



DEVON & SOMERSET FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY

**S.J. Sharman
CLERK TO THE AUTHORITY**

**To: The Chair and Members of the
Community Safety Committee**

(see below)

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COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE
(Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority)

Wednesday, 31st January, 2024

A meeting of the Community Safety Committee will be held on the above date, **commencing at 2.00 pm in Committee Room A, Somerset House, Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service Headquarters, Exeter** to consider the following matters.

S.J. Sharman
Clerk to the Authority

A G E N D A

PLEASE REFER TO THE NOTES AT THE END OF THE AGENDA LISTING SHEETS

1 Apologies

2 Minutes (Pages 1 - 2)

of the previous meeting held on 10 November 2023 attached.

3 Items Requiring Urgent Attention

Items which, in the opinion of the Chair, should be considered at the meeting as matters of urgency.

PART 1 - OPEN COMMITTEE

4 Strategic Priority 1 and 2 Performance Measures: Quarter 3 - 2023-24 (Pages 3 - 22)

Report of the Director of Service Delivery (CSC/24/1) attached.

5 His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary & Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) Areas for Improvement Action Plan Update (Pages 23 - 26)

Report of the Chief Fire Officer (CSC/24/2) attached.

6 Changes to Fire Protection Legislation (Pages 27 - 30)

Report of the Director of Service Delivery (CSC/24/3) attached.

MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO SIGN THE ATTENDANCE REGISTER

Membership:-

Councillors Chesterton (Vice-Chair), Brazil, Hendy (Chair), Kerley, Patel, Power and Radford

NOTES

1. **Access to Information**

Any person wishing to inspect any minutes, reports or lists of background papers relating to any item on this agenda should contact the person listed in the “Please ask for” section at the top of this agenda.

2. **Reporting of Meetings**

Any person attending a meeting may report (film, photograph or make an audio recording) on any part of the meeting which is open to the public – unless there is good reason not to do so, as directed by the Chair - and use any communication method, including the internet and social media (Facebook, Twitter etc.), to publish, post or otherwise share the report. The Authority accepts no liability for the content or accuracy of any such report, which should not be construed as representing the official, Authority record of the meeting. Similarly, any views expressed in such reports should not be interpreted as representing the views of the Authority.

Flash photography is not permitted and any filming must be done as unobtrusively as possible from a single fixed position without the use of any additional lighting; focusing only on those actively participating in the meeting and having regard also to the wishes of any member of the public present who may not wish to be filmed. As a matter of courtesy, anyone wishing to film proceedings is asked to advise the Chair or the Democratic Services Officer in attendance so that all those present may be made aware that is happening.

3. **Declarations of Interests at meetings (Authority Members only)**

If you are present at a meeting and you are aware that you have either a disclosable pecuniary interest, personal interest or non-registerable interest in any matter being considered or to be considered at the meeting then, unless you have a current and relevant dispensation in relation to the matter, you must:

- (i) disclose at that meeting, by no later than commencement of consideration of the item in which you have the interest or, if later, the time at which the interest becomes apparent to you, the existence of and – for anything other than a “sensitive” interest – the nature of that interest; and then
- (ii) withdraw from the room or chamber during consideration of the item in which you have the relevant interest.

If the interest is sensitive (as agreed with the Monitoring Officer), you need not disclose the nature of the interest but merely that you have an interest of a sensitive nature. You must still follow (i) and (ii) above.

Where a dispensation has been granted to you either by the Authority or its Monitoring Officer in relation to any relevant interest, then you must act in accordance with any terms and conditions associated with that dispensation.

Where you declare at a meeting a disclosable pecuniary or personal interest that you have not previously included in your Register of Interests then you must, within 28 days of the date of the meeting at which the declaration was made, ensure that your Register is updated to include details of the interest so declared.

	NOTES (Continued)
4.	<p><u>Part 2 Reports</u></p> <p>Members are reminded that any Part 2 reports as circulated with the agenda for this meeting contain exempt information and should therefore be treated accordingly. They should not be disclosed or passed on to any other person(s). Members are also reminded of the need to dispose of such reports carefully and are therefore invited to return them to the Committee Secretary at the conclusion of the meeting for disposal.</p>
5.	<p><u>Substitute Members (Committee Meetings only)</u></p> <p>Members are reminded that, in accordance with Standing Orders, the Clerk (or his representative) must be advised of any substitution prior to the start of the meeting. Members are also reminded that substitutions are not permitted for full Authority meetings.</p>
6.	<p><u>Other Attendance at Committees)</u></p> <p>Any Authority Member wishing to attend, in accordance with Standing Orders, a meeting of a Committee of which they are not a Member should contact the Democratic Services Officer (see “please ask for” on the front page of this agenda) in advance of the meeting.</p>

COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE

(Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Authority)

10 November 2023

Present:

Councillors Hendy (Chair), Chesterton (Vice-Chair), Coles, Cook-Woodman, Kerley, Patel and Radford

Apologies:

Councillors Brazil and Power

* **CSC/23/6 Minutes**

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 8 September 2023 be signed as a correct record.

* **CSC/23/7 Review of Key Performance Indicators**

The Committee considered a report of the Assistant Chief Fire Officer (Service Delivery) (CSC/23/12) to which was appended a review of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) within the remit of this Committee for scrutiny purposes and aligned to the following two Authority-approved Strategic Priorities:

Priority 1 – targeted prevention and protection activities to reduce risks in the community, improve health, safety and well-being and supporting the local economy; and

Priority 2 – use of operational resources to provide an effective emergency response to meet local and national risks identified in the Community Risk Management Plan.

