



Midlothian Quarter 1 Performance Report



**SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**
Working together for a safer Scotland

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for a safer Scotland**

1st April – 30th June 2024

Midlothian Quarter 1 Performance Report

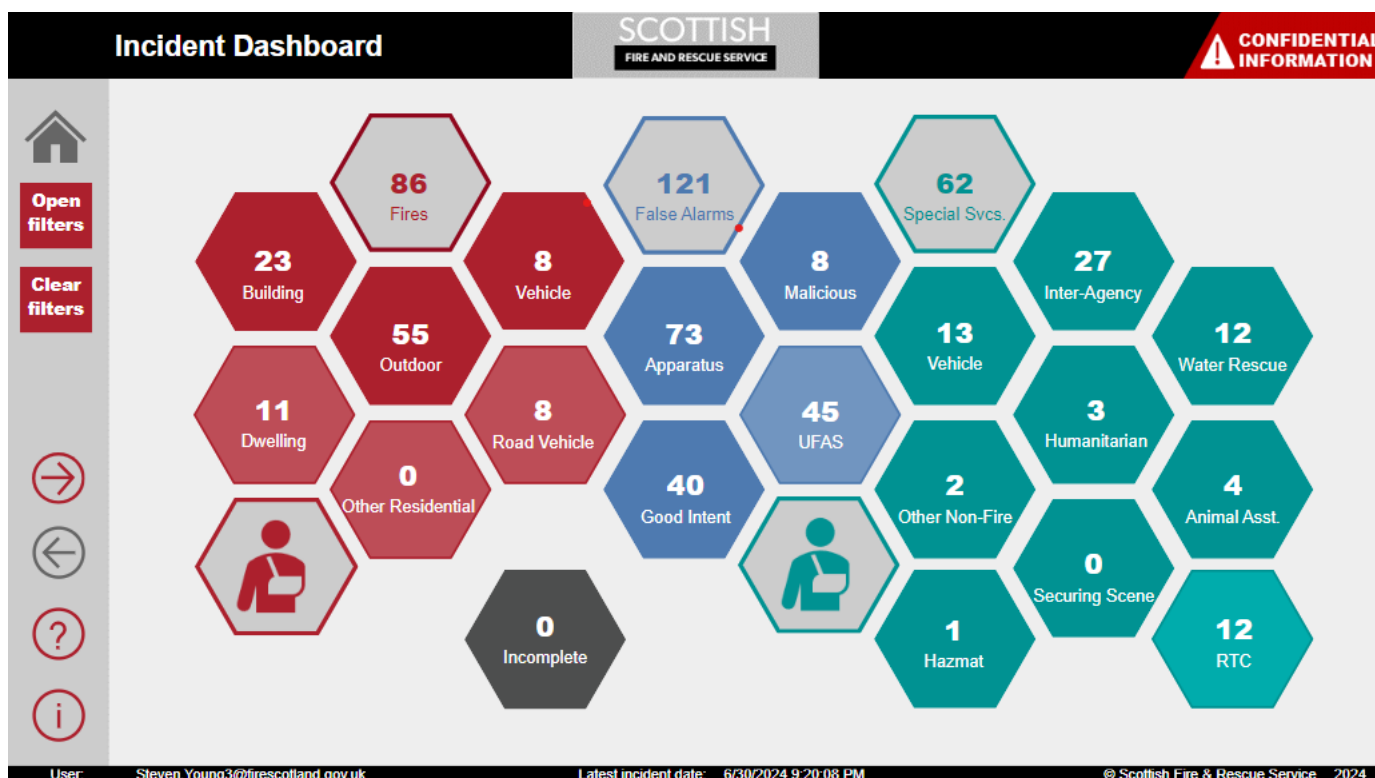
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About the statistics within this report

The activity totals and other statistics quoted within this report are published in the interests of transparency and openness. They are provisional in nature and subject to change because of ongoing quality assurance and review. Because all statistics quoted are provisional there may be a difference in the period totals quoted in our reports after local publication which result from revisions or additions to the data in our systems. The Scottish Government publishes official statistics each year which allow for comparisons to be made over longer periods of time.

