

22 January 2014

REPORT OF THE TYNE AND WEAR FIRE SERVICE

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The following report gives Performance Monitoring details in relation to the Local Indicators for Sunderland Coalfields Committee area from 1.10.2013 to 31.12.2013.

2 Background

- 2.1 At its September 2013 meeting Area Committee agreed that regular updates on Crime and Community Safety would be presented to each Committee meeting.

3. Tyne and Wear Fire Service Update

- 3.1 LI2 Number of Deaths from all fires
No deaths from fires during this period
- 3.2 LI3 Injuries from Accidental Dwelling fires
No injuries from fires during this period.
- 3.4 LI8 Accidental Fires in Dwellings
There were three accidental fires in dwellings during this period.
- **North Road;** Fire in an under stair cupboard caused by clothing on top of an extension to which a tumble dryer was plugged in. Consumer box severely damaged by fire, tumble dryer moderately damaged by fire, boiler control panel severely damaged by heat and a quantity of clothing destroyed by fire. The remainder of the cupboard was severely damaged by heat and smoke. The remainder of the ground floor was slightly damaged by smoke. The occupant and her young son attended the day unit at Sunderland Royal Hospital for a precautionary check. Home Safety Check (HSC) done at time of incident and a Hot strike carried out in the area by crews from Hotel
 - **Market Crescent;** Combustible items (clothing) placed onto cooker which had been used previously but was switched off .There was enough residual heat to ignite the clothing .Hot strike in the area where 9 HSC's were carried out with another 15 no replies.
 - **Brick garth;** Cause of fire was due to a chip pan left unattended. Although the smoke detector did not raise the alarm due to damage he attempted to fight the fire by smothering the pan with a cloth; the fire was out on arrival of FRS and action taken was removal from the property. The occupier was administered first aid by FRS crew due to smoke inhalation and Gentoo were contacted to assess the damage and possibly rehouse the occupier. A HSC and Hot strike was carried out by crews from stn. H following the incident.
- 3.5 LI14 All Deliberate Property Fires
There were three deliberate property fires during this period
- **Durham Street;** Single storey detached garage constructed with possible asbestos sheet for roofing and contents SDBF
Northumbria police in attendance and investigating

Local authority in attendance to dispose of asbestos. Environmental health been informed and progressing.

- **Queensway**; Firework put in letter box causing damage to letterbox 4 persons left property but returned straight away as no internal fire or smoke damage. Police investigating as this was a targeted attack rather than a random incident; HSC carried out to property and hotstrike carried out next day by crews from Hotel. Flap lock was also fitted
- **Broadway**; Furniture ignited in subway- fire, heat and smoke damage to walls, ceiling and light fittings of subway.

3.6 LI15 Number of vehicle fires started deliberately

There were two deliberate vehicle fires during this period.

- **Kirklee**; Van on fire, no firefighting action taken by crews as the fire had been extinguished by member of the public using garden hose prior to arrival of Fire Service. Police were in attendance and investigating the incident
- **The Avenue**; Minibus passenger window had been broken and a fire set on passenger seat by persons unknown, crew's extinguished fire using HrJet, Northumbria police in attendance and investigating

3.7 LI16 Number of secondary fires not involving property or road vehicles started deliberately

There have been 52 deliberate secondary fires during this period.

- Hetton Lyons park has had a number of fire and is being monitored by Fire Service
- Shiney row ward has seen a slight increase and again is being monitored to ascertain any hotspot areas.
- Kirklee playing fields was a concern over the bonfire period where crews came under attack on three occasions whilst attending incidents.
- November had a total of 34 incidents which is historically a busy month for the Service.

3.8 SafetyWorks is an interactive centre run by the Fire Service and supported by partner agencies such as Police, Environmental officers and Gentoo. It was aimed to have all year 6 pupils in the Sunderland area attend the centre within this academic year to receive themed messages. Of the 15 schools within the Coalfields area, 10 (with a total of 3690 pupils) are booked in to attend.

4. Recommendations

4.1 Note the content of the report.

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