The KPIs had been subject to extensive review with the resultant suite approved by the Service Executive Board. The report identified a number of amendments to existing KPIs, the removal of six KPIs and the inclusion of four new KPIs one of which (the proportion of dwelling fires resulting in “hot strike” activity) addressed an issue raised His Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary & Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) following the last Service inspection. For each KPI, the rationale for the proposed change was indicated.

RESOLVED that the proposed KPIs as identified in the appendix to report CSC/23/12 be endorsed.

(See also Minute *CSC/23/8) below.

* **CSC/23/8 Strategic Priority 1 and 2 Performance Measures: Quarter 2 2023-24**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Service Delivery (CSC/23/13) to which was appended a performance monitoring report for the second quarter of the current (2023-24) financial year against those Key Performance Indicators falling within the remit of this Committee for scrutiny purposes and aligned to Authority-approved Strategic Priorities 1 and 2.

In summary, the KPI performance was:

	Succeeding (i.e. achieving target)	Near target (i.e. less than 10% away from achieving target)	Needs Improvement (i.e. at least 10% away from achieving target)
Priority 1	11	5	3
Priority 2	6	8	0

The report provided a detailed exception report for the three KPIs requiring improvement, explaining the reasons for the exceptions and measures to remediate the performance.

RESOLVED

- (a). That a report be submitted to the next meeting detailing data collection for KPI 1.2.4.1 (the number of non-domestic false alarms due to apparatus per 10,000 rateable premises) together with any measures proposed to improve performance against this KPI;
- (b). That, subject to (a) above, the report be noted.

(See also Minute CSC/23/7) above.

* **CSC/23/9 His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary & Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) Areas for Improvement Action Plan Update**

The Committee received for information a report of the Chief Fire Officer (CSC/23/14) on progress against those Areas for Improvement falling within the remit of this Committee and as identified by HMICFRS following its last inspection of the Service.

The report indicated one Area of Improvement was currently identified as “In progress – off track”. The reasons for this were identified and it was anticipated that, by the next report to the Committee, this Area for Improvement would be back on track.

***DENOTES DELEGATED MATTER WITH POWER TO ACT**

The Meeting started at 10.00 am and finished at 11.02 am

Agenda Item 4

REPORT REFERENCE NO.	CSC/24/1												
MEETING	COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE												
DATE OF MEETING	31 JANUARY 2024												
SUBJECT OF REPORT	STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1 AND 2 PERFORMANCE MEASURES: QUARTER 2 – 2023-24												
LEAD OFFICER	ASSISTANT CHIEF FIRE OFFICER – SERVICE DELIVERY												
RECOMMENDATIONS	<p><i>(a). That the Committee requests reports on areas of performance in relation to agreed strategic objectives; and</i></p> <p><i>(b). That, subject to (a) above, the report be noted</i></p>												
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	<p>Appendix 1 of this report presents the Quarter 3 of 2023-24 Key Performance Indicator (KPI) report for Strategic Priorities 1 and 2.</p> <p>Unless otherwise stated, the performance status of our KPIs is based on the following criteria:</p> <p><u>Succeeding</u>: the KPI is achieving its target.</p> <p><u>Near target</u>: the KPI is less than 10% away from achieving its target.</p> <p><u>Needs improvement</u>: the KPI is at least 10% away from achieving its target.</p> <p>Performance overview: top level</p> <p>Table 1: performance status overview 2023/24 - Quarter 2</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th style="background-color: #90EE90;">Succeeding</th> <th style="background-color: #FFFF00;">Near target</th> <th style="background-color: #FFB6C1;">Needs improvement</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Priority 1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">10</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Priority 2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">6</td> <td style="text-align: center;">7</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The KPIs with a status of “needs improvement” are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KPI 1.1.2.2 Fire-related deaths in dwellings • KPI 1.1.9.2 Fire-related deaths in other locations • KPI 1.2.4.1 Fire safety checks completed • KPI 1.2.5.4 Non-domestic false alarms due to apparatus • KPI 2.1.4.2 Level 4 operational risk sites in date for revalidation <p>All have been subject to review, with exception reports included as appropriate. Where required, action plans have been developed to bring performance back on track.</p>		Succeeding	Near target	Needs improvement	Priority 1	10	5	4	Priority 2	6	7	1
	Succeeding	Near target	Needs improvement										
Priority 1	10	5	4										
Priority 2	6	7	1										

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	Existing budget and staffing is sufficient to deliver the required improvements
EQUALITY RISKS AND BENEFITS ANALYSIS	N/A
APPENDICES	A. Community Safety Committee 2023-24 quarter three performance report
BACKGROUND PAPERS	DSFRA/21/9 Strategic Policy Objectives 2021-22



DEVON &
SOMERSET
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

APPENDIX A TO REPORT CSC/24/1

Community Safety Committee

2023/24 quarter three performance report

This report provides an overview of performance against the priorities and objectives that fall within the remit of the Community Safety Committee.

Alice Murray, Strategic Analyst

Devon & Somerset
Fire & Rescue Service

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Introduction

To make sure that we are delivering the best possible service to the communities of Devon and Somerset and its visitors, we need to regularly monitor our performance. This report looks at Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) from the Services’ Performance Management Framework that require the scrutiny of the Community Safety Committee.

