

Appendix 1

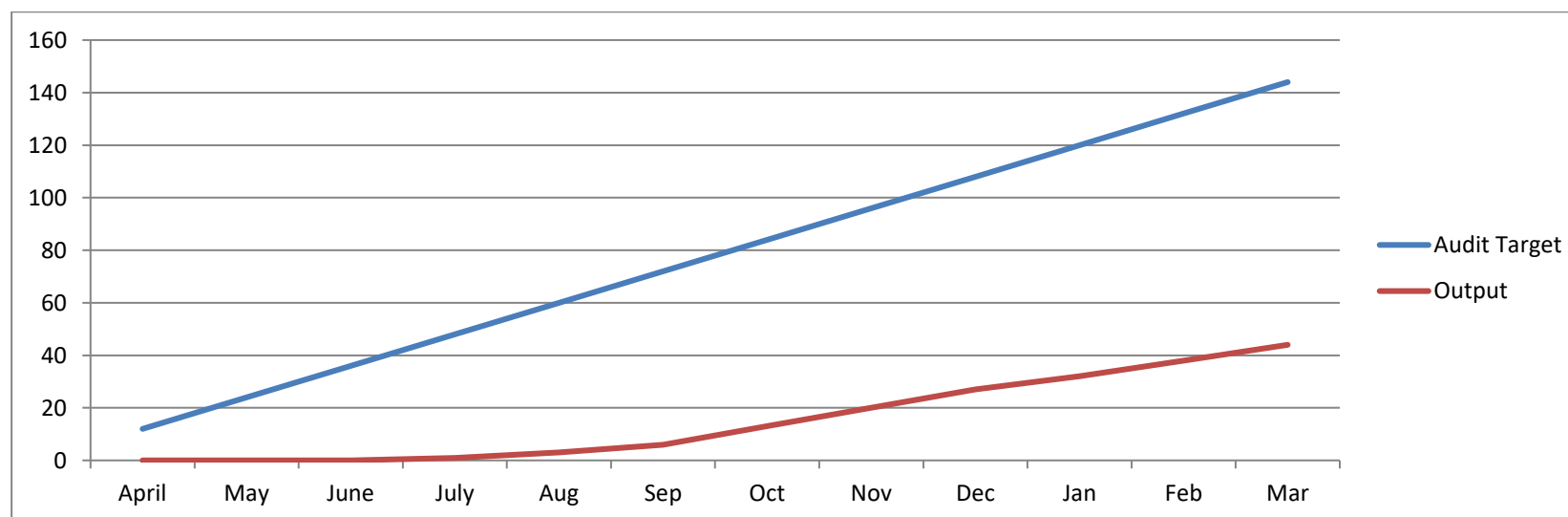
Midlothian Prevention & Protection Activities

Quarter 4: 1st January– 31st March 2021

Fire Safety Enforcement Audits

The figures represent the audit workloads delivered by the Midlothian Fire Safety Enforcement Officer (FSEO). Following the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) Enforcement Framework, local deployment ensures compliance for relevant premises in terms of the Fire Scotland Act (2005) and associated Fire Safety Regulations. As can be seen usual annual targets have not been met. Coronavirus lockdown restrictions have severely impacted our audit programme during this year with a vastly reduced number audits carried out. A remote audit process has been produced to assist with delivery of our responsibilities. When appropriate, advice is provided by telephone to support duty holders with compliance and to ensure the risk of fire is managed robustly. All High-Risk premises, including hospitals and Care Homes have received a full audit. Our FSE team continue to carry audits of regulated premises that have experienced a fire incident.

