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## **REPORT TO KINCARDINE AND MEARN'S AREA COMMITTEE – 16 NOVEMBER 2021**

### **SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE – KINCARDINE AND MEARN'S COMMITTEE PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR 1 APRIL 2021 – 30 SEPTEMBER 2021**

#### **1 Reason for Report / Summary**

- 1.1 The reason for this report is to inform members how Scottish Fire and Rescue Service is performing locally in Kincardine and 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 Recommendations**

**The Committee is recommended to:**

- 2.1 **Acknowledge and discuss the attached performance report at Appendix 1 to this report relating to the period 1 April 2021 to 30 September 2021; and**
- 2.2 **Acknowledge and discuss any local operational matters arising, together with key resource issues, as detailed within Appendix 1 to this report.**

#### **3 Purpose and Decision Making Route**

- 3.1 Since it became a single service for Scotland, the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service has provided quarterly information on its performance and activities to Kincardine and Mearns Area Committee both formally and informally. **Appendix 1** to this report provides performance information for this Area. It gives the opportunity for Elected Members to discuss fire and rescue performance and activities in the local area, in order to ensure that good outcomes are achieved for the residents of Kincardine and Mearns.

#### **4 Council Priorities, Implications and Risk**

- 4.1 This report helps deliver the following Council Priorities
- Our Economy
  - Our Environment
- 4.2 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation(s) is (are) agreed.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>N/A</b>
Financial			<b>x</b>
Staffing			<b>x</b>
Equalities and Fairer Duty Scotland			x
Children and Young People's Rights and Wellbeing			x
Climate Change and Sustainability			x
Health and Wellbeing			x
Town Centre First		x	

- 4.3 An integrated impact assessment is not required because the reason for the report is for the Committee to take note and it does not have a differential impact on any of the protected characteristics.
- 4.4 There are no direct risk implications for the Council as this report is in relation to the performance reporting of an external organisation.

## **5. Scheme of Governance**

- 5.1 The Committee can consider this item in terms of Section B.1.7 of the List of Committee Powers in Part 2A of the Scheme of Governance as the Area Committee is authorised to consider the performance of Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and to make any necessary recommendations to the appropriate Policy committee or governing body.

**Bruce Farquharson**  
**Local Senior Officer**

**Ritchie Johnson**  
**Director of Business**  
**Aberdeenshire and Moray Services**

Report prepared by Scott Neilson, Station Commander  
Date 1 October 2021

### **List of Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Performance Report, 1 April 2021 – 30 September 2021

## Appendix 1



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### **Kincardine and Mearns Area Committee 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

#### **Introduction**

From 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021 there have been 174 incidents within the Kincardine and Mearns Area;

- 17 Deliberate Fires
- 37 Accidental Fires
- 33 Special Service Incidents
- 82 False Alarms

As a result of these incidents there have been:

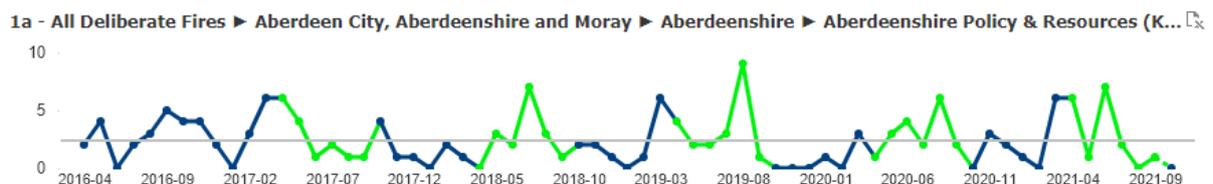
- 0 Fire Fatalities
- 4 Non-fatal fire casualties
- 0 RTC fatality
- 12 RTC Casualties
- 8 Accidental Dwelling Fires
- 6 Non-Domestic Fires

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.

#### **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 there has been a decrease in incidents. (the sections of the chart coloured green represent April to Sept from 2017/18 to 2021/22).



