

13 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 the Coalfield Committee area from 22th August 2023 – 28th 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 Breakdown

Ward Name	Incident Count
Copt Hill	1
Hetton	0
Houghton	0
Shiney Row	0
Total	1

Property Type Breakdown

Property Level 4	Incident Count
Retail	1
Total	1

1 deliberate property fires, compared to 2 in the same period last year (50% increase).

3.3 LI15 Number of primary road vehicle fires started deliberately

Ward Breakdown

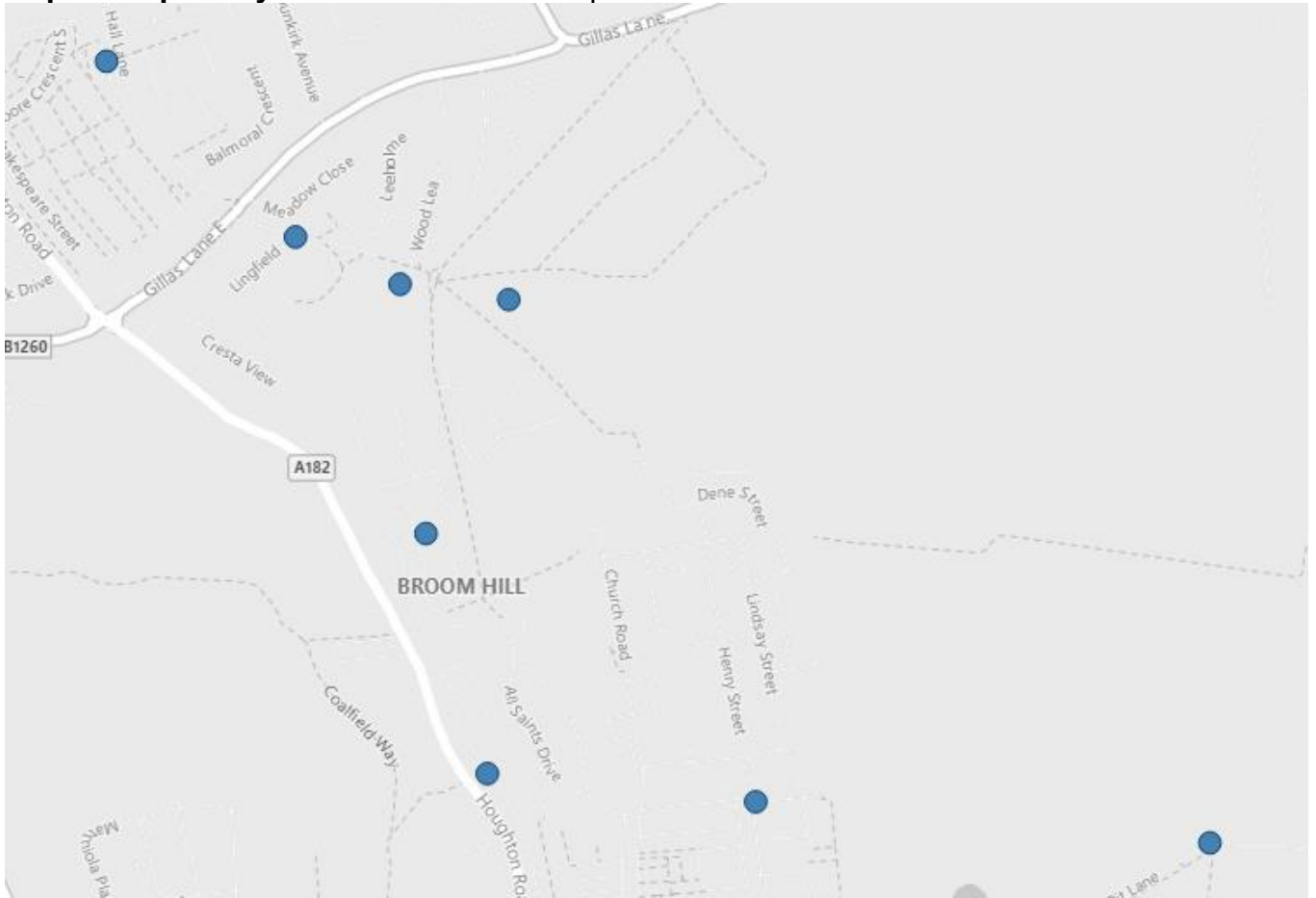
Ward Name	Incident Count
Copt Hill	8
Hetton	2
Houghton	1
Shiney Row	2
Total	13

Property Type Breakdown

Property Level 3	Incident Count
Car	9
Motorcycle	2
Van	2
Total	13

13 vehicle fires reported during this period which is up from 7 last year (86% increase). Copt Hill ward has seen a 300% rise in vehicle fire, at 8 up from 2 last year, this is the reason for the rise in the Coalfield figures for LI15. TWFRS continue to work with Northumbria Police and report all suspected malicious vehicle fires and shall continue to monitor any patterns identified. Hot Strikes have been conducted where appropriate to do so.

Copt Hill - primary road vehicle fires – Spread across the ward



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

Ward Name	Incident Count
Copt Hill	15
Hetton	25
Houghton	9
Shiney Row	9
Total	58

Property Level 4	Incident Count
Hedge	1
Loose refuse (incl in garden)	29
Other outdoor items including roadside furniture	1
Private/Domestic garden/allotment (vegetation not equipment/building)	2
Refuse/rubbish tip	3
Scrub land	2
Small refuse/rubbish/recycle container (excluding wheelie bin)	5
Tree scrub (includes single trees not in garden)	10
Wasteland	1
Wheelie Bin	4
Total	58

There have been 58 deliberate secondary fires over this period compared to 85 in the same period last year, a decrease of 32%. Copt Hill and Hetton ward seeing a slight increase of 2 incidents more than last year. Large Improvements in Houghton and Shiney Row wards seeing a 30 and a 75% reduction respectively.

