2021

LOCAL FIRE AND RESCUE PLAN

MORAY

Contents

Foreword

As Local Senior Officer for Aberdeenshire and Moray and as Chair of Moray Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee, it gives us pleasure to present the Moray Local Fire and Rescue Plan for 2021. This plan details key priorities for the next three years, how we intend to deliver against these and associated performance measures. This reflects our continued contribution to ensure Moray is a safe place to live, work and visit.

The Local Fire and Rescue Plan has been developed as an outcome of a detailed local area assessment allowing for the targeting of resources to those most vulnerable or at risk from fire and/or harm in Moray communities. This extends to and includes within the home, workplace, environs and natural and build heritage.

As a statutory partner, the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service is committed to continued collaboration and integration within the Community Planning Partnership to support the delivery of Local Outcome Improvement Plans and Locality Plans. Notwithstanding our role within the Moray Community Safety Group and Public Protection Partnership.

A key aim for us is to work together with communities to target our resources to where the need is greatest. It is fundamental that we invest in preventing the problems of the future through a strong commitment to early intervention and focus on "Place".

Area Commander Martin Tait
Local Senior Officer (LSO)
Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
Aberdeenshire and Moray LSO area

Councillor Paula Coy
Chair
Moray Police and Fire and
Rescue Services Committee

Introduction

The Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 provides the statutory basis for the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) to deliver a range of core services and functions. While the service is ready to respond to fire and other emergencies, it also maintains a strong focus on **prevention** and **protection** arrangements to ensure the safety of our communities. The associated Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2016 and SFRS Strategic Plan 2019 - 22 sets the overarching strategic direction for the SFRS.

Our focus remains firmly on **Working Together for a Safer Scotland** and our local contribution to making Moray a safe place to live, work and visit. This establishes a clear and committed message of what we are here to do. Our ambition goes well beyond 'safer from fire'. It means we are committed to making people safer from experiencing the effects of harm, much of which is driven by social and economic inequality.

The Moray Local Fire and Rescue Plan details the priorities which are most significant within Moray and sets out to identify solutions to deliver a broad range of prevention services which add the greatest value to peoples' lives. A common understanding between agencies and communities of local priorities will allow for better integration of plans, co-production and coordination of services to target prevention activity where it will be most effective. We will therefore increasingly deliver our prevention work through the deployment of our local area community safety action team.

Our safety work goes beyond protecting people in their own homes. We also have a statutory duty under Part 3 of the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 to provide advice and enforce fire safety regulations in most non-domestic buildings across Moray.

To do this more efficiently and effectively across a wider range of community issues and risks requires strong collaborative working with our partners and communities.

The introduction of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 (CEA) and Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016 reinforces the commitment required of local partners to plan together with communities. We will continue to integrate fire and rescue services with other community planning partner services to prioritise and achieve shared goals in all of Moray's communities.

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.

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.

Working Together for a Safer Scotland

OUTCOME 1
Our collaborative and targeted prevention and protection activities improve community safety and wellbeing, and support sustainable economic growth.

OUTCOME 2
Our flexible operational model provides an effective emergency response to meet diverse community risks across Scotland.

OUTCOME 4
We are fully accountable and maximise our public value by delivering a high quality, sustainable fire and rescue service for Scotland.

OUTCOME 3
We are a great place to work where our people are safe, supported and empowered to deliver high performing innovative services.

To work in partnership with communities and others in the public, private and third sectors, on prevention, protection and response, to improve the safety and well-being of people throughout Scotland

Safety · Response · Teamwork · People · Respect · Public Value · Innovation · Prevention

To ensure we can prevent the worse from happening or to be fully prepared to respond should we be 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).

Local Context

Moray lies in the North East of Scotland between Inverness in the Highlands to the West and Aberdeenshire to the East. It sits along the south shore of the Moray Firth and extending further south into the Cairngorm Mountains and National Park. Its area of 2,238 square kilometres makes it the eighth largest council area in Scotland. The area is mostly rural, comprising 70% open countryside and a further 25% woodland. However, in terms of its population, it ranks 22nd out of 32 with a population of 95,520 (National Records of Scotland). Just over half the population live in the five main towns of Elgin, Forres, Buckie, Lossiemouth and Keith.

