

# Notice of Meeting and Agenda



## Police and Fire and Rescue Board

**Venue:** Council Chambers/Hybrid,  
Midlothian House, Dalkeith, EH22 1DN

**Date:** Wednesday, 15 November 2023

**Time:** 11:00

**Executive Director : Place**

**Contact:**

Clerk Name: Democratic Services  
Clerk Telephone:  
Clerk Email: [democratic.services@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@midlothian.gov.uk)

**Further Information:**

This is a meeting which is open to members of the public.

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## **1 Welcome, Introductions and Apologies**

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## **2 Order of Business**

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Including notice of new business submitted as urgent for consideration at the end of the meeting.

## **3 Declaration of Interest**

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Members should declare any financial and non-financial interests they have in the items of business for consideration, identifying the relevant agenda item and the nature of their interest.

## **4 Minute of Previous Meeting**

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Minute of meeting of 21 August 2023 submitted for approval 3 - 8

## **5 Public Reports**

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**5.1** Introduction from Andrew Girrity, East of Scotland Head of Service Delivery

**5.2** Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Operational Changes 2023-24 9 - 40

**5.3** Local Fire Plan Review and Development (Verbal update, Hilary Sangster)

**5.4** Protective Services Visual Q2 23-24 41 - 50

**5.5** Police Scotland Midlothian Scrutiny Q2 23-24 51 - 86

**5.6** SFRS Q2 ML Performance Report 87 - 102

## **6 Private Reports**

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No items for discussion

## **7 Date of Next Meeting**

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The next meeting will be held on Monday 29 January 2024 at 2.00pm.

# Minute of Meeting

Police, Fire and Rescue Board  
Wednesday 15 November 2023  
Item No: 4.1



## Police and Fire and Rescue Board

Date	Time	Venue
Thursday 21 August 2023	1.00 pm	Hybrid Meeting

### Present:

Councillor McKenzie (Chair)
Councillor Alexander
Councillor Curran
Councillor McEwan
Councillor Smail

### In Attendance:

<b>Midlothian Council</b>	Derek Oliver, Chief Officer Place
	Janet Ritchie, Democratic Services Officer
<b>Police Scotland</b>	Chief Superintendent Alwyn Bell
	James Robertson, Midlothian Local Area Commander
<b>Scottish Fire and Rescue Service</b>	David Morrison, Prevention, Enforcement and Community Engagement Lead
	Gary Douglas, Station Commander

## 1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

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The Chair, Councillor McKenzie welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Police and Fire and Rescue Board and reflected upon the live Police incident in Newtongrange.

## 2. Order of Business

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The order of business was as set out in the Agenda Pack previously circulated.

## 3. Declarations of interest

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No declarations of interest were intimated at this stage of the proceedings.

## 4. Minute of Previous Meeting

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The Minute of Meeting held on 15 June 2023 was submitted and approved as a correct record, moved by Councillor McKenzie and seconded by Councillor McEwan.

## 5. Public Reports

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Agenda No.	Report Title	Presented by:
5.1	<b>Police Scotland Midlothian Q1 Scrutiny Report 2023/24</b>	<b>Police Scotland (PS)</b>
<b>Outline of report and summary of discussion</b>		
<p>The Chair welcomed Chief Superintendent Alwyn Bell who was filling in for Catriona Paton and would be presenting the Police report today. Chief Superintendent advised on the live investigation regarding a shopkeeper in Newtongrange at the weekend and that the community engagement was ongoing but could provide no further details at this time.</p> <p>Chief Superintendent advised that it had been a busy summer period and provided an update on Scotland's new Chief Constable, Jo Farrell who took command of the national police service on 90 October 2023.</p> <p>Thereafter, Chief Inspector James Robertson, introduced the report and went on to provide an update on each separate category as detailed within the report, giving examples of the position in Midlothian -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Missing Persons.</li><li>• Domestic Abuse.</li><li>• Hate Crime.</li><li>• Sexual Crimes.</li><li>• Drugs Supply, Production and Cultivation.</li><li>• Crimes of Violence.</li><li>• Reducing Anti-Social Behaviour.</li></ul>		

- Dishonesty.
- Housebreaking.
- Road Safety.
- Tackling Serious Organised Crime.
- Midlothian Community Action Team (MCAT).

The Board expressed their thanks for the report and commented positively on the work with community councils, the circulation of the MCAT reports and the partnership working with the local community officers. Also raised was reports on crime pertaining to assaults and theft in schools within school hours and it was noted that data would be brought back on this.

Further discussion took place with regards to supply of drugs and weapons and that there was no significant increase in Midlothian, also discussed was the MCAT patrols and the work with school liaison officers. The Board noted the bail curfew checks success rated and it was confirmed that not all offenders are tagged, this was dependent on the seriousness of the crime.

The Chair advised that he had been contacted by a resident with regards to a stolen vehicle which had been impounded and the bill relating this, Chief Inspector Robertson in responding advised he was aware of this issue and would discuss this offline.

#### Decision

The Board noted the content of the report

Agenda No.	Report Title	Presented by:
5.2	<b>Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Midlothian Q1 Report 2023/24</b>	<b>Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS)</b>
<b>Outline of report and summary of discussion</b>		
<p>Garry Douglas, Station Commander advised that he was deputising for Hilary Sangster and Mark Landels and introduced the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Midlothian Q1 Report.</p> <p>The Station Commander outlined the Performance summary and the 6 performance indicators and that out of the 6 indicators rag ratings there were 4 green and 2 red. He further provided a brief update in particular with regards to the 2 red ratings, fire casualties fatal and non-fatal and Road Traffic Collisions.</p> <p>The Station Commander then responded to questions and comments with regards to torched vehicles and the responsibility of these being removed and disposed of. Mr Oliver confirmed that the Council has a reporting mechanism on the council website for reporting these vehicles and the Council will dispose of them.</p> <p>David Morrison, Prevention, Enforcement and Community Engagement Lead then provided a brief overview of Midlothian Prevention and Protection activities highlighting the Fire Safety Enforcement Audits, Home Fire Safety Visits, Home</p>		

Fire Safety Referrals, Partnership Working/Youth Engagement and Reducing Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals.

Thereafter responded to questions and comments raised by the Board with regards to fire safety referrals, combustible materials lying in gardens and the partnership working between fire service, police and the council in addressing this. Also the positive reduction in unwanted fire alarms call outs and the reasons for this.

Also noted were the fire safety audits carried out with regards to Ukrainian refugees and the positive work done by the community action team.

#### Decision

The Board noted the contents of the Report.

Agenda No.	Report Title	Presented by:
<b>5.3</b>	<b>Protective Services</b>	<b>Chief Officer Place</b>
<b>Outline of report and summary of discussion</b>		
<p>Chief Officer Place, Derek Oliver addressed the Board on those Protective Services functions Environmental Health and Trading Standards, Licensing and Emergency Planning, which overlapped activities carried out by the Police, and Fire and Rescue Services, highlighting the work which had been undertaken during the course of Quarter 1.</p> <p>The Board enquired as to the illegal purchases of vapes and the disposal of these and it was confirmed that the environmental team are engaging with the public on how these should be disposed of and any businesses selling these illegally are reported to the Procurator Fiscal.</p> <p>The Board discussed the reduction in speed limits and the timeline for implementing this, Mr Oliver advised that this will be a phased programme which may take up to 9 months and that they are working closely with MCAT focussing on priority areas first - where road safety concerns have been raised, areas with increase in accidents and safe routes to schools.</p> <p>In responding to a question raised by Councillor Curran regarding a trading standard issue with council premises let Mr Oliver advised that it would be in the lease agreement and if they were not a fit and proper person someone else could carry on the business.</p> <p>The Board discussed abandoned vehicles and Mr Oliver explained that there are procedures in place and various checks are done before a vehicle is uplifted and taken away.</p>		
<b>Decision</b>		
The Board noted the Report.		

## **6. Private Reports**

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No private items for discussion

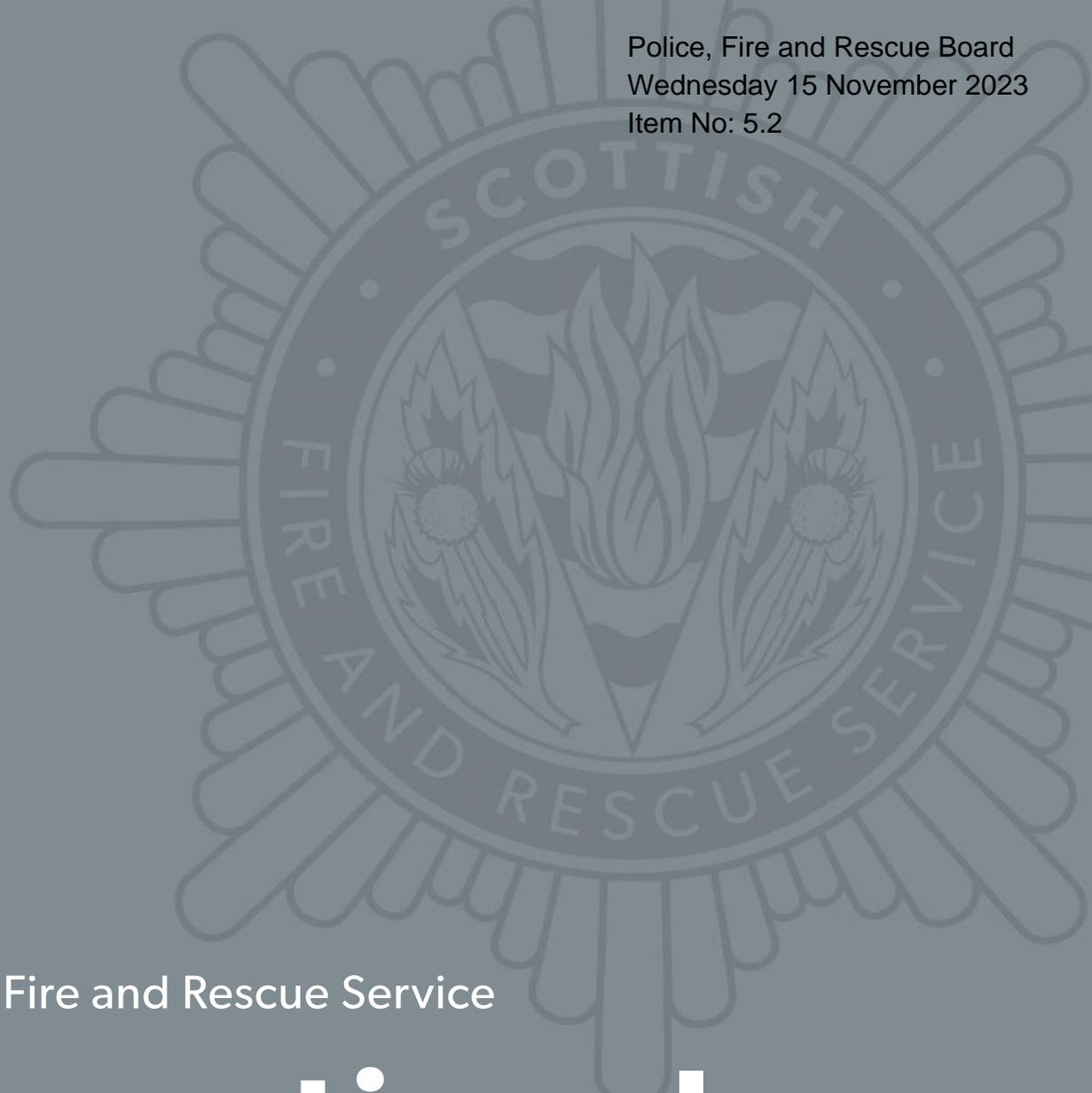
## **7. Date of Next Meeting**

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The next meeting would be held on Monday 21 August 2023 at 13.00pm

The meeting terminated at 12.42 pm.





Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

# Operational Changes

## 2023-2024

INFORMATION PACK



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# 1. INTRODUCTION

This document sets out the impact of the changes the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service is implementing in 2023-2024 to meet our immediate financial challenges within this timeframe. It explores the data which has underpinned our decision-making process.

We have a legal obligation to deliver a balanced budget and our current planning shows that we will need to save at least £36 million over the next four years to meet the potential financial challenges as outlined within Scottish Government’s Resource Spending Review (published May 2022).

SFRS has received an additional £14.4 million from the Scottish Government during 2023-2024, to support the enhanced and backdated firefighter pay offer, however we are still required to make £11m savings this year.

***Moving forward, our projections show that we will be required to make a further £11.3 million in 2024-2025; £7.3 million in 2025-2026 and £6.9 million in 2026-2027.***

# 2. 2023-2024 SAVINGS

During year 2023-2024, we will meet the required £11 million efficiency across the Service, as detailed below:

## AREA OF SAVING & EFFICIENCY

### SFRS OTHER COSTS



### SFRS EMPLOYEES



The large majority of our running costs as a service comes from our staff and we cannot realistically reduce costs without reducing workforce numbers. This year we are looking to reduce our overtime bill, reduce our use of agency and temporary contracts and manage our vacancies to achieve savings.

We are also implementing some service changes to support this and these are set out in more detail in the following sections.

### 3. TEMPORARY WITHDRAWAL OF SECOND OR THIRD APPLIANCES

Every day across Scotland we have to take wholtime appliances “off the run” – that is make them temporarily unavailable.

As a service we have a Target Operating Model (TOM) which is used as a baseline to ensure we can deliver our frontline emergency service across Scotland.

Within our TOM we have Resource Based Crewing (RBC) which is the number we need every day and night to crew our assets. We are not always able to meet the necessary RBC figure due to factors such as staff turnover, planned training, staff absence and lack of relevant skills.

Therefore we must withdraw appliances from operational availability and on any given day or night this could be multiple pumps across Scotland.

***Last year for example, we had to take an average of 9 pumps off during day shifts; and an average of 8 pumps during night shifts.***

Our current process for appliance withdrawal is a reactive approach that is both costly and disruptive. For example, our overtime bill is currently averaging £12,000 per day.

To alleviate this pressure and create immediate financial savings, we identified ten community fire stations where we can temporarily remove an appliance whilst having the least impact on response times.



By knowing exactly which 2nd or 3rd pumps are not available every day we will be able to reduce the use of overtime and detached duties (where our crews are sent to other stations to cover shortfalls and absences) – which is better for staff and reduces the amount we spend on overtime. It also offers staff stability within stations to focus on training and community engagement activities while ensuring we can maintain a full crewing model for our remaining resources.

#### **How we identified stations for temporary appliance withdrawal**

We began by analysing all 40 stations across Scotland which have more than one wholtime appliance to simulate what impact the removal of 2nd or, where applicable, 3rd wholtime appliances would have on operational response times.

We created our own series of response time benchmarks for each area of the [Scottish Urban Rural Classification \(SURC\)](#). The benchmarks were created based on more than 94,000 real-life responses to life-risk incidents in Scotland between 2015 and 2020, as detailed in the table on the next page.

The SURC model was utilised as a recognised and consistent method for defining urban and rural areas across Scotland, developed by the Scottish Government.

8-Fold SURC	SURC description	# Life Risk Incidents	% Life Risk Incidents	2nd Pump Mean Response
<b>Large Urban Areas</b>	Settlements of 125,000 people and over.	37,710	40%	06:43
<b>Other Urban Areas</b>	Settlements of 10,000 to 124,999 people.	31,869	34%	09:15
<b>Accessible Small Towns</b>	Settlements of 3,000 to 9,999 people, and within a 30 minute drive time of a Settlement of 10,000 or more.	5,904	6%	12:53
<b>Remote Small Towns</b>	Settlements of 3,000 to 9,999 people, and with a drive time of over 30 minutes but less than or equal to 60 minutes to a Settlement of 10,000 or more.	1,730	2%	12:52
<b>Very Remote Small Towns</b>	Settlements of 3,000 to 9,999 people, and with a drive time of over 60 minutes to a Settlement of 10,000 or more.	979	1%	11:07
<b>Accessible Rural Areas</b>	Areas with a population of less than 3,000 people, and within a drive time of 30 minutes to a Settlement of 10,000 or more.	10,568	11%	15:17
<b>Remote Rural Areas</b>	Areas with a population of less than 3,000 people, and with a drive time of over 30 minutes but less than or equal to 60 minutes to a Settlement of 10,000 or more.	3,004	3%	20:35
<b>Very Remote Rural Areas</b>	Areas with a population of less than 3,000 people, and with a drive time of over 60 minutes to a Settlement of 10,000 or more.	2,626	3%	24:05
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>94,390</b>		

The modelling enabled the 40 pump withdrawals to be simulated and ranked from least to most impactful relative to the response time benchmarks.

The first 13 stations, below, were found to have average 1st and 2nd pump response times which remained within the corresponding SURC benchmarks.

Rank	Station	Local Authority	SDA
1	Maryhill	Glasgow City (North)	West
2	Calton	Glasgow City (North)	West
3	Govan	Glasgow City (South)	West
4	Cowcaddens	Glasgow City (North)	West
5	Kingsway East	Dundee City	North
6	Macalpine Road	Dundee City	North
7	Greenock	Inverclyde	West
8	Dunfermline	Fife	East
9	Glenrothes	Fife	East
10	Methil	Fife	East
11	Kirkcaldy	Fife	East
12	Lochgelly	Fife	East
13	Perth	Perth & Kinross	North

As some of these stations are situated next to one another, it was clear that implementing multiple appliance withdrawals within the same area required a more complex analysis detailed further below. Therefore a further six appliances were considered.

The next six were found to have average 1st and 2nd pump response times which incrementally exceeded one or more of the SURC benchmarks.

Rank	Station	Local Authority	SDA
14	Castlemilk	Glasgow City (South)	West
15	Dumfries	Dumfries and Galloway	West
16	Blackness Road	Dundee City	North
17	Altens	Aberdeen City	North
18	McDonald Road	City of Edinburgh	East
19	Hamilton	South Lanarkshire	West

This list was deemed sufficient to thereafter identify the necessary 10 pumps for selection to meet the financial savings required.

### Stations selected for temporary withdrawal

The determination of which 10 appliances from the 19 were selected was based on the following wider considerations.

- Analysis of community risk;
- Analysis of historical operational demand;
- Impacts on firefighter safety and operational resilience;
- Proximity of additional appliances and other specialist resource;

- Previous research into imbalance of resources within geographical areas;
- Impacts on the maintenance of specialist operational assets;
- Staffing considerations.

Once these additional factors were considered, they informed the decision making on which ten temporary withdrawals would have the least impacts.

Station	Local Authority	SDA
Maryhill 2nd Pump	Glasgow City (North)	West
Govan 2nd Pump	Glasgow City (South)	West
Cowcaddens 2nd Pump	Glasgow City (North)	West
Kingsway East 2nd Pump	Dundee City	North
Greenock 2nd Pump	Inverclyde	West
Dunfermline 3rd Pump	Fife	East
Glenrothes 2nd Pump	Fife	East
Methil 2nd Pump	Fife	East
Perth 3rd Pump	Perth & Kinross	North
Hamilton 2nd Pump	South Lanarkshire	West

## 4. IMPACT BY AREA

Once the ten stations were identified, we conducted further simulation modelling to test and confirm this decision-making was valid and had minimal impact on response times.

This was particularly important for local authority areas where more than one station had been selected.

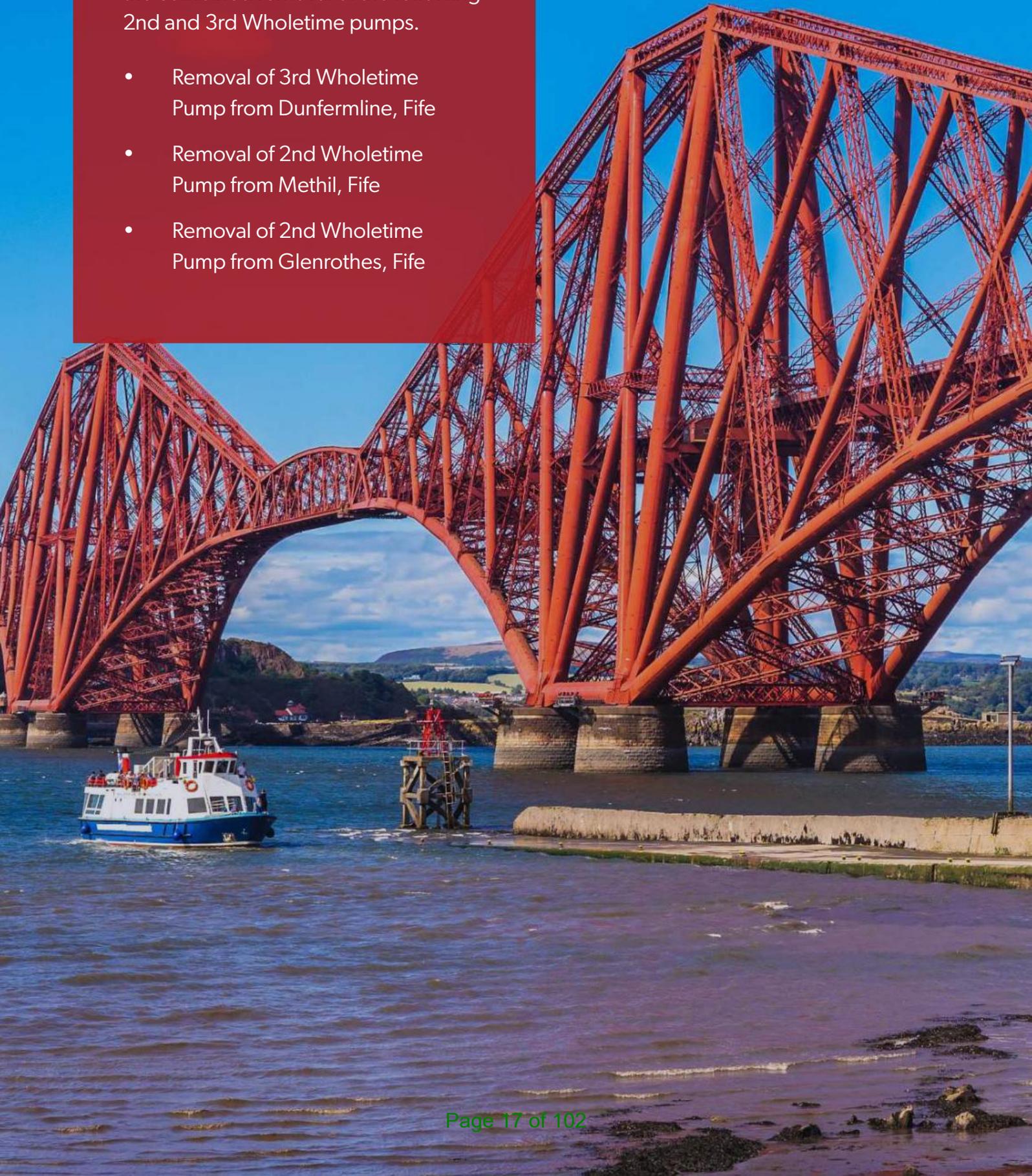
Using the same model, we analysed the combined removals against the current average response time and corresponding SURC benchmarks.

This was conducted separately for each of the three Service Delivery Areas (SDAs) – East, North, West.

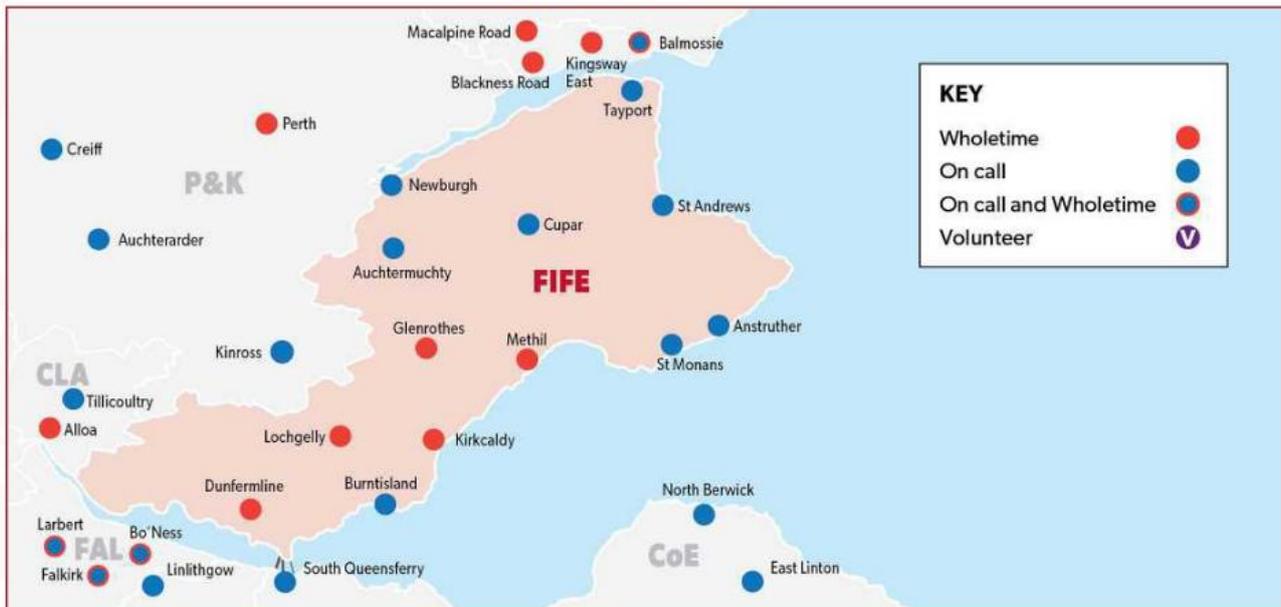
# EAST SDA

Below we detail the modelling which shows the impact across the ***East SDA*** of the combined removal of the following 2nd and 3rd Wholetime pumps.

