

## **QUARTERLY MONITORING REPORT**

Covering the activities and performance in support of the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Angus



Quarter Three: 2023/24

Working together for a safer Scotland



## ABOUT THE STATISTICS IN THIS REPORT

The activity totals and other statistics quoted in this report are provisional in nature and subject to change as a result of ongoing quality assurance and review.

Because all statistics quoted are provisional there may be differences in the period totals quoted in our reports after original publication which result from revisions or additions to the data on our systems.

From 2015-16 onwards responsibility for the publication of end-year statistical data transferred from the Scottish Government to the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS). This change of responsibility does not change the status of the figures quoted in this and other SFRS reports reported to the Committee.

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## INTRODUCTION

This is the quarter three monitoring report covering the SFRS's performance and activities in support of the six priorities in the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Angus, namely:

- Priority 1 Improving fire safety in the home
- Priority 2 Improving fire safety and resilience in the business community
- Priority 3 Minimising the impact of unintentional harm
- Priority 4 Reducing unwanted fire alarm signals
- Priority 5 Reducing deliberate fires
- Priority 6 Effective risk management and operational preparedness

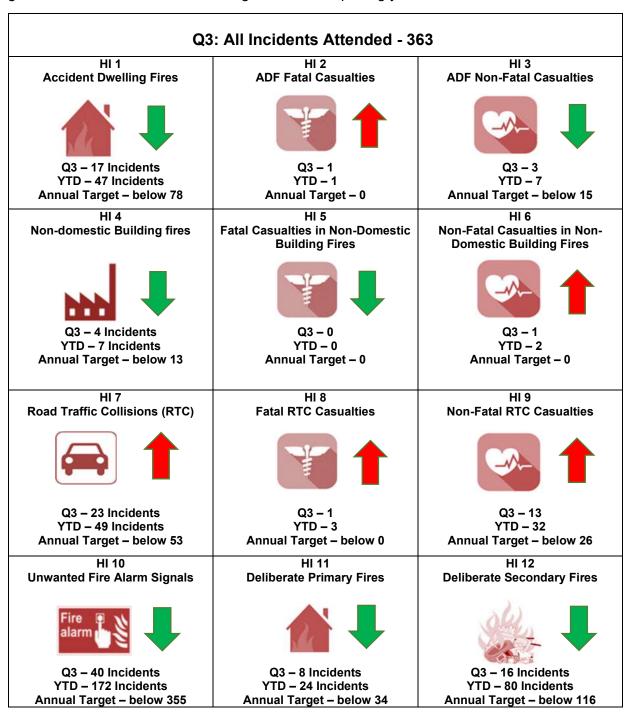
As well as supporting the six priorities in the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Angus, this monitoring report shows how SFRS activities and performance contribute to the wider priorities of the Angus Council Community Planning Partnership (CPP), as set out in the Angus Community Plan.

The figures in this report are provisional, to provide the Committee with the SFRS's direction of travel in the Angus area, in terms of performance against headline indicators and targets. Most figures will not change; however, members should note that there may be some small variations for some indicators when the final confirmed figures are published by the SFRS.

The Angus Council Scrutiny and Audit Committee agreed the new Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Angus on 01 December 2020, covering the subsequent 3-year period. In support of delivering the priorities in this plan, 12 headline indicators and targets have been set, and form the basis of this quarterly monitoring report.

## PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

The table below provides a summary of 2023/24 quarter three activity and year to date (YTD) progress, based on annual targets set against headlines indicators. It aims to provide – at a glance – our direction of travel during the current reporting year.



## YTD Performance, Based on Annual Target

-	Below target
	Less than 10% above target
1	More than 10% above target

## PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS

Of the 12 headline indicators and targets, the following performance should be noted for quarter three 2023/24:

