

**Working together
for a safer Scotland**



SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
Working together for a safer Scotland

LOCAL FIRE AND RESCUE PLAN

2026 - 2029

ORKNEY

Safety. Teamwork. Respect. Innovation.

Contents

Introduction	1
National Context and Challenges	3
Local Context	5
Performance Scrutiny	9
Local Priorities	10
Improving Fire Safety in the Home	11
Improving Fire Safety and Resilience in the Business Community	12
Minimising the Impact of Unintentional Harm	13
Effective Risk Management and Operational Preparedness	15
Review	17
Contact Us	17

Introduction

It is my pleasure to introduce the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service's (SFRS) Local Fire and Rescue Plan 2026-2029 for Orkney. This sets out our priorities for improving community safety, whilst helping to address inequalities and enhancing the overall wellbeing of the communities of Orkney. In developing this plan, we have been mindful of the range of activities the SFRS might have to undertake in Orkney on any given day. These might include fitting a smoke alarm in the home of a vulnerable person, visiting a school to educate young people on the dangers of fire, rescuing someone involved in a Road Traffic Collision or dealing with large wildfires similar to those experienced in recent years.

Over the next three years, it is anticipated that the SFRS will continue to operate in a challenging environment shaped by financial pressures, evolving risks, and the need for organisational change. Alongside many of our partners, workforce capacity, particularly in rural areas where our staff are predominantly On Call, remains a key challenge, whilst we balance the need to support staff wellbeing, skills and to provide strong leadership.

Scotland's risk profile is shifting, with fewer dwelling fires but increased demand from climate-related incidents such as flooding and wildfires, as well as ongoing social and demographic vulnerabilities. In response, the SFRS is prioritising prevention, collaboration, and early intervention through its Prevention Strategy (2025–2028), focusing on reducing harm, protecting vulnerable communities, and managing demand.

This Local Fire and Rescue Plan translates our national priorities into locally tailored actions to deliver effective prevention, protection, and response services while supporting broader public service reform and community resilience.

Orkney is a thriving place to live, rich in culture, heritage and cohesive communities. It is widely considered a safe place to live and regularly tops UK quality of life surveys. It does however present many local challenges and vulnerabilities to the SFRS and our partners. Orkney has a distinctively older population profile compared to the rest of Scotland, the median age is about 50 years, roughly 9 years higher than the UK average. The 75 and over age group is the fastest growing demographic for Orkney. This fact presents ongoing challenges in maintaining and recruiting staff to provide local community-based emergency response.

Over the period of this Local Fire and Rescue Plan we aim to continue building upon our already strong partnerships, enhance our prevention work and to seek innovative solutions to ensure that Orkney's communities are safer, more resilient and sustainable for the future.



Andrew Wright
Local Senior Officer
Area Commander
Western Isles, Orkney and Shetland

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). This will be a priority for the next three-year with SSRP focusing 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

The Local Fire and Rescue Plan and its associated action plans are aligned to the Orkney Community Planning Partnership structures in Orkney.

Through partnership working we will deliver continuous improvement in our performance and effective service delivery in our area of operations.

The SFRS will continue to use data analysis techniques to identify risk and ensure resources are allocated to the point of need within our communities.

While considering the strategic priorities of the SFRS we will develop local solutions to meet local needs and provide equitable access to Fire and Rescue resources.