- Removal of 3rd Wholetime Pump from Dunfermline, Fife
- Removal of 2nd Wholetime Pump from Methil, Fife
- Removal of 2nd Wholetime Pump from Glenrothes, Fife



# FIFE



### Within Fife, we currently have:

- 10 x Wholetime appliances
- 10 x On call appliances
- 1 x Combined Aerial Rescue Pump
- 1 x Dedicated High Reach
- 1 x Water Rescue
- 1 x Rope Rescue
- 1 x Urban Search and Rescue
- 1 x Welfare pod
- 1 x Environmental Protection Unit
- 1 x Mass Decontamination Unit

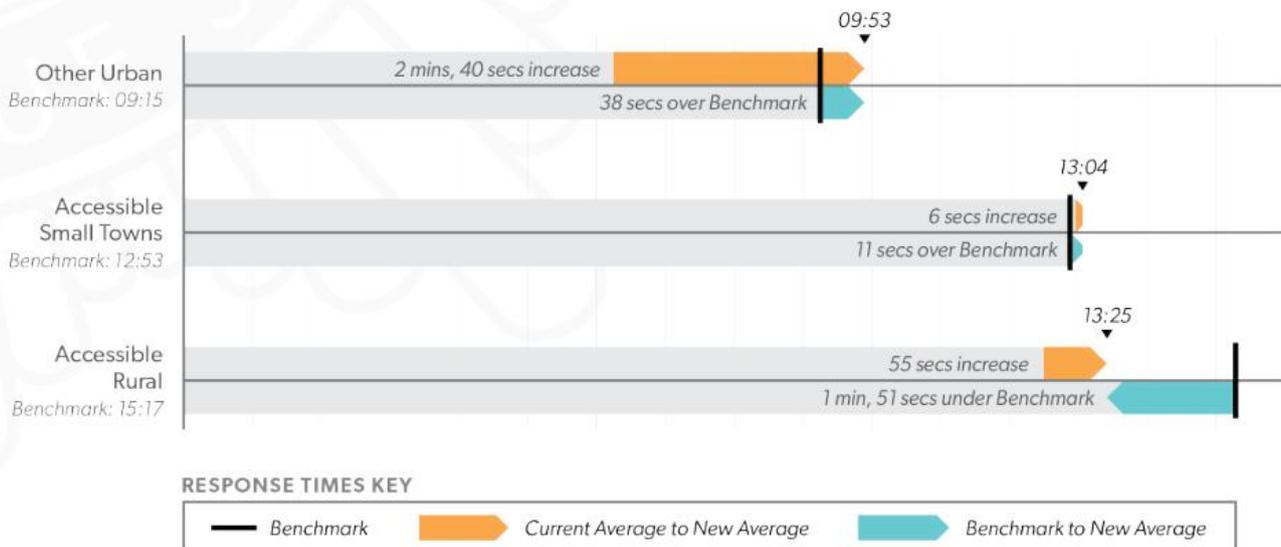
[See Appendix 2 for full resource list]

From September we will temporarily remove 3 x Wholetime appliances. This includes 1 x Combined Aerial Rescue Pump which is currently the 3rd appliance at Dunfermline Community Fire Station. This vehicle will be replaced by 1 x Dedicated High Reach from City of Edinburgh. Simultaneously 1 x Dedicated High Reach is being removed from Kirkcaldy Community Fire Station in line with our High Reach Appliance strategy. *This is detailed further in section 5.* All other resources will be maintained, including 1st appliance response.

*See Appendix 1.2 for Fife area case study.*

Fife local authority incorporates Other Urban, Accessible Small Towns and Accessible Rural SURC areas. Our modelling found the following impacts on average 2nd pump response times within Fife after the combined temporary withdrawal change:

## 2ND APPLIANCE WITHDRAWAL IMPACT – FIFE



# NORTH SDA

Below we detail the modelling which shows the impact across the **North SDA** of the combined removal of the following 2nd or 3rd Wholetime pumps.

- Removal of 2nd Wholetime Pump from Kingsway East, Dundee City
- Removal of 3rd Wholetime Pump from Perth, Perth & Kinross



# DUNDEE CITY



### Within Dundee City, we currently have:

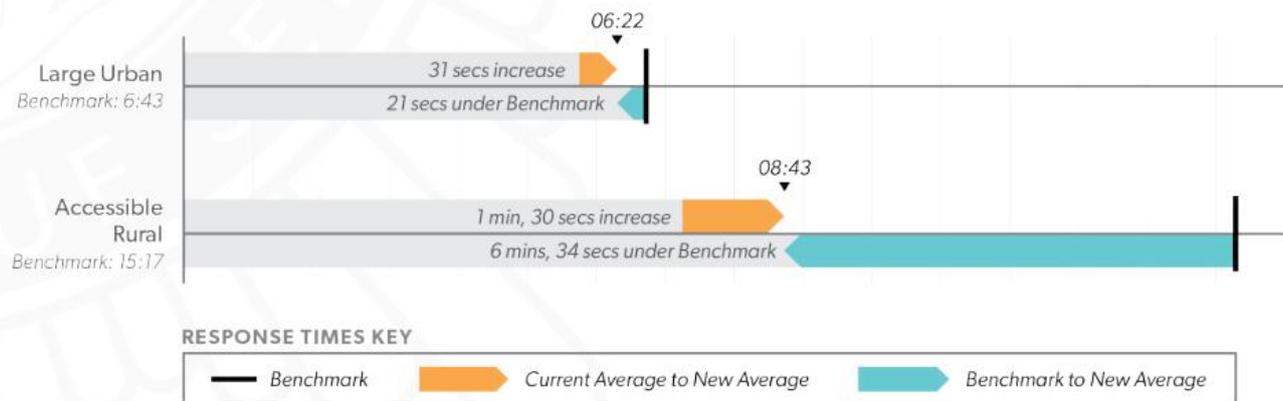
- 7 x Wholetime appliances
- 1 x On call appliance
- 1 x Aerial Ladder Platform
- 1 x Command Support Unit
- 1 x Mass Decontamination Unit
- 1 x High Volume Pump
- 1 x Water Rescue
- 1 x Urban Search and Rescue
- 1 x Detection and Monitoring Unit
- 1 x Breathing Apparatus Support Unit

[See Appendix 2 for full resource list]

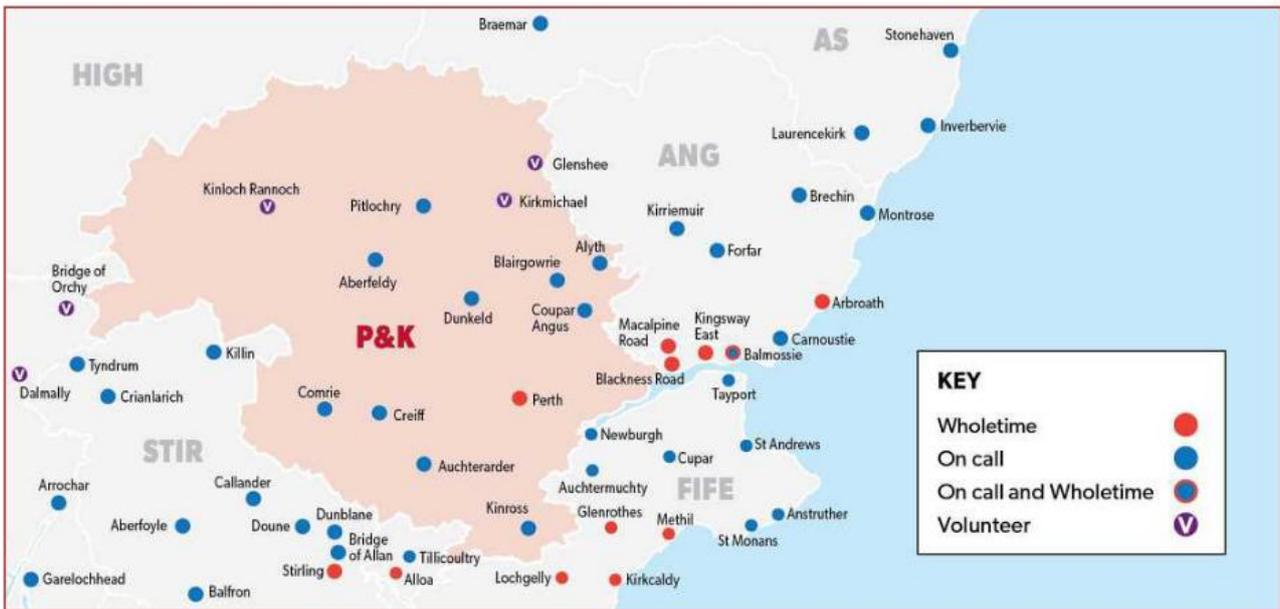
From September we will temporarily remove 1 x Wholetime appliance. All other resources will be maintained, including 1st appliance response.

Dundee City local authority incorporates Large Urban and Accessible Rural SURC areas. Our modelling found the following impacts on average 2nd pump response times within Dundee City after the combined temporary withdrawal change:

## 2ND APPLIANCE WITHDRAWAL IMPACT – DUNDEE CITY



# PERTH & KINROSS



**Within Perth & Kinross, we currently have:**

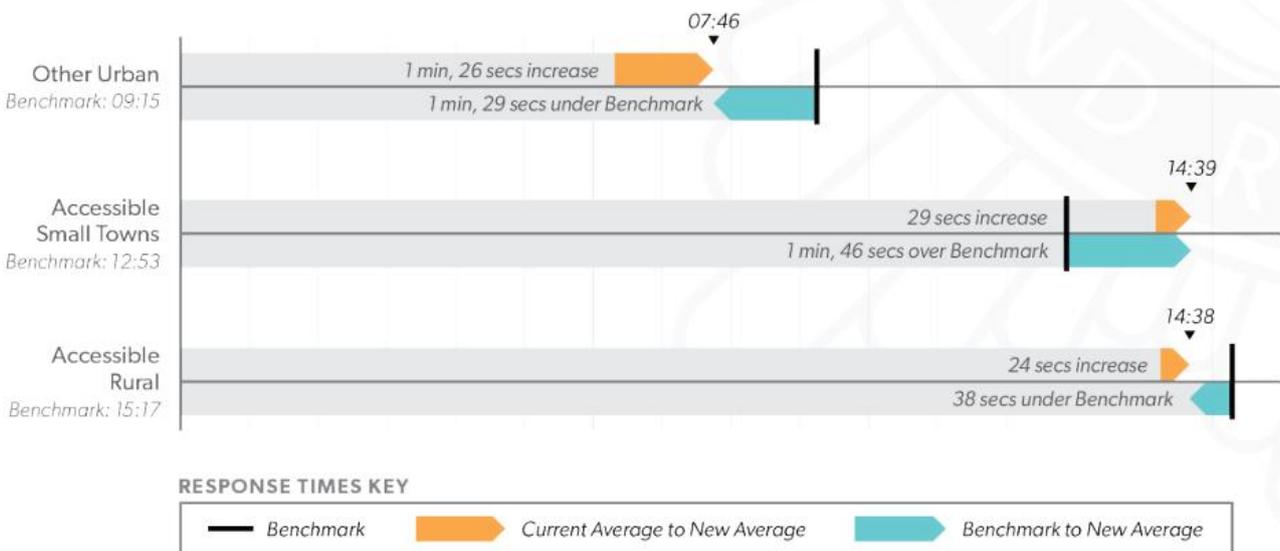
- 2 x Wholetime appliances
- 16 x On call appliances
- 1 x Aerial Rescue Pump
- 1 x Water Rescue
- 1 x Heavy Rescue Unit

*[See Appendix 2 for full resource list]*

From September we will change the crewing model of 1 x Aerial Rescue Pump, which is currently the 3rd appliance at Perth Community Fire Station, to a dedicated model for height capability only. This does not represent a removal of the appliance and is in line with our High Reach Appliance strategy, *which is detailed further in Section 5*. All other resources will be maintained, including 1st appliance response.

Perth & Kinross local authority incorporates Other Urban, Accessible Small Towns and Accessible Rural SURC areas. Our modelling found the following impacts on average 2nd pump response times within Perth & Kinross after the combined temporary withdrawal change:

## 2ND APPLIANCE WITHDRAWAL IMPACT – PERTH & KINROSS



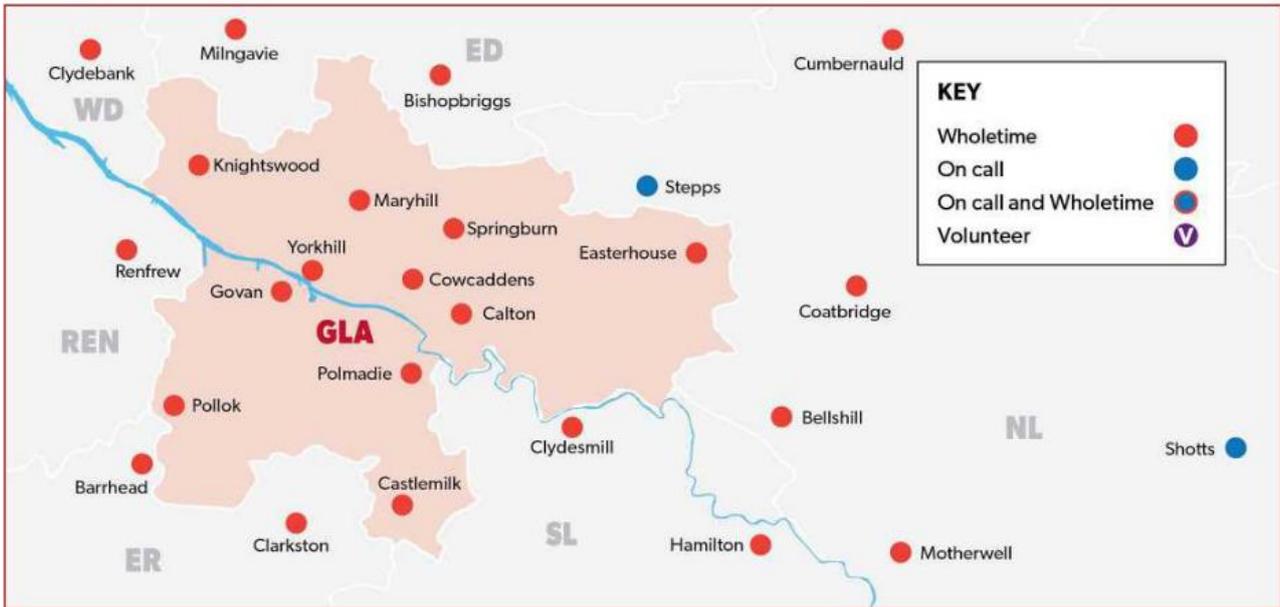
# WEST SDA

Below we detail the modelling which shows the impact across the West SDA of the combined removal of the following 2nd Wholetime pumps.

- Removal of 2nd Wholetime Pump from Maryhill, Glasgow City
- Removal of 2nd Wholetime Pump from Cowcaddens, Glasgow City
- Removal of 2nd Wholetime Pump from Govan, Glasgow City
- Removal of 2nd Wholetime Pump from Greenock, Inverclyde
- Removal of 2nd Wholetime Pump from Hamilton, South Lanarkshire



# CITY OF GLASGOW



## Within City of Glasgow, we currently have:

- 20 x Wholetime appliances
- 2 x High Reach
- 2 x Water Rescue
- 2 x Clyde Rescue Boats
- 1 x Heavy Rescue Vehicle
- 1 x Special Operations Response Unit
- 1 x Mass Decontamination Unit
- 1 x Mass Decontamination Light

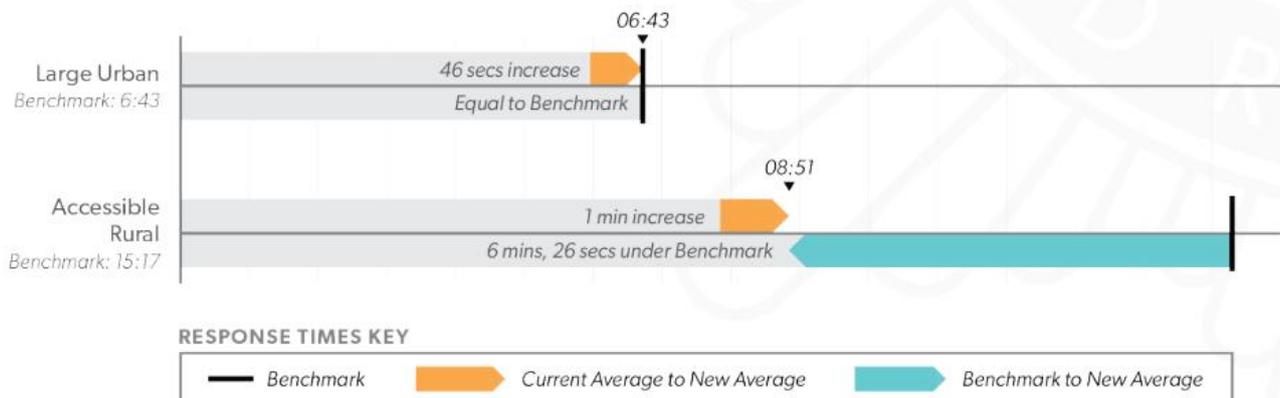
[See Appendix 2 for full resource list]

From September we will temporarily remove 3 x 2nd Wholetime appliances. All other resources will be maintained, including 1st appliance response. We are also changing our crewing model at Polmadie Community Fire Station to a dual-crewed approach for water rescue. This will bring Polmadie in line with all other Swift Water Rescue stations across Scotland. [This is detailed further in Section 5.](#)

[See Appendix 1.1 for Glasgow City area case study.](#)

The City of Glasgow local authority incorporates Large Urban Areas and Accessible Rural SURC areas. Our modelling found the following impacts on average 2nd pump response times within City of Glasgow after the combined temporary withdrawal change:

## 2ND APPLIANCE WITHDRAWAL IMPACT – CITY OF GLASGOW



# INVERCLYDE



### Within Inverclyde, we currently have:

- 2 x Wholetime appliances
- 4 x On call appliances
- 1 x Aerial Rescue Pump

*[See Appendix 2 for full resource list]*

From September we will change the crewing model of 1 x Aerial Rescue Pump to a dedicated model for height capability only. This does not represent a removal of the appliance and is in line with our High Reach Appliance strategy, *which is detailed further in Section 5*. All other resources will be maintained, including 1st appliance response.

Inverclyde local authority incorporates Other Urban and Accessible Rural SURC areas. Our modelling found the following impacts on average 2nd pump response times within Inverclyde after the combined temporary withdrawal change:

## 2ND APPLIANCE WITHDRAWAL IMPACT – INVERCLYDE



# SOUTH LANARKSHIRE



### Within South Lanarkshire, we currently have:

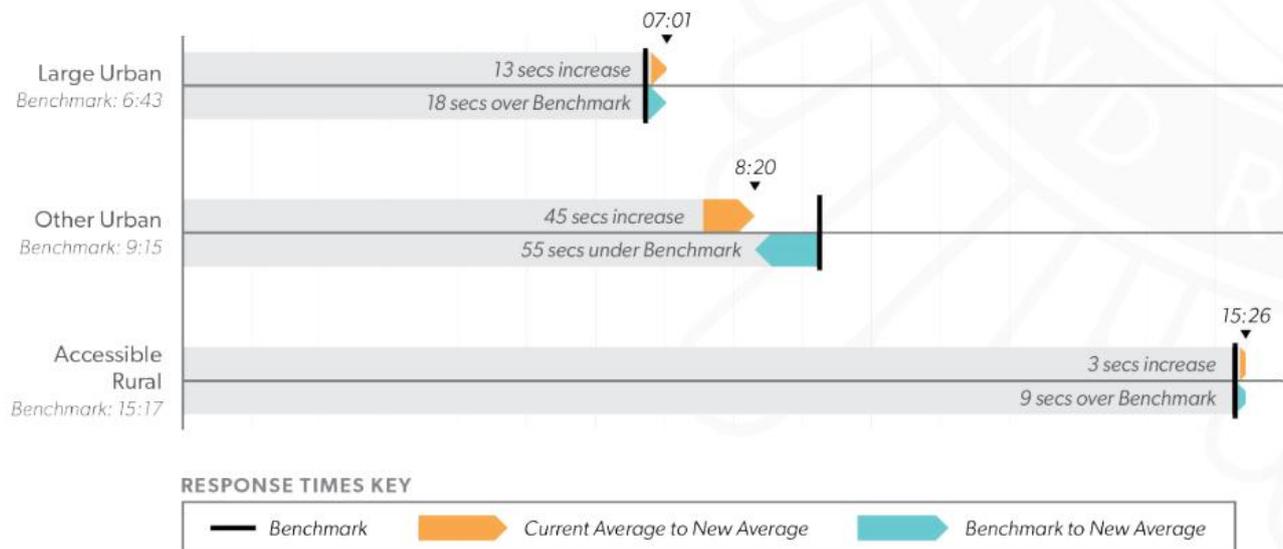
- 7 x Wholetime appliances
- 9 x On call appliances\*
- 1 x HazMat Support Unit
- 1 x Rope Rescue
- 1 x High Volume Pump
- 1 x Water Rescue
- 1 x Wildfire Unit

[See Appendix 2 for full resource list]

From September we will temporarily remove 1 x Wholetime appliance. All other resources will be maintained, including 1st appliance response.

South Lanarkshire local authority incorporates Large Urban, Other Urban and Accessible Rural SURC areas. Our modelling found the following impacts on average 2nd pump response times within South Lanarkshire after the combined temporary withdrawal change:

## 2ND APPLIANCE WITHDRAWAL IMPACT – SOUTH LANARKSHIRE



\* A public consultation on the future of Leadhills Community Fire Station in South Lanarkshire is currently underway (until 18 August 2023). We are consulting on two options: the reinstatement of operations and closure of the station.

## 5. HIGH REACH APPLIANCE STRATEGY

We have an extensive fleet of operational resources to help us protect our communities across Scotland. This includes several types of vehicles and appliances which have different capabilities and help us to perform different tasks when they are deployed to an incident.

This currently includes 26 High Reach Appliances (HRA) located across Scotland. These are national resources which have the capability to operate at height as they have an extendable ladder.



These vehicles help our crews to tackle fires from height, can act as a water tower and, in terms of tackling a building fire, they help our firefighters to extinguish a fire externally. Not every incident will require an HRA to attend.

We have introduced a series of new HRAs across Scotland as planned replacements for older assets. In total, eight new HRAs have been brought into service across Scotland since 2016, with a further two turntable ladders due by March 2024. These are dedicated HRAs which have specialist capabilities that previously would not have been possible for our older HRA assets.

While newer and more reliable vehicles have been introduced, the current distribution of HRAs hasn't changed much in the last 10 years. We also have an ageing fleet of HRA with some vehicles being more than 15 years old.

### Change in HRA provision

Our HRAs are national assets which will be strategically placed to cover the whole of Scotland based on risk and demand.

Our ten-year Operational Strategy (2022-2032) identified the need to review HRA provision across Scotland to ensure a more even distribution and remove older vehicles and in particular the Aerial Rescue Pumps (ARP) from the fleet, which incur significant expense to maintain, replacing them with dedicated height or pumping appliances.

***This year we will reduce our number of HRAs from 26 to 16, which will also help reduce our capital backlog. We will then reduce this number to 14. Some of these will be replaced by standard appliances and others removed entirely based on the provision of another HRA within reasonable geographical distance.***

We have looked at our Incident Recording System (IRS) data and this gives us information on the number of times an appliance is mobilised to an incident and what it is used for. We know that many of these appliances are seldom used for rescues from height and a fleet of staffed, dedicated height appliances complementing more agile pumping appliances is a better model.

Understanding how and where our fleet of HRAs is used is important when considering any change. It is extremely rare for an HRA to be used for a rescue from a fire-related emergency via external routes. We have robust operational policies, equipment and training in place to prioritise rescues via internal routes, especially in multi-storey or high-rise buildings. Internal rescues are carried out by trained firefighters wearing breathing apparatus, supported and protected by building construction standards and specialist equipment such as smoke hoods, thermal image cameras and ventilation.



The proximity of cities and an extensive motorway network within Scotland's central belt provide options to rationalise our HRAs and reduce existing numbers whilst allowing for

appropriate strategic cover. Under new plans, 85 per cent of the population of Scotland will be reachable by an HRA within 30 minutes, 94 per cent will still be reachable by an HRA in less than 60 minutes.

This work will continue throughout 2023-2024 and in conjunction with the temporary appliance withdrawals to minimise the impact on staff changes.

