



#### DISCLAIMER

The figures included in this report are provisional and subject to change as a result of quality assurance and review. The statistics quoted are internal management information published in the interests of transparency and openness. The Scottish government publishes Official Statistics each year which allow for comparisons to be made over longer periods of time.

Please ensure any external partners in receipt of these reports are aware of this.



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## Introduction

This performance report provides information on our prevention, protection and operational response activities within Midlothian for Quarter 3 of 2022-23 (1st October – 31st December 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 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 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 8 key indicators, depicted below

Key performance indicator	Apr to (& incl.) Dec					RAG rating
	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	YTD
False Alarms - All	501	544	485	601	527	●
All accidental fires	113	119	129	130	165	◆
Special Service - All	119	132	108	124	161	◆
False Alarm - UFAs	290	301	215	335	286	●
Special Service - RTCs	25	28	12	22	30	◆
Special Service - Fatalities	6	3	3	3	2	●
Special Service - RTC casualties	14	29	6	9	12	●
False Alarm - UFAs	290	301	215	335	286	

### 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.

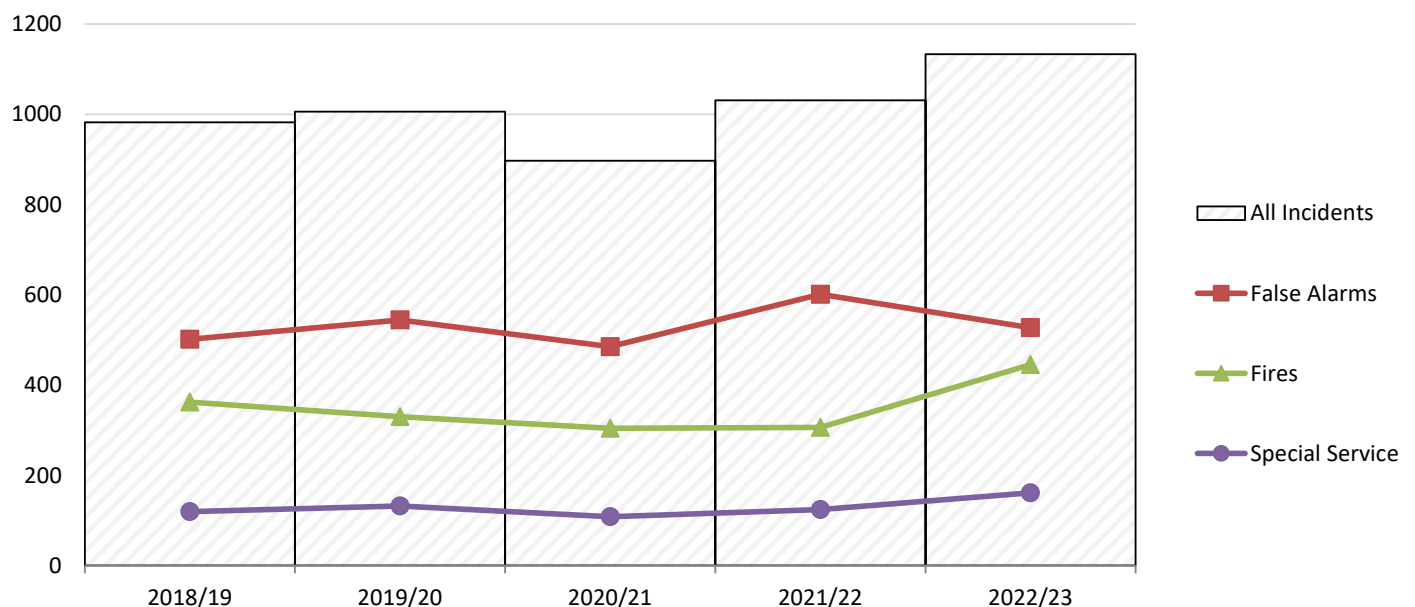
### Note

Quarterly comparison RAG Rating = the reporting period compared to the average of the three previous quarterly reporting periods.  
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.

### Incident Overview

Year to date (1st October 2022 – 31st December 2022), the SFRS, responded to 341 incidents in Midlothian, which is an increase of 15 incidents compared with the same reporting period last 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 'False Alarms - All'

False Alarms are defined as incidents which SFRS are called to either in good intent, malicious intent, whereby a smoke alarm activation results in the mobilisation of SFRS resources, or in cases of on arrival such as gaining access to a property at the request of the Scottish Ambulance or Police Scotland, SFRS services were found to be not required.