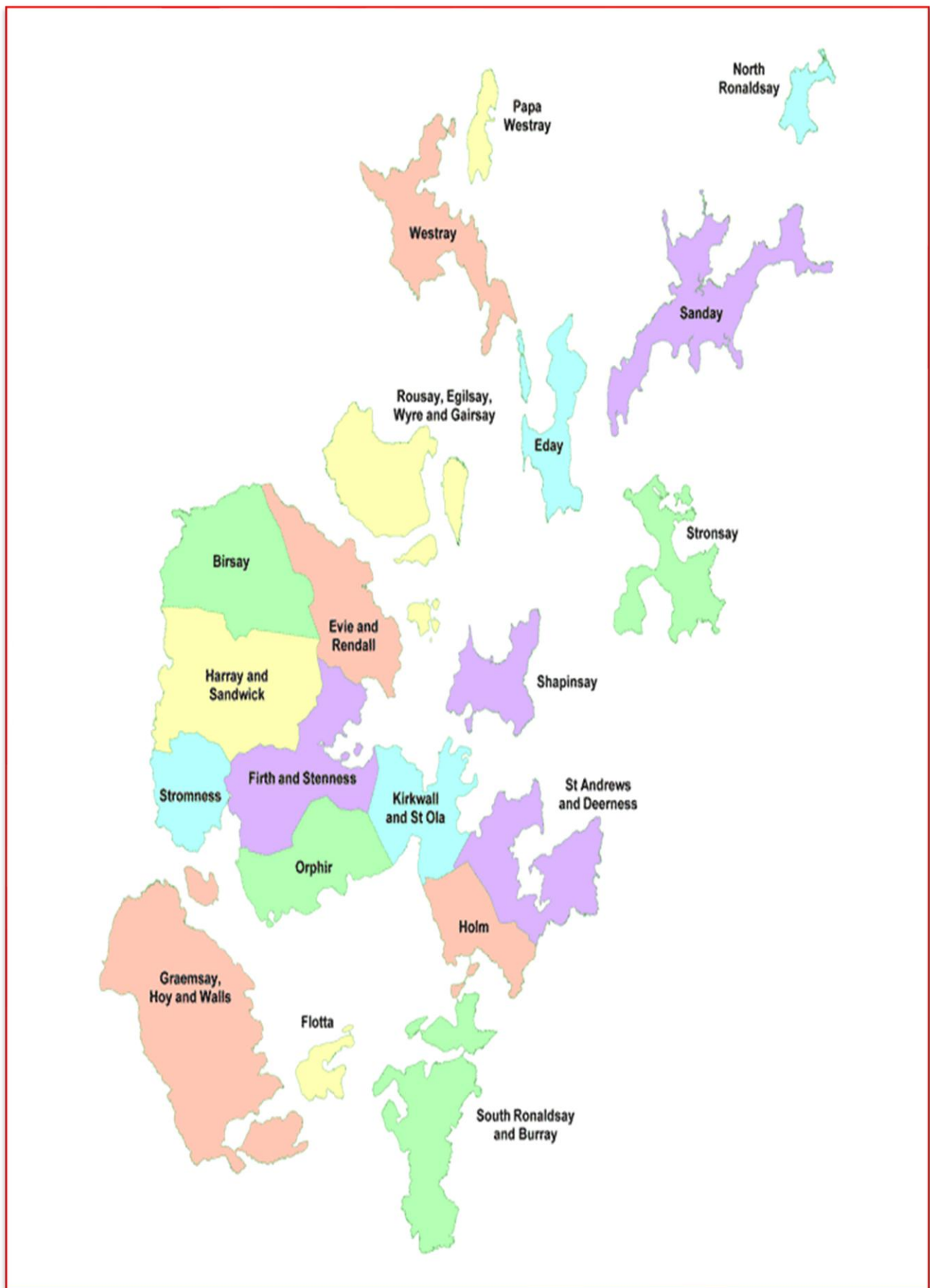
Through our on-going involvement with the variety of partnership groups in Orkney we will continue to develop our understanding of local needs and proactively seek out consultation opportunities with all sections of the community.

Using this approach, we will ensure that the service we deliver is driven by consultation, in line with public expectations and help to build strong, safe and resilient communities.

Orkney is one of the 32 council areas of Scotland, a constituency of the Scottish Parliament and a lieutenancy area.

Orkney Archipelago consists of approximately 70 islands lying 16 kilometres (10 miles) off the north coast of Scotland. Approximately 18 of these islands may be inhabited depending on the time of year. The largest island, known as “Mainland Orkney” has an area of 532.25 square kilometres (202 square miles) making it the sixth largest of the Scottish and the tenth largest island in the British Isles. The largest settlement and administrative centre is Kirkwall.

Population figures from the 2011 census show some dramatic changes since 2001. The majority of the population inhabit the mainland and the two southern neighbours that are linked to it by causeways known as the Churchill Barriers. Orkney’s two main towns are Kirkwall (approximate population of 7,500) and Stromness (approximate population 2,200), both of which are situated in Mainland Orkney. Census data also shows general ageing and a slight increase in the population in the peripheral islands. The increase in population aged over 65 is the largest increase in Scotland and will be very significant in planning future services. In 2020 the total population was estimated to be 22,400.



Orkney's well-established agriculture and fisheries sectors play a significant role in the regional economy. The extensive wind and marine energy resources of the county are of growing importance both locally and nationally as well as the research and development into other reusable and sustainable energy sectors.