- There were **17 Accidental Dwelling Fires (ADF)** during quarter three, which is below the 3-year average. The majority are classed as low severity, with **11** of these incidents starting in kitchen's, **3** in Livingroom's, **2** in Bedroom's and **1** in a Sunroom.
- Tragically within this quarter, there was a **single ADF Fatality in the Montrose area.** There were a further **3 ADF Casualties** during quarter three which is above the 3 year average.
- There were 4 Non-Domestic Building Fires during this quarter which is in line with the 3 year average.
- Non-domestic Fire Fatalities were Zero within this reporting. There was a single Non-domestic Non-Fatal Fire Casualty within this reporting period.
- We attended 23 Road Traffic Collision's (RTCs) during quarter three which is above the 3 year average. Sadly, there was a single RTC Related Fatality, which was a result of a fallen tree during Storm Babet. There were a further 13 RTC Related Injuries which is above the 3-year average for this quarter.
- We dealt with 40 Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) during quarter three which is significantly below the 3 year average, which again can be attributed to the implementation of the SFRS "Time for Change UFAS" policy.
- A total of 8 Deliberate Primary Fires were reported during quarter three, which is above the 3-year average for the quarter.
- There were **16 Deliberate Secondary Fires** reported during quarter three which is below the three year average.
- Finally, Q3 continues to see face to face engagement with our communities to ensure we can continue to help and support those who are most vulnerable and/or at risk. We have seen a large increase in partnership working and provided support for local initiatives some of which you can read in appendices at the end of this report. Angus Crews and the Angus Community Action Team (ACAT) completed 219 Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSV) with 118 of those designated as High Risk prior to the visit being carried out.

## PRIORITY 1 - IMPROVING FIRE SAFETY IN THE HOME

## HI 1 - Accidental Dwelling Fires (ADF)

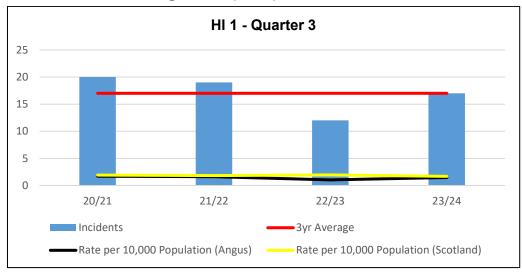


Table 1: 2023/24 Year Performance

	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	YTD	Annual Target
HI 1: ADF's	57	68	47	47	Green	78

HI 2 - ADF Fatal Casualties & HI 3 - ADF Non-Fatal Casualties

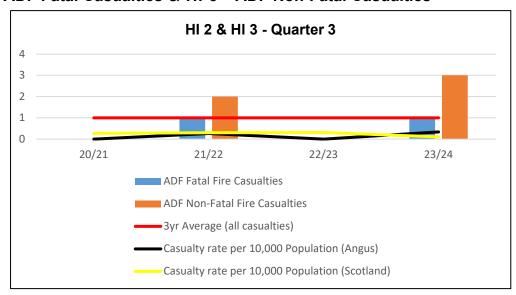


Table 2: 2023/24 Year Performance

	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	YTD	Annual Target
HI 2: ADF Fatal Casualties	0	1	0	1	Red	0
HI 3: ADF Non-Fatal Casualties	15	12	2	7	Green	15

The largest single type of primary fire in Angus is accidental fires in the home and their prevention is a key focus of the SFRS community safety activity.

## HI 1 – Accidental Dwelling Fires (ADF)

As a headline target, the aim is to reduce the rate of ADF's, in the changing demographics of the Angus population, by keeping these fires **below 78**, each year.

## HI 2 – ADF Fatal Casualties

This indicator counts those people for whom fire has been clearly identified as the cause of death, even if they die some-time after the actual fire. Those who die at, or after, the fire but where fire is **not** identified as the cause of death are not included in these figures. As a headline target, the aim is to have **Zero ADF Fatal Casualties**, in Angus each year.

## HI 3 – ADF Non-Fatal Casualties

This headline target counts all types of non-fatal fire injury in the home, including precautionary checks. As a headline target, the aim is to reduce the risk of injury from fire in the home, in an increasing Angus population, by keeping fire injuries **below 15**, each year.

#### What we aim to Achieve

As well as helping to deliver Priority One: *Improving Fire Safety in the Home*, meeting the headline targets will also support a long-term ambition in the Angus LOIP: *To be in the top five Scottish local authority areas for least rate of primary dwelling fires by 2030.* 

We also link this headline target to improving the following Angus LOIP outcomes:

- Safe, secure, vibrant and sustainable communities;
- Improved physical, mental and emotional health and well-being; and
- An enhanced, protected and enjoyed natural and built environment.

## **Performance Management**

There were 17 ADFs during this quarter which is in line with the 3 year average. The majority of these caused by cooking or combustibles being left near a heat source, with all but one involving adults (18 to 64) or elderly (65+). The majority of our ADFs caused little or no fire damage and were limited to the item first ignited, only two escalated to affecting the room of origin. ADFs were spread evenly across Angus with no trends identified. Based on our target of keeping ADF's below 78 each year, we are showing green for the HI 1 annual target.

