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**SCOTTISH**  
**FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**  
Working together for a safer Scotland

# **CITY OF GLASGOW AREA**

## **LOCAL FIRE AND RESCUE PLAN**

### **REVIEW 2023**

**Safety. Teamwork. Respect. Innovation.**

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## Introduction

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service is required under the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005, as amended by the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012, to prepare Local Fire and Rescue Plans for each local authority in Scotland.

Local Fire and Rescue Plans set out our national and local operating context and outline our specific priorities for the City of Glasgow (CoG). In their preparation, due regard is given to the Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland and the SFRS Strategic Plan.

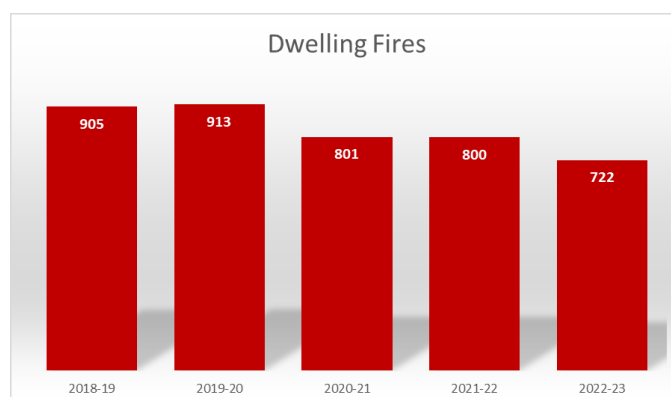
The publication of our new Strategic Plan 2022-25 in October 2022 instigated a requirement to carry out a mandatory review of all Local Fire and Rescue Plans. This review will provide us with information on how well we are performing against our existing priorities, as well as highlighting areas for continued improvement and opportunities for change against the growing needs of our communities.

The information contained within this Review Report will contribute towards the development of a new Local Fire and Rescue Plan that is tailored to the CoG.

The review of the current CoG Local Plan has been undertaken against a backdrop of some significant challenges including a global pandemic and the delivery of several significant events including the Conference of Parties 26 (COP26), The European Championships (Glasgow & Berlin) 2018, UEFA Euro 2020 and UEFA Champions League/Europa League and International football matches.

## Performance Of Local Priorities

### Local Priority 1: Domestic Fire Safety



### How we worked to improve our performance

The number of domestic dwelling fires across Glasgow has continued to fall with 722 being the lowest number recorded in the previous 5 years.

Glasgow City carried out 8835 HFSV's from 01/04/21 to 31/03/2023, 3312 of which were deemed high risk visits. 2658 homes were fitted with 7394 detectors. Station based personal and Community Safety Advocates prioritised high risk rated entries to target those deemed most at risk.

Community Safety Engagement has allowed us to build a robust referral process with key partners across the city who have access to these mapped areas e.g., NHS, GCC, Social Work, Landlords and SP Energy Networks.

Risk Recognition courses arranged by our Community Action Team (CAT) educate social landlords, care and supported accommodation staff on fire hazards in the home.

We endeavour to work towards continuing this downward trend focusing engagement activities where demand is identified.

### Partnership working to reduce community risk.

SFRS CAT, in partnership with Scottish Prison Services (SPS) at HMP Barlinnie and Police Scotland's (PS) Campus Police throughout Glasgow, continue to work collaboratively to reduce Anti-Social Behaviour and prevent reoffending.

An “Early Intervention Programme” was piloted in Glasgow and supported by the Campus Police, who identified young people involved in anti-social behaviour in and around the school who could benefit from an intervention.

The aim was to divert young people from criminality and anti-social behaviour using the Lifeskills group from HMP Barlinnie and their Peer Mentors.

HMP Barlinnie Peer Mentors, using life experiences, built relationships and trust with the young people to help educate them and understand the consequences of their actions within the community and how this affects others.

This model allowed SFRS to work in partnership with Community Justice Glasgow, helping them meet key objectives in targeting and reducing anti-social behaviour and reoffending. This helps promote interagency working and creates learning resources and published research based on the findings of the initiative and activities carried out.