### List of High Reach Appliance Stations and Operational Changes

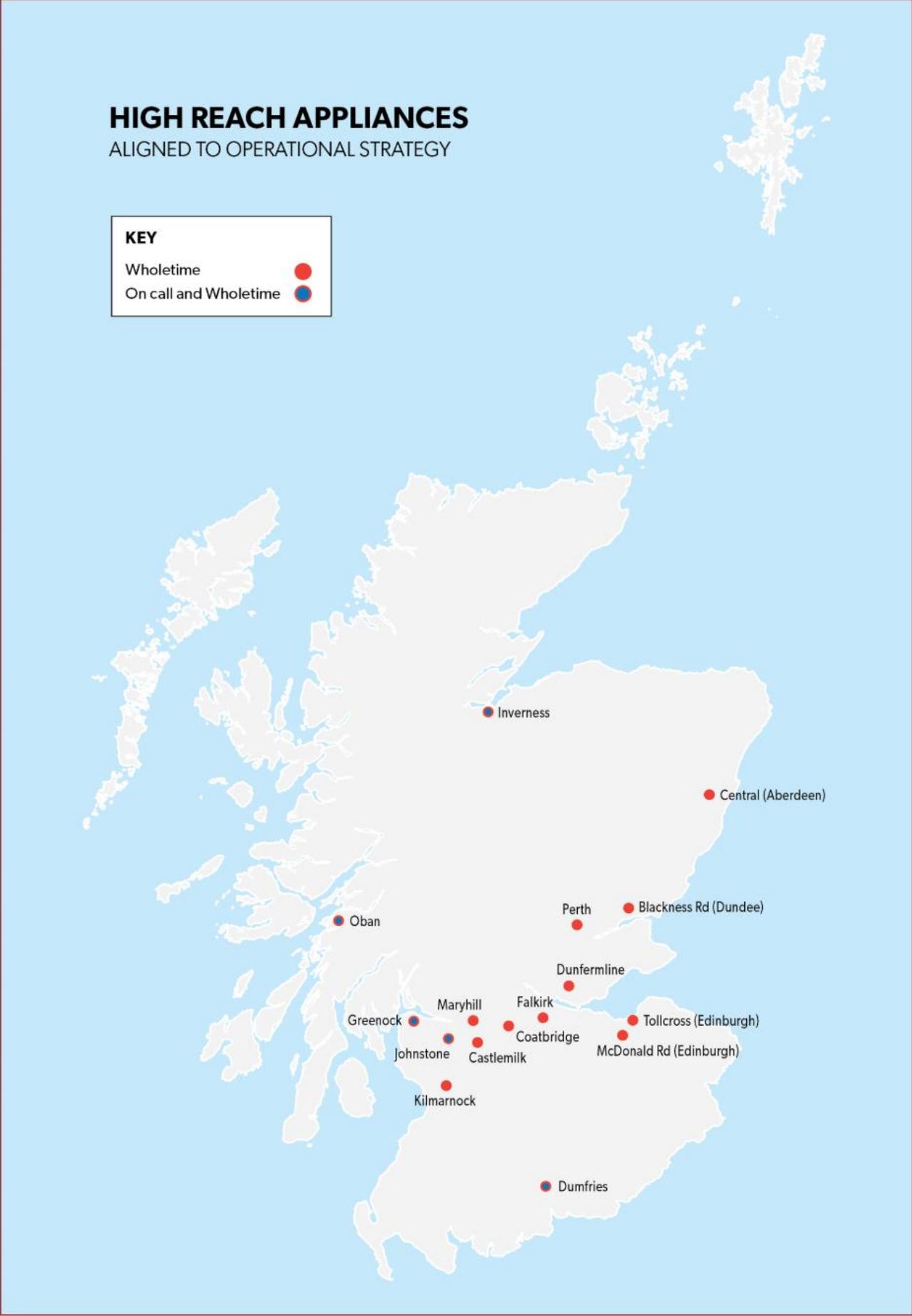
Station	Decision	Impact
<b>North SDA</b>		
Central	No change	
Blackness Road	No change	
Macapline Road	High Reach Appliance removed	Backfilled with Pumping Appliance
Inverness	No change	
Perth	Crewing Change	Aerial Rescue Pump staffed as dedicated High Reach Appliance
<b>East SDA</b>		
Crewe Toll	Height Appliance removed	No replacement
McDonald Road	No change	
Tollcross	No change	
Falkirk	No change	
Kirkcaldy	Height Appliance removed	No replacement
Dunfermline	Aerial Rescue Pump removed	Replaced with dedicated High Reach Appliance
<b>West SDA</b>		
Oban	High Reach Appliance removed	Replaced with Aerial Rescue Pump crewed as dedicated High Reach Appliance
Maryhill	No change	
Polmadie	Aerial Recue Pump previously removed	Replaced by Pumping Appliance
Springburn	Aerial Rescue Pump removed	Replaced by Pumping Appliance
Dumfries	No change	
Kilmarnock	No change	
Castlemilk	No change	
Greenock	Crewing change	Aerial Rescue Pump staffed as dedicated High Reach Appliance
Coatbridge	No change	
Motherwell	Aerial Rescue Pump removed	Replaced by Pumping Appliance
Johnstone	No change	
Paisley	Aerial Rescue Pump removed	Replaced by Pumping Appliance
Ayr	Aerial Rescue Pump removed	Replaced by Pumping Appliance
Clydesmill	Aerial Rescue Pump removed	Replaced by Pumping Appliance
Clydebank	Aerial Rescue Pump removed	Replaced by Pumping Appliance

# HIGH REACH APPLIANCES

ALIGNED TO OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

**KEY**

- Wholetime ●
- On call and Wholetime ●



## 6. STANDARDISATION OF WATER RESCUE

Scotland's landscape contains many different bodies of water which includes rivers, lochs, canals and coastal areas, and water rescue involves a multi-agency response. Various waterways are governed by different organisations. When we receive a request to attend an incident which involves water rescue, this can come from a number of sources. As a service we have no legislative responsibility to respond.

Across Scotland we have 20 stations which have water rescue resources, known as Swift Water Rescue (SWR).

### **Change to crewing model at Polmadie Community Fire Station**

There are four dedicated Clyde Rescue Boats which are situated at all times on the River Clyde. Two boats are moored at the City of Glasgow College and two boats are moored at the Riverside Museum. The most suitable boat will be deployed to an incident and this is dependent upon circumstances, such as weather, water conditions and incident type.

These resources for the Clyde Rescue Boats are crewed by personnel from Polmadie and Knightswood Community Fire Stations.

Polmadie currently has a dedicated crew of three firefighters for the Clyde Rescue Boats.

All of our SWR stations across Scotland operate a dual-crewed model, apart from Polmadie in Glasgow which is the only station in Scotland with a dedicated crewing model for water rescue.

Dual-crewed means that crews are trained to respond to water rescue incidents as well as other incidents using a normal fire appliance such as fires and RTCs.

From September we are standardising the crewing model at Polmadie to a dual-crewed approach. This means crews will be able to attend other emergency incidents.

The Clyde Rescue Boats will remain as a dedicated resource on the River Clyde. This change does not constitute the removal of any specialist asset but rather the standardisation of crewing arrangements.

As well as our water rescue capability at Polmadie being augmented by resources located at Knightswood, we also have SWR nearby at Motherwell and Clydesmill. Crews at Motherwell and Clydesmill have commenced additional



training specific to the Clyde Rescue Boats and also to familiarise themselves with slip points. This will ensure additional resource capabilities for the River Clyde.

### **What will this look like**

***In the last five years, 2018-2023, the dedicated water rescue resource at Polmadie attended 239 incidents. Under the new dual crewed model there would only have been eight of these incidents where there would've been a delay in mobilisation from the station due to resources being unavailable or attending other incidents.***

By moving to a standardised model and with the expected reduction in unwanted fire alarm signals (UFAS) – false alarms – the availability of water rescue teams across Scotland will increase and reduce the likelihood of resources being unavailable.

In addition to this, by moving to a dual-crewed model Polmadie will also be able to operate two, fully operational five personnel swift water rescue teams. This is in line with the rest of our water rescue units and the UK standard. This is instead of the current arrangement of one, five personnel, dual crew team and one dedicated, three personnel team.

***Overall, this would result in the number of standardised swift water rescue teams available in the city centre to increase from two to three, and the addition of two stations outwith the city centre which will have the capability to respond to incidents on the Clyde using the existing dedicated rescue boats.***



## 7. NEXT STEPS

Our HRA strategy and changes to water crewing are permanent changes that we had already identified we needed to progress. These are operational decisions that we need to make to manage our resources effectively.

The appliance withdrawal is a temporary measure to allow us to meet our financial savings target over this year and next. We anticipate these changes will be in place until September 2024 and will monitor their impact.

However, we are also facing a number of challenges in terms of our workforce and station footprint and must modernise to make necessary improvements that enhance the working conditions for our staff and support us to continue to invest in areas like our stations and training.

Our analysis shows we have an imbalance of resources in some areas compared to other geographically similar locations based on current risk and demand. We also have a lot of ageing buildings which need a lot of work to bring them up to modern standards.

We therefore need to make further, permanent changes.

This work will form our Strategic Service Review Programme (SSRP) which will identify how we need to change as a Service to achieve the outcomes set out in our Strategic Plan and our Operational Strategy, as well as resolving the financial challenges we face over the next four years.

There are three workstreams within the SSRP:

- Corporate Services;
- Service Delivery;
- Asset Management.

As we develop proposals within these areas, we will continue to engage with stakeholders and will undertake full public consultation on major service changes.

Please contact [SFRS.Publicinvolvement@firescotland.gov.uk](mailto:SFRS.Publicinvolvement@firescotland.gov.uk) if you would like to join our stakeholder list for regular updates. You can also visit [firescotland.gov.uk](https://firescotland.gov.uk) for more information.



We currently have a significant number of operational resources within the Greater Glasgow Large Urban Area, including:

- 21 x Community Fire Stations;
- 33 x Wholetime appliances;
- 2 x On call appliances.

In particular, the concentration in and around Glasgow city centre represents the highest geographical density of stations and wholetime appliances anywhere in Scotland. This includes:

- 5 x Community Fire Stations
- 9 x Wholetime Pumps

In terms of its population size, Glasgow City local authority currently has a high number of wholetime appliances per 100,000 residents when compared to the Large Urban Areas within other local authorities (Figure 2) and this is higher than the Scottish average.

### Wholetime Pumps per 100,000 Population in Large Urban Areas by Local Authority



Figure 2: Wholetime Pumps in Large Urban Areas

When considering operational activity levels of our stations, we analysed both incident numbers and time committed to incidents.

There are 34 two-pump wholetime stations in Scotland. Between 2015 and 2020, Cowcaddens and Maryhill, both located in Glasgow City were within the nine most active of these stations. This trend continued within the 2020-23 period. However, modelling the removal of the Cowcaddens and

Maryhill 2nd pumps identified that the redistributed incident workload across neighbouring stations is not excessive.

Importantly, this modelling did not include the significant incident reductions currently being achieved in Glasgow City as a result of our newly implemented Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) Reduction Policy, which will further reduce demand.

### Large Urban Multi-Pump Average Annual Incident Demand Apr 2015 – Mar 2023

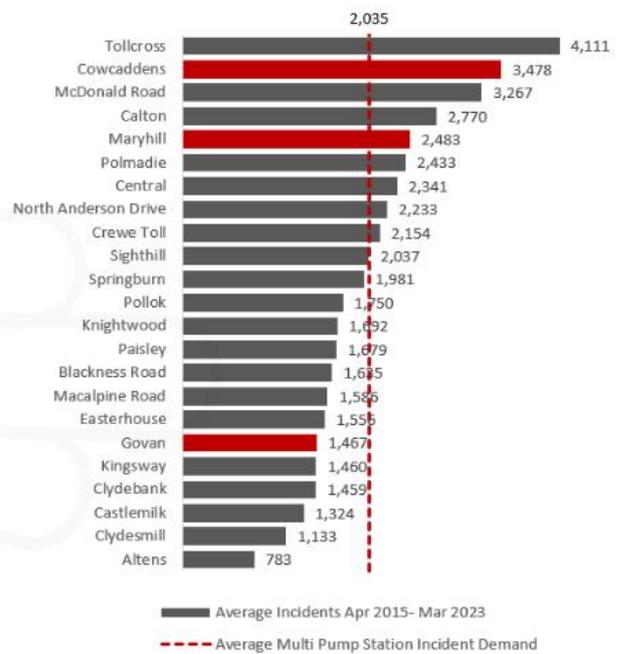


Figure 3: Incident Demand in Large Urban Areas - 2 Pump Wholetime Stations

Because of the large number of pumps and geographic density of stations in Glasgow City, operational response modelling has demonstrated that the current configuration of stations and pumps enables response times well within our 1st and 2nd pump response benchmarks. Modelling the removal of three wholetime 2nd pumps (Maryhill, Cowcaddens and Govan) identified that we could still remain within these benchmarks.

## 1.2 Fife

Within the Fife local authority area, there are a number of individual Other Urban SURC areas (see blue areas within Figure 4). Compared to areas elsewhere in Scotland, Fife has a higher number of resources within its Other Urban areas. This includes:

- 6 x Community Fire Stations;
- 10 x Wholetime appliances;
- 1 x Combined Aerial Rescue Pump;
- 2 x On call appliances.

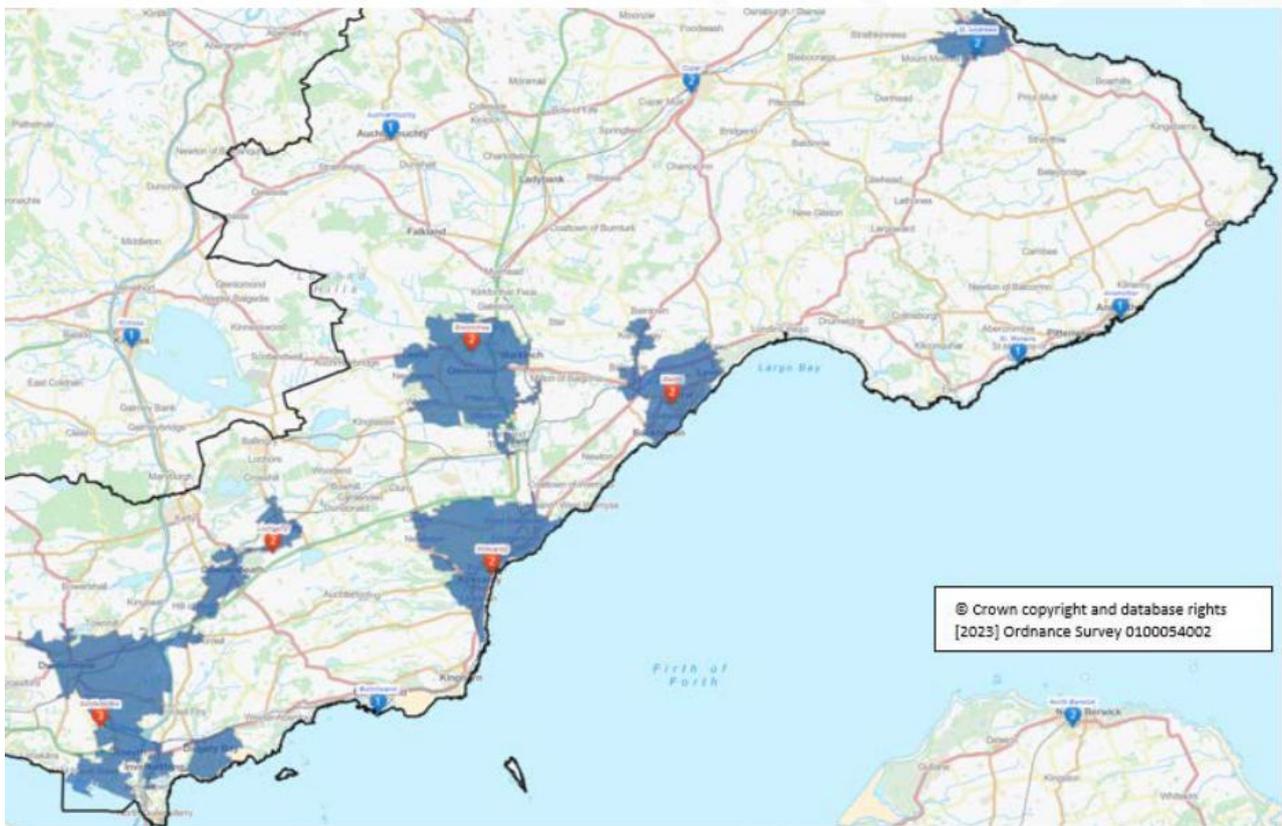


Figure 4: Fife Other Urban Areas

When considering operational activity levels of our stations, we analysed both incident numbers and time committed to incidents.

There are 34 two-pump wholetime stations in Scotland. Between 2015 and 2020, all four of the two-pump wholetime stations in Fife (Glenrothes, Kirkcaldy, Lochgelly and Methil) were identified as being within the seven least active of these stations. This trend has continued between 2020 and 2023.

In terms of its population size, Fife currently has a relatively large number of wholetime pumps when compared to the Other Urban Areas within other local authorities (see Figure 6).

Temporarily reducing the number of wholetime pumps from 11 to 8 is more proportionate to the observed activity levels.

### Other Urban Multi-Pump Station Average Annual Incident Demand Apr 2015 – Mar 2023

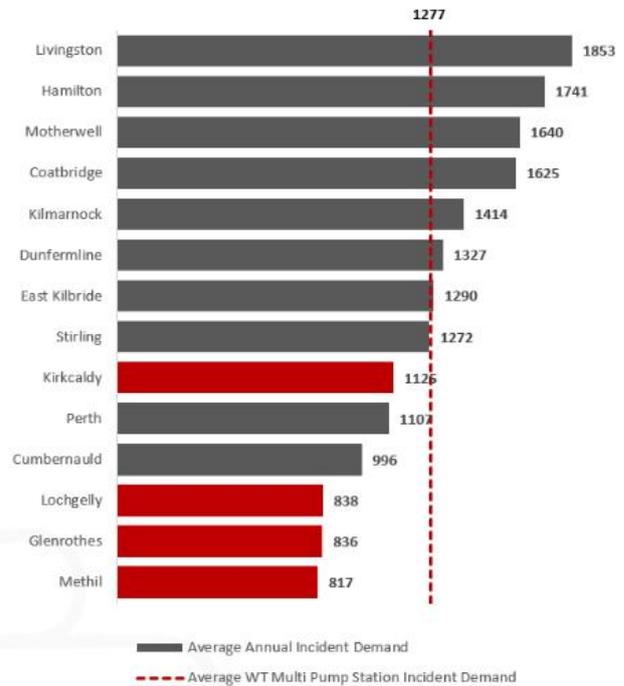


Figure 5: Incident Demand in Other Urban Areas – Multi-Pump Wholetime Stations

### Wholetime Pumps per 100,000 Population in Other Urban Areas

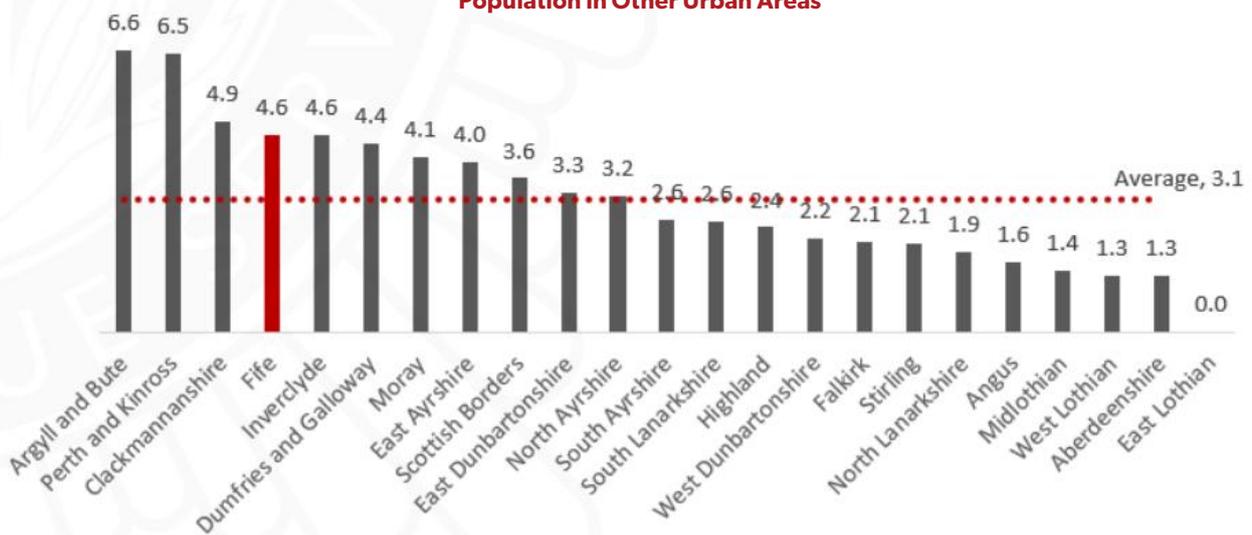


Figure 6: Wholetime Pumps in Other Urban Areas

Because of the large number of appliances and relatively low incident demand in Fife, operational response modelling demonstrated that, we can temporarily withdraw 2nd pumps from three stations whilst maintaining our 1st response pump response times and accepting a tolerable increase in our 2nd pump response.

## APPENDIX 2

### Scottish Government Urban Rural Classification 2020

#### 8-fold Classification

- 1 - Large Urban Areas
- 2 - Other Urban Areas
- 3 - Accessible Small Towns
- 4 - Remote Small Towns
- 5 - Very Remote Small Towns
- 6 - Accessible Rural
- 7 - Remote Rural
- 8 - Very Remote Rural

Accessible Areas are defined as those areas that are within a 30 minute drive time from the centre of a Settlement with a population of 10,000 or more. Remote Areas have a drive time which is greater than 30 minutes.

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## APPENDIX 3

### GLOSSARY OF SFRS RESOURCES



#### **Rescue Pump (RP), Wholetime and On Call Appliances, Pumping Appliance, Pump**

Carries ladders, water and enhanced rescue equipment for Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs) including Powered Rescue Equipment and enhanced Safe Working at Height line rescue equipment.



#### **High Reach Appliance (HRA), height appliance**

Dedicated aerial appliance which can reach up to 32m in height with a hydraulic arm. Can be used as a water tower for firefighting as well as access and rescue from height.



#### **Combined Aerial Rescue Pump (CARP)**

Equipped with a 28m hydraulic platform for rescues from height or used as a water tower. Also carries enhanced rescue equipment for RTCs.



#### **Heavy Rescue Unit (HRU)**

A support unit which carries specialised heavy rescue equipment – for example may be mobilised to an incident involving heavy goods vehicles, large animals or trains. Can either be a dedicated vehicle or a transportable container/pod. Often combined with Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) units.



#### **Volunteer Unit**

A lighter appliance which is based at volunteer stations. Carries firefighting and rescue equipment.



### **Water Rescue Unit**

Carries specialist water rescue equipment and a towed boat. Can respond to incidents in fast moving rivers, lochs, reservoirs and canals. Crewed by firefighters specially trained to respond to water rescue incidents.



### **Clyde Rescue Boat**

There are four dedicated Clyde Rescue Boats which are situated at all times on the River Clyde in Glasgow. Two boats are moored at the City of Glasgow College and two boats are moored at the Riverside Museum.



### **Rope Rescue Unit**

A specialist unit which is mobilised and crewed by specialist firefighters to attend incidents where rope rescue is required. This can include incidents such as rescues from high ledges, cliff tops or inaccessible gorges/quarries etc.



### **Water Carrier**

A support unit which supports responding pumps at an incident with additional water supply. May be used where there are no fire hydrants available or no accessible water supply such as a river or loch.



### **Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Unit**

A support unit which carries specialist equipment which can be mobilised to incidents involving damaged buildings or collapsed/unsafe structures. Sometimes combined with Heavy Rescue Unit.



### **Rapid Response Unit (RRU)**

A smaller appliance normally based at rural On Call stations. Carries firefighting, RTC and medical equipment including a specialist high pressure firefighting lance.



### **Command Support Unit (CSU)**

A support unit which serves as a mobile command centre for larger incidents. Includes a communications suite, on-board computer and resources to support the incident commander.



### **Detection, Identification and Monitoring (DIM) Unit**

A support unit which, alongside trained officers, can be mobilised to incidents suspected to involve hazardous materials. Can be used for basic testing of gases, solids and liquids to check for hazardous properties such as radiation and toxins.



### **Environmental Protection Unit (EPU)**

A support unit which carries equipment which can help contain and clean up waste and spillage at an incident which might be harmful to the environment or properties. For example, oil spills, leaking chemical containers or water run-off from an incident.



### **Hazardous Materials Support Unit (HAZMAT)**

A support unit which carries specialist equipment to support an emergency response at an incident which may involve hazardous materials. Can include protective clothing, equipment and cleaning/containment equipment.



### **Fire Investigation Unit**

A dedicated vehicle which can be mobilised during or following a fire or incident for investigation. Carries investigation equipment, secure storage for evidence and working areas.



### **Foam Unit**

A support unit which can either be a dedicated vehicle or a transportable pod/container. Carries foam equipment for firefighting at incidents where water will not work such as chemical or fuel fires.



### **High Volume Pump (HVP)**

A support unit which is capable of pumping large volumes of water to multiple fire appliances from a water source such as a river to support a major incident. Can also be used to pump water away from an area affected by flooding.



### **Incident Support Unit (ISU)/Breathing Apparatus (BA) Support Unit, Welfare Unit**

Support units which can fulfil various roles. Some units carry welfare facilities such as toilets and cooking facilities which can be used at a protracted incident, while others can carry additional Breathing Apparatus cylinders, gas tight suits or blankets and clothes. Can also come in various types of vehicles/containers and pods.



### **Mass Decontamination Unit (MDU)**

A support unit carrying equipment which allows both public and fire service personnel to remove contaminated clothing and shower at an incident. Carries additional temporary clothing and suits.



### **All-Terrain Vehicles (ATV)/Wildfire Units**

A specialist support unit which can include all-terrain vehicles and specialist wildfire equipment which can be transported off-road to support rural wildfire incidents. All-terrain vehicles are often carried by truck or towed by trailer to the incident site before being deployed.



