

Midlothian Prevention & Protection Activities

Quarter 4: 1st January – 31st March 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 22/23	JAN- MARCH	YTD
	25	105

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, 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	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	TOTALS	PREV QRT 22/23	YTD
Ward						
Bonnyrigg	5	7	6	18		
Dalkeith	6	13	6	25		
Mid East	3	11	8	22		
Mid South	3	8	2	13		
Mid West	1	9	3	13		
Penicuik	2	2	2	6		
TOTALS				97	106	432

Home Fire Safety Referrals

The table below details how HFSVs were generated.

Post Domestic Incident Response (PDIR)	34	YTD
British Red Cross	4	
EMPPPO	2	
Housing providers	4	
Midlothian Falls Team	1	
Other	6	
Police Concern	3	
Self-referral	38	
SP Energy Networks	1	
Social Services	2	
Women's Aid East & Mid	2	
Total	97	432

Partnership Working/Youth Engagement

Bonfire period

Work with Midlothian Community Justice Team and PS continues, engaging with youth offenders. As a result, we have delivered Fire Safety Support and Education (FSSE) intervention talks to **2** youths.

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 **8** referrals being processed to Social Services.

Partner agencies have also requested **3** 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;

- Safety at Home
- Cooking Safety
- Fire & Alcohol
- Grass & Wildland Fires

The Local CAT attends various multi-agency forums within Midlothian. This includes Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC), Midlothian Alcohol Partnership and Midlothian Voluntary Sector. We are also delivering courses and sessions to support our Corporate Parenting responsibilities within Midlothian.

Reducing Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals

As reported previously, SFRS introduce changes to the way we respond to the above incident type from 1st July 2023. Full information can be accessed using the link below.



[Scottish Fire & Rescue Service: Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals \(UFAS\) \(firescotland.gov.uk\)](https://firescotland.gov.uk)