



**NOTICE OF THE MEETING OF
POLICE, FIRE and COMMUNITY SAFETY
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

THURSDAY 13 MAY 2021, 2.00pm
VIA DIGITAL MEETINGS FACILITY

Agenda of Business

Apologies

Declarations of Interest

Members should declare any financial and non-financial interests they have in the items of business for consideration, identifying the relevant agenda item and the nature of their interest.

1. Minute of Committee meeting on 12th November 2020 for approval **(pages 1- 8)**
2. Police Scotland Scrutiny Report – The Lothians and Scottish Borders – Q3 and Q4 2020/21 **(To Follow)**
3. Scottish Fire and Rescue Services, Local Plan Performance Report for East Lothian – Q3 and Q4 2020/21 **(pages 9 - 34)**
4. East Lothian Local Fire & Rescue Plan – Report by SFRS **(pages 35 - 54)**
5. Tackling Antisocial Behaviour – Executive Director for Place, East Lothian Council **(pages 55 - 62)**
6. PFCSSC Draft Annual Work Programme 2021/22 **(pages 63 - 64)**
7. Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 11th November 2021, 2.00pm

Monica Patterson
Chief Executive
John Muir House
Haddington
6 May 2021



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
POLICE, FIRE and COMMUNITY SAFETY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**THURSDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2020
VIA THE DIGITAL MEETINGS SYSTEM**

1

Committee Members Present:

Councillor J Goodfellow (Convener)
Councillor L Bruce
Councillor F Dugdale
Councillor J Findlay
Councillor N Gilbert
Councillor C Hoy (Items 2 – 7)
Councillor C McGinn
Councillor K McLeod (Items 2 – 7)

Police Scotland

Chief Superintendent J McKenzie
Chief Inspector N Mitchell

East and Midlothian Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

Mr S Gourlay, Area Commander
Mr A Anderson, Group Commander

Council Officials Present:

Ms S Saunders, Head of Communities and Partnerships
Mr P Vestri, Service Manager – Corporate Policy and Improvement
Mr K Black, Safer Communities Team Leader
Ms A Smith, Committees Officer

Clerk:

Ms F Currie

Apologies:

None

Declarations of Interest:

None

1. MINUTES OF MEETING OF 14 NOVEMBER 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 November 2019 were approved.

2. SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE LOCAL PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR EAST LOTHIAN, Q2 2020/21

Stephen Gourlay, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) Area Commander, gave a brief overview of some of the key issues which had affected the Service since April 2020. He reported that there had been 12 attacks on crews across Scotland on Bonfire Night, however none had occurred in East Lothian. He thanked the police for their support over the period. He referred to the impact of COVID-19, the requirement for additional PPE and advised that local crews had continued to operate at close to normal levels throughout. He also updated the Committee on the ongoing pay discussions and review of service roles and highlighted new legislation relating to fire and smoke alarms in domestic dwellings which was due to come into force in February 2021.

Mr Gourlay responded to questions from Councillors Findlay and Bruce. He clarified the responsibilities for enforcement of new standards on fire safety and the costs of a new system; he also referred to potential implications for insurance and home sales. He confirmed that the SFRS had a budget for fitting new alarms and heat detectors in vulnerable households and he expected decisions to be made shortly on the timing and logistics of any roll out programme. He added that all other households had a responsibility to ensure that their fire safety systems met the required domestic standards.

Replying to a question from Councillor Findlay, Sharon Saunders, Head of Communities & Partnerships, said that the Housing Service would be aware of the requirements of the new legislation in respect of Council tenants and she offered to seek further detail from the Head of Development. The Convener, in his role as Housing Spokesperson, confirmed that the Housing Service had a programme in place to fit alarm/detection systems that met the new standards.

Councillor Dugdale raised the issue of further prevention measures. Mr Gourlay reiterated his point about smoke alarms and advised that heat detectors in kitchens had been a legal requirement for several years and that further recommendations and regulation had come from the Ministerial Working Group put in place following the Grenfell Tower fire. He said that this was important new legislation but that he expected its coming into force to be delayed, possibly by up to a year, as a result of COVID-19.

Andrew Anderson, SFRS Group Commander, summarised the main points of the performance report. He noted that the SFRS had responded to 665 incidents across East Lothian in the period reported, a decrease of 147 compared to the previous year. He drew attention to fire casualties, pointing out that while these remained low in East Lothian they did include one fatality as a result of a dwelling fire in Aberlady in April. Members were advised that home safety visits had continued despite the pandemic, although numbers were lower than previous years. He also highlighted the home safety visit referrals from the Community Access Team. On 'Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals' (UFAS), he reported that the service had responded to more than 216 such incidents, which was a reduction of 25% on the previous period. He concluded with a summary of prevention and protection work, which included visits, referrals, advice and publicity campaigns. While this work had been impacted by COVID-19, he said he expected capacity to increase as the Service developed better ways of engaging with community groups.

In response to questions from Councillor Findlay, Mr Anderson explained that the key performance indicator did not include deliberate dwelling fires but that this information could be provided separately. Mr Gourlay added that a figure for all deliberate fires (including dwelling fires) could also be included in future reports. In relation to figures for accidental dwelling fires involving Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMOs), Mr Gourlay said he did not have an exact number but confirmed that post-fire audits were received from the Prevention Team for accidental fires and he was not aware of HMO fires being a particular problem in East Lothian.

Later in the meeting, Mr Gourlay was able to provide the additional information requested. He reported that over the 6 month period there had been 2 deliberate dwelling fires but no incidents, deliberate or accidental, involving HMOs.

Decision

The Committee agreed to note the report.

2a. EAST LOTHIAN AREA LOCAL COMMUNITY FIRE AND RESCUE PLAN REVIEW 2020

Mr Gourlay informed the Committee that the SFRS was required by law to prepare Local Community Fire and Rescue Plans for each local authority in Scotland. The first of these Plans were prepared in 2014 and reviewed and replaced in 2017/18. The publication of the new SFRS Strategic Plan 2019-22 included a requirement to review all Plans currently in place. The 2018 East Lothian Community Fire and Rescue Plan contained an element of future proofing and the review had concluded that the 5 local priorities were still fit for purpose.

Mr Gourlay outlined the 5 local priorities within the current Plan and invited the Committee to agree to these priorities being used as the basis for drafting the new Plan. This document would be subject to further consultation and would be presented to the Committee for consideration at their meeting in May 2021.

The vote on the recommendation was taken by roll call:

Councillor L Bruce	Agreed
Councillor F Dugdale	Agreed
Councillor J Findlay	Agreed
Councillor N Gilbert	Agreed
Councillor J Goodfellow	Agreed
Councillor C Hoy	Agreed
Councillor C McGinn	Agreed
Councillor K McLeod	Agreed

Decision

The Committee agreed to the proposed approach for the drafting of the new Plan.

3. POLICE SCOTLAND SCRUTINY REPORT – THE LOTHIAN AND SCOTTISH BORDERS, Q2 – 2020/21

Chief Superintendent McKenzie provided opening comments prior to the report. He confirmed that the new mobile data and contact assessment systems had been successfully introduced for East Lothian and were working well. He referred to the increase in antisocial behaviour complaints but observed that comparison with previous years were perhaps inappropriate given the circumstances of the past few months. He advised Members that officers continued to engage with the public and provide advice regarding current restrictions; enforcement remained a last resort. He thanked Council officers and other partner agencies for their continued efforts and support during the year. He concluded by looking forward to 2021 commenting that many of the current challenges would continue into the New Year and that these and the COP26 meeting in Glasgow next autumn would have a significant impact on policing.

Chief Inspector Neil Mitchell provided a detailed summary of the performance report. He detailed the performance results for each of the seven groups noting that the first 6 months of this year had been unprecedented and that all figures had been impacted by COVID-19. He informed Members of the retirement of Inspector Andrew Harborow and the departure of PC Lynn Black to other duties. He thanked them both for their contributions over the past few years.

Chief Inspector Mitchell highlighted prevention, intervention and enforcement activity in relation to missing people, domestic abuse, hate crimes, antisocial behaviour, road safety, drug crimes and serious and violent crimes. He drew particular attention to the successful implementation of Operation Juneau, the purpose of which was to tackle the harm caused by substance misuse in East Lothian. He commended the work of local officers, national specialists and partner agencies which had assisted in the seizure of significant amounts of drugs and cash. The operation had also increased engagement with the local community through social media, leaflet drops and targeted patrols, and had seen 60 fast track referrals to the NHS and Third Sector organisations to support and monitor vulnerable individuals. He added that the East Lothian Community Action Team had been pivotal to this success.

Councillor Hoy referred to the contact assessment system and call waiting times. He said he had concerns about waiting times for people calling 101 and he asked whether this may have resulted in an under-reporting of crime.

Chief Superintendent McKenzie acknowledged that waiting times for 101 calls during peak periods were a concern but call volume had increased due to COVID-19 with people seeking advice on public health restrictions. However, he was confident that longer waiting times had not resulted in under-reporting as there were alternative ways to contact the police. He added that 999 should always be used for emergencies and that the response times there were very positive. He said he would be happy to deal with specific concerns from Members out with the meeting.

Councillor Dugdale asked what happened in case of domestic abuse that did not result in a crime report. Chief Inspector Mitchell assured her that all incidents were attended by officers and, where there was evidence to do so, the incident would be treated as a crime. If this was not the case, officers would provide advice and support to individuals on site and later complete a vulnerable person sheet which would be passed to the Concern Hub to share with partner agencies, as required. A domestic abuse assessor would also make contact to offer support and ensure the safety of the individual.

Chief Superintendent McKenzie added that tackling domestic abuse would always be a priority in East Lothian and that plans were in place to highlight and tackle the issue over the Christmas period, although these differed from previous years.

Councillor McGinn put on record his thanks and those of the local community for the work undertaken through Operation Juneau. He said that the work and community engagement had been very well-received and he was delighted to see it having such a positive effect. He asked if the operation had an end date or if it would continue as long as needed.

Chief Inspector Mitchell confirmed that Juneau would continue and that all drug-related action would come under its heading. The work at national and local level, as well as with partner agencies, would continue to be intelligence-led and to focus on getting people get onto the right pathways.

Mr Anderson added the thanks of the SFRS for the work undertaken by Chief Inspector Mitchell, Inspector Harborow and PC Black on this and other operations over a number of years.

Councillor Findlay complimented Chief Inspector Mitchell on his patience and engagement in dealing with the influx of visitors to coastal areas over the summer. He said his efforts had been much appreciated by the community. He also asked about road safety initiatives including youth engagement programmes and long term plans for speed reducing patrols being 'based on evidence and not just political point scoring'.

Chief Inspector Mitchell confirmed that the Tomorrow's Drivers events would be rolled out across the county and they would be considering the best way to deliver training given the current public health restrictions. On speed reducing patrols, he said that the police did not have the resources to be everywhere and could not send patrols to a particular area at the request of an individual, unless there was clear evidence of a problem. He added that the police used social media to publicise where speed enforcement was taking place in an effort to prevent incidents.

Chief Superintendent McKenzie reflected that this particular section of the report could have been worded differently. He added that the local policing plan commitments were an attempt to highlight to Members the priorities for action and to be realistic about what could be achieved with current resources. He acknowledged that the Members' role was to hold them to account and he accepted that the plan may have to be amended in future.

Councillor Bruce welcomed the police response to anti-social behaviour in Cockenzie, Prestonpans and Port Seton and the partnership approach. He also offered his thanks for the work on Operation Juneau. He asked what was being done to combat the rise in the use of drugs in public spaces.

Chief Inspector Mitchell said he was not aware that there had been complaints about this issue. He asked the Councillor to encourage his constituents to contact local officers so that they could take action on the problem.

Councillor McGinn commented on speeding problems in Elphinstone, particularly near the primary school, and the work that he and Councillor Dugdale had been involved in with community groups to highlight the issue. He welcomed the introduction of a speed table, scheduled for February 2021, and thanked officers for their support.