The other main industries are tourism and oil processing. Oil is brought ashore by a pipeline and shuttle tankers to the top tier COMAH (Control of Major Accident Hazard) processing and distribution facility on the island of Flotta in Scapa Flow. Oil tankers regularly call at Flotta for loading and onward distribution of the oil fractions, as well as carrying out ship to ship transfers in Scapa Flow.

The islands are linked to mainland Scotland by flights and ferry services. Flights into Kirkwall Airport arrive direct from Inverness, Aberdeen, Sumburgh, Glasgow and Edinburgh. Passenger and freight ferry services sail from ports in Caithness and Aberdeen. There are also freight and passenger links to the Shetland Islands. The north isles of Orkney are linked by an internal air service with ferry services linking these and the other islands to Mainland Orkney.

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service recognises the unique challenges that are faced in delivering services in remote and rural areas including populated islands and coastal communities. Twelve, On Call Duty System (Not Primary Employment), Fire Stations provide the operational response capability for Orkney. The three mainland stations at Kirkwall, Stromness and St Margaret's Hope are staffed by up to fifty Firefighters. The remaining stations are single fire appliance units on remote, isolated islands. The provision of a Fire and Rescue Service in remote locations must be a partnership between the SFRS and the community which it serves. Recruitment and retention of On Call staff is problematic in certain locations and can have an adverse effect on fire appliance availability.

Operational On Call firefighters are supported by Wholtime District Office personnel: 1 Group Commander; 2 Station Commanders; 2 On Call Support Watch Commanders, 2 Training Function Crew Commanders, 1 Community Safety Advocate and 1 Fire Safety Auditing Officer.

In relation to Operational activity, statistics show that Orkney is a safe place to live, work and visit. The SFRS will not however become complacent and will continue to engage with stakeholders in order to drive down risks in the wider community whilst focusing on the vulnerable and most at risk.

Prevention and Protection in Orkney will be achieved through a process of community safety engagement and Fire Safety Enforcement. Prevention is a clear process of working with our partner agencies to identify the most vulnerable individuals within our community. This will allow the Service to address the occurrence of dwelling fires which are more likely to involve vulnerable groups such as people with disabilities, older single people, people living in areas of deprivation and people with drug and alcohol addictions. These high-risk groups will be targeted through a collaborative approach with Social Services, support groups and healthcare providers to carry out Home Safety Visits, and a range of educational and diversionary programmes such as FireSkills, Fire Setter Intervention Programmes, Safe Drive Stay Alive and the Safe Islanders events.

Protection will be achieved by carrying out Fire Safety Audits on all relevant premises. These premises include all Care Homes, Education Establishments, Hospitals, Businesses with a Sleeping Risk, Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) and very high or high-risk premises.

The main risks are spread across processing, transport, geographical, coastal waters and coastline, isolated communities, severe weather; infrastructure related, mixed category roads network, plus schools, hospital and care facilities. In addition, there exists commercial activity that includes the whisky and gin industry, marine commerce and farming.

The response to, and recovery from major emergencies as defined within the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 will continue through our participation in the Orkney Local Emergency Planning and Coordinating Group (OLECG) which in turn links into the Highland Local Resilience Partnership. In times of severe weather, power and communications outages the local co-ordinating group is at the forefront of ensuring the safety of residents of Orkney, in many ways independent of outside assistance; this places SFRS at the very core of response and resilience in Orkney. These arrangements include the emergency plans and agency specific operational orders and procedures and are intended to facilitate an effective joint response to any emergency.

As a statutory partner in The Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016, The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 (CYPA) and GIRFEC (Getting it Right for Every Child) provide a unique foundation to support the development of not only youth engagement activities but also can provide SFRS with links to our most vulnerable citizens.

The provision of community safety information is an important aspect of our work. The effective use of media platforms can support communities through targeted or generic safety information and the promotion of events across Orkney. Whenever possible we will deliver joint safety messaging along with our partners.

Working together for a better Orkney. The SFRS is an active member of the Orkney Community Planning Partnership (OCP). The OCP brings together the main public sector organisations with the voluntary and business sectors to solve problems no single agency could resolve by themselves. Orkney faces a range of interconnected challenges, including geographic isolation, underemployment, housing shortages, high living costs, and climate change. The OCP's approach is rooted in collaboration, prevention, and innovation, aiming to build a more sustainable and inclusive future.

The OCP has agreed three priorities:

- **Cost of Living Crisis** – and tackling the underlying causes of poverty.
- **Sustainable Development** – supporting Community Wealth Building and a just transition to a net zero economy.
- **Local Equality** – so residents in all parts of Orkney have equal opportunities and **Public Health** – to improve the health of Orkney's population and reduce health inequities.

