

**Working together
for a safer Scotland**



SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
Working together for a safer Scotland

LOCAL FIRE AND RESCUE PLAN

2026 - 2029

FIFE COUNCIL

Safety. Teamwork. Respect. Innovation.

Contents

Foreword	3
Introduction	4
National Context and Challenges	5
Local Context	7
Performance Scrutiny	10
Local Priorities	11
Local Priority 1: Domestic Home Fire Safety and Wellbeing	13
Local Priority 2: Unintentional Harm and Injury	15
Local Priority 3: Built and Natural Environment	17
Local Priority 4: Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults and Children	19
Local Priority 5: Safer Roads for Communities and Visitors	22
Local Priority 6: Community Risk Management	24
Review	26
Contact Us	26

Foreword

Statement from Councillor David Ross to follow in final draft.

Introduction

Welcome to the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Fife. This Plan places our communities at the heart of everything we do and sets out how we will improve local outcomes for the people of Fife.

The Plan provides the mechanism through which the aims of the [Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Strategy 2025–2028](#), the Fife Community Planning Partnership (CPP) and the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP) are delivered. It recognises and responds to the diverse, shared and unique inequalities experienced by individuals and communities and is developed in close collaboration with our partners. It will support the delivery of agreed local outcomes by improving community safety and enhancing the wellbeing of those who live, work in, and visit Fife. In doing so, it contributes to tackling social inequality and promoting safer, more resilient communities by “Working together for a safer Scotland.”

This Local Fire and Rescue Plan set out SFRS priorities and objectives within Fife for the duration of our Strategy and beyond. It enables our Local Authority and community planning partners to scrutinise performance and assess the impact of our work against local priorities.

SFRS recognises that Scotland’s demographics are changing and that these changes present increasing challenges for public services. An ageing population, rising levels of vulnerability, social and economic inequality, and the impacts of climate change all influence risk and demand. Fife is no exception, and we must continue to adapt our services to ensure communities remain safe.

Recent reform priorities highlight the need for public bodies to work more efficiently across organisational boundaries, share resources and data where appropriate, and focus collective effort on reducing inequalities and improving long term wellbeing. This Plan builds on the strong foundations of our existing activity and highlights the vital role of collaborative working with communities, businesses and public service partners in delivering shared ambitions.

This Plan focuses on areas of highest risk and demand, maximising opportunities for partnership working to address the underlying social, health and economic factors that influence community safety. By using our capacity flexibly, effectively and innovatively, we aim to direct resources to where they are needed most and protect those most at risk from harm.

The diverse and evolving nature of incidents attended by SFRS requires our personnel to maintain a broad range of skills and capabilities. Through robust risk identification and management, we will continue to prepare for both historic and emerging incident types. However, we recognise that many demands can be reduced through effective prevention, early intervention and public engagement.

Through continued involvement in local community safety forums and strong partnership arrangements across Fife, we will deepen our understanding of local needs, proactively engage with residents, and seek meaningful consultation with all sections of the community.

*Area Commander Alasdair Cameron
Local Senior Officer, Clackmannanshire, Fife, Stirling.*

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

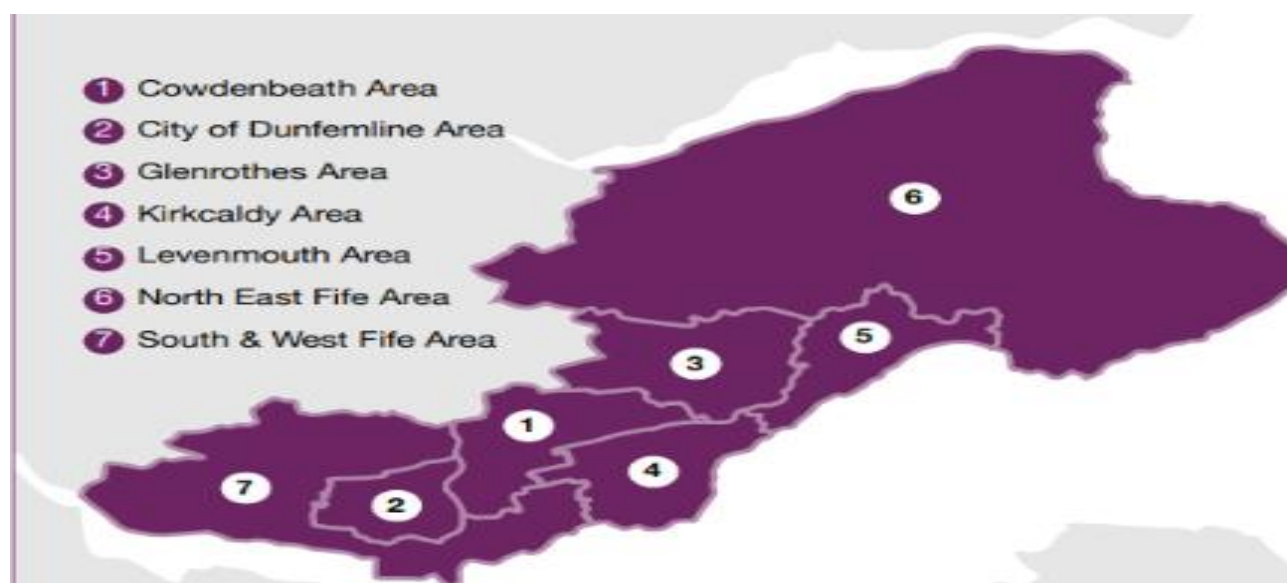
Fife is a peninsula in eastern Scotland with a landmass of 1312 (Km²) and a coastline of 170 kilometres (105 miles) which is bounded by the Firth of Forth to the South and the Firth of Tay to the North. Fife shares inland boundaries with Perth and Kinross and Fife. It contains 22 wards, which are grouped into seven governance areas and has a population of 371,781. These can be seen in figure 2 below.