The Convener asked questions about the recording of statistics on domestic abuse. Chief Inspector Mitchell explained that the figures for the number of incidents and total crimes rarely matched due to the time lag in reporting from one quarter to another. Chief

Superintendent McKenzie clarified the circumstances in which domestic abuse would be recorded as a Group 1 crime and offered to provide further detail, if required.

Chief Inspector Mitchell responded to further questions from the Convener regarding car insurance offences and vehicle seizure following a crime of driving without insurance.

Councillor Hoy echoed his colleagues praise for Operation Juneau and asked about the reasons for the reduction in drug supply crimes and whether these related solely to COVID-19. He also asked about self-enforcement of the 20 mph limit and how this may impact on wider enforcement of speed limits.

Chief Inspector Mitchell advised that the reduction in drug supply crime figures were due to a lack of intelligence and a reduction in warrants being executed and he would expect these figures to be reflected across Scotland. Chief Superintendent McKenzie also acknowledged the impact of lockdown and the reduced traffic on the roads which had resulted in reduced instances of drugs being transported.

Addressing Councillor Hoy's question on speed limit enforcement, Chief Superintendent McKenzie explained that resources and actions were targeted where there was evidence of people breaching the limit or an increase in accidents. Decisions in relation to enforcement of the 20 mph limit were taken in the same way as for other limits and consideration would always be given to concerns highlighted about particular areas. He added that the majority of drivers adhered to speed limits, particularly in built up areas.

The Convener commented that there had been a lot of appreciation expressed in the community for the work of the police and the Council; Operation Juneau had been particularly well-received and he looked forward to seeing the results in the next report to the Committee. He also emphasised the importance of intelligence gathering and encouraged the public to come forward to report incidents.

Decision

The Committee agreed to note the report.

4. LOCAL POLICE PLAN 2020-23

Chief Inspector Mitchell presented the Local Police Plan 2020-23 noting that it had already been presented to Council and the priorities within it had received the support of Elected Members. He highlighted some of the key priorities and activities and advised that the Plan could be revised and updated as necessary during its 3 year lifespan. He thanked Members for their support and confirmed that the Plan would be brought back to the Committee at a future date to report on progress.

Decision

The Committee agreed to note the report.

5. TACKLING ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

A report was submitted by the Depute Chief Executive (Partnerships and Community Services) advising of the number of antisocial behaviour complaints made to the Council during the reporting period and of ongoing actions being undertaken by local partner agencies in tackling antisocial behaviour.

Kenny Black, Safer Communities Team Leader, presented the report. He drew particular attention to Sections 3.2-3.13 of the report, noting the significant increase in antisocial behaviour complaints and suggesting that much of this could be attributed to more people working from home during the COVID-19 outbreak and a corresponding change in tolerance levels. He also advised that there had been 72% increase in referrals made to the Resolution Service compared with 2019. He reported that there were 32 live ASBOs in place in East Lothian and that the hiatus in court business between March and July 2020 had led to a delay in litigation of ASBO and eviction cases. He advised Members that the Night Time Noise Service had also been suspended since March and this was subject to monthly review. The Community Warden Team continued to deal with ASB complaints but had also been involved in the joint agency resilience efforts providing support to vulnerable people and helping the police to manage increased visitor numbers in coastal areas.

Councillor McLeod asked at what stage the police were involved in drug related incidents. Mr Black explained that all information received by council officers relating to drug incidents was passed to Police Scotland, and that, while enforcement was a matter for the police, the Council would, in the appropriate circumstances, take action against any tenant convicted of an offence that constituted a breach of their Tenancy Agreement. He took the view that such behaviour was antisocial as well as criminal.

Councillor Hoy offered his sincere thanks to Mr Black and his team for their work, particularly within the Haddington Problem Solving Partnership (PSP). Referring to the increase in antisocial behaviour complaints, he suggested that this may be a result of people who were currently working from home becoming aware of problems they had not noticed before, rather than simply a lowering of tolerance levels. Mr Black acknowledged the point and suggested it may be a combination of both.

Mr Black responded to questions from the Convener clarifying statements in the report in relation to the Night Time Noise Service. He also agreed that, should COVID remain a factor, he would provide a breakdown between day-time and night-time noise incidents in his next report to the Committee.

The Convener also asked Mr Black to pass on his thanks to the team for their efforts over the past months.

Decision

The Committee agreed to note the report.

6. PFCSSC ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME 2020/21

The work programme was approved, with the addition of the following item to be presented at the May meeting:

- Draft Local Community Fire and Rescue Plan 2021

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Members noted that the next meeting of the Committee would take place on Thursday 13th May 2021 at 2.00pm.

Signed

Councillor Jim Goodfellow
Convener of the Police, Fire and Community Safety Scrutiny Committee

DRAFT



3

LOCAL PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR EAST LoTHIAN



SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
Working together for a safer Scotland

Performance Report, 1st October 2020 – 31st March 2021

**Working together
for a safer Scotland**



DISCLAIMER

The figures included in this report are provisional and subject to change as a result of quality assurance and review. The statistics quoted are internal management information published in the interests of transparency and openness.

The Scottish government publishes Official Statistics each year which allow for comparisons to be made over longer periods of time.

Please ensure any external partners in receipt of these reports are aware of this.

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Introduction

This performance report provides information on our prevention, protection and operational response activities within the East Lothian for year 2020-21 (1st October 2020 – 31st March 2021).

The Scottish Government provides an overarching vision for public services. This vision supported by 16 National Outcomes, which demonstrate commitment to creating a more successful country, with opportunities for all of Scotland to flourish, through increasing sustainable growth. The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) can make a significant contribution to improving these outcomes for East Lothian by contributing to the Community Planning arrangements across the area.

The national priorities for the SFRS are set out in the Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland. The SFRS Strategic Plan 2019-2022 outlines how the SFRS will deliver against these priorities and the outcomes against which this delivery can be measured.

The priorities contained within the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for East Lothian contribute towards the priorities within the East Lothian Plan - Single Outcome Agreement 2013 - 23.

The aims of the local Fire & Rescue Service in East Lothian are to reduce fire deaths and to reduce injuries from fire and other emergencies in the community. We aim to achieve this by working in partnership, being pro-active and targeting our prevention and protection activities to where they are required, based on evidence.

The Local Fire and Rescue Plan for East Lothian 2018 identifies the following five priorities as the main focus for service delivery locally:

Local Priorities:

- As part of a Community Partnership approach, we will make people safer in their homes.
- We will promote Community Resilience whilst contributing to improved outcomes for people involved in non-fire emergencies.
- Together with our Community Partners, we will contribute to making roads in East Lothian safer.
- As part of a Community Partnership, we will challenge anti-social behaviour.
- In partnership, we will aim to reduce the occurrence and impact of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals.

Area Commander Stephen Gourlay

Local Senior Officer for East Lothian, Midlothian and the Scottish Borders.

stephen.gourlay@firescotland.gov.uk

Performance Summary

We measure how well we are meeting our priorities using 6 key indicators, depicted below

Key performance indicator	Apr to (& incl.) Mar					RAG rating
	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	YTD
All accidental dwelling fires	41	52	55	38	33	●
All fire casualties (fatal & non-fatal (incl. p/c's))	6	7	5	5	4	●
All deliberate fires excl. dwellings	166	192	232	145	139	●
Special Service - RTCs	41	43	36	30	17	●
Special Service Casualties - All	57	58	47	33	21	●
False Alarm - UFAs	344	394	372	419	368	●

RAG rating - KEY

◆	RED DIAMOND	10% higher than the previous YTD period, or local target not achieved.
▲	YELLOW TRIANGLE	Up to 9% higher than the previous YTD period, or local target not achieved.
●	GREEN CIRCLE	Equal to or improved upon the previous equivalent quarter (or YTD period), or local target achieved.

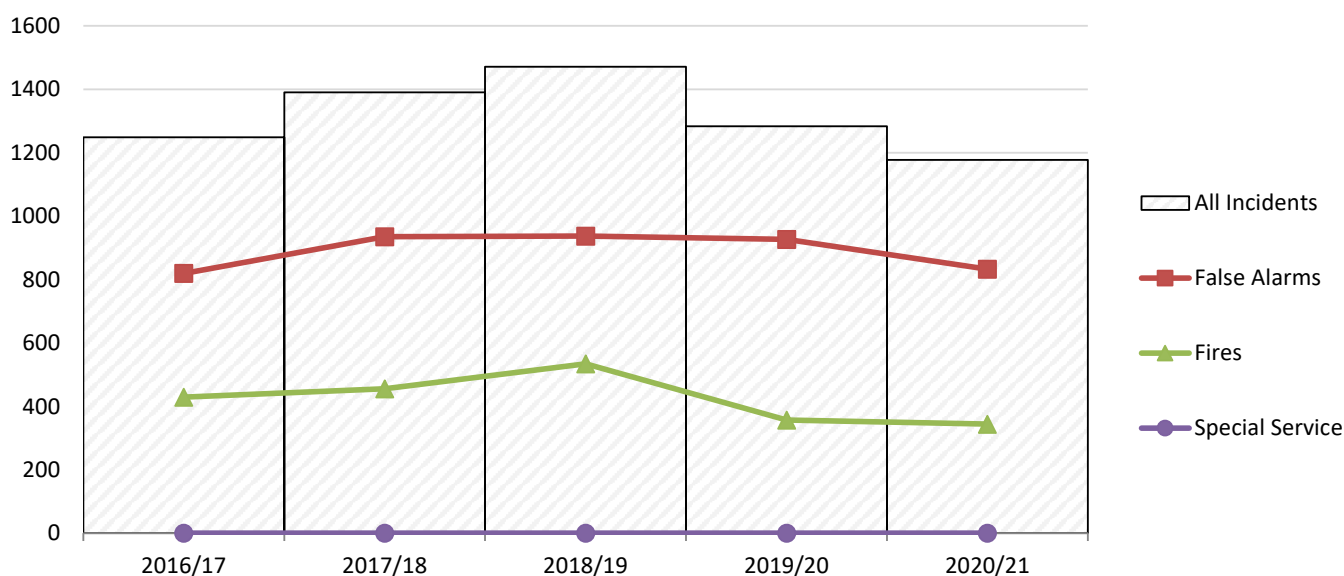
Note

Quarterly comparison RAG Rating = the reporting period compared to the average of the three previous quarterly reporting periods.
 Year to Date RAG Rating = the cumulative total of all quarterly performance in current year compared to cumulative total of all quarterly performance in previous year.

Incident Overview

During this financial year to date, SFRS responded to 1177 incidents in East Lothian, this is a reduction of 8% (106 incidents) when compared to last year. This figure is also the lowest figure in the past five years.

The chart below illustrates incidents YTD attended within East Lothian council over the last 5 fiscal years



Progress on local fire & rescue plan priorities

Local Risk Management and Preparedness

The Service must identify, prioritise and plan to meet the risks in each local community.

We said we would:

- train our staff to deal with our local risks
- gather and analyse risk information
- work with partners to mitigate risks
- deal with major events

Train our staff to deal with our local risks

All of our operational staff undertake routine and risk specific skill acquisition and maintenance training.

Gather and analyse risk information

All of our operational staff gather and analyse local risk information and operational intelligence, used in our preparations to resolve incidents.
We conduct Post Incident Debriefs to identify any lessons that can be learned from our preparedness and response to emergency events.
We use Urgent Operational Intelligence Briefings to inform our operational staff of any safety critical information.

Work with partners to mitigate risks

We continue to be an active member of the East Local Resilience Partnership. We share information with local authority partners and other key stakeholders (e.g. Police Scotland) to ensure emergency event risks are mitigated.

Deal with major events

There were no major fire events or significant emergency events in this reporting period.

*

Reduction of 'All accidental dwelling fires'

Accidental dwelling fires can have devastating effects on our community. The SFRS is committed to keeping people safe in their homes. We share information with partners to make sure that the right people get the right information they need, particularly those who are vulnerable due to age, isolation or addiction. Reduction of Accidental Dwelling Fires contributes to the East Lothian Plan - Single Outcome Agreement.

