



for East Lothian

Quarters 1 & 2 2014/15 (1st April – 30th September)

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INTRODUCTION

This performance report provides information on our prevention, protection and operational response activities within East Lothian between 1st July 2014 – 30th September 2014. The aims of the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service (SFRS) in East Lothian are to reduce fire deaths throughout the area and to reduce injuries from fire and other emergencies in the community. We aim to achieve this by working in partnership, being pro-active and targeting our prevention and protection activities to where they are required, based on evidence.

Within the Local Fire and Rescue Plan 2014-2017 for East Lothian, five priorities, actions and outcomes are identified

- 1. Reduction of dwelling fires
- 2. Reduction of fire casualties and fatalities
- 3. Reduction of deliberate fire setting (not including dwellings)
- 4. Reduction in road traffic collisions
- 5. Reduction of unwanted fire alarm signals

OUTCOMES

1. Dwelling Fires

Accidental

There were 35 Accidental Dwelling Fires during this reporting period, this is a decrease of 5 incidents when compared to the same period during 2013.

Deliberate

There was 1 Deliberate Dwelling Fire during this reporting period, this is a decrease of 1 when compared to the same period during 2013.

2. Fire Casualties/Fatalities

There were no fire fatalities and 6 fire casualties from accidental dwelling, this is a decrease of 2 when compared to the same period during 2013.

3. Deliberate Fires (not including dwellings)

There were 78 deliberate fires not involving dwellings during this reporting period; this is a decrease of 66 incidents when compared with the same period during 2013. This category includes all deliberate secondary fires.

4. Road Traffic Collisions

There were 19 Road Traffic Collisions during this reporting period, a decrease of 6 compared to the same period during 2013.

5. Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals

There were 417 Unwanted Fire Signals during this reporting period, an increase of 33 incidents when compared to the same period during 2013.

Response & Resilience

OBJECTIVE 1: REDUCTION IN DWELLING FIRES

Accidental Dwelling Fires

Definition: Building occupied by households, excluding hotels, hostels and residential institutions. In 2000, the definition of a dwelling was widened to include any non-permanent structure used solely as a dwelling, such as caravans, houseboats etc. Caravans, boats etc. not used as a permanent dwelling are shown according to the type of property. Accidental includes fires where the cause was not known or unspecified.

	2013	2014	
Accidental Dwelling Fires	Total	Total	
	40	35	-5
Dunbar and East Linton Ward	2	8	
Fa'side Ward	12	4	
Haddington and Lammermuir Ward	6	6	
Musselburgh East and Carberry Ward	8	6	
Musselburgh West Ward	3	3	
North Berwick Coastal Ward	4	4	
Preston/Seton/Gosford Ward	5	4	

Chief Fire Officer Association (Scotland) Community Fire Safety Assessment 2010 (CFSA) applies a societal cost of £25,500 per incident.

The above table shows the number of accidental dwelling fires in this reporting period compared to the same period last year. The total provides the running total for the year to date. In the areas where fires occur, firefighters will carry out Post Domestic Incident Response (PDIR) activities, which will focus resources into the areas of need.

ACTION:

Community Safety Engagement activity in the form of Home Fire Safety Visits will continue to focus on highest risk areas. Local fire stations, supported by the Community Action Team, will directly target areas where increases in numbers of fires have occurred.

Deliberate Dwelling Fires

	2013	2014	
Deliberate Dwelling Fires	Total	Total	
	2	1	-1
Dunbar and East Linton Ward	1	0	
Fa'side Ward	1	0	
Haddington and Lammermuir Ward	0	0	
Musselburgh East and Carberry Ward	0	1	
Musselburgh West Ward	0	0	
North Berwick Coastal Ward	0	0	
Preston/Seton/Gosford Ward	0	0	

There has been a decrease of 1 deliberate dwelling fires compared with the same period last year.

ACTION:

In East Lothian, we work with Community Action Team and Police Scotland to identify the culprits of deliberate fire setting where possible. Intervention activities to preventing repeat fire-raising are tailored to suit the type of offence and the individual concerned.

OBJECTIVE 2: REDUCTION IN FIRE CASUALTIES AND FATALITIES

Fire Fatalities

Definition: A person whose death is attributed to a fire is counted as a fatality even if the death occurred weeks or months later.