### Results

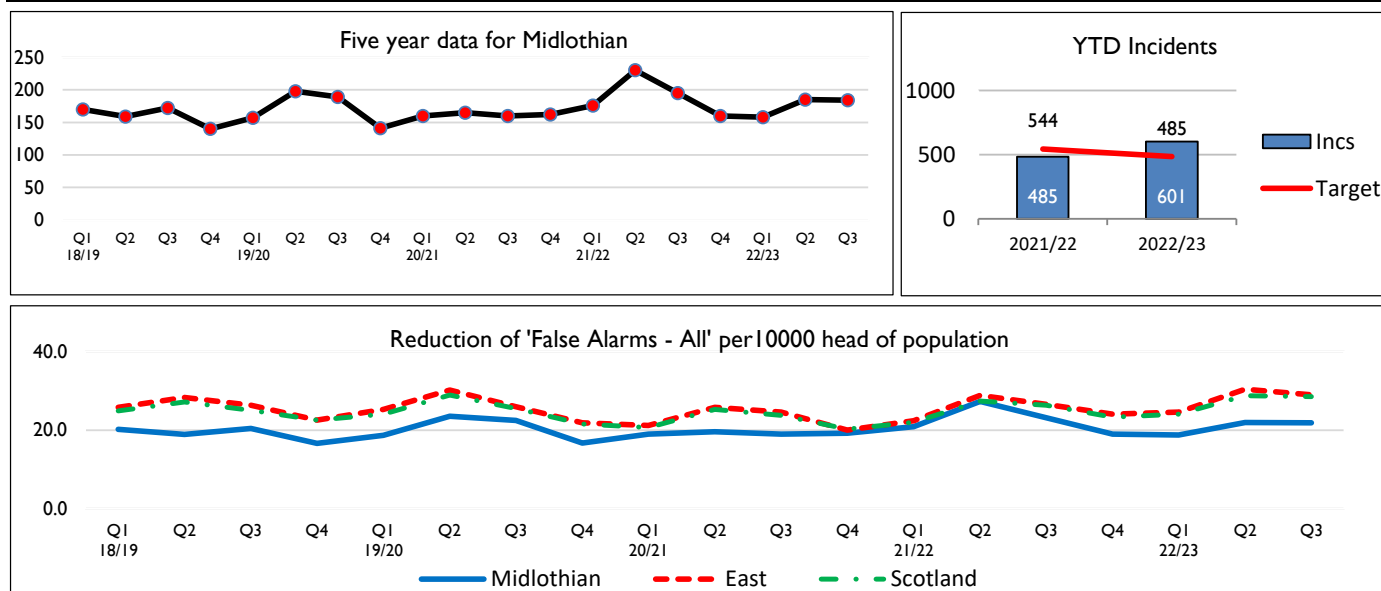
SFRS attended 184 False Alarm incidents during this reporting period, this is a decrease of 11 incidents when compared to the same reporting period last year.

### Reasons

SFRS Response to False Alarms were as a direct result of the following: 6% Malicious, 20% Good Intent and 74% Equipment either wrongly sited or defective.

### Actions

We continue to engage with partners, stakeholders and household occupiers to reduce the number of incidents further.



YTD ward ave. for Midlothian - 88	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Sparklines
Midlothian	501	544	485	601	527	
Penicuik	46	67	72	69	65	
Bonnyrigg	73	77	69	72	61	
Dalkeith	99	102	65	110	95	
Midlothian West	127	143	126	170	121	
Midlothian East	74	85	72	98	94	
Midlothian South	82	70	81	82	91	



## Reduction of 'All accidental fires'

All accidental fires especially dwelling fires can have devastating effects on our community. The SFRS is committed to keeping people safe in their homes. We share information with partners to make sure that the right people get the right information they need, particularly those who are vulnerable due to age, isolation or addiction. Reduction of accidental dwelling fires contributes to The Single Midlothian Plan. As we; as accidental fires. SFRS also priorities reducing the number of deliberate fires, Operation Torsion was a joint initiative with SFRS, Police Scotland and Midlothian Council in reducing anti social behaviour, deliberate fires and removal of unauthorised bonfires for the period leading up to Guy Fawkes night.