Results

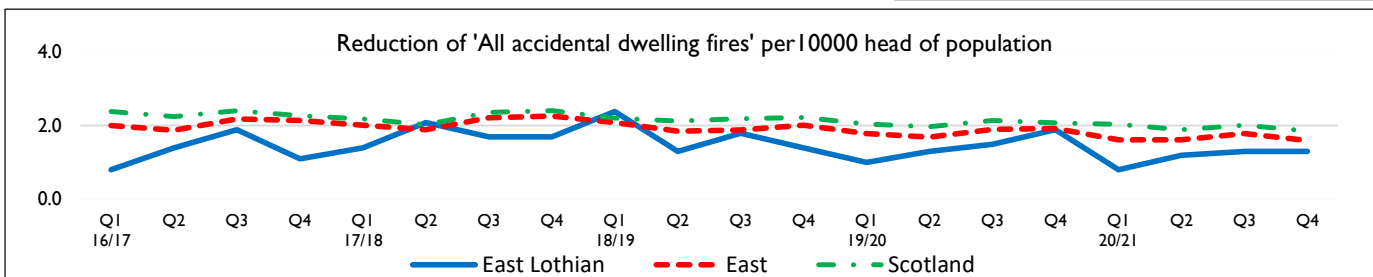
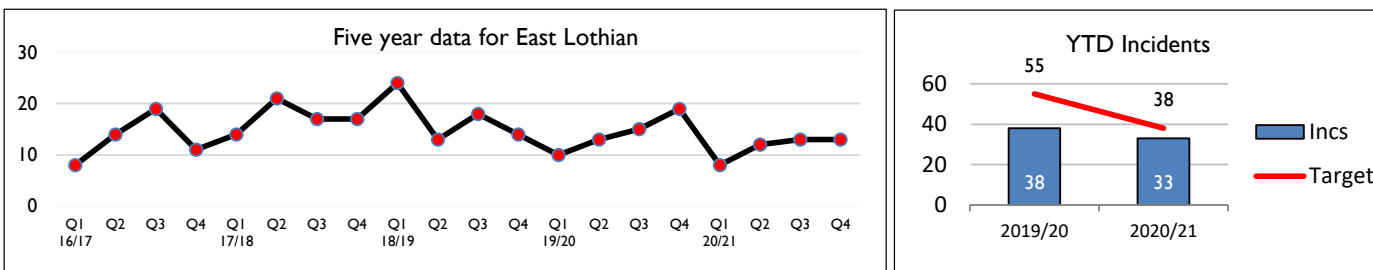
We aim to reduce Accidental Dwelling Fires in East Lothian by contributing towards the SFRS target of 10% reduction per year, over a three-year rolling period. During this period, we responded to 26 Accidental Dwelling Fires. The figure of 26 is a reduction of 23% or 8 incidents from the same period last year. The long-term trend based upon incidents/10,000 population is below the Scottish and East Delivery Area trends.

Reasons

From the 26 accidental dwelling fires, 76% occurred in single occupancy households. 19% involved the over 65 age category. The main cause of fire was cooking (42%) with other causes of falling asleep, electrical/equipment fault and a chimney fire. 21 of the 26 fires (80%) were confined to the item first ignited or the room where the fire started. Houses involved have benefited from our SFRS Post Domestic Incident Response procedure. Only 20 of the 26 (76%) dwellings involved had working smoke detection. It is clear we need to target those at risk in single occupancy households, ensuring those properties have working smoke detection.

Actions

During this reporting period, 147 Home Fire Safety Visits (totalling 279 YTD) were carried within East Lothian. A number of initiatives and events aimed at reducing accidental dwelling fires were conducted. We have introduced a 'Post Domestic Incident Response' Policy, which provides a framework to ensure that engagement activity is completed in a structured and appropriate manner following incidents. Appendix I provides further details on our prevention activities in relation to this priority.



YTD ward ave. for East Lothian - 6	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Sparklines
East Lothian	41	52	55	38	33	
Musselburgh	9	11	17	9	9	
Preston, Seton & Gosford	9	9	8	7	8	
Tranent, Wallyford & Macmerry	9	10	8	8	1	
North Berwick Coastal	7	10	7	3	3	
Haddington & Lammermuir	2	8	10	9	8	
Dunbar & East Linton	5	4	5	2	4	

Reduction of 'All fire casualties (fatal & non-fatal (incl. p/c's))'

Fire casualty and fatality rates provide an indication of the amount of serious, life-threatening injuries that occur due to fire. This can indicate not only the success of SFRS in reducing the number of life risk fires through community fire safety and similar activities, but also their success in response activity in saving lives.

Results

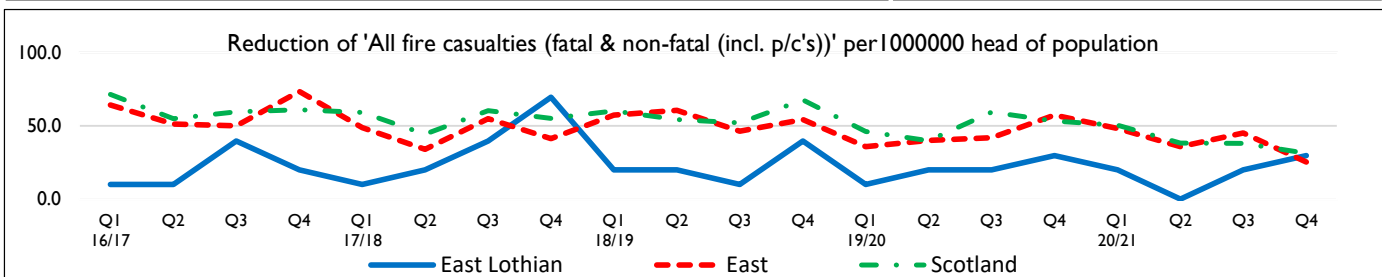
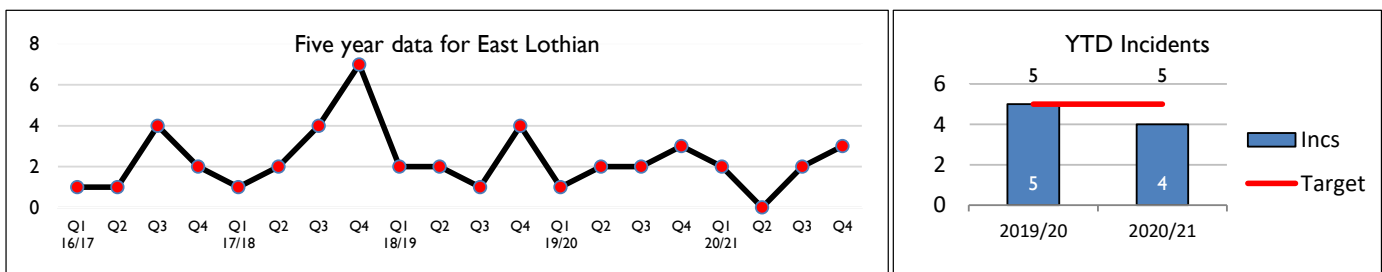
We aim to reduce Fire Casualties in East Lothian each per year, which contributes towards the SFRS target of reducing Fire Casualties by 5% per year, over a three-year rolling period. In this reporting period, SFRS dealt with 2 non fatal casualties (both of which were rescued). The long-term trend based upon casualties/10,000 population shows East Lothian is in line with the Scottish average and East SDA average.

Reasons

Historically East Lothian has had low numbers of casualties from fires and that trend continues with numbers remaining the same as Q3 and Q4 period last year.

Actions

During this reporting period, 147 Home Fire Safety Visits were carried out and over 100 smoke detectors were fitted within East Lothian. We continue to work with our partners in East Lothian Council and seek opportunities with social work and NHS to target those most vulnerable and at risk from fire.



YTD ward ave. for East Lothian - I	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Sparklines
East Lothian	6	7	5	5	4	
Musselburgh	1	0	1	0	2	
Preston, Seton & Gosford	1	0	0	2	0	
Tranent, Wallyford & Macmerry	0	4	0	1	1	
North Berwick Coastal	3	1	2	0	1	
Haddington & Lammermuir	0	1	1	1	0	
Dunbar & East Linton	1	1	1	1	0	

Reduction of 'All deliberate fires excl. dwellings'

Although deliberate fire setting, historically, has not been a significant problem for the SFRS in East Lothian there has been an increase in recent years and is closely linked to other forms of anti-social behaviour. In the main, deliberate fires are secondary fires categorised into refuse/bins, grassland or derelict buildings incidents. Reduction of Deliberate Fire Setting contributes to the East Lothian Plan Single Outcome Agreement.

Results

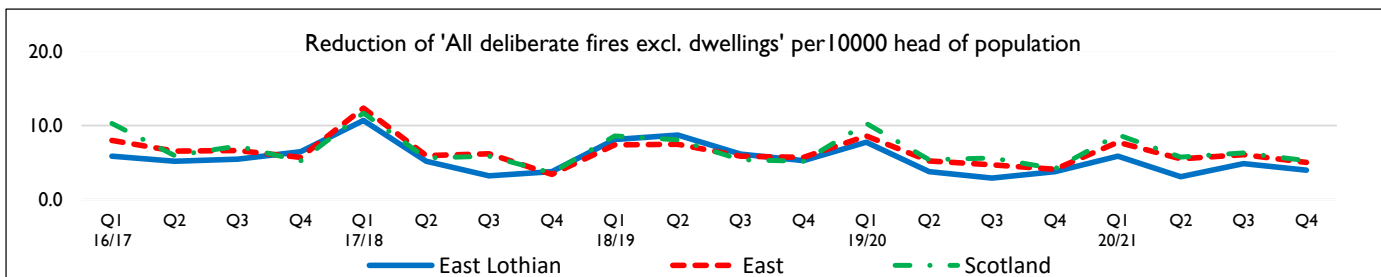
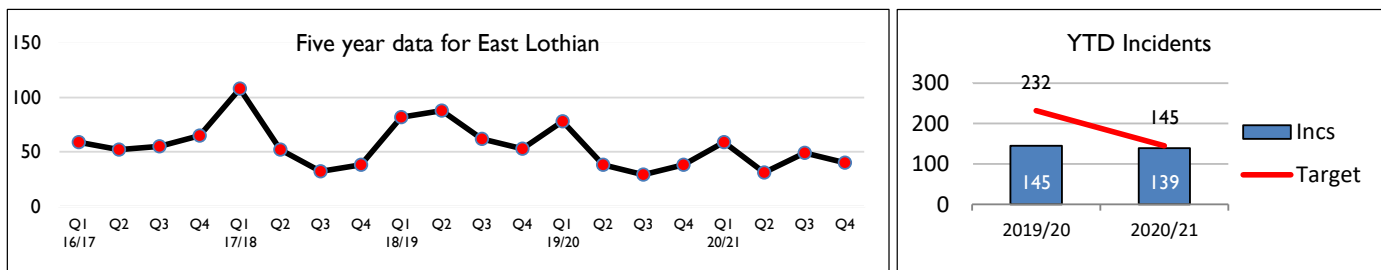
Historically, the areas most likely to be affected from this type of fire behaviour are Prestonpans, Tranent, Musselburgh and Haddington. There were 89 deliberate fires during this reporting period, this is a increase of 22 (24%) deliberate fire incidents on the same period last year. The long-term trend based upon Deliberate Fire Setting /10,000 population identifies East Lothian is below the Scottish and East Service Delivery area average.

Reasons

During the reporting period Scrubland/woodland deliberate fires accounted for 58% of the 89 deliberate fires with 20% of the total figure was attributed to refuse and bin fires.

Actions

A multi-agency approach was taken when the incident trend was identified through the TACG. There has been a coordinated approach to the identified trend areas and intervention work has been undertaken with youth groups in Musselburgh, Tranent and Preston Pans. Further information is available in Appendix I.



