

21 September 2022**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 Sunderland West Committee area from 1st April 2022 to 6th September 2022.

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**

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, compared to 4 in the same period as last year. Sandhill ward had 3 of the 7 incidents. 2 of which were dwelling fires and 1 outdoor storage unit. The continued partnership working with Northumbria Police, Gentoo, Sunderland city council and departments within have continued to work collaboratively to reduce these incidents. Both ops crews and prevention and education department have carried out hot strikes and ran localised initiatives in conjunction with local intelligence from LMAPS.

The continued partnership work carried out to tackle the rise in incidents at the former police station has produced positive results. Site security has been key to help alleviate some of problems posed to crews. The site is still a concern as the measures put in place may only deter for so long. The only way for this area to be removed from services radar is the regeneration of the site. To assist in reducing the number of deliberate property fires, crews continue to patrol and report unsecure premises in conjunction with ASB reporting, the crews also utilise the Report-It tool.

3.3 LI15 Number of primary road vehicle fires started deliberately

There were 24 incidents reported during this period compared to last year when there were 9. An increase of 166%. Barnes and Pallion had 5 vehicle fires respectively over this period. 3 incidents in Pallion were in close proximity (Santorin close, Fletcher Close, Felixstowe Road). It is believed that they were not connected in any way, however TWFRS continue to work with Northumbria Police regarding this matter and shall continue to monitor.

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

There have been 461 deliberate secondary fires in this area over the report period compared to 147 over the same period last year. This is an increase of 213% over the same reporting period. Pandemic lock downs during some of the reporting periods last year played a part in these figures. Some problematic areas have been Silksworth Ward

- 148 incidents. In particular the grassed area close to Primate Road, Dr's surgery and former police station site. Since site security improvements the incidents have migrated to around the lake and the area between Perth Road and Silksworth Lane. St Anne's ward 87 incidents - areas such as rear of Palgrove Road and Hollinside Square. Predominantly grass or loose refuse fires. Sandhill ward – 65 incidents, the areas of Tay road and Thorney close. Continued partner working with local authority, Gentoo, environmental services and Northumbria police. Increased patrols, Joint social media targeting and messaging. Community engagement work with youths has been carried out by crews both following incidents and during patrols. Partner agencies providing opportunities during the school holidays have been supported by crews. Education and fire safety messaging has been given on all opportunities to engage.

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

There were a total of 183 deliberate fires in this reporting period. An increase of 266% on last Year. This is due to an increase in predominantly ASB activity. The remarkably hot dry weather during this period has had notable increase on the number of grass fires. Grass fires and loose refuse/rubbish incidents were particularly problematic across all wards. The period prior to improved security of the former police station, Primate Road have taken up a large amount of time of fire service and partner resources and significantly impacted on figures.

Vehicle fire incidents having decreased in quarter one have now increased (more than doubling on the rolling quarters figures. This will be monitored by ourselves and partner agencies. TWFRS are working with Sunderland city council environmental department, Gentoo to tackle loose refuse fires across all areas. Fire crews continue to monitor and report uplifts in the "hot spot areas" the Report-It tool has gone live across the service which is assisting with a faster more stream lined collaborative mechanism. Partnership work (Northumbria police) carrying out targeted patrols and estate visits continues alongside engagement work. Any information regards any type of deliberate fire setting should be reported via the anonymous fire stoppers number.

3.6 Community Involvement

Throughout the schools summer holidays crews attended several events put on by local community groups and partner agencies across the area. The events attended was an opportunity to build good local community rapport with some of the youths in the area and to gather information so crews could arrange safe and well appointments.

Barnes Park community days had fire service representation over the 3 day event. Community education and safety information was delivered alongside our chip pan demonstration unit in conjunction with partner agencies. Educating hundreds of children from several local schools from the west area across the 2 days. The family day (Saturday) had an appliance and crew attend to engage and educate all ages throughout the day.

Plans in place to have chip pan demonstration unit and a prevention team attend the Saturday too, next year.

Our home Safe and well delivery. Targeting our most vulnerable members of our community. Operational crews from Farringdon continue to provide this service and have delivered 532 safe and wells visits across all wards.

Planning and preparation for our darker night's campaign is underway. With a series of multiagency meetings due to take place to ensure a joined up approach. All schools in hot spot areas will be initially targeted in the build up to bonfire night with some locations having joint police and fire visits enforcing key ASB and fire safety messages.

The Princes Trust based at Farringdon Community Fire Station is now working to recruit for their 3rd cohort of young people this year. Following partner support and attendance alongside our whole time fire crew recruitment campaign we currently have 8 young people from various backgrounds provisionally booked on the programme due to be commence later this month.

The services recruitment campaign will begin again on the return of the schools and colleges, branching out to underrepresented members of the community to enable further representation from underrepresented groups within the fire service. The latest recruit's course started on Monday 5th Sept and will finish in December.

3.7 On-going Issues

Collaboration with Northumbria police and local authority partner's continues to reduce incidents as highlighted in the report. 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/address with my crews. My watches continue to work close within their respective ward areas to create community links (similar to the Police). The watches continue to deliver ASB initiatives – uplifts, premises security, and educational interaction.

The educational and engagement activities are key to reduce ASB and prevent attacks on emergency services. Over this reporting period there were 26 attacks on crews across Tyne and Wear. Predominantly these incidents were projectiles thrown towards firefighters and or appliances.

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

4. Recommendations

4.1 Note the content of this report.

Contact Officer: Andrew Nelson, Tyne and Wear Fire Service,
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The graphic includes three fire service crests at the bottom: Tyne and Wear Fire Service, Northumbria Fire Service, and South Tyneside Fire Service.