Examples of feedback received as part of ongoing evaluation of the initiative:

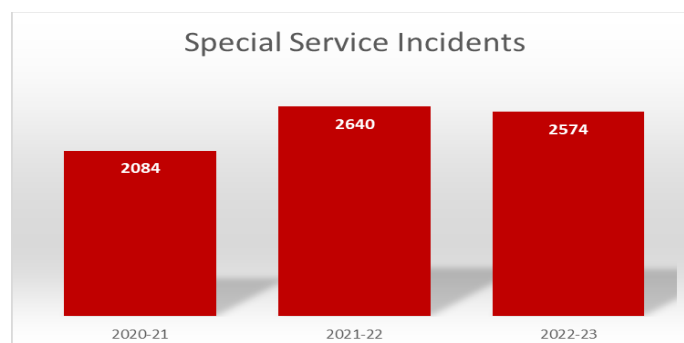
*"I've stopped carrying a knife and smashing windows since we spoke with that prisoner."*

*"I learned how my actions don't just impact me but impact my family from hearing Prison Mentor talk about his Mum."*

*"In my 17 years of teaching, I have not experienced such an overwhelming turn around or success story."*

*"This opportunity has been life changing for the boys involved and has undoubtedly changed them for the better and set them on a positive course in life. This intervention has saved lives."*

## Local Priority 2: Unintentional Harm in The Home



### How we worked to improve our performance

City of Glasgow operational fire crews are attending a more diverse incident type and Inter Agency special services as demonstrated in the graph above.

Our Post Domestic Incident Response (PDIR) and Home Fire Safety Visit (HFSV) programme allows our crews and Community Safety Advocates (CSA) to assess non-fire related risk and refer those deemed at risk from injury and harm to partners to provide additional support. Over 400 Adult safeguarding referrals were made by SFRS City of Glasgow (CoG) personal to social services in 2022-23 alone.

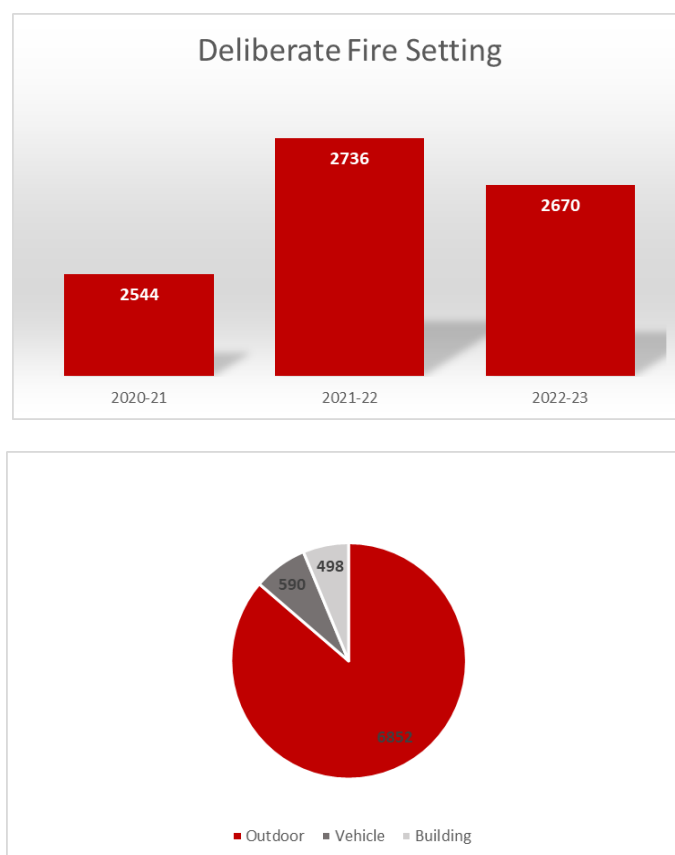
A CoG CSA has been seconded to GCC Glasgow Helps. The aim is to support the free confidential service set up to work directly with the people of Glasgow.

The Glasgow Community Action Team (CAT) have also undertaken Naloxone training as part of the Scottish Government National Programme in partnership with Scottish Families Affected by Alcohol and Drugs.

The CAT has reviewed and amended the fire-skills course for youths and continue to deliver courses across the city. As well as developing fire safety awareness, youths are also taught lifesaving skills such as CPR and use of defibrillators.

CoG CAT have forged new relationships with SP Energy Networks Social Obligations Team and Electrical Safety-First Home Improvement Grants pilot scheme. In both instances funding can be used to provide grants to address minor electrical/energy works for vulnerable people otherwise unable to afford repair themselves.

## Local Priority 3: Deliberate Fire Setting



### How we worked to improve our performance

Whilst a small proportion of deliberate fires involve buildings, vehicles and outdoor structures, 86% of deliberate fires attended by operational crews over the past 3 years were outdoor fires.

Analysis of incident data identifies deliberate outdoor fires occurring throughout the year, however peak activity is noted in the springtime, during bonfire season and when prolonged periods of dry weather arise. Deliberate fire setting is regarded as anti-social behaviour.

Both the CAT and operational crews carry out school engagement activities highlighting the consequences of deliberate fire setting. Fire-setter referrals are acted upon with 1 on 1 engagement between a CSA and offender.

