

**Working together
for a safer Scotland**



SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
Working together for a safer Scotland

LOCAL FIRE AND RESCUE PLAN

2026 - 2029

ABERDEEN CITY

Safety. Teamwork. Respect. Innovation.

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Foreword

It is my privilege, as Chair of the Scrutiny Committee, to introduce the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Aberdeen City. This Plan sets out a clear and forward-looking framework for how the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service will work with partners and communities to keep our city safe, resilient, and well-prepared.

Scrutiny plays a vital role in public service delivery. Through careful review and constructive challenge, we ensure that plans such as this are robust, transparent, and aligned with the needs and expectations of our communities. In considering this Local Plan, the Committee has been encouraged by the strong emphasis on prevention, partnership working, and evidence-based priorities.

Aberdeen is a vibrant, diverse, and growing city, with a unique risk profile shaped by its geography, economy, and infrastructure. This Plan reflects those characteristics by addressing key local risks, including accidental dwelling fires, deliberate fire-setting, Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals, Road Traffic Collisions, and wider community safety concerns. It also recognises the importance of supporting the most vulnerable members of our communities through targeted intervention and education.

The Committee particularly welcomes the continued focus on collaboration — with local authority services, health partners, Police Scotland, and the third sector — to deliver shared outcomes. Fire and rescue services today extend far beyond emergency response; they are embedded in the fabric of community wellbeing, prevention, and resilience.

We also recognise the dedication and professionalism of the firefighters and support staff who serve Aberdeen City. Their commitment ensures that services are delivered effectively, often in challenging circumstances, and their role in prevention and engagement is as important as their response to emergencies.

As this Plan is implemented, the Scrutiny Committee will continue to monitor progress, performance, and outcomes, ensuring accountability and continuous improvement. We will also encourage ongoing engagement with communities, so that local voices continue to shape service delivery.

On behalf of the Committee, I commend this Local Fire and Rescue Plan and support its ambition to make Aberdeen City a safer place for all who live, work, and visit here.



Cllr Miranda Radley
Chair of the Scrutiny Committee
Aberdeen City

Introduction

I am pleased to present the Aberdeen City Local Fire and Rescue Plan, which outlines our priorities and commitments for delivering a high-quality fire and rescue service to the communities we serve. This Plan supports the strategic aims of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) and reflects our continued dedication to protecting life, property, and the environment across Aberdeen City.

As Local Senior Officer, I recognise the diverse risks and challenges within our area from urban fire safety, accidental dwelling fires and Road Traffic Collisions to emerging risks associated with climate change and community vulnerability. This Plan has been developed using a robust assessment of local risks, incident data, and engagement with partners and stakeholders, ensuring that our approach is evidence-based and community-focused.

Our firefighters and staff remain committed to prevention, protection, and response activities. We will continue to work closely with local authorities, emergency services, and community organisations to reduce harm, improve resilience, and support those most at risk. Prevention remains at the heart of what we do, and through targeted interventions — such as home fire safety visits, community education, and enforcement of fire safety legislation — we aim to make Aberdeen City safer for everyone.

This Plan sets out clear priorities, including reducing fire-related harm, improving community safety, enhancing operational preparedness, and supporting our workforce. It also reflects our commitment to equality, inclusion, and continuous improvement, ensuring our Service meets the needs of all communities.

I would like to thank our partners, staff, and the communities of Aberdeen City for their ongoing support and engagement. Together, we will continue to build a safer, more resilient city.

Serge Kabamba

Local Senior Officer

Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire and Moray

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

National Context and Challenges

Scottish Ministers set out their specific expectations for the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) in the [Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2022](#). This Framework provides SFRS with seven strategic priorities and objectives, together with guidance on how the delivery of our functions should contribute to the Scottish Government's Purpose.

The Framework also defines the SFRS purpose as:

'To work in partnership with communities and with others in the public, private and third sectors on prevention, protection and response to improve the safety and wellbeing of people throughout Scotland.'