Figure 2 – Fife Governance Areas as Per Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP) 2017-2027.

Ward 1	West Fife and Coastal Villages
Ward 2	Dunfermline North
Ward 3	Dunfermline Central
Ward 4	Dunfermline South
Ward 5	Rosyth
Ward 6	Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay
Ward 7	Cowdenbeath
Ward 8	Lochgelly, Cardenden and Benarty
Ward 9	Burntisland, Kinghorn and Western Kirkcaldy
Ward 10	Kirkcaldy North
Ward 11	Kirkcaldy Central
Ward 12	Kirkcaldy East
Ward 13	Glenrothes West and Kinglassie
Ward 14	Glenrothes North, Leslie and Markinch
Ward 15	Glenrothes Central and Thornton
Ward 16	Howe of Fife and Tay Coast
Ward 17	Tay Bridgehead
Ward 18	St Andrews
Ward 19	East Neuk and Landward
Ward 20	Cupar
Ward 21	Leven, Kennoway and Largo
Ward 22	Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages

Fife has five wholtime stations: Dunfermline, Glenrothes, Kirkcaldy, Lochgelly and Methil and eight On Call stations: Anstruther, Auchtermuchty, Burntisland, Cupar, Newburgh, St Andrews, St Monans, and Tayport.



Fife is Scotland's third largest local authority, with a 7% share of Scotland's population (371,781) and 494 data zones. Since 2004 there has been a general increase in the share of Scotland's most deprived data zones within the authority, and as of 2020 it registers the 11th highest population number recognised as being within the 20% most deprived zones in Scotland.

In contrast to SIMD figures for 2016, Fife has seen an increase in the number of communities being declared as within the top 20% deprived. Table One provides a visual comparison;

Table 1 – Area distribution of 20% most deprived data zones, showing change from 2016 to 2020

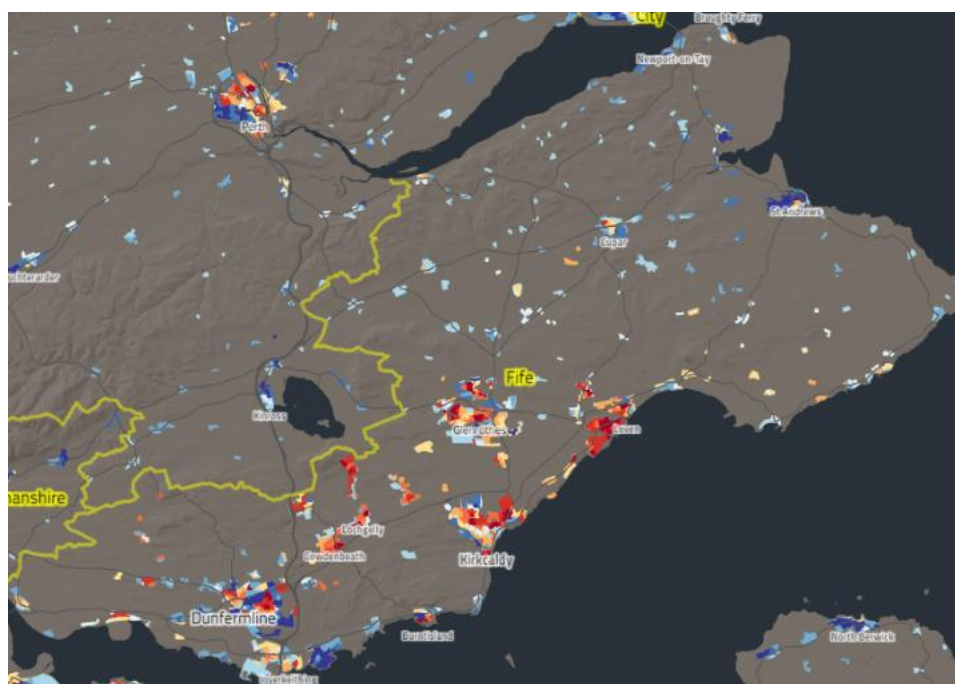
Area	No. of data zones in 20% most deprived		Change
	2020	2016	
South and West Fife	5	5	0
City of Dunfermline	11	8	+3
Cowdenbeath	19	19	0
Kirkcaldy	20	23	-3
Glenrothes	15	16	-1
Levenmouth	26	23	+3
North East Fife	1	1	0
Fife	97	95	+2