Moray is a diverse area of rich agricultural landscape and is renowned for whisky and scenic coastline. There are a significant number of listed buildings, conservation areas and other culture and artistic assets within the area. There are 68 designated protected areas either wholly or partially within Moray.

The age profile of Moray varies from the Scottish average. In terms of overall size, the 45 to 64 age group was the largest in 2018, with a population of 27,550. In contrast, the 75 and over age group was the smallest, with a population of 9,184. Between 2018 and 2028, the 0 to 15 age group is projected to see the largest percentage decrease (-14.1%) and the 75 and over age group is projected to see the largest percentage increase (+32.4%). In terms of size, however, 45 to 64 is projected to remain the largest age group.

The Moray economy is still largely based on its natural resources with focus on agriculture, fishing, forestry, food products, whisky and tourism. The largest employer is the Ministry of Defence with bases at Kinloss and Lossiemouth.

Statistical information on the population, local economy, housing and employment land development in Moray and its main towns can be obtained from the "National Records Of Scotland" website at:

https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/files//statistics/council-area-data-sheets/moray-council-profile.html

The SFRS participates as a statutory partner within community planning in Moray and this extends to and includes our involvement in the Local Outcome Improvement Plan, Community Planning Partnership, Public Protection Partnership, Police, Fire and Rescue Services Committee, and Area Forums as examples. In addition and to support wider community safety the SFRS is a member of Grampian Local Resilience Partnership (GLRP).
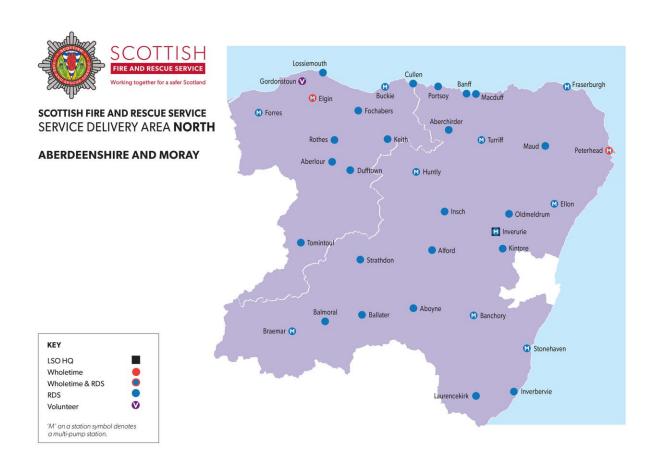
Moray CPP Board formally agreed four priorities for Moray:

- Growing, diverse and sustainable economy
- Building a better future for our children and young people in Moray
- Empowering and connecting communities
- Changing our relationship with alcohol.

The SFRS locally will proactively support the above priorities through deployment of necessary resources as aligned to the priorities detailed within this plan.

http://www.yourmoray.org.uk/downloads/file118306.pdf

Moray is served by 12 Community Fire and Rescue stations, 1 permanently staffed at Elgin, a volunteer station at Gordonstoun School and the remainder on a part-time basis by our cadre of retained duty system (RDS) staff. This is supported through local and national department staff in Training & Employee Development, Prevention & Protection (Fire Safety Enforcement and Community Safety & Engagement), Response & Resilience, Finance, People and Organisational Development, Fleet and Asset Management.

Structure of wards

Moray presents a unique and diverse range of risks for the fire and rescue service to protect and respond to. These range from commercial industry that includes the whisky industry, military bases, marine transport, the vast network of roads, heritage sites, agriculture, an ageing population and associated socio-demographics, as examples. External national and local challenges faced include climate change and the threat from International terrorism.