The SFRS Strategy 2025-28 has been designed to have regard to these national expectations. Set against a complex and evolving backdrop, our Strategy supports delivery of our Purpose, Mission and Vision.

To achieve our ambitions, we have identified five strategic objectives and outcomes. Each objective holds equal value in driving our Strategy forward. As a collective, they define our overall direction and will be central to how we plan our activities and our budget over the next three years.

OBJECTIVE	OUTCOME
Safer Communities through Prevention	Through our work with communities and other organisations, the safety and wellbeing of the people of Scotland improves.
Safe and Effective Response	We are an effective and trusted Fire and Rescue Service where our communities and people are safe.
Investing in our People	Our people feel valued and are supported by a culture that embraces diversity and inclusion, empowerment and accountability.
Improving Performance	Our organisational performance, productivity and resilience continually improves.
Innovation and Investment	We are more innovative and achieve sustained investment in our technology, equipment, estate and fleet, making us more effective and efficient.

This Plan is a statutory Local Fire and Rescue Plan. It sets local direction to meet the strategic objectives and outcomes outlined above; and supports delivery of the SFRS Prevention Strategy. It demonstrates how we will contribute to Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs) within the Local Authority area.

National Challenges

Over the next three years, the SFRS will operate within a challenging and rapidly evolving national context. This Local Fire and Rescue Plan is developed against a backdrop of sustained financial pressure, changing community risk, and the need for organisational change to ensure services remain effective, sustainable and focused on prevention.

SFRS continues to face real-terms financial constraints despite funding uplifts, with rising costs, inflationary pressures and a substantial backlog in capital investment. Ageing fire stations, fleet and operational systems require modernisation, while the Service must also deliver recurring savings. This national financial environment directly shapes decisions about service delivery models, asset rationalisation and the prioritisation of resources at local level.

Workforce capacity remains a critical national challenge. Recruitment, retention and availability, particularly within the retained duty system are under increasing pressure, especially in rural and remote communities. Supporting staff wellbeing, skills, training and leadership capacity is essential to maintaining safe and reliable emergency response while adapting to new and emerging risks.

The risk profile across Scotland is changing. While accidental dwelling fires continue to decline, demand is increasing from climate-related incidents such as flooding, wildfires and extreme weather events. These incidents are often prolonged, complex and resource-intensive, requiring increased resilience, specialist capability and effective multi-agency coordination. At the same time, demographic change, health inequalities and housing conditions continue to drive vulnerability and risk within communities.

Prevention remains at the core of SFRS's national and local approach. Reducing harm, protecting vulnerable people and building community resilience are central to managing demand and delivering long-term public value. This requires strong collaboration with partners across health, social care, local government and the third sector.

The SFRS Prevention Strategy 2025–2028 sets out a clear ambition to reduce harm, protect firefighters and communities, and manage demand through a universal prevention offer delivered proportionately according to risk, vulnerability and inequality. Local Fire and Rescue Plans are a key mechanism for delivering the Prevention Strategy at local level. They translate national prevention priorities into locally tailored actions, ensuring that community safety engagement, protection and preparedness activity is informed by local risk profiles, partnership intelligence and community need.

In response to some of the challenges we face, SFRS is progressing its Strategic Service Review Programme (SSRP). A priority for the next three-years, SSRP will focus on providing firefighters with modern facilities, fleet and equipment to enhance community and firefighter safety, how and where we deliver our services from, and ensuring our corporate services are as efficient and effective as possible. These changes are necessary to ensure resources are targeted where risk is greatest, while maintaining public confidence and local accountability.

This Local Fire and Rescue Plan translates this national context into local priorities, reflecting the specific risks, needs and characteristics of communities. It sets out how SFRS will work with partners to deliver prevention, protection and response activities in a way that supports safer communities while contributing to the Service's wider strategic aims for Scotland.

By focusing on prevention, collaboration and early intervention, this Plan supports public service reform and delivers better outcomes for our local communities.

