



SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Working together for a safer Scotland

LOCAL FIRE AND RESCUE PLAN

FOR THE FALKIRK COUNCIL AREA

2014 - 2017

Draft for Consultation

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for a safer Scotland**

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Foreword

I am pleased to introduce the new local Fire and Rescue Plan for the Falkirk Council area. As the portfolio holder for public protection, I very much look forward to continue working successfully in partnership with the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, so as to secure the best outcomes for our communities.

In reviewing this new 3 year plan, I am pleased to see the continuing commitment being given to local Fire and Rescue Services and the strong emphasis being given to local partnership working. As a Council, keeping our communities safe and protecting citizens are key priorities. We want to ensure that the successful way in which local Fire and Rescue Services have been provided over many years continues.

I recognise that the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service will continue to be a key partner in delivering on our local outcomes, as set out in our Strategic Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement. I note the alignment of the local Fire and Rescue Plan to these, which is welcome. I also welcome the commitment made to continuous improvement for the benefit of local communities.

The service has committed itself to equitable access to services across the Council area, and to pursue an inclusive and consultative approach to developing services into the future. This plan will make a key contribution to Community Safety in the coming years.

The Council supports the objectives and priorities set out in the plan and is committed to working with Fire and Rescue colleagues in securing them. This sense of strong, committed and genuine partnership working will ensure that we secure the local outcomes we desire for our local communities and citizens.

Jim Blackwood

Councillor Jim Blackwood,

Portfolio Holder for Public Protection,

Falkirk Council

Welcome to the Scottish Fire and Rescue Services (SFRS) Local Fire and Rescue Plan for the Falkirk Council area. This plan is the mechanism through which the aims of the SFRS's Strategic Plan 2013 – 2016 are delivered to meet the agreed needs of the communities of the Falkirk Council area.

The Local Fire and Rescue Plan sets out my priorities and objectives for the SFRS within the Falkirk Council area for 2014 – 2017 and allows Local Authority partners to scrutinise the performance outcomes of those priorities. SFRS will continue to work closely with partners in the Falkirk Council area to ensure we are all “Working together for a safer Scotland” through targeting the risks to our communities at a local level.

The Local Fire and Rescue Plan and its associated action plans are aligned to the Community Planning Partnership structures within the Falkirk Council area. Through partnership working, I aim to deliver continuous improvement in performance and effective service delivery in SFRS's area of operations.

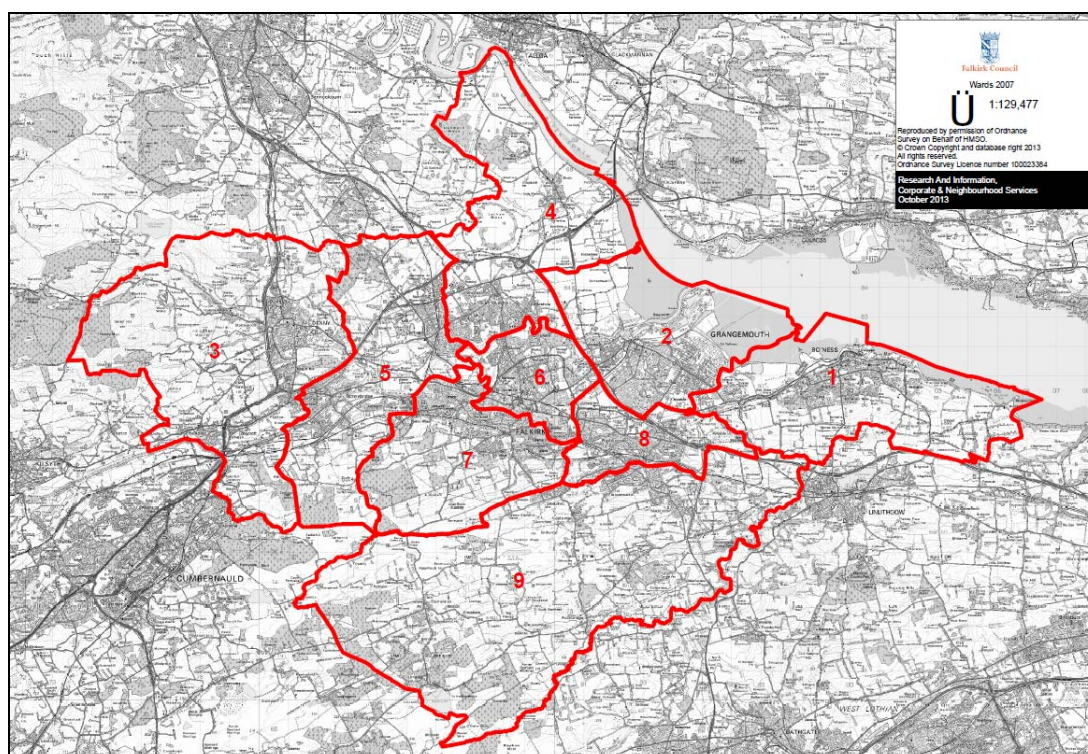
The SFRS will continue to use data analysis techniques to identify risk and to ensure resources are allocated to the point of need within the Falkirk Council communities. While considering the strategic priorities of the SFRS we will develop local solutions to local needs, and ensure equitable access to Fire and Rescue resources. Through our on-going involvement with local community safety groups in the Falkirk Council area, we will continue to develop our understanding of local needs and proactively seek out consultation opportunities with all sections of the community. Using this approach we will ensure that the service we deliver is driven by consultation, in line with public expectations and helps to build strong, safe and resilient communities.

Gary Laing

Gary Laing

Local Senior Officer for Falkirk and West Lothian

Falkirk Council Area Ward Profile



Ward Area	Fire Station Locations
Ward 1: Bo'ness and Blackness	Bo'ness
Ward 2: Grangemouth	Denny
Ward 3: Denny and Banknock	Larbert
Ward 4: Carse, Kinnaird and Tryst	Falkirk
Ward 5: Bonnybridge and Larbert	Slamannan
Ward 6: Falkirk North	
Ward 7: Falkirk South	
Ward 8: Lower Braes	
Ward 9: Upper Braes	

SFRS Resource Based in the Falkirk Council Area

Bo'ness, Falkirk and Larbert Community Fire Stations are staffed by a mixture of Whole-Time firefighters who are located at the station 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and Retained Duty System (RDS) firefighters who provide a 24 hours a day, seven days a week emergency on call response. Two fire appliances are based at each of the aforementioned community fire stations.

In our remaining two Community Fire Stations, Denny and Slamannan. RDS firefighters provide a 24 hours a day, seven days a week emergency on call response. Two fire appliances are based at Denny and one fire appliance is based at Slamannan.

RDS firefighters are employed on a part time basis and provide a vital service to the community in which they live or work. Most of our RDS firefighters are women and men who have primary employment in another field, but in addition to their full time job, they provide the same range of emergency services as their whole-time colleagues.

A team of community safety engagement staff, work throughout the Falkirk Council area to support their station based colleagues in delivering the wide range of preventative, awareness and engagement activities. Coordinating this activity is a Local Authority Liaison Officer (LALO), who is based at Falkirk Fire Station and provides a direct link between Falkirk Council, Community Planning Partners and the Fire and Rescue Service.

