Appendix 1 Midlothian Prevention & Protection Activities

Quarter 2: 1st July– 30th September 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. In line with the SFRS enforcement framework all of the area high risk sleeping premises receive an annual audit and this includes hospitals, care homes, houses of multiple occupation, hostels and hotels. We continue to experience the consequences of the COVID 19 lockdown, however, we are attending an increased number of premises for audit. This can be seen in improved output, which should continue as we progress through this year.

	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:	7	14	22	28	39	49							



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). As the year progresses, we have seen a gradual lift in COVID restrictions which has assisted with an increased number of visits compared to this time last year with a **total of 134** HFSVs being delivered in Midlothian in **Q2**.

	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	408	1220	1520	1980	2308	3256							



Total visits delivered by ward area 2021/22 YTD:

Ward Area	Visits delivered in Q1 2021/22	Visits delivered in Q2 2021/22	Visits delivered in Q3 2021/22	Visits delivered in Q4 2021/22
Bonnyrigg	22	28		
Dalkeith	22	27		
Midlothian East	20	16		
Midlothian South	19	21		
Midlothian West	17	31		
Penicuik	11	11		
TOTAL	111	134		

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

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 Summer safety and deliberate fire-setting. We have also commenced activities with a number of Youth Groups and Schools. *At the time of preparing this report, our teams have started to recommence face to face visits with Schools and other groups.*

During this period our local teams have been preparing Bonfire and Road Safety videos that will be delivered across East Lothian. These presentations have been created in partnership with Police Scotland and SBC.

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 **4** 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.

HFSV Referrals and advice

In addition to our HFSV programme and services, we continue to provide information regarding the requirements of new Fire and Smoke Alarm Standard (Scotland), which is due to be implemented February 2022 after being postponed from Feb 21. The responsibility for meeting the standard is placed upon home owners, including Councils, Housing Associations and Private Landlords.

SFRS will fit detectors to the new standard for privately owned occupiers who are deemed to be a High risk of fire.

Scottish Government has recently delivered an awareness campaign with TV, Radio adverts and Social Media.

Full information can be accessed using the following link;

https://www.gov.scot/publications/fire-and-smoke-alarms-tolerable-standard-guidance/

Other Work Completed or In Progress

Water Safety has been very topical during the summer months. This was due to the high number of deaths related to water activities. SFRS Local Community Action staff, in collaboration with other partners delivered Water Safety messages via social media and presentations. Two events demonstrating SFRS Water Rescue capabilities were also delivered at Glencourse and Gladhouse Reservoirs. These events were supported by Police Scotland.

As COVID work restrictions have eased, normal services have begun to recover. Most of our Prevention and Protection staff do however continue to work from home and are not yet fully engaged with external partners and service users.

At the time of completing this report, we are actively planning activities which will hopefully see our staff return to delivering our Core Fire Skills programmes across the area.

We are however mindful that restrictions could be re-introduced at any time and are providing resilience to activities with the production of remote methods of delivery for all activities where possible.

Reducing Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS)

We reported in Quarter 1 that SFRS had commenced a thorough review of how we respond to UFAS calls. At the time of preparing this report, findings from our public consultation are being assessed, with finds and conclusion being shared early New Year. An update will be provided in the Quarter 3 report.