Local Context

1. Overview

Aberdeen City is Scotland's third-largest city and the principal urban centre in the North East. It is a key economic hub with international links, particularly through the offshore energy sector. The city covers an area of approximately 185 square kilometres and has a population of around 232,000 residents. The city has experienced modest population growth and is characterised by a relatively young working-age demographic.

2. Geography and Environment

Aberdeen is a **coastal city located between the Rivers Dee and Don**, with a dense urban core and surrounding suburban communities.

Key environmental characteristics:

- Influenced by the **North Sea**, with cool temperatures (~8°C annual average) and exposure to **strong winds and driving rain**
- **Flood risk** concentrated along:
 - River Dee corridor
 - River Don corridor
 - Low-lying coastal/harbour areas such as Torry and parts of the city centre
- Around **8% of postcodes include properties at high flood risk**

Climate change projections indicate increased frequency of **severe weather events**, requiring enhanced resilience planning.

3. Economy and Infrastructure

Aberdeen is widely recognised as **Europe's energy capital**, with an economy historically centred on **offshore oil and gas**.

- Energy sector accounts for a significant proportion of employment and economic output
- Regional GVA is high relative to population due to productivity in energy industries
- Key sectors include:
 - Oil and gas / energy transition (renewables, hydrogen)
 - Professional and technical services
 - Life sciences and digital technology
 - Marine, food and drink industries

The city contains:

- Major **port and harbour infrastructure**
- **Helicopter operations** supporting offshore assets
- Extensive transport links and critical infrastructure

This industrial profile contributes to **heightened risk of industrial, maritime, and hazardous materials incidents**.

4. Demographics and Communities

Aberdeen has a **diverse and mobile population**, influenced by its global industries:

- Largest age group: **25–44 years**
- Ethnicity: **~86% White with increasing minority populations**
- Tenure:
 - 56% owner occupied
 - 22% social rented
 - 20% private rented

Deprivation:

- Around **20.6% of residents live in Scotland's most deprived areas (SIMD deciles 1–3)**
- Deprivation is geographically concentrated within specific communities

Cost-of-living pressures and inequality remain challenges, affecting community resilience.

5. Built Environment and Housing

Aberdeen's built environment reflects its historical development and economic function:

- Significant stock of **granite-built Victorian and Edwardian buildings**
- High proportion of **flats/apartments (~49%)**
- Presence of:
 - **Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs)** linked to student and transient workforce
 - Social housing estates and modern developments
 - Industrial and commercial energy-sector premises
 - Large institutional buildings (hospitals, universities)

Key fire-related considerations:

- Granite exteriors are non-combustible, but often conceal **combustible internal structures**
- Older buildings may have **compartmentation issues**
- High-density housing increases life risk in the event of fire

6. Risk Profile (Community and Operational)

6.1 Fire Risk Factors

- High density of **flatted properties and HMOs**
- **Student population** and transient workforce
- Ageing building stock with **legacy fire safety design limitations**
- Concentration of **commercial, industrial, and energy sector premises**
- High-occupancy buildings (universities, healthcare facilities)

6.2 Other Key Risks

- **Flooding:** River and coastal flooding affecting infrastructure and communities
- **Industrial incidents:** Oil, gas, and energy-related risk profile
- **Transport and maritime incidents:** Due to harbour, heliport, and logistics activity
- **Severe weather:** Storms, heavy rainfall, and coastal impacts
- **Deprivation-related risk:** Higher vulnerability in specific communities

7. Community Safety Context

- Reported **crime rates higher than Scottish average** (approx. 91.8 per 1,000 population)
- Ongoing challenges:
 - Poverty and inequality
 - Housing quality variation
 - Health inequalities (as highlighted in population needs assessments)

These factors are linked to increased **risk of fire, accidental dwelling fires, and vulnerability during emergencies**.