Supporting the enforcement of fire safety legislation within buildings, other than domestic premises, is a team of highly trained Fire Safety Enforcement Officers who provide advice on fire safety matters, actively conduct fire safety audits of buildings, consult on building warrant plans and enforce compliance with fire safety legislation.

A management team has responsibility for service delivery and community engagement/enforcement across the Falkirk Council area. These officers are responsible for the effective service delivery across the area.

SFRS resources employed across the Falkirk Council area will aim to work in partnership and collaboration with other community resources to deliver better outcomes for the communities. Sharing of information will be a key enabler in this process and will ensure that duplication of services is reduced and that community focused outcomes are aligned and delivered.

In addition to day-to-day resources within Falkirk Council area, it is a Strategic Aim of SFRS that, as a single service, communities will have access to specialist skills and resources from across Scotland.

We will work with the other emergency services and voluntary groups within the Falkirk Council area that have an interest in emergency response and specialist rescue. This will allow us to identify resources, such as skills and equipment that are available nationally.

Introduction

The Scottish Government provides an overarching vision for public services that focuses on the creation of a more successful country, with opportunities for all through a sustainable increase in economic growth.

This direction is supported by Strategic Objectives to make Scotland a wealthier & fairer, smarter, healthier, safer & stronger and greener place. Through a concordat between the Scottish Government and the Convention for Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA), the Strategic Objectives have been expanded into local Single Outcome Agreements which include indicators and targets that provide the framework for how local authorities and their Community Planning Partners such as the SFRS will deliver services.

The Fire (Scotland) Act 2005, amended by part 2 of The Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 provides the statutory basis for the SFRS to deliver a range of core services and functions that means while the service is ready to respond to fire and other emergencies, it also maintains a strong focus on prevention and protection arrangements to ensure the safety of our communities. The associated Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2013 sets the overarching strategic direction for the SFRS in the delivery of its services to the communities of the Falkirk Council area.

The Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 requires Local Fire and Rescue plans to contain:

- Priorities and objectives for the SFRS in connection with the carrying out of its duties in the local authority's area.
- The reasons for selecting each of those priorities and objectives
- How SFRS proposes to deliver those priorities and objectives
- In so far as is reasonably practicable, outcomes by reference to which delivery of those priorities and objectives can be measured
- How those priorities and objectives are expected to contribute to the delivery of any other relevant local outcomes which are identified by community planning,
- Such other matters relating to the carrying out of the SFRS's functions in the local authority's area as SFRS thinks fit.

Strategic Assessment

A strategic assessment for the SFRS's activities in Scotland established the type, frequency and impact of incidents that we attend. With this assessment in place, the Local Senior Officer (LSO) for the Falkirk Council area can effectively identify key priority areas for the SFRS to target its resources at a local level.

National Assessment

The Scottish Government within their National Performance Framework have identified 16 National Outcomes they wish to achieve. Through delivery of this Local Fire and Rescue Plan, the SFRS in particular will contribute to the following Outcomes:

- **National Outcome 1:** We live in a Scotland that is the most attractive place for doing business in Europe.
- **National Outcome 4:** Our young people are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens.
- **National Outcome 6:** We live longer healthier lives.
- **National Outcome 8:** We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk.
- **National Outcome 9:** We live our lives safe from crime disorder and danger.
- **National Outcome 11:** We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others.
- **National Outcome 12:** We value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations.
- **National Outcome 14:** We reduce the local and global environmental impact of our consumption and production.
- **National Outcome 15:** Our people are able to maintain their independence as they get older and are able to access appropriate support when they need it.
- **National Outcome 16:** Our public services are high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to local people's needs.

SFRS Strategy

The priorities for the SFRS have been laid out in the Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2013 with the following Strategic Aims defined within the SFRS Strategic Plan 2013-2017:

- **Strategic Aim 1:** Improve safety of our communities and staff.
- **Strategic Aim 2:** More equitable access to Fire and Rescue Services.
- **Strategic Aim 3:** Improved outcomes through partnership.
- **Strategic Aim 4:** Develop a culture of continuous improvement.

Equality Assessment

On 30 April 2013, the SFRS published its Equality Outcomes, in compliance with the Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) (Scotland) Regulations 2012. The SFRS Equality Outcomes are:

- **Outcome 1:** People from all Scotland's community groups feel confident in contacting the Fire and Rescue Service for advice and information on relevant non-emergency issues.
- **Outcome 2:** Disabled, LGBT, BME, older people and people from minority faiths are aware of the services provided by the SFRS, particularly how these can be adapted to meet their own individual needs.
- **Outcome 3:** People from all Scotland's community groups feel safer in their homes and on our roads.
- **Outcome 4:** Establish the SFRS as an employer of choice for people across protected characteristics.
- **Outcome 5:** Provide a positive and healthy workplace culture that welcomes, embraces and develops people from across all protected characteristics.
- **Outcome 6:** People from across all communities are enabled to live lives free from hate crime, harassment and domestic abuse/violence.
- **Outcome 7:** Gypsy travellers and migrant workers are safer, better informed and confident in Scottish Fire and Rescue Service engagement.

Although fire statistics provide actual and historical data relating to fires, the profile of a community is of vital importance in helping us to identify the steps needed to achieve these outcomes and ensure everyone has the opportunity to access our services and reduce their risk from fire and other injuries.

SFRS Values

Our values framework sets out what we believe to be important in supporting how we deliver our services to the communities and support our own staff. At the core of this, is the safety of the communities we serve and we will do our utmost to enhance and support community safety and place a high value on the safety of our firefighters.

The communities of the Falkirk Council area can rightly expect to receive a first class service from the SFRS grounded in our commitment to actively pursue our values in support of better outcomes.



Falkirk Council Area Risk Profile

Understanding the Falkirk Council area and the profile of the community is of vital importance in helping the SFRS to develop this Local Fire and Rescue Plan and identify priorities and objectives to ensure everyone has the opportunity to access our services and reduce their risk from fire.

This Local Fire and Rescue plan has been prepared within the wider context of the Falkirk Community Planning Partnership and sets out the local priorities for delivering local fire service priorities for the Falkirk Council area. Underlying this plan are the key principles of community planning namely; prevention and early intervention; integration of public services around the whole systems approach; transparency, accountability and innovation in our approaches to fire service provision.

The Falkirk Council area covers a geographical area of 298 square kilometres (114 square miles) and is situated in the centre of Scotland. It has a growing population, which, according to the preliminary results of the 2011 Census, is now 156,000, making it the 11th largest Council area in Scotland. The population has grown by 7.4 % or 10,000 since the last Census in 2001.

The Falkirk Council area enjoys a diverse community, which is growing. Much of this growth has been driven by net in-migration, which since 2001 has been measured at approximately 725 per year. People from ethnic backgrounds can be more vulnerable due to feeling isolated within communities because of a number of reasons, including language barriers and cultural differences.

Compared to the rest of Scotland, the population of the Falkirk Council area is currently relatively young, with a high proportion of children living in the area. The educational activities outlined in this Local Fire and Rescue Plan are designed to target young people in the area as part of a preventative strategy.

