

11 June 2018

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 Coalfield Area Committee area from 01 February 2018 to 30 April 2018 compared with the same period in 2017.

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

L.I 2 Number of Deaths from all fires

0 deaths from fires

L.I 14 Number of Deliberate primary fires excluding road vehicles

4 incidents in this reporting period this compares to 8 incidents in the previous year for this period. There is no pattern to these incidents but were all domestic properties and all are investigated by either Fire service or police and passed onto partners to address where it is required.

LI 15 Number of Deliberate primary road vehicle fire

There has been a decrease in the number of Vehicle fires from 7 to 3 (45%) reduction

LI 33 Number of Deliberate fires incorporating Secondary Fires (LI16)

63 incidents, this is an decrease from 117 incidents (46%) from the same period last year. 53 of these incidents were Anti- Social Behaviour Fires/ Deliberate Secondary Fires.

The Hotspot map shows the main areas where ASB/ deliberate fires have occurred

Copt Hill Ward Has seen a decrease from 29 incidents to 16, a reduction of 44 % during this period. There has been a significant decrease in number of fires in Downs Pit Lane only 1 in this reporting period, However 39+38 Edward St have caused issue with deliberate fires at both properties.

Houghton Ward Has seen a decrease from 30 to 20 a 33% decrease in the number of fires. This is mainly due to the demolition of TKT COSYFOAM which accounted for 10 incidents.

Hetton Ward has seen a 41% drop in incidents 36-22,. The main area of concern which is still ongoing is the land to the rear of Lincoln crescent off North Road where we have attended several fires where the owner of the land is allowing burning off of items.

Shiney Row Ward has seen a 77% decrease in incidents (22-5) over the reporting period. With No issues affecting this area.

Summary

Although the figures are pleasing to see an overall reduction in number of incidents (46%) across the Coalfields area we need to take into account the inclement weather we suffered in March which saw Grassland fires fall from 23 to 1 in the reporting period.

We are seeing a rise in the number of calls to allotments/ small holdings for either controlled burning or more significant fires caused by controlled burning getting out of control and damaging surrounding sheds and allotments. The main concern with this is propane cylinders and the like in sheds which may explode, we would also need to put an exclusion zone in place of up to 200m for maximum of 24 hours to cool cylinders.

Also the amount of smoke given off by these types of fires can cause a health hazard as they cannot be sure of what they are burning off. Allotment holders are becoming quite irate when we turn up to extinguish the fire we have been threatened with violence, but this is rare

4. Recommendations

4.1 Note the content of the report.

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