**[firescotland.gov.uk](https://firescotland.gov.uk)**

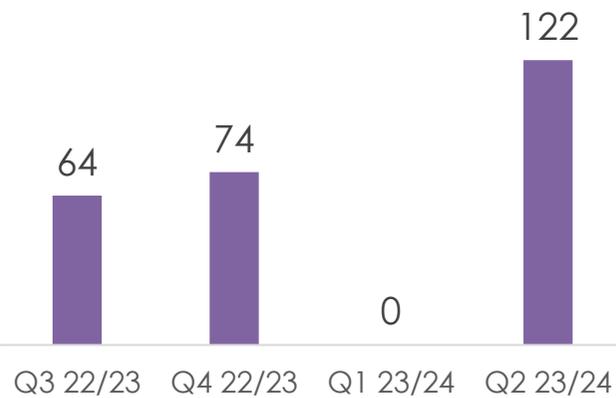
Operational Changes 2023-2024 – Information Pack

Version 1.2 29 August 2023

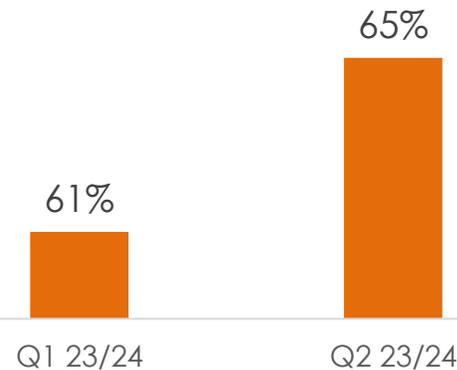
# Protective Services - Police and Fire Board Quarter 2 report

## Licensing

Number of Liquor Licence applications received

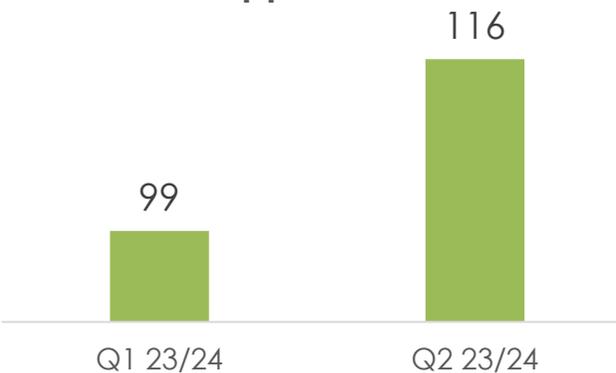


Percentage of Civic Government Licence applications determined

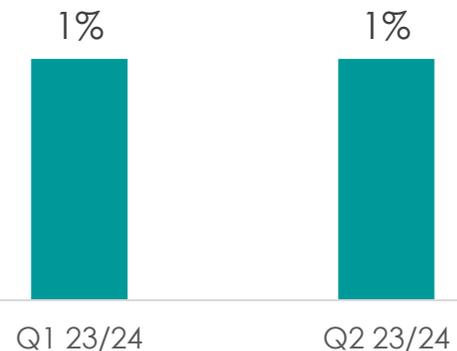


**99%** of liquor licence applications were determined

Number of Civic Government Licence applications



Percentage of Civic Government Act applications referred to the General Purposes Committee



### Other civic licences applied for during Q2:

Private Hire Car Driver's Licence - 41

Private Hire Car Licence – 30

Taxi Driver's Licence – 8

Taxi Licence – 11

Window Cleaner's Licence – 3

Street Trader's Licence – 2

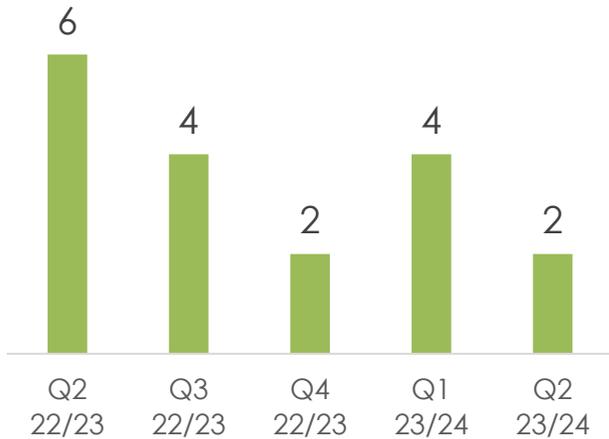
Cinema Licence 1

Public Procession – 14

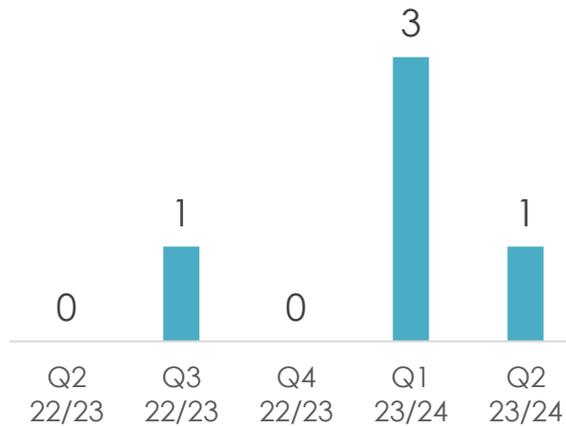
Temporary Public Entertainment Licence – 4

# Workplace Health and Safety

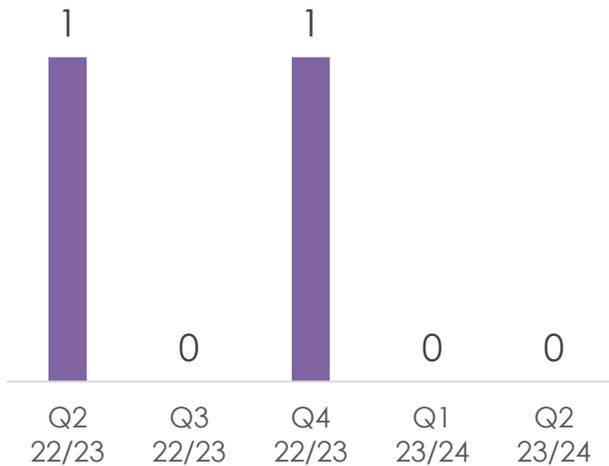
### Number of Business Workplace Health and Safety proactive inspections



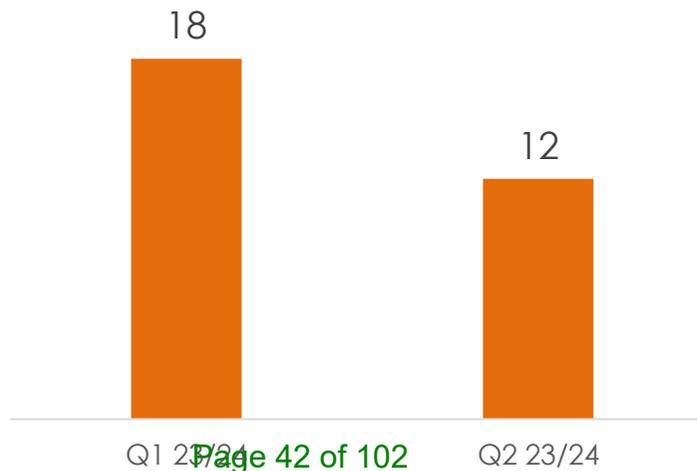
### Number of Business Workplace Health and Safety Improvement notices served



### Number of Business Workplace Health and Safety Prohibition notices served



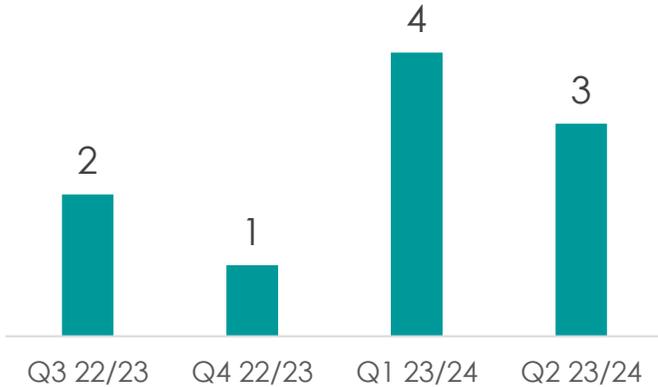
### Number of workplace safety RIDDOR reports received



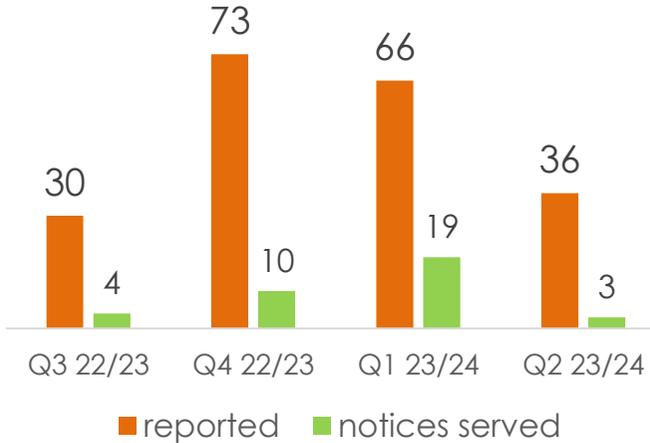
**1** RIDDOR related visit took place to investigate business workplace health and safety incidents.

# Public Health

Number of Abandoned Vehicles which have been removed for destruction



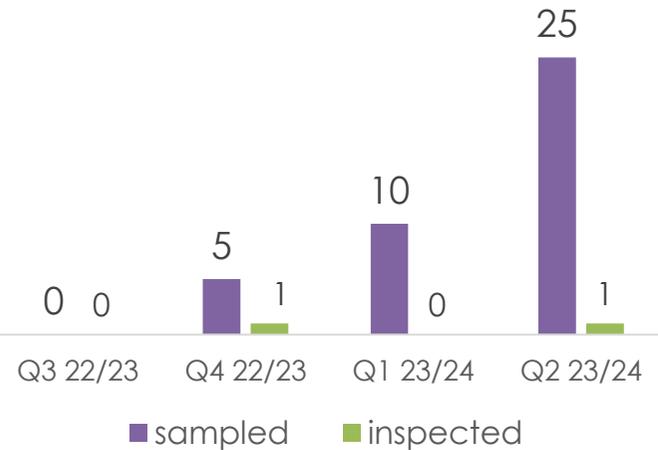
Number of Abandoned Vehicles



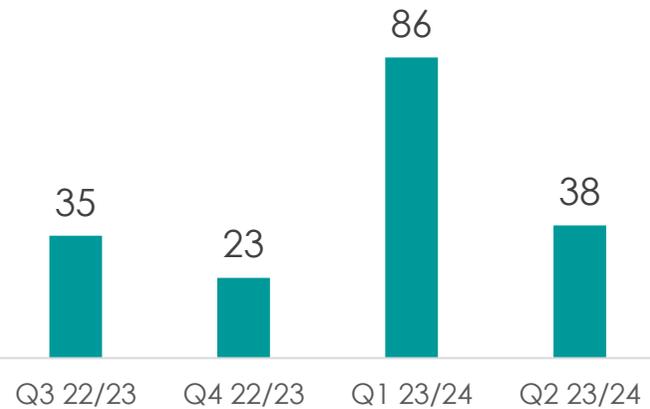
**278** Public Health Service requests were received from Midlothian residents and businesses

**69%** of Public Health complaints received a first response within timescales

Number of Private water supplies



Number of Planning Application consultations received



**106** Public Health Service requests were received from internal sources

**4** Environmental Protection Abatement 1990 Notices were served

**77** short term let Applications received

**10** short term let Licences issued

# Civil Contingencies and events

## Plans and Procedures:

Plans and Procedures updated this quarter:

- Emergency Contacts Directory – as and when staff changes have occurred.
- Draft version of the 2023 Severe Weather Plan. Will be finalised after a validation session and submitted to CMT for approval early Q3.
- Development of a Prevent related briefing document for Facilities staff who do not have access to e-learning. With assistance from the Police Counter Terrorism Liaison Officer for the Lothian and Borders area.

Plans in progress or awaiting guidance:

- Midlothian Council generic Emergency Plan. We have been awaiting changes to multi-agency partnership arrangements which are now concluded. It will also take account of internal restructuring.
- Operation UNICORN. No details received yet from official sources. Preparations to date are in line with those carried out previously.

## Business Continuity Plans:

The development of Business Continuity plans are, by necessity, the responsibility of individual services as they are best placed to determine their priorities, resource requirements, dependencies on other services and suppliers and how they can work around the loss of essential components. However, advice and assistance is available from the Health, Safety & Resilience Team. To encourage BC plan development on a consistent basis across services, engagement has been carried out with a number of services. The intention is to roll this out wider once a decision has been made regarding the future of our current business continuity software which is due to lapse in December 2023.

No change to the Q1 position. Awaiting clarification of options regarding current Business Continuity software contract extension/move to replacement product. Business Continuity Planning remains a key service management tool.

## Multi-agency Exercises, Training, Presentations and Work streams:

Team Members Participated in the following. Where appropriate to their areas of work, invitations were extended to colleagues in other services and partners:

- Lothian and Borders Local Resilience Partnership Short Life Working Groups to develop multi-agency frameworks in relation to National Power Outages, Severe Weather, Care for People, Mass Fatalities, Risk Preparedness Assessment. All workstreams are progressing. Participation in these is important to avoid any assumptions or obligations being included which might prove to be detrimental to, or unachievable by, Midlothian Council.
- Briefings relating to the Protect Duty/Martyn's Law, including participation in a workshop to discuss potential content of training for the "Competent Person in the Workplace". As the Bill is still in draft form ("Terrorism (Protection of premises) draft bill") and the Home Affairs Select Committee have raised concerns over the content, changes are anticipated. Progress will continue to be monitored.
- Series of Met Office briefing sessions on Severe Weather scenarios (ongoing)
- Planning meetings for a Torness Power Station emergency exercise in 2024 which will require participation from Midlothian Council (as well as other neighbouring local authorities).
- The opportunity to observe (virtually) at a series of strategic multi-agency meetings held as part of an exercise in the west of Scotland looking at a scenario with mass fatalities. (Invited as a representative from the East of Scotland with the purpose of acquiring learning for local procedures)
- Briefing by Scottish Government on the Emergency Alerts system, including how to request an alert.

## Team members facilitated:

- Attendance of a senior manager on the September 2023 multi-agency Crisis Management Course organised by the EoS RRP. More nominations have been submitted for the period Oct – Dec 23 so will be included in future reports.
- Prevent input to Building Maintenance Team Leads by the Police Counter Terrorism Liaison Officer for the Lothian and Borders area.

## Report to Divisional Management Teams/Corporate Management Team:

The last quarterly report noted that a report was being drafted for submission to the Corporate Management Team regarding proposed steps to enhance the organisation's preparedness for emergency response. Current direction is that an expanded report will be submitted to the Corporate Management Team in Q3 following a test of response arrangements within some elements of Place. This is intended to highlight interdependencies between Place and other services and identify any gaps which might exist.

### Ongoing, routine representation at/participation in:

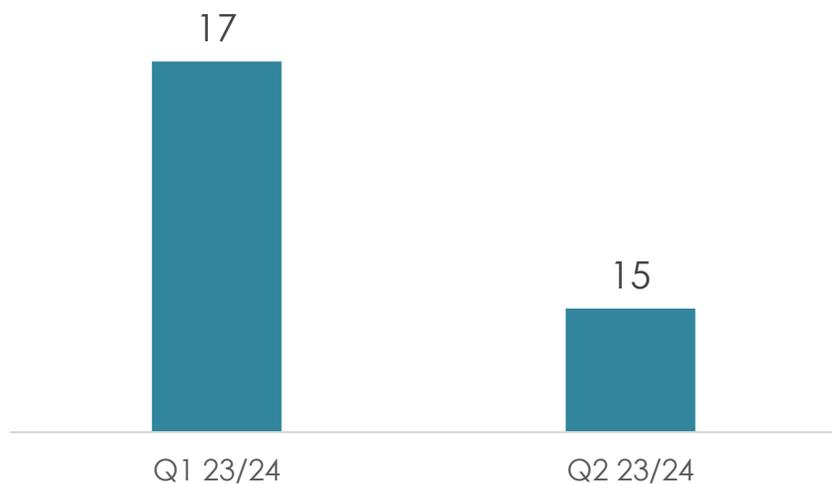
- Local Resilience Partnership meetings – core group, sub groups and Short Life Working Groups as detailed above.
- Lothian and Borders CONTEST group meetings – and support to the Midlothian CONTEST and Prevent SPOC.
- Internal meetings requiring a Contingency Planning input, including Care for People, Estates Management Safety Groups, internal CONTEST Group, Safety Advisory Group, support for Business Continuity activities.
- Local Authority Resilience Group Scotland (LARGS) - networking meetings of resilience practitioners.

Ongoing monitoring of events and/or live incidents – disseminating information internally and liaison with external organisations as required.

To note: Following attendance at meetings, seminars, presentations, training sessions, a summary of all pertinent information is forwarded to senior manager(s) and other colleagues as appropriate. Invitations are also forwarded where the subject might be of direct interest to other services/partners.

## Public events

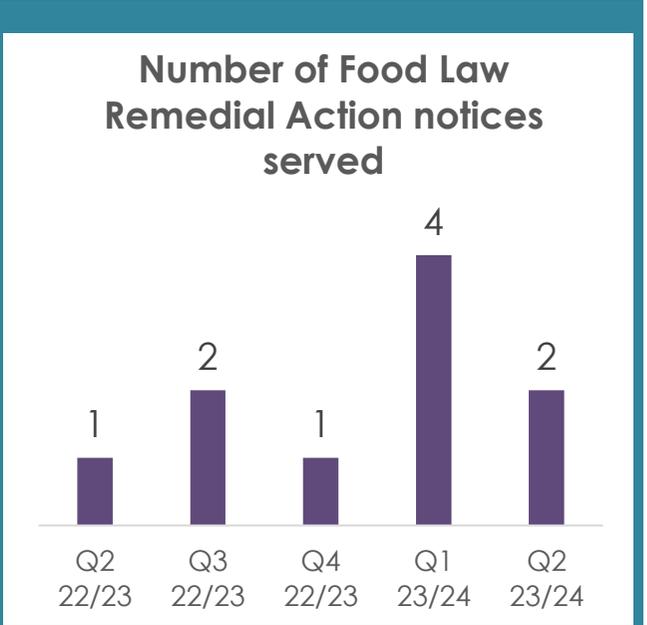
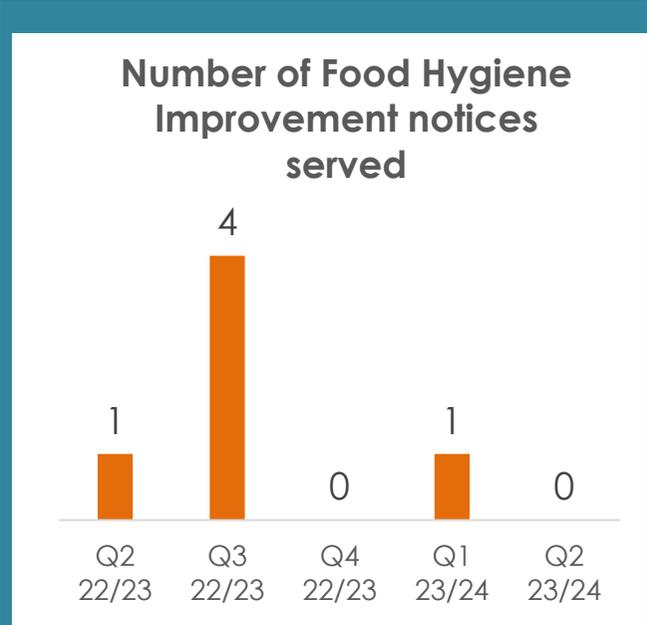
**Number of organisations engaged with the Safety Advisory Group or similar**



Completed Safety Advisory Group planning for 2 of the 4 Planned/Public Fireworks events and 8 of the 9 Remembrance Parades. The planning and delivery of the Royal Regiment of Scotland SCOTS Freedom Parade in Penicuik was undertaken on the 28<sup>th</sup> of September 2023.

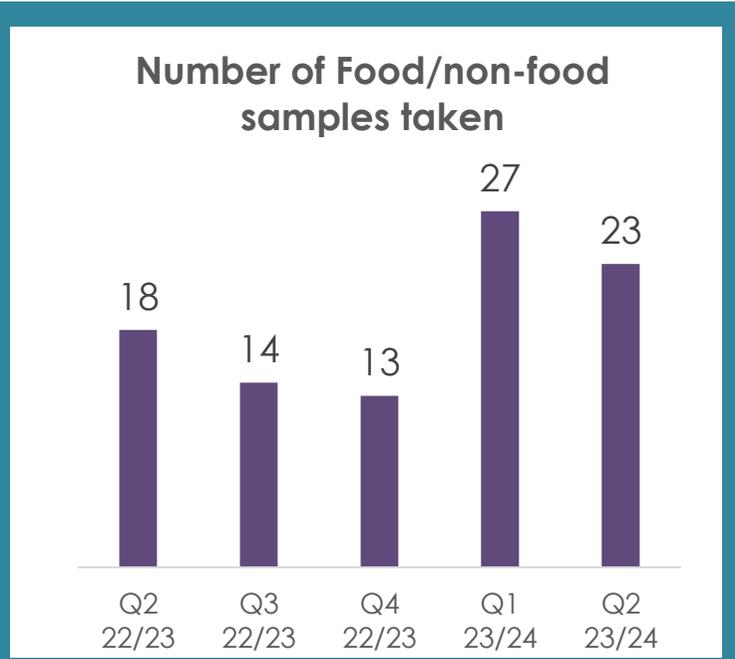
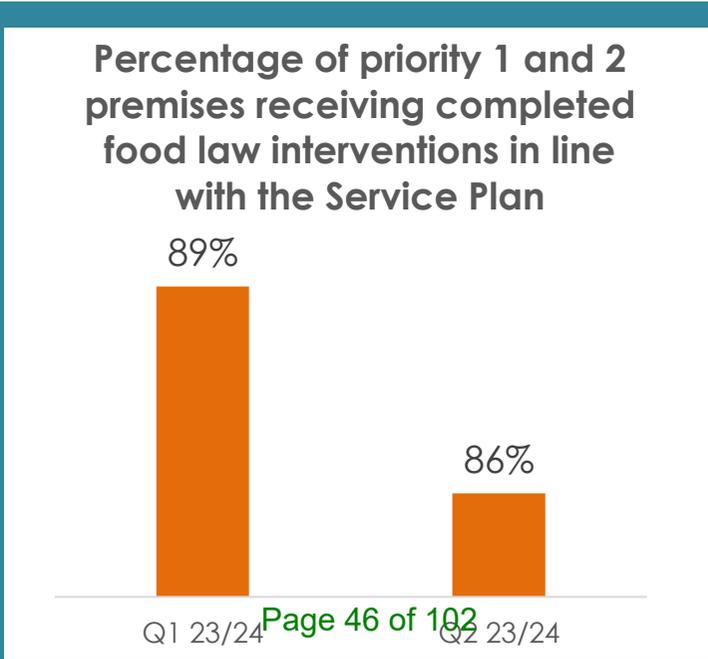
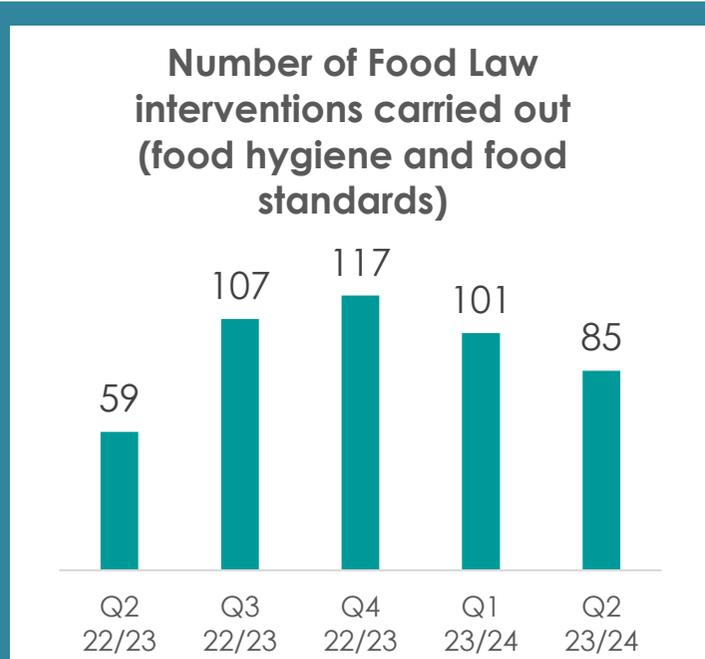
Q3 Safety Advisory Groups will focus on remaining fireworks events and upcoming Festive Events/Lights Switch Ons/Children's parades.

# Food Hygiene and Standards



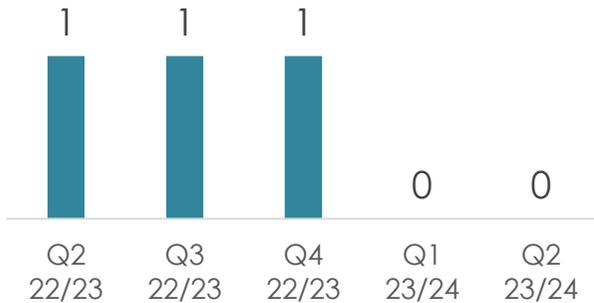
**76** Food law service requests were received from Midlothian residents and businesses. (Includes food safety and food standards).

**80%** of food related service requests from Midlothian residents and businesses were responded to within the target response time of 5 working days. (Includes food safety and food standards).

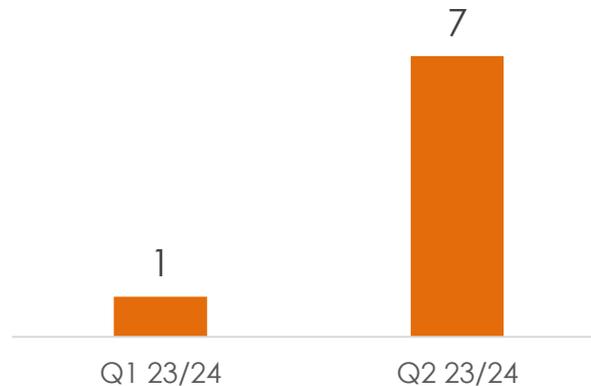


# Trading Standards

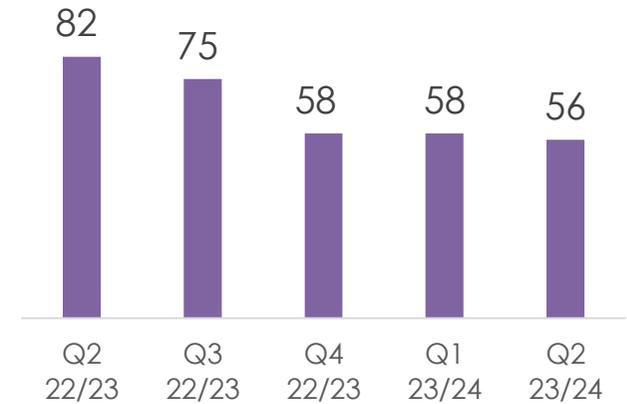
## Number of cases reported to Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service



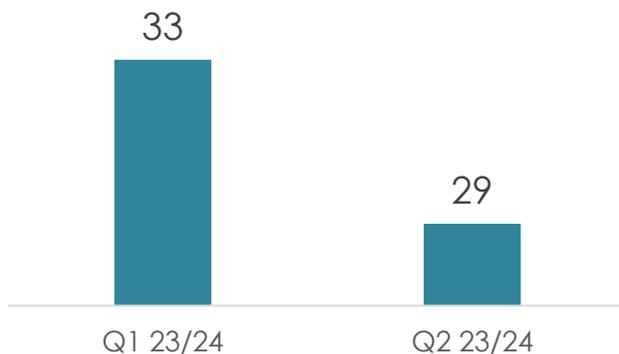
## Number of business advice requests received by Trading Standards



## Number of consumer complaints received by Trading Standards



## Number of intelligence logs input to Intelligence Database (IDB)



**100%** of Business advice requests were responded to within 5 working days.

**100%** of Business advice requests were completed within 14 days.

**98%** of Consumer complaints were responded to within 5 working days.

**90%** of Consumer complaints were completed within 14 days.

### Develop and implement a Trusted Trader Scheme:

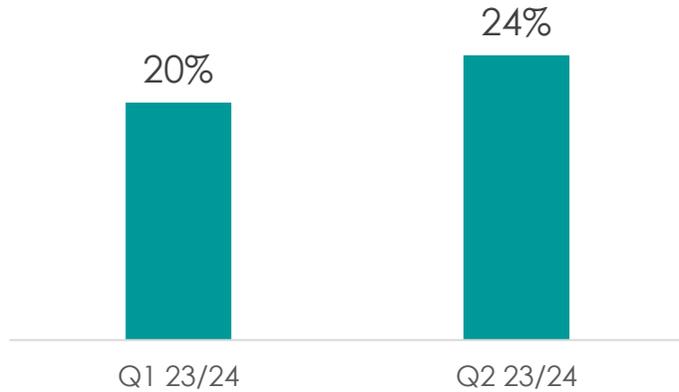
A report is being prepared for approval by Cabinet.