### Results

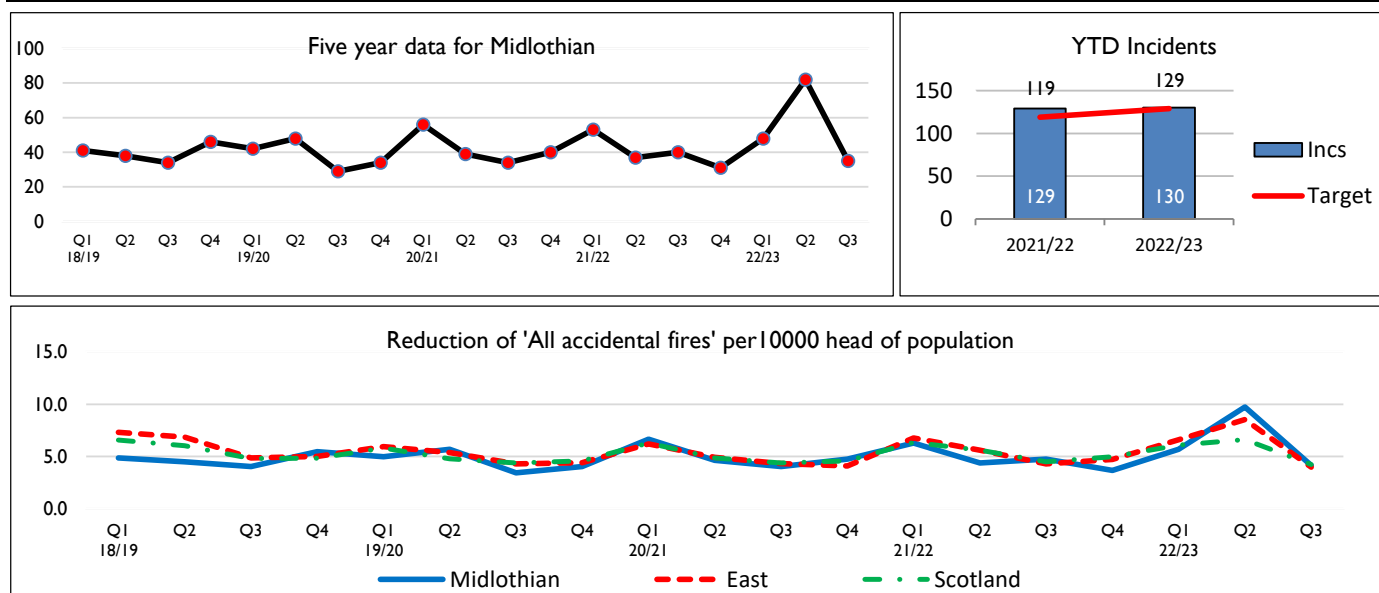
We aim to reduce Accidental fires in Midlothian overall but with a strong emphasis on accidental fires within the home by contributing towards the SFRS target of 10% reduction per year, over a three-year rolling period. During this quarter, we responded to 35 Accidental Fires, which is an reduction of incidents compared with the same period last year. The number of accidental dwelling fires during this quarter was 13 compared to 17 for the same period last year, a decrease of 4.

### Reasons

Of the 13 accidental dwelling fires attended, 11 occurred in single occupancy households. The main cause of accidental fires in the home were attributed to cooking & electrical (46%). 7 Of the 13 fires were limited to the first item ignited and/or confined to the room where the fire started and therefore, relatively minor in nature. It is clear from this evidence to continue to target those mostly at risk in single occupancy households and to ensure those properties have working smoke detection. Unfortunately, 6 of the 13 domestic properties did not have working smoke alarms fitted.

### Actions

During this reporting period, 106 Home Fire Safety Visits were carried out within Midlothian. SFRS continue to work in partnership to educate and inform people about fire and safety, in the home. Appendix I 'Midlothian Prevention & Protection Activities' provides further details on our prevention activities.



