

SUNDERLAND NORTH AREA COMMITTEE

26th June 2025

REPORT OF THE TYNE & WEAR FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The following report gives performance-monitoring details in relation to Local Indicators for the Sunderland North Committee area from 1st March 2025 to 29th May 2025, compared with the same period in 2023/2024

2 Background

- 2.1 Area Committee agreed that regular updates on Crime and Community Safety would be presented to each committee meeting.
- 2.2 For this report, **Primary/secondary** fires are defined as such by TWFRS.

Primary fires are defined as fires that include all fires in buildings, vehicles, and outdoor structures, or any fire involving casualties, rescues, or fires attended by five or more appliances

Secondary fires are defined as fire incidents that did not occur at a primary fire location, was not a chimney fire in an occupied building, did not involve casualties (otherwise categorised as a Primary incident), and was attended by four or fewer appliances.

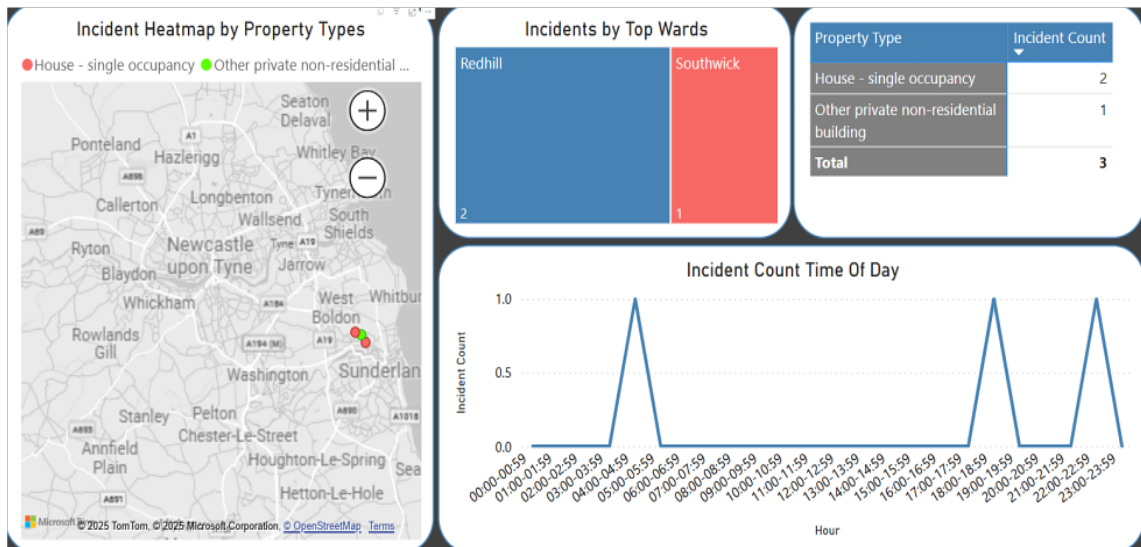
3 Tyne & Wear Fire and Rescue Service Update

3.1 LI 02 Number of deaths from all fires

0 deaths were recorded during the reporting period.