Appendix 1



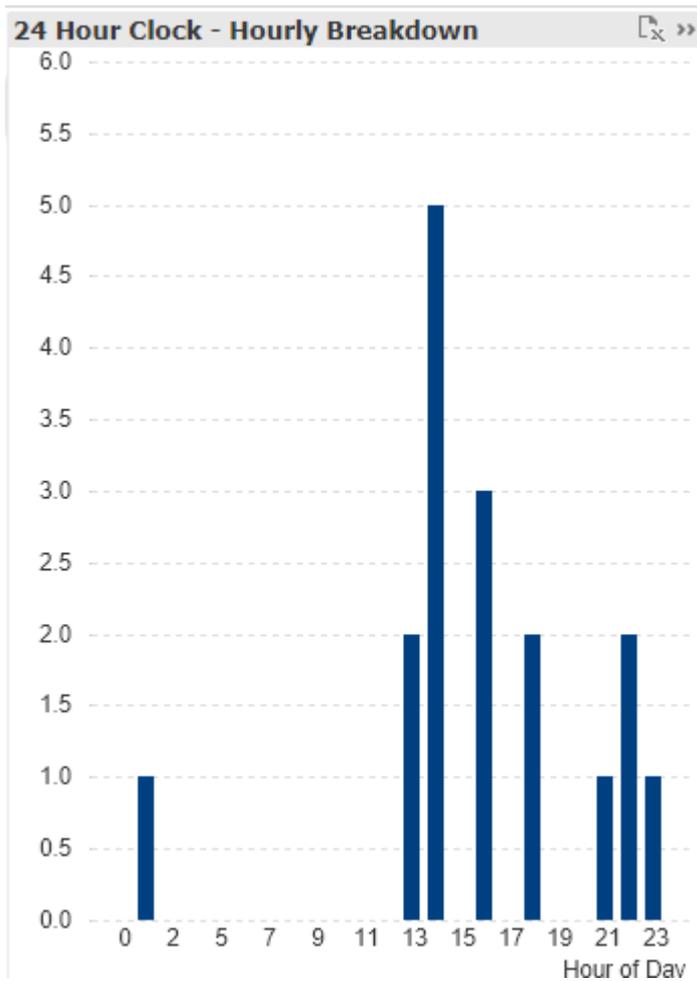
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The table below shows the breakdown of Deliberate Fires throughout the Kincardine and Mearns area down to ward level.

Geography/Reporting Year					
↑ Ward	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22
Mearns	3	6	2	6	5
North Kincardine	5	5	5	9	8
Stonehaven & Lower Deeside	7	5	14	3	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>17</b>

10 out of the 17 incidents that have occurred during this period have taken place between 1300 – 1600hrs (this can be seen in the figure below).