8. Key Implications for Fire and Rescue Service

The Aberdeen City risk environment requires targeted prevention, protection, and response strategies:

Prevention

- Focus on high-risk communities and deprivation hotspots
- Targeted work within HMOs, flatted developments, and vulnerable households

Protection

- Compliance activity in:
 - Energy sector premises
 - High-rise and high-occupancy buildings
 - Heritage and complex structures

Response

- Preparedness for:
 - Industrial and offshore-related incidents
 - Flooding and severe weather events
 - Urban search and rescue in dense environments

9. Summary

Aberdeen City presents a **complex and diverse risk profile**, driven by:

- A **dense urban population** with areas of deprivation
- A **globally significant energy sector**
- **Mixed-age building stock** including heritage properties
- **Environmental risks**, particularly flooding and severe weather

These factors combine to create a **multi-risk environment**, requiring a **data-led, partnership-based approach** to community safety and emergency response.



- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Dyce/Bucksburn/Danestone | 8. George Street/Harbour |
| 2. Bridge of Don | 9. Lower Deeside |
| 3. Kingswells/Sheddocksley/Summerhill | 10. Hazlehead/Ashley/Queens Cross |
| 4. Northfield/Mastrick | 11. Airyhall/Broomhill/Garthdee |
| 5. Hilton/Stockethill | 12. Torry/Ferryhill |
| 6. Tillydrone/Seaton/Old Aberdeen | 13. Kincorth/Nigg/Cove |
| 7. Midstocket/Rosemount | |

Performance Scrutiny

As part of the process of scrutinising local fire and rescue service delivery, we are required to submit performance reports to the Aberdeen City Council Community Hosing and Public Protection Committee. The purpose of these reports is to present information on the performance of the SFRS against the priorities contained within the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Aberdeen City.

A review of our performance against the previous Local Fire and Rescue Plan, was carried out in 2026 and presented to the Scrutiny Committee. The outcomes of the review, along with an assessment of the challenges we face and opportunities for change have been incorporated into the priorities identified within this Plan.

To ensure performance monitoring is consistent with the SFRS performance management framework we will work with our managers, staff representatives and wider partners to develop a comprehensive set of performance measures against the outcomes, priorities and objectives outlined in this Local Fire and Rescue Plan.

These measures will form the basis of our future performance reports, which will enable us to continue to provide relevant, accurate, timely and consistent data and information to maintain effective scrutiny and challenge both at national and local levels.

The Local Senior Officer, and/or their deputy will attend and provide an update on progress against this Plan, overall performance, and any other matters deemed relevant to the delivery of fire and rescue matters in Aberdeen City.

Local Priorities

The following priorities have been identified through:

- Local risk analysis
- Operational incident data
- Aberdeen City Community Planning Board priorities
- Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) outcomes
- National SFRS strategic direction

Priority 1.	Risk Management and Safe & Effective Response
Priority 2.	Domestic Fire Safety and Unintentional Harm in the Home
Priority 3.	Deliberate Fire Setting & Anti-Social Behaviour
Priority 4.	Non-Domestic Fire Safety
Priority 5.	Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals
Priority 6.	Non-Fire Emergencies and Responding to Climate Change
Priority 7.	Community Resilience

	SFRS Local Area Plan Priorities						
LOIP Outcomes	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3	Priority 4	Priority 5	Priority 6	Priority 7
Outcome 1 Positive Destinations			✓	✓			✓
Outcome 2 Fair Work	✓			✓			✓
Outcome 3 Poverty and Homelessness	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Outcome 4 Connected, Greener, Sustainable	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Outcome 5 Preventable Deaths	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓

Local Priorities

1. Risk Management and Safe & Effective Response

Background:

The SFRS has a statutory duty to reduce the risks to our communities and to make certain that they receive the best possible service. It is essential our firefighters possess the skills, knowledge and expertise to respond to incidents which, by their nature, can be varied in both their type and complexity.

The SFRS has a duty to prepare for and respond to major emergencies. The scope of such preparations may include responding to adverse weather events, natural disasters, pandemics, chemical incidents or major transport incidents. The threat of terrorism also compels the SFRS to ensure it can also respond alongside other partner agencies should such an event occur.