The KPIs will support us to deliver against two of our four strategic priorities:

Priority 1 – “Our targeted prevention and protection activities will reduce the risks in our communities, improving health, safety and wellbeing and supporting the local economy.”

Priority 2 – “Our operational resources will provide an effective emergency response to meet the local and national risks identified in our Community Risk Management Plan.”

The performance status of our KPIs is based on the following criteria:

Succeeding	The KPI (key performance indicator) is achieving its target.
Near target	The KPI is less than 10% away from achieving its target.
Needs improvement	The KPI is at least 10% away from achieving its target.

When a KPI has a status of “needs improvement”, an exception report will be provided which will contain further analysis and identify whether an additional action needs to be taken to drive improvement. Updates on progress against actions will be provided in future reports until they are closed.

KPIs that are “near target” will be monitored by the lead manager to assess whether performance is likely to improve where appropriate implement tactical changes to influence the direction of travel. No further information will be provided within this report.

Performance overview: top level

Table 1: performance status overview 2023/24 Q3

	Succeeding	Near target	Needs improvement
Priority 1	10	5	4
Priority 2	6	7	1

The five KPIs with a status of “needs improvement” are:

- KPI 1.1.2.2 Fire-related deaths in dwellings (page 7)
- KPI 1.1.9.2 Fire-related deaths in other locations (page 9)
- KPI 1.2.4.1 Fire safety checks completed (page 10)
- KPI 1.2.5.4 Non-domestic false alarms due to apparatus (page 12)
- KPI 2.1.4.2 Level 4 operational risk sites in date for revalidation (page 17)

Performance overview: priority one

Objective 1.1: we will work with partners to target our prevention activities where they have the greatest impact on the safety and wellbeing of our communities.

Table 2: KPIs that require improvement.

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.	Aim
1.1.2.2	Number of dwelling fire fatalities in reporting quarter	1	0	NA	Lower is better
	Number of dwelling fire fatalities in last 12 months vs five-year average	3	6	-50.0%	Lower is better
	Dwelling fires fatality performance status	Requires improvement: in exception due to fire-related death in reporting quarter			
1.1.9.2	Number of other fire fatalities in reporting quarter	1	0	NA	Lower is better
	Number of other fire fatalities in last 12 months vs five-year average	2	1	100.0%	Lower is better
	Other fires fatality performance status	Requires improvement: in exception due to fire-related death in reporting quarter			

Table 3: KPIs that are near to achieving target¹

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.	Aim
1.1.3.2	Rate of dwelling fire hospitalisations per 100,000 population	4.28	4.20	2.0%	Lower is better
1.1.11.2	Rate of secondary fires per 100,000 population	90.86	90.71	0.2%	Lower is better
1.1.14.2	Rate of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic collisions per 100,000 population	25.53	25.40	0.5%	Lower is better

Table 4: KPIs that are achieving target

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.	Aim
1.1.1.2	Rate of dwelling fires attended per 100,000 population	49.35	51.74	-4.6%	Lower is better
1.1.4.1	Number of home fire safety visits completed	15,081	13,500	11.7%	Higher is better
1.1.6.1	Percentage of targeted home safety visits meeting two or more risk criteria	62.3%	60.0%	2.3%	Higher is better

¹ The actual and target figures within this document are rounded to two decimal places for KPIs that are calculated as a rate. The percentage change is calculated using a higher degree of accuracy, this means that for smaller figures the percentage change may not be derived from the rounded figures presented in this report.

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.	Aim
1.1.8.2	Rate of other primary fires per 100,000 population (excludes dwellings and non-domestic premises)	43.35	46.12	-6.0%	Lower is better
1.1.10.2	Rate of other primary fire hospitalisations per 100,000 population (excludes dwellings and non-domestic premises)	0.46	0.53	-12.9%	Lower is better
1.1.12.2	Rate of deliberate fires per 100,000 population	73.50	80.39	-8.6%	Lower is better
1.1.13.2	Rate of road traffic collisions per 100,000 population	44.17	45.62	-3.2%	Lower is better

Objective 1.2: we will protect people in the built environment through a proportionate, risk-based approach to the regulation of fire safety legislation.

Table 5: KPIs that are requiring improvement

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.	Aim
1.2.4.1	Number of fire safety checks completed	1,793	2,250	-20.3%	Higher is better
1.2.5.4	Rate of non-domestic false alarms per 10,000 rateable premises (hereditaments)	280.47	247.06	13.5%	Lower is better

Table 6: KPIs that are near to achieving target

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.	Aim
1.2.1.2	Rate of non-domestic premises fires per 10,000 rateable premises (hereditaments)	58.46	56.97	2.6%	Lower is better
1.2.6.1	Percentage of statutory consultations completed to required timescales	98.7%	100.0%	-1.3%	Higher is better

Table 7: KPIs that are achieving target

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.	Aim
1.2.2.2	Number of non-domestic fire fatalities in reporting quarter	0	0	NA	Lower is better
	Number of non-domestic fire fatalities in last 12 months vs five-year average	1	1	0.0%	Lower is better
	Non-domestic fires fatality performance status	Succeeding: both reporting quarter and rolling 12-month figures are within target			
1.2.3.2	Rate of non-domestic premises fire hospitalisations per 10,000 rateable premises (hereditaments)	1.01	1.12	-10.1%	Lower is better
1.2.4.2	Number of fire safety audits completed (short and full)	646	425	52.0%	Higher is better

Exception report: number of fire-related fatalities in dwellings

This KPI reports on the number of fire-related fatalities in dwellings located within the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service area.