Fife's most deprived areas continue to be concentrated in mid Fife, across Levenmouth, Kirkcaldy, Cowdenbeath and Glenrothes areas.

Challenges identified include; town centres need to evolve to meet changing needs and support mixed economies and communities - the local environment in many communities is poorer than other parts of Fife - with a rapidly changing population 20,000 new homes are needed over the next 10 years - too many homes are in poor quality and there is a high level of fuel poverty - many facilities and amenities are in poor condition and not meet the needs of local people.



Figure 5 – Scottish Index Model of Deprivation (SIMD 2020v2) heat map



Fife Council's [A Plan for Fife | Our Fife - Creating a successful, confident and fairer Fife](#) has identified four overarching outcomes and associated priorities with the aim of working together to reduce inequality and improve the wellbeing of all people in Fife.

Opportunities for All

1. Fife has lower levels of poverty in line with national targets.
2. Educational attainment continues to improve for all groups.
3. Fife has reduced levels of preventable ill health and premature mortality across all communities.

Thriving Places

4. Everyone has access to affordable housing options.
5. Fife's main town centres stand out as attractive places to live, work and visit.
6. All our communities benefit from low levels of crime and anti-social behaviour.
7. Every community has access to high quality outdoor, cultural and leisure opportunities.

Inclusive Growth and Jobs

8. Economic activity and employment in Fife is improving faster than in the rest of Scotland.
9. Economic activity and employment in Mid-Fife is catching up with the rest of Fife and Scotland.
10. Fife has year on year increases in visitor numbers and tourism spend.

Community Led Services

11. Our public services are more joined up and acting 'one step sooner'.
12. Fife's communities and individuals are more involved in local decision making and in helping to plan and deliver local services.

Formation of new Fife Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP)

As we come to the end of the 10-year Plan for Fife, we are working with partners to develop a new community plan for Fife which will be adopted in 2027. There will be a period of transition to appropriately connect or adjust other plans and strategies. However, we know there will be continuity of purpose in terms of improving population health, safety, wellbeing and driving economic growth through evidence-led collaborative working with people and places at the centre of all efforts. The aim is to develop a stronger joint reform agenda that reflects national trends for regional focus and integrated funding which delivers impact at scale and maximises opportunities for efficiency.

[Priorities for 2024-27 | Our Fife - Creating a successful, confident and fairer Fife](#)

Performance Scrutiny

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service reports on operational performance to Fife Council's People and Communities Scrutiny Committee on an annual basis. Scrutiny on performance is evaluated against operational trends and prevention activity against the following headings.

- Accidental Dwelling Fires (ADF)
- Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties
- Non-Fire related Casualties
- Deliberate Fires
- Non-Domestic Fires
- Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS)
- Road Traffic Collisions
- Home Fire Safety Visits
- Fire Enforcement Audits
- Community Safety and Engagement

In addition to this the SFRS reports to local Scrutiny Committees on an annual basis allowing the SFRS to report to local elected officials on a ward area basis.

