



**SCOTTISH**  
**FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**  
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**Aberdeenshire**  
COUNCIL



## **REPORT TO MARR AREA COMMITTEE – 14 JUNE 2016**

### **SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE – MARR AREA COMMITTEE PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR Q4 JANUARY - MARCH 2016**

#### **1. Recommendations**

**It is recommended that the Area Committee:**

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

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

- 2.1 The main purpose of this report is to inform members how the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service is performing locally in Marr against key performance measures and associated targets, as set out in the Aberdeenshire Local Fire and Rescue Plan 2014-17 and Marr Multi-Member Ward Plan 2015-16.
- 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 Marr.
- 2.3 The Head of Finance and Monitoring Officer within Business Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report and any comments received have been incorporated within the report.

#### **3 Staffing and Financial and Equalities Implications**

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

**David Rout**  
**Local Senior Officer**  
**Aberdeenshire and Moray**

**Ritchie Johnson**  
**Director of Business Services**



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# Area Committee/Ward Forum Report

## Aberdeenshire & Moray LSO Area

**Local Authority Area:** Marr  
**Area Committee:** Marr Area Committee  
**Manager:** Station Manager Colin Westwood  
**Date:** June 2016

### Local Briefing

#### Recruitment

Recruitment and retention of retained staff within the area remains a priority and Station Manager Westwood along with personnel from local stations are working to increase and maintain establishment levels throughout the area.

The latest campaign which ran from 1<sup>st</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> February attracted 41 suitable applications across Aberdeenshire and Moray. These potential recruit underwent online psychometric tests and pre selection tests plus formal interviews before being offered a post. As a result there are 2 new recruits for Ballater, 1 for Strathdon, 2 for Banchory and 1 for Alford. These new recruits along with the other successful candidates will begin their initial training in June.

The next campaign is currently underway and applications to join local retained stations can be made through the MyJobsScotland website.

## Community safety

The free Home Fire Safety Visit activity continues to be carried out across the area with positive results.

The total number of Home fire safety visits carried out across Aberdeenshire from 1 April 2015 until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 was 2683. This exceeded our target of 2115.

A free home fire safety visit can be organised at a time to best suit the occupier.

**For a free home fire safety visit contact the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service:**

Freephone: 0800 0731999

Visit: [www.firescotland.gov.uk](http://www.firescotland.gov.uk)

## CPR Training

Following the successful launch of the European Restart a Heart Day on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2015 fire stations across the Marr area and indeed across Scotland have now been provided with CPR training kits provided by the British Heart Foundation and can provide CPR training to members of their community. This initiative, launched by the Scottish Government is fundamental to increasing survival rates and its aim is to train 500,000 members of the public in CPR so that bystander CPR becomes more frequent.

The training in CPR will be carried out at local fire stations and involves a 30 minute DVD presentation followed by a practical session in how to perform CPR.

Please contact your local fire station (or me) if you know of any organisations, groups or clubs who would be interested in taking up the offer of CPR training.

## Performance

This section provides an overview of Performance for Jan - Mar 16 inclusive, extracted from SFRS Ward Analysis Reports.

### Accidental Dwelling Fires

Accidental dwelling fires have increased by 5 during this reporting period for Marr. We plan to continue reducing accidental fires through education, HFSV and continuing to develop our partnerships.

	2014-15	2015-16	Variance
Huntly, Strathbogie & Howe of Alford	2	8	+6
Aboyne, Upper Deeside & Donside	1	1	0
Banchory and Mid Deeside	2	1	-1
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>+5</b>

### Non Fatal Fire Casualties (Excluding Precautionary check ups)

There has been an increase in non-fatal fire casualties within the Marr Area during this reporting period.

We will work towards reducing this figure by continuing to carrying out case studies for all dwelling fire casualties, and delivering targeted approach to Home Fire Safety Visits.

	2014-15	2015-16	Variance
Huntly, Strathbogie & Howe of Alford	0	2	+2
Aboyne, Upper Deeside & Donside	0	0	0
Banchory and Mid Deeside	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>+2</b>

### All Fatal Fire Casualties

We are pleased to report that there have been no fatal fire casualties within the Marr Area during this reporting period.

	2014-15	2015-16	Variance
Huntly, Strathbogie & Howe of Alford	0	0	0
Aboyne, Upper Deeside & Donside	0	0	0
Banchory and Mid Deeside	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### Special Service (RTC's)

During this reporting period we've seen an increase in RTCs attended from 7 to 11. We will continue to work towards reducing these types of incident by maintaining our commitment to Safe Drive Stay Alive as well as supporting and developing other safety initiatives such as Crash Live.

	2014-15	2015-16	Variance
Huntly, Strathbogie & Howe of Alford	5	5	0
Aboyne, Upper Deeside & Donside	1	2	+1
Banchory and Mid Deeside	1	4	+3
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>+4</b>

### Deliberate Fires

During this reporting period we have had no reports in this type of incident. We continue to work to reduce these types of incident through partnership working with the local policing team and community engagement.

	2014-15	2015-16	Variance
Huntly, Strathbogie & Howe of Alford	0	0	0
Aboyne, Upper Deeside & Donside	0	0	0
Banchory and Mid Deeside	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### False Alarms

The number of False Alarms within the area has decreased for this reporting period. Personnel within the area continue to work with occupiers to reduce this type of call further.

	2014-15	2015-16	Variance
Huntly, Strathbogie & Howe of Alford	18	16	-2
Aboyne, Upper Deeside & Donside	27	10	-17
Banchory and Mid Deeside	14	10	-4
<b>Total</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>-23</b>

## Response & Resilience

As you will be aware Ballater suffered severe flooding on the 30<sup>th</sup> December 2015. Specialist water rescue crews from Ballater, Stonehaven, Huntly and Elgin and crews from Banchory and Strathdon, as well as our colleagues from the police water rescue and mountain rescue, were deployed to the area to assist in the evacuation of residents from the affected properties.

Ballater fire station was extensively damaged by the flood water and almost everything within the station was destroyed. Following the flood the appliance was located at Ballater barracks and the local crews from Ballater were able to respond to emergency calls from the barracks. The station has now been cleaned and de-sanitised and the appliance is now back at the station. Temporary porta cabins have been provided for the crews including a welfare unit, office unit and gear storage unit. It is anticipated that the station will not be ready to be used fully for several months.

Can I take this opportunity to thank all our partner agencies for all their help and support in assisting us getting our fire station back up and running in order that we can continue to provide emergency fire cover to the Ballater and wider Deeside area.

I am please to inform you that refurbishment of the fire station has commenced and it is anticipated that the station will be fully operational again by the beginning of July.

### Incidents

#### **Incident 1 :**

**Date:** 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2016

**Time:** 1550

**Location:** Alastrean House Tarland

**Incident details:** Crews from Aboyne, Banchory, Alford, Balmoral, and Huntly as well as specialist crews from Aberdeen city were called to Alastrean house in Tarland. Crews tackled a major fire within the property and managed to bring it under control within two hours preventing damage to the majority of the building.

#### **Incident 2 :**

**Date:** 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> January 2016

**Time:**

**Location:** Flooding across the region

**Incident details:** Specialist water rescue crews from across the region as well as many of the Marr stations attended major flooding in the Ellon, Inverurie, Kintore and surrounding areas.