



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

**Aberdeenshire**  
COUNCIL



## **REPORT TO KINCARDINE & MEARN'S AREA COMMITTEE – 2 JULY 2019**

### **SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE – KINCARDINE & MEARN'S AREA COMMITTEE PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR 1 April 2018 – 31 March 2019**

#### **1. It is recommended that the Area Committee:**

- 1. Acknowledge and discuss the attached performance report relating to the period, and**
- 2. Acknowledge and discuss any local operational matters arising, together with key resource issues, as detailed within the appendices attached to this report.**

#### **2. Background / Discussion**

- 2.1 The main purpose of this report is to inform members how the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service is performing locally in Kincardine & Mearns against key performance measures and associated targets, as set out in the Aberdeenshire Local Fire and Rescue Plan and Kincardine and Mearns Multi-Member Ward Plan.
- 2.2 The summary report (**see appendix 1**) will provide a regular opportunity for Elected Members to discuss fire and rescue activities, in the local area in order to achieve good outcomes for the residents of Kincardine & Mearns.

#### **3 Scheme of Governance**

- 3.1 The Committee is able to consider and take a decision on this item in terms of B.1.2 of Part 2A of the Scheme of Governance which empowers the Committee to consider, comment on, and make recommendations on any matter or policy which impacts their Area.

#### **4. Implications and Risk**

- 4.1 An equality impact assessment is not required because the report is to inform the Committee on performance and there will be no differential impact, as a result of the report, on people with protected characteristics.
- 4.2 There are no staffing and financial implications from this report.

- 4.3 There are no direct risk implications for the Council as this report is in relation to the performance reporting of an external organisation for the Committee's acknowledgement and discussion.
- 4.4 As this report is only to inform Committee on performance there is no impact on town centres thus a Town Centre Impact Assessment is not required.

**Ian Findlay**  
**Local Senior Officer**  
**Aberdeenshire and Moray**

**Ritchie Johnson**  
**Director of Communities**

## Kincardine and Mearns Area Committee 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019

### Introduction

From 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 there have been **330 incidents** within the Kincardine and Mearns Area:

27 (8%)	Deliberate Fires	0	Fire Fatalities
61 (19%)	Accidental Fires	2	Non-Fatal Fire Casualties
67 (20%)	Special Service Incidents	30	RTC Casualties
175 (53%)	False Alarms		

23 Accidental Dwelling Fires (26% of all fires)  
10 Non-Domestic Fires (11% of all fires)

The Aberdeenshire Management Team and staff within the area are committed to working with Communities and Partners to reduce all types of incidents and continue working to make Kincardine and Mearns a safe place to work, live and visit.

This report provides the Kincardine and Mearns Area Committee with an overview of performance within the area and what the service are doing in partnership with both communities and partners to continuously improve performance within the area.

(Information taken from SFRS internal performance software; statistics featured throughout this report are provisional until year end verification)

### Deliberate Fires

Reducing Deliberate Fires is a priority for the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service within the Kincardine and Mearns area. The chart below shows that we are making progress towards this objective.

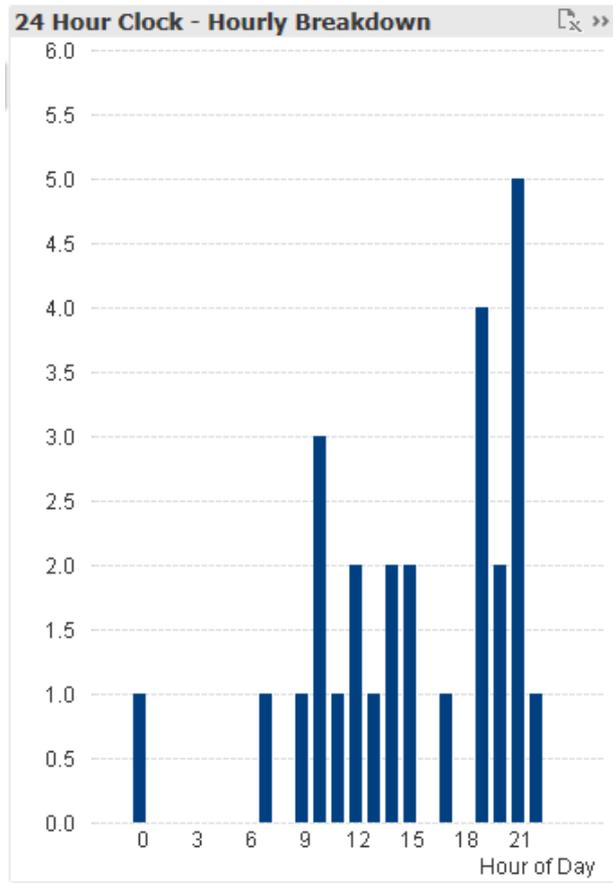
1a - All Deliberate Fires ► Aberdeenshire, Moray ► Aberdeenshire ► Aberdeenshire Policy & Resources (Kincardine & Mearns... [