1. Midlothian: Total Incidents

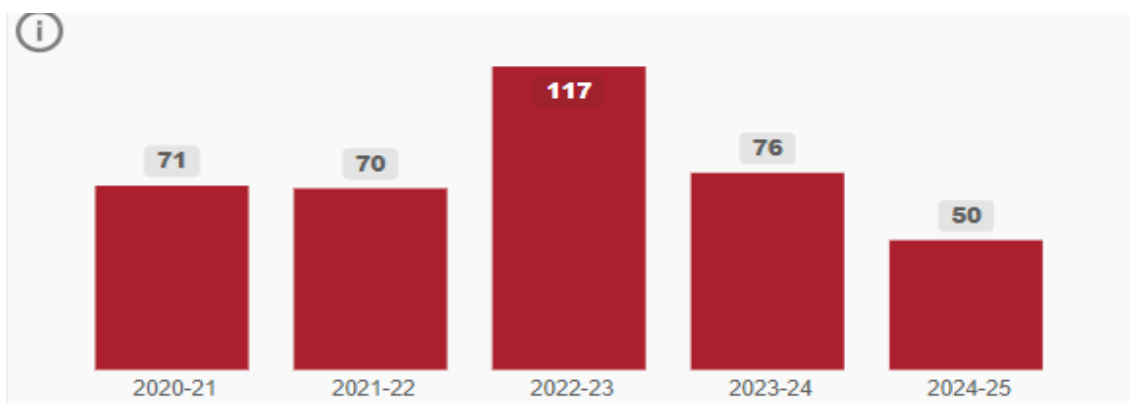
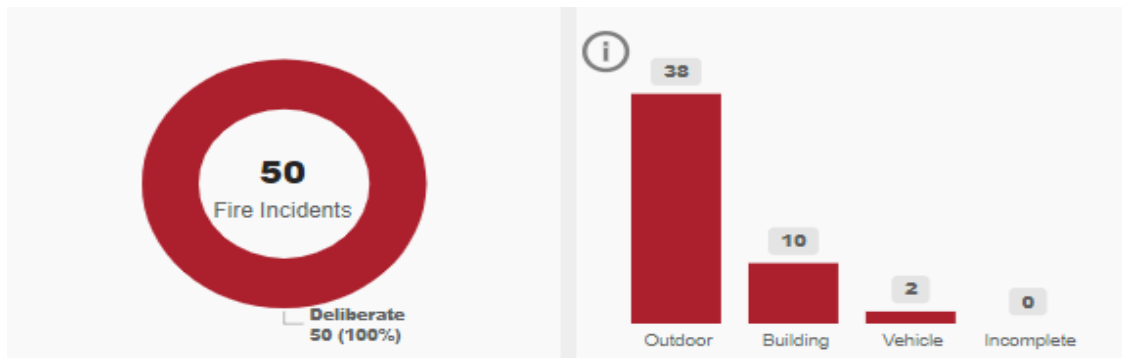


- During the first quarter of 2024/25 SFRS responded to a total of 269 incidents in the Midlothian locality. This is a significant decrease from the 2023/24 Q1 total of 347 which can largely be attributed to our UFAS reduction policy.