Sadly, I have to report we had a single ADF Fatal Casualty within this reporting period in the Montrose area. A full joint Police and Fire Investigation was conducted into the circumstances, the information from this will be shared via a case conference with all relevant partners. There were 3 ADF casualties during this quarter, based on our annual target of keeping fire casualties below 15 each year, we are showing green for the HI 3 annual target.

In support of the targets, Appendix 1, details a range of our activities during this quarter which included high-risk Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSV's) and numerous referrals from partners where risk had been identified.

# PRIORITY 2 – IMPROVING FIRE SAFETY AND RESILIENCE IN THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY

## HI 4 - Non-Domestic Building Fires

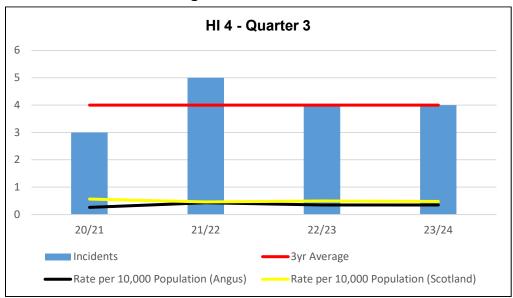


Table 3: 2023/24 Year Performance

	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	YTD	Annual Target
HI 4: Non-Domestic Building Fires	6	8	9	7	Green	13

HI 5 – Fatal Fire Casualties in Non-Domestic Buildings & HI 6 – Non-Fatal Fire Casualties in Non-Domestic Buildings

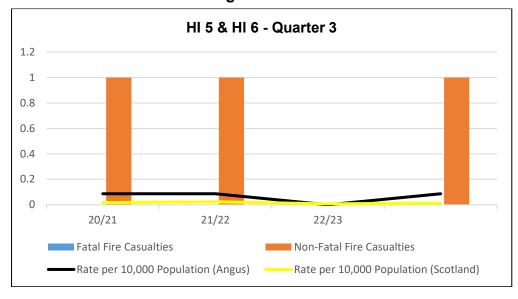


Table 4: 2023/24 Year Performance

	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	YTD	Annual Target
HI 5: Fatal Fire Casualties	0	0	0	0	Green	0
HI 6: Non-Fatal Fire Casualties	1	1	2	2	Green	0

These headline indicators and targets cover the types of non-domestic buildings applicable to 'Part 3' of the 'Fire (Scotland) Act 2005' (Act) (e.g., care homes, hotels and hospitals) and is designed to reflect the effectiveness of fire safety management in respect of these types of buildings.

## HI 4 - Non-Domestic Building Fires Applicable to the Act

As a headline target, the aim is to reduce the rate of accidental fires in non-domestic buildings (where The Act applies), by keeping these fires **below 13**, in Angus each year.

## HI 5 – Fatal Fire Casualties in Non-Domestic Building Fires Applicable to the Act

This indicator counts those people for whom fire has been clearly identified as the cause of death, even if they die sometime after the actual fire. Those who die at, or after, the fire but where fire is **not** identified as the cause of death are not included in these figures. As a headline target, the aim is to have **Zero Fatal Fire Casualties** in non-domestic buildings applicable to the Act, in Angus each year.

## HI 6 – Non-fatal Fire Casualties in Non-Domestic Building Fires Applicable to the Act

This headline target counts all types of non-fatal fire injury in non-domestic buildings, including precautionary checks. As a headline target, the aim is to have **Zero Non-Fatal Fire Casualties** in non-domestic buildings applicable to the Act, in Angus each year.

#### What we aim to Achieve

As well as helping to deliver Priority Two: *Improving Fire Safety and Resilience in the Business Community*, we also link this headline target to improving the following Angus LOIP outcomes:

- Safe, secure, vibrant and sustainable communities;
- An inclusive and sustainable economy; and
- An enhanced, protected and enjoyed natural and built environment.

## **Performance Management**

There were **4** accidental fires in non-domestic buildings during quarter three, which is in line with the 3 year average. With an annual target of **13** we are showing green and below target for HI **4**. The numbers involved in Angus remain low for this type of incident. **Two** of the **4** incidents were low severity, with the other two carrying significant local and media interest due to both premises being 100% involved and destroyed by fire.

