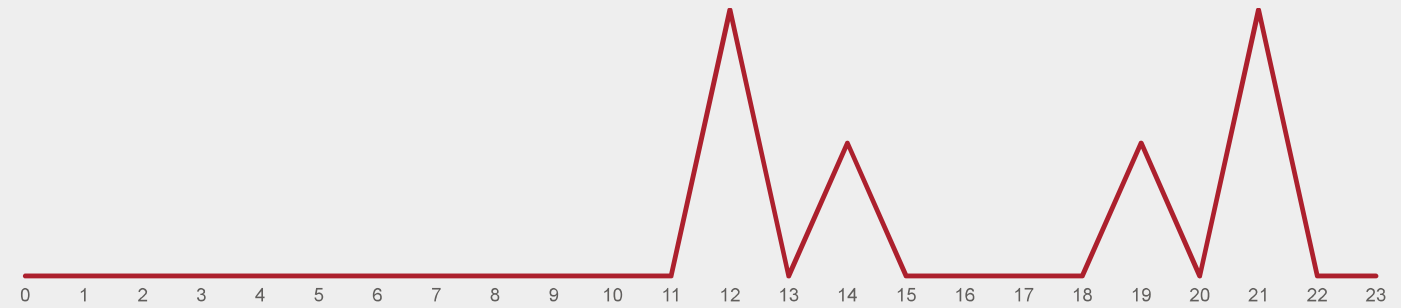
Incidents by Ward



6

Deliberate Fires
in this period

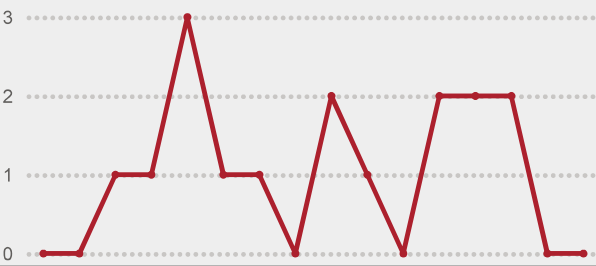
Hour of Day



This period has seen **6 Deliberate Fires** which is an increase compared to previous reporting periods. All incidents were recorded as outdoor incidents involving grassland, woodland and crops.

No significant or concerning trends.

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Incidents by Ward

Top 15 Property Types

Property Type	Incidents
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- Accidental
- Deliberate