Type of Incident	2023/24 Q1	2024/25 Q1	Difference
Fire	131	86	-45
Special Service	57	62	+5
False Alarms	159	121	-38

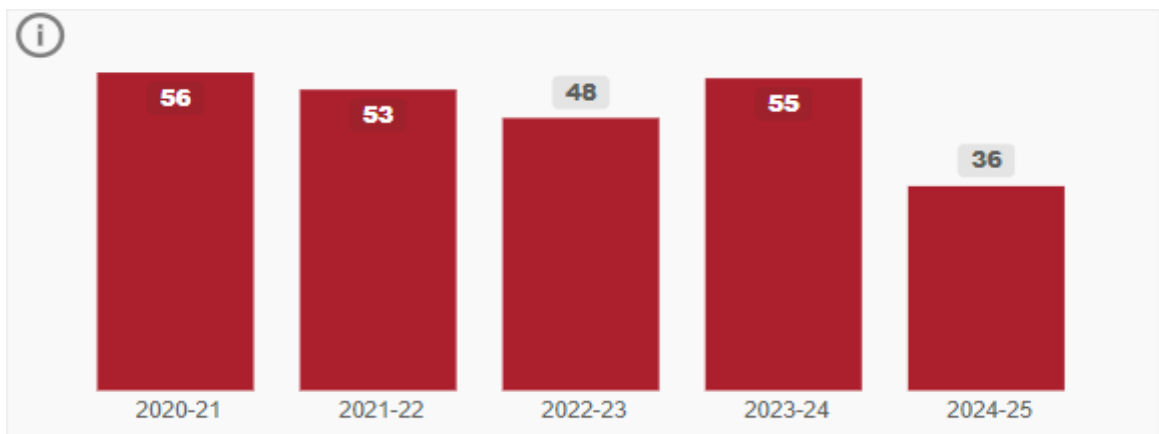
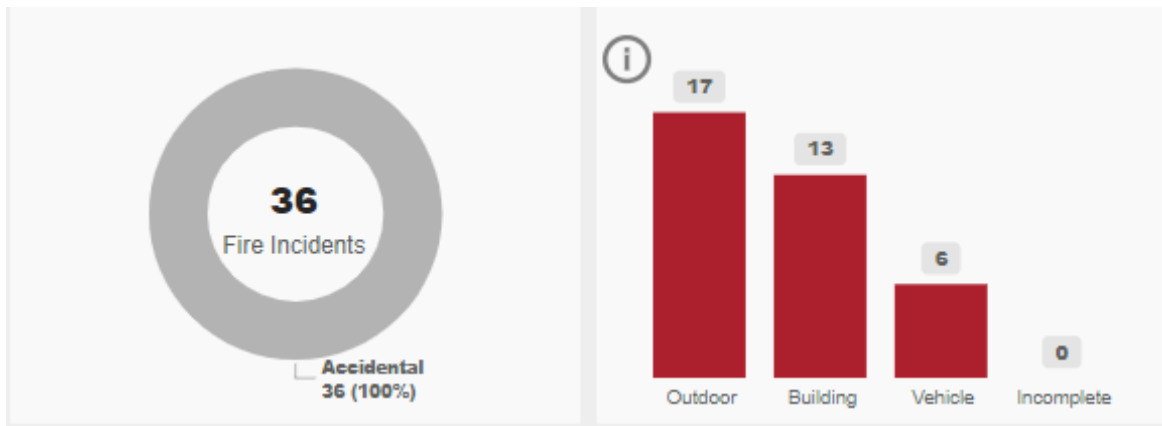
- Q1 of 2024/25 saw an overall reduction of 22% in incidents attended in the Midlothian compared to last year’s Q1 total.
- The changes to our Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) response from 1st July 2023 has seen a decrease of 24% in the number of False Alarm incidents attended by our operational crews.

2. Deliberate Fires



- The figure of 50 Deliberate Fires in Q1 2024/25 shows a decrease of 34% from the same period last and the lowest number of incidents attended in the past 5 years.
- Patterns and trends are identified through our collaborative work with partner agencies and our community safety engagement activities in the area.
- Data is interrogated and where an increase in incidents in a particular area is identified, our Community Action Team engage with partners and local stakeholders to deliver bespoke education and engagement events.