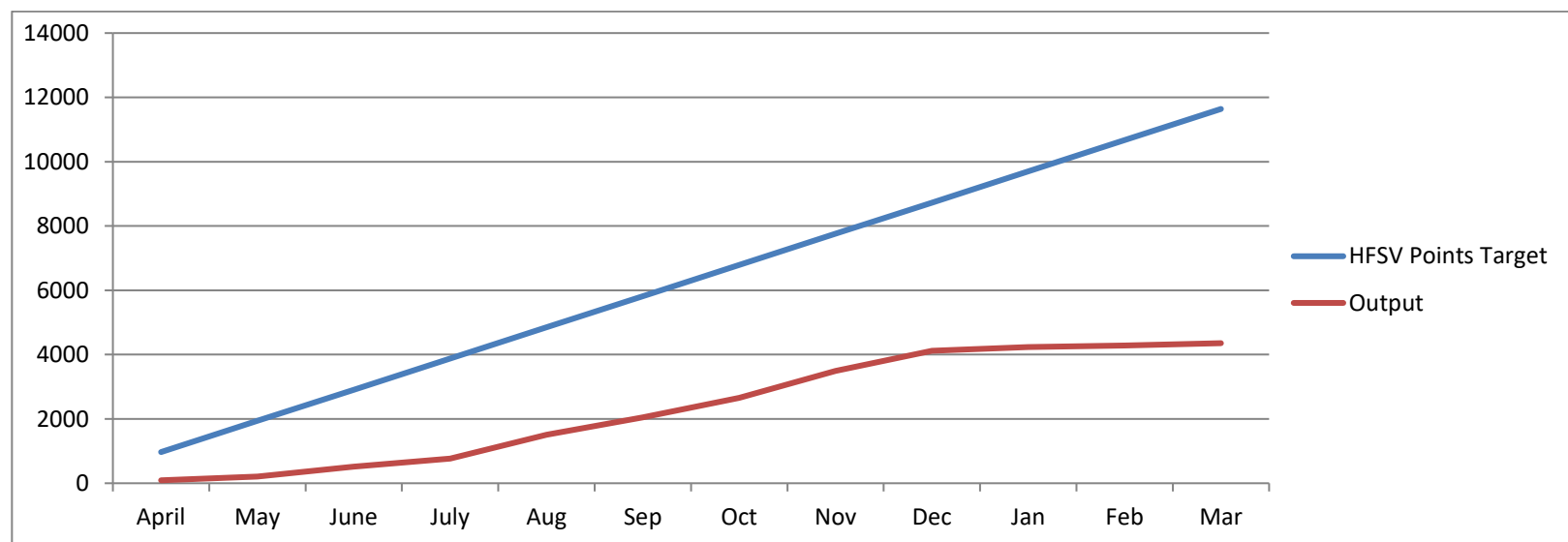
	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Target:	12	24	36	48	60	72	84	96	108	120	132	144	144
Completed	0	0	0	1	3	6	13	20	27	32	38	44	44



Home Fire Safety Visits

The delivery of Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSVs) is the corner stone of the SFRS Community Safety Engagement framework. By visiting households and providing fire safety advice and smoke alarms the numbers of dwelling fires and casualties will be reduced. To target the highest risk households across Midlothian a points allocation based on risk and associated target has been set (24 points per high, 8 per medium, 4 per low risk visit). Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, we have had to introduce interim measures which included providing this service to high risk individuals only. As a consequence, the number of HFSVs delivered reduced dramatically during this period. **A total of 23 HFSVs** were delivered in Midlothian in during this period.

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Target	970	1940	2910	3880	4850	5820	6790	7760	8730	9700	10670	11640	11640
Completed	92	212	516	768	1512	2044	2660	3492	4116	4236	4288	4356	4356



Total visits delivered by ward area 2020/21 YTD:

The following table gives a good indication of the coverage across Midlothian where the SFRS delivers Home Fire Safety Visits.

Ward Area	Visits delivered in Q1 2020/21	Visits delivered in Q2 2020/21	Visits delivered in Q3 2020/21	Visits delivered in Q4 2020/21
Bonnyrigg	9	17	30	4
Dalkeith	6	25	14	3
Midlothian East	5	18	21	6
Midlothian South	8	25	27	5
Midlothian West	3	13	21	4
Penicuik	7	12	16	1
TOTAL	38	110	129	23

Partnership Working

Youth Engagement

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, our usual Youth engagement programmes have not been delivered. We have however, maintained contact with many partner groups, providing advice via social media and delivering thematic information such as Seasonal Safety and Deliberate fire-setting. Engagement and communication with an eye on future activities has been maintained with groups such as Y2K.