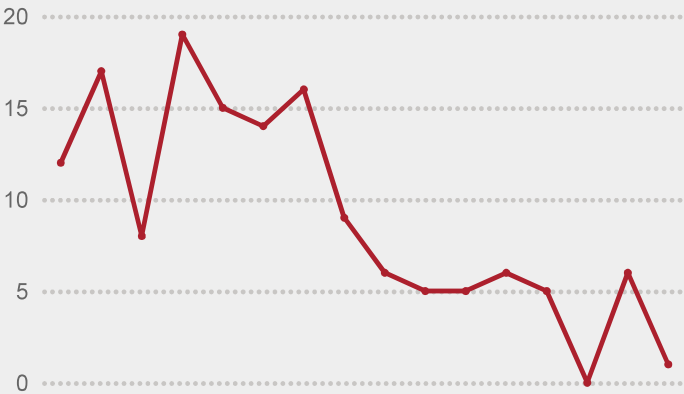
0

Non-Domestic
Fires in this
period

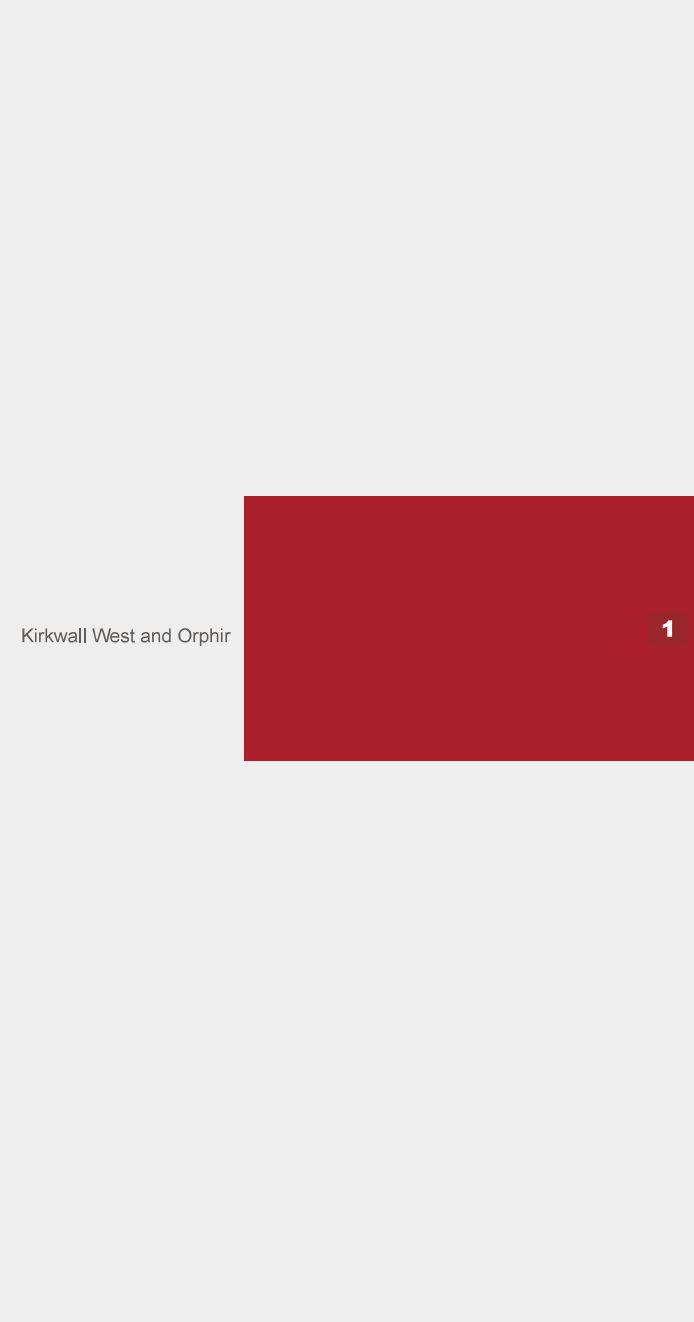
Extent of Damage

There were 0 Non-Domestic Fires in this period, which continues to show a reduction compared to previous reporting periods.

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Incidents by Ward



Top 15 Property Types

Property Type	Incidents
Nurses'/Doctors' accommodation	1

1

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals in this period

There was **1 Unwanted Fire Alarm Signal (UFAS)** during this period, which sees a reduction compared to the previous reporting period. The figures continue to remain low following the Service's change to attendance at commercial business and workplace premises.