3. Accidental Fires

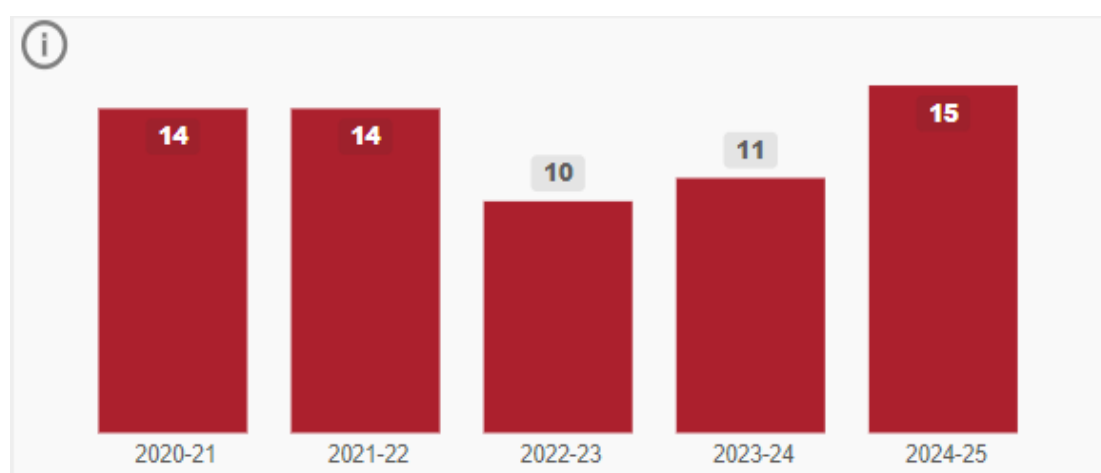
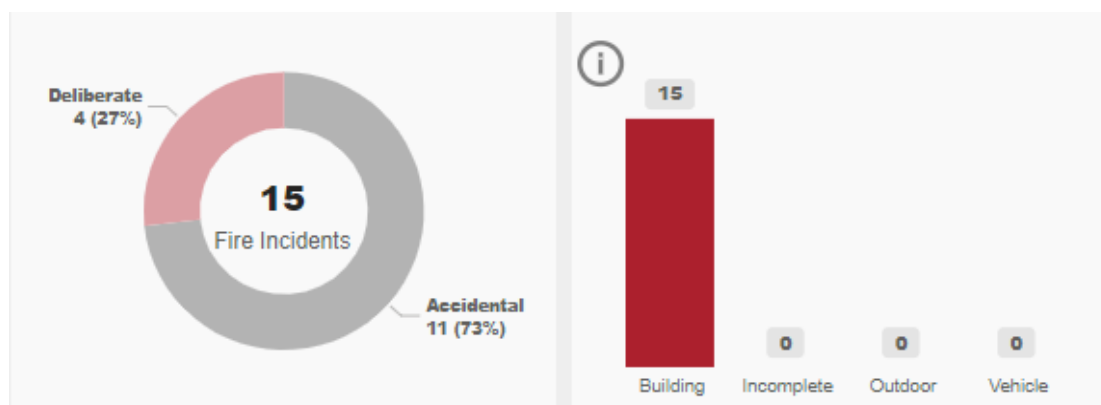


- The figure of 36 accidental fires for Q1 2024/25 has seen a decrease of 19 incidents from the previous year's figures. This is the lowest number of accidental fires attended in the preceding 5 years, during this quarter.
- SFRS implement a Post Domestic Incident Response (PDIR) procedure at each incident within a domestic property, where we provide Home Fire Safety Advice and if required, install linked smoke detection in eligible properties – those being owner occupied and high-risk, in compliance with the new Scottish Government Legislation.