It is essential that we have enough staff with the right skills in the right place at the right time to deliver our services when communities need them.

We will achieve it by:

- Ensuring our staff are developed and equipment is fit for purpose to meet our current and future risk profile and adaptable to changing circumstances.
- Ensuring all known local risk information is obtained, communicated and tested.
- Working locally with partner organisations to ensure effective emergency response plans are developed for identified local risks including our own local business continuity plans.
- Fulfilling our statutory duties in relation to the Civil Continencities Act (2004) by way of our contribution to Grampian Local Resilience Partnership and North of Scotland Regional Resilience Partnership.
- Maintaining risk-based crewing and resource models.
- Enhancing training and exercising programmes.
- Improving availability across wholetime and On Call duty systems.

Performance Indicators:

- % of personnel in currency against Training for Operational Competence Programme
- % of personnel in currency against National Training Standards
- Appliance Availability
- Station Establishment Levels
- Response times to incidents
- Operational Assurance Outcomes

Local Prevention Activity:

Community Safety Engagement:

- Site Specific Risk Planning.
- Multi-Agency Exercising.

Protection:

- Fire Investigation involvement for fire incidents to ensure essential learning is captured and cascaded to crews.

Preparedness:

- Robust programme of hydrant planning, maintenance and inspections
- Effective business continuity plans
- Identify opportunities to build community resilience

Expected Outcomes:

- Safe and effective emergency response.
- Reduced impact of emergencies on communities.

Delivering Against Strategic Objective: Safer Communities through Prevention, Safe and Effective Response, Investing in our People, Improving Performance, Innovation and Investment.

2. Domestic Fire Safety and Unintentional Harm in the Home

Background:

Although accidental dwelling fires have reduced nationally by 26% over the last 10 years, local analysis of accidental dwelling fire data across the local authority area shows only minor year-on-year variation with no sustained downward trend. Despite ongoing prevention activity, cooking-related fires continue to represent the single largest cause of accidental dwelling fires, consistently accounting for above 50% of incidents. Risk is disproportionately higher among vulnerable groups, including older adults, single occupants, those affected by smoking, mobility issues, alcohol dependency and the use of medication.

Given many of these individuals are known to partner agencies, there is a clear strategic need to strengthen referral pathways and improve data sharing. In response, a more targeted prevention approach will be prioritised, focusing on high-risk individuals and locations through enhanced safe and well activity, strengthened partnership working, and behavioural change campaigns addressing unattended cooking and lifestyle factors. This coordinated approach aims to deliver a sustained reduction in cooking-related fires and improve community safety outcomes across the area.

Accidental dwelling fires remain a key risk, with cooking continuing to be the leading cause. Vulnerability is linked to age, health inequalities and living conditions.

We will achieve it by:

- Targeted Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSV's), focusing on high-risk behaviours (e.g. cooking, smoking and alcohol and drugs use).
- Working with partners to refine our referral process and increase the number of vulnerable people identified.
- Targeted media messages using both traditional and social media to tailor messages to identified risk.

Performance Indicators:

- Number of Accidental Dwelling Fires
- Number of Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties and Fatalities
- % of Accidental Dwelling Fires attributed to Cooking
- Number of Home Fire Safety Visits Completed
- Number of initiatives targeting accidental dwelling fires

Local Prevention Activity:

Community Safety Engagement:

- Delivery of Home Fire Safety Visits.
- Train and support staff and volunteers to ensure SFRS fulfil its safeguarding duties, engaging with partners to ensure those most at risk are identified and support is provided.
- Provide resources, training and invest in our staff to deliver interventions in relation to accidental dwelling fires. This includes using online platforms and new technologies to deliver impactful messages and affect behavioural change.
- Utilise incident data, knowledge and partner intelligence to identify those most at risk to direct resources and evaluate resulting outputs and outcomes.
- Targeted campaigns in High-Risk Areas.

Protection:

- Fire Investigation support for fire related incidents ensuring essential learning is captured and cascaded to crews.
- Advice to housing providers, care settings, owners and occupiers.