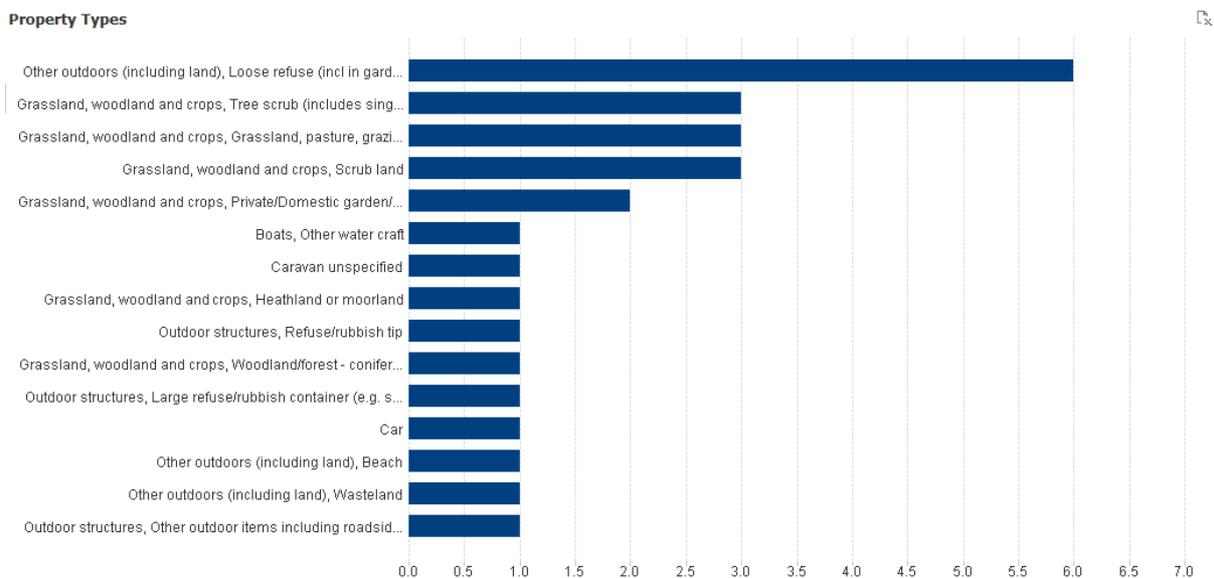
The table below shows the breakdown of Deliberate Fires throughout the Kincardine and Mearns area down to ward level. It can be seen from the table that the deliberate fires over the current period have occurred in all three areas.

Geography/Reporting Year	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19
† Ward					
Mearns	4	1	8	9	8
North Kincardine	6	7	7	7	10
Stonehaven & Lower Deeside	6	6	20	8	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>27</b>

11 (41%) out of the 27 incidents that have occurred during this period have taken place between 1800 – 2100hrs (this can be seen in the chart below).



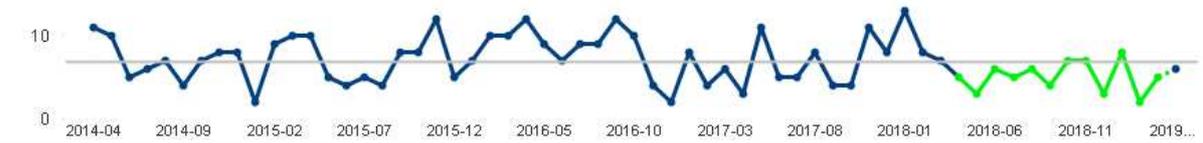
The 27 deliberate fires fall into the following categories.