The CAT is working in partnership with SPS Barlinnie SOLO Team engaging with inmates eligible for release. This programme enables prisoners to speak to local youth groups about the consequences of anti-social behaviour and impact of criminality on their own and family's lives.

Each Glasgow ward has its own GCC Neighbourhood Liaison Team Contact. Utilising data identifying areas of concentrated deliberate fires operational and CAT personnel coordinate with the team to address issues which contribute to deliberate fire setting and deliver solutions. This includes organising uplifts of waste material, submitting CCTV requests or asking for additional police patrols in known problematic areas.

## Local Priority 4: Road Safety/Water Safety

### How we worked to improve our performance

We have prioritised reducing the amount of water and road deaths within the CoG by working with our partners and stakeholders to deliver engagement sessions throughout the city and delivering an extensive media campaign to highlight the dangers in and around the city's waterways and road networks.

Our CAT initiated a QR code campaign, piloted as part of our water safety campaign, where QR codes that linked to Water Safety Scotland information sites were displayed in prominent places to encourage the public interaction. This form of innovative engagement, utilising technological advancements, seeks to capture the imagination of harder to reach groups.

As a member of the Glasgow Water Safety Group and working with our partners, we have delivered water safety awareness training to businesses along the River Clyde.

Due to the success of the campaign, CAT have now initiated a similar strategy for road safety as part of our ongoing commitment to reduce road related deaths within the City of Glasgow, in line with Glasgow's Road Safety Plan 2020 – 2030, which details a vision of zero road casualties by 2030.

## Local Priority 5: Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals

### How we worked to improve our performance

The Prevention and Protection (P&P) Team along with frontline operational crews continue to work with sports/leisure centres, historic buildings, schools, commercial businesses/workplaces as well as domestic householders to reduce the impact from Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS).

In preparation for the introduction of our 'Make the Call' campaign, SFRS CoG P&P Team have engaged with Glasgow City Council (GCC) and Glasgow Life as key partners who may be affected by the proposed new response model being planned for delivery effective from the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023.



## Local Priority 6: Operational Preparedness and Resilience

### How we worked to improve our performance

#### **Bonfire Night Partnership**

The first week in November is one of the busiest for SFRS, with spate call conditions being experienced in the lead up to and over Guy Fawkes' Night.

Experience shows that attacks of emergency services increase during this period along with wider antisocial behaviour including damage to fire appliances.

To improve the safety of SFRS personnel, partners and the local community SFRS CoG have developed a multi-agency approach to this event. Engagement with partners begins in September each year, where a Bonfire Protocol is agreed, along with a community and media safety campaign to be undertaken for the period leading to 5<sup>th</sup> November.

A key focus has been on delivering engagement sessions to primary and secondary school children. Technological advancements offer the opportunity for every pupil in Glasgow to receive either a virtual or a face-to-face safety talk in school.

Working in partnership with GCC and Police Scotland, we work to identify and arrange for the removal of unauthorised bonfires, thereby mitigating the risk to the public and emergency services.

A review is undertaken each year to share learning and to shape future protocols to deliver a safe bonfire period for the people of Glasgow.

**Risk management and operational preparedness** is a key area of work for the SFRS. Locally, this means knowing what the risks are in Glasgow and then making plans, so we are resilient to respond to any event that these risks may bring.

As part of this response, we have implemented a programme of Community Risk Validation through our Operational Intelligence gathering. We carry out regular programmed visitations, inspections and training events to meet the risk profile of Glasgow. Examples include 'Exercise Chimney stack' at the Clyde tunnel, 'Exercise Spring Puma' at Provan Gas Works and 'Exercise Quay Safe', a Tabletop Exercise held for a response to High Rise Domestic Buildings.

The CoG Civil Contingency Officer (CCO) is Deputy Chair of the LRP for Glasgow and East Dunbartonshire and continues to be actively involved in the delivery of the LRP 3 yearly workplan. The CCO also supports several functional groups of the Regional Resilience Partnership including Transport, Resilient Communications, Public Communications Group (PCG) and the Voluntary Sector group as part of the management of the Risk Preparedness and Assessment process (RPA) which the SFRS administers.

## Local Priority 7: Non-Domestic Fire Safety Enforcement

### How we worked to improve our performance

In undertaking our statutory duties in respect of Part 3 of the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 (as amended), CoG Fire Safety Enforcement (FSE) undertake a risk-based methodology when establishing a programme to audit relevant premises, prioritising premises that present the greatest risk to life safety.