There were **Zero** Non-Domestic Fatal Casualties and a **Single** Non-Domestic Non-Fatal Casualty during quarter three. Based on our targets we are showing green and for HI 5 and red for HI 6.

During quarter three, there were **37 Fire Safety Audits** conducted across Angus, of which **2** were post fire audits, one at McDonalds restraunt in Forfar and the other at Tayside Forestry near Birkhill. **Twenty Seven** of the **37** were framework audits which we are legislated to carry out with **25** Care Homes and **2** HMOs audited. **Seven** audits were carried out on Short Term Lets within the Angus area.

We continue to engage with the business community where possible on Fire Safety related issues. There were **2** areas of enforcement activity in quarter three which remain ongoing, and the Fire Safety Enforcement officer is continuing to work with both duty holders.

# PRIORITY 3 – MINIMISING THE IMPACT OF UNINTENTIONAL HARM

## HI 7 - Road Traffic Collision (RTC) Incidents

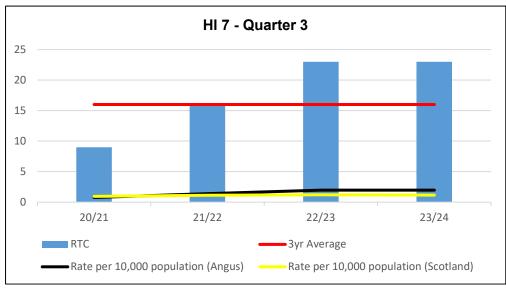


Table 5: 2023/24 Year Performance

	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	YTD	Annual Target
HI 7: RTC Incidents	34	39	43	49	Red	53

HI 8 - Fatal RTC Casualties & HI 9 - Non-Fatal RTC Casualties

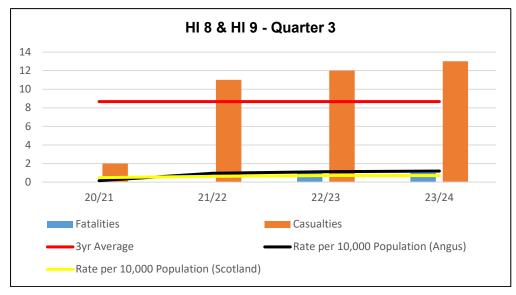


Table 6: 2023/24 Year Performance

	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	YTD	Annual Target
HI 8: Fatal RTC Casualties	2	0	1	3	Red	3
HI 9: Non-Fatal RTC Casualties	13	27	25	32	Red	26

The SFRS has become increasingly involved in more non-fire related prevention work, in support of its role in promoting the wider safety and well-being of its communities, including minimising the impact of unintentional harm. The headline indicators and targets reflect the fact that most of non-fire related incidents attended by the SFRS in Angus are RTC Incidents.

## HI 7 - RTC Incidents

As a headline target, the aim is to reduce the rate of RTC incidents, by keeping them **below 53** each year.

## HI 8 – Fatal RTC Casualties

As a headline target, the aim is to reduce the risk of death from RTC's in Angus, by keeping them **below 3** each year.

## HI 9 - Non-Fatal RTC Casualties

As a headline target, the aim is to reduce the risk of injury from RTC's in Angus, by keeping the number of injuries **below 26** each year.

## What we aim to Achieve

As well as helping to deliver Priority Three: *Minimising the Impact of Unintentional Harm*, we also link these headline targets to improving the following Angus LOIP outcomes:

- Safe, secure, vibrant and sustainable communities; and
- Improved physical, mental and emotional health and well-being.

## **Performance Management**

During quarter three we attended **23** RTC related incidents to assist partners to resolve and extricate the occupants of the vehicle/s involved, this is above average for the quarter. The incidents were spread across Angus. Based on our target of keeping RTC's below **53** each year, we are showing red for the HI 7 annual target.

Sadly, there was a **single** RTC fatality reported during this quarter, this occurred in the Whigstreet area of Angus during Storm Babet.

There were **13** RTC Casualties during this quarter which is above the 3-year average for the time of year. The **13** casualties came from **9** RTCs with four casualties coming from an RTC on the A933 near Colliston. Based on our target of keeping Non-Fatal RTC Casualties below 26 each year, we are showing red for the HI 9 annual target.