## Unintentional Harm and Home Safety

Reducing unintentional harm and improving home safety remains a priority for the SFRS. The chart below shows that the number of Accidental Dwelling Fires within the area have remained relatively static over the period.

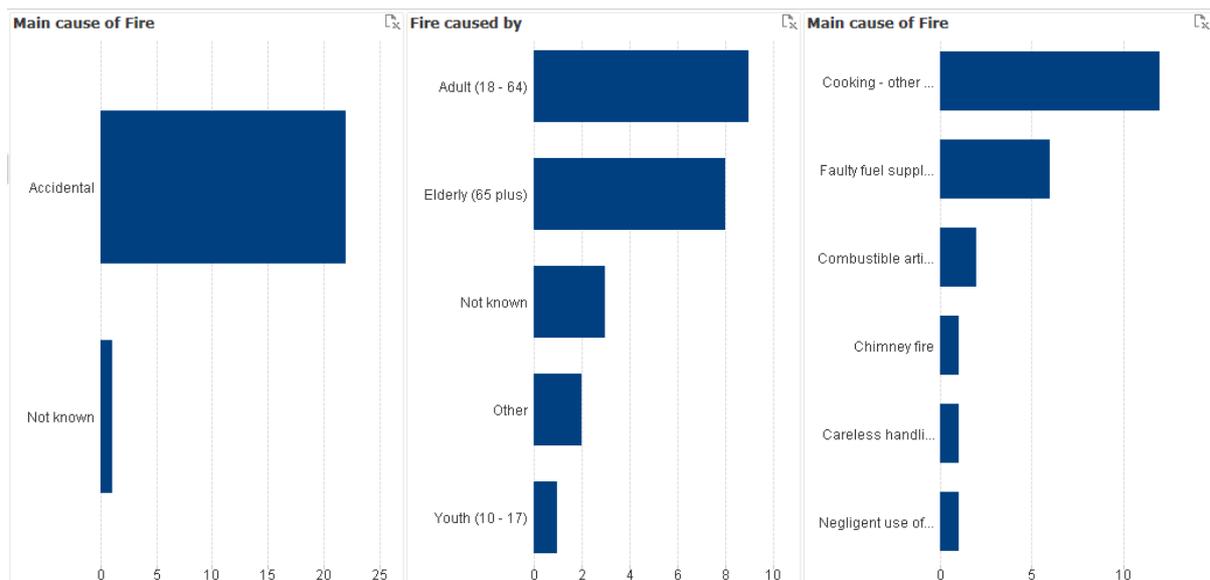
2a - All Accidental Fires ▶ Aberdeenshire, Moray ▶ Aberdeenshire ▶ Aberdeenshire Policy & Resources (Kincardine & Mearns...



The table below shows the breakdown of accidental dwelling fires down to ward level. It can be seen from the table that the majority of accidental dwelling fires over the current period have occurred in the Stonehaven and Lower Deeside ward. Out of the 23 incidents, only 4 (17%) of them required to be extinguished by the SFRS. The other 19 (83%) were low severity incidents and did not require any firefighting.

Geography/Reporting Year					
Ward	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19
Mearns	9	9	8	4	6
North Kincardine	6	4	6	6	4
Stonehaven & Lower Deeside	4	13	12	15	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>23</b>

It can be seen from the chart below that 12 out of the 23 (52%) of accidental dwelling fires that occurred resulted from cooking. The local crews are focussing on this trend when undertaking Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSV) and where necessary, working closely with our Community Action Team and other partner agencies through the Aberdeenshire Community Safety Hub to carry out case conferences on individuals deemed at risk.



Home Fire Safety Visits continue to be our primary method for reducing accidental dwelling fires. During this period we have delivered the following HFSV's.

Area	Total Visits	High Risk	Medium Risk	Low Risk
Mearns	75	36 (48%)	15 (20%)	24 (32%)
North Kincardine	81	23 (28%)	33 (40%)	26 (32%)
Stonehaven & Lower Deeside	105	41 (39%)	34 (32%)	30 (29%)
<b>Totals</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>100 (39%)</b>	<b>82 (31%)</b>	<b>80 (30%)</b>

We are continuing to work with our Partners through Local Community Planning Arrangements and the Health and Social Care Partnership to increase the number of High Risk Referrals made for Home Fire Safety Visits. This is a critical piece of work delivering these visits to the people that are most in need.