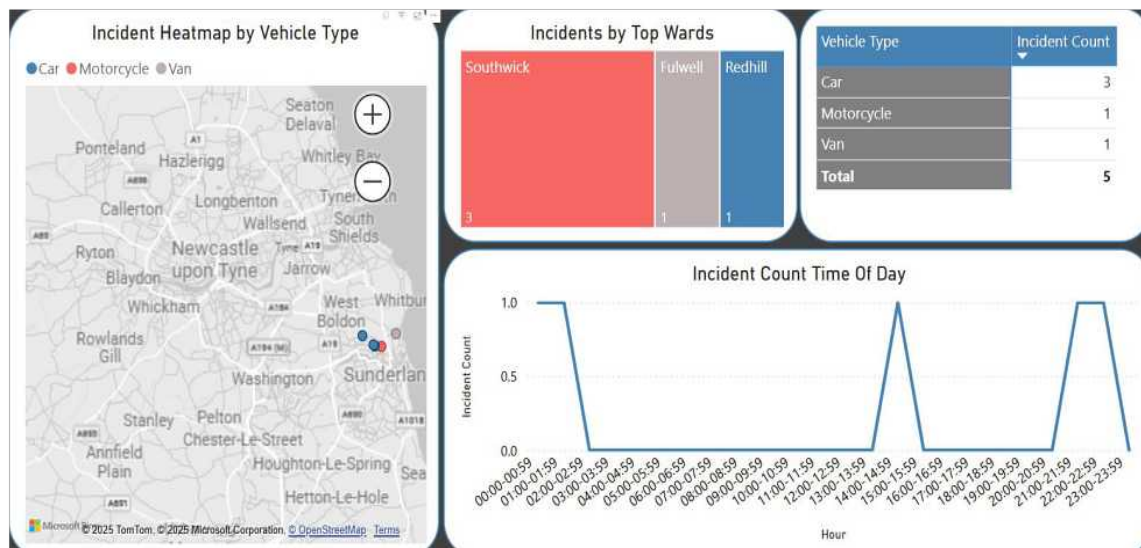
3.2 LI 14 - Number of deliberate primary fires excluding road vehicles

3 Incidents occurred within this reporting period; this compares to 2 in the same period last year, which is an increase of **50%**.



3.3 LI 15 - Number of deliberate primary road vehicle fires

Incidents occurred within this reporting period; this compares to 12 reported incidents in the same period last year, which is a reduction of **58.3%**.

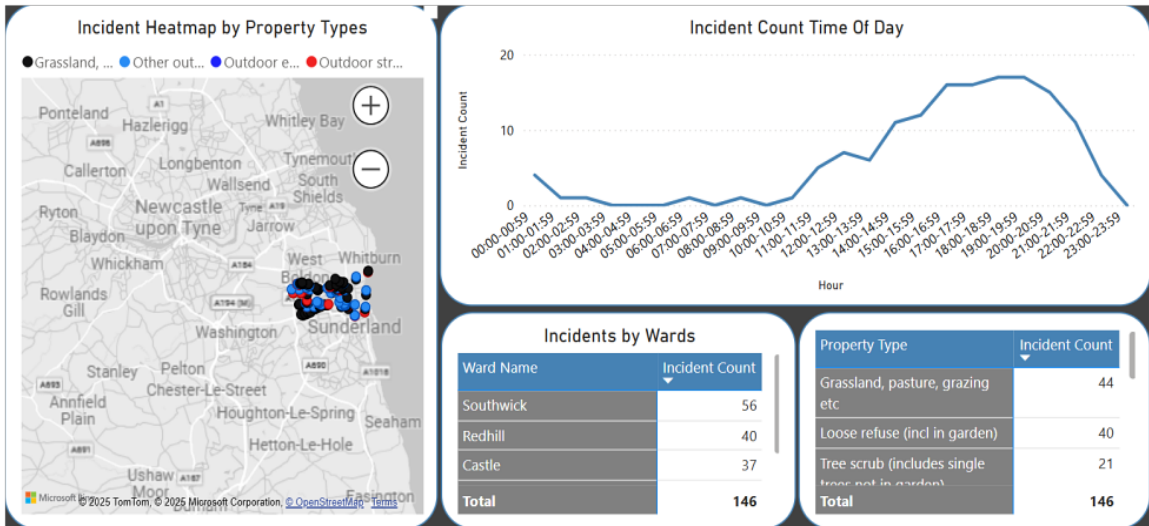


TWFRS continue to work with Northumbria Police reporting all suspected malicious vehicle fires and shall continue to monitor any identified patterns or trends. Where malicious fires are identified, a tier two Fire Investigation is undertaken by TWFRS in collaboration with Northumbria Police's Forensic Services.