Protecting and responding to those most vulnerable and at risk from fire and/or harm in the home is a key priority for us. This includes the reduction of casualties and fatalities associated with accidental fires in the home and our contribution to making the home a safe place to live free from harm and risk. This can only be achieved through effective collaboration with partners and will do so through the priorities contained within this plan and support from Moray Community Planning Partnership.

Evidence reflects the incidents of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) and the detrimental impact this has on businesses, economy and our RDS firefighters is an area of concern and as such has been rightfully identified as a priority. This extends to our fire safety enforcement programme aimed to ensure the safety of public, visitors and businesses across Moray.

The SFRS locally attends an unwelcoming amount of road traffic collisions (RTC) in Moray.

 SFRS local staff will ensure a continued contribution to road safety and the reduction in casualties and fatalities that occur on Moray roads. This extends to and includes our lead role in delivering Crash Live events, our contribution to successful road safety initiatives such as Safe Drive Stay Alive and our contribution to the North East Road Casualty Reduction Strategy.

Through our wider contribution to community resilience and aligned to our work with the Community Planning Partnership we will explore ways in how we can further maximise the use of our community fire and rescue stations and our staff in communities. The network of

community fire and rescue stations are located in key towns in Moray and have opened our doors to a variety of groups including the provision of CPR life-saving awareness skills to members of the public in support of our commitment to Scottish Government Out of Hospital Cardiac Arrest strategy.

The response to, and recovery from, major emergencies as defined within the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 will continue through our participation in the GLRP. These arrangements include the emergency plans and agency specific operational orders and procedures and are intended to facilitate an effective joint response to any emergency affecting Grampian or the North of Scotland. These emergency plans are written in response to identified hazards and are recorded in the GLRP Community Risk Register.

The development of a local youth engagement framework and supporting young persons in our communities is also seen as a priority area in support of reducing anti-social behaviour and incidents of deliberate fire setting in key areas of Moray. As a statutory partner in The Community Justice (Scotland) Act 2016, The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 (CYPA) and GIRFEC (Getting it Right for Every Child) provides a unique foundation to support the development of such youth engagement activities through supporting restorative justice programmes and the delivery of our Firesetter Intervention and Re-education Scheme (FIReS).

The provision of community safety information and making adjustments to how, what and when we will communicate with communities is an important aspect of our work. The effective use of the media can support communities through targeted or generic safety information to the promotion of events and vacancies in the Moray Area. Whenever possible we will deliver joint safety messaging along with our partners through the use of social media, broadcast, publications, leaflets and newspapers.

In order to meet the needs of Moray and support wider community safety agenda in

Moray the following priorities have been identified and these will be delivered from 2021 onwards:

- Unintentional Harm and Home Safety
- Non-Fire Emergencies
- Deliberate Fire Setting
- Non-Domestic Fire Safety including Accidental Primary and Secondary Fires
- Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals
- Emergency Response and Community Resilience

Performance Scrutiny

The Moray Local Fire and Rescue Plan is scrutinised and approved via the Council's administration and governance route of the Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee.

To ensure performance monitoring is consistent with our strategy we will work with our managers, staff representatives and wider partners to develop a comprehensive set of performance measures against the outcomes, priorities and objectives outlined in this Local Fire and Rescue Plan.

These measures will form the basis of our future performance reports, which will enable us to continue to provide relevant, accurate, timely and consistent data and information to maintain effective scrutiny and challenge both at national and local levels.

 In support of this Local Fire and Rescue Plan, there are eleven individual station plans which detail more localised activities and give ownership to our community fire and rescue stations across the area.

The Local Senior Officer and / or their deputy will attend Moray Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee and provide an update on progress against this plan, overall performance, and any other matters deemed relevant to the delivery of fire and rescue matters in Moray.

Local Group and Station Managers, or their deputies, will continue to attend Area Forums.

Local Station Managers, or their deputies, will engage with elected members, communities, community councils and other key stakeholders**.**

Local Priorities

Priority – Unintentional Harm and Home Safety

Background:

Unintentional harm in the home environment, and in particular, accidental fires, slips, trips, falls and burns/scalds to the very young and old, is now widely recognised as presenting significant issues to the health of the public, as well as the wider impact these injuries have on our public services.