Our aim is to drive down this incident type by engaging in partnership approaches and safety forums. 2023-24 will see the SFRS supporting the Police led 'New Driver Scheme' aimed at those aged around 16 which will be delivered at schools and colleges. It consists of an interactive video with Q&A throughout, building in scenarios and learning as it progresses. We have run a pilot course at Brechin High School, which was well received by those attending.

The other **104** Special Services attended during this quarter, **36** were affecting entry or release of persons, **31** from rescue from water or flooding. The others were made up of acting as a first responder, rescues from lifts, Hazardous Materials and animal rescues.

## PRIORITY 4 - REDUCING UNWANTED FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS

HI10 - Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals

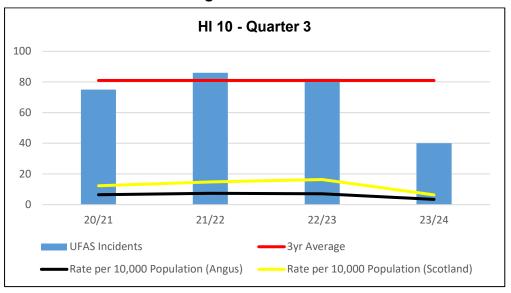


Table 7: 2023/24 Year Performance

	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	YTD	Annual Target
HI 10: UFAS Incidents	209	280	309	172	Green	355

Automatic Fire alarms (AFA) are fundamental to providing early warning from fire, giving people the chance to evacuate safely. However, to be effective, they must be professionally installed and maintained, and a good fire safety management regime must be in place by the duty holder, so they do not activate when there is no fire.

Every Unwanted Fire Alarm Signal (UFAS) from an AFA has an impact in terms of unnecessary blue light journeys, redirecting SFRS resources away from other activities such as community safety work and causing considerable disruption to businesses.

## HI 10 - Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS)

As a headline target, the aim is to improve fire safety management and awareness, by reducing the number of attendances to unwanted fire alarm signals (UFAS) from automatic systems in non-domestic buildings to **less than 355** each year.

#### What we aim to Achieve

As well as helping to deliver Priority Four: *Reducing Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals*, this headline target supports the SFRS's national target for reducing UFAS by 15% over the next three years.

We also link this headline target to improving the following Angus LOIP outcomes:

An inclusive and sustainable economy

## **Performance Management**

During this quarter, the SFRS attended **40** UFAS incidents, which is considerably below the 3-year average for the quarter.

This is mainly due to the implementation of the 'Time for Change Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals,' this means that we no longer attend AFA calls to commercial business and workplace premises, such as factories, offices, shops and leisure facilities unless a fire has been confirmed.

The table below lists the top premises types that had the most call-outs due to UFAS incidents.

Property Types	No. of UFAS
Residential Care Homes (Elderly)	13
Sheltered Housing	10
Hospitals and Medical Care	8
Residential Care/Secure Home (Young)	2
Hotel/Motel	2
Young Offenders Unit	1

The table below lists the top False Alarm types that led to mobilisations to the premises types.

Property Types	No. of UFAS
Equipment > Fault	8
Human > Accidentally/Carelessly Set Off	6
Human > Cooking/Burnt Toast	7

We are showing green for the HI 10 annual target

## **PRIORITY 5 - REDUCING DELIBERATE FIRES**

## HI 11 - Deliberate Primary Fires

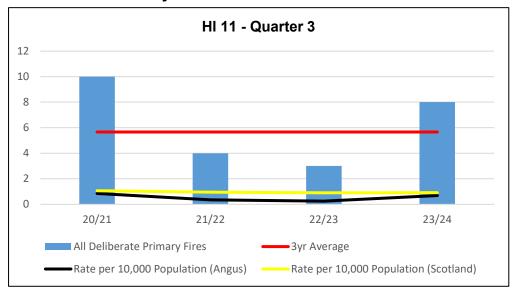


Table 8: 2023/24 Year Performance

	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	YTD	Annual Target
HI 11: Deliberate Primary Fires	34	26	36	24	Green	34

## HI 12 - Deliberate Secondary Fires

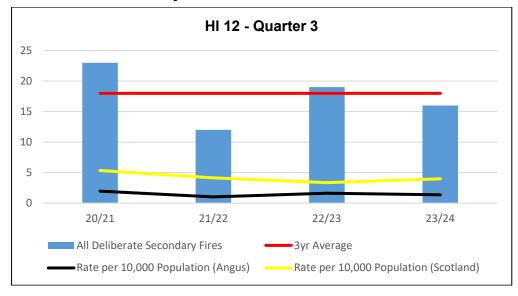


Table 9: 2023/24 Year Performance

	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	YTD	Annual Target
HI 12: Deliberate Secondary Fires	108	98	91	80	Green	116

These headline indicators and targets account for all types of fire that are believed to have been started intentionally and are categorised as Deliberate Primary Fires and Deliberate Secondary Fires.