Analysis

The KPI is in exception due to a fire-fatality being recorded within the reporting quarter. Performance for the 12-month period remains below the five-year average.

Table 8: performance status – number of dwelling fire fatalities

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.	Aim
1.1.2.2	Number of dwelling fire fatalities in reporting quarter	1	0	NA	Lower is better
	Number of dwelling fire fatalities in last 12 months vs five-year average	3	6	-50.0%	Lower is better
	Dwelling fires fatality performance status	Requires improvement: in exception due to fire-related death in reporting quarter			

Details of the incident are outlined below.

Incident date and time: 6th November 2023, 7:15am

Location: Alhampton, Shepton Mallet

Property type: Single occupancy terraced house

Victim age and sex: 87-year-old, male

First response time: 27 mins (time of emergency call to time of arrival on scene)

Details: Fire Control received a call from a member of the public reporting smoke issuing from the roof and windows of the property. During the call it was reported that an attempt had been made to gain entry to the premises by a neighbour who was met with a well-developed fire and could see someone inside.

An ambulance crew was first on scene and confirmed the presence of a person inside the property. Fire crew from Shepton Mallet arrived on scene at 7:42am. The Officer in Charge confirmed the property to be well alight and requested additional resources.

A BA crew was committed to the ground floor of the property and confirmation was provided of a deceased person within.

The fire was extinguished externally using hose reel jets.

Actions

A fatal fire review has been conducted. This involved looking into all aspects of the incident and our interaction with the victim.

Fire investigation was undertaken and identified significant levels of hoarding and the use of multiple extension leads and halogen lamps / heaters. There was no central heating, hot water or electrically wired lighting in the premises. It is believed that the fire started accidentally.

The victim was referred for a Home Fire Safety Visit by his GP Practice on the 17/05/2023. The visit was attempted on the 07/06/2023 but the victim refused access to the property and despite the best efforts of the Home Safety Technician and GP a visit could not be completed.

Information gathered from partner agencies suggested that it would have been highly unlikely that the victim would have allowed access to the property at any point.

Exception report: number of fire-related fatalities in other locations

This KPI reports on the number of fire-related fatalities in locations other than dwellings and non-domestic premises, within the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service area.

Analysis

The KPI is in exception due to a fire-fatality being recorded within the reporting quarter. Performance for the 12-month period remains below the five-year average.

Table 9: performance status – number of other fire-related fatalities

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.	Target
1.1.9.2	Number of other fire fatalities in reporting quarter	1	0	NA	Lower is better
	Number of other fire fatalities in last 12 months vs five-year average	2	1	100.0%	Lower is better
	Other fires fatality performance status	Requires improvement: in exception due to fire-related death in reporting quarter			

Details of the incident are outlined below.

Incident date and time: 9th October 2023, 1:35am

Location: Paignton

Property type: Car

Victim age and sex: 40, male

First response time: 6 mins (time of emergency call to time of arrival on scene)

Details: Fire Control received a call from ambulance service to a small vehicle fire, persons reported. Crews arrived on scene at 1:41am and were met by a vehicle fire resulting from a collision between a car and a stationary van which was unoccupied.

It is believed that the victim was clear of the vehicle following the collision but then intentionally returned to the vehicle when it caught fire.

While the intent of the collision cannot be confirmed, fire investigation has determined that the fire began accidentally as a result and was most likely caused by an electrical short circuit from the battery igniting fuel vapours.

Actions

A fatal fire review has been conducted. This involved looking into all aspects of the incident and our interaction with the victim. Due to the nature of the incident, it was determined that there was nothing that the Service could have reasonably done to prevent this incident or change the outcome.

Exception report: number of fire safety checks completed

This KPI reports on the number of Fire Safety Checks (FSC) completed. FSCs provide a basic assessment of compliance with fire safety regulations in business premises and are primarily delivered by wholetime crews. If significant issues are identified, an FSC may be escalated to a full fire safety audit (FSA) which is delivered by specialist Fire Safety Officers.

Analysis

The KPI remains in exception due to the number of FSCs completed being more than 10% below target.

Table 10: performance status – number of fire safety checks completed against target

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.	Aim
1.2.4.1	Number of fire safety checks completed	1,793	2,250	-20.3%	Higher is better

Table 11: performance status – cumulative count of fire safety checks completed against target by month



Following investigation, it has been identified that the deficit is due to two main factors:

- 1) During the 2022/23 financial year, delivery of fire safety checks was supplemented by non-station-based personnel (trainee Fire Safety Inspection Officers). As these personnel have become competent to deliver more complex activity, their time has been utilised to deliver FSAs rather than FSCs.
- 2) Stations have also completed fewer FSCs compared to the same period last year.

Actions

To support our crews to deliver the required volume of Fire Safety Checks, whilst ensuring that they are targeted appropriately, we have extended our use of Fire Risk Event Data

(FRED) to include down to the 70th percentile (previously the 80th). While lowering this threshold provides additional premises, further cleansing is required to remove buildings that we do not regulate, such as small business working from home e.g., driving instructors.

Work to identify additional premises for watches has been completed by the data team and has surfaced some 2,000 premises. This includes premises that have scored as unsatisfactory in a previous fire safety check.