YTD ward ave. for East Lothian - 23	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Sparklines
East Lothian	166	192	232	145	139	
Musselburgh	27	33	38	57	41	
Preston, Seton & Gosford	53	42	54	24	24	
Tranent, Wallyford & Macmerry	55	62	66	25	47	
North Berwick Coastal	7	1	8	9	4	
Haddington & Lammermuir	16	30	42	14	13	
Dunbar & East Linton	8	24	24	16	10	

Reduction of 'Special Service - RTCs'

Whilst much of this risk is out with the control of SFRS alone, responding to Non-Fire Emergencies such as Road Traffic Collisions is a key part of our intervention activities. The SFRS is committed to working with partners and other stakeholders to drive continuous improvement in this area. Reduction of Casualties from Non-Fire Emergencies contributes to the East Lothian Plan Single Outcome Agreement, number of people killed or seriously injured in road accidents.

Results

SFRS attended 14 Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs) during this reporting period. This is a reduction of 6 incidents (30%) from the same period last year. Per 10,000 head of population, East Lothian is slightly above the Scottish and East Service Delivery area trend.

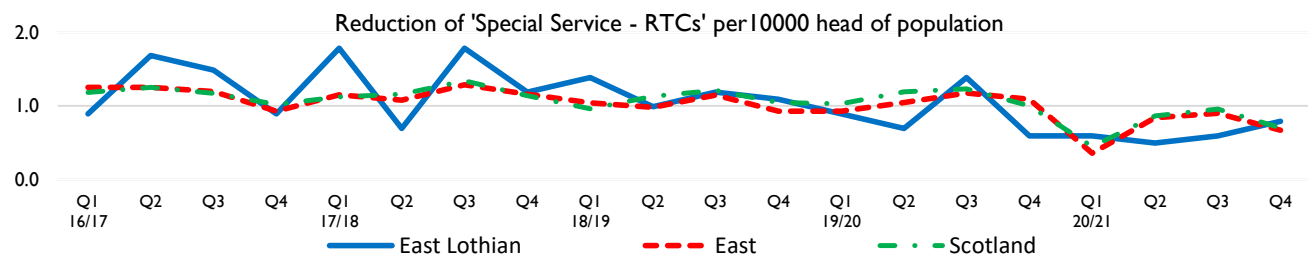
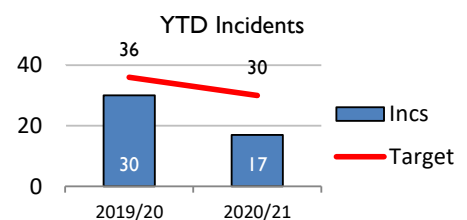
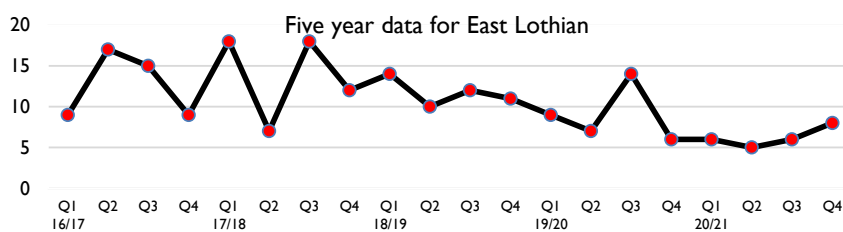
Reasons

The SFRS only attend those RTC's they are requested to attend and this number does not reflect the total number within East Lothian.

Actions

The SFRS continues to be a member of a multi-agency approach to reducing Road Traffic Collision's and the associated casualties and fatalities. The continued delivery of Tomorrow's Driver programme targeting young people is an excellent partnership approach in our drive to reduce road traffic collisions.

We continue to seek opportunities to educate local communities in support of reducing the number of RTCs and resulting casualties.



YTD ward ave. for East Lothian - 3	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Sparklines
East Lothian	41	43	36	30	17	
Musselburgh	7	6	5	6	4	
Preston, Seton & Gosford	2	5	4	5	1	
Tranent, Wallyford & Macmerry	7	10	6	5	2	
North Berwick Coastal	10	7	9	2	0	
Haddington & Lammermuir	8	7	5	6	3	
Dunbar & East Linton	7	8	7	6	7	

Reduction of 'Special Service Casualties - All'

Whilst much of this risk is out with the control of SFRS alone, responding to Non-Fire Emergencies is a key part of our intervention activities. The SFRS is committed to working with partners and other stakeholders to drive continuous improvement in this area. Reduction of Casualties from Non-Fire Emergencies contributes to the East Lothian Plan Single Outcome Agreement.

Results

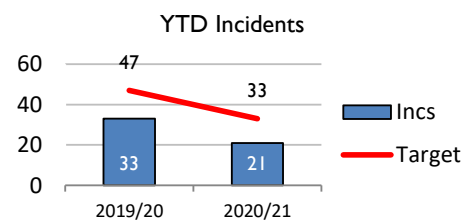
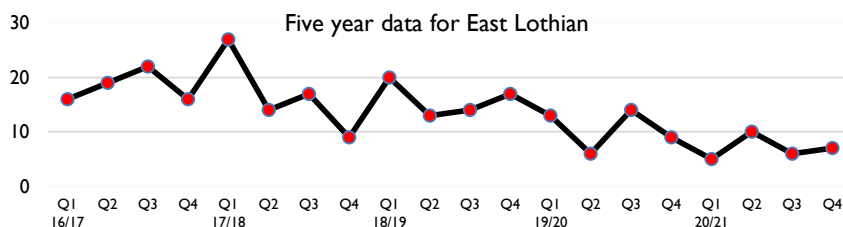
We attended to 13 casualties from non-fire emergencies in East Lothian, which is a reduction of 10 (43%) compared with the same period last year. The trend per 10,000 head of population is below the average of the Scottish and East service delivery areas.

Reasons

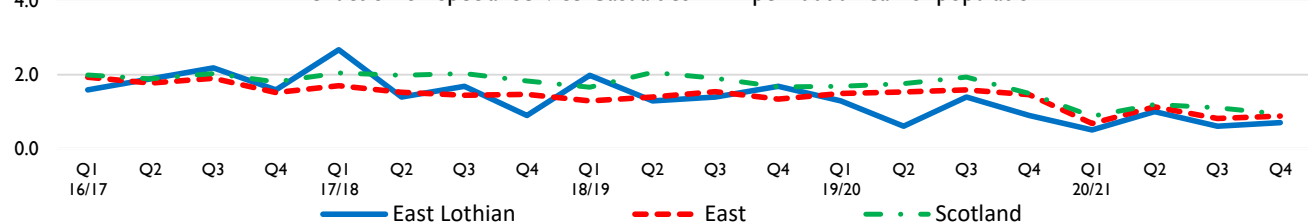
We attended RTC's that resulted in 6 non fatal casualties in East Lothian. We report 2 fatal and 5 non fatal casualties in a range of special service incidents including medical response and effecting entry to assist and support our partner agencies. As the SFRS continue to assist with medical emergencies as co or first responders, the number of events is likely to increase.

Actions

The SFRS is a member of a multi-agency approach to reducing Road Traffic Collision's and the associated casualties and fatalities. The continued delivery of Tomorrow's Driver programme targeting young people is an excellent partnership approach to reducing road traffic collisions. We continue our commitment to the Scottish Government Strategy relating to Out of Hospital Cardiac Arrest (OHCA) and work to significantly increase survivability rates through co responding and education. We will also continue to respond to the communities needs in terms of other non-fire emergencies.



Reduction of 'Special Service Casualties - All' per 10000 head of population



YTD ward ave. for East Lothian - 4	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Sparklines
East Lothian	57	58	47	33	21	
Musselburgh	15	16	5	9	7	
Preston, Seton & Gosford	9	5	4	3	0	
Tranent, Wallyford & Macmerry	13	7	6	4	3	
North Berwick Coastal	7	9	12	6	1	
Haddington & Lammermuir	6	8	9	4	1	
Dunbar & East Linton	7	13	11	7	9	

Reduction of 'False Alarm - UFAs'

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) are defined as incidents where an automated fire alarm system activates and results in the mobilisation of SFRS resources, when the reason for that alarm turns out to be connected with faulty or defective alarm equipment. The SFRS is committed to working with partners and other stakeholders to reduce Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals.

Results

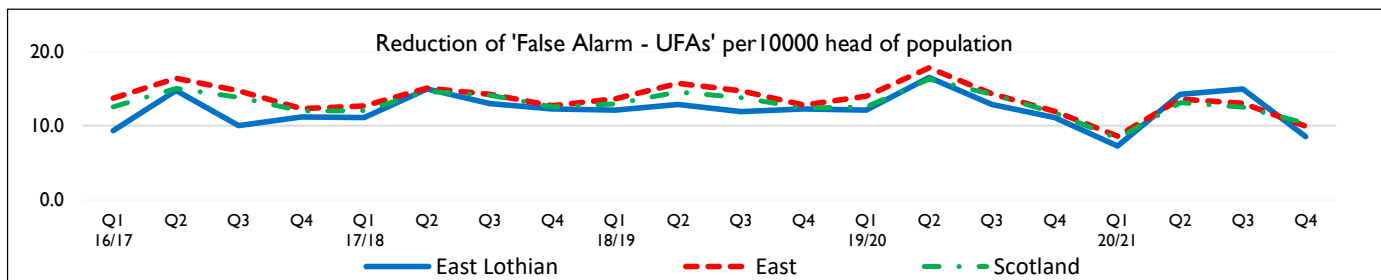
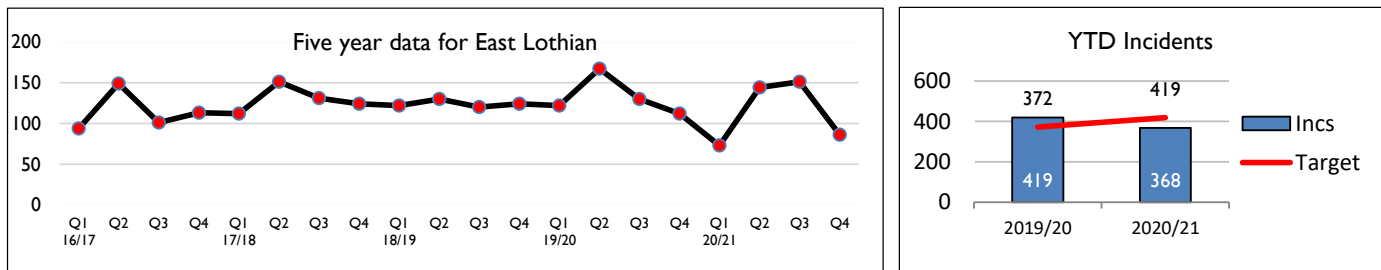
SFRS attended 237 UFAS incidents during this reporting period. In comparison to last year, this is a reduction of 5 incidents (2%). East Lothian trend is slightly below that of Scotland and the East Service Delivery area.

Reasons

Of the 237 Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals incidents we attended, 88% were caused by system and human errors (Testing, faults, cooking/burnt toast, aerosols etc.), 7% were malicious and 5% were good intent calls.

Actions

We continue to monitor UFAS calls and our Fire Safety Enforcement Officers work closely with premises to reduce further UFAS incidents. This includes discussing technological, procedural and management solutions in order to prevent future UFAS incidents. These proactive actions are clearly having a positive impact in reducing the number of calls to premises.