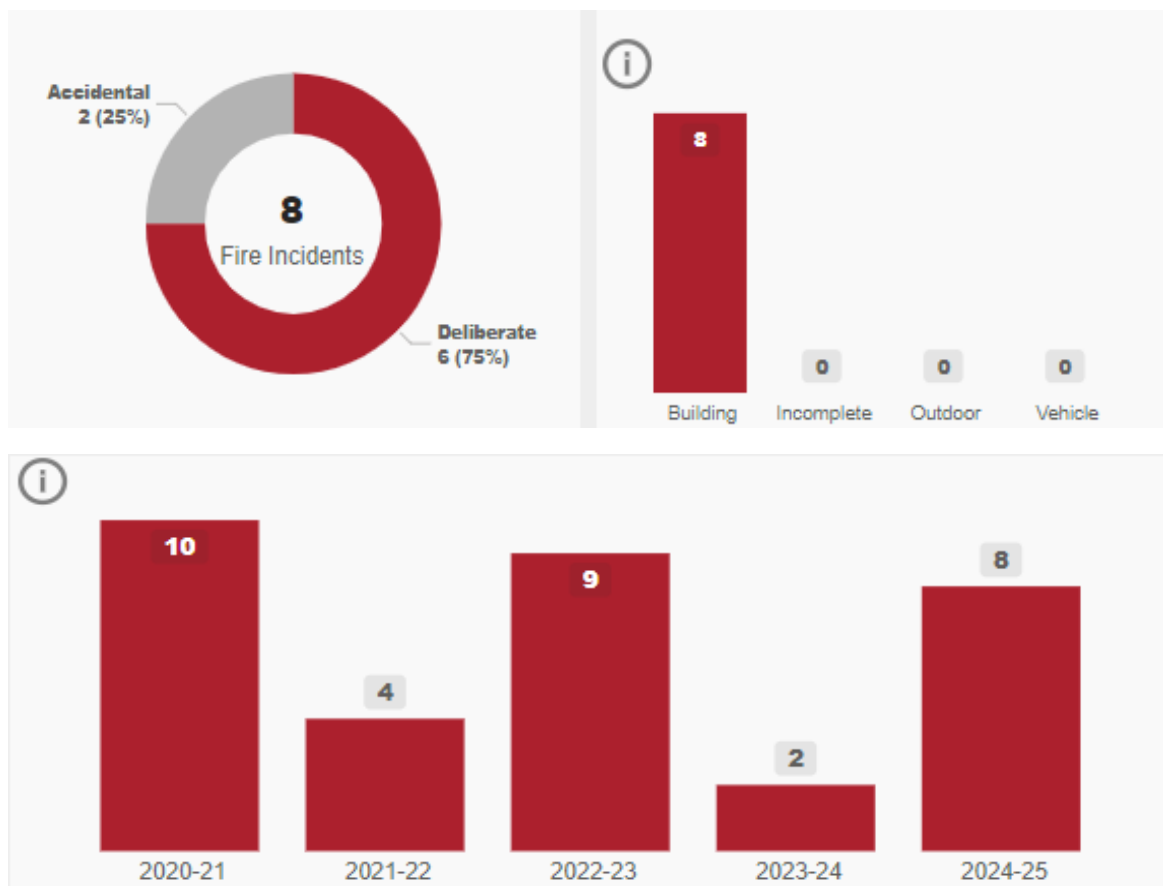
- Our Make the Call campaign is appealing to communities across Scotland to help save a life and consider home fire safety when checking in on vulnerable neighbours, patients, friends and family members and to put them in touch with SFRS wherever possible using the free Home Fire Safety Visit phonenumber.