Additionally, wholetime watches the ability to self-generate a Fire Safety Check on suitable premises. Submitted via the MORI app to the admin teams for due diligence checks and where suitable re-allocation back to the requesting watch for completion. We will continue to communicate to watches to ensure the process is fully embedded.

Exception report: number of non-domestic false alarms due to apparatus per 10,000 rateable premises

This KPI reports on the number of false alarms due to fire or smoke detections apparatus in non-domestic premises located within the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service area. False alarms can occur for a number of reasons but are most commonly related to system faults, dust or insects entering the equipment or human error.

Analysis

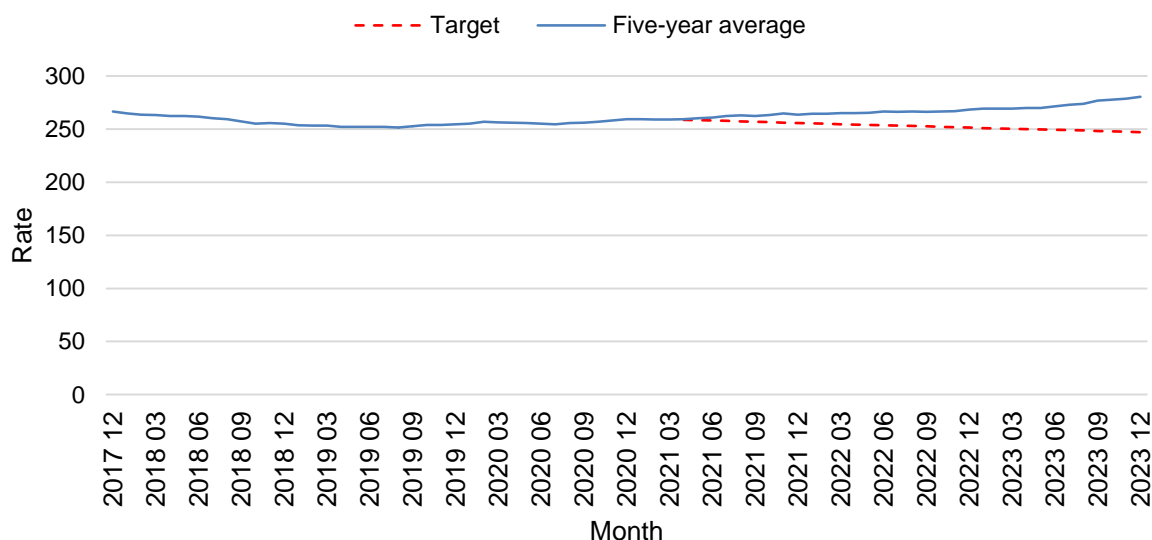
The KPI is in exception due to the rate of incidents being more than 10% above target.

Table 12: Performance status – rate of non-domestic false alarms due to apparatus per 10,000 rateable premises

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.	Aim
1.2.5.4	Rate of non-domestic false alarms per 10,000 rateable premises (hereditaments)	280.47	247.06	13.5%	Lower is better

There has been an upward trend in number of false alarms in non-domestic premises over the past five-years, with the KPI being in exception since August 2023. While the duration of these incidents is generally short, there is still a cost implication to the service, particularly where on-call resources are utilised. Additionally, wholetime crews can be drawn away from delivery of essential community safety activities and attendance at genuine emergencies.

Table 13: performance status – number of false alarms due to apparatus in non-domestic premises per 10,000 rateable premises, 12-month average of rolling five-year period.

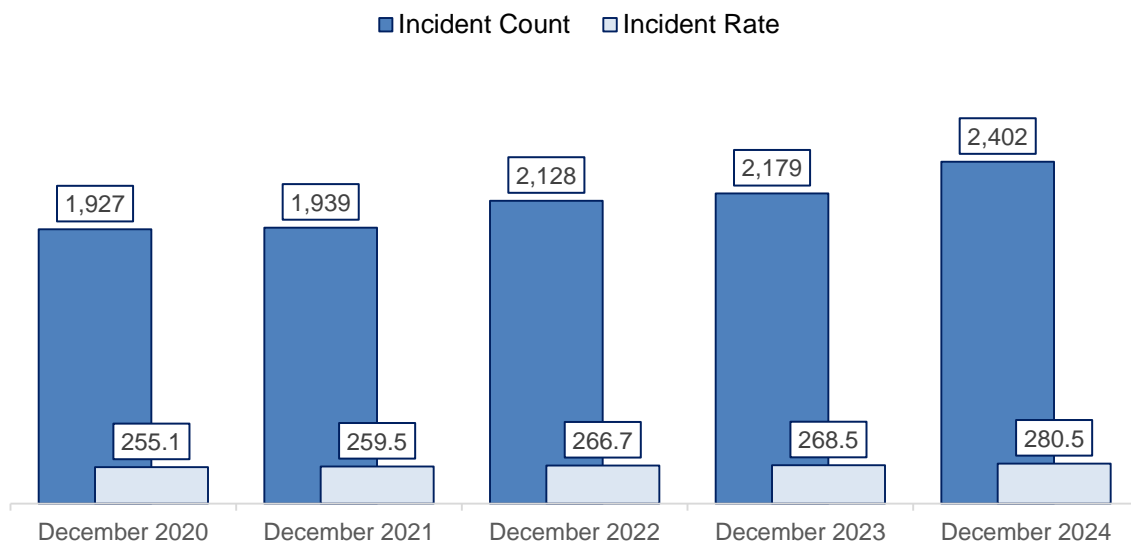


The increase is most evident during the past three years; however, it is likely that the COVID-19 pandemic influenced a decrease in the number of incidents during the first

lockdown (26th March 2020 to 15th June 2020 - the date at which non-essential shops were allowed to reopen).