YTD ward ave. for Midlothian - 28	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Sparklines
Midlothian	113	119	129	130	165	
Penicuik	15	7	22	24	31	
Bonnyrigg	12	18	12	13	12	
Dalkeith	21	22	22	32	33	
Midlothian West	33	28	30	19	33	
Midlothian East	15	25	18	21	25	
Midlothian South	17	19	25	21	31	



## Reduction of 'Special Service - 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

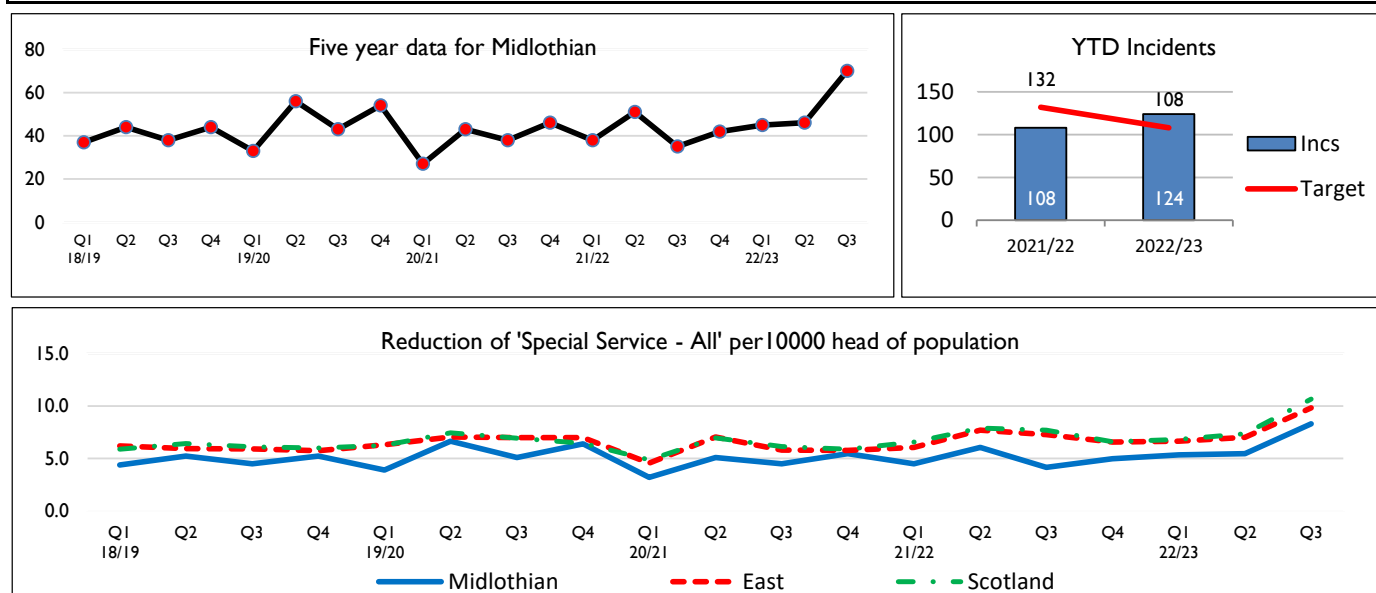
SFRS attended 70 special service incident types in the last quarter compared to 35 for the previous reporting period. 34% SS incidents were attributed to affecting entry, 27% flooding incidents and 10% RTCs. Unfortunately, this resulted in 6 casualties. This is a decrease of 2 special service casualties when compared with the same reporting period last year.

### Reasons

There were 6 non-fatal casualties, 5 from effecting entry, co-responding or assisting other agencies.

### 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.



YTD ward ave. for Midlothian - 27	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Sparklines
Midlothian	119	132	108	124	161	
Penicuik	16	28	15	20	20	
Bonnyrigg	11	12	12	6	21	
Dalkeith	34	31	20	20	33	
Midlothian West	19	29	26	33	39	
Midlothian East	18	16	21	23	25	
Midlothian South	21	16	14	22	23	