### **Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties**

During this reporting period there have been 2 casualties as a result of accidental dwelling fires. The table below shows how this compares to the previous five years.

Geography/Reporting Year	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19
↑ Ward					
Mearns	0	1	0	1	2
North Kincardine	0	1	0	1	0
Stonehaven & Lower Deeside	0	6	4	7	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>

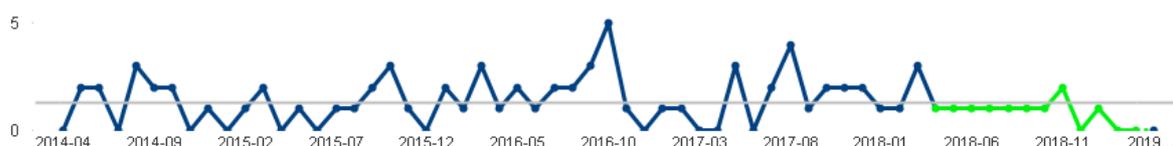
Although the number of casualties remains low we will not become complacent and will continue refining our HFSV process to ensure casualty numbers are minimised.

### **Non Domestic Fires**

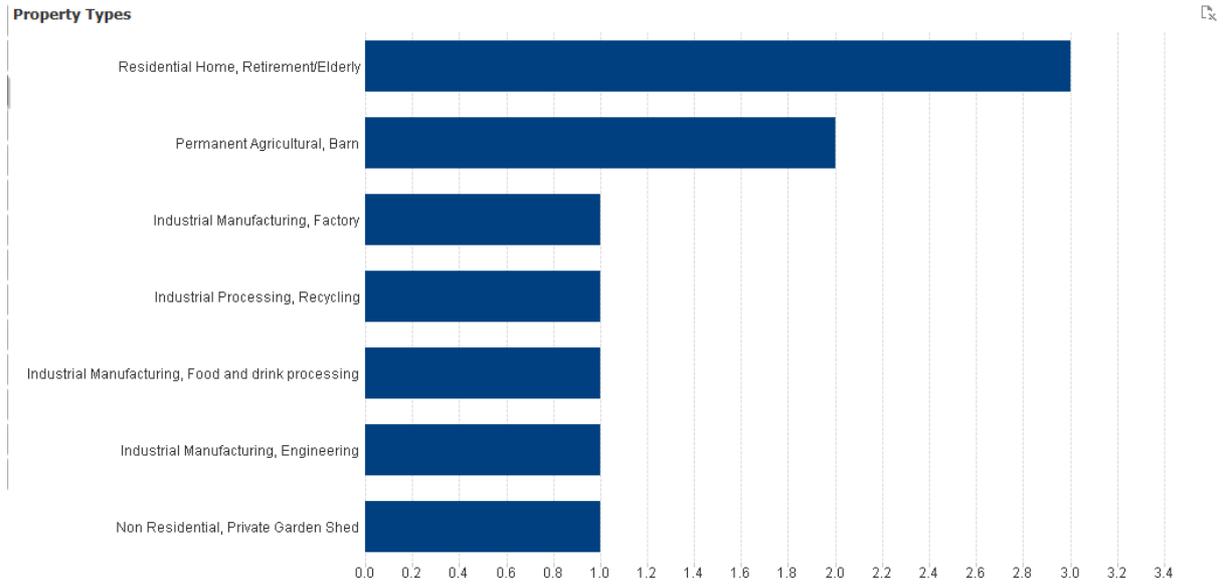
During this reporting period there have been 4 non-domestic fires in the area. The table and chart below allows for comparison with this and the same reporting period for the previous 5 years.

Geography/Reporting Year	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19
↑ Ward					
Mearns	7	2	5	5	3
North Kincardine	7	5	2	8	2
Stonehaven & Lower Deeside	1	8	12	8	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>10</b>

4a - Non Domestic Fires ► Aberdeenshire, Moray ► Aberdeenshire ► Aberdeenshire Policy & Resources (Kincardine & Mearns)



The chart below shows the property types where these incidents occurred.