Expected Outcomes:

- Ongoing reduction in the number of accidental dwelling fires compared to the three-year rolling average.
- Ongoing reduction in the number of accidental dwelling fire casualties and fatalities compared to the three-year rolling average.
- Improved safety for vulnerable households.
- Strong partnership approach to reducing harm in the home.

Delivering Against Strategic Objective: Safer Communities through Prevention, Safe and Effective Response, Improving Performance, Innovation and Performance.

3. Deliberate Fire Setting and Anti-Social Behaviour

Background:

Deliberate fire setting accounts for a significant number of operational incidents within Aberdeen City and takes various forms. Whilst a small proportion involves occupied buildings, vehicles and outdoor structures (primary fires), the majority of deliberate fires are classed as secondary fires (grass, bushes, refuse etc.) and on most occasions, occur in outdoor locations.

In Aberdeen City evidence reflects that deliberate fires can be closely linked to antisocial behaviour.

Youth engagement is a key area of work in relation to this priority and we will continue to run our youth engagement initiatives and develop these further to create maximum impact. Dealing with instances of deliberate fire setting can divert fire and rescue resources from other meaningful activities

We will achieve it by:

- Delivery of thematic and multi-agency action plans tailored to meet local need.
- Using SFRS programmes such as FireSkills, and Fire Safety Support and Education (FSSE), to raise awareness of risk and foster a culture of safety within young people.
- Ensuring that our staff and volunteers are appropriately trained to positively engage with children and young people to improve their awareness of risk and build their resilience.
- Delivering targeted interventions that enhance young people's understanding of hazards and risks associated with deliberate fire setting. Engagements should be meaningful and support behavioural change.
- Increasing community fire safety education in targeted areas where most deliberate fires occur.
- Continuing work with our partners to develop joint risk reduction strategies to further mitigate the impact of deliberate fires and the economic and social cost to the community.

Performance Indicators:

- Number of Deliberate Primary and Secondary Fires
- Number of FireSkills Courses delivered
- Number of Fire Safety Support and Education interventions delivered

Local Prevention Activity:

Community Safety Engagement:

- Delivery of FireSkills programme.
- Delivery of Fire Safety Support and Education Interventions.
- School Engagement Sessions.
- Media messaging highlighting the hazards and consequences of deliberate fire setting.

Protection:

- We will use incident data, partner and open data, and utilise technological solutions to target resources. This includes creating risk profiles utilising factors that are known to increase the risk of harm from fire and a Risk Based Inspection Programme to predict the most influential factors that increase the risk of fire and the consequential impact.

Expected Outcomes:

- Reduction in the number of deliberate fires
- Reduction in anti-social behaviour
- Communities that feel safer
- Reducing the negative impact on local communities
- Diverting young people away from anti-social behaviour to positive destinations by encouraging them to be good citizens, through initiatives such as FireSkills

Delivering Against Strategic Objective: Safer Communities through Prevention, Safe and Effective Response, Improving Performance, Innovation and Investment.

4. Non-Domestic Fire Safety

Background:

The SFRS has a statutory duty to promote fire safety under Part 2 (Section 8) of the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 (as amended) to include provision of information aimed at preventing fire and reducing fire deaths and injuries, restricting fire spread and advising on means of escape from buildings. All such workplaces and business premises involved in fire are classed as Non-Domestic Fires.

Sleeping risks are seen as a particularly high fire risk since most fatal fires occur at night when people are less vigilant and at their most vulnerable. Residential care homes and Houses in Multiple Occupation make up the greatest proportion of these risks within the Aberdeen City area.

Accidental primary and secondary fires include fires involving agricultural land, forestry and moorland also present a unique risk to the Aberdeen City area as it contributes substantially to the local environment by providing economic benefit through tourism, employment and industry. It is a key role for the SFRS locally to promote fire safety to landowners and the farming community and in doing so contribute to making Aberdeen City a safe place to live, work and visit.