The Falkirk Council area currently has a slightly smaller percentage of older people when compared to other areas in Scotland. However, following national trends, the population in the area is ageing. Although being older is not a specific risk in its own right, risk is increased when age is combined with other factors, such as living alone, living in poverty and in isolation. Physical and mental health issues associated with ageing can also contribute to an increase in risk.

Community Planning Partners put significant emphasis on reducing health inequalities across the Falkirk Council area and recognise that inequalities can lead to earlier death and poorer health. There is a correlation between health inequalities, such as smoking and alcohol/drugs misuse, and the increased vulnerability to the risks of fire. This Local Fire and Rescue Plan recognises these links and sets out activities that are aimed at reducing these risks.

The Falkirk Council area is important to the Scottish economy with £2.45 billion of Gross Value Added (GVA) being generated in the area in 2010. In addition to being recognised as of strategic importance to the Scottish economy, the petrochemical complex situated at Grangemouth contributes significantly to the GVA of the Falkirk Council area. The Grangemouth complex is also a major source of employment in the area. There can be inherent risks associated with storing and processing petrochemical products and this Local Fire and Rescue Plan takes cognisance of these risks and confirms the commitment of the SFRS to work with partners to mitigate the risks and prepare to deal with adverse safety events.

Regeneration is an important element of the 25-year vision for the future of the Falkirk Council area; this is highlighted by the recent approval of the Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) scheme for the Grangemouth and Falkirk areas. The TIF will have a significant impact on the economic growth and job creation for the Falkirk Council area and it is recognised the potential impact from increased visitors and employment will be a key focus for the SFRS and its partners.

A number of projects have been completed, or are in the process of completion, to regenerate town centres and the supporting infrastructure in the Falkirk Council area. Other examples of regeneration in the area are the Falkirk Wheel, which was built as part of the Millennium project and the soon to be completed Helix project.

While not suffering from the same concentrations of deprivation as experienced in other local authority areas, there are still areas of deprivation in most of the towns in the area. The 2012 Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) identified 18 data zones in the Falkirk Council area that fell within the worst 15% in Scotland. Historical data indicates that there will be an increase in fire related activity in areas of deprivation. This Local Fire and Rescue Plan allows the SFRS sufficient flexibility to target our resources in areas of the most need.

Local Operational Assessment

Identified local key priority areas for the Falkirk Council area are monitored through the gathering and analysis of operational activity data.

The Local Fire and Rescue Service activity table below provides a historical overview of the incident types, and the number of incidents, that SFRS attended in the Falkirk Council area.

The Red/Amber/Green (RAG) Trend column provides an indication whether the number of incidents, per incident type, in the year 2012/13 was higher or lower than in the previous year (2011/12).

Local Fire and Rescue Activity data source SFRS, Incident Recording System (IRS)

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	3 year average	Trend
All deliberate primary fires	86	98	70	85	↓
All deliberate other building fires	24	29	26	26	↓
All deliberate secondary fires	617	478	322	472	↓
All accidental dwelling fires	113	101	91	102	↓
All accidental other building fires	58	46	27	44	↓
All fatal fire casualties	2	2	1	2	↓
Non-fatal casualties excl. precautionary checks	24	15	13	17	↓
Non-fatal casualties incl. precautionary checks	26	24	13	21	↓
Special Service Road Traffic Collisions (RTC)	51	46	66	54	↑
Special Service flooding	94	30	22	49	↓
Special Service extrication	20	33	28	27	↓
Special Service 'others'	97	113	89	100	↓
False Alarm: Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS)	799	812	821	811	↑
False Alarm: Good intent	444	422	369	412	↓
False Alarm: Malicious	72	65	61	66	↓

Local Assessment

The local assessment addresses issues relevant to Falkirk Council area. Through analysis of local operational assessment, Community Planning Partners priorities and the needs of the community, local improvement and demand reduction plans can be developed to ensure positive outcomes and results are achieved.

The local assessment has been developed taking cognisance of the outcomes of the public consultation on the draft Falkirk Council area Local Fire and Rescue Plan, local data analysis, SFRS Strategic Aims, National Outcomes and the outcomes identified in the Falkirk Council area Single Outcome Agreement 2013-2015

The key priority areas in the Falkirk council area that are considered in the Local Assessment and those that action plans will be developed for are:

- Priority 1 Local Risk Management and Preparedness
- Priority 2 Reduction of Accidental Dwelling Fires
- Priority 3 Reduction in Fire Fatalities and Casualties
- Priority 4 Reduction of Deliberate Fire Setting
- Priority 5 Reduction of Fires in Non-Domestic Property
- Priority 6 Reduction in Casualties from Non-Fire Emergencies
- Priority 7 Reduction of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals.

The table below depicts the links between the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Falkirk Council area key priorities and the Falkirk Community Planning Partners SOA themes.

	Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Falkirk Council area Priorities						
Falkirk SOA Themes	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3	Priority 4	Priority 5	Priority 6	Priority 7
1. Economic recovery, growth and employment	√			√	√		√
2. Early years, children and young people	√	√	√	√			
3. Safer, stronger communities and reducing reoffending	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
4. Health Inequalities and Physical Activity		√	√			√	
5. Outcomes for older people	√	√	√		√		
6. Poverty and welfare reform		√	√	√		√	

Priorities, Actions and Outcomes

1. Local Risk Management and Preparedness

The SFRS has a statutory duty to reduce the risks to our communities and to make certain that they receive the best possible service.

The Grangemouth petrochemical industry and the strategically important port of Grangemouth are situated on the Firth of Forth within the Falkirk Council area. The large number of petrochemical sites located within the Grangemouth area, store, process and transport a wide variety of petroleum based products and chemicals for the UK and the International market. This Fire and Rescue Local Plan 2014 -17 recognises the large number of petro-chemical sites with-in the area of Grangemouth which comes with-in the Control of Major Accident & Hazardous (COMAH Regulations 1999 (as amended 2005). The SFRS working in partnership with the Major Incident Control Committee, (MICC) and the Forth Valley Local Resilience Partnership (LRP) allows us to meet our statutory duties under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004, and the Contingency Planning (Scotland) Regulations 2005, regards emergency planning arrangements and exercising regimes.

Whilst safety is of primary concern to all stakeholders involved in the storage, production and transportation of petrochemical products, all partners are committed to working together to ensure that industrial and commercial sites operate as safely as possible. Pre-planning and preparedness for adverse safety events is an essential element of safeguarding the community in the Falkirk Council area.

The Fire and Rescue Local Plan recognises the strategic importance of maintaining industry business continuity during periods of inclement weather, in particular the threat of flooding from the Forth estuary. The SFRS in conjunction with the local authority, the Scottish Environmental Agency (SEPA) and the petrochemical industrial partners under the (MICC) review emergency procedures to mitigate the risk of flooding to the areas at risk.

The SFRS monitors existing risks and emerging threats in terms of the natural and built environment, through the Forth Valley LRP Community Risk Register. The Community Risk Register identifies risks that require risk management and mitigation initiatives. Examples of such risks identified in Falkirk Council area are:

- Inclement weather
- Fire or explosion at a gas terminal or involving a gas pipeline.
- Industrial & Environmental pollution
- Local accident involving transport of hazardous chemicals.
- Industrial explosions and major fires

The SFRS is committed to working in partnership with all relevant stakeholders to ensure emergency planning and preparedness arrangements are in place and tested. An element of our partnership working includes empowering and supporting communities to build community resilience and cohesion. Through this work, we will work with communities to harness their resources and expertise. Examples of this work includes; making communities aware of the risks that they face and advising on simple steps that can be taken to improve their own safety

The management of risk within our community means:

- Identifying the risks to the community that fall within the scope of responsibility of the SFRS.
- Undertaking a process to prioritise and mitigate these risks.
- Ensuring appropriate local and national resource capability and trained fire service personnel are in place to address them.