Local Priorities

Priority 1.	Domestic Home Fire Safety and Wellbeing
Priority 2.	Unintentional Harm and Injury
Priority 3.	Built and Natural Environment
Priority 4.	Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults and Children
Priority 5.	Safer Roads for Communities and Visitors
Priority 6.	Community Risk Management

	SFRS Local Area Plan Priorities					
LOIP Outcomes	Priority 1 Domestic Home Fire Safety & Wellbeing	Priority 2 Unintentional Harm and Injury	Priority 3 Built & Natural Environment	Priority 4 Safeguarding vulnerable Adults and Children	Priority 5 Safer Roads for Communities and Visitors	Priority 6 Community Risk Management
Outcome 1 Opportunities for All 1. Fife has lower levels of poverty in line with national targets. 2. Educational attainment continues to improve for all groups. 3. Fife has reduced levels of preventable ill health and premature mortality across all communities.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Outcome 2 Thriving Places 4. Everyone has access to affordable housing options. 5. Fife's main town centres stand out as attractive places to live, work and visit. 6. All our communities benefit from low levels of crime and anti-social behaviour. 7. Every community has access to high quality outdoor, cultural and leisure opportunities.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Outcome 3 Inclusive Growth and Jobs 8. Economic activity and employment in Fife is improving faster than in the rest of Scotland. 9. Economic activity and employment in Mid-Fife is catching up with the rest of Fife and Scotland. 10. Fife has year on year increases in visitor numbers and tourism spend.		✓		✓		

Outcome 4 Community Led Services 11. Our public services are more joined up and acting 'one step sooner'. 12. Fife's communities and individuals are more involved in local decision making and in helping to plan and deliver local services.	✓	✓		✓		✓
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Local Priorities

1. Domestic Home Fire Safety and Wellbeing

Background:

Domestic fires, and the resulting **casualties and fatalities**, have a profound impact not only on those directly affected but also on wider communities and responding services. Beyond the immediate human cost, these incidents can create significant financial strain for households and contribute to wider economic pressures.

Although the overall number of domestic fires, and the severity of their outcomes, has decreased over time, each incident carries its own unique and lasting impact. Evidence indicates that those affected by domestic fire are often disproportionately impacted by wider socio-economic disadvantage and underlying health inequalities, reinforcing the need for targeted prevention and early intervention.

In 2000, the definition of a dwelling was broadened to include non-permanent structures used as a sole residence, such as caravans and houseboats. Incidents occurring within these environments are therefore included within domestic fire statistics, while fires in structures not used as permanent dwellings are classified according to their property type. Additionally, any fire within a domestic setting where the cause is unknown or unspecified is recorded as an **Accidental Dwelling Fire**.

This priority seeks to further reduce the incidence of fires within the home, minimise their impact on individuals and families, and contribute to improved health and wellbeing outcomes across communities in Fife.

We will achieve it by:

- Identifying those areas and members of the public most at risk from fire and promoting Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSV) to these addresses.
- Working with our partners and the public to promote information sharing and referrals that supports a whole system approach to safety and fire risk recognition for households.

Performance Indicators:

- Number of Accidental Dwelling Fires (ADF) recorded with comparison against 5 years of operational activity.
- Number of Fire Fatalities and Non-fatal Fire Casualties recorded with comparison against 5 years of operational activity.
- Number of High Risk HFSV's conducted.

Local Prevention Activity:

Community Safety Engagement:

- SFRS will utilise Incident data, knowledge and partner intelligence to identify those most at risk and direct resources to promote HFSVs.
- Train and support staff, partners and volunteers on fire risk recognition and referral pathways to support a whole system approach to care and share awareness of those at risk from fire.
- Promote community safety messaging and lead on targeted initiatives to engage with all sections of the community to promote health, safety and wellbeing in the domestic setting.

Expected Outcomes:

Opportunities for All

2. Educational attainment continues to improve for all groups
3. Fife has reduced levels of preventable ill health and premature mortality across all communities.

Thriving Places

6. All our communities benefit from low levels of crime and anti-social behaviour

Community Led Services

11. Our public services are more joined up and acting 'one step sooner'.
12. Fife's communities and individuals are more involved in local decision making and in helping to plan and deliver local services.

Delivering Against Strategic Objective:

Safer Communities through Prevention. *Through our work with communities and other organisations, the safety and wellbeing of the people of Scotland Improves.*

2. Unintentional Harm and Injury

Background:

Historically, the very young and older people, particularly those living in areas of higher deprivation, are at greatest risk of unintentional harm and injury. Projected changes to the age profile of Fife's population are likely to increase demand on public services, reinforcing the need for more effective early intervention and preventative approaches.