Working with our community safety partners in Moray and across Scotland, SFRS has a significant role to play in contributing towards identifying those at persons most vulnerable and/or at risk, the risks they are exposed to, and reducing those risks, either directly through SFRS, or indirectly through partner intervention. Our key aim is to improve safety, including fire safety and reducing injury and/or harm.

The SFRS is the national lead for Building Safer Communities Phase 2: Reducing physical and psychological harm and champion "Home Safety".

The promotion and delivery of free Home Fire Safety Visits remain a priority theme for the SFRS locally across Moray and these visits will be expanded to include home safety and through a targeted approach delivered to those most vulnerable and at risk from fire and/or harm in the home.

We will achieve it by:

- Promoting and undertaking Home Fire Safety Visits to those deemed most vulnerable and at risk from fire and/or harm.
- Providing an additional focus on cooking related fires which have accounted for 172 (65%) of the 264 accidental dwelling fires that occurred over the last five years.
- Working with our partners in Moray to share information where risks within the home have been identified and to provide solutions to reduce risk and protect those from harm.
- Focusing engagement activities in those areas where service demand has been identified.

Performance Indicators:

- Number of Accidental Dwelling Fires
- Number of Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties and Fatalities
- Number of Home Fire Safety Visits Delivered (broken down by category High/Med/Low)

Expected Outcomes:

- Ongoing reduction in the number of accidental dwelling fires compared to the three-year rolling average.
- Ongoing reduction in the number of accidental dwelling fire casualties and fatalities compared to the three-year rolling average.
- Enable people to maintain independence, improve wellbeing, personal resilience and quality of life

Priority – Non-Fire Emergencies

Background:

A core part of SFRS's activity locally is responding to emergencies such as road traffic collisions (RTC's), co-response to medical emergencies and flooding, as examples. Firefighters are trained to a high standard and have at their disposal the most modern equipment for the rescue of persons in traumatic situations.

The SFRS has a crucial role at a local level in contributing to the wider road safety agenda, as statistically fire and rescue operational activity continues to be an area of concern within

Moray for the SFRS, local and national statistics identify that the most at risk group is young male drivers.

Moray has experienced significant flooding events in recent years. The SFRS has a duty to respond to and support communities in recovering from these incidents. The development of our local water rescue teams strategically located across the area has significantly improved emergency response and public safety.

We will achieve it by:

- Continuing to contribute to Moray Community Planning Partnership initiatives such as Crash Live, Safe Drive Stay Alive and Operation Cedar
- The SFRS locally will support the priorities of the North East of Scotland Road Casualty Reduction Strategy and our contribution to evidence based and partnership led initiatives
- Contributing to the development of local flood action plans and supporting local community initiatives
- Contributing to the Grampian Local Resilience Partnership
- Staff development and allocation of resource to meet local and national need.

Performance Indicators:

- Number of all Non-Fire Emergencies
- Number of Road Traffic Collisions
- Number of Road Traffic Collision Casualties (Fatal and Non-Fatal)

Expected Outcomes:

- Reduction in the number of Road Traffic Collisions
- Reduction in the number of casualties resulting from Road Traffic Collisions (Fatal and Non-Fatal)
- Contributing to reducing the impact of large scale flood events for business community and people
- Enable people to maintain independence, improve wellbeing, personal resilience and quality of life

Priority – Deliberate Fire Setting

Background:

Deliberate fire setting accounts for a significant number of operational incidents within

Moray and takes various forms. Whilst a small proportion involves occupied buildings, vehicles and outdoor structures (primary fires), the majority of deliberate fires are classed as secondary fires (grass, bushes, refuse etc.) and on most occasions, occur in outdoor locations.