Table 14 shows the annual number and rate of false alarm incidents that were attended for years ending December. There has been an 25% increase in incidents between December 2019 and December 2023.

Table 14: Number and rate of false alarms due to apparatus in non-domestic premises by year-ending September



The cause of the increase is being investigated however it has been identified that processes that were in place to engage with premises that had repeat false alarms had not been followed. This was partially due to a breakdown in the provision of data to support the identification of these premises.

While this may have had some impact, it is likely that there are other factors at play. Nationally, when considering all false alarms due to apparatus², the pattern³ in attendances at these incidents has been similar to that of DSFRS. This supports the notion that failure to follow policy is not the sole cause of the increase.

Actions

Work is being undertaken to review our approach to repeat actuations with a focus on educating responsible parties. There is also potential to charge for attendances at premises that have repeat false alarms. Data provision to support call reduction work has been improved which will support more effective engagement.

Work to review our attendance policy with a view to extending the non-attendance periods at non-residential premises is continuing.

² Including those in both non-domestic and residential premises

³ Based on financial years 2018/19 to 2022/23.

Objective 2.1: we will maintain accurate, timely and relevant risk information, enabling our operational crews to understand and be prepared to respond to the demand and risks present in their local communities.

Table 15: KPIs that are requiring improvement

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.	Aim
M2.1.4.2	Percentage of operational risk information in date - level 4 tactical plans	79.4%	98.0%	-18.6%	Higher is better

Table 16: KPIs that are near to achieving target

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.	Aim
M2.1.4.1	Percentage of operational risk information in date - level 3 SSRI	91.4%	94.0%	-2.6%	Higher is better

Table 17: KPIs that are achieving target

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.	Aim
M2.1.1.1	Number of local exercises completed	95	36	163.9%	Higher is better
M2.1.1.2	Number of crossborder exercises completed	21	12	75.0%	Higher is better
M2.1.1.3	Number of national exercises completed	12	1	1100.0%	Higher is better

Objective 2.2: We will monitor changes in risk to ensure that our resources are most available in the locations necessary to mitigate them

Table 18: KPIs that are requiring improvement

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.	Aim
--	No KPIs are currently achieving target.	--	--	--	--

Table 19: KPIs that are near to achieving target

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.	Aim
M2.2.3.1	Percentage of dwelling fires attended within 10 minutes of call answer	67.3%	75.0%	-7.7%	Higher is better
M2.2.3.2	Percentage of road traffic collisions attended within 15 minutes of call answer	73.8%	75.0%	-1.2%	Higher is better

Table 20: KPIs that are achieving target

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.	Aim
--	No KPIs are currently achieving target.	--	--	--	--

Objective 2.4: we will support the effective delivery of our frontline services by seeking improvements to our operational resourcing, mobilising and communications functions.

Table 21: KPIs that are requiring improvement

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.	Aim
--	No KPIs are currently requiring improvement.	--	--	--	--

Table 22: KPIs that are near to achieving target

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.	Aim
M2.4.1.1	Risk prioritised pump availability (percentage)	97.4%	98.0%	-0.6%	Higher is better
M2.4.1.2	Standard pump availability (percentage)	77.8%	85.0%	-7.2%	Higher is better
M2.4.3.1	Percentage of calls handled within target time (call answer to resource mobilisation)	87.0%	90.0%	-3.0%	Higher is better
M2.4.3.3	Average turnout time for emergency incidents - on-call duty system (median)	316	300	5.3%	Lower is better

Table 23: KPIs that are achieving target

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.	Aim
M2.4.3.2	Average turnout time for emergency incidents - wholetime duty system (median)	84	90	-6.7%	Lower is better

Objective 2.8: we will be prepared to respond to major incidents and support partner agencies.

Table 24: KPIs that are requiring improvement

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.	Aim
--	No KPIs are currently requiring improvement.	--	--	--	--

Table 25: KPIs that are near to achieving target

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.	Aim
--	No KPIs are currently near to achieving target.	--	--	--	--

Table 26: KPIs that are achieving target

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.	Aim
2.8.1.1	Availability of national resilience assets (percentage)	100.0%	100.0%	0.0%	Higher is better
2.8.1.2	National resilience competencies in date	100.0%	100.0%	0.0%	Higher is better

Exception report: percentage of operational risk information in date - level 4 tactical plans

This KPI reports on the percentage of premises with a level 4 tactical plan that are in date for revalidation.

A site or premises that is classified as level 4 requires the completion of a Tactical Plan. This may be in addition to an SSRI, but an SSRI is not a pre-requisite for the production of a Tactical Plan. A Tactical Plan is a detailed document with information relevant to Level 2 and 3 Incident Commanders about the response to an incident at a specific site should it be likely to be complex or protracted.

Analysis

The KPI is in exception due to the percentage of sites that are in date for revalidation being more than 10% below target. As at 31st December 2023, seven of 34 level four risk sites were overdue revalidation.