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



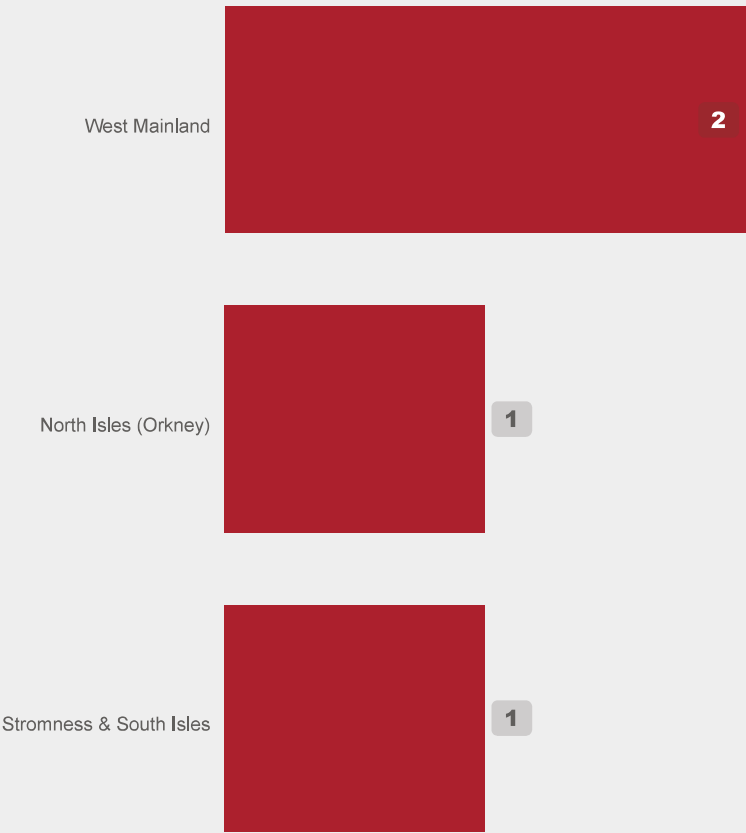
4

Road Traffic Collisions in this period

Property Type	Incidents
Car	2
Motorcycle	1
Multiple Vehicles	1

Incident Type	Incidents
Vehicle (Non-fire)	4

Incidents by Ward



0

Non-Fatal Casualties

0

Fatal Casualties

1

People Rescued by Firefighters

Extent of Harm (Non-Fatal)



