

27 September 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 04th June - to 22th August 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
Copt Hill	2
Hetton	2
Houghton	0
Shiney Row	0
Total	4

Property Level 4	Incident Count
House - single occupancy	1
Mines and quarries - buildings above ground	1
Other buildings/use not known	1
Other private non-residential building	1
Total	4

4 deliberate property fires, compared to 3 in the same period last year (33% increase). Hot strikes from operational crews and safe and well targeting has been conducted by operational crews and the TWFRS Prevention and Education department. 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
Houghton	3
Copt Hill	2
Hetton	2
Shiney Row	0
Total	7

7 vehicle fires reported during this period which is the same number as last year. No patterns identified. 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
Copt Hill	12
Hetton	25
Houghton	12
Shiney Row	6
Total	55

Property Level 4	Incident Count
Fence	2
Grassland, pasture, grazing etc	9
Large refuse/rubbish container (eg skip)	3
Loose refuse (incl in garden)	25
Private/Domestic garden/allotment (vegetation not equipment/building)	1
Refuse/rubbish tip	1
Small refuse/rubbish/recycle container (excluding wheelie bin)	2
Tree scrub (includes single trees not in garden)	11
Wheelie Bin	1
Total	55

There have been 55 deliberate secondary fires over this period compared to 114 in the same period last year, a decrease of 52%. Large Improvements across all wards seeing a 10 - 80% reduction.

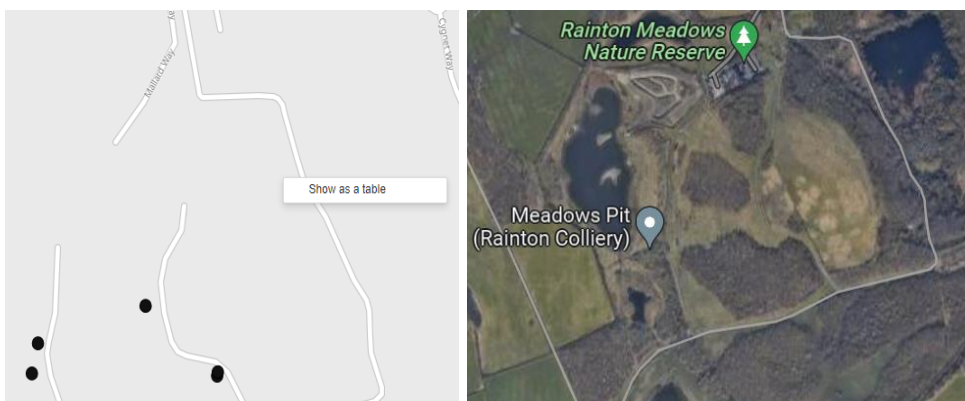
3.5 LI33 All deliberate Fires (combination of LI14, LI15 and LI16)

Ward Name	Incident Count
Hetton	29
Copt Hill	16
Houghton	15
Shiney Row	6
Total	66

There were a total of 66 deliberate fires in this reporting period, down from 124 last year, a decrease of 47%. The weather this year has been one of the contributing factors in the reduced number of incidents, the extended periods of rainfall over the summer has assisted with reducing the numbers. All wards with the exception of Hetton ward (same figures as last year) have seen a large decrease of over 30%. 25 fires involved loose refuse and 20 fires involved grassland and tree scrub.

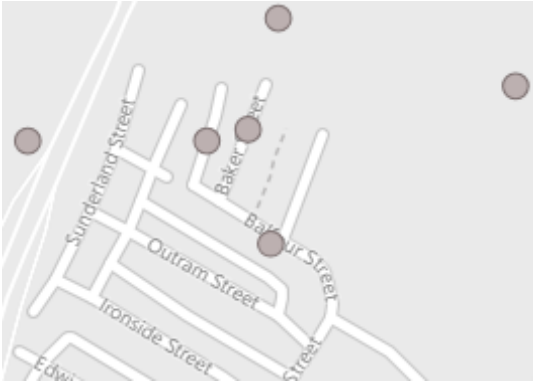
Ward Breakdown and hotspot analysis

Hetton ward 0% No change



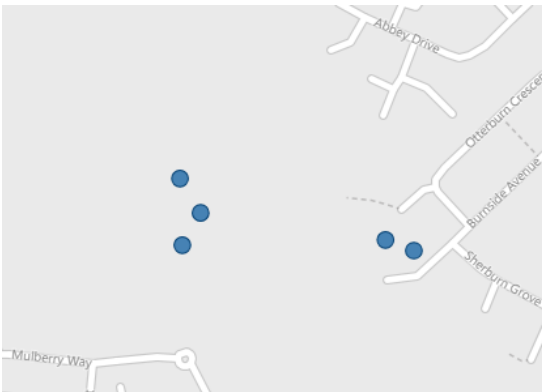
Out of 29 incidents, 10 were loose refuse and 8 were tree scrub. The main hotspot over the reporting area is in the Meadows Pit area, where there has been tree scrub on fire on 4 occasions.