Aligns to:

National Outcomes:

- 6: We live longer healthier lives.
- 8: We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk.
- 9: We live our lives safe from crime disorder and danger.
- 11: We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others.
- 12: We value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Aims:

- 1: Improve safety of our communities and staff.
- 2: More equitable access to fire and rescue services.
- 3: Improved outcomes through partnership.
- 4: Develop a culture of continuous improvement.

Falkirk Council Area Priority:

- Falkirk Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment 2011-2014
http://www.falkirk.gov.uk/services/corporate_neighbourhood/policy_performance_review/corporate_policy/community_safety/PDFs/public_strategic_assessment.pdf
- Falkirk Community Planning Partnership: Single Outcome Agreement 2013 -15, Theme No's 1, 2, 3, & 5 (contributes to, SOA Performance Indicator Ref 1.1).
[Falkirk Community Planning Partnership 'Moving Forward Together' Falkirk Strategic Community Plan 2010-2015](#)
- Falkirk Council, Grangemouth Off Site COMAH Plan.
- East Service Delivery Area Regional Resilience Partnership\Local Resilience Partnership.
- The Civil Contingencies Act 2004 (Scotland) Regulations 2005
- [The Civil Contingencies Act 2004 and the Contingency Planning \(Scotland\) Regulations 2005](#)

We will achieve it by:

- Ensuring our training, staff development and equipment is fit for purpose to meet our current risk profile and adaptable to changing circumstances.
- Ensure all known risk information is obtained, communicated and tested.
- Working locally with partner organisations and agencies to ensure effective response plans are developed for identified risks.
- Fulfilling our statutory duties in relation to the Civil Contingencies Act 2004

In doing so we will add value by:

- Keeping our staff and members of the public safe should any incident occur.
- Reducing the financial burden and disruption caused to our communities when emergencies occur.
- The wealth and prosperity of our area will increase;
- Proactively helping the wider community by preventing emergencies and planning to mitigate their effects when they occur.

2. Reduction of Accidental Dwelling Fires

Throughout the Falkirk Council area, accidental dwelling fires have occurred within a wide variety of dwelling places. There are direct links to areas of social deprivation and those who are most vulnerable to fire within the community.

Alcohol consumption and/or drugs misuse continues to be identified as a contributory factor in a number of serious injury/fatal fires, due to the effect that they have upon the occupant's ability to react appropriately in a fire situation. In addition, cigarettes and smoking materials remain the primary ignition source in a number of serious injury/fatal fires.

House fires can have a significant negative impact on both individuals and the community, in relation to the human, social and economic cost of fire.

Through our Home Fire Safety Visit Programme, and Community Engagement and Education activities, we aim to reduce the risk and impact of fire and the associated losses.

Aligns to:

National Outcomes:

- 6: We live longer healthier lives.
- 8: We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk.
- 9: We live our lives safe from crime disorder and danger.
- 11: We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others.
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Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Aims:

- 1: Improve safety of our communities and staff.
- 2: More equitable access to fire and rescue services.
- 3: Improved outcomes through partnership.
- 4: Develop a culture of continuous improvement.

Falkirk Council Area Priority:

- Falkirk Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment 2011-2014.
Falkirk Community Planning Partnership: Contributes to, Single Outcome Agreement 2013-15, Theme No's, 2,3,4,5 & 6 (Performance Indicator Ref 3.6).
- Falkirk Community Planning Partnership 'Moving Forward Together' Falkirk Strategic Community Plan 2010-2015.

We will achieve it by:

- Active participation in Falkirk Community Planning arrangements and adopting a partnership approach to risk reduction.
- Leading the Safety Work-stream of the Falkirk Community Safety Partnership.
- Contributing to the monthly/fortnightly Tasking & Coordinating process.
- Sharing information with Health Care, Social Work and relevant partners to help protect the most vulnerable, young and elderly.
- Developing new partnerships to identify and support at risk groups.
- Identifying opportunities for engagement with all members of our community to promote fire safety and good citizenship.
- Delivery of fire safety related educational programmes and community engagement activities.

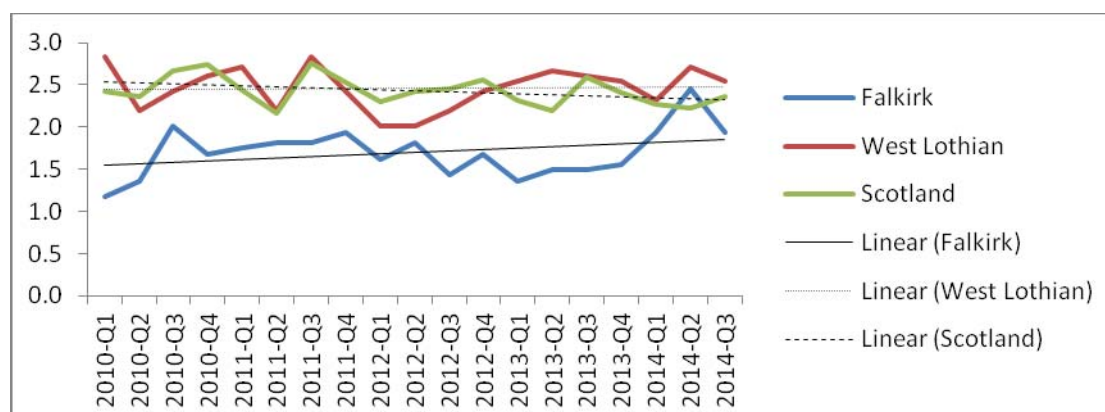
In doing so we will add value by:

- Promoting confident and safe communities where residents feel positive about where they live.
- Protecting our citizens.
- Encouraging our citizens and communities to take responsibilities for their own health and well-being.
- Making our communities safer.
- Reducing the potential financial burden on society through the education of residents.

We aim to reduce Accidental Dwelling Fires in the Falkirk Council area on a year on year basis, that contributes towards the SFRS target of a 10 % reduction, over a three-year rolling period.

Performance

The graph below provides empirical incident data on performance in relation to Accidental Dwelling Fires. (data source SFRS, IRS)



The graph depicts the occurrence of Accidental Dwelling Fires per 10,000 population*. For benchmarking purposes comparative trend data from a comparable local authority area (West Lothian) and Scotland has been included.

*Source: General Register Office for Scotland (GROS)

3. Reduction in Fire Fatalities and Casualties

Fire casualties tend to occur in accidental dwelling fires. Evidence suggests that where occupants of a dwelling misuse alcohol and/or drugs or are elderly or infirm, there is an increased likelihood of becoming a fire casualty/fatality. The absence of a working smoke detector can greatly increase the vulnerability of these individuals.

The human and financial costs associated with fire casualties/fatalities are high due to potentially significant trauma/loss of life to individuals, and societal costs.

