

6<sup>th</sup> December 2023

## 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 West Committee area from 22<sup>th</sup> August – 19<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

## 2 Background

2.1 At its November 2011 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 LI 02 Number of Deaths from all fires

0 deaths were recorded during the reporting period.

## 3.2 LI 14 All Deliberate Property Fires excluding Primary road vehicles

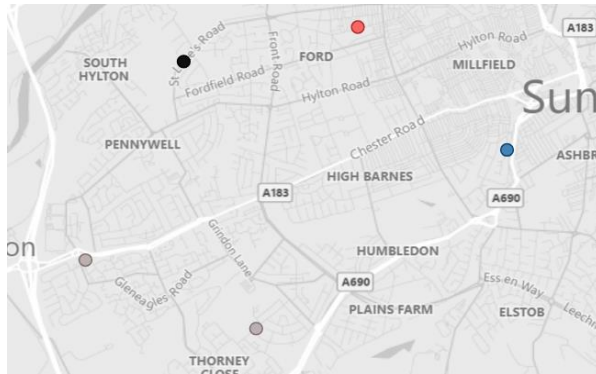
Ward Name	Incident Count
Barnes	0
Pallion	1
Sandhill	1
Silksworth	1
St Anne's	3
St Chad's	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>

Property Level 4	Incident Count
Sports pavilion/shower block/changing facility	4
Converted Flat/Maisonette - multiple occupancy	1
Purpose Built Flat/Maisonette - multiple occupancy	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>

6 deliberate property fires, compared to 2 in the same period last year (200% increase). Hot strikes from operational crews and Safe and Well targeting have been conducted by the TWFRS Prevention and Education department using an improved targeting strategy. This new strategy has increased the risk rating on a large number of properties, so more identified high risk dwellings will now be visited. Partnership work with the Police, Gentoo and Sunderland city council continues where appropriate to reduce repeat incidents using a joint approach.

### 3.3 LI15 Number of primary road vehicle fires started deliberately

Ward Name	Incident Count
Barnes	1
Pallion	1
Sandhill	2
Silksworth	0
St Anne's	1
St Chad's	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>



5 vehicle fires reported during this period compared to 18 last year. A decrease of 72%. No patterns. TWFRS continue to work with Northumbria Police and report all suspected malicious vehicle fires and shall continue to monitor any patterns identified.

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

Ward Name	Incident Count
Barnes	9
Pallion	23
Sandhill	12
Silksworth	36
St Anne's	26
St Chad's	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>111</b>

Property Level 4	Incident Count
Loose refuse (incl in garden)	46
Wheelie Bin	18
Public admin, security and safety	9
Refuse/rubbish tip	8
Small refuse/rubbish/recycle container (excluding wheelie bin)	8
Tree scrub (includes single trees not in garden)	6
Grassland, pasture, grazing etc	5
Hedge	4
Scrub land	4
Canal/riverbank vegetation	1
Playground (not equipment) or Recreational area	1
Roadside vegetation	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>111</b>

There have been 111 deliberate secondary fires over this period compared to 84 in the same period last year, an increase of 32%. Barnes ward is the only ward to see an improvement (40%) against the same reporting period in 2022. All other wards have seen a rise in secondary fires. Pallion 44%, Sandhill 20%, Silksworth 50%, St Annes 62% and St Chads 67%.