Table 27: Performance status – percentage of operational risk information in date - level 4 tactical plans

KPI Ref	Description	Current	Target	% Diff.	Aim
M2.1.4.2	Percentage of operational risk information in date - level 4 tactical plans	79.4%	98.0%	-18.6%	Higher is better

Action

A plan is in place to ensure the overdue sites are revalidated.

As at the 15th January 2024, the number of sites overdue revalidation had reduced to four with KPI performance standing at 88.2%.

Of the four sites that remain overdue, it is anticipated that two will be in date by 19th January 2024 and the other two will be in date by the 26th January 2024.

Glossary

Most terms and definitions can be found within the Home Office Fire Statistics Definitions document: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fire-statistics-guidance/fire-statistics-definitions>

Some other terms are listed below:

Operational risk information: this information is focused on location specific risks posed to firefighters.

Site specific risk information (SSRI): this information is captured for locations that are particularly complex and pose greater levels of risk to our fire-fighters. Visits are made to these locations, hazards identified and plans made on how to respond if an incident occurs.

Risk prioritised pump: there are 33 priority fire engines in areas that present higher levels risk or demand which are essential to enabling us to effectively manage risk levels. There is an expectation that each of these appliances will be available to respond a minimum of 98% of the time.

Standard pump: there are 89 fire engines located in areas of lower risk or lesser demand, but which are still key to ensuring that we are keeping our communities safe. These are all crewed by on-call or volunteer firefighters and there is an expectation that each fire engine will be available at least 85% of the time.

Home fire safety visits: these are visits that are carried out at people's homes by our home safety technicians and wholetime firefighters.

Fire safety checks: FSCs are delivered by our operational crews and provide a basic assessment of fire safety standards within businesses. Where potential issues are identified premises will be referred for a fire safety audit that is conducted by one of our professional fire safety officers.

Agenda Item 5

REPORT REFERENCE NO.	CSC/24/2
MEETING	COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE
DATE OF MEETING	31 JANUARY 2024
SUBJECT OF REPORT	HMICFRS AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT ACTION PLAN UPDATE
LEAD OFFICER	Chief Fire Officer
RECOMMENDATIONS	<i>That the Committee reviews progress in delivery of the action plan.</i>
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	<p>On Wednesday 27th July 2022 HMICFRS published the DSFRS 2022 inspection report. The inspection report identified one Cause of Concern and 14 Areas for Improvement (AFIs). Of these AFIs, two have been linked to the Community Safety Committee.</p> <p>The paper appended to this report outlines the progress that has been made against the HMICFRS Areas for Improvement action plan since the last update in November 2023. The key highlights are that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of the Areas for Improvement action plan is on track.
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	Considered within the Action Plan where appropriate.
EQUALITY RISKS AND BENEFITS ANALYSIS	Considered within the Action Plan where appropriate.
APPENDICES	Appendix A: HMI Community Safety Committee Update
BACKGROUND PAPERS	None

HMICFRS ACTION PLAN – COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE UPDATE

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. On Wednesday 27th July 2022 HMICFRS published the DSFRS 2022 inspection report. The inspection report identified one Cause of Concern and 14 Areas for Improvement (AFIs).
- 1.2. This report provides an update on the Areas For Improvement action plan that has been produced following the inspection, which concluded in October 2021.

2. AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT ACTION PLAN COMPLETION STATUS

- 2.1 Table 1 lists the Areas For Improvement linked to the Community Safety Committee and their individual implementation status.

Table 1:

Reference	Description	Target Completion	Status
HMI-1.2-202203	The service should evaluate its prevention activity so it understands what works.	29/02/2024	In Progress (On Track)
HMI-1.2-202204	Safeguarding training should be provided to all staff.	30/04/2024 30/06/2024	In Progress (On Track)

2.2 Figure 1 below outlines the completion status of all actions designed to address the Areas For Improvement linked to the Community Safety Committee, as outlined above.

2.3 Table 2 below outlines the completion status of these actions in table view.

Table 2: Summary of progress against the individual actions					
Areas For Improvement (Community Safety Committee)					
Not started (on track)	Not started (off track)	In progress (on track)	In progress (off track)	Completed	No Longer Required
4 (→ at 4)	0 (→ at 0)	2 (↑ from 1)	0 (↓ from 1)	3 (→ at 3)	1 (→ at 1)

* Please note that two of the actions which have not yet started are the evidence and assurance required once all other actions have been completed.

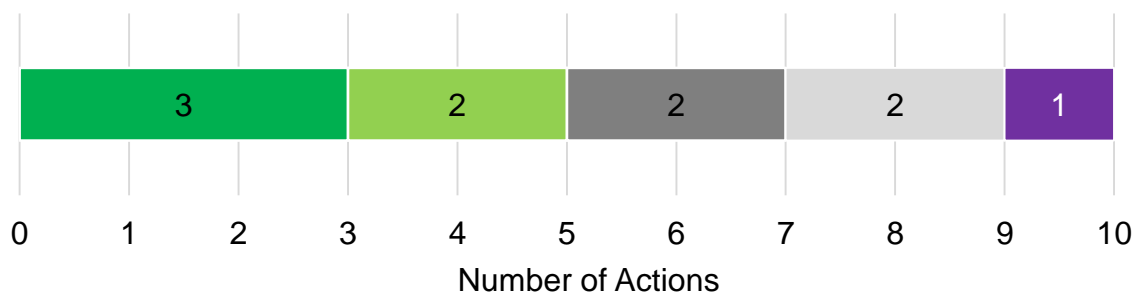
3. AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT DEADLINE EXTENSIONS

3.1. Table 3 below outlines the reasons for any deadline extensions which have occurred since the last update to the committee.

