

15 June 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 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 to 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022 compared to the same period last year in 2021.

### 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 01 & 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

Deliberate property fires, had an increase of 33% from last year. Operational crews and prevention education department continue to target our most vulnerable residents with targeted safe and well visits. 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 8 incidents reported during this period compared to 12 for the same period last year. 4 of the fires were in the Houghton ward – no significant pattern. Hetton saw a decrease compared to last year, a reduction of 83% from 6 incidents to 1. Shiney Row reduction of 50%, and Copt Hill remained the same. 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 14% overall in secondary fires. The service has launched the Report-It tool for the reporting of fly tipping and loose refuse. All personnel have now been trained and are utilising daily. During this report period TWFRS attended 49 deliberate secondary fires. Compared to 57 over the same period last year. Shiney Row saw a 60% decrease, Copt Hill 40% decrease, and Houghton 16% decrease on the number on incidents attended compared to the same reporting period as last year. Hetton remains the ward experiencing the greatest number of deliberate secondary fires within the coalfields area. The multi-agency HALO project along with other collaborative working will hopefully assist in tackling some of the hot spot areas. LMAPS Partner work groups continue 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 57 deliberate fires in this reporting period. This is a decrease of 17% 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 using the Report-it for 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 15 incidents to 10, during this period. Incidents over this period are predominately loose refuse and grass fires. 2 Vehicle fires compared to 4 last year 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 21 to 18 incidents over this reporting period. Grass and loose refuse/fly tipping remains problematic. – Hot spot field off Mulberry way/Cherry way

**Hetton Ward** - Has seen a 3% reduction in incidents. Deliberate grass fires and loose refuse remain problematic. Hetton ward remains an area of concern. HALO project has carried out some joint partnership initiatives which will hopefully continue to deliver a positive impact.

**Shiney Row Ward** - Has seen a 60% reduction in incidents over the reporting period. Loose refuse/fly tipping is the main cause of incidents.

### **3.6 Community Involvement**

HALO project has given an 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 continue to support the project and have been involved with some great community work already. Nidderdale Avenue initiative supporting local community centre drop in sessions and fire safety ASB targeting local hot spots.

Princess trust from Farrington looking to do community project with the HALO team June 2022 TBC

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 continues to deliver safe and well visits targeting the most vulnerable members of our communities ensuring they are given home fire safety advice, have working smoke alarms and fitting them free of charge and if necessary referring to partner agencies for further support. Since April crews have already delivered 189 Safe & well visits to households across the Coalfields area.

### **3.7 On-going Issues**

Crews from Rainton community fire station have begun targeting primary schools – recently attending Hetton Lyon's primary school delivering fire safety, ASB and discussing attacks on crews.

Continuing to work with partners being 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. Fire safety/ASB school talks are in the process of being arranged, targeting Houghton Kepier and Hetton Comp. Work with Inspector Passey and his team to carry out joint education sessions with our local schools continues to be 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](mailto:Andrew.Nelson@twfire.gov.uk)



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