YTD ward ave. for East Lothian - 61	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Sparklines
East Lothian	344	394	372	419	368	
Musselburgh	109	108	120	101	89	
Preston, Seton & Gosford	23	49	28	40	36	
Tranent, Wallyford & Macmerry	60	63	65	51	54	
North Berwick Coastal	57	51	59	76	52	
Haddington & Lammermuir	52	94	59	99	82	
Dunbar & East Linton	43	29	41	52	55	

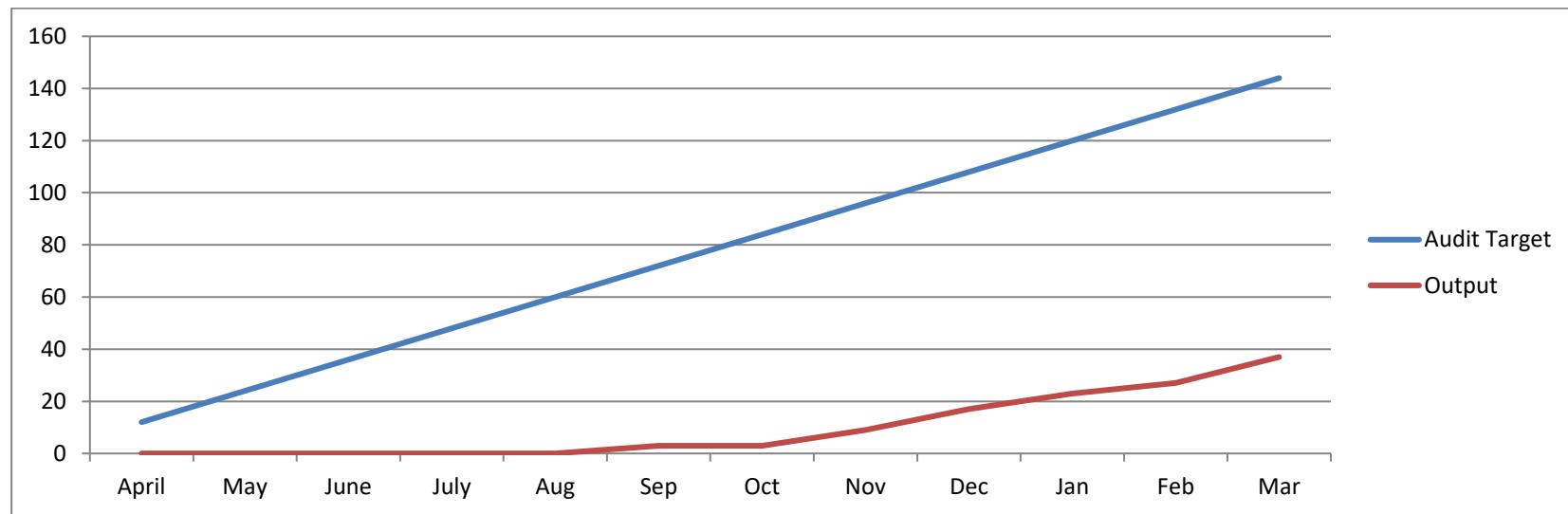
Prevention & Protection Activities

Year to date April 1st 2020 – March 31st 2021

Fire Safety Enforcement Audits

The figures represent the audit workloads delivered by the East Lothian 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. As can be seen usual annual targets have not been met. Coronavirus lockdown restrictions have severely impacted our audit programme during this year with a vastly reduced number audits carried out. A remote audit process has been produced to assist with delivery of our responsibilities. When appropriate, advice is provided by telephone to support duty holders with compliance and to ensure the risk of fire is managed robustly. All High-Risk premises, including hospitals and Care Homes have received a full audit. Our FSE team continue to carry audits of regulated premises that have experienced a fire incident.

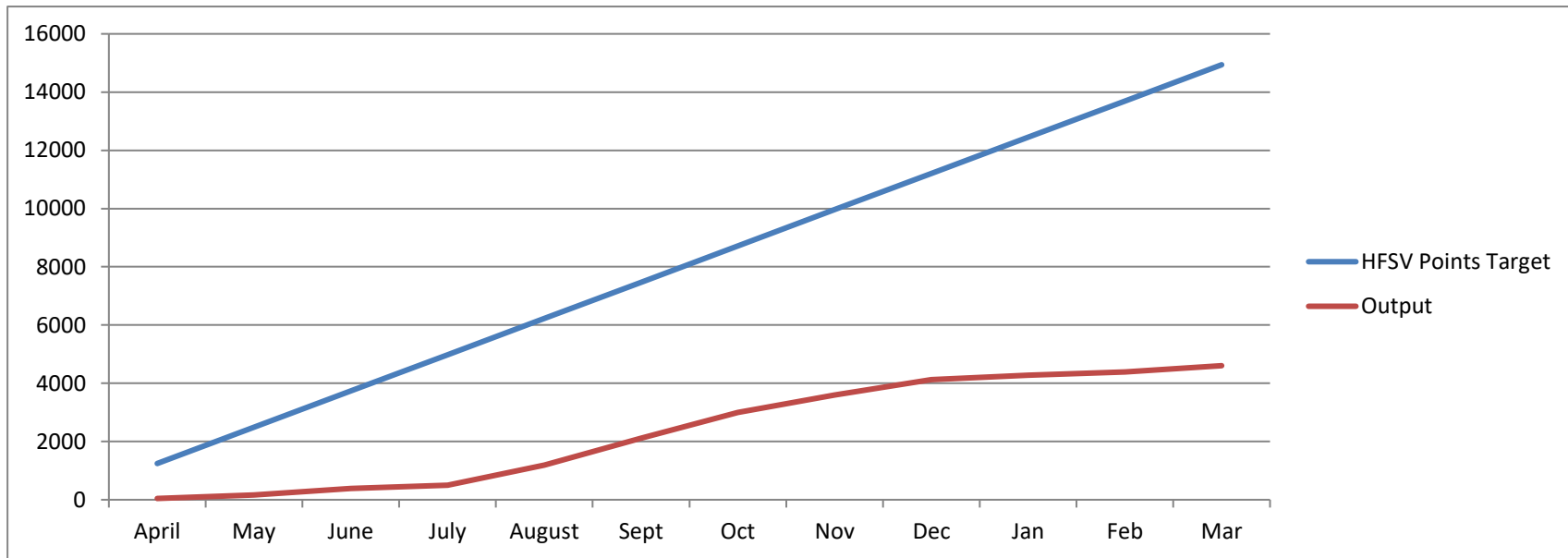
	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Target:	12	24	36	48	60	72	84	96	108	120	132	144	144
Completed:	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	9	17	23	27	33	33



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 free smoke alarms the numbers of dwelling fires and casualties will be reduced. To target the highest risk households across East Lothian, a point's allocation based on risk and an associated target has been set (24 points per high, 8 per medium, 4 per low risk visit). Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, and the return to lockdown restrictions, we have had to re-introduce interim measures which included providing this service to high risk individuals only. As a consequence, the number of HFSVs delivered reduced dramatically during this period. **A total of 279** HFSVs were delivered in East Lothian during this period.

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Target	1245	2490	3735	4980	6225	7470	8715	9960	11205	12450	13695	14940	14940
Completed	44	164	388	496	1192	2112	2944	3600	4120	4280	4384	4604	4606



Total visits delivered in April 2020 to March 2021 by ward area of East Lothian:

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

Ward Area	Visits delivered 2020/21
Dunbar and East Linton	25
Fa'side	49
Haddington and Lammermuir	29
Musselburgh East and Carberry	53
Musselburgh West	42
North Berwick Coastal	30
Preston/Seton/Gosford	51
TOTAL	279

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. Bonfire reduction/safety activities and Road Safety are two examples of thematic that would normally be delivered face to face. Due to restrictions we have had to use other methods for delivery which included You Tube and Zoom media options. Feedback received from schools and other partners have been very positive.

Safeguarding

Our staff continued to identify and refer adults at risk of harm and/or in need of support. The LALO also continues to provide information relevant to Fire Safety at the monthly Multi Agency Risk Conference (MARAC) and support vulnerable people.

HFSV Referrals and advice

Whilst we continue to receive referrals from partner agencies, the numbers have also reduced. SFRS have provided all partners with specific guidance to support the identification and referral of those deemed at greatest risk of fire within the home. Our current HFSV campaign focuses on a particular high-risk group and is titled "**MAKE THE CALL**" (See page 7)

Our HSFV referral systems are monitored on a daily to ensure that high risk households are contacted within 24 hours as per our policy. All referrals are risk rated with a HFSV carried out or advice provided and recorded for a visit at a later date, when safe to do so.

When a HFSV is not carried out, households are offered advice on the following topics;

- Cooking and Kitchen Safety;
- Electrical and Heating Safety;
- Smoking and Candle Safety;
- Smoke and Heat Alarms;
- Night Time Routine and Fire Escape Plan.

Partner agencies have also requested Enhanced Home Fire Safety Visits through Police concern reports or direct requests from social services. This particular type of visit is provided for those individuals who are exposed to a very high risk of fire within the home and may result in additional measures such as telecare or the provision of fire-retardant bedding being recommended.

Bonfire Period

Normally we would have visited all East Lothian Schools to provide bonfire/firework safety talks, however, as you will appreciate this was an option this year. We therefore provided all Schools with safety literature and a locally produced presentation which can be delivered by teachers.

Home Fire Safety; New Standards 2021

As reported previously, SFRS were preparing for the introduction of the new smoke detection standards which were originally to be invoked as of 1st February 2020. The new standard will now come into effect as of 1st February 2021. The new standard means that all domestic household must have a combination of smoke/heat detection that is inter-linked. The system can be hardwired or wireless (Bluetooth).

Alarms required to meet the standard:

One smoke alarm installed in the room most frequently used for general daytime living purposes

- One smoke alarm in every circulation space on each storey, such as hallways and landings
- One heat alarm installed in every kitchen

All alarms should be ceiling mounted and interlinked. There is also a requirement for carbon monoxide detectors to be fitted where there is a carbon-fuelled appliance (such as boilers, fires (including open fires), heaters and stoves) or a flue.

At the time of preparing this report, training continues with all operational staff and members of our Community Action Team involved. Local Authorities, Housing Associations and private Landlords are responsible for ensuring the new standards are met. Scottish Government have a dedicated web page to support compliance www.gov.scot/publications/fire-and-smoke-alarms-in-scottish-homes/.

We continue to support Midlothian Community Planning, Public Protection and Community Justice agendas, participating and having a presence at all levels of governance and delivery.

Although the current circumstances have reduced our ability to deliver/offer all our services, we continue to work with partners on a regular basis, providing advice and reassurance, whilst also planning and considering innovative methods to achieve our goals and objectives.

Fire Safety Enforcement (FSE) Audits.

As previously detailed, the above programme has been severely impacted due to COVID 19 restrictions. Planning for 21/22 is well underway with the usual focus of ensuring high risk premises are audited and provided SFRS support and guidance when required.

Other Work Completed or In Progress

Given the impact of the Coronavirus and the necessity to introduce new working practices, this has resulted in less opportunities to deliver face to face services as detailed in previous sections of this report.

We have managed to maintain contact with partners via modern technology systems, whilst also ensuring that those individuals requiring urgent assistance, such as a Home Fire Safety Visit, safeguarding or fires-setter's concerns are addressed.

Although the current circumstances have reduced our ability to deliver/offer all our services, we continue to work with partners on a regular basis, providing advice and reassurance, whilst also planning and considering innovative methods to achieve our goals and objectives.

At the time of compiling this report, in conjunction with Scottish Government advice, SFRS are producing recovery plans which will ultimately see a return to normal operating activities. This will obviously be dependent upon circumstances relating to COVID infections etc. Planning will be based upon several delivery options to ensure that regardless of the operating environment we find ourselves in, those at greatest risk of fire or in need of SFRS support will be reached.

Do you know someone **OVER 50** who **SMOKES?**



And do they meet
one or more of the
following criteria:

- Living alone?
- Mobility issues?
- Using medical oxygen?

THEY MAY BE AT **GREATER RISK OF FIRE!**



You could help save a life! **#MAKETHECALL**

Book a free **HOME FIRE SAFETY VISIT:**

0800 0731 999

2021



LOCAL FIRE AND RESCUE PLAN

East Lothian

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Introduction

Welcome to the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) East Lothian Local Fire and Rescue Plan. This Plan has been developed to support the delivery of agreed local outcomes for the people of East Lothian in conjunction with the national priorities contained within the SFRS Strategic Plan 2019- 2022. Our ambition is to work in partnership to improve community safety and enhance the well-being of those living in East Lothian whilst tackling issues of social inequality. This Plan will set out our priorities in order to support this ambition. A review of the 2018 plan has confirmed that the agreed priorities are fit for purpose and have been agreed through the Local Authority scrutiny arrangements.