Analysis indicates that individuals most vulnerable to harm are often already supported by multiple agencies. However, information is not always shared consistently or in a timely manner, which can limit opportunities for early preventative action. In partnership with Community Safety partners, the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) plays a key role in identifying those at greatest risk, understanding the complexities they face, and supporting measures to reduce or eliminate these risks, either through direct intervention or coordinated multi-agency activity.

As a key emergency responder, SFRS is increasingly required to attend incidents beyond traditional expectations. This includes responding to a broader range of operational demands to bring situations to a safe and effective resolution. A growing aspect of this work involves the management and coordination of **non-fire-related casualties**. Through these interactions, SFRS is well positioned to contribute to improving the health and wellbeing of individuals, leveraging our access to members of the community at critical moments.

Effective partnership working is central to achieving these outcomes. Unlike one-off engagements or transactional relationships, strong partnerships are built on sustained collaboration, shared objectives, and measurable impact. This approach enables joint working that delivers tangible benefits for communities across Scotland while supporting continuous improvement across services.

Prevention sits at the heart of this collaborative model. By aligning efforts and resources, partners can better focus on protecting the most vulnerable and reducing avoidable harm, ensuring safer, more resilient communities across Fife.

We will achieve it by:

- Working with our partners to understand the signs and causes of unintentional harm and educate SFRS personnel to identify these and deliver appropriate interventions.
- Focussing resources where demand has been identified and deliver key community safety messages and interventions.
- Contributing to standing committees and subgroups with terms of reference in identifying risk within the community and measures to reduce risk of unintentional harm in both the urban and rural setting.
- Increasing preparedness that enables SFRS to work alongside communities and our partners to build resilience to help us, and them, be better organised to meet the challenges of major incidents as well as enhancing day to day community safety.
- Improving approaches to evaluation of our prevention interventions to enhance how we and our partners work to prevent harm.

Performance Indicators:

- Number of non-fire related casualties and causation recorded against a 5-year comparison of operational activity.
- Number of referrals to partner agencies through safeguarding processes.
- Societal mainstreaming of initiatives that target activities/inequalities resulting in unintentional harm or injury.
- Operational activity because of request for attendance by other agencies.

Local Prevention Activity:

Community Safety Engagement:

- SFRS will utilise Incident data, local knowledge and partner intelligence to identify individuals, locations and activities where risk of unintentional harm is prevalent and direct resources to promote interventions.
- Identify thematic and seasonal initiatives within the domestic, commercial and outdoor setting, including bodies of inland and coastal water, to improve safety outcomes.
- Promote key safety messaging to promote community awareness, knowledge and resilience.

Preparedness:

- SFRS, public and partner engagement to prepare effectively for existing and emerging risks to local and national challenges, ensuring improved resilience is embedded alongside an effective operational response to incidents.

Expected Outcomes:

Thriving Places

6. All our communities benefit from low levels of crime and anti-social behaviour

Delivering Against Strategic Objective:

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.

3. Built and Natural Environment

Background:

All building and property fires that are not classified as domestic properties, including workplaces, business premises and vehicles, are categorised as **Non-Domestic Fires** and may fall within the scope of the **Fire (Scotland) Act 2005**. Prevention activity delivered by local officers manages fire safety work across this sector, including routine audit programmes of relevant premises and post-fire audits. These activities are undertaken in partnership with premises duty holders to promote safe working practices, identify learning opportunities, and ensure that prevention remains at the forefront of fire safety advice and assurance.

As a statutory consultee, the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) may also be required to provide technical fire safety advice during proposed phases of urban development and project design. In doing so, SFRS works collaboratively with planning partners to ensure that innovation is supported by proportionate and effective fire safety solutions at the appropriate stages of the planning process.

The natural environment is of equal importance. SFRS plays a key role in promoting the safe use of outdoor and green spaces, working alongside partners to ensure communities are provided with safe places for all to enjoy. Focus is given to addressing deliberate fire setting, fire-related antisocial behaviour and underlying inequalities, with the aim of tackling these issues at source and embedding a culture of social responsibility, ownership, and stewardship within local communities.

Deliberate fire setting remains a significant issue across Scotland, with Fife experiencing comparable challenges. In response, SFRS will continue to work closely with Community Planning Partners to improve community resilience, support behavioural change where required, and promote the appropriate use, care, and protection of our urban and green spaces.