	2013	2014	
Fire Fatalities From Accidental Dwelling Fires	Total	Total	
	0	0	
Dunbar and East Linton Ward	0	0	
Fa'side Ward	0	0	
Haddington and Lammermuir Ward	0	0	
Musselburgh East and Carberry Ward	0	0	
Musselburgh West Ward	0	0	
North Berwick Coastal Ward	0	0	
Preston/Seton/Gosford Ward	0	0	

Economic cost of fire (Department of Communities and Local Government) model attributes a cost of £1,546,688 per fatality.

The above table shows there were no fire fatalities in dwelling houses; in this reporting period.

ACTION:

The SFRS management team in East Lothian will continue to engage with partners, when required, to examine how and why fire fatalities have occurred. The new SFRS policy and procedure on Fatal Fire Conferences was introduced on the 1st April 2014. Targeted engagement activities, in partnership with Police Scotland and Social Services identify those at greatest are advised by lessons learned and designed further reduce the impact on individuals and communities of fatal fires.

Non-Fatal Fire Casualties as a Result of Accidental Dwelling Fires

Definition: Total number of non-fatal casualties, injured as a direct result of a fire attended by the service. Includes those who received first aid at the scene and those who were recommended to go for a precautionary check. Does not include injuries to fire service personnel.

	2013	2014	
Non-Fatal Fire Casualties From Accidental Dwelling Fires	Total	Total	
	8	6	-2
Dunbar and East Linton Ward	0	2	
Fa'side Ward	0	0	
Haddington and Lammermuir Ward	2	2	
Musselburgh East and Carberry Ward	2	0	
Musselburgh West Ward	0	0	
North Berwick Coastal Ward	0	1	
Preston/Seton/Gosford Ward	4	1	

Costs attributed are:
Burns injury - £174,354
Smoke/fumes injury - £44,019
Precautionary check-up /other - £574

(Source: DCLG)

The table above relates to the number of injuries members of the public have sustained in accidental dwelling fires. In this reporting period, there has been a decrease of 2 non-fatal fire casualties in accidental dwelling fires when compared to the same period last year.

ACTION:

Targeted home fire safety visits and new partner referral pathways will be the focus to reduce the number of accidental dwelling fires. From April 2014 a risk points based system will be used to ensure SFRS resources in East Lothian are delivering to those at highest risk of fire.

OBJECTIVE 3: REDUCTION OF DELIBERATE FIRE SETTING (NOT INCLUDING DWELLINGS)

Definition: Where a fire is started deliberately (but not necessarily with malicious intent)

	2013	2014	
Reduction of Deliberate Fire Setting	Total	Total	
	144	78	-66
Dunbar and East Linton Ward	10	6	
Fa'side Ward	33	23	
Haddington and Lammermuir Ward	6	4	
Musselburgh East and Carberry Ward	45	18	
Musselburgh West Ward	17	10	
North Berwick Coastal Ward	1	2	
Preston/Seton/Gosford Ward	32	15	

The table above relates to deliberate fire incidents including secondary fires; there has been a decrease of 66 incidents when compared to the same period last year. The majority of wards within East Lothian have realised a decrease in deliberate secondary fires. The Preston/Seton/Gosford, Fa'side and Musselburgh East and Carberry wards showed substantial reductions.

ACTIONS:

These types of incidents are a focus of the Community Action Team (CAT) and senior managers to ensure they are as low as possible and will be closely monitored over the coming reporting year.

The provision of the Cool-down Crew programme within East Lothian contributes to the reduction of fires related to Anti-social Behaviour, which generally fall into this category of Deliberate Secondary fires.

OBJECTIVE 4: REDUCTION IN ROAD TRAFFIC COLLISIONS

Definition: When a road vehicle collides with another vehicle, pedestrian, animal, road debris, or other stationary obstruction, such as a tree or utility pole.

	2013	2014	
Road Traffic Collisions	Total	Total	
	25	19	-6
Dunbar and East Linton Ward	6	4	
Fa'side Ward	3	4	
Haddington and Lammermuir Ward	4	1	
Musselburgh East and Carberry Ward	2	3	
Musselburgh West Ward	1	2	
North Berwick Coastal Ward	3	1	
Preston/Seton/Gosford Ward	6	4	

Societal costs are £2,080 per incident as per CFSA.

The table above relates to the number of Road Traffic Collisions, when compared with other geographical areas within the Service Delivery Area, East Lothian does not have a high number of this type of incident, which require the Fire & Rescue to attend. The number of incidents has decreased by 6 when compared to the same period last year.