## HI 11 – Deliberate Primary Fires

These deliberate fires cover the following types:

- Fires in the home
- Fires in non-domestic buildings
- Fires in motor vehicles

As a headline target, the aim is to reduce the rate of deliberate primary fires in Angus by keeping these fires **below 34** each year.

## HI 12 – Deliberate Secondary Fires

These deliberate fires cover the majority of outdoor fires including grassland, refuse fires and fires in derelict buildings. As a headline target, the aim is to reduce the rate of deliberate secondary fires in Angus by keeping these fires **below 116** each year.

## What we aim to Achieve

As well as helping to deliver Priority Five: *Reducing Deliberate Fires*, we also link this headline target to improving the following Angus LOIP outcomes:

- Safe, secure, vibrant and sustainable communities
- An inclusive and sustainable economy
- An enhanced, protected and enjoyed natural and built environment
- Children in Angus will have the best start in life

## **Performance Management**

There were 8 deliberate primary fires reported during this quarter, which is above the 3-year average. Four of the 8 were Grassland/Woodland, with 2 car fires, 1 garage and 1 deliberate dwelling fire. Based on our target of keeping the number of deliberate primary fires in Angus below 34 each year, we are showing green for the HI 11 annual target.

There were **16** deliberate secondary fires reported during quarter three, which is slightly below average for the quarter compared to the previous three years. The majority were made up of scrubland, bins and loose refuse. **Six** of the **16** secondary fires occurred in and around Forfar, **4** in the Tealing and Emmock road areas, with the remainder being spread across Angus. We continue to support work around youth engagement across Angus and have community wardens in DCC assisting around the border areas (i.e. Emmock road). Our Community Safety Engagement teams are continuing the face to face engagement with youth groups to assist in the reduction of deliberate fire setting and anti-social behaviour and you can see more of this in appendix 2.

Based on our target of keeping the number of deliberate secondary fires in Angus below **116** each year, we are showing green for HI 12 annual target.

## PRIORITY 6 – EFFECTIVE RISK MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONAL PREPAREDNESS

## **Description**

Risk Management and operational preparedness is a key area of work for the SFRS. In Angus, this means:

- Knowing what the risks are in Angus and then making plans, so we are resilient to respond to any event.
- Being prepared to respond to national threats or major emergencies.
- Developing flexibility to deploy crews, to take on a broadening role within the community.
- Firefighters being equipped to deal with emergencies safely and effectively, and our stations being in a constant state of readiness.

## What we aim to Achieve

As well as helping to deliver Priority Six: *Effective Risk Management and Operational Preparedness*, our activities also support improving the following Angus LOIP outcomes:

- Safe, secure, vibrant and sustainable communities
- An inclusive and sustainable economy
- An enhanced, protected and enjoyed natural and built environment
- Improved physical, mental and emotional health and well-being

## **Activity**

During Q3 we delivered our quarterly training commitment to operational firefighter's, whereby we trained and tested their preparedness to deal with:

Breathing Apparatus (Tactical Ventilation)	Road Traffic Collisions & Extrications		
Hazmats (Gas Tight Suits)	Safe Working at Height		
Casualty Care (Hypothermia/Crush Injuries)	Firefighting in Buildings		
Prevention and Protection (Hoarding)	Environmental Protection		

We are continuing to organise joint training with partners and some larger scale training exercises have been planned for 2024 to ensure our preparedness to respond to emergencies.

Firefighters continue to carry out Operational Intelligence visits within their station area so that they are aware of the associated risks and hazards, and if required can take effective actions in dealing with incidents at these sites. All this information is continually updated on our IT devices which are carried on frontline appliances.

We continue to promote the service and at present across Angus, we are currently recruiting at the following stations to help and build resilience into the station, area and county (Kirriemuir, Forfar, Brechin and Montrose). Both Arbroath and Carnoustie remain at capacity.

## **APPENDIX 1: COMMUNITY SAFETY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMMES**

This section provides details of community safety engagement programmes undertaken within Angus during quarter 3 of 2023/24, in support of our priorities and targets.