We will achieve it by:

- Maintaining our fire safety audit schedule in accordance with the SFRS Enforcement schedule and identify areas for thematic assurance and visitations that promotes fire safety.
- Engaging with duty holders, providing advice and support that ensure they have the information to be compliant with Part 3 of the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005.
- Working with our partners to support appropriate fire engineered solutions are incorporated into building and urban project design at the appropriate stage.
- Using local knowledge and operational data to identify those areas of Fife most affected by deliberate fire setting and challenging behaviours through engagement and bespoke initiatives to evaluate resulting outputs and outcomes.
- Identifying the cause of deliberate fire setting and informing Community Planning Partners to act where required.
- Working with partners to develop strategies to reduce accidental and deliberate fires affecting the natural environment and our urban infrastructure.
- Using educational tools such as School talks and specialist community safety engagement programmes to educate people of the risks involved with deliberate fire setting, and the consequences it brings.
- Delivering a structured programme of FireSkills courses targeted at young adults who are engaging in, or at risk of, fire-related antisocial behaviour or who are experiencing social exclusion.

Performance Indicators:

- Number of Non-Domestic Property fires and causation recorded against a 5-year comparison of operational activity.
- Number of Deliberate fires and causation recorded against a 5-year comparison of operational activity.
- Number of completed Fire Safety Audits, Post Fire Audits and Fire Safety Enforcement activity undertaken in line with SFRS Prevention Strategy and local delivery plans.
- Number of fire engineered consultations and other enquiries managed by our personnel that is compliant with Part 3 of the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005.

Local Prevention Activity:

Community Safety Engagement:

- Provide resources, training and investment in our staff, partners and communities to deliver interventions related to fire, safe land management and the Scottish Outdoor Access code. This includes using online platforms and new technologies to deliver impactful messages and affect behavioural change.
- Promote fire safety messaging and education across schools, community groups, and local initiatives through collaborative working with public and third sector partners to address wider safety concerns and deliver positive outcomes for Scotland's communities.

Protection:

- Assess the role that SFRS undertakes in responding to consultations with Local Authorities and other key agencies to enhance capacity and support critical projects and proposed change of use.
- Implement a competency-based Framework that aligns with national Fire Standards which will maintain competence, demonstrate excellence and contribute to a more consistent local approach in reducing risk and maximising effective delivery.

Expected Outcomes:

Thriving Places

5. Fife's main town centres stand out as attractive places to live, work and visit.

Delivering Against Strategic Objective:

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.

4. Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults and Children

Background:

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) will always respond to emergency incidents; however, preventing incidents from occurring in the first place delivers the greatest benefit to individuals, families, and communities. Through targeted prevention activity in homes and businesses, SFRS works to reduce the likelihood and impact of serious incidents and the devastating consequences they can bring.

By working in partnership with Community Planning Partners in Fife, SFRS is also able to address existing and emerging wider safety concerns, including our contribution to safeguarding vulnerable people. This collaborative approach enables early intervention, supports shared responsibility, and strengthens protective factors across our local communities. We are proud of this aspect of our work and are committed to expanding it further. Our Prevention Strategy provides a clear framework to support this ambition.

SFRS will continue to work even more closely with communities to support the Public Service Reform Strategy: Delivering for Scotland 2025. Building on our success in preventing wider harm, improving wellbeing, and increasing community resilience, we will strengthen partnership working with local authorities and a broad range of public and third sector organisations to deliver positive and sustainable outcomes.

Adult Support and Protection (ASP) is everyone's responsibility. SFRS plays a vital role in protecting *Adults at Risk* of harm, as defined by the **Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007**. Similarly, Child Protection and Wellbeing is a shared responsibility, with SFRS duties defined within the **Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014** and supported by the **National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland (2021)**. Through our operational and prevention activities, SFRS has a direct role in identifying and responding to risk of harm. Where concerns are identified, SFRS will report, refer, and cooperate effectively with key partner agencies, including local authority social work services, Police Scotland, and health professionals. Our aim is to support and protect individuals who are unable to safeguard themselves, their property, or their rights.

SFRS has been a proud Corporate Parent since April 2015. As one of 24 public bodies recognised under the **Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014**, we recognise our Corporate Parenting duties not only as a statutory responsibility, but as an opportunity to positively influence and improve the life chances of care-experienced people, in line with the commitments of *The Promise*. We deliver a range of services that help people live safe and fulfilling lives at home, at work, in public spaces, and in education. In addition, our trusted and respected organisational profile allows us to act as positive role models, helping inspire and support young people to achieve their potential.

We will achieve it by:

- Training and supporting 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.
- Demonstrating our commitment to safeguarding, supporting vulnerable members of the community through appropriate referrals and signposting to ensure they can access the most appropriate assistance and advice.
- Listening to care experienced people and learning from their journeys to ensure our Corporate Parenting Plan is relevant and supports improved outcomes for those residing in Fife.