Early in 2020 we faced an unprecedented challenge in the form of a global pandemic. In response to the COVID-19 outbreak, we dramatically changed how we worked so that we could continue to deliver an emergency service whilst keeping our staff and the public safe. The pandemic is expected to have a lasting effect on society and this will change the way in which we deliver services in the long-term. The full implications are not yet known and this makes it difficult to make any far-reaching plans with certainty. As such we will keep the priorities of this Plan under regular review to ensure it remains relevant and appropriate.

This Plan recognises what we have delivered in the past but looks forward to what we aim to achieve over the coming years and beyond. The safety of our communities is at the heart of everything we do, whether it is responding to emergencies or providing preventative advice and measures. The Plan will highlight our resources in East Lothian, the changing risks to local communities, and how we aim to deliver our services to meet all the challenges we face.

As a public service and a statutory member of East Lothian Community Planning Partnership, we recognise that to be effective and efficient, we must work closely with our partners in order to identify and provide for those most at risk. By working this way, we will look to reduce duplication, share resources and information and make improvements. We will actively contribute to the shared Intent, Vision and Themes set out in the *East Lothian Plan* and it is our intention that the Fire and Rescue Plan is viewed as an extension of this Plan.

As the SFRS resets and renews delivery of key services, whilst moving beyond the pandemic, we will continue to contribute wherever we can in the wider partnership agenda to ensure continued improvements for outcomes for the communities in East Lothian.

Steve Gourlay

Local Senior Officer

Midlothian, East Lothian and the Scottish Borders

National Context

Scottish Ministers set out their specific expectations for the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service in the Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2016. This provides the outline we should follow to ensure our resources and activities are aligned with the Scottish Government’s Purpose and national outcomes.

Our [Strategic Plan 2019-22](#) has been designed to meet these national expectations. Set against a complex and evolving backdrop our Strategic Plan encapsulates our mission, values and our strategic outcomes and objectives.



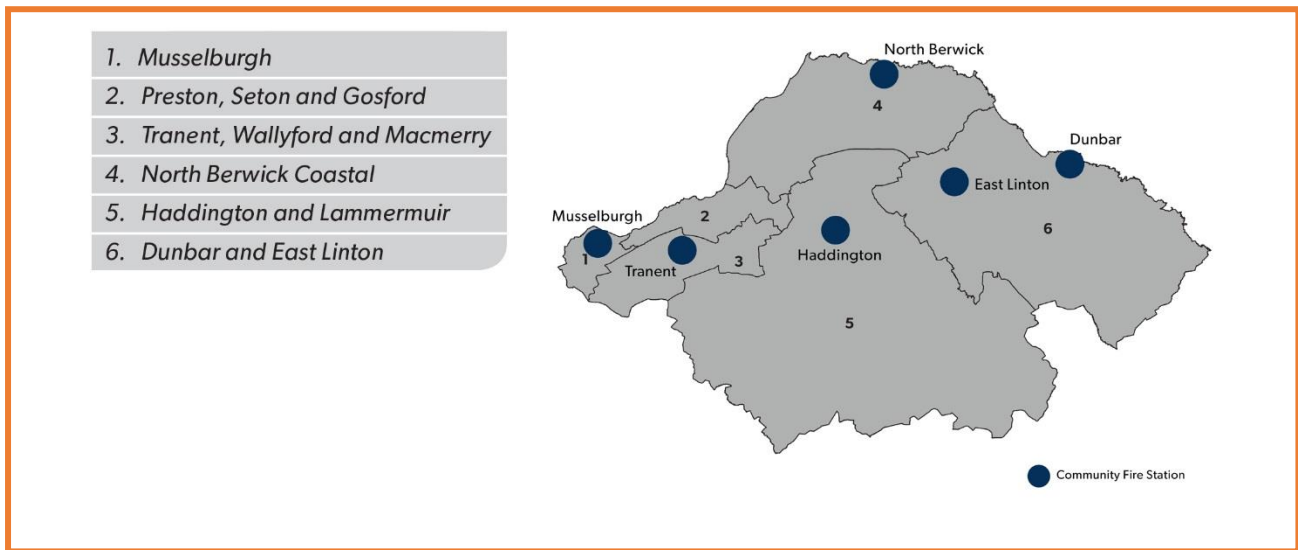
To ensure we can prevent the worst from happening and to be fully prepared to respond should we called, we need to be aware of any new changing risks which threaten the safety of communities or the workforce. When developing our most recent plan, cognisance was given to: our changing population and the forecasted rise in over 75s; doing what we can to balance social and economic inequality; climate change and the devastating impact the inclement weather can have on peoples’ lives and livelihoods; and the threat of terrorism.

Our Strategic Plan is supported by a three-year Strategic Plan Programme which provides details on all the activities we intend to carry out to successfully achieve our ambitions. The Programme informs our Annual Operating Plan, which provides specific detail on the actions we carry out each year, and from which our performance is scrutinised.

This Plan is a statutory Local Fire and Rescue Plan. It sets local direction to meet the strategic outcomes and objectives outlined above. It also demonstrates how we will contribute to Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs).

East Lothian Context

East Lothian has a population of just over 105,700 people who reside within areas ranging from major towns such as Musselburgh and Haddington to single dwellings in remote rural locations. The diagram below outlines the electoral ward boundaries whilst highlighting the locations of our 6 Community Fire Stations.



The SFRS attends an average of 1300 emergency incidents a year in East Lothian and reporting focuses on the agreed Key Performance Indicator table below. This details our operational response over the last five years by incident type and provides the Local Authority and partners with the required information to hold the SFRS to account.

Key performance indicator	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	YTD
All accidental dwelling fires	80	52	69	69	57	●
All fire casualties (fatal & non-fatal (incl. p/c's))	10	8	14	9	7	●
All deliberate fires excl. dwellings	194	231	230	285	183	●
Special Service - RTCs	57	50	55	47	36	●
Special Service - Casualties	66	54	53	58	38	●
False Alarm - UFAs	466	458	520	498	535	▲

RAG rating - KEY		
◆	RED DIAMOND	10% higher than the previous YTD period, or local target not achieved.
▲	YELLOW TRIANGLE	Up to 9% higher than the previous YTD period, or local target not achieved.
●	GREEN CIRCLE	Equal to or improved upon the previous equivalent quarter (or YTD period), or local target achieved.

Reducing Dwelling Fires, Fire Casualties and Fatalities will continue to be at the heart of our prevention activities, over the last two decades, similar to the rest of the UK, we have seen a gradual decrease in the amount of dwelling fires we attend. Dwelling Fires accounted for around 3.7% of our operational activity, whilst fire casualties have

averaged around 9-10 over the last five years, sadly including four fire fatalities over that period. Prevention activity in East Lothian will continue to focus on those at highest risk with defined vulnerabilities in partnership with those providing care and may be responsible for other risk reduction measures.

Deliberate fires (not including dwellings) are often, but not always, of a malicious nature. Deliberate fires accounted for approximately 15% of our operational activity over the last five years and typically involved refuse, grass, wood and scrubland. Increases in this type of incident activity are generally seasonal and often linked to anti-social behaviour. Deliberate fires of a malicious nature place an unnecessary demand on SFRS and partner resources and often affecting communities socially and economically.

Responding to Road Traffic Collisions (RTC's) as part of a multi-agency effort to minimise injury to those involved and reduce the impact on the transport infrastructure is an area of business that the SFRS invests heavily to ensure the appropriate response. RTCs account for approximately 2% of operational activity in East Lothian.

The term "Special Service" is used to describe non-fire related incidents and includes RTC's, Flooding, medical emergencies, Water Rescue and Hazardous Materials incidents amongst others. Throughout the last 15-20 years, Fire and Rescue Services across the UK have seen a significant increase in attendance at these types of incident whilst domestic property fires decrease. Special Service incidents account for approximately 13-14% of all emergency calls in East Lothian.

Recent history demonstrates that severe wet weather and subsequent flooding is a risk for particular parts of East Lothian and this will remain a focus of our emergency response capability, particularly for our Water Rescue and Flood Response teams.

When required we will also work in partnership with East Lothian Council Emergency Planning and other service providers either as an emergency response or in a preventative capacity.

Due to the location and skills sets of our community-based resources, and the remote nature of much of East Lothian, we have been able to provide assistance to our partners, such as Police Scotland and the SAS, on an increasing basis and for a variety of reasons. Effecting entry for non-fire incidents now accounts for just over 4% of activity in East Lothian.

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) have accounted for over 33% of our operational incidents in East Lothian over the last five years. Similar to other operational activities, this type of incident demand is not unique to East Lothian, with the UK as a whole facing challenges in relation to reducing UFAS. With disruption to local businesses, schools, healthcare facilities and others, these unwanted calls can have a significant impact across the East Lothian area. Following national policy and using local initiatives we will continue to prioritise the reduction of UFAS whilst engaging with key stakeholders, partners and those with responsibilities for the premises involved.

Our six Community Fire Stations include one Wholetime station at Musselburgh with the remaining five being Retained Duty System (RDS) stations in Tranent, Haddington, East Linton, North Berwick and Dunbar. Wholetime stations are permanently staffed 24/7 throughout the year whilst our RDS staff operate on an "on call" basis and are alerted by pager for emergency calls.

Frontline staff are supported by a team of local and national officers from the Training Function. The local training officers are based at Haddington Community Fire Station and provide dedicated support to operational crews in terms of acquiring new skills, maintaining existing skills and ensuring role competency.

Prevention and Protection (P&P) officers are located at Haddington and Musselburgh.

They consist of Fire Safety Enforcement officers who deal with legislative matters including the auditing of relevant premises and officers who carry out a community engagement role through a diverse and wide-reaching range of prevention activities. In addition to this, a SFRS Local Area Liaison Officer acts as a coordinator for engagement activities whilst liaising with external partners.

A newly established full-time post for a RDS watch commander to support the East Lothian cluster of stations is proving a success and provides direct support for availability, training and community safety activities in East Lothian.

An Area Commander (AC), or Local Senior Officer (LSO), has overall responsibility for discharging the functions of the SFRS within East Lothian. Day to day management of resources is devolved to the East Lothian Group Commander (GC) and Station Commander (SC) responsible for Service Delivery. The Senior Management team also consists of a further GC and two SC's who have responsibility for P&P and Training across the LSO area of Midlothian, East Lothian and the Scottish Borders.

Working in Partnership to achieve better outcomes for the people of East Lothian

This plan and its priorities reflect a partnership approach whilst sharing the vision and themes that will lead to improved outcomes for the communities of East Lothian. The examples below highlight some of the ways in which we aim to contribute to the East Lothian Plan 2017-27. The list is not exhaustive and we will continue to look for innovative ways to help improve outcomes.

The diagram below demonstrates the interlinking of all relevant plans which form the focus for Community Planning Partners in East Lothian all with the “*overarching aim of reducing inequalities.*”

Link to the East Lothian Plan:

https://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/downloads/file/22812/the_east_lothian_plan_2017-27



East Lothian Priority Themes

How we plan to contribute

<p><i>Community-Minded</i> - East Lothian has strong, resilient communities where people respect and support each other.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide opportunities for East Lothian’s younger people to acquire new skills, practical and theoretical, learn to work within a team and build self-confidence. The work will seek to promote better citizenship whilst potentially improving opportunities for employment. • In partnership with Police and other partners we will prioritise the reduction of anti-social related Deliberate Fire Setting (excluding Dwellings) through a range of prevention, intervention and diversionary activities.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In partnership we will provide opportunities for young people in East Lothian.
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<p>Prosperous - Local businesses are thriving and the business base is expanding.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will continue to raise the profile and community benefits of the Retained Duty System in East Lothian to attract local workers as firefighters on a part – time basis. • Reduce the impact of unwanted fire alarm signals with a focus on impact reduction on the SFRS, education establishments, healthcare settings and local businesses.
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<p>Fair - People in East Lothian are healthy.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will provide a range of preventative advice and measures through home safety visits with the aim of keeping people safer in their homes. • As an active member of Public Protection we will carry out a range of preventative and intervention measures. This will include addressing social issues such as, reducing Domestic Abuse, identifying those at risk from Drugs and Alcohol, Fuel Poverty, Frailty and Dementia. • Our holistic home safety programme will aim to reduce Unintentional Harm in the home within the 65 + year old age group. By reducing slips, trips and falls in the home we can contribute to older people living independently whilst alleviating financial and resource pressures on our Health and Social Care partners. • Our holistic home safety programme will aim to reduce Unintentional Harm in the home within the under 5-year-old age group. • We will explore opportunities to work closer with our Health and Social care colleagues in order to reach those most vulnerable in our communities whilst contributing to longer term health outcomes. • We will continue to respond with fire appliances carrying defibrillators. • We will continue to encourage the use of our community fire stations by partners and community groups.
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Performance Scrutiny

The arrangements for local scrutiny of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service in East Lothian sit with the Police, Fire and Community Safety Scrutiny Committee which meets on a six-monthly basis. The SFRS Local Senior Officer is responsible for ensuring the committee are kept informed of all relevant service matters and provision of performance reporting for agreed priorities and associated indicators.