4. Dwelling Fires



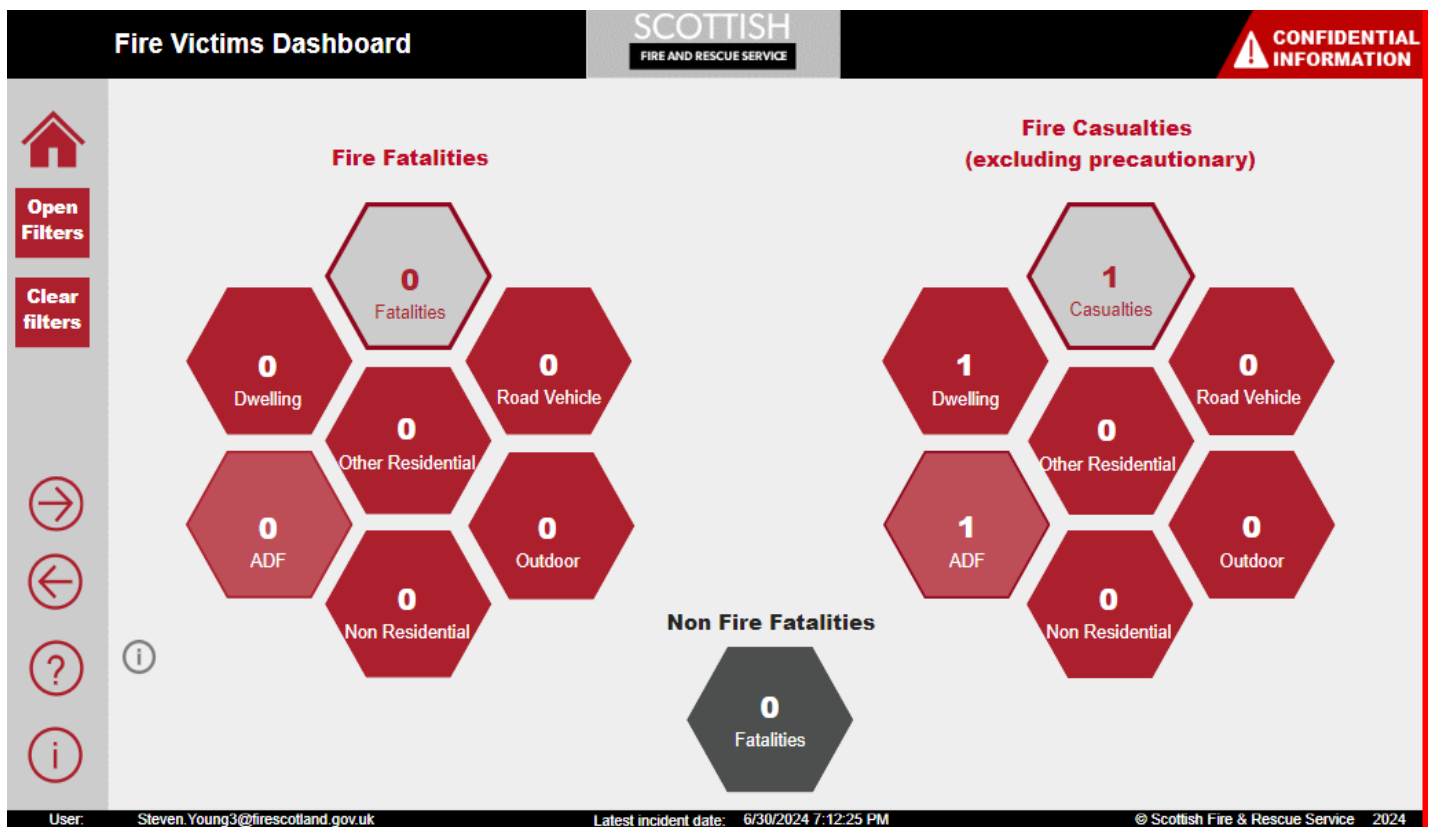
- There were 15 Dwelling fires in Q1 of 2024/25. This is a 27% increase in the number of dwelling fires attended from last year's quarter.
- As of February 2022, it is a legislative requirement for every home to have interlinked fire alarms. This enhancement in fire detection within the home will hopefully see a downward trend.
- Operational crews conduct Post Domestic Incident Response (PDIR) after every domestic incident. This provides crews the opportunity to give home fire safety advice to not only the dwelling affected by fire but also the neighbouring properties.
- A referral system through partnership working allows for Home Fire Safety Visits to be generated via local authorities, occupational therapists, NHS, energy companies etc. This further provides opportunities for crews and our dedicated Community Action Team to educate occupiers about fire safety in the home.