### Trading Standards Campaigns/Joint working/Initiative details:

In August, Trading Standards joined the Office of Product Safety & Standards staff to visit two retailers of e-scooters and were satisfied as to the safety of their products and associated batteries.

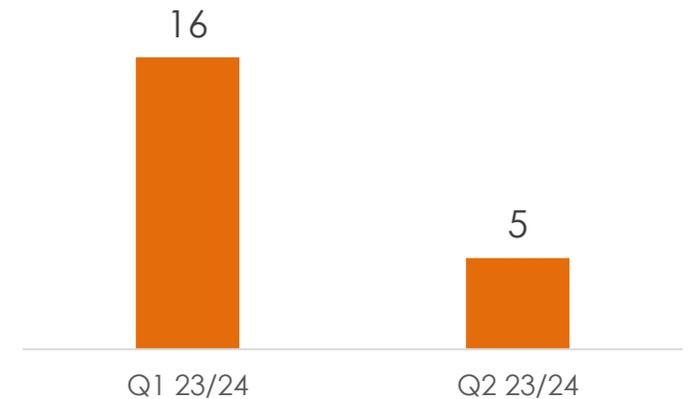
# Trading Standards

Percentage of planned inspections achieved in line with the Service Plan

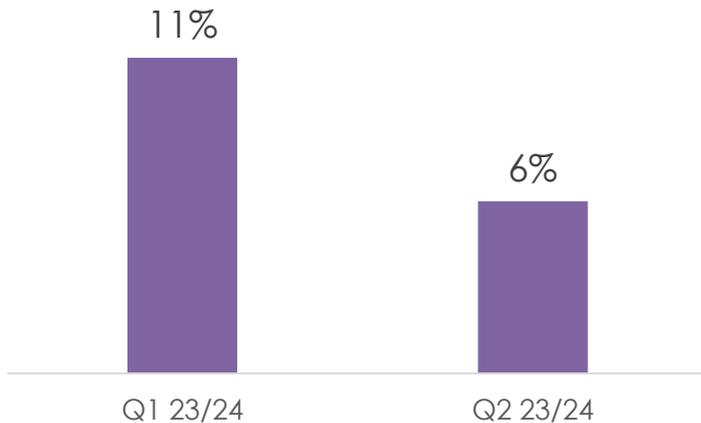


**65** Trading Standards Primary Inspections were carried out this quarter including 25 under Animal Health and Welfare.

Number of interventions carried out regarding tobacco and nicotine containing products



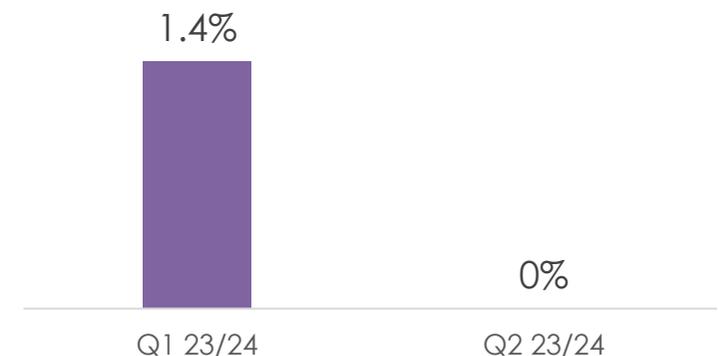
Percentage of businesses registered for tobacco/vapes in Midlothian visited



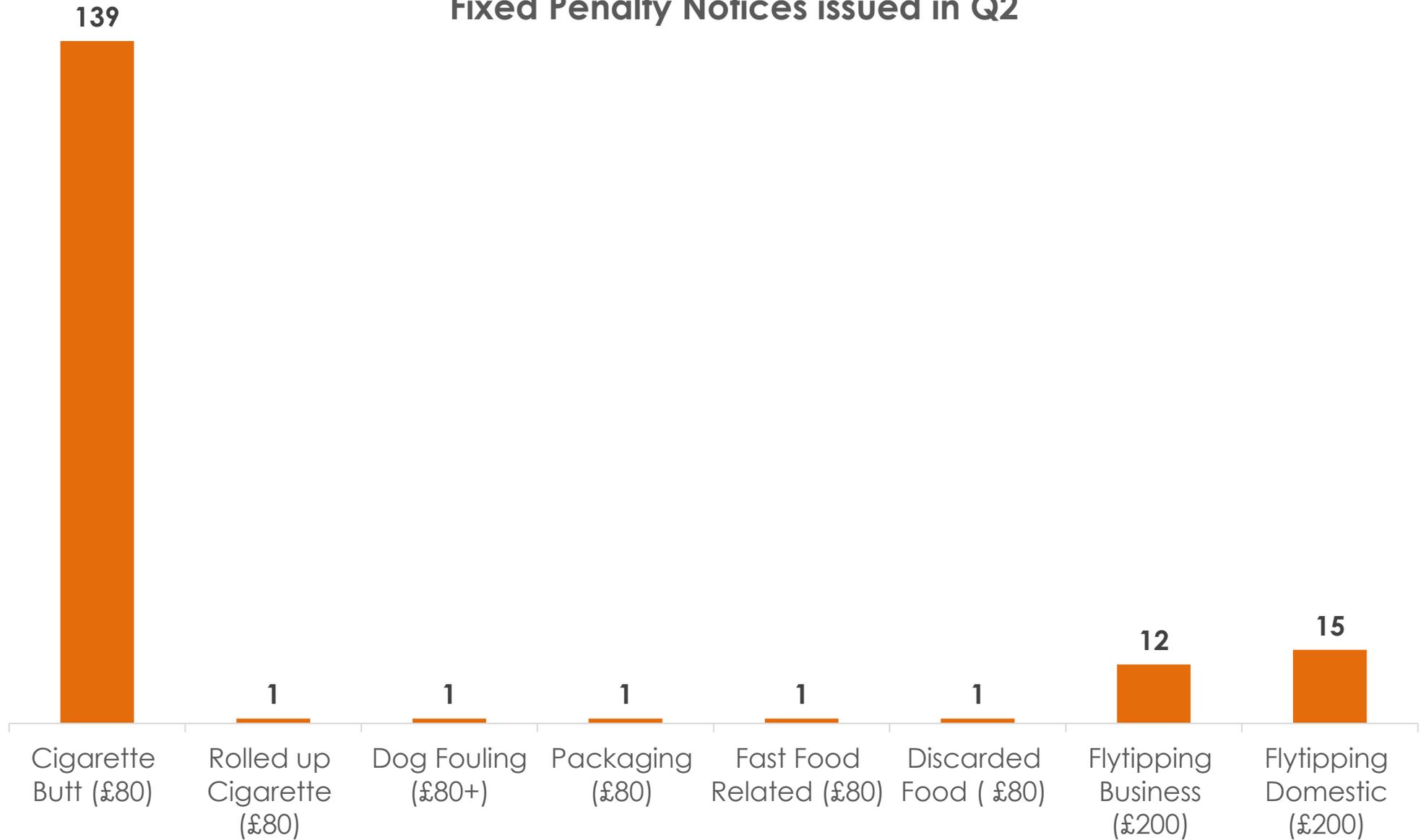
A total of **145** premises are believed to be registered and selling tobacco and/or vapes at 01/04/23.

**8** were visited this quarter which is a total of 24 visited so far this year.

Percentage of businesses registered for tobacco/vapes in Midlothian where a test purchase was carried out



## Fixed Penalty Notices issued in Q2







## Midlothian Area Command

The Lothians and Scottish Borders



Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel

Quarter 2 – 2023/2024

The data provided in this report is for information purposes only and is not official crime statistics. This report has been generated to allow Partnership Members to conduct their scrutiny responsibilities. Due to delayed reporting or recording of crimes, incidents or road accidents and the management of crime enquiries, there is likely to be differences between the information in this report and the final Police Scotland statistics. It would not be appropriate to refer to, quote or use any data in this report as official statistics.



## **Our Vision**

Sustained excellence in service and protection.

## **Our Purpose**

To improve the safety and wellbeing of people, places and communities in Scotland.

## **Our Values**

Integrity, Fairness and Respect.

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Lothian and Scottish Borders Division Policing Priorities

### Your local policing priorities across THE LOTHIANS AND SCOTTISH BORDERS

**Our vision**  
Policing for a safe, protected and resilient Scotland

**Our values**  
Fairness, Integrity, Respect, Human Rights

**Our purpose**  
Working in partnership for the safety and wellbeing of communities in the Lothians & Scottish Borders

Protecting the most vulnerable people	Reducing violence & anti-social behaviour	Reducing acquisitive crime	Improving road safety	Tackling serious & organised crime
<p>Protect vulnerable people to prevent abuse, neglect &amp; exploitation.</p> <p>Implement a delivery model supporting a Violence Against Women &amp; Girls Prevention Strategy.</p> <p>Implement the National Missing Persons Framework for Scotland.</p> <p>Proactively target domestic abuse offenders.</p> <p>Develop partnership approaches to improve public confidence to report incidents of harm &amp; abuse.</p>	<p>Work collaboratively to identify and target violent offenders.</p> <p>Increase awareness of the impact of violence &amp; antisocial behaviour.</p> <p>Work in partnerships to reduce alcohol related criminality.</p> <p>Collaborate to capture the under reporting of violence &amp; explore preventative approaches (i.e. Navigator).</p> <p>Develop night time economy plans with licensed premises &amp; promote participation in 'Best Bar None'.</p>	<p>Focus on domestic housebreaking.</p> <p>Raise awareness of current crime trends &amp; prevention tactics.</p> <p>Tackle emerging acquisitive crime patterns to identify &amp; target prolific offenders.</p> <p>Work to prevent acquisitive crime.</p> <p>In partnership, maximise support for victims of acquisitive crime.</p> <p>Work with Scottish Partnership Against Rural Crime (SPARC).</p> <p>Use Police Scotland Youth Volunteers to deliver crime prevention information.</p>	<p>Collaborate on the engineering of the roads through our communities to improve road safety.</p> <p>Detect offenders who disregard road traffic laws &amp; endanger others.</p> <p>Support partnership driver education programmes.</p> <p>Raise awareness of the consequences of speeding, not wearing a seat belt, drink or drug driving &amp; using a mobile phone while driving.</p>	<p>Work to divert people from becoming involved in serious &amp; organised crime &amp; using its products (drugs, counterfeit good etc).</p> <p>Use social media to raise awareness and educate about human trafficking.</p> <p>Work to prosecute those involved in serious organised crime, including online, 'cuckooing' &amp; 'county lines'.</p> <p>Maximise the disruption of serious organised crime groups.</p> <p>Target the production, cultivation &amp; supply of illegal drugs.</p>

#### Police Scotland Strategic outcomes

- Threats to public safety and wellbeing are resolved by a proactive and responsive police service
- The needs of local communities are addressed through effective service delivery
- Public, communities and partners are engaged, involved and have confidence in policing
- Our people are supported through a positive working environment, enabling them to serve the public
- Police Scotland is sustainable, adaptable and prepared for future challenges

OFFICIAL

**POLICE SCOTLAND**  
Keeping people safe  
POILEAS ALBA

## **Introduction**

Crimes and offences are grouped under recognised categories for statistical purposes. The Scottish Government defines these categories, as follows;

- Group 1 – Non Sexual Crimes of Violence
- Group 2 – Sexual Crimes
- Group 3 – Crimes of Dishonesty
- Group 4 – Fire-raising, Malicious Mischief etc.
- Group 5 – Other (Pro-activity) Crimes
- Group 6 – Miscellaneous Offences
- Group 7 - Offences Relating to Motor Vehicles

Police Scotland publishes management information on an annual and quarterly basis by local authority and police division, as well as at a national level. These reports are produced to demonstrate Police Scotland's commitment to transparency. Police Scotland publishes all of these reports on the 'Our Performance' section of the Police Scotland website. The reports can be accessed here:

<http://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/our-performance/>

The Midlothian Policing Plan uses the following Police performance indicators, and these have been mirrored in the Scrutiny Report to maintain parity of understanding:

1. Protecting the most vulnerable people;
2. Reducing Violence and Antisocial Behaviour;
3. Reducing acquisitive Crime;
4. Improving road safety;
5. Tackling Serious and Organised Crime.

All figures quoted in this report are for the period April 2023 to Sept 2023 and are compared against the same reporting period from the previous year. Where figures are quoted on rate per 10,000 population, these are based on Midlothian's population of **92,460 in 2019** (Scottish Government figures, published April 2020).

## Midlothian Performance Summary

### Midlothian Performance Summary Report

Reporting Period: Q2 April 2023 – September 2023

Total Crime: (Group1-5) 2,638

Crime Decrease: -15.05%

#### Protecting the most vulnerable people

Rape & Att.  
Rape



-43% on 5 year average

Drug Supply



75% detection Rate

#### Reducing Violence and Antisocial Behaviour

Antisocial Behaviour



2449 (-19.38%)

Serious Assault



95% Detection Rate

#### Reducing Acquisitive Crime

Theft Motor Vehicle



28.9% Increase

Housebreaking (Dwelling)



53.3% Increase

#### Improving Road Safety



15 Fewer Casualties

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## Executive Summary

On the 9<sup>th</sup> October 2023, Chief Constable Jo Farrell assumed command of Police Scotland and reinforced the values policing brings to our communities: keeping people safe from harm, protecting the vulnerable, bringing criminals to justice, solving problems, and reducing offending. Police Scotland stands up for and with our communities, which strengthens them, improves their wellbeing, and allows them to prosper.

Chief Constable Farrell confirmed her operational focus is on threat, harm, and risk, focusing on prevention, problem solving and proactivity, and looking after Police Scotland's hard-working officers and staff, ensuring our people can deliver our vital public service.

Quarter 2 2023/2024, recorded a noticeable increase in reported Housebreaking (Dwelling House) and Theft of a Motor Vehicle offences. In response to the increase in these crimes, a J Division Taskforce has been instigated. This taskforce has dedicated police resources, SIO led investigation, specialist roles, analytical and forensic services support. A significant number of items have been fast tracked for forensic examination and planned enforcement activity is at an advanced stage. I am confident that throughout the forthcoming Quarter those responsible will be arrested and reported to Crown Office Procurator Fiscal.

Throughout Q2 2023/2024, Midlothian Police have continued to Detect and Disrupt Serious and Organised Crime within our Communities, notably when officers from the Lothian & Scottish Borders Pro-active Crime Team and Midlothian Community Action Team disrupted a sophisticated criminal enterprise in the Danderhall area of Midlothian, seizing equipment suspected of being involved in the production of diazepam, including a pill press and about £900,000 worth of tablets, along with a range of other substances currently undergoing forensic analysis. Two men have been charged with various offences and the estimated street value of the items recovered by police is in excess of £1 million.

### Missing Person

During Q2 2023/24 26 Adults, 7 Cared for Adults, 20 Children and 12 Looked After Children were reported as missing, but I am pleased to confirm all were traced safe and well by Midlothian Officers.

### Domestic Abuse

By the end of Q2 2023/24 there were 635 incidents reported, an increase of 7.37% on the 5 year average. The number of reported Domestic Abuse crimes recoded (288 reports) is 4.70% lower than the 5 year average. The percentage of domestic incidents that resulted in a crime report being submitted 38.74% represents a 0.63% increase on the five year average of 38.11%.

### Hate Crime

There has been an increase of 7 Hate Incidents reported during Q2 2023/24 compared to the 5 year average. This represents a 15% increase in reported incidents. There has however been a reduction of 7 Hate Crimes reported in Q2 2023/24 compared to the 5 year average. This represents a 17.8% reduction in recorded crimes. The detection rate for Hate Crimes at the end of Q2 2023/24 is 58.82% and represents a 27.57% increase on the Q1 return of 31.25%.

### Sexual Crimes

By the end of Q2 2023/2024 reports of all Group 2 Sexual Crime within Midlothian had increased by 8.29% to 115 reports against a 5 year average of 106.2 reports. By the end of Q2 2023/2024 there had been 12 reports of Rape and Attempt Rape, this is down 43.31% on the 5 year average of 20.8 reports. The detection rate for Rape and Attempt Rape during Q2 is 41.67%. By end of Q2 2023/2024 there had been 33 reports of Indecent/Sexual Assault which represents a 19.12% reduction on the 5 year average of 40.8 reports. The detection rate for Indecent/Sexual Assault during Q2 remains at 44.29%.

**Drugs Supply, Production and Cultivation**

During Q2 2023/24 there were 85 Possession of Drugs crimes recorded, with a detection rate of 89.41%. There were 16 Supply of Drugs crimes recorded, with a detection rate of 75%, with outstanding enquiries awaiting forensic analysis of items recovered by police.

**Crimes Of Violence**

During Q2 2023/2024 there were 23 serious assaults within Midlothian which reflects the 5 year average. The detection rate is 95.65% and remains well above the wider Divisional detection rate of 75.93%. There were 17 reported Robberies in Midlothian, this is a 117.95% increase on the 5 year average. The detection rate is 88.24% and similarly remains considerably above the wider Divisional solvency rate of 66.67%. There were 494 recorded Common Assaults in Midlothian presenting a 15.10% increase on the 5 year average. The detection rate is 64.57% which remains above the wider Divisional solvency rate of 61.14%.

**Reducing Anti-Social Behaviour**

Throughout Q2 2023/2024, there were 2449 ASB incidents were reported to Police, representing a 19.28% reduction compared to the five year average. A total of 323 Vandalism type offences were recorded, representing a 5.17% reduction compared to the 5 year average. Midlothian recorded a further 6.63% reduction in Threatening & Abusive Behaviour offences.

**Dishonesty**

During Q2 2023/24, a total of 898 overall Group 3 crimes (including housebreaking crimes) have been recorded within Midlothian. This figure represents 40.4 fewer crimes or a 4.31% reduction compared to the 5 year average. The detection rate of 26.17% still remains above the wider Divisional detection rate of 24.23%.

**Housebreaking**

During Q2 2023/24, a total of 65 reports of Theft Housebreaking (including attempts) were recorded. This figure represents a 62.5% increase on the 5 average. A similar recent increase of 53.3% has been observed across the wider Lothian & Scottish Borders Division area. Likewise during Q2 2023/24, a total of 57 reports of Theft of a Motor vehicle were recorded. This figure represents a 28.9% increase on the 5 average.

**Road Safety**

Throughout Q2 2023/24 there have been 15 fewer casualties (Fatal, Serious, and Minor) recorded within Midlothian than the previous Q2 2022/ 23 return. This represents a 30.61% reduction in the total number of casualties on Midlothian roads.

**Tackling Serious Organised Crime**

Continued efforts to disrupt organised crime groups by targeting drugs supply offences, gathering intelligence and generating enforcement opportunities

**Protecting the most vulnerable people.**

**Missing Persons**

The Lothians & Scottish Borders (J) Division and the communities of Midlothian recognise that protecting people, particularly those considered vulnerable, is a policing priority. Within the remit of protecting people is the work and investigations carried out to trace people who are reported missing.

Recognising the vulnerability associated with missing people, particularly those that are young or suffering from mental health challenges, Police Scotland has adopted a rigorous investigation structure and management approach to incidents involving missing people.

**Missing Person Type – JULY 2023**

Adult	11	47.83%
Cared for Adults	2	8.69%
Child	7	30.43%
Looked After Children	3	13.04%

**Missing Person Type – AUGUST 2023**

Adult	8	34.78%
Cared for Adults	2	8.69%
Child	7	30.43%
Looked After Child	6	26.01%

**Missing Person Type – SEPTEMBER 2023**

Adult	7	36.84%
Cared for Adults	3	15.78%
Child	6	31.57%
Looked After Child	3	15.78%

During Q2 2023/24 26 Adults, 7 Cared for Adults, 20 Children and 12 Looked After Children were reported as missing, but I am pleased to confirm all were traced safe and well by Midlothian Officers.

We continue to work with partners to support individuals where a risk is identified.

In total there were 8 fewer reports made to police during Q2 compared to Q1, and the 65 incidents reported during Q2 2023/24 included 44 Missing Person Reports from a home address, 6 from a Young Persons Unit, 4 from an Adult Care Home, 3 from a Foster Care address, 1 from a School and 7 from other locations.

<b>Protecting the most vulnerable people.</b>	<b>Domestic Abuse Incidents</b>
---	---------------------------------

	5yr Average	Q2 2023/24	% Change
Number of Domestic Abuse Incidents	591.4	635	7.37
Total Crimes and offences in domestic abuse incidents	302.2	288	-4.70
Percentage of Domestic Incidents that result in a crime	38.11	38.74	0.63
Total crimes and offences detection rate	69.20	60.76	-12.20
Total Detections for Domestic Bail Offences	32.8	27	-17.68

Domestic Abuse is a priority for Police Scotland and for all Midlothian Officers. By the end of Q2 2023/24 there were 635 incidents reported, an increase of 7.37% on the 5 year average.

This increase in reported domestic incident is not unexpected. The population of Midlothian has increased by 16% in the last census figures against a national rise of 2.7%. There has been extensive house building programme in the Midlothian area so more families will be affected by this year’s increase in mortgage rates than other areas with financial pressures a recognised trigger for abuse. Similarly the number of reported incidents usually increases during the school holiday period as families spend more time in each other’s company.

The number of reported Domestic Abuse crimes recoded (288 reports) is 4.70% lower than the 5 year average.

The percentage of domestic incidents that resulted in a crime report being submitted 38.74% represents a 0.63% increase on the five year average of 38.11%. This represents a continued confidence of the public to report incidents or contact the Police at an early stage in disagreements.

Midlothian Police remain committed to targeting violence against women and girls, demonstrated by a dedicated Domestic Violence Investigation team. During Q2 2023/24 this team arrested and reported 30 individuals for Domestic Abuse related offences.

<b>Protecting the most vulnerable people.</b>	<b>Hate Crime</b>
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Midlothian			
	5 year average	Q2 2023/24	Q1 Per 10,000
Hate Incidents	44.6	52	5.62
Hate Crimes *	41.4	34	3.68
Hate Crime Detection Rate	74.40	58.82	

This section refers to Hate Crime and Hate Incidents. **Hate Crimes are offences under:**

-Section 50a (1) (A) and (B) and (5) Criminal law consolidation Act 1995 (racial harassment and abuse )

And any other crimes which include a Hate Crime aggravator- i.e where a crime has been committed and is aggravated by hate. These aggravators are disability, race, religion, sexual orientation and transgender identity.

**Hate incidents are incidents where the facts do not identify as a recordable crime** but the victim, or any other person, perceives the incident to be hate related.

- There has been an increase of 7 Hate Incidents reported during Q2 2023/24 compared to the 5 year average. This represents a 15% increase in reported incidents.
- There has however been a reduction of 7 Hate Crimes reported in Q2 2023/24 compared to the 5 year average. This represents a 17.8% reduction in recorded crimes.
- The detection rate for Hate Crimes at the end of Q2 2023/24 is 58.82% and represents a 27.57% increase on the Q1 return of 31.25%.

Midlothian Police continue to work with partners to encourage the reporting of Hate Crimes. All crimes are reviewed by the Community Policing Inspector to ensure all investigative opportunities are identified and progressed.

The vast majority of victims of Hate Crime continue to be shop workers, Police officers and other emergency workers who are most often abused in the course of their daily duties.

<b>Protecting the most vulnerable people.</b>	<b>Sexual Crimes (Group 2)</b>
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Crime Type	5 Year average	Q2 2023/24	Change	YTD Per 10,000 population	Q2 2023/24 Detection Rate
Group 2	106.2	115	8.29%	12.44	46.96%
Rape & Attempt Rape	20.8	12	-42.31%	1.3	41.67%
Indecent/Sexual Assault	40.8	33	-19.12%	3.57	54.55%
Other Group 2	44.4	70	57.66%	7.57	44.29%

Reducing Rape and Sexual Crime remains an area of focus for officers in Midlothian. This focus includes working with partner agencies to provide confidence to report offences, undertaking professional investigations, providing victim support, pursuing perpetrators and managing offenders. The investigation of sexual crimes and the management of offenders, in particular, is achieved through close collaborative working with partner agencies and local communities.

By the end of Q2 2023/2024 reports of all Group 2 Sexual Crime within Midlothian had increased by 8.29% to 115 reports against a 5 year average of 106.2 reports.

By the end of Q2 2023/2024 there had been 12 reports of Rape and Attempt Rape, this is down 43.31% on the 5 year average of 20.8 reports. The detection rate for Rape and Attempt Rape during Q2 is 41.67%.

By end of Q2 2023/2024 there had been 33 reports of Indecent/Sexual Assault which represents a 19.12% reduction on the 5 year average of 40.8 reports. The detection rate for Indecent/Sexual Assault during Q2 remains at 44.29%.

With regards to detection rates highlighted above, often these crime types require time consuming forensic analysis of clothing and other items recovered by police. Therefore some current ongoing enquiries within Midlothian are awaiting the results of such examination before they can be solved, and it is anticipated these rates will improve during Q3.

During Q2 2023/2024, police continued to utilise social media to elevate awareness of “sextortion” scams where fraudsters befriend individuals online, entice them into performing sexual acts/send explicit photographs and thereafter blackmail them into sending money. Despite raising awareness, we continue to see more and more social media users falling for this type of scam. We continue to support victims and direct them to appropriate third party agencies.

During Q2 2023/2024, a 43% increase was observed against the 5 year average for Communicating Indecently with 18 crimes recorded. Within Midlothian we continue to see an increase in detection rates for this crime type including two offenders reported with 3 & 4 offences each. A 5% increase was recorded on the Q1 detection rate, with a Q2 2023/24 detection rate of 72.22%.

This detection rate remains 10.89% higher than the wider Divisional detection rate of 61.33%.

Similarly the detection rate for taking, distribution, possession of indecent photos of children during Q2 2023/24 was 85.71% reflecting an additional 2.4% improvement on the Q1 2023/2024 rate.

Both of these strong detection rates demonstrate our commitment to protecting vulnerable people in a physical and digital world.