Local Priorities

1. As part of a Community Partnership approach, we will make people safer in their homes.

Background:

As a key focus for the SFRS making people safer in their homes has long been a priority and will continue to be. From 2005 firefighters have visited East Lothian residents at home and provided home fire safety visits. The will of the SFRS is to continue to look for opportunities with partners to improve on this single subject visit and provide a more holistic approach.

This priority supports the *East Lothian Plan 2017-27*

We will achieve it by:

- *Providing a highly skilled, well trained and appropriate Firefighting response*
- *In partnership, proactively identifying those most at risk from Unintentional Harm in the home*
- *Explore conducting holistic Home Safety Visits that assess a range of risks within the home including fire, slips, trips and fall and other vulnerabilities*
- *Exchanging risk information with partners including referrals.*

Performance Indicators:

- *The primary performance measures will be the number of accidental dwelling fires and associated casualties.*
- *Quantity and quality of risk based home fire safety visits delivered.*
- *Partnership referrals for vulnerable at-risk individuals and dwellings.*

Expected Outcomes:

- *Support the independent living of vulnerable people within East Lothian*
- *Reduce the social and economic cost of Unintentional Harm in the home including fires and slips, trips and falls.*

2. We will promote Community Resilience whilst contributing to improved outcomes for people involved in non-fire emergencies.

Background:

“Special Service” is the Fire and Rescue Service term given to non-fire related emergencies/incidents including, Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs), Rescue from Water, Flooding, Height, Confined Space, Structural Collapse, Hazardous Material incidents and medical emergencies supporting the Scottish Ambulance Service. Unfortunately, when incidents of this type occur they often involve casualties and sometimes fatalities. East Lothian has a diverse range of Special Service risks including busy A and B class roads that are used regularly by commuters and tourists, Torness Power Station and

many commercial businesses.

On average, 13-14% of all SFRS incidents each year in East Lothian are Special Service calls. As the SFRS explore opportunities for assisting our partners through emergency intervention there is a potential for associated casualty figures to continue to rise as we attend more Special Service incidents.

We will look to improve existing preventative strategies with Community Partners whilst ensuring that should we need to provide emergency response, we can do, effectively and efficiently, in order to improve outcomes for all Special Service Casualties.

This priority also supports the East Lothian Plan 2017-27.

We will achieve it by:

- *Being an integral component of East Lothian Community Planning and championing an effective partnership approach to risk reduction*
- *Education and awareness aimed at high-risk groups within our communities*
- *Training our staff and locating our resources in order to provide an effective and efficient emergency response*
- *Building on our relationships with other emergency services and improving how we work together through prevention and intervention.*

Performance Indicators:

- *Reviewing and reporting on the number of Special Service Casualties including RTC, Water/ Flood Rescue, medical emergencies and effecting entry*
- *Monitoring and evaluating SFRS participation in community events and initiatives designed to enhance community resilience.*

Expected Outcomes:

- *Improved outcomes for persons involved in non-fire emergencies in East Lothian*
- *Reduce the social and economic cost of Special Service Casualties*
- *Where capacity exists, reduce the demand on Community Partners through prevention and intervention activities.*

3. Together with our Community Partners, we will contribute to making East Lothian roads safer.

Background:

Road traffic collisions (RTCs) continue to impact across East Lothian with often tragic consequences. The SFRS has trained and equipped firefighters across the County prepared to deal with the incidents where, as part of a multi-agency response, we rescue and provide care for those affected.

As well as providing an emergency response to accidents on our roads, the SFRS have a key role to play in reducing RTC's through education and raising awareness in partnership with our Community Partners. By using experience and statistical evidence we will identify those most likely to be involved in a RTC in East Lothian, with these groups being the focus of attention for prevention activities based on risk.

We will aim to build on existing local prevention initiatives and in partnership look to utilise

our resources innovatively, efficiently and proactively with the aim of making the roads in East Lothian safer.

This priority supports the *East Lothian Plan 2017-27*.

We will achieve it by:

- *Working with our partners within East Lothian to identify those groups most at risk*
- *Delivering the appropriate prevention activities to those most at risk whilst being proactive and innovative*
- *Continued support of the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) Road Safety Working Group*
- *Encouraging young drivers and other groups to be responsible road users through active engagement and education.*

Performance Indicators:

- *Reviewing and reporting on the number and type of road traffic collisions within East Lothian*
- *Reporting and evaluating the effectiveness of our partnership prevention activities.*

Expected Outcomes:

- *SFRS to have contributed towards reducing the number of people killed or seriously injured on roads in East Lothian*
- *SFRS to have contributed to the reduction of Road Traffic Collisions within East Lothian*
- *SFRS to have contributed to reducing the consequences and associated community impacts of RTC's.*

4. As part of a Community Partnership, we will challenge anti-social behaviour.

Background:

Anti-social behaviour can manifest itself in many ways and often has a significant detrimental effect on communities for a number of reasons.

The SFRS generally experience anti-social behaviour through deliberate fire setting which can sometimes manifest into physical or verbal violence to our crews. Thankfully, the latter is a rare occurrence in East Lothian, however, the figures relating to Deliberate Fire Setting are not so positive.

There is often a close link between deliberate fires and anti-social behaviour and predominately involves malicious ignition of refuse, grass, woodland. Incidents of this type accounted for approximately 13-14% of our operational activity over the last five years. East Lothian has seen a welcome decrease over the last year and working with partners we would seek to further reduce this.

Due to the sporadic and random nature of many deliberately started fires, prevention activities are often reactive.

As a Service, we recognise our responsibility in reducing anti-social behaviour and its impact, this extends to not only fire related instances but includes other social issues such as Domestic Abuse.

This priority supports the *East Lothian Plan 2017-27*.

We will achieve it by:

- *In partnership identifying those parts of East Lothian affected by deliberate fire setting, whilst delivering effective prevention activities*
- *Acting as role models to promote good citizenship, especially with those who have*

- or are likely to become involved in deliberate fire setting*
- Continued support of East Lothian Safer Communities Team and the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) in relation to Domestic Abuse*
- Exploring opportunities to lead and participate in innovative projects.*

Performance Indicators:

- Reviewing and reporting on the number and type of deliberate fire setting incidents within East Lothian*
- Evaluating and reporting on the effectiveness of our youth engagement/intervention programmes and monitoring our attendance at MARAC's.*

Expected Outcomes:

- Support the promotion of "people and place" across East Lothian*
- Support our communities in feeling safe from crime, disorder and danger*
- Reduce the number of attendances to fires of a deliberate nature, particularly secondary fires*
- Reduce the adverse effects and negative impacts which deliberate fire setting has on people's lives within East Lothian.*

5. In partnership, we will aim to reduce the occurrence and impact of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals.

Background:

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) are defined as incidents where an automated fire alarm system activates and results in the mobilisation of SFRS when there is no fire. With UFAS accounting for over 33% of our incident activity it's clear that this places a significant burden on SFRS in terms of resources, time and associated costs. The impact of UFAS in the wider community can be very significant in terms of business disruption, effects on health care premises, education establishments and any other non-domestic premises effected by this. The level of unnecessary blue light response journeys also increase road risks and hazards to firefighters and to the public and have a detrimental impact on the environment through additional carbon emissions. Active and positive engagement with occupiers to take responsibility in limiting the number of UFAS incidents within their premises is integral to reducing these impacts.

We will achieve it by:

- Investigating the cause of each UFAS call and documenting the information gained*
- Engaging with duty holders and those responsible for fire safety management of premises to examine causes of UFAS calls and provide advice to prevent reoccurrence*
- Look to reduce the number of fire appliances mobilised using a risk based approach to responding to automated fire alarms*
- Maintaining a dedicated UFAS champion within the East Lothian area to oversee performance and best practice approaches to UFAS reduction.*

Performance indicators:

- Reviewing and reporting on the number of UFAS calls in the East Lothian area*
- Reviewing and reporting on risk based reductions in the SFRS weight of response to premises with automated fire alarm systems.*

Expected Outcomes:

- *Reduce the demand on the SFRS from UFAS*
- *Reduce the economic cost to commerce in East Lothian from disruption from UFAS*
- *Reduce the impact on education premises and health care facilities from UFAS*
- *Reduced vehicle movements, increasing capacity for other activity, improved road safety and reduced carbon footprint.*

Review

To ensure this Local Fire and Rescue Plan remains flexible to emerging local or national priorities a review may be carried out at any time but will be reviewed at least once every three years. A review may also be carried out if the Scottish Minister directs it or if a new Strategic Plan is approved. This refresh of the 2018 plan will provide an interim direction as the SFRS and communities across Scotland move beyond the pandemic which has changed so many areas of our lives. Following any review, the Local Senior Officer may revise the Plan.

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REPORT TO: Police, Fire and Community Safety Scrutiny Committee

MEETING DATE: 13 May 2021

BY: Executive Director for Place

SUBJECT: Tackling Antisocial Behaviour

5

1 PURPOSE

To advise the Committee on the number, type and geographical breakdown of antisocial behaviour complaints received by East Lothian Council during the reporting period (1 October 2020 to 31 March 2021) and to advise on actions taken in response to same.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That the Committee notes the terms of the report.

3 BACKGROUND

3.1 The Council, Police Scotland, the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and other partners continue to address antisocial behaviour by formulating tailored responses to specific concerns using the established and widely accepted PEER model; Prevention, Early intervention, Enforcement and Rehabilitation.

3.2 The number of individual antisocial complaints received by the Council during the reporting period was 887. This compares to a figure of 672 received during the same period in 2020. This represents a 32 % increase.

3.3 Of the 887 complaints received, 333 were made by 127 repeat complainers.

3.4 The figure of 887 compares to that of 1295 recorded during the first half of 2020/2021; this represents a 31% *decrease* in the number of complaints received.

3.5 A year-on-year analysis shows a 46% increase in the number of antisocial behaviour complaints recorded during 2020/2021 as compared to 2019/2020.