## 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

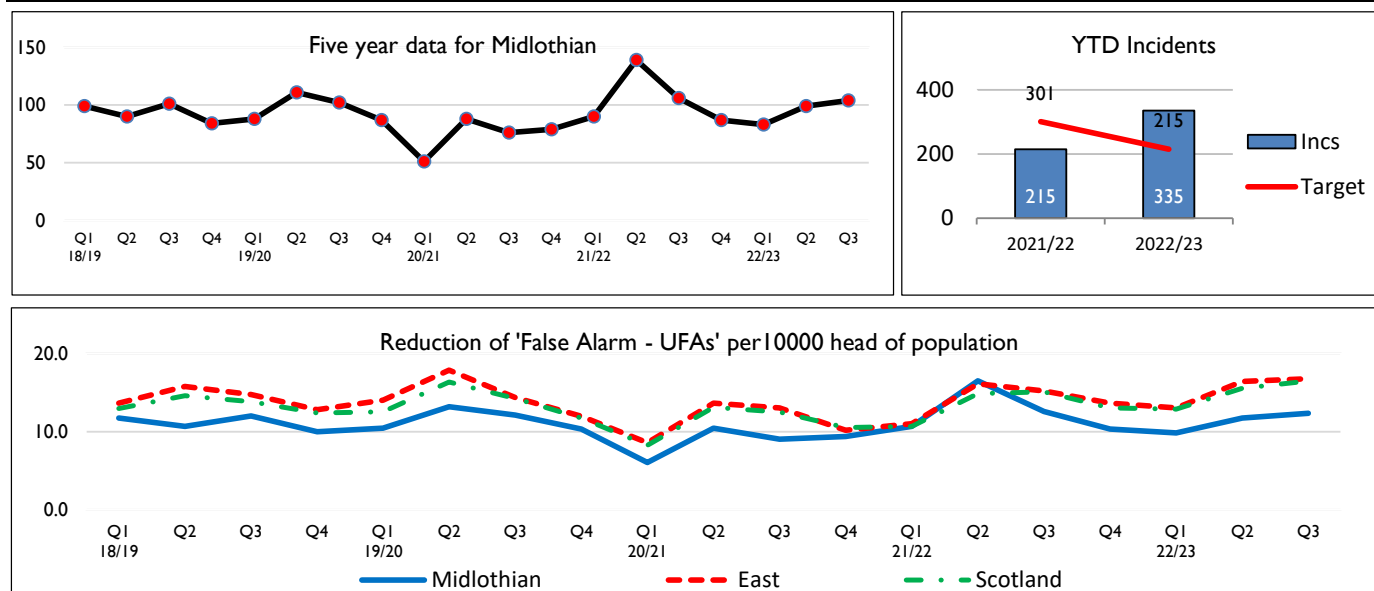
SFRS attended 102 Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals incidents during this reporting period, which is a decrease of 4 incidents when compared to the same reporting period last year.

### Reasons

The high proportion of mobilisations to false alarms were as a direct result of: 18% were attributable to faulty apparatus, 10% due to contaminants (dust/insects/steam/aerosol), 16% caused by smoking, and 10% due to accidental activation. The highest number of SFRS mobilisations to false alarms (15%) were to education facilities.

### Actions

We continue to monitor Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals calls and 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 incidents. In Midlothian, we are currently engaging with various premises giving advice to prevent further occurrences. Note: Appendix I 'Midlothian Prevention & Protection Activities' provides further details.



YTD ward ave. for Midlothian - 48	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Sparklines
Midlothian	290	301	215	335	286	
Penicuik	30	39	34	34	30	
Bonnyrigg	46	49	30	47	34	
Dalkeith	47	49	18	45	47	
Midlothian West	86	94	75	121	92	
Midlothian East	41	44	30	54	45	
Midlothian South	40	26	28	34	38	



## 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

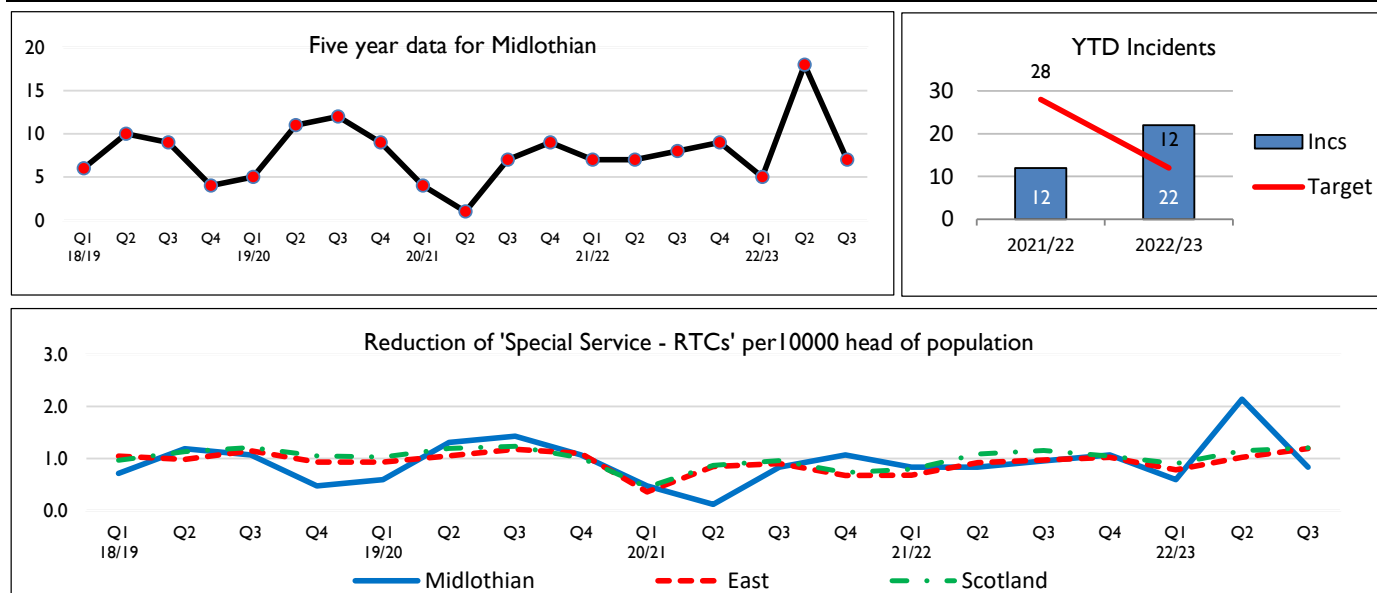
SFRS attended 1 Road Traffic Collision during this period, which is a reduction of 2 when compared with the same reporting period last year. Per 10,000 head of population, Midlothian is performing below the Scottish and East Service Delivery area trend lines.