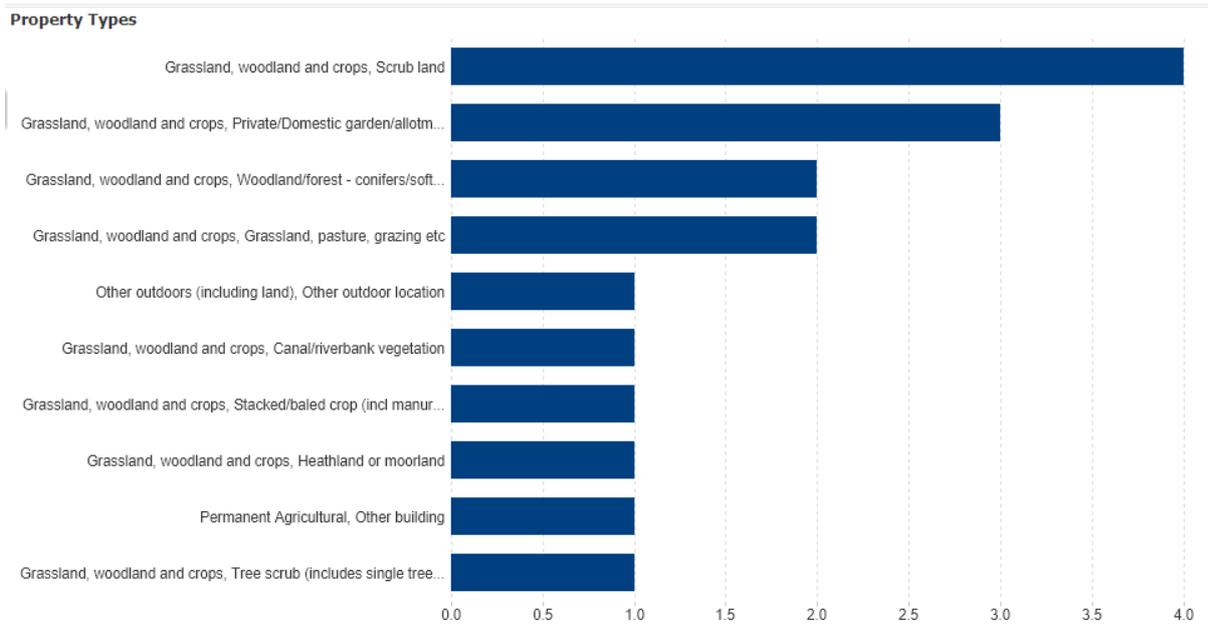
Appendix 1



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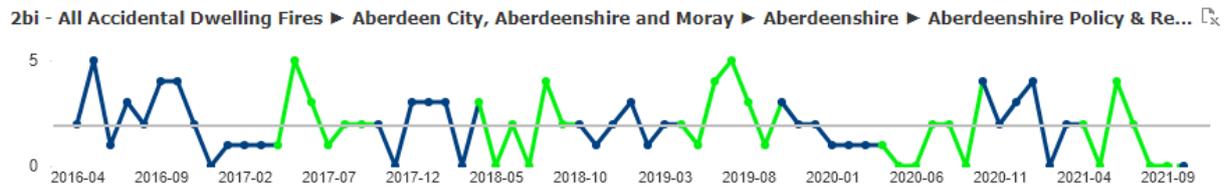


The graph below indicates the property types where the incidents occurred.



**Unintentional Harm and Home Safety**

Reducing unintentional harm and improving home safety remain a priority for the SFRS. The chart below shows that the number of Accidental Dwelling Fires within the area have shown a great reduction over the previous 5 years (though a slight increase on last year).



The table below shows the breakdown of accidental dwelling fires down to ward level. It can be seen from the table that all areas have increased their number of incidents by one.

Geography/Reporting Year	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22
↑ Ward					
Mearns	2	2	4	3	4
North Kincardine	5	2	5	1	2
Stonehaven & Lower Deeside	7	7	7	1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>

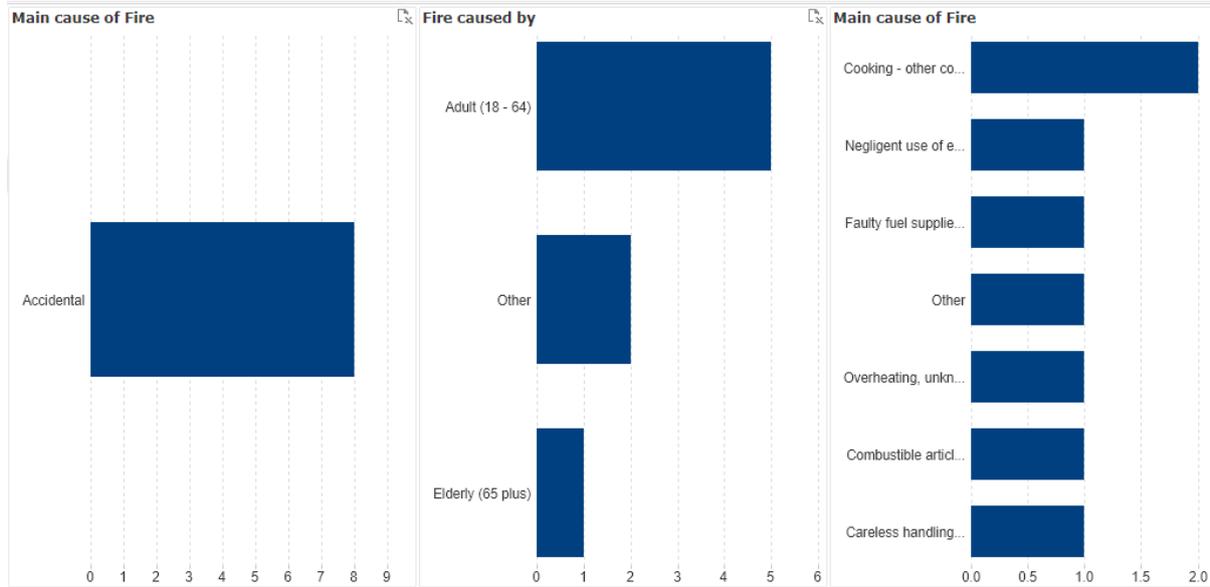
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The breakdown of causes is shown in the graphs below.