Deaths and Injuries from Road Traffic Collisions

	2013	2014	
Deaths & Injuries from Road Traffic Collisions	Tota	l Total	
	25	7	-18
Fatality	0	0	
Injured (incl rescue with injury)	25	7	

The table above relates to the number of injuries and fatalities as a result of a Road Traffic Collision, there has been a significant decrease of 18 injuries for this reporting period, when compared to last year.

ACTION:

The SFRS in East Lothian is an active member of the community planning partnership and contributes to reducing road traffic collisions, associated casualties and fatalities through working with partners and providing support at seminars and engagement events. It has been recognised that the SFRS has most to offer in engagement/education programmes targeting young drivers, which we will continue to support. Our Community Firefighters have recently attended a Road Safety Seminar organised by Road Safety Scotland maintaining their continuous professional development in this area.

OBJECTIVE 5: REDUCTION OF UNWANTED FIRE SIGNALS

Definition: Where the FRS attends a location believing there to be a fire incident, but on arrival discovers that no such incident exists, or existed.

	2013	2014	
Unwanted Fire Signals	Total	Total	
	384	417	+33
Dunbar and East Linton Ward	47	61	
Fa'side Ward	52	58	
Haddington and Lammermuir Ward	53	81	
Musselburgh East and Carberry Ward	67	72	
Musselburgh West Ward	61	48	
North Berwick Coastal Ward	69	48	
Preston/Seton/Gosford Ward	35	49	

Societal costs are £848 per incident as per DCLG.

The table above indicates there has been an increase of 33 unwanted fire signals in this reporting period, when compared to last year.

ACTION:

Within East Lothian, SFRS have actively been monitoring unwanted fire alarm signals (UFAS). A local initiative has been running for almost 12 months whereby premises demonstrating unacceptable levels of UFAS are targeted with a view to educating occupiers in order to reduce UFAS. In the reporting period, 25 premises have been identified and Stage 1 letters have been sent. Engagement with the worst offending locations involves fire safety enforcement officers (FSEO) visiting the premises to offer advice and guidance to the occupiers on ways to reduce the number of (UFAS). A draft SFRS national policy has been developed for UFAS and will go live in December 2014.

This objective remains a priority for the East Lothian Management Team.

VIOLENCE TO STAFF/CREWS

Definition: Incidents where it has been recorded that there was an attack on FRS personnel travelling to/from or at the incident.

	2013	2014	
Violence To Crews	Total	Total	
	0	0	
Objects thrown at firefighters/appliances	0	0	
Physical abuse	0	0	
Verbal abuse	0	0	

The above table shows there have been no instances of violence to crews in this reporting period.

ACTION:

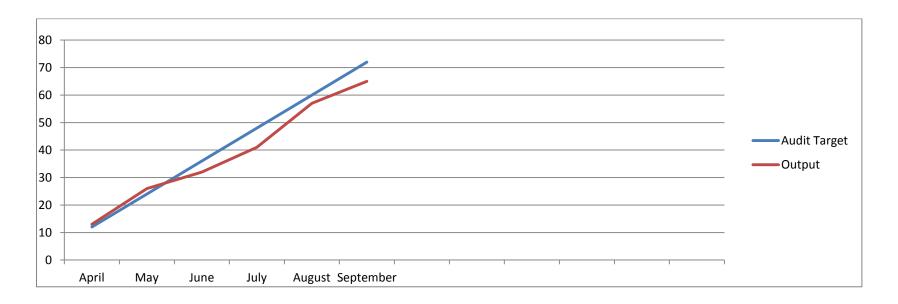
Violence to crews is a priority for all station commanders as it links with one of the Services main priorities safety of firefighters. Officers and crews work closely with police colleagues to react to incidents when they occur and carry out preventative work within schools. Although this has not historically been an issue in East Lothian, it will receive immediate attention if it occurs.

Prevention & Protection Activities

Fire Safety Enforcement Audits

The figures represent the audit workloads delivered by the East Lothian Fire Safety Enforcement Officers (FSEO). Following the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) Enforcement Framework, local deployment ensures compliance for relevant premises in terms of the Fire Scotland Act (2005) and associated Fire Safety Regulations. Although slightly off target, performance is steadily improving and SFRS within East Lothian are confident that the annual target will be achieved. One of the primary reasons for being off target at this present time, has been the introduction of a new national database and recording and administrative system, which has required extensive training and familiarisation for FSEO.