0

First Aid Given at Scene



0

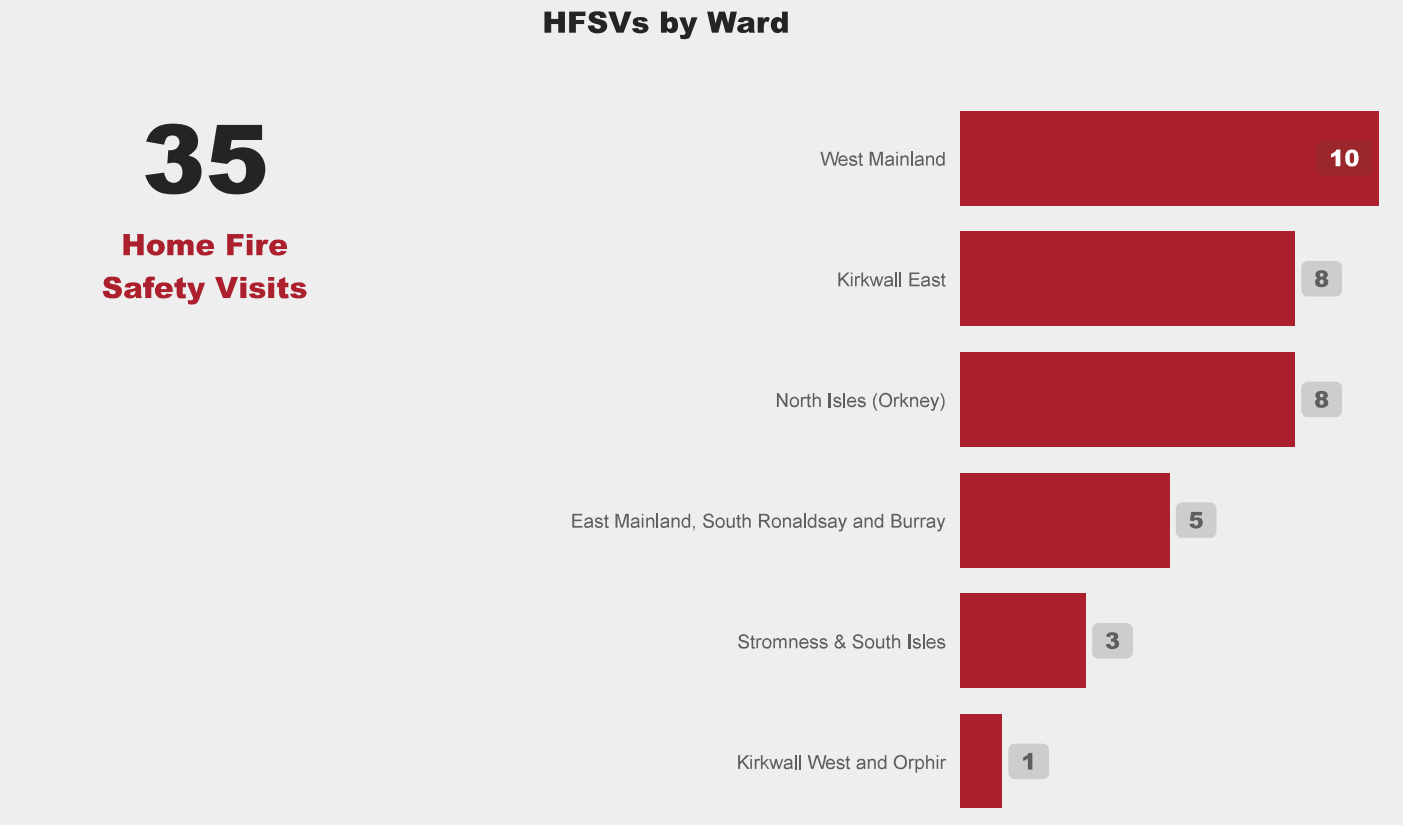
Hospital Slight Injuries



0

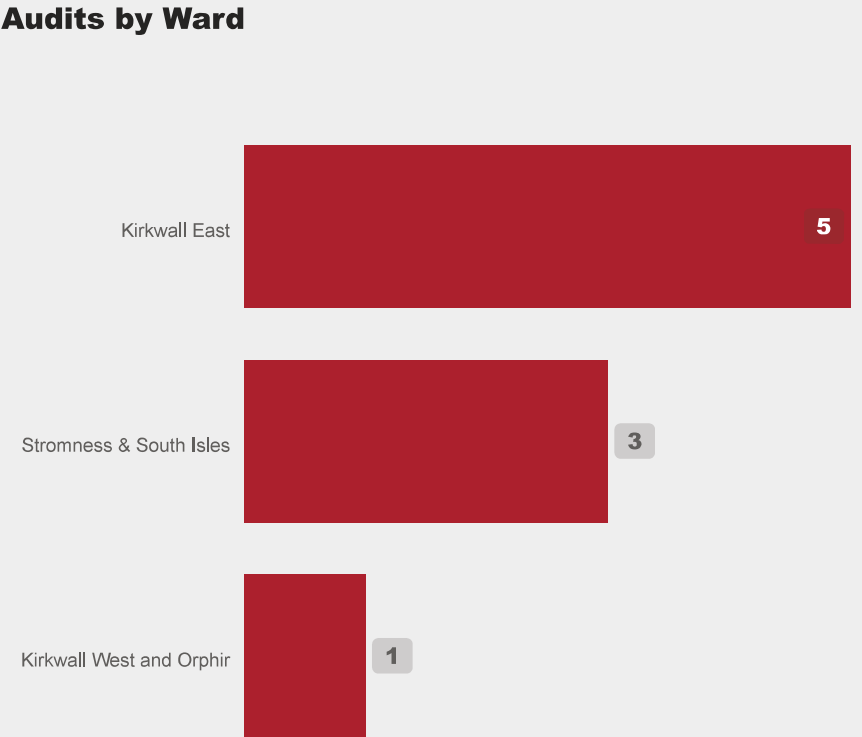
Hospital Serious Injuries

Unfortunately in this reporting period there were **4 Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs)** which is an increase when compared to the previous period. There was 1 person rescued by Firefighters, however there were **0 Fatal Casualties** and **0 Non-Fatal Casualties**.



11. Fire Safety Enforcement

Job Type	Count
Audit	9
Consultation	1



There were **35 Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSVs)** undertaken by our personnel during this period. With the introduction of the new, modernised Home Fire Safety Visit system that enhances how we identify, assess and support the most at risk from fire, we may see an initial decline in referrals and HFSVs whilst the new systems and referral pathways are embedded.

- 14 x On-Call Retained Duty System appliances across 12 Stations

***Please note the availability figures do not include Joint Mobilising availability.**

Station	Jul – Sept 25 Availability* %	Male	Female	Staff
Eday	0%	1	0	1
Hoy	78.67%	6	0	6
Kirkwall – 1 st Appliance	99.91%	13	2	15
Kirkwall – 2 nd Appliance	79.37%			
North Ronaldsay	82.05%	2	2	4
Papa Westray	95.92%	7	0	7
Rousay	75.16%	5	0	5
Sanday	99.46%	8	0	8
Shapinsay	69.52%	7	1	8
St Margaret's Hope	82.71%	8	1	9
Stromness – 1 st Appliance	98.56%	16	2	18
Stromness – 2 nd Appliance	68.76%			
Stronsay	98.11%	11	1	12
Westray	100%	10	0	10

- 103 x Station based personnel.
- 2 x Wholetime On-Call Watch Commanders.
- 1 x Wholetime On-Call Crew Commander.
- 1 x Wholetime Community Safety Advocate.
- 1 x Part-time Fire Safety Auditing Officer
- 2 x Station Commanders, 1 x Group Commander, 1 x Area Commander.
- In addition to the above Orkney is remotely supported through the provision of Instructional staff and administrative functions.