Home Fire Safety Visits continue to be our primary method for reducing accidental dwelling fires however this year, due to Covid restrictions, our ability to undertake visits has been affected as indicated in the numbers below.

Area	Total Visits	High Risk	Medium Risk	Low Risk
Mearns	35	14 (40%)	16 (46%)	5 (14%)
North Kincardine	20	5 (25%)	3 (15%)	12 (60%)
Stonehaven & Lower Deeside	50	15 (30%)	19 (38%)	16 (32%)
<b>Totals</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>34 (33%)</b>	<b>38 (36%)</b>	<b>33 (31%)</b>

As restrictions ease, we will continue 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.

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**Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties**

During this reporting period there has been one casualty as a result of accidental dwelling fires. The table below shows how this compares to the previous five years;

Geography/Reporting Year	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22
↑ Ward					
Mearns	0	2	2	1	0
North Kincardine	0	0	3	0	0
Stonehaven & Lower Deeside	1	0	2	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

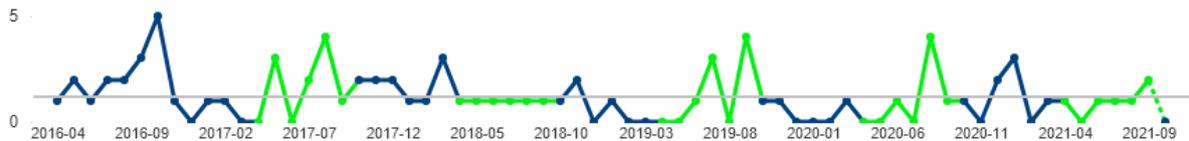
Although the number of casualties remains low and a substantial reduction on the previous years, we will continue to refine our Home Fire Safety Visit process to ensure casualty numbers are minimised.

**Non Domestic Fires**

During this reporting period there have been 6 non-domestic fires in the area which is the same or a slight decrease on the previous two years. The table and chart below allows for comparison with this and the same reporting period for the previous 5 years.

Geography/Reporting Year	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22
↑ Ward					
Mearns	1	1	1	2	2
North Kincardine	4	2	1	2	0
Stonehaven & Lower Deeside	5	3	6	2	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>

4a - Non Domestic Fires ▶ Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire and Moray ▶ Aberdeenshire ▶ Aberdeenshire Policy & Resources (...)



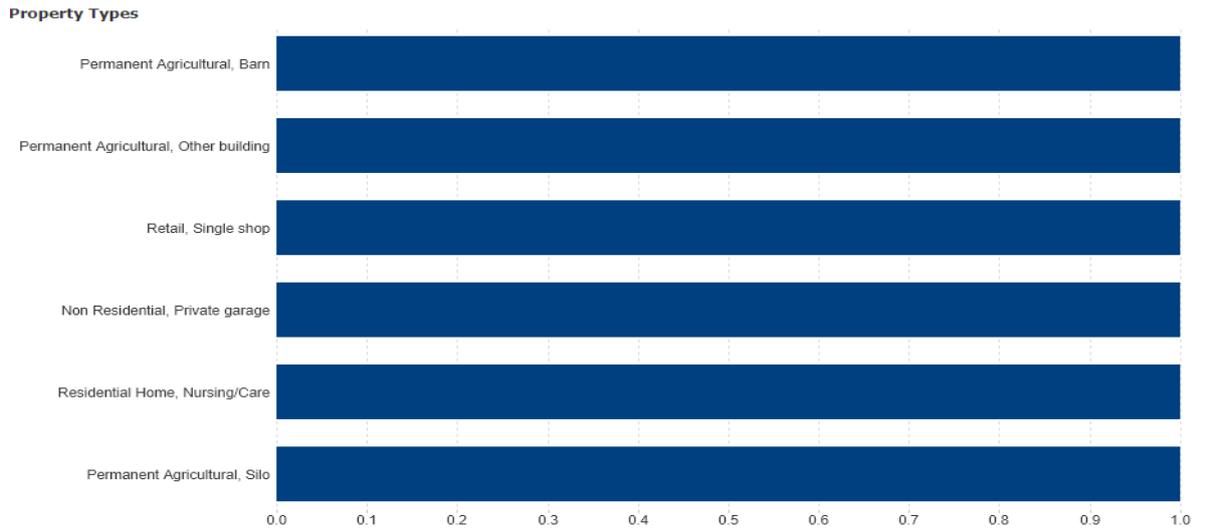
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The chart below shows the property types where these incidents occurred;