The Orkney Community Plan 2025/30 sets out how the Partnership will deliver on these priorities.

Where possible the Orkney Local Fire and Rescue Plan will link activities to the OCP priorities either through direct action or actions that mitigate the impacts arising from these priorities. It is also recognised that Sustainable Development can aid communities through generating cohesion and resilience.

Performance Scrutiny

The Orkney Local Fire and Rescue Plan is the basis on which SFRS performance is measured. This is done via the governance arrangements of Orkney Islands Council specifically the elected members of the Police and Fire Sub-Committee. This Committee meets formally, quarterly and SFRS report directly to the committee. To ensure performance monitoring is consistent with our strategy 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, or their deputy will attend the Police and Fire Sub Committee 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 Orkney.

Local Priorities

- Priority 1.** Improving Fire Safety in the Home
Priority 2. Improving Fire Safety and Resilience in the Business Community
Priority 3. Minimising the Impact of Unintentional Harm
Priority 4. Effective Risk Management and Operational Preparedness

	SFRS Local Area Plan Priorities			
Orkney Community Plan	Priority 1 Improving Fire Safety in the Home	Priority 2 Improving Fire Safety and Resilience in the business community	Priority 3 Minimising the Impact of Unintentional Harm	Priority 4 Effective Risk Management and Operational Preparedness
Sustainable Development – supporting Community Wealth Building.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cost of Living Crisis – and tackling the underlying causes of poverty.		✓		✓
Local Equality – so residents in all parts of Orkney have equal opportunities.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Public Health – to improve the health of Orkney's population and reduce health inequities.	✓	✓	✓	✓

Local Priorities

1. Improving Fire Safety in the Home

Background:

Amongst the range of emergencies we attend in Orkney, fires in the home account for approximately 5% of operational demand. This, however, is the category of fire in which individuals are most likely to die or be injured. Therefore, improving fire safety in the home continues to be a priority for us.

There are over 10,600 occupied homes in Orkney and on average, we attend approximately 9 accidental dwelling fires in these each year. High severity house fires in Orkney continue to be few, representing around 0.2% of all house fires in Scotland and the rate of fire fatalities and casualties in Orkney is well below the Scottish average. This relatively low frequency and impact of fire in the home reflects the focus on prevention and protection work and has contributed to making Orkney one of the safest places to live. Nonetheless, evidence indicates that it's the most vulnerable individuals in our communities and those that are living in certain geographical areas who are at higher risk from fire in the home and experience poorer outcomes. The elderly account for almost half of all fire casualties. Fires in the home tend to occur more frequently in the most deprived areas and the rural nature of Orkney gives rise to individuals living in social isolation who may be more vulnerable to fire.

Individuals who are at higher risk from fire are, often, known to other agencies such as health, social care or criminal justice. This highlights the absolute need to share knowledge and information between services about those most vulnerable in our communities. Collaborative working will contribute to the reduction of fire risk in their homes.

A home fire safety visit, where firefighters visit people in their homes to provide fire safety advice and fit free detection will continue to be our main tool to improve fire safety in the home. We will monitor and broaden this over coming years to identify what other protection we can offer communities. But a smoke alarm cannot prevent a fire – it can only alert the occupant that a fire may have started. The best way of reducing the potential for fires to occur is to influence and change the behaviour of residents and we will continue to concentrate our efforts on how to improve their fire safety awareness.

We will achieve it by:

- Sharing relevant information and analyse data, to identify individuals, households, communities and geographical areas most at risk from fire.
- Implementing our Post Domestic Incident Response after all reported fires and other relevant incidents.
- Targeting our home fire safety visits, and fire safety education and advice at those who are identified as being most at risk from fire.
- Making it easier for our partners to refer vulnerable individuals who are at risk from fire.
- Educating children and young people on the risks from fire, making Orkney a safer place for the future.
- Supporting the OCPP.

Performance Indicators:

- The number of accidental dwelling fires.
- The number of accidental dwelling fire casualties and fatalities.
- The number of Home Safety Visits measured against the backdrop of risk.
- The number of Home Safety Visits referred to SFRS by partners.

Expected Outcomes:

- Our aim is to support Orkney's individuals and communities to become safer, resilient and sustainable.
- Supporting the OCPP by ensuring that **ALL** Orkney residents have **equality** of access to home safety guidance and that our engagement and interventions **improve the health and wellbeing** of individuals and communities.