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

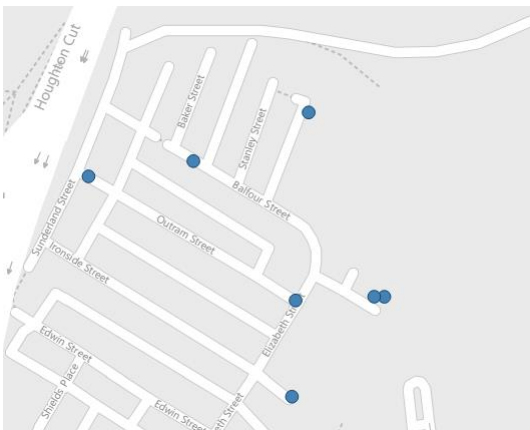
Ward Breakdown

Ward Name	Incident Count	Incidents In Time Frame	Same Period Last Year	% Change
Copt Hill	24	72	94	-23.40 %
Hetton	27			
Houghton	10			
Shiney Row	11			
Total	72			

There were a total of 72 deliberate fires in this reporting period, down from 94 last year, a decrease of 23%. Copt Hill ward has seen a 50% increase over last year's figures. Hetton ward, is a repeat of the Q2 report and has the same figures as last year in this reporting period. Houghton and Shiney Row wards have seen a large reduction of 30% and 75% respectively.

Ward Breakdown and hotspot analysis

Copt Hill ward 50% increase. 24 up from 16.



Out of 24 incidents, 9 were loose refuse and 8 were vehicle fires, which is a significant rise since last year. The main hotspot area over the reporting period is in the area around Elizabeth Street. Loose refuse is the main item on fire. WM Lane's W/W have increased ASB patrols in this area to uplift refuse via the Report it tool and have done a Fire Stoppers leaflet drop.

Hetton ward 0% no change (27).



Out of 27 incidents, 12 were loose refuse. The main hotspot area over the reporting period is around the park / grassland north of Nidderdale Avenue. WM Sirey's G/W have done a Fire Stoppers leaflet drop and have visited this area to conduct youth engagement but have been unsuccessful following several visits. These incidents are generally occurring between 19:30hrs and 20:30hrs in the bushes.

Houghton ward **33%** reduction. **10** down from **15**.



Out of the 10 incidents, there were no patterns on property types. The fires within this reporting period are spread over the ward area. WM Chris Pearson has recently been temporary promoted into Rainton Bridge and he is now responsible for this area.

Shiney Row ward **69%** reduction. **11** down from **36**.



Out of 11 incidents, 6 were loose refuse. The main hotspot over the reporting area is identical to that in the Q2 report, South Burn Terrace. This area has been targeted with a S&W initiative in Q2 and a Fire Stoppers leaflet drop. WM Sarah Bromley has recently been promoted into Rainton Bridge and is now responsible for this area.

3.6 Community Involvement

Throughout the reporting period, operational crews have attended **5** events in the local area. This has included school visits and community engagements.

TWFRS continue to support partners involved in the HALO project. Over this period, crews from Rainton Bridge supported the police with Operation impact in the Easington Lane area on the 8th November, as part of the Clear Hold Build project. Crews attended morning, afternoon and evening to deliver S&Ws in the area and engage with community members whilst providing fire safety advice. The Operation was huge success for all partners involved.

Delivery has begun of the Shiney Row strand of the Phoenix projects in the Coalfields area. A SPARK programme for Year 5 & 6 students from Shiney Row primary and Barnwell Academy begins on Wednesday 29th November for 3 days with an additional 3 day block of activity booked for February 2024. In between these times, Fire service staff will visit the young people in school to do some 1:1 mentoring to discuss how they are putting the personal skills and techniques they have learner into practice and to motivate them to behave positively ahead of returning for block 2.

With the summer IGNITE programmes being successfully delivered, the only remaining strand of the overall project to be completed is the Hetton Academy PHOENIX programme. This course had a successful start in June 2023, with a group of students working incredibly well with our team at Sunderland Central Fire Station. Unfortunately staff at the school have changed and it has not been possible to re-engage the school this academic year to complete the remaining 7 days for the programme.

To resolve this we have identified additional ways to contact the school with the help of Pauline Hopper, and have drafted a proposal for an alternative way to use the remaining delivery days with young people from the Coalfields area which will be brought to members if meaningful contact with the school cannot be re-established.

Rainton Bridge crews have completed 163 Safe and Wells visits in the reporting period under the new targeting system. Hot strikes continue following domestic premises fires and further support the delivery of fire safety in the home.

The bonfire period was relatively quiet compared to the last reporting period with regards to ASB. This is testament to the comprehensive partner planning that took place prior to the bonfire weekend, this was led by Louise Butler. No bonfire incidents of note to report in the Coalfields area.

TWFRS Recruitment is still open and positive action events have continued 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 continues to reduce hotspot incidents 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.

Over this reporting period there were 0 attacks on crews in the Coalfield area and 2 across the wider Sunderland area in this reporting period.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1** Note the content of this report. Promote the Fire Stoppers reporting number in community groups to drive down deliberate fires.

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Note: 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.

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Shiney Row Ward - Watch Manager Sarah Bromley sarah.bromley@twfire.gov.uk
Copt Hill Ward - Watch Manager Andrew Lane andrew.lane@twfire.gov.uk

