

**14 November 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 May 2018 to 31 October 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**

1 recorded death from fire. This incident occurred at Aged Miners Homes, Houghton-le-Spring. TWFRS with Northumbria Police are investigating the cause of the fire. TWFRS carried out an initiative post incident to fit smoke alarms and give fire safety advice to residents within the community. 107 Home safety checks were completed and 20 smoke alarms fitted

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

15 incidents in this reporting period this compares to 11 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 an increase in the number of Vehicle fires from 20 to 23. All incidents were reported and investigated by both Police and Fire Investigators to establish any links. TWFRS will continue to work with Northumbria Police to identify trends and perpetrators.

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

154 incidents, this is a decrease from 199 incidents (23%) from the same period last year, (116 secondary fires, 23 vehicle fires and 15 property fires). The decrease is partly due to the decrease in loose refuse incidents. The Hotspot map shows the main areas where ASB/ deliberate fires have occurred.

**Copt Hill Ward** Has seen an increase from 25 incidents to 33, an increase of 32% during this period. The area of Market Street/Seaham road have caused an issue with deliberate fires.

**Houghton Ward** Has seen a decrease from 69 to 32 a 52% decrease in the number of fires. For all there has been a decrease the area of Lambton Lane and Avenue Vivian are problematic for loose refuse fires.

**Hetton Ward** has seen a 10% increase in incidents 63-69,. The main area of concern is Moorsley Road and surrounding area. The increase is due to loose refuse/wheelie bin fires.

**Shiney Row Ward** has seen a 52% decrease in incidents (42-20) over the reporting period. With No issues affecting this area.

#### **4. Lighter /Darker Nights**

With the onset of the darker nights it is essential that any fire related issues are reported to myself, (Kevin Burns, Station Manager), so I can action with my crews. We continue trialling with partners the recording of Fire risks and are looking to enhance this with mapping capabilities. Each of my watches continue to work within their allocated ward areas, each watch has also been allocated a Police officer as a single point of contact. This is not just about ASB fires but all deliberate fires, ensuring proper stacking/ storage of items outside a premise that may have an impact on property and life.

#### **Summary**

Although the figures are pleasing to see with an overall reduction in number of incidents across the Coalfields area we are seeing a rise in vehicle fires. TWFRS will continue to work with Northumbria Police to investigate and identify any trends. Refuse also remains problematic, Station Manager Burns will be working closely with partners to reduce these incidents.

#### **5. Recommendations**

5.1 Note the content of the report.

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