We will achieve it by:

- Continuing the fire safety audit programme for high-risk premises.
- Engaging with the business community to highlight their responsibilities for compliance with fire legislation.
- Identifying trends in building types and conducting thematic fire safety audits.
- Collaboration and engagement with recognised national and local wildfire groups.

Performance Indicators:

- All Non-Domestic fires (Relevant Premises)
- Extent of Damage in Non-Domestic Fires
- All Accidental primary and secondary fires

Local Prevention Activity:

Community Safety Engagement:

- Thematic action plans to target Accidental Primary and Secondary Fires, aligned to the needs of Aberdeen City.
- Engagement sessions for Owners and Occupiers of Relevant Premises to promote Fire Safety and Best Practices.

Protection:

- Delivery of Fire Safety Audit Programme aligned to risk within Aberdeen City.
- Thematic Audits in line with any identified local or national trends.

Expected Outcomes:

- Assisting the private and business sector in understanding their fire safety responsibilities.
- Ensuring that buildings are safer, people feel protected and the opportunities for acts of deliberate or wilful fire raising are reduced.
- Supporting and protecting business continuity and employment within Aberdeen City.
- Contribute to protecting our natural heritage, biodiversity and environment.

Delivering Against Strategic Objective: Safer Communities through Prevention, Safe and Effective Response, Investing in our People, Improving Performance.

5. Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals

Background:

The SFRS aim is to continue to reduce the impact of unwanted fire signals generated by automatic detection systems on service delivery, business and commerce. By doing this we aim to improve the safety of Aberdeen City communities and businesses by ensuring that our service is more readily available for genuine emergencies. An Unwanted Fire Alarm Signal (UFAS) is defined as a signal transmitted by an Automatic Fire Detection (AFD) system reporting a fire where, upon arrival of the fire service, it is found that a fire has not occurred. UFAS are entirely avoidable through good system design, management practice, procedure, maintenance and the appropriate use of space within buildings.

Key building types will be identified and monitored closely by our Fire Safety Enforcement staff with supportive interventions offered to duty holders and responsible persons.

The incidents attended by local staff not only impact on local business but also on our part-time retained duty system firefighter's primary employment.

All operational response crews provide advice to occupiers on every occasion that we attend a UFAS incident. Our Fire Safety Enforcement Staff monitor UFAS calls and take appropriate action at the various stages as stipulated in SFRS policy.

We will achieve it by:

- Identifying premises with high UFAS activity levels to determine if they comply with the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 and have appropriate fire safety management procedures in place.
- Engaging with owners and occupiers to provide necessary support, advice and guidance for developing suitable action plans for UFAS reduction.
- Robust call management and implementation of service policy for UFAS.
- Educating our frontline emergency response staff to identify problems, support responsible persons and provide feedback to our fire safety enforcement department.

Performance Indicators:

- Number of UFAS Incidents

Local Prevention Activity:

Community Safety Engagement:

- Engagement with owners and occupiers of relevant premises on how to reduce Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals.

Preparedness:

- Crews will undertake operational risk information gathering and familiarisation on identified risks

Expected Outcomes:

- Reduce the unnecessary demand and impact on the public and business sector through lost working time including employers releasing retained duty system staff to respond to such calls.
- Reduce the road risk to staff and wider community.
- Reduce SFRS' carbon footprint through less vehicle movements.
- Reduce the unnecessary cost of fire and rescue service response.

Delivering Against Strategic Objective: Safer Communities through Prevention, Safe and Effective Response, Improving Performance, Innovation and Investment.

6. Non-Fire Emergencies and Responding to Climate Change

Background:

A core part of SFRS's activity locally is responding to emergencies such as Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs), co-response to medical emergencies and flooding, as examples. Firefighters are trained to a high standard and have at their disposal the most modern equipment for the rescue of persons in traumatic situations.

The SFRS has a crucial role at a local level in contributing to the wider road safety agenda, as statistically fire and rescue operational activity continues to be an area of concern within Aberdeen City for the SFRS, local and national statistics identify that the most at risk group is young male drivers.