### Reasons

The SFRS only attend those RTC's they are requested to attend this number does not reflect the total number of RTCs within Midlothian.

### 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 has been delivered to all six High Scholls in Midlothian and is an excellent partnership approach between SFRS, Police Scotland and Scottish Ambulance Service to reduce road traffic collisions.



YTD ward ave. for Midlothian - 5	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Sparklines
Midlothian	25	28	12	22	30	
Penicuik	2	9	3	2	4	
Bonnyrigg	0	1	0	2	3	
Dalkeith	11	3	1	4	9	
Midlothian West	4	5	4	7	5	
Midlothian East	6	7	3	4	7	
Midlothian South	2	3	1	3	2	



## Reduction of 'Special Service - Fatalities'

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 fatalities from Non-Fire Emergencies contributes to the Single Midlothian Plan.

### Results

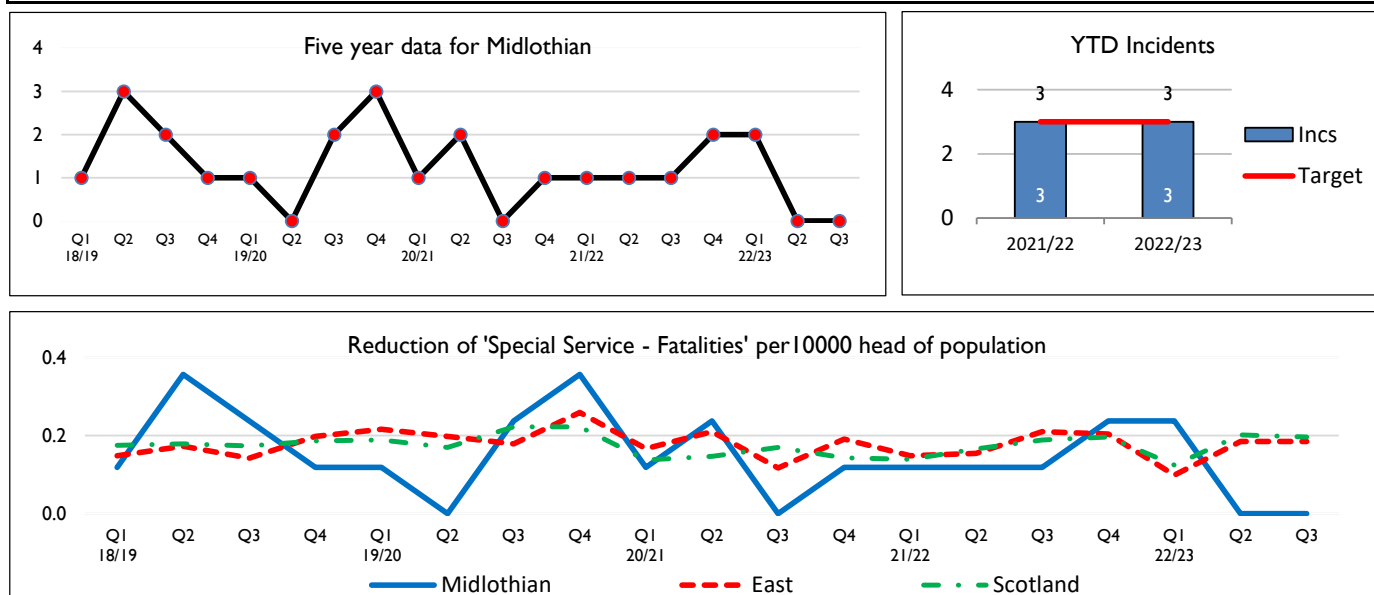
I am pleased to report that SFRS attended no special service incident types that resulted in a fatality in the last quarter. Per 10,000 head of population, Midlothian is performing below the Scottish and East Service Delivery area trend lines.