In Moray evidence reflects that deliberate fires can be closely linked to antisocial behaviour. Youth engagement is a key area of work in relation to this priority and we will continue to run our youth engagement initiatives and develop these further to create maximum impact.

Dealing with instances of deliberate fire setting can divert fire and rescue resources from other meaningful activities.

We will achieve it by:

- Delivery of thematic and multi-agency action plans tailored to meet local need
- Continuing to utilise recognised SFRS Firesetters, Fireskills and Fire Service Youth Volunteer Scheme and our involvement in the Moray "Children's Service" plan
- Increasing community fire safety education in targeted areas where most deliberate fires occur
- Continuing work with our partners to develop joint risk reduction strategies to further mitigate the impact of deliberate fires and the economic and social cost to the community.

Performance Indicators:

- All Deliberate Primary and Secondary Fires

Expected Outcomes:

- Reduction in the number of Deliberate Fires
- Reducing the negative impact on local communities
- Diverting young people away from anti-social behaviour to positive destinations by encouraging them to be good citizens, through initiatives such as Firesetters, Fireskills and The Fire Service Youth Volunteer Scheme.

Priority – Non Domestic Fire Safety Including Accidental Primary and Secondary Fires

Background:

The SFRS has a statutory duty to promote fire safety under Part 2 (section 8) of the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 (as amended) to include provision of information aimed at preventing fire and reducing fire deaths and injuries, restricting fire spread and advising on means of escape from buildings. All such workplaces and business premises involved in fire are classed as Non-Domestic Fires.

Sleeping risks are seen as a particularly high fire risk since most fatal fires occur at night when people are less vigilant and at their most vulnerable. Residential care homes and Houses in Multiple Occupation make up the greatest proportion of these risks within the Moray area.

Accidental primary and secondary fires include fires involving agricultural land, forestry and moorland also present a unique risk to the Moray area as it contributes substantially to the local environment by providing economic benefit through tourism, employment and industry. It is a key role for the SFRS locally to promote fire safety to land owners and the farming community and in doing so contribute to making Moray a safe place to live, work and visit.

We will achieve it by:

- Continuing the fire safety audit programme for high risk premises
- Engaging with the business community to highlight their responsibilities for compliance with fire legislation.
- Identifying trends in building types and conducting thematic fire safety audits
- Contribution and engagement with recognised national and local wildfire groups.

Performance Indicators:

- All Non domestic fires (Relevant Premises)
- All Accidental primary and secondary fires.

Expected Outcomes:

- Assisting the private and business sector in understanding their fire safety responsibilities
- Ensuring that buildings are safer, people feel protected and the opportunities for acts of deliberate or wilful fire raising are reduced
- Supporting and protecting business continuity and employment within Moray
- Contribute to protecting our natural heritage, biodiversity and environment.

Priority – Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals

Background:

The SFRS aim is to reduce the impact of unwanted fire signals generated by automatic detection systems on service delivery, business and commerce. By doing this we aim to improve the safety of Moray communities and businesses by ensuring that our service is more readily available for genuine emergencies. An Unwanted Fire Alarm Signal (UFAS) is defined as a signal transmitted by an Automatic Fire Detection (AFD) system reporting a fire where, upon arrival of the fire service, it is found that a fire has not occurred. UFAS are entirely avoidable through good system design, management practice, procedure, maintenance and the appropriate use of space within buildings.

Key building types will be identified and monitored closely by our Fire Safety Enforcement staff with supportive interventions offered to duty holders and responsible persons.

The incidents attended by local staff not only impact on local business but also on our part-time RDS firefighter's primary employment.

All operational response crews provide advice to occupiers on every occasion that we attend a UFAS incident. Our Fire Safety Enforcement Staff monitor UFAS calls and take appropriate action at the various stages as stipulated in SFRS policy.

We will achieve it by:

- Identifying premises with high UFAS activity levels to determine if they comply with the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 and have appropriate fire safety management procedures in place
- Engaging with owners and occupiers to provide necessary support, advice and guidance for developing suitable action plans for UFAS reduction
- Robust call management and implementation of service policy for UFAS
- Educating our frontline emergency response staff to identify problems, support responsible persons and provide feedback to our fire safety enforcement department.

