

16 March 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 Coalfields Committee area from 1st April 2021 to 1st March 2022 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 11 deliberate property fires, a decrease of 35% from last year. Operational crews and prevention education department have reinstated safe and well visits as of the 1st of September (formerly home safety checks) The crews from Rainton have are on target of completing 350 by the end of the month. TWFRS, Northumbria Police, Sunderland city council, Gentoo and other Local Authority partners have been working in partnership to reduce these incidents with continued targeting of problematic areas and focussing activity in these areas. The reporting of any empty/void property which may be accessible has assisted in improving these figures.

3.3 LI15 Number of primary road vehicle fires started deliberately

There were 42 incidents reported during this period compared to 48 for the same period last year. 15 of the fires were in the Hetton ward with hotspots in the Nidderdale Avenue off Moorsley Road and within the Queen Elizabeth Drive area, Easington lane. Subsequent LMAPS has been initiated. Houghton saw an increase compared to last and this is an area we will monitor with partners. 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 11% overall in secondary fires. During this report period TWFRS attended 201 deliberate secondary fires. Compared to 228 over the same period last year. Shiney Row saw a slight increase but all other wards within the coalfields area have seen reduction in particular Copt Hill – down 30% from last year. Although improvement of 18% as been seen in the Hetton ward, it continues to have the greatest number of incidents over the period - 57. The multi-agency HALO project

recently launched shall hopefully assist in further reduction looking ahead to next year. In addition Extraordinary LMAPS Partner work underway to monitor all wards, The continued collaborative work to prevent, reduce, investigate and help improve the wards regarding deliberate ASB and fire setting.

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

There were a total of 254 deliberate fires in this reporting period. This is a decrease of 13% compared to the same reporting period last Year. This is due to improvement across all wards. TWFRS continue to work closely with Northumbria Police, Sunderland city council, Gentoo and partners carrying out estate and site visits, ASB patrols, reporting of accessible premises, and removal of loose refuse/fly tipping. Using data to target areas in most need of support to try and reduce ASB and secondary fire incidents.

Copt Hill Ward - Has seen a decrease from 63 incidents to 49, during this period. Incidents over this period are predominately loose refuse (20 incidents). 12 of the 42 Vehicle fires across the coalfields area 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 continuing to monitor and share information to help reduce ASB and improve local area

Houghton Ward - Has seen a decrease from 71 to 69 incidents over this reporting period. Vehicle fires have increased but loose refuse/fly tipping remains problematic.

Hetton Ward - Has seen a 17% decrease in incidents. For all a decrease in deliberate fires has been seen the main area of concern is loose refuse. Hetton ward remains an area of concern. However the HALO project and continued partnership initiatives will hopefully continue to deliver a positive impact.

Shiney Row Ward - Has seen a minor 1% increase in incidents over the reporting period. Loose refuse/fly tipping is the main cause of incidents. Close attention shall be paid to this ward to try and avoid any further increase.

3.6 Community Involvement

HALO project launch is a great opportunity to bring partners together to deliver success, empower and improve the local area. Based on the highly successful SARA project we as a service are looking forward to being involved and are committed to the project. All other opportunities where crews are available to support and attend community events they shall continue to do so. Partnership initiatives will be welcomed and considered for attendance/support. 2022 hopes to welcome an increased number of visitors to the Fire Stations, as restriction improve allowing small community group to re-engage with the service.

The service recommenced safe and well visits as of the 1st 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. Crews have already delivered over 300 Safe & well visits to households across the Coalfields area.

3.7 On-going Issues

Crews from Rainton community fire station continuing to work with partners and 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 Kepier and Houghton Comp. Moving forward work with Inspector Passey and his team to carry out joint education sessions with our local schools is currently being developed with the intention of reducing the number of attacks on blue light responders and reduce ASB.

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.

Contact Officer: Andrew Nelson, Tyne and Wear Fire Service,
Tel: 0191 4441188, Email: Andrew.Nelson@twfire.gov.uk



Powered by
CrimeStoppers.

Deliberate fires
put people and
property at risk.

You can help keep
your community safe
by telling us who is
responsible.

FireStoppers.
0800 169 5558

or go to www.firestoppersreport.co.uk

We are only interested in what you know,
not your identity.

100%
anonymous

Search
FireStoppers
Report

The graphic features three fire service crests at the bottom: the Tyne and Wear Fire Service crest, the Northumbria Fire Service crest, and the South Tyneside Fire Service crest. The background is dark with a yellow flame-like shape on the left.