### Reasons

I am pleased to report that SFRS attended no special service incident types that resulted in a fatality in the last quarter. Per 10,000 head of population, Midlothian is performing below the Scottish and East Service Delivery area trend lines.

### Actions

The SFRS is a member of a multi-agency approach to reducing fatalities from Special Service Incidents. The continued delivery of Thematic Action Plans to schools by our Community Action Teams and Operational Firefighters, ensures SFRS targets risks and hazards specifically for the time of year - water/drowning in Spring/Summer and dangers of Ice covered waterways in Winter.



YTD ward ave. for Midlothian - 0	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Sparklines
Midlothian	6	3	3	3	2	
Penicuik	1	0	1	1	2	
Bonnyrigg	0	0	0	0	0	
Dalkeith	1	1	1	1	0	
Midlothian West	2	1	1	1	0	
Midlothian East	0	1	0	0	0	
Midlothian South	2	0	0	0	0	



# Midlothian Prevention & Protection Activities

## Quarter 3: 1<sup>st</sup> October– 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022

### 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	OCT- DEC	YTD
	<b>20</b>	<b>80</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, 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
<b>Ward</b>						
Bonnyrigg	5	6	5	<b>16</b>		
Dalkeith	1	10	6	<b>17</b>		
Mid East	9	10	7	<b>26</b>		
Mid South	1	6	12	<b>19</b>		
Mid West	1	7	6	<b>14</b>		
Penicuik	3	7	4	<b>14</b>		
<b>TOTALS</b>				<b>106</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>335</b>

## Home Fire Safety Referrals

The table below details how HFSVs were generated.

<b>Post Domestic Incident Response (PDIR)</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>YTD</b>
<b>British Red Cross</b>	<b>7</b>	
<b>EMPPPO</b>	<b>2</b>	
<b>Housing providers</b>	<b>5</b>	
<b>Midlothian Falls Team</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Other</b>	<b>15</b>	
<b>Police Concern</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Self-referral</b>	<b>48</b>	
<b>SP Energy Networks</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Social Services</b>	<b>2</b>	
<b>Women's Aid East &amp; Mid</b>	<b>2</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>335</b>



## **Partnership Working/Youth Engagement**

### **Bonfire period**

In preparation for bonfire activities in November, Operation Torsion, a partnership with Midlothian Council, SFRS CAT and Police Scotland (PS) was established to carry out joint patrols engaging with local youths to reduce antisocial behaviour, secondary fires and identifying illegal bonfires. Council uplift teams were used to clear away these and reduce the impact of disruption on bonfire night. This had a positive impact on activity with SFRS responding to only 4 deliberate fires during the period 31<sup>st</sup> October to 8<sup>th</sup> November. All fires involved refuse or grass/woodland. Our Community Action Team (CAT) and PS delivered Halloween and Bonfire Safety presentations to Primary and Secondary schools within Midlothian, all 38 schools in Midlothian were also provided with Bonfire safety poster's and leaflets.

In relation to Road Safety, local staff, supported by PS and Scottish Ambulance Service (SAS) worked in partnership to deliver the Tomorrows Drivers Road Safety Presentations to all Six High schools in Midlothian.

Midlothian SFRS CAT and Police Scotland have worked in collaboration with Community Alcohol Partnership (CAP) Scotland to setup a local group in Midlothian. The aim of this group is to target underage drinking and anti-social behaviour. Midlothian CAP was launched with an event in October. A second event was carried out in November at King George V park, Bonnyrigg.

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

Partner agencies have also requested **11** 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;

- Focus on Older and Vulnerable people
- Festive Safety

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.