### 3.5 LI33 All deliberate Fires (combination of LI14, LI15 and LI16)

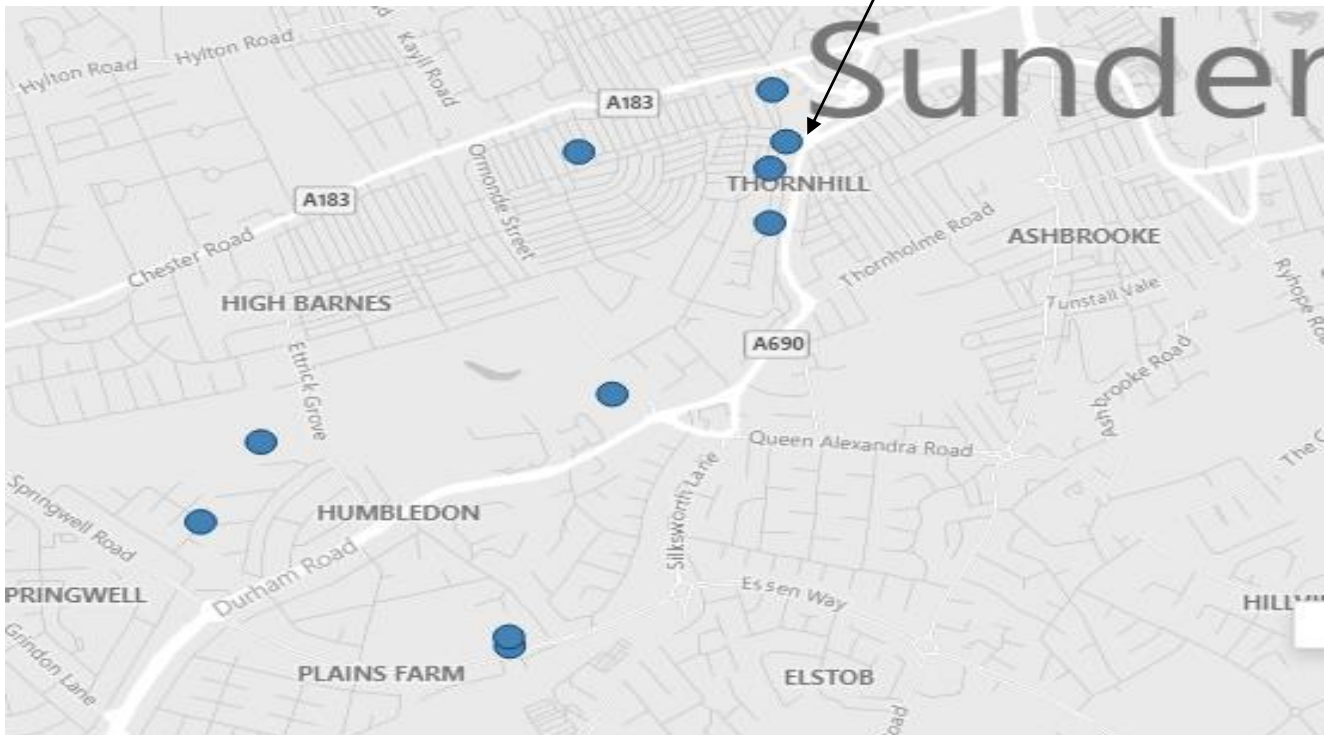
Ward Name	Incident Count
St Chad's	5
St Anne's	30
Silksworth	37
Sandhill	15
Pallion	25
Barnes	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>122</b>

Property Level 4	Incident Count
Loose refuse (incl in garden)	46
Wheelie Bin	18
Public admin, security and safety	9
Refuse/rubbish tip	8
Small refuse/rubbish/recycle container (excluding wheelie bin)	8
Tree scrub (includes single trees not in garden)	6
Grassland, pasture, grazing etc	5
Hedge	4
Scrub land	4
Sports pavilion/shower block/changing facility	4
Canal/riverbank vegetation	1
Converted Flat/Maisonette - multiple occupancy	1
Playground (not equipment) or Recreational area	1
Purpose Built Flat/Maisonette - multiple occupancy	1
Roadside vegetation	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>117</b>

There were a total of **122** deliberate fires in this reporting period, up from **104** last year, an increase of **17%**. 46 fires involved loose refuse and 18 were wheelie bin fires.