Aberdeen City has experienced significant wildfires and flooding events in recent years. The SFRS has a duty to respond to and support communities in recovering from these incidents. We have implemented an improvement of strategically placed wildfire assets across Scotland including a dedicated unit in Aberdeenshire. The development of our local water rescue teams strategically located across the area has significantly improved emergency response and public safety. Demand for SFRS response to RTCs, wildfires, flooding and severe weather is increasing. Climate change is expected to further increase frequency and severity of such events.

We will achieve it by:

- Continuing to contribute to Aberdeen City Community Planning Initiatives.
- Supporting the priorities of the Road Safety North East Strategic Partnership Group, the SFRS locally will contribute to evidence based and partnership initiatives.
- Contributing to resilience with the Grampian Local Resilience Partnership.
- Staff development and allocation of resource to meet local and national need.
- Working with partners to deliver initiatives to reduce outdoor fires in Aberdeen City.

Performance Indicators:

- Number of all Non-Fire Emergencies
- Number of Road Traffic Collisions
- Number of Road Traffic Collision Casualties (Fatal and Non-Fatal)
- Number of Water and Flood-related incidents
- Number of Effecting Entry incidents
- Number of Assisting other agency incidents
- Number of Wildfire Incidents (Reported under deliberate fire-setting)

Local Prevention Activity:

Community Safety Engagement:

- Road Safety education targeting at risk groups using evidence led approach.
- Water Safety initiatives.
- Representation on Partnership Approach to Water Safety Group.
- Representation on South Grampian Wildfire group.

Preparedness:

- Flood response training and capability development
- Wildfire Strategy and assets implementation

Expected Outcomes:

- Reduction in the number of Road Traffic Collisions.
- Reduction in the number of casualties resulting from Road Traffic Collisions (Fatal and Non-Fatal).
- Contributing to reducing the impact of large-scale flood events for business community and people.
- Improved resilience to climate-related incidents.

Delivering Against Strategic Objective: Safer Communities through Prevention, Safe and Effective Response, Investing in our People, Improving Performance, Innovation and Investment.

7. Community Resilience

Background:

We will work even more closely with communities and build on our success of preventing wider harm, improving wellbeing and helping communities increase their resilience by working with the Local Authority and a wide range of public and third sector partners. Critical to this is listening to and responding to communities' needs as we develop the services we provide. We will continue our commitment to Community Planning and partnership working, Nationally and Locally to improve community safety and wellbeing.

We will achieve it by:

- Strong representation at all levels within Aberdeen City Community Planning Partnership.
- Being an active member of the Grampian Local Resilience Partnership and contributing to both Operational Response and Preparedness through the partnership.
- Strong representation and contribution at Aberdeen City Public Protection Chief Officers Group.
- Supporting the development of event plans for significant events within the Aberdeen City area.

Performance Indicators:

- Meeting attendance and contribution at Community Planning Partnership Meetings
- Meeting attendance and contribution at Grampian Local Resilience Partnership Groups
- Number of referrals to partner agencies
- Number of event plans created
- Number of Operational Risk Visits undertaken

Local Prevention Activity:

Community Safety Engagement:

- Adult and Child Safeguarding.
- Community Education.
- Youth Engagement.

Preparedness:

- Effective business continuity planning
- Identify opportunities to build community resilience

Expected Outcomes:

- Increased resilience within Communities.
- Supporting the Health and Wellbeing of Communities.
- Continuous improvement in developing our partnerships.

Delivering Against Strategic Objective: Safer Communities through Prevention, Safe and Effective Response, Investing in our People, Improving Performance, Innovation and Investment.

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 every three years.

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 Plan.

Contact Us

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 and our partners.

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

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

Write to: Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
 Pitmedden Road
 Dyce
 Aberdeen
 AB21 0DP

Phone: 01224 728600

Visit our website: www.firescotland.gov.uk

Follow us on Twitter @fire_scot

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