<b>Protecting the most vulnerable people.</b>	<b>Drug Supply, Production &amp; Cultivation</b>
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Drugs Supply	5 year average	Q2 2023/24	Change	YTD Per 10,000 population	Q2 2023/24 Detection Rate
Drugs Supply, Production and Cultivation	30.2	16	-47.02	1.73	75%

We continue to focus on those who bring harm to our communities, and particularly those who are involved in drugs supply, cultivation/production and the sale of Class A (such Heroin or Cocaine) and Class C (such Valium or Xanax) drugs, as it has been identified that these have led to an increase in drug related deaths.

We recognise the national Drugs Deaths statistics in Scotland and are committed to targeting drug dealers, whilst working in partnership along with the Midlothian and East Lothian Drugs Partnership (MELDAP).

Our divisional approach is now well established which introduces multi-agency engagement and recording of all Non-Fatal Overdoses. We send notification of any NFO to the local addiction services who ensure the individual is offered support. This programme is seeing an increased engagement with local drug support groups and is allowing for intelligence streams around developing drug trends and potentially harmful products.

During Q2 2023/24 there were 85 Possession of Drugs crimes recorded, with a detection rate of 89.41%.

During Q2 2023/24 there were 16 Supply of Drugs crimes recorded, with a detection rate of 75%, with outstanding enquiries awaiting forensic analysis of items recovered by police.

Examples of proactive enquiries within Midlothian during Q2 2023/2024 include:

- Notably in September, officers from the Lothian & Scottish Borders Pro-active Crime Team and Midlothian Community Action Team disrupted a sophisticated criminal enterprise in the Danderhall area of Midlothian, seizing equipment suspected of being involved in the production of diazepam, including a pill press and about £900,000 worth of tablets, along with a range of other substances currently undergoing forensic analysis.

Two men have been charged with various offences and the estimated street value of the items recovered by police is in excess of £1 million.

- Multiple Misuse of Drugs Warrants were executed by MCAT officers during Q2 2023/24, resulting in the following recoveries with the upper street value totalling:
  - Class A: £1,000,385
  - Class B: £ 167,498.25
  - Class C: £0.00

We continue to developed drugs intelligence from the local community. Drugs enforcement requires information from sources to build a picture and fill in the pieces of the jigsaw. We rely upon community intelligence, and encourage reporting direct to police by phone, online, in person, via remote reporting sites and / or anonymously through Crimestoppers (0800 555111).

<b>Reducing Violence and Antisocial Behaviour</b>	<b>Crimes of Violence (Group 1)</b>
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Crime Type	5 year average	Q2 2023/24	Change	YTD Per 10,000 population	Q2 2023/24 Detection Rate
Group 1	61.4	116	88.93%	12.55	57.76%
Serious Assault	22.8	23	0.88%	2.49	95.65%
Robbery	7.8	17	117.95%	1.84	88.24%
Common Assault	429.2	494	15.10%	53.43	64.57%

\*Common assaults are not recorded as group 1 crimes.

Reducing violence and the impact on our communities is a priority for The Police Service of Scotland and within Midlothian we work with partners to reduce the circumstances that can lead to violence while endeavouring to identify and arrest perpetrators as swiftly as possible.

All Serious Assaults and Robberies are investigated by the Criminal Investigation Department and solvency for these offences remains high within Midlothian.

During Q2 2023/2024 there were 23 serious assaults within Midlothian which reflects the 5 year average. The detection rate is 95.65% and remains well above the wider Divisional detection rate of 75.93%.

During Q2 2023/2024 there were 17 reported Robberies in Midlothian, this is a 117.95% increase on the 5 year average. The detection rate is 88.24% and similarly remains considerably above the wider Divisional solvency rate of 66.67%.

During Q2 2023/2024 there were 494 recorded Common Assaults in Midlothian presenting a 15.10% increase on the 5 year average. The detection rate is 64.57% which remains above the wider Divisional solvency rate of 61.14%.

There were 33 assaults on Emergency Workers during Q2 2023/24 reflecting a positive 15.81% reduction on the 5 year average. However any assault on an Emergency Worker is unacceptable, it is clear that aggressive or threatening behaviour or verbal abuse against Police Scotland or other Emergency Services personnel is simply not part of their duties.

<b>Reducing Violence and Antisocial Behaviour</b>	<b>Reducing Antisocial Behaviour</b>
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Indicator	5 Year Average	2023-24 Q2	Change	TYTD Per 10,000 population	Q2 2023/24 Detection Rate
Antisocial Behaviour Incidents	3034	2449	-19.28		
Vandalism (Including Malicious Mischief)	340.6	323	-5.17%	34.93	21.98%
Fire-raising	22.2	29	30.63%	3.14	17.24%
Breach of the Peace and S38 CJ&L(S) A 2010	392.4	357	-9.02%	38.61	71.43%

Midlothian Police continue to tackle Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) in its various forms with our partners.

Throughout Q2 2023/2024, there were 2449 ASB incidents were reported to Police, representing a 19.28% reduction compared to the five year average.

During Q2 2023/24 a total of 323 Vandalism type offences were recorded, representing a 5.17% reduction compared to the 5 year average.

During Q2 2023/2024 Midlothian recorded a further 6.63% reduction in Threatening & Abusive Behaviour offences.

Proactive patrols have continued at hot spot areas including Tesco/McDonalds Hardengreen, the Gorebridge terminus, and Rosewell. MCAT ensure these are monitored and patrolled daily.

MCAT continually liaise and work in partnership with the local Community and School Link officers in order to engage with youths, identify patterns, prevent incident before they arise and identify offenders.

Operation Juke was instigated specifically to deal with Anti-Social Behaviour involving youths travelling along local bus routes. MCAT have been working closely with LRT to tackle youth offending and ASB on these buses. This has resulted in a strong partnership relationship and has resulted in numerous plain and uniform patrols, supported by LRT and the deployment of a decoy bus to identify those youths responsible for this behaviour. These deployments have had a positive impact reducing similar incidents across both Q1 and Q2.

Throughout Q2 2023/24 MCAT and Community Policing Officers have continued to target Anti-Social Behaviour involving off road motorcycles (Operation Jewel). This operation to date has resulted in 19 motorcycles being seized by police and 12 individuals being reported to Crown Office Procurator Fiscal Service for various different motorbike related traffic offences.

In addition to the above pro-active policing, the Midlothian Community Policing team have continued to engage with and support communities throughout Midlothian, including delivering personal safety inputs to Dalkeith Library & Third sector staff, completing Architectural Liaison reviews for several new housing developments within the Mayfield, Pathhead and Gorebridge areas, helping design safer places to live.

During Q2 2023/2024, the Midlothian Local Authority Liaison Officer continued to foster closer working within Midlothian Council Housing department, introducing a Daily ASB report shared to highlight ASB incidents reported to police.

<b>Reducing Acquisitive Crime</b>	<b>Dishonesty (group 3)</b>
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<b>5 Year Average</b>	<b>Q2 2023/24</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>YTD Per 10,000 population</b>	<b>Q2 2023/24 Detection Rate</b>
938.4	898	-4.31%	97.12	26.17%

Given the wide range of ‘Acquisitive Crimes’ this priority is covered in 2 sections within this report:

- Dishonesty (covered in this section)
- Housebreaking (covered in next section)

Dealing with Acquisitive Crime to protect people by reducing the impacts of theft on individuals and communities remains a priority

During Q2 2023/24, a total of 898 overall Group 3 crimes (including housebreaking crimes) have been recorded within Midlothian. This figure represents 40.4 fewer crimes or a 4.31% reduction compared to the 5 year average. The detection rate of 26.17% still remains above the wider Divisional detection rate of 24.23%.

<b>Reducing Acquisitive Crime</b>	<b>Housebreaking</b>
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Crime Type	5 Year Average	Q2 2023/24	Change	YTD Per 10,000 population	Q2 2023/24 Detection Rate
Dwelling HB	40	65	62.50%	7.03	16.92%
Non Dwelling (Sheds, garages) HB	44.2	42	-4.98%	4.54	9.52%
Other (Business) HB	32.4	25	-22.84%	2.7	36.00%
All HB	116.6	132	13.21%	14.28	18.18%

During Q2 2023/24, a total of 65 reports of Theft Housebreaking (including attempts) were recorded. This figure represents a 62.5% increase on the 5 average. A similar recent increase of 53.3% has been observed across the wider Lothian & Scottish Borders Division area.

Likewise during Q2 2023/24, a total of 57 reports of Theft of a Motor vehicle were recorded. This figure represents a 28.9% increase on the 5 average.

In response to the increase in these crimes, a J Division Taskforce has been instigated. This taskforce has dedicated police resources, SIO led investigation, specialist roles, analytical and forensic services support. A significant number of items have been fast tracked for forensic examination and planned enforcement activity is at an advanced stage.

MCAT officers continue to Prevent / Deter / Disrupt further Serious & Organised Crime activity with daily bail checks, tasked patrolling and dedicated operations at weekends. Similarly social media messaging is frequently published to raise awareness and highlight simple crime prevention advice, for example ensuring vehicle keys are stored securely and not left on open display next to insecure front doors.

We continue to developed information regarding those responsible for committing this crime within our local communities. We rely upon community intelligence, and encourage reporting direct to police by phone, online, in person, via remote reporting sites and / or anonymously through Crimestoppers (0800 555111).

<b>Improving road safety</b>	<b>Road Casualties</b>
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	Q2 2022/23	Q2 2023/24	Change
Fatal	1	1	0%
Serious	15	14	-7%
Slight	33	19	-42%
<b>Total</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>-30.61%</b>
Children (aged<16) Killed	0	0	-
Children (aged<16) Seriously Injured	2	2	0%

	5 Year Average	Q2 2023/24	Change
<b>Dangerous driving</b>	29.6	20	-32.43%
<b>Speeding</b>	19.2	73	280.21%
<b>Disqualified driving</b>	17	5	-70.59%
<b>Driving Licence</b>	59.8	36	-39.80%
<b>Insurance</b>	144.4	109	-24.52%
<b>Seat Belts</b>	7.6	22	189.47%
<b>Mobile Phone</b>	16.4	27	64.63%
<b>Drink/Drug Driving Detections</b>	59.4	57	-4.04%

## OFFICIAL

Throughout Q2 2023/24 there have been 15 fewer casualties (Fatal, Serious, and Minor) recorded within Midlothian than the previous Q2 2022/ 23 return.

This represents a 30.61% reduction in the total number of casualties on Midlothian roads.

Unfortunately during Q2 2023/24, there has been 1 fatality, mirroring the previous year's Q1 2022/23 return.

During Q2 2023/24, there have been 14 people Seriously Injured, reflecting a 7% reduction (1 less incident) on same period last year.

During Q2 2023/2024 the number of Children Seriously Injured during the same period is 2, mirroring the previous year Q1 2022/23.

There continues to be an encouragingly significant 42% decrease in the number of people Slightly Injured (down to 34 from 49) during Q1 2023/24 compared to the previous year.

MCAT completed static road checks utilising Hand Held Laser Gun. These checks were carried out in areas identified as a concerns by local residents and Midlothian Council including Eskbank Road, Bonnyrigg Road, Lasswade road, and Dundas Street in Bonnyrigg. A number of tickets were issued in relation to identified offences.

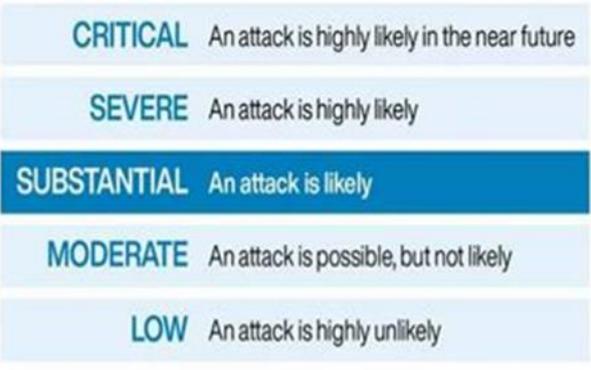
Road checks were completed at Sheriffhall Park and Ride on a number of evenings. These checks were completed in response to reports of car enthusiasts driving in an anti-social manner which impacted nearby residents.

MCAT completed extra patrols at Croft Street, Dalkeith and other areas with school restrictions. These patrols were completed at school drop off and pick up times in relation to parking on restricted roads at these times. MCAT engaged with and provided advice to drivers, pedestrians and local businesses where appropriate and 36 tickets issued during the month of September.

This MCAT activity is in addition to the Safety Camera Unit who also deploy as per normal procedures nationally, covering accident and speeding hotspots along major arterial routes throughout Midlothian.

Looking ahead, the National Speeding Campaign runs from 16th to 29th October this year and this will be supported throughout Midlothian with specialist Road Policing and MCAT officers carrying out pop up Hand Held Laser/Speed Checks.

Tackling Serious & Organised Crime

<p><b>UK terror threat levels</b> (as of February 9 2022)</p>  <p>CRITICAL An attack is highly likely in the near future</p> <p>SEVERE An attack is highly likely</p> <p><b>SUBSTANTIAL</b> An attack is likely</p> <p>MODERATE An attack is possible, but not likely</p> <p>LOW An attack is highly unlikely</p> <p><small>PA graphic. Source: Joint Terrorism Analysis Centre</small></p>	<p>The UK National Threat Level is</p> <p><b>SUBSTANTIAL: an attack is likely.</b></p> <p>On Wednesday, 9 February 2022, the Home Secretary announced that the UK's Terrorist Threat Level has been lowered from Severe to Substantial.</p> <p>Assistant Chief Constable Mark Williams said: "At this time there is nothing to suggest that there is any specific threat to Scotland. However, I would remind the people of Scotland that they should remain vigilant and report any suspicious activity to Police Scotland."</p>
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The UK threat level remains at Substantial as it has done since February 2022.

Midlothian continue to work closely with partner agencies to actively target "County Lines" nominals that use Midlothian as a base to distribute drugs throughout our community.

During Q2 2023/2024 MCAT have been working alongside the Proactive Crime Team dealing with an inquiry following on from a previous warrant execution in Penicuik. This involved organising over one hundred productions, identifying stolen motorbikes and the craving of further stolen property warrants for two addresses. The inquiry was eventually linked to Operation Jetty which is an overarching pre-existing inquiry dealing with a high volume of vehicle thefts and housebreaking crimes which has affected many areas across the length and breadth of Scotland. It is anticipated this enquiry will result in a number of outstanding crimes being resolved in the Midlothian area.

<b>Complaints</b>	<b>Executive Summary</b>
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April 2023 – September 2023				
	Number of Complaints about the Police		Number of Complaints per 10,000 Police Incidents	
Complaints received about the Police	40		30.10	
	On Duty Allegations	Off Duty Allegations	Quality of Service Allegations	Total Number of Allegations
Total Allegations Recorded	30		27	57

The breakdown above details the total number of Complaints about the Police, received in relation to the Midlothian area command as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

The breakdown below provides further detail on the Allegation Category and Type. As can be seen there has been a 19.7% decrease in the overall number of Complaints about the Police when comparing LYTD and YTD.

*Table: Allegations received in the Midlothian Council area, by period (Apr – Sept) <sup>1</sup>*

Allegation Category and Type	PYTD	YTD	% change
<b>On Duty - TOTAL</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>-31.8%</b>
Assault	9	3	-66.7%
Discriminatory Behaviour	0	1	x
Excessive Force	6	1	-83.3%
Incivility	11	6	-45.5%
Irregularity in Procedure	16	17	6.3%
Oppressive Conduct/Harassment	1	0	-100.0%
Other - Criminal	0	1	x
Other - Non Criminal	1	0	-100.0%
Traffic Irregularity/Offence	0	1	x

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<b>Quality Of Service - TOTAL</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>-30.8%</b>
Policy/Procedure	3	5	66.7%
Service Delivery	17	8	-52.9%
Service Outcome	19	14	-26.3%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>-31.3%</b>

Midlothian CAT team – Q2 Update

Activities

- 1. High Visibility Patrolling:** *the provision of community support and reassurance by undertaking high visibility vehicle, foot and cycle patrols focusing on identified antisocial behaviour issues.*

MCAT officers continued to conduct high visibility patrols across the Midlothian area. Throughout Q2 2023/2024. This included high visibility static road checks outside local Primary schools promoting road safety and also ensuring the safety of children and guardians during school opening and closing hours. In addition, a number of static road checks employing the radar Speed gun were carried out at different locations across the county. Extra attention was given to Croft Street, Dalkeith, Lasswade Primary School and Strathesk Primary school at school drop off and pick up times in relation to the restricted roads at these times, resulting in 36 Tickets being issued In September.

Mobile, Foot and Quad bike patrols were conducted in the town centers and hot spots for youth disorder and anti-social behavior (ASB) in Dalkeith, Loanhead, Bonnyrigg, Penicuik and Mayfield to deter and engage with groups of youths. Initiatives and joint working were executed focusing on Lothian Bus routes specifically those between Tesco, Hardengreen, Dalkeith, Gorebridge terminus, and Rosewell working in conjunction with Lothian Buses similar to Q1 2023/2024 and this work will continue moving forward.

In relation to the continued impact of anti-social behaviour caused by off-road bikes in the Midlothian area, Operation Jewel has continued throughout Q2 2023/2024. Officers were deployed on Quadbikes to target specific areas known to be used by those responsible. These officers have been able to target and disrupt those involved. Specific areas have been identified as hotpots of this activity and targeted areas chosen being around Penicuik, Easthouses and Mayfield. This culminated in the use of SelectDNA on Easthouses Road, where two riders of off-road bikes have been sprayed and the investigation is ongoing into identifying the culprits. Further work has been undertaken with the Community Policing Team and to date, has resulted in 19 motorcycles being seized by police and 12 individuals being reported to Crown Office Procurator Fiscal Service for various different motorbike related traffic offences.

Regular patrolling of and visits to all licensed premises in Midlothian continued. These patrols and visits are completed to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for those using hospitality venues and enjoying the weekend night life. These unannounced visits further play a role in ensuring premises are complying with the requirements of their operating licenses and where issues are identified allow follow up by designated Licensing Officers.

- Recidivist Offenders:** *intelligence led focus on individuals known to engage in antisocial behaviour, drugs use/supply and persistent alcohol abuse, with specific attention being given to persons subject to ASBOs and judicial bails (including curfews).*

All opportunities are taken to challenge recidivist offenders, often historically responsible for a large number of offences.

In total 96 Bail Curfew checks were carried out with a compliance rate of 83%, demonstrating how the continued use of this tactic curtails criminal behavior.

**OFFICIAL**

12 individuals were arrested on warrant by MCAT over this quarter, efforts continue to trace individuals to curtail criminal behavior. This is a decrease of 19 from Q1 and a result of the continued effort from Q1 to reduce the number of outstanding arrest warrants.

Where there is a legislated reason, MCAT officers search individuals for controlled substances, stolen property, and weapons, progressing these to house searches if the circumstances allow.

House searches under warrant have continued and have been successful in recovering drugs, cash and weapons. A number of reports have been submitted and details are in the monthly reports. These searches do rely on a steady flow of intelligence from the community, as well as proactivity by the team.

Multiple Misuse of Drugs Warrants were executed by MCAT officers during Q2 2023/24, resulting in the following recoveries with the upper street value totaling:

- Class A: £1,000,385
- Class B: £ 167,498.25
- Class C: £0.00

A Misuse of Drugs warrant was executed in Bonnyrigg. This resulted in the recovery of a very large scale cannabis cultivation which has made a significant impact on organised crime in the area and further resulted in the recovery of numerous stolen vehicles.

In the month of August, MCAT carried out an initiative into a targeted MDA search warrant initiative in response to a spike in drugs related health problems in Midlothian. 7 Misuse of Drugs act search warrants within a period of just 6 weeks have been executed. This drive in enforcement activity has so far lead to the recovery of around 20000 'street valium' as well as various different personal quantities of class A drugs, this has made a significant disruption of Organised crime in the area.

MCAT officers assisted in a Misuse of Drugs search warrant in the Danderhall area where equipment found at that address has been used in the production of controlled drugs. The equipment was capable of producing a industrial scale amount of controlled drugs along with 900,000 tablets. It is anticipated that the recovery has a street value over £1 million. The recovery demonstrates a significant commitment to disrupting serious and organised crime.

Bail Curfew Check COMPLIANT	93
Bail Curfew Check FAILED	16
Arrest on warrant	12
Search Person MDA Positive	8
Search Person MDA Negative	5
Search Property MDA Positive	10
Search Property MDA Negative	7
Search Weapons Positive	4

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Search Weapons Negative	0
Search Stolen Property Positive	0
Search Stolen Property Negative	0

- Youth Engagement:** *actively engage with youths and foster a positive image of the police and their local communities. Act as primary first responders to youth calls, disrupt antisocial behaviour and enforce appropriate legislation firmly but fairly. Maximise alcohol seizures. Engage with partners and CBO colleagues to identify appropriate support and diversionary activities.*

Throughout Q2 2023/24, MCAT attended 35 youth incidents throughout Midlothian wards, this represents a decrease in youth related incidents on the last quarter.

Proactive patrols have continued at hot spot areas including Tesco/McDonalds Hardengreen, the Gorebridge terminus, and Rosewell. MCAT ensure these are monitored and patrolled daily.

MCAT have completed plain clothes initiative around schools at break and lunch time after complaints raised about pupils smoking Cannabis in the nearby areas and causing antisocial behaviour issues. This resulted in 6 pupils stopped and searched with a negative result.

MCAT continually liaise and work in partnership with the local Community and School Link officers in order to engage with youths, identify patterns, prevent incident before they arise and identify offenders.

Operation Juke was instigated specifically to deal with Anti-Social Behaviour involving youths travelling along local bus routes. MCAT have been working closely with LRT to tackle youth offending and ASB on these buses. This has resulted in a strong partnership relationship and has resulted in numerous plain and uniform patrols, supported by LRT and the deployment of a decoy bus to identify those youths responsible for this behaviour. These deployments have had a positive impact reducing similar incidents across both Q1 and Q2.

Youth Calls Attended	35
Alcohol Seizures	0
Children At Risk VPDs Submitted	2

- Licensed Premises:** *monitor licensed premises activity and act as first responders to antisocial behavior related incidents whenever possible.*

All Midlothian Licensed premises continued to be monitored and visited by MCAT officers. There continues to be a gradual drop in incidents within licensed premises.

LP Visit Public House	10
LP Visit Off Sales	0

- Support Partners & Colleagues:** *engage with community partners to work together towards the vision and promote joint patrolling. Support divisional colleagues by acting as first responders to antisocial behaviour related incidents that are occurring in real time whenever possible. Instigate and contribute to operations and initiatives linked to the core vision.*

MCAT have been working closely with LRT to tackle youth offending and ASB on buses across both Q1 and Q2. This has resulted in a strong partnership relationship and has resulted in numerous plain and uniform patrols on the buses. This has also resulted in the deployment of the decoy bus.

MCAT continue to liaise with the Scottish Fire and Rescue service identifying areas where fires have been set but not reported to the Police, this allows MCAT to focus their patrols in these areas. The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service now provide a weekly report to MCAT to assist with both prevention and detection.

Joint Activity NHS/SAS	0
Joint Activity Local Council	0
Joint Activity SFRS	0
Joint Activity Public Event	0

- Road Safety:** *tackle antisocial vehicle use, giving specific attention to inconsiderate vehicle use on the Midlothian road network and the illegal use of off-road motorcycles. Maximise the appropriate use of ASBO warnings and vehicle seizures.*

MCATS officers supported by the Community Policing Team continue to deal effectively with Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) with a particular focus during Q2 on Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) involving off road motorbikes. As part of Operation Jewel, high visibility and unmarked patrols continued in relation to theft of motor vehicles and anti-social use of off road bikes throughout Midlothian which has resulted in a number of recoveries.

MCAT completed static road checks utilising Hand Held Radar Gun. These checks were carried out in areas identified as a concerns by local residents and Midlothian Council including Eskbank Road, Bonnyrigg Road, Lasswade road, and Dundas Street in Bonnyrigg. A number of tickets were issued in relation to identified offences.

Road checks were completed at Sheriffhall Park and Ride on a number of evenings. These checks were completed in response to reports of car enthusiasts driving in an anti-social manner which impacted nearby residents.

MCAT completed extra patrols at Croft Street, Dalkeith and other areas with school restrictions. These patrols were completed at school drop off and pick up times in relation to parking on restricted roads at these times.

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MCAT engaged with and provided advice to drivers, pedestrians and local businesses where appropriate and 36 tickets issued during the month of September.

Looking ahead, the National Speeding Campaign runs from 16th to 29th October this year and this will be supported throughout Midlothian with specialist Road Policing and MCAT officers carrying out pop up Hand Held Laser/Speed Checks.

Static Road Checks	4
Fixed Penalty Tickets (RTA only)	38
Section 165 Seizures	0
Breath Tests Negative (pass)	3
Breath Tests Positive (fail)	2
S5A Drug Wipe Negative (pass)	0
S5A Drug Wipe Positive (fail)	0
ASBO Seizures	0

**Other Incidents and Arrests of Note**

During Q2 2023/ 2024 officers from MCAT have been working alongside the Proactive Crime Team dealing with an inquiry following on from a previous warrant execution in Penicuik. This involved organising over one hundred productions, identifying stolen motorbikes and the craving of further stolen property warrants for two addresses. The inquiry was eventually linked to Operation Jetty which is an overarching pre-existing inquiry dealing with a high volume of vehicle thefts and housebreaking crimes which has affected many areas across the length and breadth of Scotland. This enquiry has resulted in a number of outstanding crimes being resolved in the Midlothian area.

MCAT officers deployed on quadbikes proved to be invaluable in searching large amounts of rural areas in relation to high risk Missing Person inquiries. MCAT continue to provide an integral role supporting the preservation of life of vulnerable persons in Midlothian.

MCAT Officers assisted in the progression of ongoing enquiries in relation to high risk domestic abuse investigation packages. In addition, MCAT officers provided assistance to the Public Protection Unit helping to arrest those suspected of committing serious offences against vulnerable people in Midlothian.

An MCAT officer was on mobile patrol late in the evening and came across a vehicle fire on the A7. The vehicle was checked with no person's within. SFRS attended and the fire was deemed suspicious. Ongoing enquiries to identify those responsible.

MCAT officers attended at Loanhead Youth Football Club and engaged with coaches on site. Identified key times when off-road bikes are acting in anti-social manner. Also initiating arrangements for Midlothian Council Mobile CCTV to set up and for MCAT officers to re-attend.

MCAT also making arrangements for Mobile CCTV to be set up at Dalkeith Campus for off-road bikes being driven on the pitches in an effort to identify offenders.