**Barnes ward 33% decrease**

**Slight increase** in ASB fires



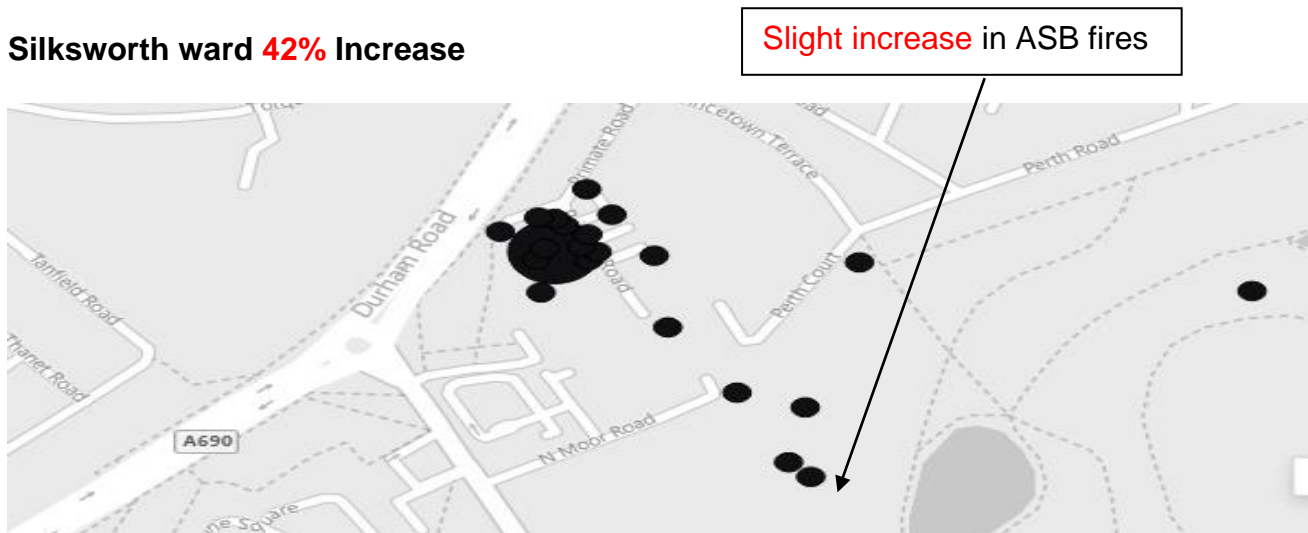
The main area of activity in Barnes ward is around the footpath east of Thelma St.

**Pallion ward 19% increase**



We have seen a large decrease in ASB fires in the area of Palermo Street. A new hotspot area for this year is around St Luke's Rd and Phoenix Rd, 12 of the 23 incidents occurred in this area, this was predominately loose refuse. FRS crews are targeting this area with Fire stoppers leaflets, S&W's and youth engagement. ASB patrols have also been increased in this area

**Silksworth ward 42% Increase**



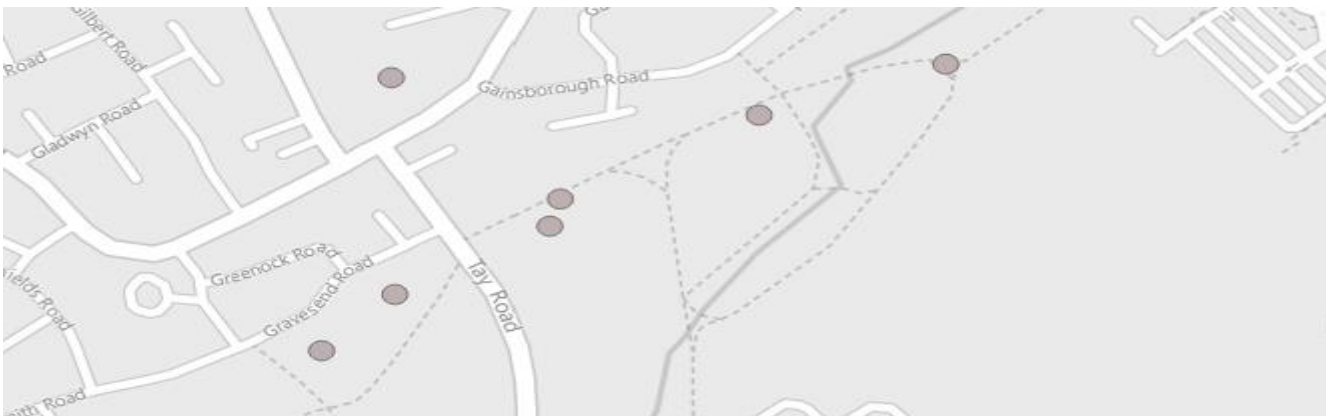
This report captures the protracted ASB issues that occurred at the former Farringdon Police Station. Since the arrest that was made on the 16/09/2023, there have only been 2 reported incidents at this site. Incidents are still occurring on the wasteland surrounding the site. We have also seen a rise in incidents on the grassed area west of North Moor Rd.