- Working in partnership with other Corporate Parents and external organisations to improve opportunities for those who are care experienced to develop skills, experience and confidence to achieve their personal, employment and career ambitions.
- Effectively recording, and reporting on safeguarding activity in line with information sharing protocols with Local Authority Adult Support and Child Protection Committees promoting shared responsibilities and activity to achieve shared outcomes.
- Ensuring all Operational and Community Safety and Engagement personnel undertake Disclosure Scotland assessment and validation to support in the undertaking of their role.

Performance Indicators:

- Number of Adult Protection (AP1) referrals to partners per year recorded against a 5-year comparison to the relevant APC local authority committee.
- Number of Child Protection (CP1) referrals to partners per year recorded against a 5-year comparison to the relevant local authority committee.
- Membership and progression against defined syllabus for those registered to our Youth Volunteer Scheme located at Alloa Community Fire Station.
- Corporate Parent activity and measures to support SFRS Corporate Parenting Plan.

Local Prevention Activity:

Community Safety Engagement:

- SFRS will utilise Incident data, knowledge and partner intelligence to identify those most at risk and direct resources to promote HFSVs, and support enhanced Fire Safety interventions where required.
- Deliver and promote the Youth Volunteer Scheme from Methil Community Fire Station in collaboration with partners, supporting identified and nominated young people from Fife to achieve positive outcomes.
- Support Community Planning Partners to educate people to live independently within their communities with a whole system approach to intervention and wellbeing support.

Expected Outcomes:

Opportunities for All

1. Fife has lower levels of poverty in line with national targets.
2. Educational attainment continues to improve for all groups.
3. Fife has reduced levels of preventable ill health and premature mortality across all communities.

Thriving Places

6. All our communities benefit from low levels of crime and anti-social behaviour.

Community Led Services

11. Our public services are more joined up and acting 'one step sooner'.
12. Fife's communities and individuals are more involved in local decision making and in helping to plan and deliver local services.

Delivering Against Strategic Objective:

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.*

5. Safer Roads for Communities and Visitors

Background:

A core element of SFRS's operational preparedness and response activity is responding to emergencies across Scotland's road network. Incidents such as **Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs)** present both inherent and emerging risks to local communities and visitors travelling within Fife. The diverse nature of the local road network, supporting a wide range of uses, means that RTCs can have significant consequences not only for those directly involved or injured, but also for the resilience of key arterial routes. Disruption to these routes can adversely affect access to healthcare and emergency services, whilst also placing additional strain on the local economy and commercial activity.

Although road casualty figures across Scotland have reduced significantly over the past two decades, evidence consistently identifies young drivers and older people as groups at heightened risk of harm. This increased risk is often linked to driving experience, behaviours, and patterns of road usage. These trends emphasise the need for continued collaboration and early intervention to reinforce preventative activity and further reduce preventable deaths and injury. Rural road environments represent a particular area of risk within Fife. In response, SFRS will continue to prioritise education, engagement, and awareness activity targeted at higher-risk demographics, working closely with partners to promote safer road use and influence positive behavioural change.

Innovation and technological advancement are also reshaping the risk profile of Scotland's roads. The introduction of new vehicle technologies, alternative fuels, and efforts to support Scotland's net zero ambitions present new operational considerations for emergency responders. SFRS will continue to prepare its staff for effective operational response, while working with strategic partners to understand and mitigate these emerging risks. This includes promoting the safe and sustainable adoption of new transport technologies and ensuring that road users adopt safe practices as transport preferences continue to evolve.

We will achieve it by:

- Collaborating with partners to promote road safety campaigns and safety messaging.
- Supporting partners in the facilitation of thematic safety inspections and education programmes targeting all types of road vehicles and user demographics.
- Working with Community Planning Partners to evaluate road related deaths and injuries to identify causation and areas for safety interventions that prevent future incidents and improve outcomes.
- Working with our blue light partners to enhance emergency response preparedness that is supported through high-quality training and development.

Performance Indicators:

- Number of Road Traffic Collisions (RTC) attended by SFRS per year recorded against a 5-year comparison of operational activity.
- Number of RTC related casualties and causation recorded against a 5-year comparison of operational activity.
- Educational delivery and public/partner uptake of initiatives that target road related activities and behavioural change.