Copt Hill ward **30%** reduction



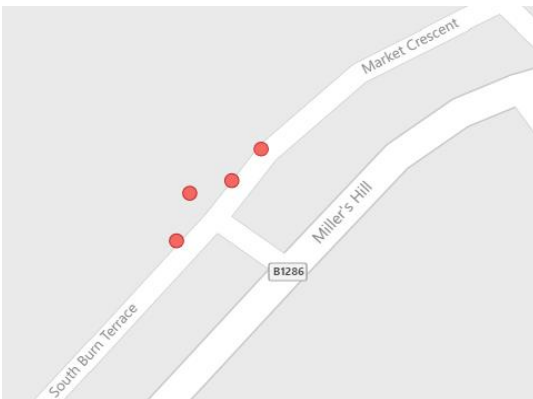
Out of 16 incidents, 6 were loose refuse and 4 were grassland / tree scrub. The main hotspot over the reporting period is around the area of Baker Street. WM Lane's W/W are regularly patrolling this area as part of ASB rubbish uplifts and are in the process of delivering Fire Stoppers leaflets around Baker Street and the surrounding area.

Houghton ward **62%** reduction



Out of 15 incidents, 5 were grassland and 4 were loose refuse. The main hotspot over the reporting area is within the Moors Burn area away from the built up areas. WM John Coopers R/W patrol Houghton ward and have been focusing on the perimeter of Moors Burn to report fly tipping and any loose refuse.

Shiney Row ward **51%** reduction



Out of 6 incidents, 5 were loose refuse. The main hotspot over the reporting area is the grassed area north of South Burn Terrace. Rubbish uplift patrols have been increased in this area. WM Sirey's B/W have done a Fire Stoppers leaflet drop in conjunction with a Safe and Well initiative in this area.

3.6 Community Involvement

Throughout the summer period, operational crews have attended 8 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 ASB week (3rd - 9th July). Crews attended Brick Garth and Tower Court to support the installation of the boulders and carry out a multiagency walk about.

Our Phoenix team have begun to deliver their diversionary and early intervention activities to a range of young people across the Coalfields area.

Young people at risk of engaging in anti-social behaviour (ASB), or disengaging from school have been identified in partnership with local schools, community police teams and community partners such as HALO and the Flatts Youth Centre.

The first block of our 9 month PHOENIX programme has been delivered to the first 6 11-15 year olds from Hetton Academy, and their first mentoring sessions in school will take place in September. The remaining blocks of activity will take place throughout the autumn, and councillors will be made aware of the dates when we would welcome visits to see the provision in action.

Throughout the summer we have also ran two IGNITE Projects for 9 & 10 year olds from the Easington Lane area: a Tuesday group with support from HALO, and a Thursday group supported by the Flatts Youth Centre.

Both programmes have had extremely positive outcomes as evidenced by formal evaluations and student, parent and partner feedback.

Attendance has been an issue on the programmes during the holidays, and evaluation of both programmes along with steps to further develop provision will be included in the funding evaluation documents completed at the end of each programme.

Our Safe and Well targeting system has recently been updated and improved, ensuring we target our most vulnerable members of the community. Rainton Bridge crews have completed 206 Safe and Wells visits in the reporting period. Hot strikes continue following domestic premises fires and further support the delivery of fire safety in the home.

Early planning has started for our darker nights campaign 2023 and TWFRS are in the process of identifying specific schools.

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 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 **1** verbal attack on crews in the Coalfield area.

Street	Locality	District Name	Postcode	Ward Name	Property Type	Incident Category Type	Attack On Crew?	Type Of Attack
YORK CRESCENT	HETTON-LE-HOLE	Sunderland		Hetton	Wheelie Bin	Fire	Yes	Verbal abuse

4. Recommendations

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

Contact Officer: Station Manager Scott Wilson,
Tel: 0191 4441188,
Email: scott.wilson@twfire.gov.uk

Hetton Ward -Watch Manager Kevin Williams - kevin.williams@twfire.gov.uk
Houghton Ward - Watch Manager John Cooper john.cooper@twfire.gov.uk
Shiney Row Ward - Watch Manager Kevin Sirey kevin.sirey@twfire.gov.uk
Copt Hill Ward - Watch Manager Andrew Lane andrew.lane@twfire.gov.uk

The graphic is a promotional banner for FireStoppers. On the left, a yellow and orange flame-like shape contains the text: 'Powered by CrimeStoppers.', 'Deliberate fires put people and property at risk.', and 'You can help keep your community safe by telling us who is responsible.' The center features the 'FireStoppers.' logo in large, colorful letters, followed by the phone number '0800 169 5558' in a large, red, outlined font. Below this is the website 'www.firestoppersreport.co.uk' and the slogan 'We are only interested in what you know, not your identity.' Three police force crests are shown at the bottom center. On the right, a smartphone displays '100% anonymous' and 'Search FireStoppers Report' on its screen.