

15<sup>th</sup> December 2021

## 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 Coalfields Committee area from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021 compared to the same period last year.

### 2 Background

- 2.1 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

No deaths were recorded during the reporting period.

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

There were 7 deliberate property fires, a decrease of 5 from last year. Operational crews and prevention education department have reinstated safe and well visits as of the 1<sup>st</sup> of September (formerly home safety checks) TWFRS, Northumbria Police, Environmental Health and other Local Authority partners have been working in partnership to reduce these incidents with estate visits and reporting of any empty/void property which may be accessible.

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

There were 27 incidents reported during this period compared to last year when there were 26. 11 of the fires were in the Hetton ward with 2 within the School Road area. Subsequent LMAPS has been initiated. TWFRS will continue to work with Northumbria Police regarding any further similar incidents to help identify trends and perpetrators. All incidents were reported and investigated by both Police and Fire Investigators to establish any links.

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

There has been a decrease of 10% overall in secondary fires. During this report period TWFRS attended 125 deliberate secondary fires. Compared to 139 over the same period last year. There has been a 40% increase in incidents involving loose refuse. Hetton project, Extraordinary LMAPS Partner work underway to monitor, investigate and help reduce ASB.

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

There were a total of 159 deliberate fires in this reporting period. This is a decrease of 10% compared to the same reporting period last Year. This is due to a decline across all wards. TWFRS are working with Northumbria Police, Sunderland city council and partners carrying out estate and site visits, reporting and removal of loose refuse/fly tipping to try and reduce ASB and secondary fire incidents.

**Copt Hill Ward** Has seen a decrease from 31 incidents to 36, during this period. Incidents over this period are predominately loose refuse (14 incidents). 9 of the 27 Vehicle fires were within this ward, TWFRS are working with Northumbria police to monitor and identify any

trends/patterns/underlying issues. School Road initiative with partners is helping monitor and share information to help reduce ASB and improve local area

**Houghton Ward** Has seen a decrease from 46 to 49 incidents over this reporting period. Vehicle fires have increased but loose refuse/fly tipping remains problematic.

**Hetton Ward** Has seen a 5% decrease in incidents. For all a decrease the main area of concern is loose refuse and vehicle fires. Hetton ward remains an area of concern, partnership initiatives are on going.

**Shiney Row Ward** Has seen a decrease of 15% in incidents over the reporting period. Loose refuse/fly tipping is the main cause of incidents over this period.

### 3.6 Community Involvement

Where crews are available to support and attend community events they shall continue to do so depending on restrictions. Partnership initiatives will be welcomed and considered for attendance/support. 2022 hopes for an increased number of visitors to the Fire Stations, as restriction improve allowing small community group to re-engage with the service as well as the service hosting open days.

The service recommenced safe and well visits as of the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021 targeting the most vulnerable members of our communities ensuring they have working smoke alarms and if necessary, referring to partner agencies for further support

### 3.7 On-going Issues

Service darker nights campaign has been launched with crews from Rainton community fire station continuing to be proactive to help reduce incidents as highlighted in the report. Attacks on emergency services are on the increase across the Tyne and Wear service area. Additional fire safety/ASB school talks have taken place at Hetton and Kepier secondary schools with a view of setting up regular contact, which will hopefully help reduce ASB and attacks on crews.

It is essential that any fire related issues are reported to myself, (Andrew Nelson, Station Manager) or using Fire Stoppers 0800 169 5558, so I can action with my crews. Each of my watches have been given ward areas to create community links (similar to the Police). This is not just about ASB fires but all deliberate fires.

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

## 4. Recommendations

4.1 Note the content of this report.

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