Table 3:

Improvement Area	Status
HMI-1.2-202204 – Safeguarding Training	In Progress – On Track
Reasons for Deadline Extension	

Figure 1: Community Safety Committee Action Status - January 2024



- Completed
- In Progress - On Track
- Not Started - On Track
- Not Started - On Track (Evidence and Assurance)
- No Longer Required/ Paused

A delay in production of the safeguarding training has caused a delay to the implementation of dependent actions. Safeguarding training is now live via the eLearning platform with a requirement for all staff to complete it by 16/02/2024.

Agenda Item 6

REPORT REFERENCE NO.	CSC/24/3
MEETING	COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE
DATE OF MEETING	31 JANUARY 2024
SUBJECT OF REPORT	FIRE SAFETY LEGISLATION
LEAD OFFICER	ACFO Gerald Taylor, Director of Service delivery
RECOMMENDATIONS	<i>That the report be noted.</i>
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	This report will give an update in changes to fire safety legislation and also answer the question posed at Community Safety Committee regarding the processes for reducing unwanted fire signals in non-domestic premises.
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	Within current resource allocation
BACKGROUND PAPERS	None

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This paper will introduce recent changes to fire safety legislation and answer the question posed at the community safety committee regarding the process for reducing unwanted fire signals.
- 1.2 There have been a number of changes to fire safety legislation which will be explained in this paper. Notably: -

The Fire Safety Act 2021.
The Fire Safety England Regulations 2022.
The Building Safety Act 2022.

2. THE FIRE SAFETY ACT 2021

- 2.1 Fire Safety Act 2021 commenced on 16 May 2022.
- 2.2 The Fire Safety Act 2021 amends the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 to clarify that, in buildings with two or more sets of domestic premises, the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 applies to these two elements:
- 2.3 The structure and external walls of the building, including cladding, balconies and windows; and
- 2.4 All doors between the domestic premises and the common parts (e.g. entrance doors to individual flats which open on to common parts).
- 2.5 With reference to the external walls, this includes doors or windows in those walls and anything attached to the exterior of those walls (including balconies).
- 2.6 The effect of the Act will be to require fire risk assessments of buildings with two or more sets of domestic premises to be updated to take account of structure, external walls and doors, as described above, if they have not already done so.
- 2.7 This gives provision that the Secretary of State may through regulation amend the Fire Safety Order to clarify or change the premises to which it applies and makes strengthened provision for guidance which is provided under Art 50 of the Fire Safety Order specifically 'risk based guidance'.
- 2.8 This is a clarification of the Fire Safety Order, not an extension.

3. FIRE SAFETY (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS 2022

- 3.1 The Fire Safety (England) Regulations 2022 came into force on 23rd January 2023, they were enacted under Article 24 of the Fire Safety Order.
- 3.2 This brought forward the majority of recommendations from the Phase 1 Grenfell Tower Report.

3.3 For the purposes of the Fire Safety (England) Regulations 2022 following Grenfell Tower, the meaning of a high-rise residential building is clarified in the regulations as:

3.4 A building containing two or more sets of domestic premises that:

- Is at least 18m above ground level
- Has at least seven storeys

3.5 The Fire Safety (England) Regulations 2022 are not risk based and therefore require adherence/ action on behalf of the responsible person. They apply to buildings which contains two or more sets of domestic premises; and contains common parts through which residents would need to evacuate in the case of an emergency.

3.6 The regulations extent to such things as fire safety instructions to residents including the evacuation strategy and how to report a fire to the fire and rescue authority as well as the provision and maintenance of fire doors.

3.7 An example of some of the applicable regulations can be seen below:

Regulation 4	Provision of Premises Information Boxes
Regulation 5	Design and materials of External Walls
Regulation 6	Floor plans and building plans
Regulation 7	Lifts and essential fire-fighting equipment
Regulation 8	Wayfinding Signage
Regulation 9	Information to Residents
Regulation 10	Fire doors
Regulations 11	Provision of documents to the local FRS

Note – each regulation has a factsheet on the government website

4.0 THE BUILDING SAFETY ACT 2022

4.1 The Building Safety Act 2022 came into force on the 1st of October 2023, it is split into 171 sections with 11 schedules.

4.2 Section 156 of the Building Safety Act 2022 is an amendment of Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005

4.3 The Building Safety Act provides greater accountability and responsibility for fire and structural safety issues throughout the lifetime of a building with a stricter regulatory regime specific for high rise buildings which are buildings of at least 18m above ground level.

4.4 There is a new building safety regulator to oversee a more stringent regime during the planning, design, construction and occupancy stages. These stages

will have gateways or 'check points' where evidence will be required that the relevant standard has been met before passing to the next stage, for example from planning to design and then construction.

- 4.5 Other parts of the Act include the ability for residents to be able to raise building safety concerns directly with the owners and building safety managers of buildings, they can raise issues with the Building Safety Regulator.
- 4.6 Amendment to Approved document B (Fire Safety) vol.1 2019. This amendment requires a significant change for all new blocks of flats above 11 metres to now be fitted with a sprinkler system.

ACFO Gerald Taylor
Director of Service Delivery