Delivering Against Strategic Objective:

- *Safer Communities through Prevention*
- *Improving Performance*

2. Improving Fire Safety and Resilience in the Business Community

Background:

Non-domestic fires tend to involve businesses - the backbone of the Orkney's economy and growth. Ensuring businesses are better protected, more resilient to fire and can continue to contribute to the local economy is a key priority for us during these tough economic times.

The SFRS has a statutory duty under Part 3 of the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 (the Act) to provide advice and enforce fire safety regulations in most non-domestic premises. In Orkney, approximately 50 non-domestic premises are covered by the Act, which requires the duty holders to meet certain responsibilities in relation to maintaining safe business environments.

Our approach of educating and advising duty holders on how to build and maintain safe business environments, combined with enforcing our powers to ensure compliance is working effectively, means that in Orkney we have one of the lowest rates of non-domestic fires in the whole of Scotland.

We aim to build on this success by operating a risk-based fire safety audit programme, which is intelligence led and focusses our resources on auditing premises with high life risk and where there is greater likelihood of fire. These will include buildings important to our heritage and critical to our local infrastructure.

We will achieve it by:

- Prioritising our Fire Safety Audits and Operational Reassurance Visits towards protecting non-domestic premises with the highest life risk and those where there is the greatest risk of fire.
- Supporting every business that has been affected by a fire, by undertaking a post fire audit of the premises and assisting their recovery in the quickest and most efficient way.
- Responding promptly to complaints over fire safety compliance in non-domestic premises.
- Where relevant, advise on the suitability of fire safety provision in all new non-domestic premises under construction and existing premises undergoing major refurbishment.
- Engaging with duty holders on how to meet fire safety compliance, to ease the burden on the business community.

Performance Indicators:

- Reviewing the number of fires in non-domestic premises and the type of premises involved in fire.
- Reviewing the number and types of fire safety audits, and Operational Reassurance Visits carried out.
- Assessing the outcome of fire safety audits carried out in non-domestic premises.
- Evaluating the effectiveness of our responses to complaints over fire safety compliance in non-domestic premises.

Expected Outcomes:

- Our aim is to support Orkney's business communities to become safer, resilient and sustainable.
- Supporting the OCPP by ensuring that **ALL** Orkney businesses have **equality** of access to relevant safety guidance, that through our guidance and interventions Orkney's economy is better protected **preventing future poverty** and that our engagement and interventions **improve the health and wellbeing** of business owners, employees and visitors.

Delivering Against Strategic Objective:

- *Safer Communities through Prevention*
- *Safe and Effective Response*
- *Improving Performance*

3. Minimising the Impact of Unintentional Harm

Background:

The Building Safer Communities Phase 2: National Strategic Assessment of Unintentional Harm defines these types of incidents as “unintentional physical and psychological harm that could have been predicted and prevented”. Unintentional harm in Scotland is a heavy burden on the population in terms of death and injury but is also a significant economic burden for public services. In 2024/25, there were 54,720 emergency admissions from unintentional injuries, this represents 1 in 10 of all emergency admissions in Scotland. In 2024, unintentional injuries led to 2,850 deaths. This can be

reduced through more focus on prevention and education, targeted interventions and partnership working.

Unintentional harm in the home (falls in particular) has been identified as one of the most prominent issues and the associated risk profile closely matches those people that are most at risk from fire, in particular the elderly. It therefore makes absolute sense that our work goes beyond making people safer from fire. We will position unintentional harm as a local priority, and work with our partners to make the most vulnerable people in Orkney safer from experiencing unintentional harm in the home, much of which is driven by social and economic inequality.

Out-with the home environment, we experience the impact of unintentional harm through our response to a range of non-fire related emergencies, and in Orkney, it is Road Traffic Collisions (RTC) and drowning which are the most significant cause of non-fire related deaths and injuries. Working with our Community Planning partners, we will ensure there is a co-ordinated and joined up approach to road safety prevention activity and water safety in Orkney. With a pooling of expertise and a range of activities, we will target the 'at risk groups' to reduce the number of deaths and injuries resulting from RTC's and alongside key partners from the Partnership Approach to Water Safety (PAWS) group reduce the number of drowning incidents.

The SFRS will work with partners in Orkney, ensuring that a robust referral process is established in line with the Orkney Community Plan. This will ensure that the people who are most vulnerable from risk are provided with the necessary support to reduce that risk. SFRS personnel on Orkney will continue to promote and conduct safety visits within the home, targeting those deemed to be most vulnerable from harm.