- 3.6 Appendix 1 provides a linear analysis of antisocial behaviour complaints made to East Lothian Council over the last nine financial years. This shows a downward trend in antisocial behaviour complaints received between 2012/2013 and 2019/2020, with the immediately preceding Financial Year representing an *extraordinary exception*.
- 3.7 Of the 887 complaints received, 290 related to domestic noise (mainly loud music), 134 to drug misuse, a substantial percentage of which related to complaints of the smell of cannabis permeating residential properties, 279 were youth related with the remaining 184 consisting of, *amongst other things*, shouting, swearing, verbal abuse and neighbour disputes. It should be noted that a marked proportion of the youth calls related to the act of gathering itself (and the inevitable noise created as a result thereof) as opposed to those present engaging in serious acts of antisocial behaviour.
- 3.8 In terms of *loci*, 35% of the 887 complaints were from Musselburgh and the surrounding environs, 19% from Tranent, 14% from Dunbar, 13% from Prestonpans, 12% from Haddington and 7% from North Berwick. The diagram at Appendix 2 offers a visual representation of the geographical breakdown.
- 3.9 It is suggested that the year-on-year increase in complaints resulted from *the restrictions and unprecedented pressures associated with COVID 19*. With regard to noise complaints in particular, the fact that more people were at home during the reporting period gave rise to the generation of more noise, with a corresponding increase in the number of complaints made. It is further suggested that pressures associated with imposed confinement have led to a reduction in tolerance levels; thereby, increasing the likelihood of complaints being registered.
- 3.10 During the reporting period, 121 referrals were made to the Resolution Service as compared to 96 during the equivalent period in 2020. A year-on-year comparison shows an increase of 47% in referrals made during 2019/2020 as compared to those made during 2020/2021.
- 3.11 Three Problem Solving Partnerships (PSPs) were active during the period; the first two related to antisocial behaviour in Haddington Town Centre and Lochend Woods, Dunbar, the other was created to collectively address estate management issues in the “the Wimpey’s” estate in Musselburgh
- 3.12 There are 18 live Antisocial Behaviour Orders in East Lothian. There are currently two live eviction cases before Edinburgh Sheriff Court. The moratorium on the raising of ASBO proceedings has been lifted; however, only eviction actions in which the antisocial behaviour is deemed “serious” by the Court are being allowed to proceed. Throughout the pandemic, the Antisocial Behaviour Case Monitoring Groups have continued to meet to ensure that more serious and persistent cases are addressed from a multi-agency perspective; there are currently 82 cases being so monitored.
- 3.13 The Antisocial Behaviour Overview and Officer Groups, along with the weekly Tasking and Co-ordinating Group, have continued to meet; the latter of these multi-agency groups informs the deployment of Police

Officers, Community Wardens and Neighbourhood Outreach Workers to antisocial behaviour “hotspots”, with said deployments being made on an analysis of complaint levels and received intelligence.

- 3.14 During the reporting period, 74 joint Police / Council letters were sent to the parents of children whom the police had identified as being present in areas affected by antisocial behaviour, an increase of 80% from the same period during the immediately preceding Financial Year.
- 3.15 Street-based Outreach Work re-commenced during the reporting period in the county’s major towns with other forms of traditional face-face youth diversionary work reverting to virtual platforms. Immediately before the second lockdown in late December 2020, SFA coaches provided successful evening coaching sessions in Haddington over a four-week period. With the easing of restrictions, the intention is to re-institute traditional forms of engagement with young people. This will include the provision of similar football coaching sessions across the County.
- 3.16 On 27 March 2020, the Council’s statutory Night Time Noise Service (previously operating between 2200 Hours and 0200 Hours on Friday and Saturday evenings) was suspended due to COVID 19; officers were unable to enter the home of complainers in order to measure noise levels emanating from the address of the perpetrator. Police Scotland dealt with calls previously diverted to the Council during those hours. The service remained suspended during the reporting period; however, fully risk assessed and pro-active noise monitoring in a small number of cases is due to re-commence in April 2021.
- 3.17 The majority of Community Housing and Antisocial Behaviour Officers have been conducting their inquiries from home during COVID19 providing support in the community as necessary to tenants, complainers, engaging with partner agencies and taking the appropriate action against perpetrators from their home-based workstations, with minimal services being provided from Area Housing Offices.
- 3.18 The Community Warden Team have maintained a high-visibility street presence throughout the reporting period. Apart from their routine duties of attending to fly-tipping, littering, graffiti, dog fouling and lower level antisocial behaviour complaints, they have taken part in the multi-agency effort in managing the coastal areas and in carrying out deliveries to the local foodbank. Wardens continue to engage with the local community and their representatives on a daily basis.

4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 None.

5 INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 5.1 The subject of this report has been through the Integrated Impact Assessment process and no negative impacts have been identified.

6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

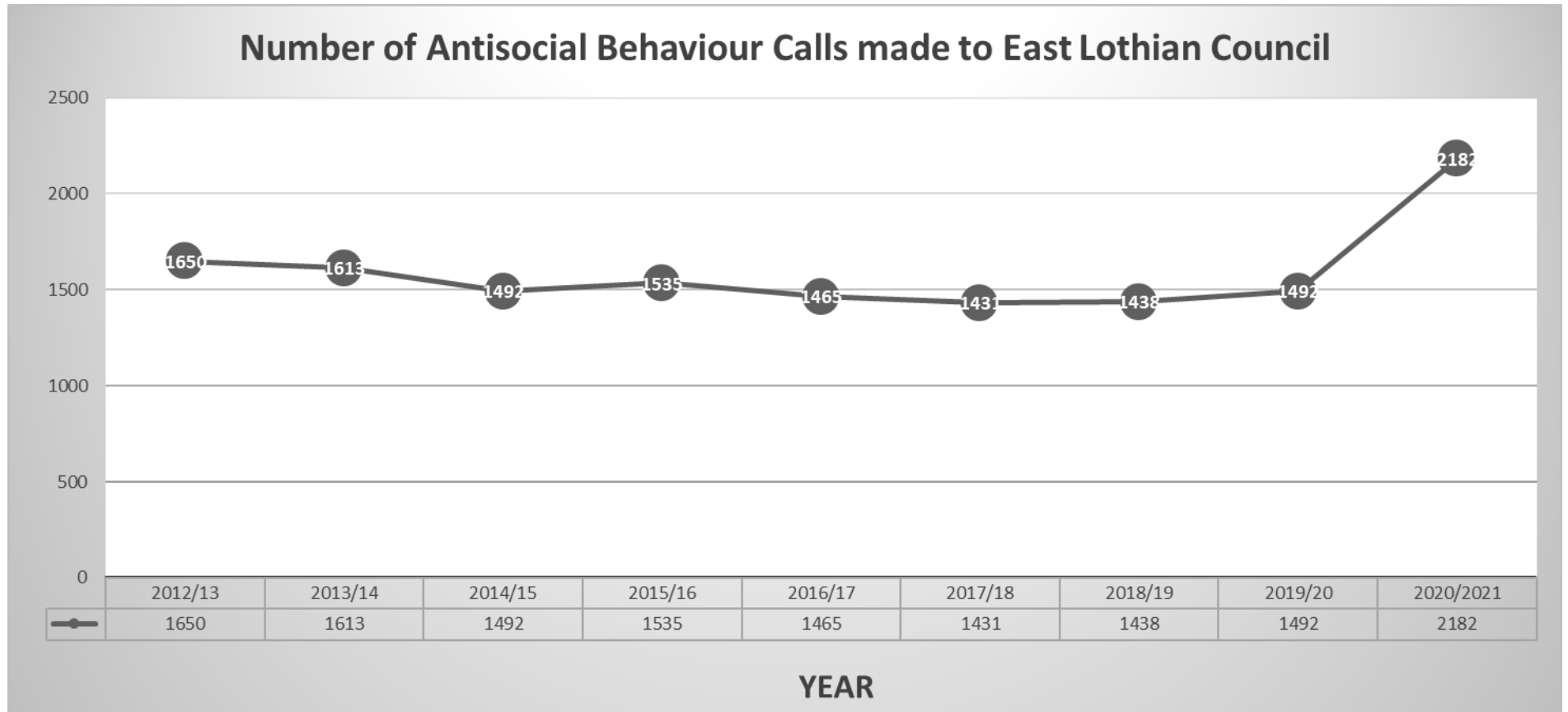
- 6.1 Financial – None.
6.2 Personnel - None.
6.3 Other – None.

7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 Graph – Antisocial Behaviour Complaints made to East Lothian Council 2012-2021.
7.2 Chart showing geographical breakdown of antisocial behaviour cases (October-March 2021).

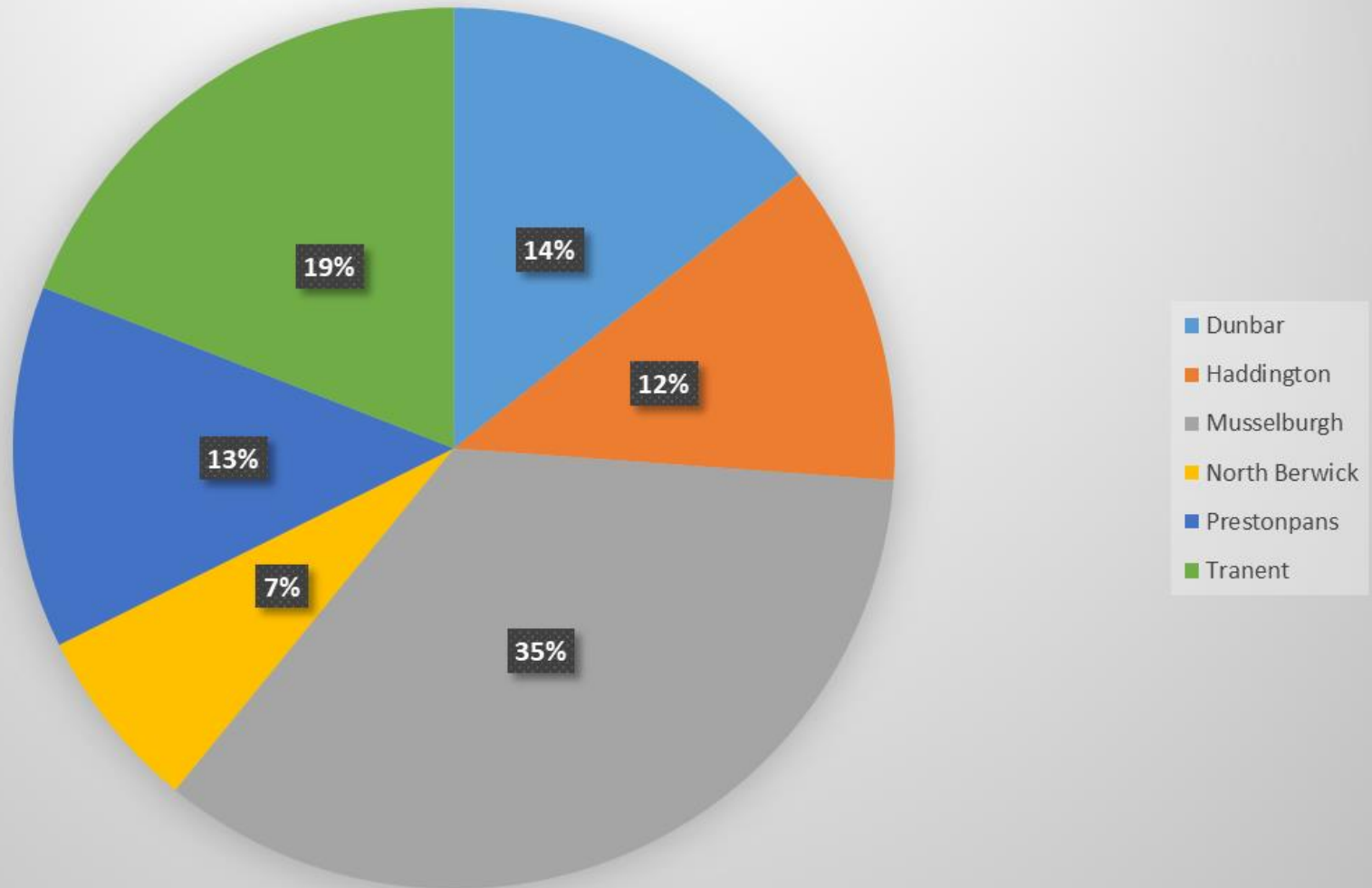
AUTHOR'S NAME	Kenneth Black
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DATE	3 May 2021

NUMBER OF ASB CALLS MADE TO EAST LoTHIAN COUNCIL



Appendix 2

Geographical Breakdown of Antisocial Behaviour Cases % 1st October 2020 - 31st March 2021



Police, Fire and Community Safety Scrutiny Committee: Work Programme 2021/22

Date	Performance Monitoring/ Inspection Reports	Other Reports / Reports Requested by Members
Thursday 11 Nov 2021 (2pm)	Police Scotland Scrutiny Report Q1 and Q2 Fire Service Local Performance Report Q1 and Q2	ELC Antisocial Behaviour Report
TBC	Police Scotland Scrutiny Report Q3 and Q4 Fire Service Local Performance Report Q3 and Q4	ELC Antisocial Behaviour Report