## **Fire Safety Engagements**

- 1. SFRS Angus Community Action Team (ACAT) and crews continue to be fully engaging with all aspects of the community delivering Home Fire Safety Visit's (HFSV).
- 2. Local Authority Liaison Officer (LALO) & Community Safety Advocates (CSA) continue to attend partnership meetings with Protecting People in Angus (PPA), Angus Violence Against Woman Partnership (AVAWP), Learning and Development (L&D subgroup) and Angus Mental Health & Wellbeing Network (AMHAWN).

## **Persons at Risk**

- 1. ACAT and Stations fitted 10 Hard of Hearing smoke alarms to vulnerable residents.
- 2. Issued 2 fire-retardant bedding to Adults at risk.
- 3. Issued 3 fire-retardant throws and 1 fire retardant mat.
- 4. Numerous Joint HFSVs ongoing with ACAT members and Community Mental Health Teams, Angus Council Home Care Assessors, Community Housing Teams, Deaf Links workers etc.
- 5. Joint, High-Risk Visits completed due to concerns for occupier's wellbeing. Several High-profile partnership visits working with Angus Integrated Drug Alcohol Recovery Service (AIDARS), Police Scotland, Angus Housing and Community Mental Health Teams.
- 6. 219 HFSV's have been completed with 118 of those designated as high risk pre-visit.

### Referrals

- 1. ACAT to attend Early Screening Group (ESG) weekly meetings to identify vulnerable persons who require a HFSV.
- 2. Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) reports sent at the beginning of each month with information we hold on each referral.
- 3. On-going HFSV referrals from Police Scotland, Locality District Nursing Teams, Community Mental Health Teams, Social Work teams, Northeast Sensory Services (NESS) and Community Housing Teams etc.
- 4. 16 Adult Protection (AP1) referral forms were submitted to Angus Council Social Work over the period.
- 5. Angus LALO and CSAs attended 10 virtual multi agency Case Conferences involving persons identified as vulnerable and at risk.
- 6. Angus LALO and CSAs attended 1 virtual multi agency Initial Referral Discussion involving persons identified as vulnerable and at risk.
- 7. ACAT fitted 4 Sash Jammers to letter boxes at vulnerable residents' properties.
- 8. Angus CSA's attending Well bean cafés in Forfar, Arbroath, and Montrose quarterly for chats with attending people promoting and offering HFSVs.
- 9. Angus CSAs conducted multiple Fire safety talks at residential complexes throughout Angus.
- 10. ACAT made 3 monthly checks/calls to 3 FSSE interventions to see if any other incidents had occurred.
- 11. ACAT conducted 30 Hoarding presentations for various partner agencies.
- 12. CSA conducted 16 Risk Recognition presentations for various partner agencies.
- 13. CSA and Local Stations conducted Bonfire safety talks to primary schools throughout Angus.

## **APPENDIX 2: NOTABLE EVENTS**

## **Employability Partnership Pilot (Brechin High School)**



## Partnership Employability Skills Session for Senior Phase Pupils in Angus Brechin High School S3 Mock Interviews Monday 11 December 2023



This initiative is being led by Watch Commander Gary Wood, Local Area Liaison Officer (LALO) with support from Education and Life-Long Learning at Angus Council. Both parties are working in collaboration and with support from other council services and local employability partners in Angus. The group undertook a collaborative partnership approach with this employability initiative within Angus, where they worked together to deliver mock interview sessions to 80 to a 100 to S3 pupils.

Taking part in mock interviews allowed, those involved to learn how to answer questions, develop interview techniques, improve their communication skills and reduce worry before an actual interview be this for work, college, training, or university. The session provided an opportunity to practice, structure and answer questions, receive feedback and improve on life skills to support them in the future.

## Pilot Delivery of New Driver Scheme Brechin High school



Watch Commander Gary Wood has introduced the new driver scheme in Angus with a pilot session held at Brechin High School. This approach utilises presentations and virtual reality goggles to show potential new drivers the impacts of careless driving and how easily a situation can change and how lives can be lost due to poor choices while driving. The ACAT will continue to engage with schools and following this initial pilot session, will look to tie in with partners at Police Scotland and Scottish Ambulance service to deliver a partnership approach to road safety for young people across Angus.