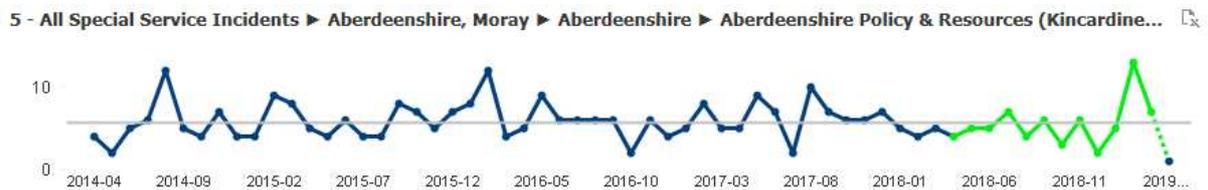


### Non-Fire Emergencies

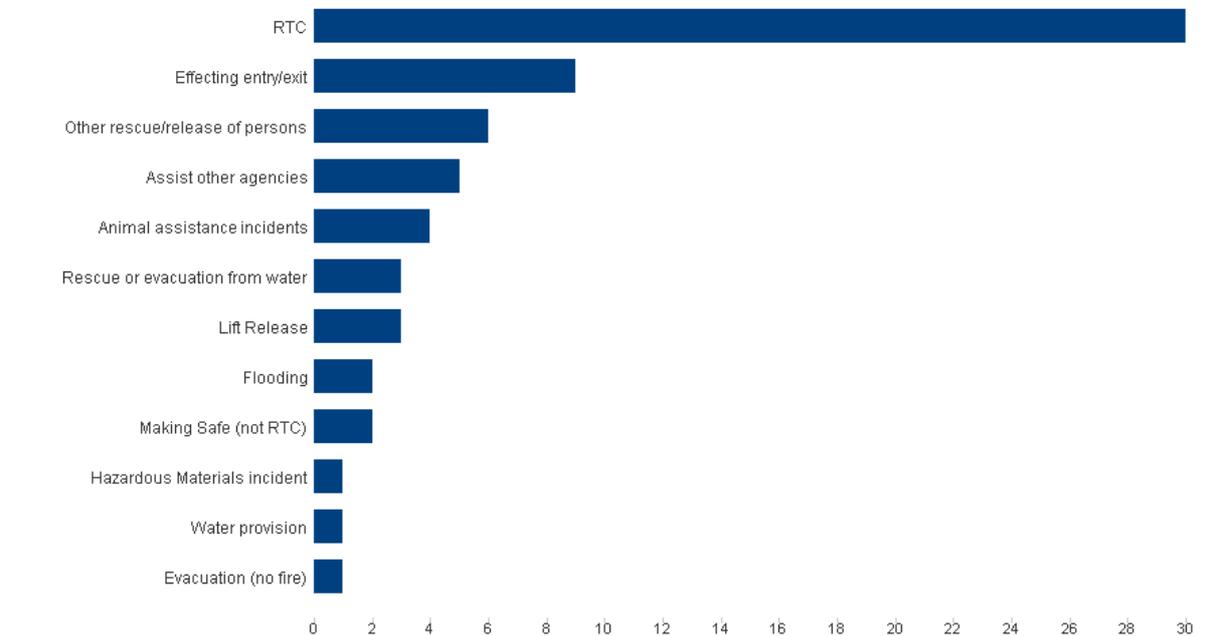
The modern Fire and Rescue Service attends many incidents that are not fires. This section provides information in relation to Non-Fire Emergencies to allow members to see both how we are progressing in this area and the variety of Non-Fire Emergencies that crews within the area deal with.

The table and chart below show how we are progressing in comparison with the previous 5 years.

Geography/Reporting Year	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19
↑ Ward					
Mearns	19	28	14	29	24
North Kincardine	24	23	21	19	17
Stonehaven & Lower Deeside	27	23	33	25	26
<b>Total</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>67</b>



The chart below shows the number and different categories of Non-Fire Emergencies that the Service have responded to in the Kincardine and Mearns area during the reporting period.



The vast majority of Non-Fire Emergencies we attend is RTCs and the table below shows this has remained relatively static over the period.

Geography/Reporting Year					
↑ Ward	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19
Mearns	13	15	8	15	15
North Kincardine	16	13	13	10	9
Stonehaven & Lower Deeside	10	14	12	6	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>30</b>

We continue working with both partners and local communities to reduce the number of Non-Fire Emergencies in the Area and to ensure that there is an effective response when an incident does occur.