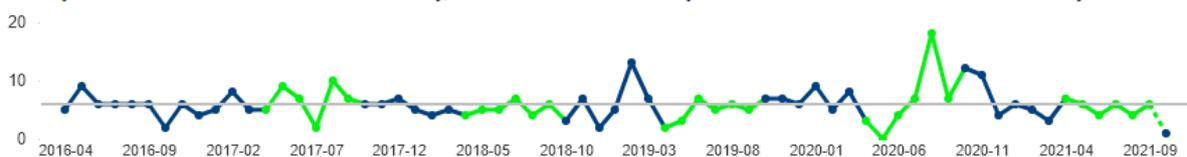
**Non-Fire Emergencies**

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 shows a reduction in attendance at these types of incidents in comparison with the previous year but still the second highest total in the past 4 years;

Geography/Reporting Year	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22
† Ward					
Mearns	18	11	12	13	16
North Kincardine	11	8	5	8	6
Stonehaven & Lower Deeside	11	12	11	18	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>33</b>

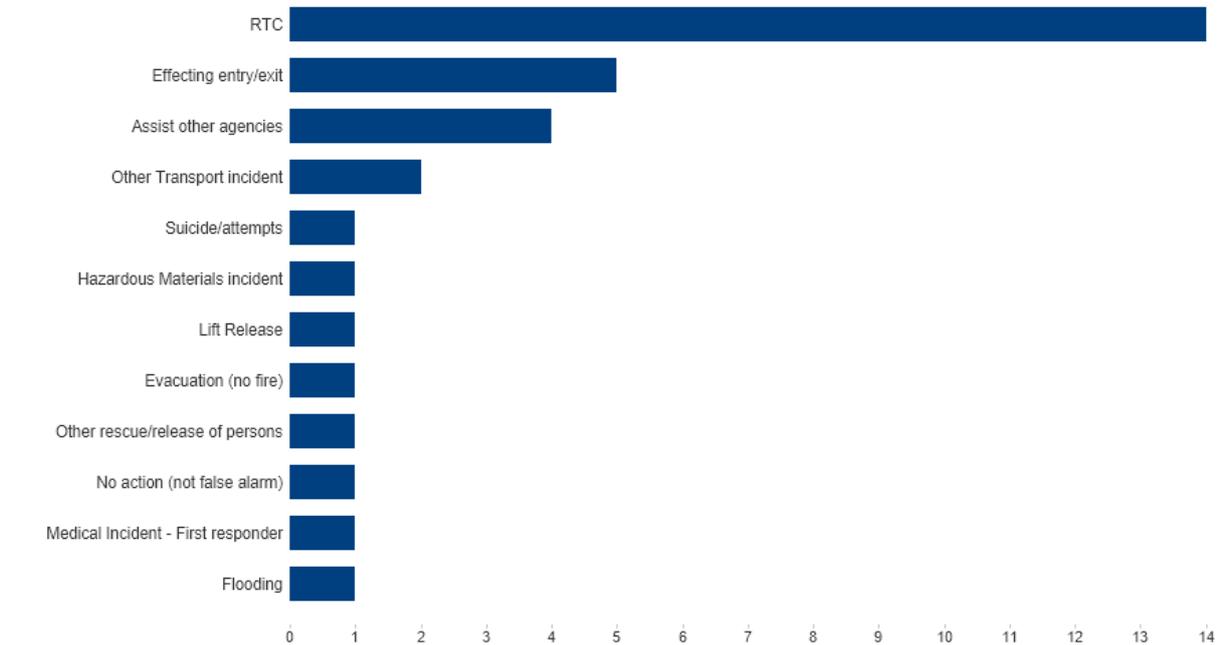
5 - All Special Service Incidents ▶ Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire and Moray ▶ Aberdeenshire ▶ Aberdeenshire Policy & Reso...