## Arbroath:

### Food parcels:

Over the quarter 47 emergency food parcel were handed out to members of the community, each parcel has enough food for 2 people to last 2 days, these parcels allow access to food 24 hours a day 365 days a year. We are now receiving referrals from Angus Council social work, citizens advice and various other 3<sup>rd</sup> party organisations.

#### Christmas presents:

Due to generous donations from the crews and their families 37 local children received a gift, set of pyjamas, a woolly hat and scarf and a selection box. Referrals came direct from local Primary schools and Angus Council social work team.

## **Carnoustie Fire Station:**

## School Uniform bank:

With the surplus school uniforms from our appeal in the summer of 2023 we wanted to give the community access to free uniforms throughout the year. An agreement was reached with a local charity shop ("For Carnoustie") to stock the uniforms and allow people to collect them for free throughout the year.



## Challenge Poverty Week:

The 2<sup>nd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> of October, Carnoustie Fire Station opened its doors to raise awareness for "Challenge Poverty Week" to help combat social and economic inequalities. During the week, the station provided free breakfast items, toiletries and information on how the community can seek or receive help. During this event we worked in partnership with Police Scotland, 'Angus Council communities team' and 'family nurture team' and the 'Manna project' who all attended throughout the week.



## Food Cabinet:

The food cabinet which provides 24 hour access to food is busier than ever and is being restocked every second day with provisions, we have managed to sustain the cabinet through donations from the community and local businesses. 200kg of food has been handed out through our cabinet this quarter.

## Halloween/Cosy coat launch

On 31<sup>st</sup> of October we opened the station, the purpose was to provide a friendly and safe environment for families to attend for 'Guising' and allow us to deliver an important safety message regarding fireworks and bonfires. We also used the opportunity to launch our cosy coat appeal- this enabled us to provide 61 winter jackets to local children and adults.



## **Christmas Presents:**

In our fourth year of running our "Christmas Gift Appeal" Carnoustie Fire Station provided 137 gifts, 74 sets of pyjamas, 200 selection boxes and 30 Christmas hampers for people within our community, who would not necessarily be receiving a gift at Christmas. The crew worked hard collecting, sorting, wrapping, and delivering the gifts which have all been donated by staff members, the local community, and local businesses. We worked in partnership with the local schools, Angus Council teams, and various 3<sup>rd</sup> party charities and organisations to help identify those who received a gift.



## **Christmas Day visits:**

On Christmas day crew members visited people within our community who would be spending the day alone. We visited 15 households, a warm welcome was received at each house as they enjoyed the friendly conservation and company. Those visited received a gift and some homemade soup and bread which was donated by a local café, which also opened its doors on Christmas day to combat loneliness.



## **Notable Incidents and Events**

## Storm Babet

Storm Babet hit parts of Angus particularly hard from Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> through to Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October, with families, homes and large parts of Angus yet to fully recover from the storm. Crews from across Angus worked tirelessly in extremely challenging conditions over a protracted period, to both aid the initial and the emergency evacuation of residents across the Northeast corner of Angus. The main focus of events was based in and around the River Street, area of Brechin. But crews also had to support communities of both the North and South river Esk's. Crews from both Brechin and Kirriemuir were able to put their new Flood Response training into practise, ably supported by Water Rescue teams from across Scotland. Fire crews were also supported by partners from Police Scotland (PS), PS Mountain Rescue, MCA and Angus Council staff.



## Monifieth Commercial Premises Fire

Fire crews were called to large restraunt chain in Monifieth shortly before 1.15am on the 21<sup>st</sup> November. Crews were alerted to the rapidly developing fire by 5 staff who were working in the store at the time. Four appliances and a dedicated height appliance tackled the blaze throughout the night and into the morning. Fire Investigation teams worked alongside Police Scotland, the outlets insurers and Angus building standards to review the incident and look at the safety of the building to allow a full and comprehensive investigation.



## Training Exercise 'Atlantic Kestrel'

Arbroath Crews along with the Dedicated Height Appliance from Blackness Road Dundee attended Montrose Harbour and conducted an exercise involving the Harbour Master and the crew of vessel 'Atlantic Kestrel'. The scenario was a fire on a ship with a contractor unaccounted for, the ship's crew with support from the Arbroath crews extinguished the fire and searched the affected area of the vessel to rescue the casualty. The height appliance was then used to remove the casualty from the vessel deck onto the quayside. The exercise allowed the Harbour Master to evaluate their response to an emergency on site.