### St Annes ward **42%** increase



There has been a large increase in wheelie bin and loose refuse fires around the King George Playing fields. This area has seen multiple initiatives (S&Ws, Fire stoppers, youth engagement) already to target the ongoing issues in this area.

### Sandhill ward **6%** reduction



The wasteland around Tay Rd /Barnes burn continues to be the only hotspot area Sandhill ward.

### St Chads ward **0%** no change

No identified hotspot areas to report. No concerns. 5 incidents spread across the ward area.

### 3.6 Community Involvement

Our improved Safe and Well targeting system is now being used by operational crews and our P&E department, ensuring we target our most vulnerable members of the community. Operational crews from Farringdon have completed 323 in this reporting period continue and will aim to deliver 1200 Safe and Wells visits across all wards before April 2024. Hot strikes continue following all primary fires to maximize the delivery of domestic Fire Safety information to the community.

As part of the darker nights campaign, our P&E department targeted schools based on incident local indicator information. Sandhill View Academy and Farringdon Community Academy students received the darker nights education package prior to the bonfire weekend.

The extensive partner bonfire planning from October through to November was a success and led to a bonfire weekend without any reported major issues in the West and the wider Sunderland area. 1 violence at work did occur on the 06/11/2023 at Fordfield Rd, one individual was arrested by the police. The other attack occurred at the former Farringdon Police station on the 16/09/2023, 1 arrest was made and no further attacks have occurred at this location.

Street	Locality	District Name	Postcode	Ward Name	Property Type	Incident Category Type	Attack On Crew?	Type Of Attack
FORDFIELD ROAD		Sunderland		St Anne's	Loose refuse (incl in garden)	False Alarm	Yes	Objects thrown at firefighters/appliances
PRIMATE ROAD		Sunderland	SR3 1TQ	Silkworth	Public admin, security and safety	Fire	Yes	Objects thrown at firefighters/appliances

The Prince's Trust based at Farringdon Community Fire station currently has a cohort of 7 students, they have participated in a community project in the local area involving gardening and property maintenance, and this was in collaboration with Youth Almighty. The next course is due to start on the 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024. Anyone who wants to nominate forward a candidate aged between 19 -25, please refer through the Princes Trust section of the TWFRS website.

TWFRS Recruitment is also currently open and positive action events have been running throughout the summer at the TWFRS headquarters to recruit underrepresented groups from the community.

### 3.7 On-going Issues

Collaboration with Northumbria police and local authority partner's will continue to target problematic sites such as the King George playing fields as well as new areas of concern as highlighted in the report. It is essential that any fire related issues are reported to myself, (Scott Wilson, Station Manager) or using Fire Stoppers 0800 169 5558, so I can action/address with my crews. My watches continue to work close within their respective Ward areas to create links through community engagements. The watches continue to deliver ASB initiatives – uplifts, premises security, and educational interaction.

Any questions please feel free to contact on the details below.



## 4. Recommendations

### 4.1 Note the content of this report.

St Chads and Sandhill Ward - Watch Manager Ian Davison – [ian.davison@twfire.gov.uk](mailto:ian.davison@twfire.gov.uk)  
Silksworth Ward - Watch Manager Jade Makarski [jade.makarski@twfire.gov.uk](mailto:jade.makarski@twfire.gov.uk)  
St Annes Ward - Watch Manager Jon Gradwell [jon.gradwell@twfire.gov.uk](mailto:jon.gradwell@twfire.gov.uk)  
Barnes and Pallion Ward - Watch Manager Steve Errington [steven.errington@twfire.gov.uk](mailto:steven.errington@twfire.gov.uk)

**Contact Officer:** Scott Wilson, Tyne and Wear Fire Service,  
Tel: 0191 4441188, Email: [scott.wilson@twfire.gov.uk](mailto:scott.wilson@twfire.gov.uk)



### Information:

Some incident data may be subject to change, some incidents may not appear in this report at the time of production due to incidents that may have been closed down late or still remain open.