3.4 LI 16 – Number of deliberate secondary fires

146 incidents occurred within this reporting period; this compares to 62 reported incidents in the same period last year (SPLY), which is an increase of **135.5%**. A breakdown of incidents occurring in wards can be found below:

- Redhill 40 incidents up from 22 SPLY. An increase of **81.8%**
- Southwick 56 incidents up from 13 SPLY. An increase of **330.8%**
- Castle 37 incidents equal to 20 from SPLY. An increase of **85%**
- St. Peters 9 incidents equal to 6 from SPLY. An increase of **50%**
- Fulwell 4 incidents up from 1 SPLY. An increase of **300%**



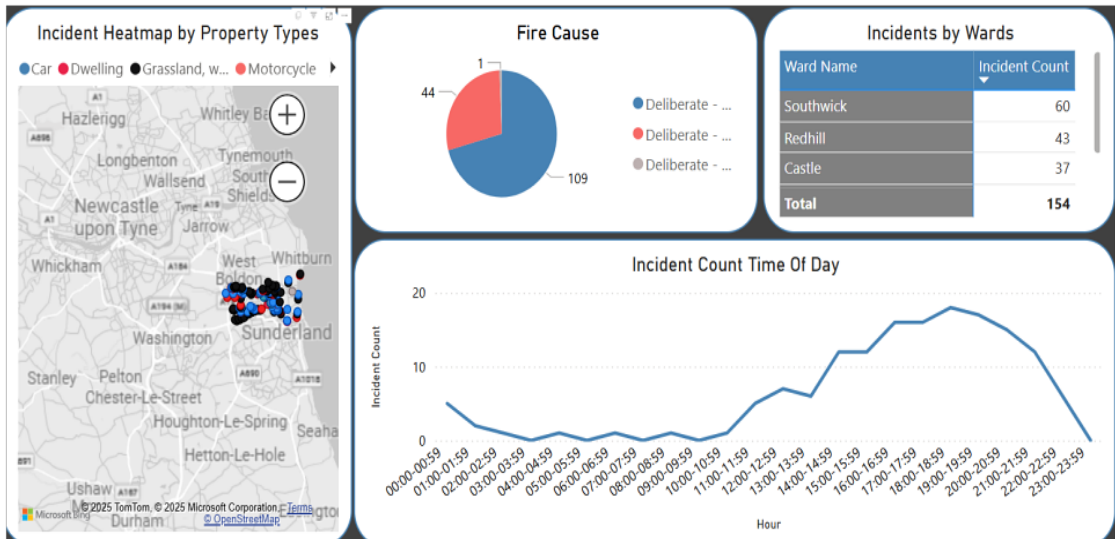
Fire crews are continuing to implement strategies to address anti-social behaviour in all wards and are reporting all cases of fly-tipping or excessive waste through the ReportIT tool.

The Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service (TWFRS) has recently transitioned from its "Darker to Lighter Nights" activities. The rewilding efforts and the dry weather conditions have affected the number of incidents involving grassland and woodlands.

3.5 LI 33 - Number of deliberate fires (incorporating LI's 14, 15 and 16)

There have been 154 deliberate fires over this period compared to 76 in the same period last year, which equates to an increase of **102.6%**. Improvements continue to be made in Castle, Fulwell, Redhill and St. Peter's wards showing a decrease in fires and work continues in the Southwick ward that has shown a slight increase in incidents recorded.

TWFRS will proactively concentrate reduction strategies in all areas.



Ward breakdown and hotspot analysis

Castle Ward – 37 Incidents, up from 21 = 72% increase



A high percentage of incidents can be identified in the Hylton Castle/ Castletown areas. The peak times tend to be between 15:00 - 21:00 hrs. A number of which occur along the banks of the River Wear involving grassland, woodland and crops.

These incidents are of an ASB nature, TWFRS will conduct reduction strategies during the peak times.