**Planned Activity**

MCAT officers have a number of search warrants in hand to execute in the coming month and, as always, intelligence related to high tariff offenders in Midlothian is continuously being developed and will be actioned upon both proactively and reactively.

In addition, MCAT will continue focused patrols, speed checks and Operation Jewel initiatives planned to target any specific issues that are brought to the attention of the MCAT by residents, partners, and colleagues or indeed discovered during usual proactive patrol and engagement with our communities. MCAT officers are gaining intelligence on a continued basis creating a picture of off-road bike issues and particularly where problem hot spots appear to be forming.

A detailed rural patrol plan is being compiled to provide reassurance and Police presence to our vulnerable rural areas of Midlothian.

MCAT Officers are working in partnership with Midlothian Council, Amberstone Security (Tesco Security), Tesco and Lothian Buses as part of Operation Juke to address increased youth anti-social behavior occurring around the bus terminus outside Tesco at Hardengreen.

MCAT will carry out focused patrols and engagement with local businesses, partners and the community in the area in the lead up to Halloween and fireworks night through Operation Torsion.

Throughout Q3 2023/24, MCAT officers will continue to work alongside Police Scotland's Special Constable Inquiry Team (SIT) to enhance police resources in Midlothian addressing ASB and Speeding offences.

Pedestrian and cycle zone exclusion enforcement – MCAT and CPT officers will be out ensuring the restrictions are adhered to. This is a priority issue for Midlothian residents and will be frequently patrolled with FPN issued where appropriate.

During Q3 2023/2024, MCAT are looking to deploy with multiple agencies under the banner of Operation Janaca in an effort to tackle Bogus Workmen. The operation will be undertaken with the assistance of Trading Standards, DVSA, DWP and Police. The multi strand operation will allow each organisation to utilise their expertise and legislative powers to detect and deter crime along with providing confidence to the public in Midlothian.

## Appendix

### Lothian and Scottish Borders Divisional Crime Overview

Lothian and Scottish Borders Division	5 Year Average	2023/24 Q2	Per 10,000 Q2 2023/24	Detection Rates 2023/24
<b>GROUP 1: NON SEXUAL CRIMES OF VIOLENCE</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>579</b>	<b>11.62</b>	<b>52.68</b>
Murder (excluding culpable homicide at common law)	1.4	1	0.02	100.00
Culpable homicide (at common law)	0	0	0	-
Culpable homicide (under statute including RTA, sec. 1)	1.8	2	0.04	100.00
Attempted murder	11	8	0.16	87.50
Serious assault	136.4	162	3.25	75.93
Robbery and assault with intent to rob	43.2	72	1.45	66.67
Domestic Abuse (of female)	N/A	83	1.67	77.11
Domestic Abuse (of male)	N/A	2	0.04	50.00
Domestic Abuse (Total)	N/A	85	1.71	76.47
Cruel & Unnatural treatment of children	36.4	37	0.74	91.89
Threats and extortion	38.6	181	3.63	2.21
Other group 1 crimes	20.6	31	0.62	67.74
<b>GROUP 2: SEXUAL CRIMES</b>	<b>562.6</b>	<b>668</b>	<b>13.41</b>	<b>53.74</b>
Rape	103	98	1.97	58.16
Assault w/i to rape or ravish	5.2	3	0.06	33.33
<i>Rape and attempted rape - Total</i>	<b>108.2</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>2.03</b>	<b>57.43</b>
Sexual assault (pre-SOSA 2009)*	5.8	0	0	-
Sexual assault (SOSA 2009)*	161.4	189	3.79	52.91
Lewd & libidinous practices*	48.8	28	0.56	57.14
<i>Indecent/Sexual Assault - Total</i>	<b>216</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>4.36</b>	<b>54.84</b>
<i>Prostitution related crime - Total*</i>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-</b>
Taking, distribution, possession of indecent photos of children	28.2	39	0.78	87.18
Communicating indecently (SOSA 2009)*	48.4	75	1.51	61.33
Communications Act 2003 (sexual)	10	17	0.34	35.29
Sexual exposure (SOSA 2009)*	19.6	32	0.64	56.25
Public indecency (common law)	6.2	2	0.04	100.00
Other sexual crimes (SOSA 2009)*	81.2	124	2.49	41.94
Other sexual crimes (non-SOSA 2009)*	8.2	11	0.22	63.64
Threatening / Disclosure of intimate image*	36.2	50	1	34.00
Other Group 2 crimes	0	0	0	-
<i>Other Group 2 crimes - Total</i>	<b>238</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>7.03</b>	<b>52.00</b>
<b>GROUP 3: CRIMES OF DISHONESTY</b>	<b>4247</b>	<b>4535</b>	<b>91.04</b>	<b>24.23</b>
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - dwelling house	174.8	268	5.38	22.39
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - non dwelling	141.4	123	2.47	13.82
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - other premises	167.8	98	1.97	30.61
<i>Housebreaking (incl. Attempts) - Total</i>	<b>484</b>	<b>489</b>	<b>9.82</b>	<b>21.88</b>

**OFFICIAL**

Opening Lockfast Places - Motor Vehicle	98.8	102	2.05	6.86
Theft of a motor vehicle	214.2	215	4.32	30.70
Theft from a Motor Vehicle (Insecure etc.)	251.4	162	3.25	16.05
Attempt theft of motor vehicle	17.2	25	0.5	12.00
<i>Motor vehicle crime - Total</i>	<b>581.6</b>	<b>504</b>	<b>10.12</b>	<b>20.24</b>
Opening Lockfast Places - NOT Motor Vehicle	62.6	58	1.16	5.17
Common theft	1194.4	1141	22.9	16.30
Theft by shoplifting	1097.6	1366	27.42	38.43
Fraud	513.6	721	14.47	11.79
Other Group 3 Crimes	313.2	256	5.14	35.55
<b>GROUP 4: FIRE-RAISING, MALICIOUS MISCHIEF etc.</b>	<b>2040</b>	<b>2122</b>	<b>42.6</b>	<b>27.33</b>
Fireraising	125.8	158	3.17	15.19
Vandalism (including malicious mischief)	1797.8	1807	36.27	27.23
Reckless conduct (with firearms)	2.6	2	0.04	50.00
Culpable and reckless conduct (not with firearms)	108.4	135	2.71	45.19
Other Group 4 Crimes	5.4	20	0.4	10.00
<b>GROUP 5: OTHER (PRO-ACTIVITY) CRIMES</b>	<b>2177.4</b>	<b>2201</b>	<b>44.18</b>	<b>94.64</b>
Carrying offensive weapons (incl. restriction)	90.4	88	1.77	82.95
Handling bladed/pointed instrument	83.8	87	1.75	97.70
Offensive weapon (used in other criminal activity)*	70.6	142	2.85	74.65
Bladed/pointed instrument (used in other criminal activity)*	40.2	74	1.49	77.03
<i>Total offensive/bladed weapons</i>	<b>285</b>	<b>391</b>	<b>7.85</b>	<b>82.10</b>
Production, manufacture or cultivation of drugs	31.6	29	0.58	75.86
Supply of drugs (incl. possession with intent)	106.6	88	1.77	87.50
Bringing drugs into prison	10.8	0	0	-
<i>Supply of drugs - Total</i>	<b>149</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>2.35</b>	<b>84.62</b>
Possession of drugs	913.8	607	12.18	100.82
Other drugs offences (incl. importation)	8.6	2	0.04	150.00
<i>Total drugs crimes</i>	<b>1071.4</b>	<b>726</b>	<b>14.57</b>	<b>98.35</b>
Offences relating to serious and organised crime	1.2	12	0.24	100.00
Bail offences (other than absconding)	434.6	656	13.17	95.27
Other Group 5 crimes	385.2	416	8.35	98.80
<b>GROUP 6: MISCELLANEOUS OFFENCES</b>	<b>5181.4</b>	<b>5681</b>	<b>114.04</b>	<b>66.04</b>
Common Assault	2154.2	2656	53.32	61.14
Common Assault (of emergency workers)	217	229	4.6	99.13
<i>Common Assault - Total</i>	<b>2371.2</b>	<b>2885</b>	<b>57.91</b>	<b>64.16</b>
Breach of the Peace	71.2	45	0.9	86.67
Threatening & abusive behaviour	1876.6	1862	37.38	71.05
Stalking	50	53	1.06	69.81
<i>BOP, S38 &amp; S39 Crim Just &amp; Lic (S) Act 2010 - Total</i>	<b>1997.8</b>	<b>1960</b>	<b>39.34</b>	<b>71.38</b>
Racially aggravated harassment/conduct*	65.6	56	1.12	92.86
Drunk and incapable	21.6	12	0.24	100.00
Consume alcohol in designated place local bye-law	21	19	0.38	105.26
Other alcohol related offences*	18.4	22	0.44	100.00

**OFFICIAL**

<i>Drunkness and other disorderly conduct (TOTAL)</i>	<b>61</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>1.06</b>	<b>101.89</b>
Wildlife offences*	<b>20.8</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>53.33</b>
Other Group 6 offences	<b>665</b>	<b>697</b>	<b>13.99</b>	<b>54.52</b>
<b>GROUP 7: OFFENCES RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES</b>	<b>3701</b>	<b>3895</b>	<b>78.19</b>	<b>82.26</b>
Dangerous driving offences	<b>135</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>2.57</b>	<b>78.91</b>
Drink, Drug driving offences incl. Failure to provide a specimen	<b>279.6</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>5.46</b>	<b>101.84</b>
Speeding offences	<b>314.2</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>6.76</b>	<b>99.11</b>
Driving while disqualified	<b>58.4</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>0.76</b>	<b>97.37</b>
Driving without a licence	<b>295.2</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>3.97</b>	<b>98.99</b>
Failure to insure against third party risks	<b>727.6</b>	<b>567</b>	<b>11.38</b>	<b>99.12</b>
Seat belt offences	<b>73.4</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>1.89</b>	<b>98.94</b>
Mobile phone offences	<b>94.4</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>1.67</b>	<b>92.77</b>
Driving Carelessly	<b>319</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>6.89</b>	<b>85.71</b>
Drivers neglect of traffic directions (NOT pedestrian crossings)	<b>93.4</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>8.75</b>	<b>95.87</b>
Using a motor vehicle without test certificate	<b>366.8</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>6.52</b>	<b>100.62</b>
Other Group 7 offences	<b>944</b>	<b>1074</b>	<b>21.56</b>	<b>45.44</b>

## Midlothian Recorded Crime Overview

Midlothian	5 Year Average	2023/24 Q2	Per 10,000 Q2 2023/24	Detection Rates 2023/24
<b>GROUP 1: NON SEXUAL CRIMES OF VIOLENCE</b>	<b>61.4</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>12.55</b>	<b>57.76</b>
Murder (excluding culpable homicide at common law)	0.2	0	-	-
Culpable homicide (at common law)	0	0	-	-
Culpable homicide (under statute including RTA, sec. 1)	0.4	0	-	-
Attempted murder	0.6	3	0.32	133.33
Serious assault	22.8	23	2.49	95.65
Robbery and assault with intent to rob	7.8	17	1.84	88.24
Domestic Abuse (of female)	N/A	15	1.62	80
Domestic Abuse (of male)	N/A	1	0.11	0
<b>Domestic Abuse (Total)</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1.73</b>	<b>75</b>
Cruel & Unnatural treatment of children	13.4	9	0.97	88.89
Threats and extortion	5.6	38	4.11	0
Other group 1 crimes	2.8	10	1.08	60
<b>GROUP 2: SEXUAL CRIMES</b>	<b>106.2</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>12.44</b>	<b>46.96</b>
Rape	20.4	12	1.3	41.67
Assault w/i to rape or ravish	0.4	0	-	-
<b>Rape and attempted rape - Total</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>41.67</b>
Sexual assault (pre-SOSA 2009)*	1.4	0	-	-
Sexual assault (SOSA 2009)*	30.2	28	3.03	46.43
Lewd & libidinous practices*	9.2	5	0.54	100
<b>Indecent/Sexual Assault - Total</b>	<b>40.8</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>3.57</b>	<b>54.55</b>
<b>Prostitution related crime - Total*</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
Taking, distribution, possession of indecent photos of children	6.4	7	0.76	85.71
Communicating indecently (SOSA 2009)*	8.2	18	1.95	72.22
Communications Act 2003 (sexual)	1.8	3	0.32	33.33
Sexual exposure (SOSA 2009)*	5.4	4	0.43	25
Public indecency (common law)	1.4	0	-	-
Other sexual crimes (SOSA 2009)*	12.8	28	3.03	17.86
Other sexual crimes (non-SOSA 2009)*	1	1	0.11	100
Threatening / Disclosure of intimate image*	7.4	9	0.97	44.44
Other Group 2 crimes	0	0	-	-
<b>Other Group 2 crimes - Total</b>	<b>44.4</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>7.57</b>	<b>44.29</b>
<b>GROUP 3: CRIMES OF DISHONESTY</b>	<b>938.4</b>	<b>898</b>	<b>97.12</b>	<b>26.17</b>
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - dwelling house	40	65	7.03	16.92
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - non dwelling	44.2	42	4.54	9.52
Housebreaking (incl. attempts) - other premises	32.4	25	2.7	36
<b>Housebreaking (incl. Attempts) - Total</b>	<b>116.6</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>14.28</b>	<b>18.18</b>
Opening Lockfast Places - Motor Vehicle	14.6	12	1.3	16.67
Theft of a motor vehicle	44.2	57	6.16	22.81

**OFFICIAL**

Theft from a Motor Vehicle (Insecure etc.)	42.8	19	2.05	10.53
Attempt theft of motor vehicle	2	1	0.11	0
<b>Motor vehicle crime - Total</b>	<b>103.6</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>9.63</b>	<b>19.1</b>
Opening Lockfast Places - NOT Motor Vehicle	10.8	17	1.84	0
Common theft	221.4	201	21.74	25.37
Theft by shoplifting	319.8	279	30.18	41.22
Fraud	98.2	132	14.28	12.12
Other Group 3 Crimes	68	48	5.19	25
<b>GROUP 4: FIRE-RAISING, MALICIOUS MISCHIEF etc.</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>388</b>	<b>41.96</b>	<b>22.68</b>
Fireraising	22.2	29	3.14	17.24
Vandalism (including malicious mischief)	340.6	323	34.93	21.98
Reckless conduct (with firearms)	0	0	-	-
Culpable and reckless conduct (not with firearms)	22.2	32	3.46	37.5
Other Group 4 Crimes	2	4	0.43	0
<b>GROUP 5: OTHER (PRO-ACTIVITY) CRIMES</b>	<b>446.6</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>41.32</b>	<b>93.46</b>
Carrying offensive weapons (incl. restriction)	16.6	15	1.62	73.33
Handling bladed/pointed instrument	15.6	11	1.19	109.09
Offensive weapon (used in other criminal activity)*	10.4	22	2.38	109.09
Bladed/pointed instrument (used in other criminal activity)*	4.8	12	1.3	83.33
<b>Total offensive/bladed weapons</b>	<b>47.4</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>6.49</b>	<b>95</b>
Production, manufacture or cultivation of drugs	5	3	0.32	66.67
Supply of drugs (incl. possession with intent)	25.2	13	1.41	76.92
Bringing drugs into prison	0	0	-	-
<b>Supply of drugs - Total</b>	<b>30.2</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1.73</b>	<b>75</b>
Possession of drugs	200.8	85	9.19	89.41
Other drugs offences (incl. importation)	0.6	0	-	-
<b>Total drugs crimes</b>	<b>231.6</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>10.92</b>	<b>87.13</b>
Offences relating to serious and organised crime	0.2	3	0.32	100
Bail offences (other than absconding)	94	144	15.57	94.44
Other Group 5 crimes	73.4	74	8	98.65
<b>GROUP 6: MISCELLANEOUS OFFENCES</b>	<b>975.4</b>	<b>1003</b>	<b>108.48</b>	<b>67.4</b>
Common Assault	390	461	49.86	60.52
Common Assault (of emergency workers)	39.2	33	3.57	121.21
<b>Common Assault - Total</b>	<b>429.2</b>	<b>494</b>	<b>53.43</b>	<b>64.57</b>
Breach of the Peace	13.8	2	0.22	100
Threatening & abusive behaviour	370.6	346	37.42	70.81
Stalking	8	9	0.97	88.89
<b>BOP, S38 &amp; S39 Crim Just &amp; Lic (S) Act 2010 - Total</b>	<b>392.4</b>	<b>357</b>	<b>38.61</b>	<b>71.43</b>
Racially aggravated harassment/conduct*	10.2	8	0.87	112.5
Drunk and incapable	3.6	1	0.11	100
Consume alcohol in designated place local bye-law	7.8	7	0.76	100
Other alcohol related offences*	5.2	1	0.11	100
<b>Drunkenness and other disorderly conduct (TOTAL)</b>	<b>16.6</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0.97</b>	<b>100</b>
Wildlife offences*	2.4	1	0.11	100

**OFFICIAL**

Other Group 6 offences	124.6	134	14.49	61.94
<b>GROUP 7: OFFENCES RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES</b>	<b>682</b>	<b>748</b>	<b>80.9</b>	<b>81.15</b>
Dangerous driving offences	29.6	20	2.16	65
Drink, Drug driving offences incl. Failure to provide a specimen	59.4	57	6.16	121.05
Speeding offences	19.2	73	7.9	98.63
Driving while disqualified	17	5	0.54	100
Driving without a licence	59.8	36	3.89	97.22
Failure to insure against third party risks	144.4	109	11.79	97.25
Seat belt offences	7.6	22	2.38	100
Mobile phone offences	16.4	27	2.92	100
Driving Carelessly	54.8	60	6.49	81.67
Drivers neglect of traffic directions (NOT pedestrian crossings)	11	55	5.95	98.18
Using a motor vehicle without test certificate	49.4	69	7.46	98.55
Other Group 7 offences	213.4	215	23.25	40.47



# LOCAL PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT

## FOR MIDLOTHIAN



**SCOTTISH**  
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE  
*Working Together For a safer Scotland*

**Working together  
for a safer Scotland**

Midlothian



Quarter 2 Report, 1<sup>st</sup> July – 30th September, 2023

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## Introduction

This performance report provides information on our prevention, protection and operational response activities within Midlothian for Quarter 2 of 2022-23 (1st July – 30th September 2022) including information on the year to date figures

The Scottish Government provides an overarching vision for public services. This vision supported by 11 National Outcomes, which demonstrate commitment to creating a more successful country, with opportunities for all of Scotland to flourish, through increasing sustainable growth. The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) can make a significant contribution to improving these outcomes for Midlothian by contributing to the Community Planning arrangements across the area. The national priorities for the SFRS are set out in the Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland. The SFRS Strategic Plan 2019-2022 outlines how the SFRS will deliver against these priorities and the outcomes against which this delivery can be measured.

The priorities contained within the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Midlothian 2021 contribute towards the priorities within the Single Midlothian Plan. The aims of the local Fire & Rescue Service in Midlothian are to reduce fire deaths 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.

The Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Midlothian 2021 identifies the following five objectives as the main focus for service delivery locally: Local Priorities:

- As part of a Community Partnership approach, we will make people safer in their homes.

- We will promote Community Resilience whilst contributing to improved outcomes for people involved in non-fire emergencies. •

Together with our Community Partners, we will contribute to making roads in Midlothian safer.

- As part of a Community Partnership, we will challenge anti-social behaviour. •

In partnership, we will aim to reduce the occurrence and impact of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals.

Area Commander Hilary Sangster

Local Senior Officer for Midlothian, East Lothian and the Scottish Borders

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## Performance Summary

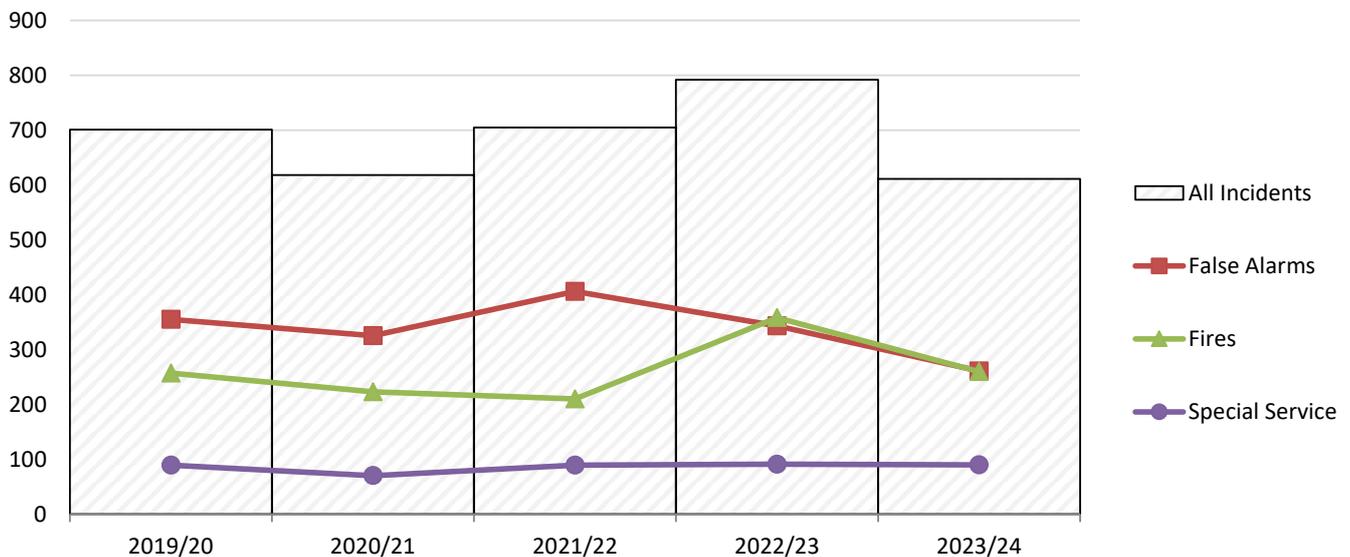
We measure how well we are meeting our priorities using 6 key indicators, depicted below

Key performance indicator	Apr to (& incl.) Sep					RAG rating
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	YTD
All deliberate primary fires	28	30	22	37	41	◆
All fire casualties (fatal & non-fatal (incl. p/c's))	3	8	2	1	4	◆
All deliberate fires excl. dwellings	166	127	120	227	154	●
Special Service - RTCs	16	5	14	23	13	●
Special Service Casualties - All	26	15	16	19	12	●
False Alarm - UFAs	199	139	229	182	109	●

RAG rating - KEY		
◆	RED DIAMOND	10% higher than the previous YTD period, or local target not achieved.
▲	YELLOW TRIANGLE	Up to 9% higher than the previous YTD period, or local target not achieved.
●	GREEN CIRCLE	Equal to or improved upon the previous equivalent quarter (or YTD period), or local target achieved.

Note
Quarterly comparison RAG Rating = the reporting period compared to the average of the three previous quarterly reporting periods.
Incident Overview
Year to Date RAG Rating = the cumulative total of all quarterly performance in current year compared to cumulative total of all quarterly performance in previous year.

The chart below illustrates incidents YTD attended within Midlothian council over the last 5 fiscal years



## Progress on local fire & rescue plan priorities

### Local Risk Management and Preparedness

The Service must identify, prioritise and plan to meet the risks in each local community.

We said we would:

- train our staff to deal with our local risks
- gather and analyse risk information
- work with partners to mitigate risks
- deal with major events

### Train our staff to deal with our local risks

All of our operational staff undertake routine and risk specific skill acquisition and maintenance training.

### Gather and analyse risk information

All of our operational staff gather and analyse local risk information and operational intelligence, used in our preparations to resolve incidents.

We conduct Post Incident Debriefs to identify any lessons that can be learned from our preparedness and response to emergency events.

We use Urgent Operational Intelligence Briefings to inform our operational staff of any safety critical information.

### Work with partners to mitigate risks

We continue to be an active member of the East Local Resilience Partnership.

We share information with local authority partners and other key stakeholders (e.g. Police Scotland) to ensure emergency event risks are mitigated.

### Deal with major events

There were no major fire events or significant emergency events in this reporting period.

## Reduction of 'All deliberate primary fires'

Primary fires can be described as any property such as a residential house or a commercial building, road vehicle, land involving trees or external structure (fencing, garages, garden huts etc). The SFRS is committed to keeping people safe in our communities. We share information with partners to make sure that we reduce the risk to members of the community as well as property. Reduction of deliberate primary fires contributes to The Single Midlothian Plan.

### Results

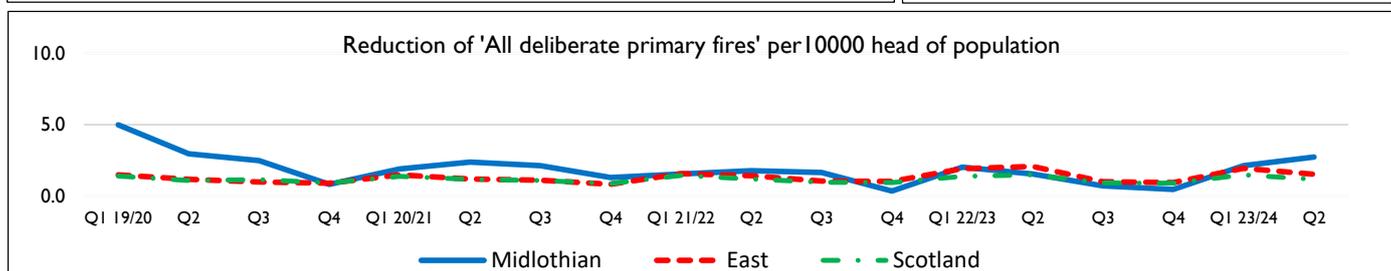
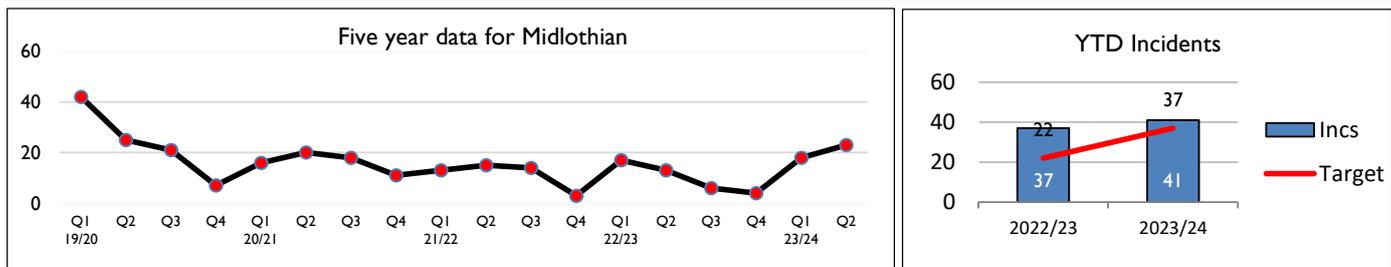
We aim to reduce primary deliberate Fires in Midlothian by contributing towards the SFRS target of 10% reduction per year, over a three-year rolling period. During this quarter, we responded to 23 deliberate Primary Fires, which is an increase of 6 incidents compared with the same period last year. The long-term trend based upon incidents/10,000 population shows the number of incidents in Midlothian are above the Scottish and East Service Delivery Area trend lines.