5. Non-Domestic Fires



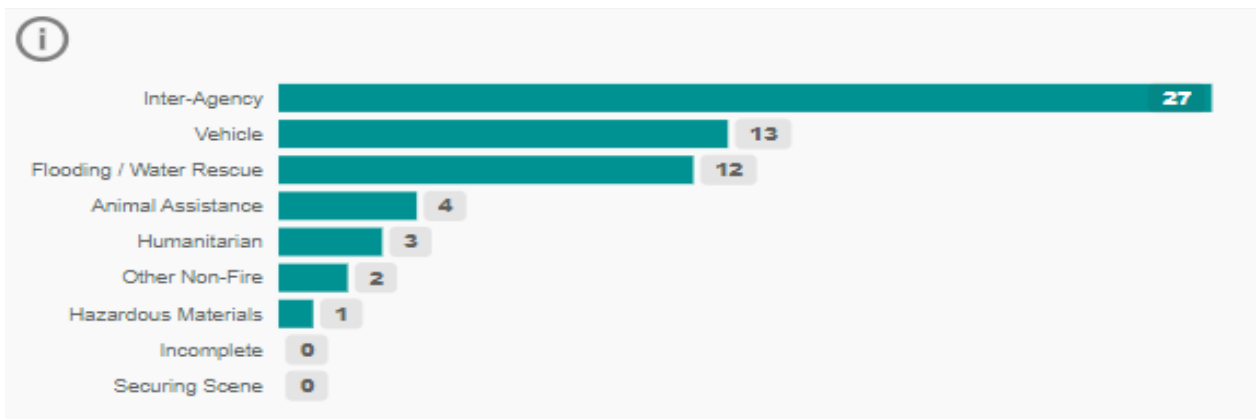
- Operational crews attended 6 more incidents of this nature compared to the same quarter last year. Operational crews and Fire Safety Enforcement teams engage with stakeholders and communities where possible to reduce fire incidents within these premises.
- If operational crews identify concerns in relevant premises during operational turnouts these are referred to our Fire Safety Enforcement team for further investigation.
- Our Fire Safety Enforcement teams conduct regular audits in non-domestic premises covered under the Fire Scotland 2005 Act to improve fire safety in these buildings. They also conduct Post Fire Audits in relevant premises to investigate if fire safety was adhered to in line with legislative requirements.

6. Fire Casualties



- There was 1 fire casualty in total, which was a result of a dwelling fire. The figure comprises of treatment for burns and smoke inhalation.
- Partner case studies are conducted when serious injury/fatality occurs due to fire. This provides a framework to establish each agencies involvement (if any) prior to the incident and enables shared learning moving forward.
- Any moderate to serious injuries incurred at domestic fires are investigated by our Fire Investigation team. Findings that can be attributed to poor fire safety within the home are used to inform a period of community engagement where our operational crews, Community Action Team and partner agencies provide vital education and reassurance within our local communities.