Autumn Season Thematic Action Plan

	KO1	Reduce fire-related anti-social behaviour and the number of deliberate primary and secondary fires.
	KO2	Reduce the number of fires involving refuse/rubbish
	KO3	Reduce accidents and injuries arising from outdoor fires and/or misuse of fireworks
	KO4	(a) Reduce the number of unsafe bonfires (bonfire attendances) (b) Support partnership working regarding refuse/rubbish/fly-tipping referrals/uplifts
	KO5	Support compliance with firework legislation (firework-related)
	KO6	Support the safety of operational personnel (reported acts of violence)
	KO7	(a) Reduce the number of outdoor fires involving grass/ heather/heathland (b) Reduce the number of wildfires
	KO8	Reduce the number of fires in derelict/unoccupied buildings

We are approaching the final period of this Thematic Action Plan and has seen delivery of educational talks relating to the use of fireworks and bonfires.

Safe Islander 2025



Yet again a hugely successful event hosted at Kirkwall Grammar School seeing approximately 250 pupils from across Orkney attend this vital safety event. Being able to work alongside partners from different disciplines is pivotal in bringing awareness of the breadth of common risks and dangers that could be faced by young persons in their daily lives. Our very own Community Safety Advocate teamed up this year with his counterpart from Shetland and in turn made the away journey to support the delivery of similar events. Being able to share experiences and good practice is key to developing future learning for our communities.

Safe Drive Stay Alive 2025



In addition to the Safe Islander presentations, it was with great pride that we had the opportunity to again work alongside our partners in the delivery of this crucial safety event. The event itself is hard hitting with the intention that those attending will take home a lifelong appreciation of the responsibility that comes with driving and share with others the messages learnt. This year the event benefitted from an in-person talk from Laura Torrance, of Spinal Injuries Scotland. The SFRS is grateful for these opportunities to strengthen safety messages delivered by all involved. We will continue our ongoing support, throughout the coming years, through our use of virtual reality education tools.

Out of Hospital Cardiac Arrest (OHCA) – Members Training Opportunity

A reminder for members diaries. Four sessions have been programmed in to allow Elected Members to participate in a life saving refresher training event. In order to ensure as many people as possible survive an OHCA, the strategy follows what is known as the 'Chain of Survival'. The Chain of Survival describes the crucial elements required to save a life when someone is in cardiac arrest. These elements are: community readiness and early recognition that a cardiac arrest is happening; early cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR); early defibrillation to restart the heart; timely hospital care, and appropriate aftercare.



13. Glossary of Terms

Term - What it means

ADF

Accidental Dwelling Fire.

HFSV

Home Fire Safety Visit.

PDIR

Post Domestic Incident Response, a term used to indicate actions taken following attendance at a fire or other incident in the home. PDIRs include amongst things the offer of a free follow up home fire safety visit.

RTC

Road Traffic Collision.

Special Service

Calls to incidents which are not fires or false alarms such as RTCs, rescues, flooding, incidents involving hazardous materials or the provision of assistance to other agencies.

UFAS

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals. When an automatic fire detection and alarm system is activated as a result of anything other than an actual fire the activation is classed as a false alarm. If an attendance is made to such an event by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, then the event is recorded as an UFAS incident.

UFAS Policy Change

In response to COVID, on the 6th May 2020, the SFRS decided to send 1 pump to UFAS premises that did not have their own Predetermined attendance (PDA).

As of 1st July 2023, the COVID interim 1 pump response was ended and a new UFAS policy was implemented.

The new policy is to call challenge all UFAS incidents with the intention of non-attendance. Hospitals, care homes, and sleeping risk premises are all exempt and receive either 2 pumps or their premise specific PDA.



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BUSINESS
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Design, figures and charts by the Business Intelligence team.