Performance Indicators:

- Number of UFAS Incidents.

Expected Outcomes:

- Reduce the unnecessary demand and impact on the public and business sector through lost working time including employers releasing RDS staff to respond to such calls
- Reduce the road risk to staff and wider community
- Reduce the unnecessary cost of fire and rescue service response.

Priority – Emergency Response and Community Resilience

Background:

The SFRS has a statutory duty to reduce the risks to our communities and to make certain that they receive the best possible service. It is essential our firefighters possess the skills, knowledge and expertise to respond to incidents which, by their nature, can be varied in both their type and complexity.

The SFRS has a duty to prepare for and respond to major emergencies. The scope of such preparations may include responding to adverse weather events, natural disasters, pandemics, chemical incidents or major transport incidents. The threat of terrorism also compels the SFRS to ensure it can also respond alongside other partner agencies should such an event occur.

It is essential that we have enough staff with the right skills in the right place at the right time to deliver our services when communities need them.

We will achieve it by:

- Ensuring our staff are developed and equipment is fit for purpose to meet our current and future risk profile and adaptable to changing circumstances
- Ensuring all known local risk information is obtained, communicated and tested
- Working locally with partner organisations to ensure effective emergency response plans are developed for identified local risks including our own local business continuity plans
- Fulfilling our statutory duties in relation to the Civil Contingencies Act (2004) by way of our contribution to Grampian Local Resilience Partnership and North of Scotland Regional Resilience Partnership.

Expected Outcomes:

- Keeping our staff and members of the public safe should an incident occur
- Reducing the financial burden and disruption caused to our communities when emergencies occur
- Proactively helping the wider community by contributing to preventing emergencies, planning to mitigate their effects when they occur, and by adding value through focus on prevention and protection
- Contribute to community resilience through maximising the use of our estate and resources.

Performance Indicators

PRIORITY: UNINTENTIONAL HARM AND HOME SAFETY	
KPI	**Target**
Number of Accidental Dwelling Fires	Ongoing reduction in the number of accidental dwelling fires compared to the three-year rolling average.
Number of Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties and Fatalities	Ongoing reduction in the number of accidental dwelling fire casualties and fatalities compared to the three-year rolling average.
Number of Home Fire Safety Visits Delivered (broken down by category High/ Med/ Low)	Increase in the number of Home Fire Safety Visits delivered within 'High' risk premises compared to the three-year rolling average.
PRIORITY: NON-FIRE EMERGENCIES	
KPI	**Target**
Number of all Non-Fire Emergencies	Monitor all Non-Fire Emergencies and ensure appropriate resources are in place to respond.
Number of Road Traffic Collisions	Ongoing reduction in the number of Road Traffic Collisions compared to the three-year rolling average.
Number of Road Traffic Collision Casualties (Fatal and Non-Fatal)	Ongoing reduction in the number of Road Traffic Collision Casualties (Fatal and Non-Fatal) compared to the three-year rolling average.
PRIORTY: DELIBERATE FIRE SETTING	
All Deliberate Primary and Secondary Fires	Ongoing reduction in the number of Deliberate Primary and Secondary Fires compared to the three-year rolling average.
PRIORITY: NON-DOMESTIC FIRE SAFETY INCLUDING ACCIDENTAL PRIMARY AND SECONDARY FIRES	
Number of Non-Domestic Fires (Relevant Premises)	Ongoing reduction in the number of Non-Domestic Fires compared to the three-year rolling average.
All Accidental Primary and Secondary Fires	Ongoing reduction in the number of Accidental and Primary Fires compared to the three-year rolling average.
PRIORITY: UNWANTED FIRE ALARM SIGNALS	
Number of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals	Ongoing decrease in the number of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals compared to the three-year rolling average.

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. Following a review, the Local Senior Officer may revise the Plan.

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