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Target:	12	24	36	48	60	72							
Completed:	13	26	32	41	57	65							

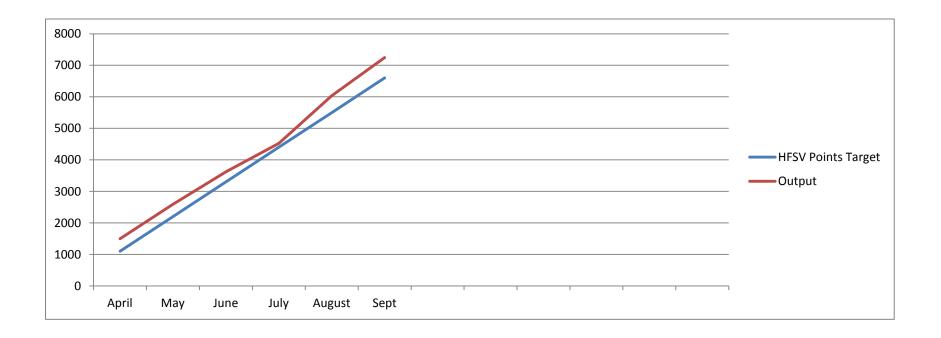


Home Fire Safety Visits

The delivery of Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSVs) is the corner stone of the SFRS Community Safety Engagement framework. By visiting households and providing fire safety advice and smoke alarms the numbers of dwelling fires and casualties will be reduced. To target the highest risk households across East Lothian, a points allocation and associated targets have been set (24 points per high, 8 per medium, 4 per low risk visit). This will ensure valuable resources are put to use with greatest effect. This quarter has seen us maintain our points total ahead of target.

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Target	1100	2200	3300	4400	5500	6600							
Completed	1500	2588	3620	4524	6040	7248							

The Home Safety Visit programme continues to reduce risk in the community by making people safer in their homes. 76% of Home Safety Visits completed during this reporting period were in dwellings considered to be at medium to high risk of having an Accidental Dwelling Fire.



Community Safety Engagement Q1 & 2, 2014/15

ACTIVITY	EAST LOTHIAN
Enhanced Home Safety Visits (No. of households/occupiers visited)	10
Visits to Schools	2
Nursery Visits	2
Youth Programmes (Cooldown Crew - No. of Programmes)	1
Youth Programmes (Cooldown Crew - No. of youths attending)	8
Road Safety Education (No. of Programmes)	5
Road Safety Education (number of pupils)	1,510
Firesetters Intervention Programme (No. of sessions with youths)*	1
Community Safety Talks / Attendance at Community Events**	76
Risk Factory (number of visiting schools from East Lothian)	0
Fire Safety Inspections (CGA) in Tenement Stairs	1

Definitions

^{*}A one to one counselling session with a young person to discuss the consequences of being involved in wilful fire-raising.

^{**}Comprises non-school events including: appliance visits to community groups (fetes, galas etc.); group visits to fire stations; specific campaigns (Stair Aware, Cooking Safety, etc.); and Community Fire-fighter talks/stall events.

Partnership Working

Community Action Team (CAT) staff in East Lothian continue to work to identify and provide advice to those most at risk of accidental dwelling fires. Work is ongoing with Health and Social Care partners to streamline the referral process to ensure those most at risk get the support and risk reduction measures they require.

A pilot project is currently being organised involving Carers of East Lothian which consists of a group of 12 practitioners dealing with around 500 clients delivering all levels and types of care and support in the community. The pilot will include CAT delivering awareness training which will enable carers to identify fire safety risks within the home and work in partnership with Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) to mitigate these risks.

Alzheimer Scotland will be delivering awareness training to East Lothian CAT staff and SFRS Operational crews to enhance their knowledge of this debilitating condition. This will enable SFRS front line staff to identify signs and symptoms of the condition with a view to making referrals to appropriate partner agencies where necessary and to assist with tailoring safety interventions.

A referral protocol for safeguarding vulnerable persons has been established with Social Work, East Lothian Council Housing, Police Scotland and SFRS. This process enables at risk persons in the community to be identified to the appropriate services for the purposes of enhancing their safety.

Links have also been established with East Lothian Community Care Forum promoting Home Fire safety Visits to their service users.

Partnership working to identify single occupancy households is progressing very well. Historical data shows this group to be the most vulnerable in our community from risk of fire.

Members of the East Lothian CAT continue to support the local Task and Co-ordinating Group by attending the weekly meetings and implementing actions accordingly.