### Reasons

Of the 23 deliberate primary fires attended during the reporting period, the majority involved wilful fireraising of grassland, heathland and crops such as hay bales. On 4 occasions, deliberate fires resulted in buildings, 2 of which were residential properties. There were 8 instances of fires involving transport, 6 cars, a motorcycle & caravan were wilfully set alight during the reporting period. SFRS continues to work with partners and stakeholders to reduce wilful fireraising as a result of anti social behaviour. Appendix I provides information on preventative work and initiatives by SFRS to reduce the number of deliberate fires in Midlothian.

### Actions

SFRS continue to work in partnership to educate and inform people about the dangers of fire. We routinely engage with schools and target areas where anti-social behaviour involving wilful fireraising is prevalent. Appendix I 'Midlothian Prevention Q2 Report' provides further details on our prevention activities. During the reporting period, SFRS conducted a total of 104 HFSV in Midlothian which is a decrease of 3 from Q1 reporting period. SFRS continues to promote HFSVs and welcome referrals from partners for the most vulnerable people in our communities.



YTD ward ave. for Midlothian - 7	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Sparklines
Midlothian	28	30	22	37	41	
Penicuik	1	4	0	3	1	
Bonnyrigg	2	3	3	5	7	
Dalkeith	6	4	7	4	7	
Midlothian West	3	4	2	2	3	
Midlothian East	13	9	7	13	13	
Midlothian South	3	6	3	10	10	

## Reduction of 'All fire casualties (fatal & non-fatal (incl. p/c's))'

Fire casualty and fatality rates provide an indication of the amount of serious, life-threatening injuries that occur due to fire. This can indicate not only the success of SFRS in reducing the number of life risk fires through community fire safety and similar activities, but also their success in response activity in saving lives.

### Results

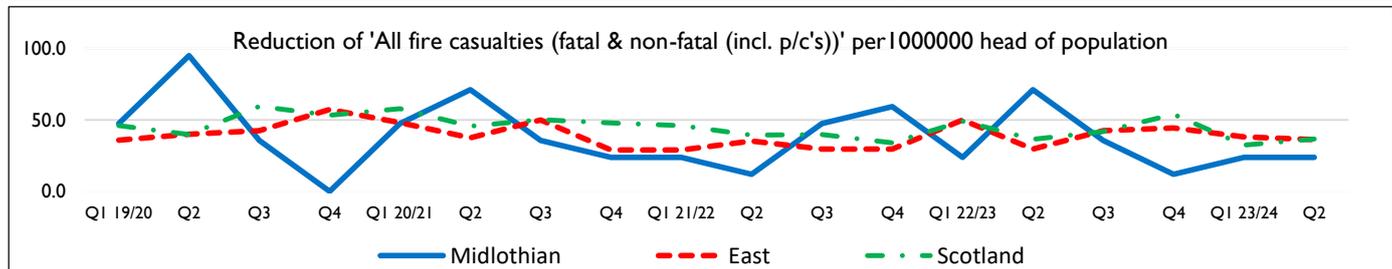
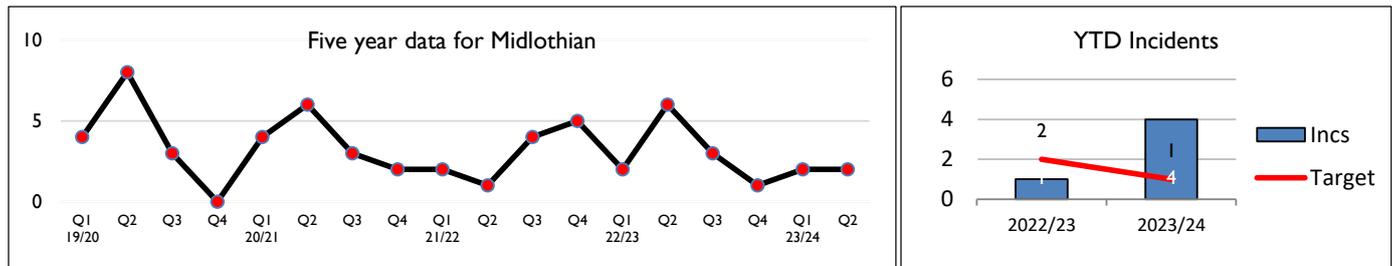
I am pleased to report there were no reported fire fatalities in the 3-month period. We aim to reduce Fire Casualties in Midlothian each per year, which contributes towards the SFRS target of reducing Fire Casualties by 5% per year, over a three-year rolling period. In this reporting period, the figures show a zero reduction when compared with the same reporting period last year which also reported 2 casualties. The long-term trend based upon casualties/10,000 population shows Midlothian is performing below the Scottish average and East SDA average.

### Reasons

Historically Midlothian has low numbers of casualties from fires and it is positive to note that this trend remains low for the reporting period. SFRS continues to work with partners to maintain this trend.

### Actions

We continue to work with our partners in Midlothian Council and seek opportunities with social work and NHS to target those most vulnerable and at risk from fire. Appendix I 'Midlothian Prevention & Protection Activities' provides further details on current activities.



YTD ward ave. for Midlothian - I	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Sparklines
Midlothian	3	8	2	1	4	
Penicuik	0	2	2	0	1	
Bonnyrigg	1	0	0	0	0	
Dalkeith	1	4	0	1	0	
Midlothian West	0	1	0	0	2	
Midlothian East	1	0	0	0	1	
Midlothian South	0	1	0	0	0	

## Reduction of 'All deliberate fires excl. dwellings'

Historically deliberate fire setting has not been a significant problem for the SFRS in Midlothian, however recent years have shown a distinct increase in this activity and there is a close link between deliberate secondary fires and other forms of anti-social behaviour. In the main, deliberate fires are secondary fires categorised into refuse/bins, grassland or derelict buildings incidents. Reduction of Deliberate Fire Setting contributes to the Single Midlothian Plan.

### Results

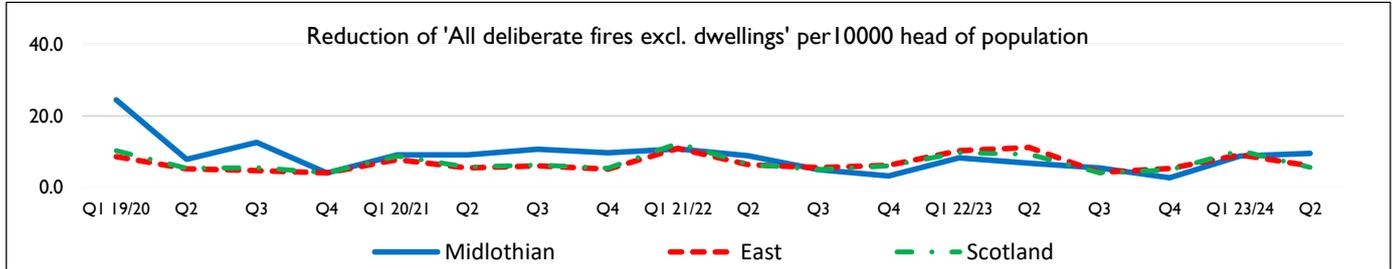
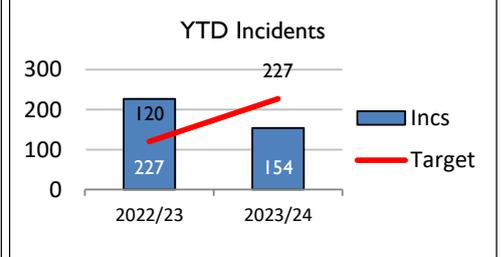
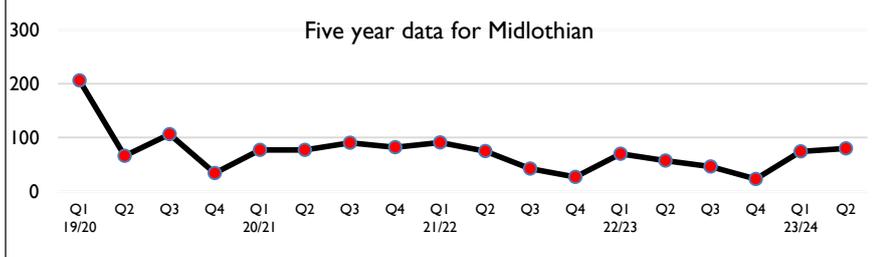
There were 83 deliberate fires within the reporting period, which is a decrease of 28 when compared to the same period last year. The long-term trend based upon incidents/10,000 population shows Midlothian performing slightly above the Scottish and East Service Delivery Area trend line.

### Reasons

The 83 deliberate fire incidents were mainly 'deliberate secondary fires' involving waste, scrubland, wood or crop. Commercial/domestic structures refuse/bins including wheelie and recycling bins have also been set alight during the reporting period.

### Actions

The SFRS continue to work with our Partners and any emerging themes are managed in Partnership with relevant intervention and prevention activities carried out. Various on-going preventative activities have been undertaken throughout the year targeting the issue of deliberate fire-raising. This includes various youth engagement events, thematic actions, information sharing/visits to schools and other partnership work.



YTD ward ave. for Midlothian - 26	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Sparklines
Midlothian	166	127	120	227	154	
Penicuik	8	12	3	19	17	
Bonnyrigg	23	22	16	25	26	
Dalkeith	35	25	21	45	19	
Midlothian West	22	19	11	22	22	
Midlothian East	57	31	42	69	31	
Midlothian South	21	18	27	47	39	

## Reduction of 'Special Service - RTCs'

While much of this risk is out with the control of SFRS, responding to Non-Fire Emergencies such as Road Traffic Collisions is a key part of our intervention activities. The SFRS is committed to working with partners and other stakeholders to drive continuous improvement in this area. Reduction of Casualties from Non-Fire Emergencies contributes to the Single Midlothian Plan, number of people killed or seriously injured in road accidents.

### Results

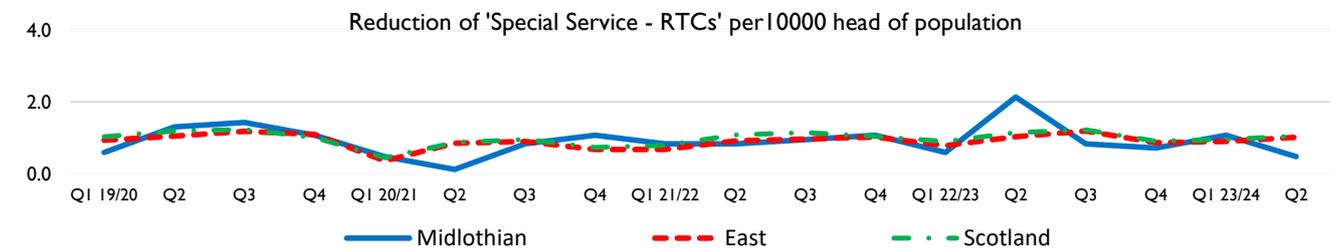
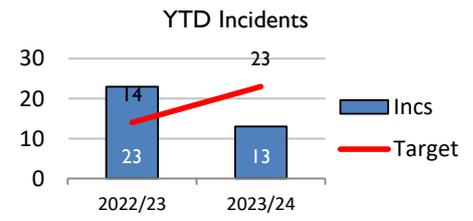
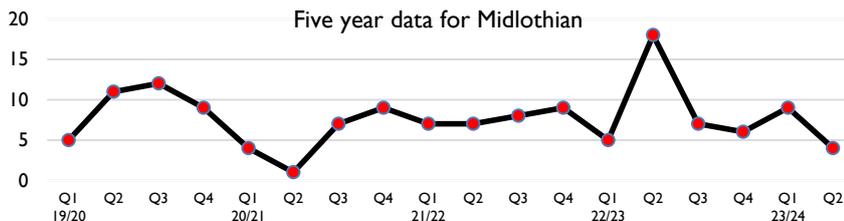
SFRS attended 4 Road Traffic Collisions during this period, which is a decrease of 14 when compared with the same reporting period last year. Per 10,000 head of population, Midlothian is below the Scottish and East Service Delivery area trend lines. SFRS only attends RTCs when requested by the initial 999 caller or by partners when they require assistance to extricate trapped casualties from their vehicles.

### Reasons

The SFRS only attend those RTC's they are requested to attend this number does not reflect the total number within Midlothian. It should be noted that the number of RTCs in the Midlothian area will be higher than what is being reported.

### Actions

The SFRS is a member of a multi-agency approach to reducing Road Traffic Collision's and the associated casualties and fatalities. The continued delivery of Tomorrow's Driver programme targeting young people is an excellent partnership approach to reducing road traffic collisions. The programme is delivered to all secondary schools in Midlothian.



YTD ward ave. for Midlothian - 2	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Sparklines
Midlothian	16	5	14	23	13	
Penicuik	6	2	2	3	2	
Bonnyrigg	0	0	0	2	0	
Dalkeith	1	0	3	7	2	
Midlothian West	1	1	5	4	5	
Midlothian East	7	1	1	5	2	
Midlothian South	1	1	3	2	2	

## Reduction of 'Special Service Casualties - All'

While much of this risk is out with the control of SFRS, responding to Non-Fire Emergencies is a key part of our intervention activities. The SFRS is committed to working with partners and other stakeholders to drive continuous improvement in this area. Reduction of Casualties from Non-Fire Emergencies contributes to the Single Midlothian Plan.

### Results

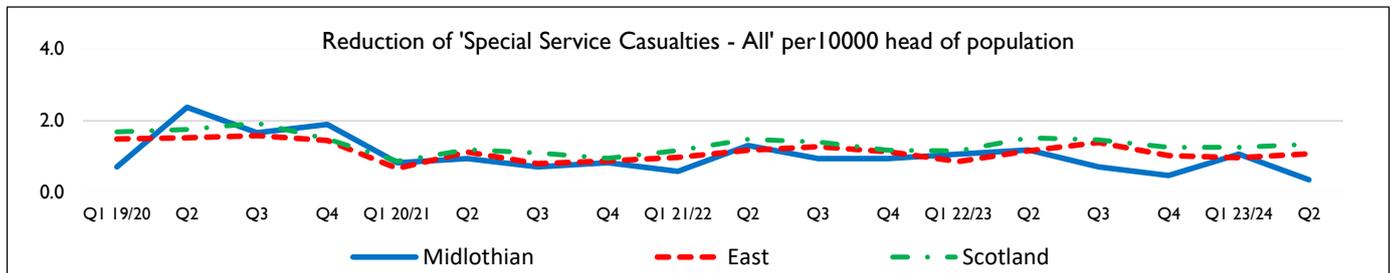
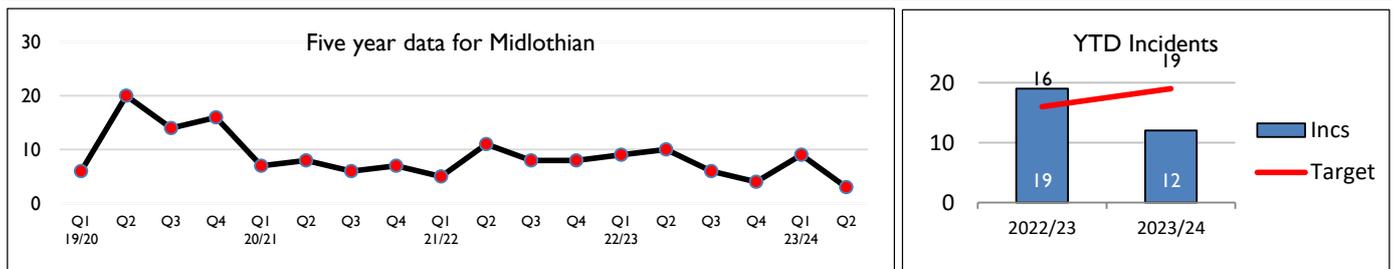
SFRS attended 34 Special Service incident types in the last quarter a decrease of 12 incidents from the same reporting period last year. This is a decrease of 8 special service casualties when compared with the same reporting period. Per 10,000 head of population, Midlothian is performing below the Scottish and in line with the East Service Delivery area trend lines.

### Reasons

Of the 34 Special Service incidents SFRS attended, on 15 occasions SFRS crews were called to effect entry into properties/vehicles. On 5 occasions SFRS assisted partner agencies, 4 incidents involved flooding and on 2 occasions, SFRS provided an medical response to an immediate risk to life in support of the Scottish Ambulance Service.

### Actions

The SFRS in Midlothian will continue to respond to the communities needs in terms of other non-fire emergencies with the overall objective of reducing casualty and fatality rates within Midlothian. Given SFRS continual involvement in effecting entry to properties on behalf of our emergency partners, it would be reasonable to assume the number of Special Service casualties will increase over time.



YTD ward ave. for Midlothian - 2	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Sparklines
Midlothian	26	15	16	19	12	
Penicuik	6	4	3	3	5	
Bonnyrigg	4	1	0	4	1	
Dalkeith	2	4	0	6	2	
Midlothian West	1	3	3	4	2	
Midlothian East	12	3	4	1	1	
Midlothian South	1	0	6	1	1	

## Reduction of 'False Alarm - UFAs'

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) are defined as incidents where an automated fire alarm system activates and results in the mobilisation of SFRS resources, when the reason for that alarm turns out to be connected with faulty or defective alarm equipment. The SFRS is committed to working with partners and other stakeholders to reduce Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals.

### Results

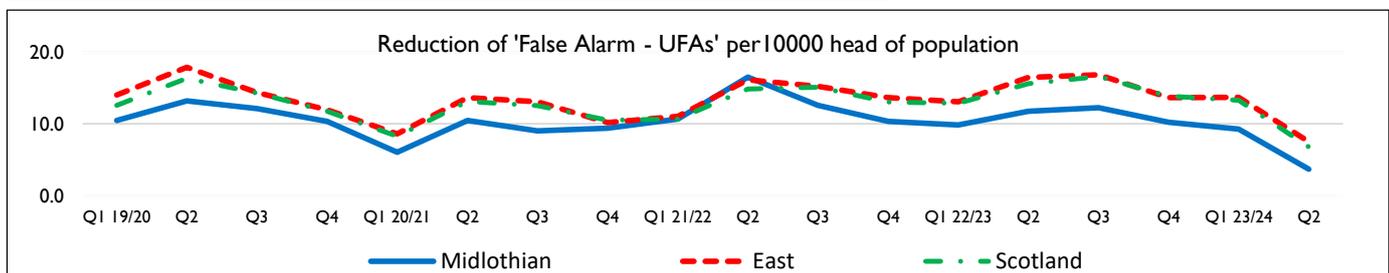
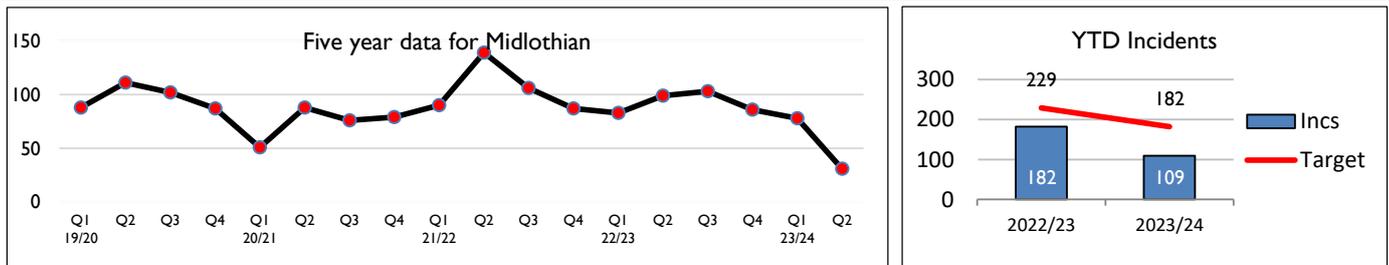
SFRS attended 17 Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals incidents during this reporting period, which is a decrease of 51 incidents when compared to the same reporting period last year. Midlothian trend line is performing below the Scotland and the East delivery area trendline.

### Reasons

During the reporting period, 32 incidents were classed as being UFAS. This is a reduction of 67 from the previous reporting period. SFRS operational crews continue to engage with occupiers and (commercial) property responsible persons to reduce UFAS incidents in the future.

### Actions

Our Fire Safety Enforcement Officers work closely with premises to reduce further incidents. This includes discussing technological, procedural and management solutions in order to prevent future Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals incident. From 1st July 2023 SFRS will not attend fire alarms activations in non-sleeping properties - unless the caller reports smoke or fire. In Midlothian, we are currently engaging with various premises giving advice to prevent further occurrences.



YTD ward ave. for Midlothian - 18	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Sparklines
Midlothian	199	139	229	182	109	
Penicuik	21	22	22	26	11	
Bonnyrigg	33	17	28	20	20	
Dalkeith	29	13	32	30	27	
Midlothian West	64	47	81	52	24	
Midlothian East	32	23	46	26	15	
Midlothian South	20	17	20	28	12	

# Midlothian Prevention & Protection Activities

## Quarter 2: 1<sup>st</sup> July – 30<sup>th</sup> Sept 2023

### Fire Safety Enforcement Audits

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) is the enforcing authority for the Fire Scotland Act 2005 and Fire Safety Regulations 2006. The act applies to specific non-domestic premises and requires duty holders to comply with relevant aspects of the Act and Regulations. SFRS responsibilities as the enforcing authority are captured within an Enforcement Framework. The Framework identifies and assigns priority to premises type with those premises deemed as higher risk given priority for auditing purposes. Premise providing sleeping accommodation such as hospitals, care homes, houses of multiple occupation, hostels and hotels receive an annual audit. Other premises that are subject to audit but deemed lower risk will be visited every three or five years. Within Midlothian we have Officers who plan and carry out these duties. The Officers are also available to provide Fire Safety advice, consulting with partners such as Local Authority Building control functions and the wider public with Fire Scotland Act 2005 responsibilities.

MIDLOTHIAN AUDITS 23/24	JULY-SEPTEMBER	YTD
	<b>25</b>	<b>48</b>

### 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 to provide fire safety advice and smoke alarms, the numbers of dwelling fires and casualties will be reduced. Requests for HFSVs are generated in several ways, including self-referral (**page 4**), SFRS partners referring and visits carried out after SFRS have attended a domestic fire incident. This is known as Post Domestic Incident Response (**PDIR**), offering a HFSV to the properties and occupants impacted directly by the fire and the wider neighbourhood area.

When a HFSV is generated, the risk within the property is calculated by asking the occupant a number of specific questions. The outcome will be either, High, Medium or Low risk. This outcome determines priority in relation to carrying out the visit and the frequency for future re-visits. The table below highlights the number of visits carried out in Midlothian for this reporting period.

MIDLOTHIAN QRT 2	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	TOTALS	PREV QRT 23/24	YTD
<b>Ward</b>						
Bonnyrigg	1	9	10	<b>20</b>	16	<b>36</b>
Dalkeith	6	6	6	<b>18</b>	24	<b>42</b>
Mid East	5	15	4	<b>24</b>	21	<b>45</b>
Mid South	7	8	5	<b>20</b>	20	<b>40</b>
Mid West	7	4	0	<b>11</b>	14	<b>25</b>
Penicuik	6	3	2	<b>11</b>	12	<b>23</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>				<b>104</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>211</b>

## Home Fire Safety Referrals

The table below details how HFSVs were generated.

<b>Post Domestic Incident Response (PDIR)</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>YTD</b>
<b>Rapid Response Midlothian</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>EMPPPO</b>	<b>3</b>	
<b>Midlothian Falls Team</b>	<b>2</b>	
<b>Midlothian Occupational Therapist</b>	<b>3</b>	
<b>Other</b>	<b>18</b>	
<b>Police</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Police Concern</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Self-referral</b>	<b>27</b>	
<b>Woman's Aid</b>	<b>6</b>	
<b>Scottish Ambulance Service</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>188</b>

## **Partnership Working/Youth Engagement**

### **Fire Safety and Support Education (FSSE) engagement**

SFRS regularly engage with Children and Youths to discourage fire-related anti-social behaviour. This is very successful, however, on occasion we have to undertake additional actions and interventions. Our FSSE policy procedure is used to engage with those individuals who demonstrate an unsafe or concerning interest in fire or have been involved in fire-related antisocial behaviour. Such individuals are normally referred to us via Police Scotland. SFRS have trained members of staff, Fire Safety Advisors (FSAs) who carry out one-one discussion(s) with individuals, highlighting the dangers and consequences of such behaviour. Within the report period, SFRS have engaged with 1 Youth.

### **Safeguarding**

During this period our teams continued to identify and refer adults at risk of harm and/or in need of support. This has resulted in **10** referrals being processed to Social Services.

Partner agencies have also requested **26** Enhanced Home Fire Safety Visits through Police concern reports or direct requests from social services.

### **Other Work Completed or In Progress**

Our Local Community Action Team have also been involved with delivery and promotion of the following initiatives during the reporting period;

- Holiday Safety
- Outdoor Safety
- Student Safety
- Chimney Fire Safety
- Road Safety

### **Bonfire Plans.**

At the time of completing this report, work is well underway to prepare for Bonfire period. This, as with previous years will be planned and coordinated with other partners including the Local authority and Police Scotland.

The outcome and bonfire associated activity will be detailed within the Quarter 3 report.



SCOTTISH  
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE  
Working together for a safe Scotland

Do you know someone  
**OVER 50** who  
**SMOKES?**



And do they meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Living alone?
- Mobility issues?
- Using medical oxygen?

THEY MAY BE AT **GREATER RISK OF FIRE**  
AND WE NEED TO REACH THEM!



**#MAKETHECALL**

**0800 0731 999**

to book a free

**HOME FIRE SAFETY VISIT**

or text "FIRE" to 80800 from your mobile phone