7. Special Service Incidents



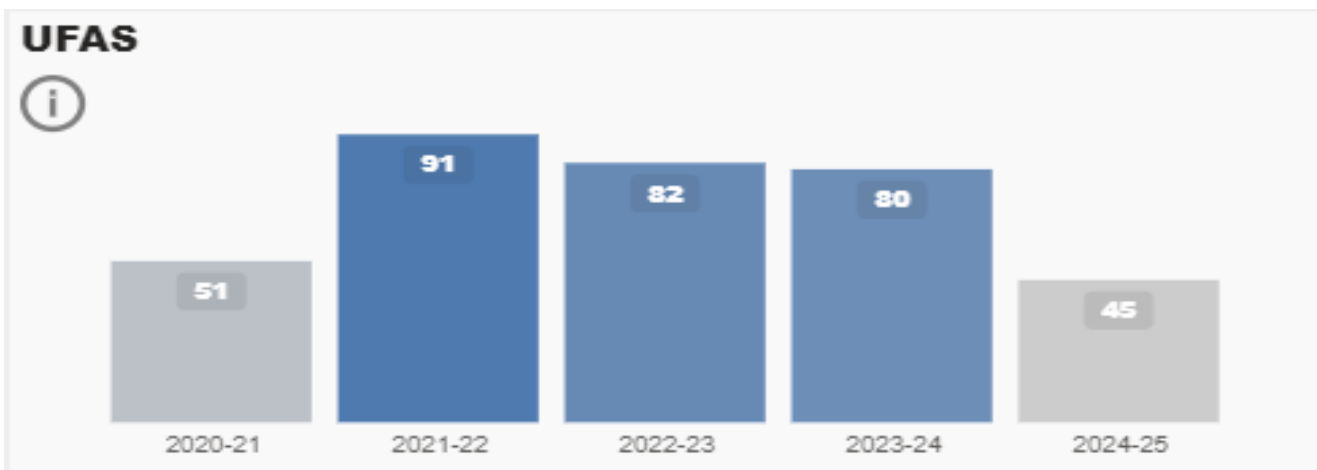
- During the Q1 period, SFRS attended 62 special service incidents, ranging from flooding, water rescues to hazardous materials.
- Operational crews are attending more humanitarian and inter agency incidents such as forcing entry to premises of medical cases.

8. Unintentional Injury or Harm



- There was a total of 8 Special Service Casualties for Midlothian in Q1. 3 were from incidents involving vehicles with 3 incidents attended assisting other agencies including 1 fatality.
- Our operational crews and Community Action Team can identify those most vulnerable during HFSV's and trigger our social care referral policy. This aims to put in place measures to reduce risk of harm at home out with fire safety.
- Our road and water safety campaigns/initiatives look to inform and educate the public about good practice on roads and in water as well as highlighting the dangers associated.

9. Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals



- The figure of 45 for Q1 2024/25 shows a significant decrease of 54% UFAS incidents from the same period last year. The changes to our Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) response from 1st July 2023 has seen a significant reduction in the number of False Alarm incidents attended by our operational crews. This allows us to focus on core activities such as training and community safety engagement.

10. Prevention and Protection & Station Activities

Youth Engagement
<p>The Community Action team carried out the following actions in relation to youth engagement over the Q1 reporting period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 Day Fireskills course to Pupils from Dalkeith High School• Fire Safety Talk to Community & Lifelong Learning Education+12 Group at Edinburgh College (Dalkeith Campus).• Road Safety & Fire related Anti-social behaviour to Y2K180 Group at Penicuik High School• SFRS established and co-chair Task and Co-ordination group within Midlothian with the purpose of sharing information with partner agencies to tackle anti-social behaviour within the community.
Summer Thematic Action Plan
<p>The Summer Thematic action plan launched in Q1 with the following aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promote Water Safety.• Reduce outdoor fires involving Grass/heather or Forested Areas.• Reduce fire related anti-social behaviour and deliberate primary and secondary fires.• Reduce number of fires involving rubbish/refuse.• Promote fire safety within seasonal sleeping risks-Hotels, guest houses/boarding houses and Airbnb accommodation.
Engagement
<p>119 Home Fire Safety Visits were conducted in the Midlothian in Q1, targeting high risk occupiers providing fire safety advice in the home. The Community Action Team has conducted various engagement activities such as leaflet Drops, fire skills courses, anti-social behaviour engagement, partner risk recognition courses and school engagement.</p>
Make The Call Campaign
<p>The Service's Make the Call campaign is tasking families, friends, and carers to make a ten-minute phone call to book a free Home Fire Safety Visit to help save a life. Intelligence gathered from fire investigations has shown that people over the age of 50, who smoke and either have mobility issues, live alone, or use medical oxygen, are more likely to be injured or killed by a fire in the home. However, communities can put firefighters and SFRS specialists in touch with anyone they thinks is vulnerable by making a ten-minute phone call, sending a single text or by filling out an online form with the person's consent.</p>