Local Prevention Activity:

Community Safety Engagement:

- Continued collaboration in support of “Safe Drive Stay Alive”, “Biker Down” and other local road safety initiatives.
- School and Community engagement events to promote safe transport activity and promote Active Travel initiatives.
- Support the development of new urban design projects alongside Community Planning Partners to redesign our urban spaces and reduce risk of harm associated with the hierarchy of road use.
- Participate in casualty case reviews through partnerships such as the Road Casualty Reduction Group to identify lessons learnt and shape improvements to identified accident hot spots.

Preparedness:

- Support emergency response arrangements, preparedness, integrated public safety efforts and improved resource use that supports joint planning, training and information sharing.

Expected Outcomes:

Thriving Places

6. All our communities benefit from low levels of crime and anti-social behaviour.

Delivering Against Strategic Objective:

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.

6. Community Risk Management

Background:

Risk can be defined as the probability or threat of quantifiable damage, injury, liability, loss, or other adverse outcomes arising from internal or external vulnerabilities. These risks can often be mitigated or avoided through proactive and preventative action.

Community risk exists across all of Scotland, and Fife presents a distinct and varied risk profile. This includes challenges linked to industrial processes across multiple sites, a changing demographic that places increasing demand on local services, and a unique geography and natural environment that attracts significant daily outdoor activity. Together, these factors contribute to a diverse operational landscape requiring careful management.

It is essential that the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) work collaboratively with Community Planning Partners to reduce these risks and minimise the severity of outcomes resulting from operational incidents.

While some risks may appear minor, they can have disproportionately significant consequences. A key example is **Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS)**. These incidents, where alarm activations occur without fire or testing, can cause unnecessary emergency responses, increasing occupational road risk, diverting emergency resources, and contributing to economic disruption.

SFRS is committed to ensuring that its personnel are fully prepared to meet the challenges present within Fife communities. This will be achieved through a risk-based approach to evaluating, planning, and preparing for incident response, across both core and specialist operational capabilities.

We will achieve it by:

- Monitoring and challenging each Unwanted Fire Alarm Signal (UFAS) incident in Fife aligned to our UFAS Reduction strategy, engaging with premises duty holders to adopt measures that reduce their frequency.
- Promoting successes in agreed UFAS reduction strategies and promoting positive behaviours amongst staff, visitors and other property users.
- Identifying and evaluating property use that presents a high-risk to Firefighter, partner and public safety and developing sustainable incident response plans that support effective emergency response.
- Identifying and evaluating non-commercial high-risk locations/sites of special interest and developing sustainable incident response plans that support effective emergency response.
- Working closely with partners as co-chair within the Fife Local Resilience Partnership to deal safely and effectively to any industrial or natural hazards in the locality.

Performance Indicators:

- Number of Unwanted UFAS attended by SFRS per year recorded against a 5-year comparison of operational activity.
- Number of False Alarm Mobilisations attended by SFRS per year recorded against a 5-year comparison of operational duty.
- Number of Operational Intelligence and Site-Specific Risk visitations accompanied by relevant incident response plans.

Local Prevention Activity:

Community Safety Engagement:

- SFRS Personnel will work alongside partners and duty holders to promote safe use of urban and natural resources embedding initiatives such as “Take 5” to reduce operational disruption from False Alarms and Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals.
- SFRS Personnel will support partner initiatives that includes community safety patrols and Thematic safety campaigns to promote wellbeing when undertaking activities in the community.
- Response.
- SFRS Personnel will support partner training and development regarding risk recognition and support wider Health, Wellbeing and Wealth building initiatives.

Protection:

- SFRS Protection Officers will manage a portfolio of Fire Safety Audit and inspections on a risk-based delivery plan prioritising sleeping risk and thematic challenges from national learning.
- SFRS officers will work with duty holders to reduce the causation and embed processes to improve fire alarm investigation and challenge duty holders to manage their site appropriately.

Preparedness:

- Using a risk-based approach, SFRS Personnel will evaluate and produce incident response plans for sites of High risk.
- SFRS Personnel will undertake joint training and development with partners to improve incident response readiness and improve knowledge of unique risks associated with processes and venues.

Expected Outcomes:

Thriving Places

5. Fife’s main town centres stand out as attractive places to live, work and visit.
6. All our communities benefit from low levels of crime and anti-social behaviour.

Community Led Services

11. Our public services are more joined up and acting ‘one step sooner’.
12. Fife’s communities and individuals are more involved in local decision making and in helping to plan and deliver local services.

Delivering Against Strategic Objective:

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.*

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
Local Senior Officer
Clackmannanshire-Fife-Stirling LSO HQ
Alloa Community Fire Station
Clackmannan Road
Alloa
FK10 4DA

Visit our website: www.firescotland.gov.uk

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