We will achieve it by:

- Re-focusing our Home Fire Safety Visit Programme to include the assessment of unintentional harm in the home and wider health issues.
- Training our firefighters to recognise and respond to the risk factors associated with unintentional harm in the home.
- Sharing key data and jointly deliver targeted interventions, to reduce the incidence and impact of unintentional harm among vulnerable people in the home.
- Agreeing referral pathways, considering expanding our Home Fire Safety Visit Programme to include unintentional harm in the home.
- Targeting road safety activities from early years to young drivers and other 'at risk groups.'
- Targeting water safety activities as directed through the Orkney PAWS group.

Performance Indicators:

- Analysing the number of unintentional harm referrals we make to our partners.
- Monitoring the number of attendances at RTC's and the frequency and severity of injuries arising from RTC's.
- Reviewing the number of other non-fire related emergencies and the frequency and severity of injuries arising from these incidents.
- Assessing the number of people we train in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation.

Expected Outcomes:

- Our aim is to support Orkney's individuals and communities to become safer, resilient and sustainable.
- Supporting the OCPP by ensuring that **ALL** Orkney residents have **equality** of access to safety guidance and that our engagement and interventions **improve the health and wellbeing** of individuals and communities.

Delivering Against Strategic Objective:

- *Safer Communities through Prevention*
- *Improving Performance*

4. Effective Risk Management and Operational Preparedness

Background:

Risk management and operational preparedness is a key area of work for the SFRS. Locally, this means knowing what the risks are in Orkney and then making plans, so we are resilient to respond to any event that these risks may bring. Many of the risks we face depend on where people live and work, their processes and their contribution to Orkney's infrastructure. For example, risks in Orkney include crude oil refinement and storage, energy production and distribution, a number of major ports and harbours, shipping routes which could result in major incidents and significant impacts to the lives of our local and business communities. These risks need to be identified and managed through effective planning and responding.

Other risks in Orkney include:

- The ports which support fishing, oil and leisure.
- Temporary risks such as music festivals and sports competitions.
- Significant Heritage sites.

The national risks Scotland faces are continually changing and as a key public service, we have a statutory duty to prepare for and respond to any significant national threats or major emergencies. These include being able to deal with events such as widespread flooding, major transport accidents, terrorist attacks and natural disasters. As our role broadens, so does the variety of incidents we attend. Developing greater flexibility to deploy crews, to take on a broadening response and prevention role will therefore be fully explored nationally and locally for safe and effective delivery.

Having the resilience to make plans for and respond to the unique risk profile of Orkney is essential for managing the effects of any event. For us, that means our firefighters being equipped to deal with emergencies safely and effectively, our stations being in a constant state of readiness; working with our partners to deliver an integrated approach to emergency planning and helping to build community resilience.

We will achieve it by:

- Identifying and assessing the risk to our community through the process of Operational Intelligence (OI) gathering and active involvement in the Orkney Local Emergency Coordination Group (OLECG).
- Implementing a training programme that matches the Orkney risk profile and maintains our capabilities for dealing with local and national emergencies.
- Undertaking targeted On Call firefighter recruitment campaigns, to raise community awareness of the role and its value.
- Strengthening community resilience by engaging with them, to build their capabilities for managing the effects of emergencies as a community.

Performance Indicators:

- Reviewing the outcomes of our OI process and engagement with LRP's.
- Evaluating the effectiveness of our firefighter training programme and multi-agency emergency planning.
- Evaluating the effectiveness of our firefighter recruitment campaigns.
- Assessing the number of resilience hubs we engage with to enhance their capacity and capabilities.

Expected Outcomes:

- Our aim is to support Orkney's individuals and communities to become safer, resilient and sustainable.
- Supporting the OCPP by ensuring that **ALL** Orkney communities have **equality** of access to relevant safety guidance, that through our guidance and interventions Orkney's economy is better protected **preventing future poverty** and that our engagement and interventions **improve the health and wellbeing** of business owners, employees and visitors. Providing access to employment opportunities across our communities.

Delivering Against Strategic Objective:

- *Safer Communities through Prevention*
- *Safe and Effective Response*
- *Improving Performance*
- *Investing in our People*
- *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
Orkney District Office
Great Western Road
Kirkwall
KW15 1QS

Submit an enquiry: <https://www.firescotland.gov.uk/contact-us/general-enquiry/>

Visit our website: www.firescotland.gov.uk



SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
Working together for a safer Scotland

firescotland.gov.uk