The SFRS in the Falkirk Council area aims to target a reduction in these casualties by adopting a partnership approach to reduce the risk to individuals, particularly those that are most vulnerable.

Aligns to:

National Outcomes:

- 6: We live longer, healthier lives.
- 8: We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk.
- 9: We live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger.
- 11: We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others.
- 15: Our people are able to maintain their independence as they get older and are able to access appropriate support when they need it.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Aims:

- 1: Improve safety of our communities and staff.
- 2: More equitable access to fire and rescue services.
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- 4: Develop a culture of continuous improvement.

Falkirk Council Area Priority:

- Falkirk Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment 2011-2014.
Falkirk Community Planning Partnership: Contributes to, Single Outcome Agreement 2013-15, Theme No's, 2,3,4,5 & 6 (Performance Indicator Ref 3.5 & 3.6, and contributes to 4.12 & 4.15).
- Falkirk Community Planning Partnership 'Moving Forward Together' Falkirk Strategic Community Plan 2010-2015.

We will achieve it by:

- Active participation in Falkirk Council Community Planning arrangements and adopting a partnership approach to risk reduction.
- Continued delivery of the Home Fire Safety Visit programme to households within the Falkirk Council area, with particular emphasis on the most vulnerable in our community.
- Targeted Home Fire Safety Visit referrals from partner agencies.
- Promoting healthier lifestyles through encouraging a reduction in alcohol, drugs and cigarette use.
- Ensuring our Community Safety Strategy considers all persons at risk from fire.
- Our citizens and communities shall be encouraged to take responsibilities for their own health and well-being.

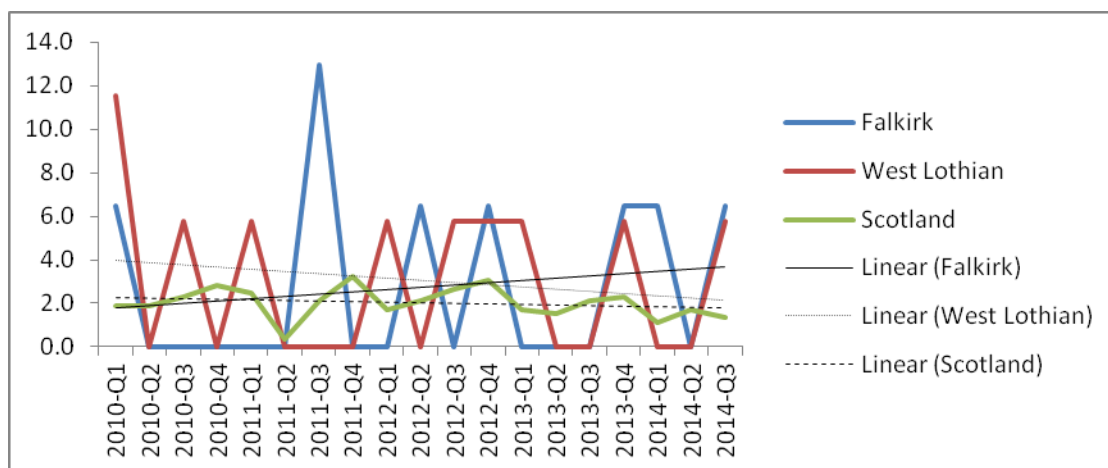
In doing so we will add value by:

- Our citizens will be protected.
- Our communities will be safer.
- Reducing demand on other partner services such as local health care and social work partners.
- Reducing fire casualty hospitalisation times.

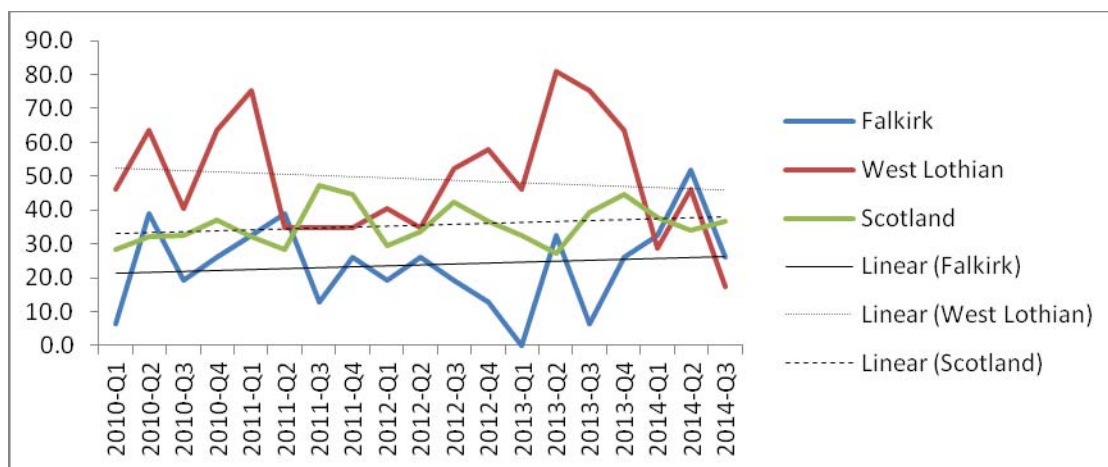
We aim to reduce Fire Casualties on a year on year basis in the Falkirk Council area, that contributes towards the SFRS target of a reducing Fire Casualties by a 5% reduction, per year over a three-year rolling period

Performance

The graph below provides empirical incident data on performance in relation to Fire Fatalities. (data source SFRS, IRS)



The graph below provides empirical incident data on performance in relation to Non Fatal Fire Casualties. (data source SFRS, IRS)



The graphs above depict the occurrence of Fatal and Non-Fatal Casualties per 1,000,000 population*. For benchmarking purposes comparative trend data from a comparable local authority area (West Lothian) and Scotland has been included.

*Source: GROS

4. Reduction of Deliberate Fire Setting

Deliberate fire setting is a significant problem for the SFRS and is responsible for a significant number of secondary fires that are attended across the Falkirk Council area. In the main, secondary fire categories are refuse, grassland and derelict buildings incidents. In addition, deliberate fire setting is responsible for a number of primary fires that involve property loss and potential injury/loss of life.

There is a close link between deliberate secondary fires and other forms of anti-social behaviour. By continuing to focus our attention on deliberate fires this will reduce the demand on the SFRS and the burden upon partners and in turn enhance community wellbeing and reduce the environmental impact.

Aligns to:

National Outcomes:

- 4: Our young people are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens.
- 8: We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk.
- 9: We live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger.
- 11: We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others.
- 12: We value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations.
- 14: We reduce the local and global environmental impact of our consumption and production.
- 16: Our public services are high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to local people's needs.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Aims:

- 1: Improve safety of our communities and staff.
- 2: More equitable access to fire and rescue services.
- 3: Improved outcomes through partnership.
- 4: Develop a culture of continuous improvement.

Falkirk Council Area Priority:

- Falkirk Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment 2011-2014.
Falkirk Community Planning Partnership: Single Outcome Agreement 2013-15, Theme No's, 1, 2, 3, & 6 (Performance Indicator Ref 3.5).
- Falkirk Community Planning Partnership 'Moving Forward Together' Falkirk Strategic Community Plan 2010-2015.