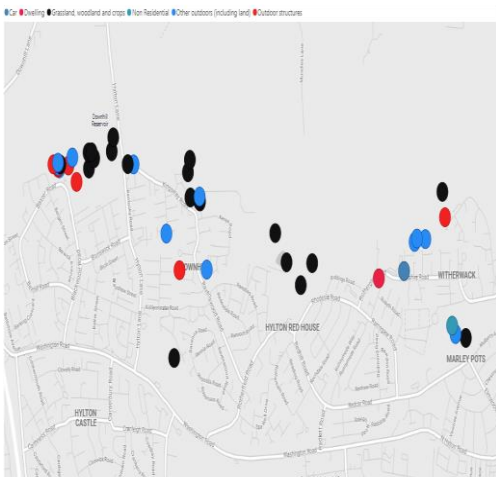
Fulwell Ward - 5 Incidents, up from 1 = **400% increase**.



These incidents were found to be of an ASB nature involving grasslands, loose refuse and a vehicle.

No trends could be identified.

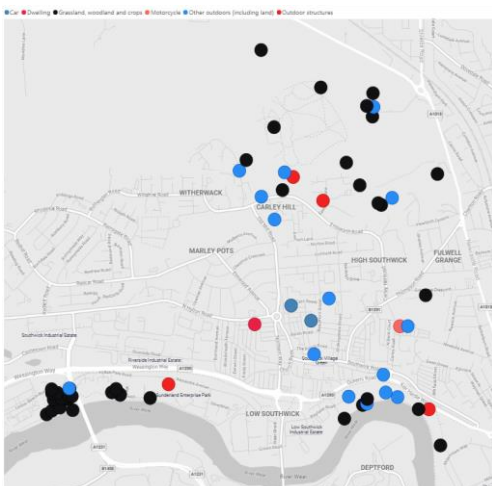
Redhill Ward - 43 Incidents, up from 15 = **59% increase**.



The main areas of ASB has been found to be on land North of Washington Rd and Hylton Red House near Rhodesia Rd. Incidents are occurring between 15:00 and Midnight.

Previously a ten day trigger plan saw incidents reduce dramatically.

Southwick Ward - 60 Incidents, up from 18 = **233% increase**.



A cluster of incidents are taking place in Hylton Dene, south of Hylton Park Road, involving grassland, woodland, and crops.

TWFRS will continue to collaborate with the SARA project team for support and engagement. Incidents peak between 19:00 and 21:00

St. Peters Ward - 9 Incidents, up from no incidents = **900% increase**.



Incidents spread across the ward but mainly along the river involving refuse.

Regular ASB reduction continues to be carried out in this locality.

Fire crews will continue to undertake ASB reduction in these areas and collaborate with partners.

4 Fire Stoppers Hotline

- 4.1 It is essential that any fire related issues are reported utilising the Fire Stoppers hotline; 0800 169 5558. Crews from Marley Park Community Fire Station are encouraged to foster strong working relationships with community groups and partner agencies. Our aim is to positively impact deliberate fire reduction and deter anti-social behaviour, as these activities have a direct and detrimental impact on life risk, property, the environment and the entire Sunderland community.

Any questions: please feel free to contact the below TWFRS Station Manager.

5 Summary

- 5.1 Marley Park Community Fire Station crews have completed 93 Safe and well visits since 1st April 2025 and there have been a single attack on firefighters in comparison to none in the same period last year resulting in a **100% increase**., this was reported to Northumbria Police at the time of the incident, through joint working and collaboration, an individual was identified.
- 5.2 TWFRS will continue to work with Northumbria Police and Local Authority Representatives to investigate and identify trends, create action plans and evaluate activities. Crews at Marley Park Community Fire Station utilise intelligence led data to target areas of increased activity, allowing resources to be utilised efficiently and effectively. Continued support from the SARA partnership working is having very positive results for TWFRS.

6 Recommendations

- 6.1 The Sunderland North Area Committee are requested to note the content of the report.

7 Contact Officer:

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Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service

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The banner features three fire service crests at the bottom: the Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service crest, the North East Fire and Rescue Service crest, and the Fire Brigades Union crest.