### **Casualties resulting from Road Traffic Collisions**

There have been 3 Fatal Casualties as a result of a Road Traffic Collision during this reporting period.

We have also seen a considerable increase in the number of Non-Fatal Casualties from RTC's during this period and the table below provides information for comparison over the previous 5 years.

Geography/Reporting Year					
↑ Ward	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19
Mearns	10	14	8	6	14
North Kincardine	12	11	9	4	5
Stonehaven & Lower Deeside	11	27	5	3	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>27</b>

We continue to provide Road Safety Initiatives with partners in the area and during this reporting period we have delivered Road Safety events aimed at young adults, however, we are also looking to target seasonal foreign workers in the agricultural

industry as well as older people in our local communities through already established forums.

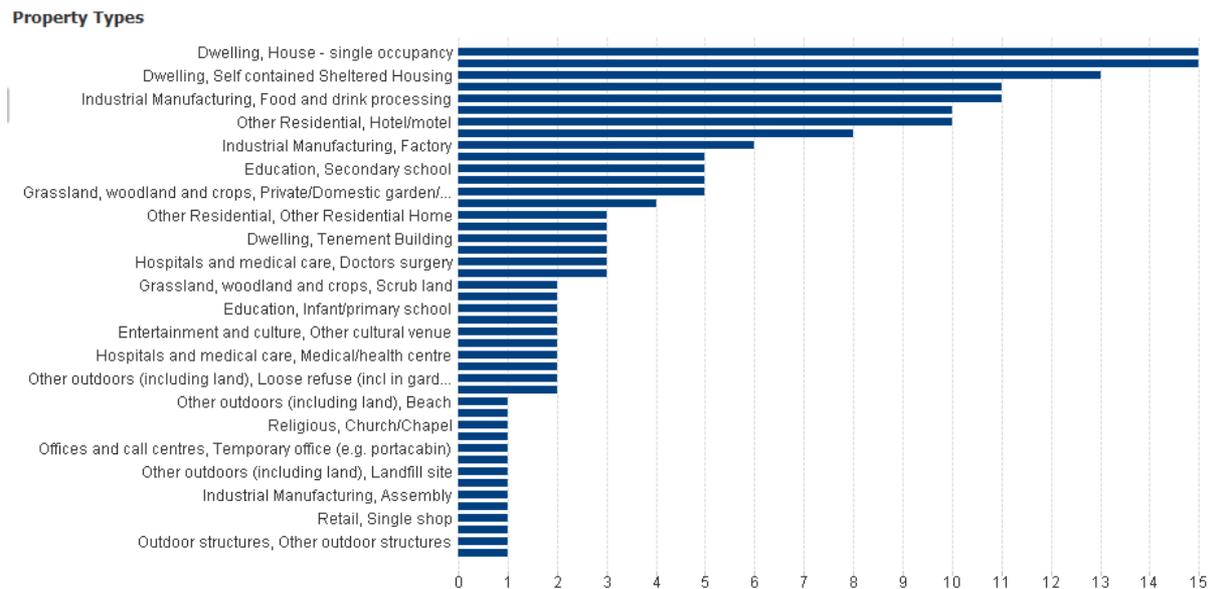
### **Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS)**

Reducing the number of unwanted fire alarm signals is a priority for the area. Reducing this type of incident has a positive impact on local employers by decreasing the interruption to businesses and the wider community. This also reduces road risk in relation to blue light journeys made while responding to incidents that turn out to be a false alarm.

We continue working on this priority with business owners and occupiers and the progress can be seen in the table below.

Geography/Reporting Year	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19
↑ Ward					
Mearns	53	42	53	55	58
North Kincardine	62	70	66	80	66
Stonehaven & Lower Deeside	64	53	42	53	51
<b>Total</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>175</b>

The chart below shows the property types where UFAS Incidents have occurred during this reporting period



In line with our policy for Reducing Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals, all operational crews provide advice and guidance to occupiers/owners every time that they attend an Unwanted Fire Alarm. In cases where there is no improvement we provide occupiers/owners with additional advice from our specialist Fire Safety Enforcement Officers to assist them in resolving the issue.

### **Establishment –Kincardine and Mearns Area**

Station	Establishment Figures
Inverbervie (Optimum Est. 10)	12
Laurencekirk (Optimum Est. 10)	8
Stonehaven (Optimum Est. 22)	13