We will achieve it by:

- Engaging in a multi-agency approach to tackle deliberate fire setting and fire related anti-social behaviour by the targeting resources to areas of demand.
- Leading the Safety Work-stream of the Falkirk Community Safety Partnership.
- Contributing to the monthly/fortnightly Tasking & Coordinating process.
- Deliver youth engagement programmes to reduce anti-social behaviour through diversionary activities and education.
- Identify and develop partnerships with organisations who engage with young people.
- Providing an enhanced level of fire Investigation within the Falkirk area.

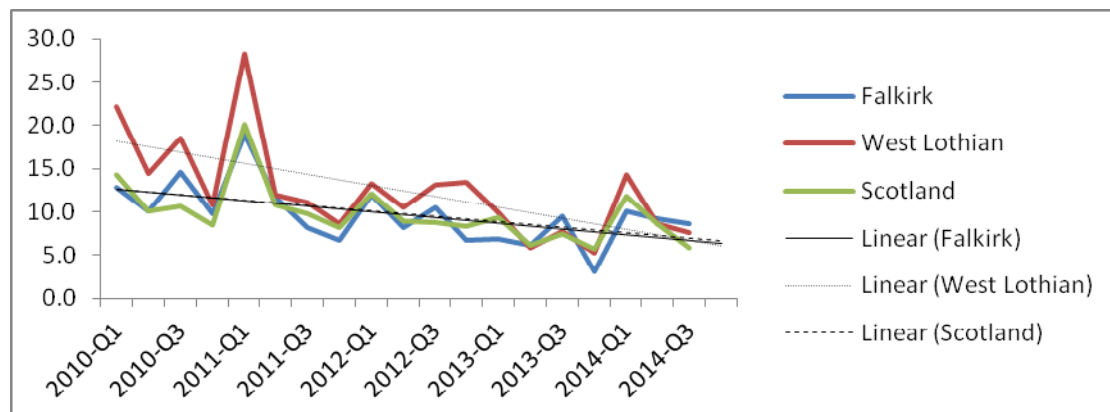
In doing so we will add value by:

- Promoting safe and attractive communities in which people want to live.
- Diverting those persons away from anti-social behaviour by encouraging them to be good citizens.
- Reducing the adverse effects that deliberate fire setting has on peoples' lives within the Falkirk Council area.
- Supporting the national focus towards early and effective intervention.

We aim to reduce Deliberate Fire Setting on a year on year basis in the Falkirk Council area.

Performance

The graph below provides empirical incident data on performance in relation to Deliberate Fire Setting (data source SFRS, IRS)



The graph depicts the occurrence of all deliberate fires per 10,000*. For benchmarking purposes comparative trend data from a comparable local authority area (West Lothian) and Scotland has been included.

*Source: GROS

5. Reduction of Fires in Non-Domestic Properties

All fires in workplaces and business premises are classed as Non-Domestic Fires and come under the scope of the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005.

Fire Safety Enforcement Officers carry out audits to ensure statutory responsibilities are met and provide advice to businesses on fire safety. The types of premises encompassed by the Act can be wide-ranging and include industrial, commercial and those premises providing sleeping accommodation such as residential care premises.

In addition to the costs associated with fires in commercial properties, many businesses that experience a significant fire do not reopen afterwards.

We proactively work as part of a partnership, with local industry to ensure that Businesses Continuity Planning and Emergency Preparedness Arrangements are appropriate, to ensure we can mitigate the impact of fires and other emergencies on business and that we are prepared to respond to adverse safety events.

Aligns to:

National Outcomes:

- 1: We live in a Scotland that is the most attractive place for doing business in Europe.
- 6: We live longer, healthier lives.
- 9: We live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger.
- 12: We value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Aims:

- 1: Improve safety of our communities and staff.
- 2: More equitable access to fire and rescue services.
- 3: Improved outcomes through partnership.
- 4: Develop a culture of continuous improvement.

Falkirk Area Priority:

- Falkirk Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment 2011-2014.
Falkirk Community Planning Partnership: Single Outcome Agreement 2013-15, Theme No's, 1, 3 & 5 (Performance Indicator Ref 3.5, and 1.1)
- Falkirk Community Planning Partnership 'Moving Forward Together' Falkirk Strategic Community Plan 2010-2015.

We will achieve it by:

- The audit of business and commercial premises by Fire Safety Enforcement Officers using a risk based approach.
- Work with the Falkirk Council licensing department to ensure all multiple occupation houses comply with the required standards in relation to Fire Safety.
- Carrying out Post Fire Audits following any fire within a relevant premise.
- Work in partnership with the Falkirk Business Panel, through the Falkirk Council Economic Development Service.
- Consultation with Falkirk Council Building Standards Officers and architects.
- Participation in major incident preparedness and exercising.

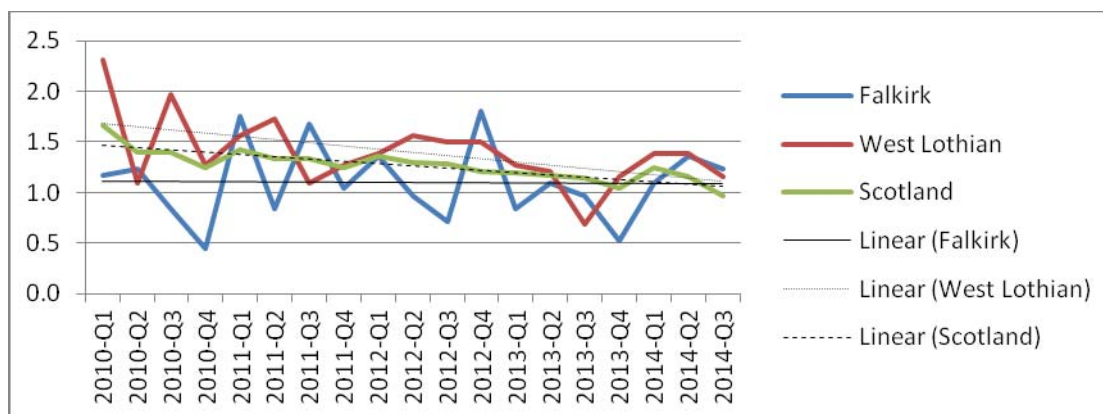
In doing so we will add value by:

- The wealth and prosperity in our area will increase.
- The quality of our infrastructure will help promote growth of the local economy.
- Safeguarding the wellbeing of residents and employees within relevant premises.
- Supporting business continuity and employment within the Falkirk Council area.
- Our citizens will be protected.
- Our communities will be safer.

We aim to reduce the number of Fires in Non-Domestic Premises in the Falkirk Council area on a year on year basis, that will contribute to the SFRS target of continually reducing the number of fires in Non Domestic premises.

Performance

The graph below provides empirical incident data on performance in relation to fires in Non-Domestic other buildings. (data source SFRS, IRS)



The graph depicts the occurrence of all fires in Non-Domestic Other Buildings per 10,000 population* For benchmarking purposes comparative trend data from a comparable local authority area (Falkirk) and Scotland has been included.