Safeguarding

During this period our teams continued to identify and refer adults at risk of harm and/or in need of support.

The LALO continues to provide information relevant to Fire Safety at the monthly Multi Agency Risk Conference (MARAC) and support vulnerable people.

HFSV Referrals and advice

Whilst we continue to receive referrals from partner agencies, the numbers have also reduced. SFRS have provided all partners with specific guidance to support the identification and referral of those deemed at greatest risk of fire within the home. Our current HFSV campaign focuses on a particular high-risk group and is titled **"MAKE THE CALL"** See page 7

Our HSFV referral systems are monitored on a daily to ensure that high risk households are contacted within 24 hours as per our policy. All referrals are risk rated with a HFSV carried out or advice provided and recorded for a visit at a later date, when safe to do so.

When a HFSV is not carried out, households are offered advice on the following topics;

- Cooking and Kitchen Safety;
- Electrical and Heating Safety;
- Smoking and Candle Safety;
- Smoke and Heat Alarms;
- Night Time Routine and Fire Escape Plan.

Partner agencies have also requested Enhanced Home Fire Safety Visits through Police concern reports or direct requests from social services. This particular type of visit is provided for those individuals who are exposed to a very high risk of fire within the home and may result in additional measures such as telecare or the provision of fire-retardant bedding being recommended.

Home Fire Safety; New Standards 2021

As reported previously, SFRS were preparing for the introduction of the new smoke detection standards which were originally to be invoked as of 1st February 2020. The new standard will now come into effect as of 1st February 2021. The new standard means that all domestic

household must have a combination of smoke/heat detection that is inter-linked. The system can be hardwired or wireless (Bluetooth).

Alarms required to meet the standard:

One smoke alarm installed in the room most frequently used for general daytime living purposes

- One smoke alarm in every circulation space on each storey, such as hallways and landings
- One heat alarm installed in every kitchen

All alarms should be ceiling mounted and interlinked. There is also a requirement for carbon monoxide detectors to be fitted where there is a carbon-fuelled appliance (such as boilers, fires (including open fires), heaters and stoves) or a flue.

At the time of preparing this report, training continues with all operational staff and members of our Community Action Team involved. Local Authorities, Housing Associations and private Landlords are responsible for ensuring the new standards are met. Scottish Government have a dedicated web page to support compliance www.gov.scot/publications/fire-and-smoke-alarms-in-scottish-homes/.

We continue to support Midlothian Community Planning, Public Protection and Community Justice agendas, participating and having a presence at all levels of governance and delivery.

Other Work Completed or In Progress

Given the impact of the Coronavirus and the necessity to introduce new working practices, this has resulted in less opportunities to deliver face to face services as detailed in previous sections of this report.

We have managed to maintain contact with partners via modern technology systems, whilst also ensuring that those individuals requiring urgent assistance, such as a Home Fire Safety Visit, safeguarding or fires-setter's concerns are addressed.

Fire Safety Enforcement (FSE) Audits.

As previously detailed, the above programme has been severely impacted due to COVID 19 restrictions. Planning for 21/22 is well underway with the usual focus of ensuring high risk premises are audited and provided SFRS support and guidance when required.

Other Partnership work

Although the current circumstances have reduced our ability to deliver/offer all our services, we continue to work with partners on a regular basis, providing advice and reassurance, whilst also planning and considering innovative methods to achieve our goals and objectives.

At the time of compiling this report, in conjunction with Scottish Government advice, SFRS are producing recovery plans which will ultimately see a return to normal operating activities. This will obviously be dependent upon circumstances relating to COVID infections etc. Planning will be based upon several delivery options to ensure that regardless of the operating environment we find ourselves in, those at greatest risk of fire or in need of SFRS support will be reached.

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!**



You could help save a life! **#MAKETHECALL**

Book a free **HOME FIRE SAFETY VISIT:**

0800 0731 999