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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 most incidents are RTC's (14 out of the total of 33) however the next three categories (Effecting Entry/Exit, Assisting Other Agencies and Other Transport incidents) account for 11 of the 33 incidents recorded.



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 no fatalities as a result of Road Traffic Collisions during this reporting period. The number of Non-Fatal Casualties from RTC's during this quarter is the highest number recorded since 2017-18 and this is due to an increase in incidents in the Mearns area. The table below provides information for comparison with the previous 5 years;

Geography/Reporting Year	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22
† Ward					
Mearns	2	3	3	1	12
North Kincardine	3	1	1	2	0
Stonehaven & Lower Deeside	2	0	2	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>12</b>

We will continue to provide Road Safety Initiatives with partners in the area.

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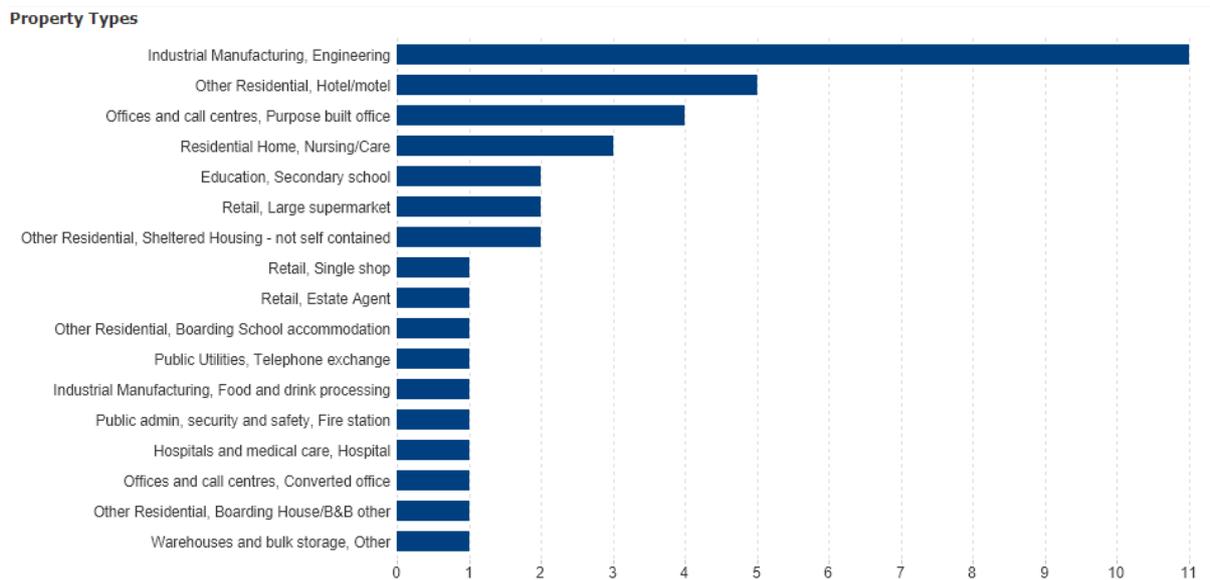
**Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS)**

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.

Covid restrictions have obviously affected the number of incidents this year as many premises have been closed however we will continue working on this priority with business owners and occupiers to continue this reduction which can be seen in the table below;

Geography/Reporting Year	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22
↑ Ward					
Mearns	14	17	17	12	9
North Kincardine	23	21	20	21	20
Stonehaven & Lower Deeside	23	19	9	11	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>39</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.

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**Establishment – Kincardine and Mearns Area**

<b>Station</b>	<b>Establishment Figures</b>
Inverbervie	8/10
Laurencekirk	9/10
Stonehaven	19/22

The establishment figures for each station are listed for each station above.