*Source: GROS

6. Reduction in Fatalities and Casualties from Non-Fire Emergencies

A central part of the SFRS's role is responding to non-fire emergencies such as Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs), other rescue situations such as rescues from water, from height, or from entrapment. Operational fire fighters are trained to a high standard and have at their disposal the most modern equipment for extricating people in rescue situations and administering first aid to casualties.

Attendance at RTCs has become a core role for the SFRS however primary responsibility for road safety lies with Transport Scotland, Police Scotland and local authorities. The SFRS has a crucial role in supporting these organisations at a local level and can provide access to hard-hitting education programmes aimed at the most at risk groups to highlight the consequences of RTCs and dangerous driving. National statistics identify that the most at risk group is young drivers who we include in our "Safe Drive Stay Alive" campaign that is aimed at 4th, 5th and 6th year school pupils, which supports the national Go Safe, Scotland's Road Safety Framework for 2020.

The educational road safety activities that we deliver are designed to increase driver awareness in relation to the consequences of dangerous driving. Particular focus continues to be on young and new drivers.

Aligns to:

National Outcomes;

- 4: Our young people are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens.
- 6: We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk.
- 9: We live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger.
- 15: Our public services are high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to other people's needs.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Aims:

- 1: Improve safety of our communities and staff.
- 2: More equitable access to fire and rescue services.
- 3: Improved outcomes through partnership.
- 4: Develop a culture of continuous improvement.

Falkirk Council Area Priority:

- Falkirk Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment 2011-2014. Falkirk Community Planning Partnership: Single Outcome Agreement 2013-15, Theme No's, 3, 4 & 6 (Performance Indicator Ref 3.7, and 4.12 & 4.15).
- Falkirk Community Planning Partnership 'Moving Forward Together' Falkirk Strategic Community Plan 2010-2015.

We will achieve it by:

- Continuing our educational programmes, such as Safe Drive Stay Alive, particularly aimed at high risk groups within our communities.
- Develop innovative ways of reducing accidents in collaboration with partners.
- Working with our partners within the Falkirk Council area to ensure that all agencies are aware of road incident hotspots.

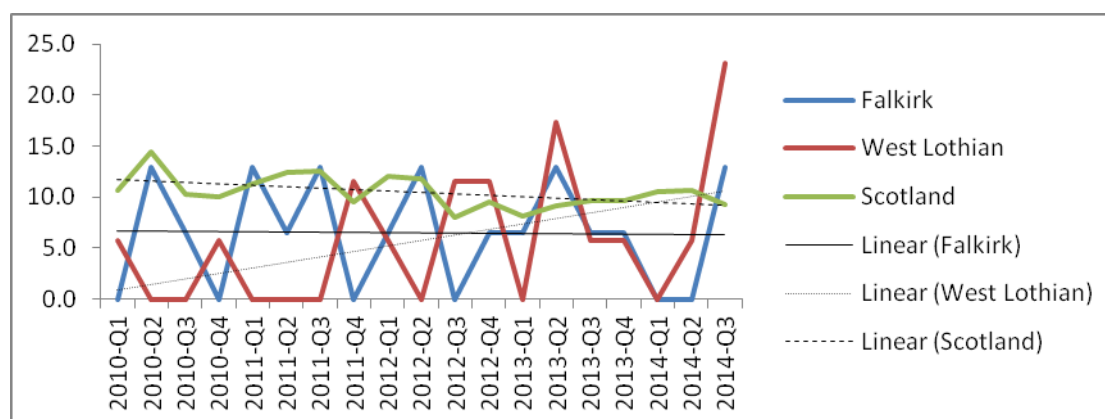
In doing so we will add value by:

- Protecting our citizens.
- Promoting safety of our communities.
- Our citizens and communities shall be encouraged to take responsibilities for their own health and well-being.
- Reducing the number of hospital admissions, and the associated costs to the NHS and other organisations due to RTC related injuries.
- Encouraging young drivers and other groups to be responsible road users through active engagement and education.

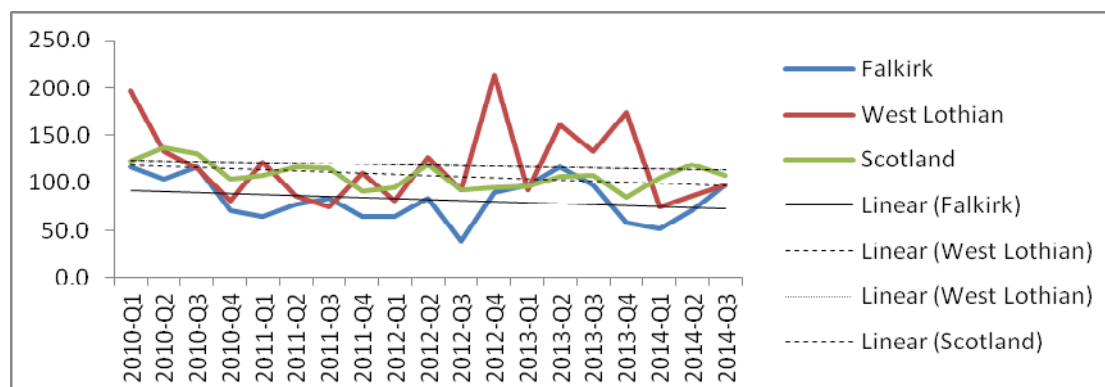
We aim to reduce the number of Fatalities and Casualties from Non-Fire Emergencies in the Falkirk Council area on a year on year basis, which will contribute to the SFRS target of continually reducing the number of Casualties from Non-Fire Emergencies over a three-year rolling period.

Performance

The graph below provides empirical incident data on Fatalities from Non-Fire Emergencies (data source SFRS, IRS)



The graph below provides empirical incident data on Non Fatal Casualties from Non-Fire Emergencies (data source SFRS, IRS)



The graphs above depict the occurrence of all Fatal and Non-Fatal Non Fire Emergencies per 1,000,000 head of population*. For benchmarking purposes

comparative trend data from a comparable local authority area (West Lothian) and Scotland has been included.

*Source: GROS

7. Reduction of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) are those occasions when an automated fire alarm system activates and results in the mobilisation of SFRS resources, when the reason for that alarm turns out to be something other than a fire emergency.

UFAS are categorised into three main categories; False Alarm with Good Intent, False Alarm Malicious or Equipment Failure.

Within the Falkirk Council area, UFAS incidents in non-domestic properties account for a significant amount of the total calls attended.

UFAS has a negative impact on the SFRS through the deployment of resources to incidents where their life saving services are not required. This negative impact is also experienced by businesses through loss of production, business continuity or service delivery.

Attendance at UFAS creates a negative financial burden upon the SFRS as well as increasing the road risk and environmental impact within the Falkirk Council area.

Aligns to:

National Outcomes;

- 1: We live in a Scotland that is the most attractive place for doing business in Europe.
- 6: We live longer, healthier lives.
- 8: We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk.
- 9: We live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger.
- 12: We value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations.
- 14: We reduce the local and global environmental impact of our consumption and production.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Aims:

- 1: Improve safety of our communities and staff.
- 3: Improved outcomes through partnership.
- 4: Develop a culture of continuous improvement.

Falkirk Council Area Priority;

- Falkirk Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment 2011-2014. Falkirk Community Safety Partnership contributes to Single Outcome Agreement 2013-15, No's, 1 & 3 (Performance Indicator Ref 1.1).
- Falkirk Community Planning Partnership 'Moving Forward Together' Falkirk Strategic Community Plan 2010-2015.

We will achieve it by:

- Working with the business and commercial sector to provide advice and guidance in relation to the management of unwanted fire alarm signals.
- Ensure premises with unwanted fire alarm signal occurrences comply with the British Standard 5839 Part 1 & 6 current edition.

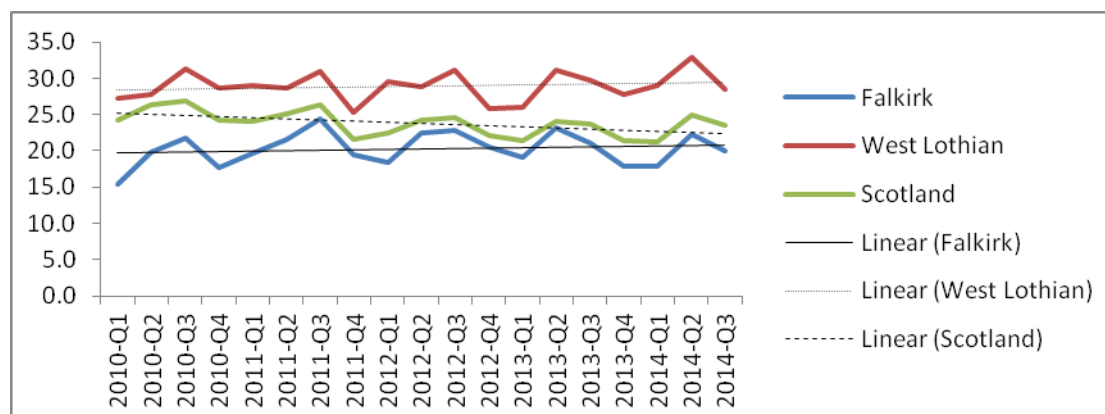
In doing so we will add value by:

- The wealth and prosperity in our area will increase.
- The negative impact of UFAS on local business will reduce.
- Reducing road risk for our emergency services.
- Reduction of our carbon footprint.
- Enabling SFRS resources to be available for life saving incidents.

We aim to achieve a year on year reduction of UFAS in the Falkirk Council area.

Performance

The graphs below provides empirical incident data on performance in relation to All Fire Alarms (data source SFRS, IRS)



The graph depicts the occurrence of All False Alarms per 10,000 head of population*. For benchmarking purposes comparative trend data from a comparable local authority area (West Lothian) and Scotland has been included.

*Source: GROS

Achieving Local Outcomes

Following a process of identifying local risks within the Falkirk Council area, priority actions to address them and expected outcomes have been set within this Local Fire and Rescue Plan.

Local risks were identified following considerations of political direction set by the Scottish Government, community needs identified through consultation and the operational resources and capacity of the SFRS.



Outcomes

The Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 includes a framework for local scrutiny and engagement arrangements between local authorities and the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

Falkirk Council area local scrutiny of the performance of the Fire and Rescue Service takes place at the Falkirk Council Scrutiny Committee on a quarterly basis. As part of Community Planning Partnership working, arrangements are in place to ensure that other key statutory and non-statutory partners have the opportunity to engage in the process of scrutiny. Robust scrutiny of performance is essential in ensuring that the SFRS is delivering against the Local Fire and Rescue plan and contributing to improved outcomes for communities and ensuring that the SFRS plays its full part in contributing to successful delivery of the Falkirk Community Planning Partnership Single Outcome Agreement. As a full and active partner in the local community planning partnership arrangements, we will contribute positively to a safer Scotland.

Review

To ensure this Local Fire and Rescue Plan remains flexible to emerging local or national priorities a review may be carried out at any time but will be reviewed at least once in its lifetime. A review may also be carried out if the Scottish Minister directs it or if a new Strategic Plan is approved.

Following a review the Local Senior Officer may revise the Local Fire and Rescue Plan.

Contact Us

If you have something you would like to share with us, you can get in touch in a number of ways:

- Use the feedback form on our website to send an email - www.firescotland.gov.uk.
- Contact your local Community Fire Station - details are listed on our website or in your local telephone directory.
- Contact Falkirk and West Lothian LSO Area office on 01324 629121.
- Write to us at the address at the bottom of this page.

We are fully committed to continually improving the service we provide to our communities and recognise that to achieve this goal we must listen and respond to the views of the public.

We use all feedback we receive to monitor our performance and incorporate this information into our planning and governance processes in order to continually improve our service.

We are proud to say that the majority of the feedback we receive is positive, and we are keen to hear examples of good practice and quality service delivery that exemplifies the standards of care that we strive to provide for the communities of Scotland.

In instances where our standards of service are questioned, we welcome the opportunity to investigate the circumstances, and are committed to correcting any lapses and using the learning outcomes to improve our future service delivery.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format or a version in another language, please contact:

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Service Delivery Area East HQ, Main Street, Maddiston FK2 0LG

Tel 01324 710220 Fax 01324 715353 or alternatively visit our website
www.firescotland.gov.uk

Glossary of Terms

Accidental: Caused by accident or carelessness. Includes fires that accidentally get out of control.

Casualty: consists of persons requiring medical treatment beyond first aid given at the scene of the incident, those sent to hospital or advised to see a doctor for a check-up or observation (whether or not they actually do). People sent to hospital or advised to see a doctor as a precaution, having no obvious injury, are recorded as 'precautionary check-ups'. Casualty figures do not include fatalities.

Deliberate: covers fires where deliberate ignition is suspected

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals: an event in which the Fire and Rescue Service believes they are called to a reportable fire and then find there is no such incident. These can be Malicious, of Good Intent or caused by Equipment.

Fatality: a casualty whose death is attributed to a fire is counted as a fatality even if the death occurred later. Fatalities associated with Other Incidents can include attendance to assist Police or Ambulance colleagues when a person has been found who has committed suicide, for example. Often there is little we can do as a Service to influence this particular figure.

Primary Fires: includes all fires in buildings, vehicles and most outdoor structures or any fire involving casualties, rescues or fire attended by five or more pumping appliances.

Secondary Fires: These cover the majority of outdoor fires including grassland and refuse fires unless they involve casualties or rescues, property loss or if five or more appliances attend. They include fires in derelict buildings but not chimney fires.

Incident Recording System: Department of Communities and Local Government Fire and Rescue Service Directorate, web-enabled Incident Recording System for collection and subsequent statistical handling and publication of incident data from United Kingdom Fire and Rescue Services.

Abbreviations

AFA	Automatic Fire Alarm
RTC	Road Traffic Collision
LGBT	Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender
BME	Black Minority Ethnic
COMAH	Control of Major Accident and Hazards
IRS	Incident Recording System

References

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The Scottish Government National Performance Framework

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/About/Performance/scotPerforms>

The Scottish Government National Outcomes

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/About/Performance/scotPerforms/outcome>

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Equality Outcomes.

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The Civil Contingencies Act 2004 (Scotland) Regulations 2005

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2005/02/20630/51567>

Scotland's Road Safety Framework to 2020

<http://www.roadsafetyobservatory.com/Pdf/SCOTLAND%20RS%20FRAMEWORK%202020.pdf>