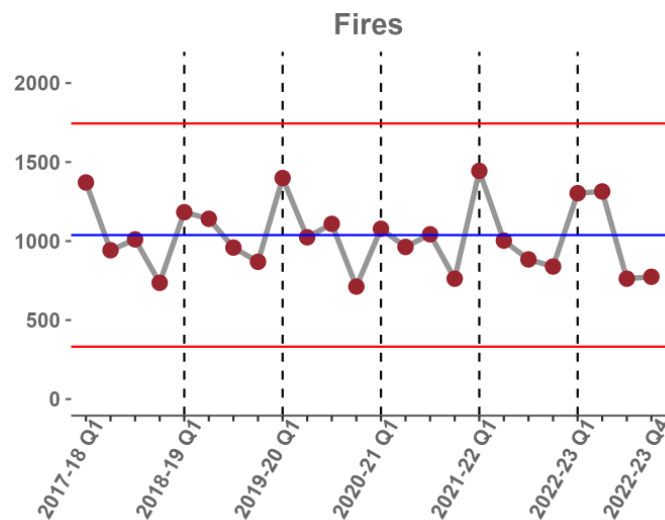
Local Enforcement Delivery Plans (LEDPs), incorporating Service Policy and Guidance, have been developed to include premises which constitute core audit activity. LEDPs also allocate resources to thematic audits based on local needs and national campaigns, e.g., non-core activity due to local intelligence reports.

In preparation for COP26 the CoG FSE team's Protection Officers (PO's) were at the forefront of engagement with several internal and external partners. CoG FSE played a crucial role in the audit programme which included high-profile venues and a number of sleeping premises across the city.

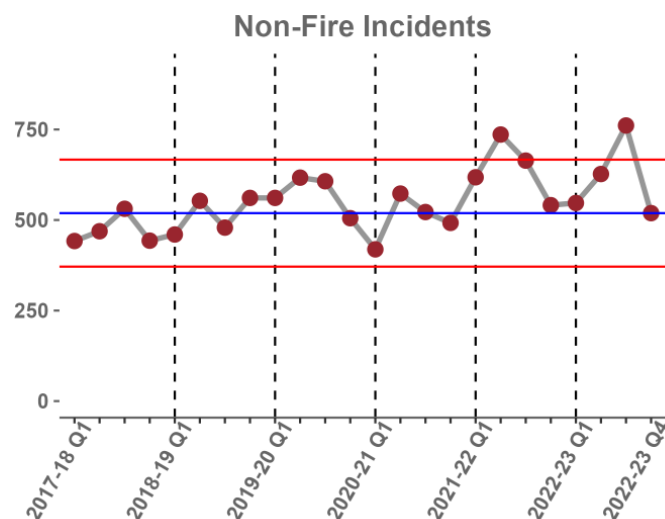
With the introduction of the Scottish Government's (SG) Cladding Remediation Division (CRD) and the Single Building Assessment (SBA) programme of High-Rise Domestic Buildings (HRDB's), a number of HRDB's in the CoG were identified as having External Wall Systems (EWS). SFRS CoG continue to provide support to the CRD, duty holders and householders including actions required to address and mitigate risk through fire safety audits of *relevant premises* and community safety engagement.

## Performance Data – what the figures told us

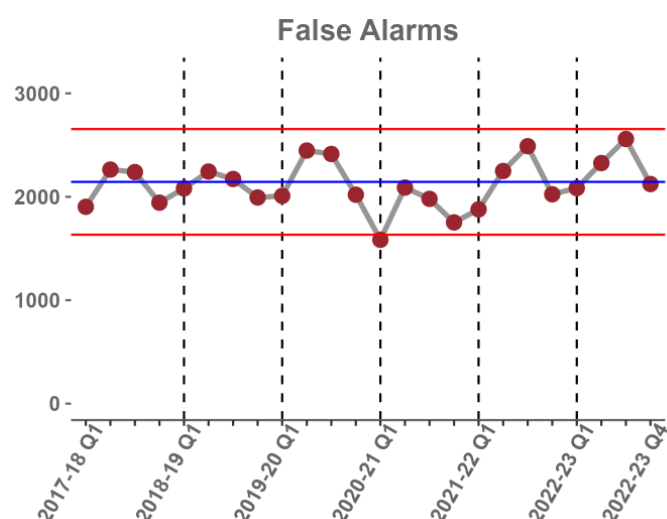
### 1. Fires, Non-Fire Incidents and False Alarms



Fire figures for Glasgow have been subject to random variation since Q1 of 2018-19, with no overall trends in the data. Since 2017-18, Q4 of each year has been consistently below average, indicating a possible seasonal effect on figures. This is consistent with national patterns in the data.

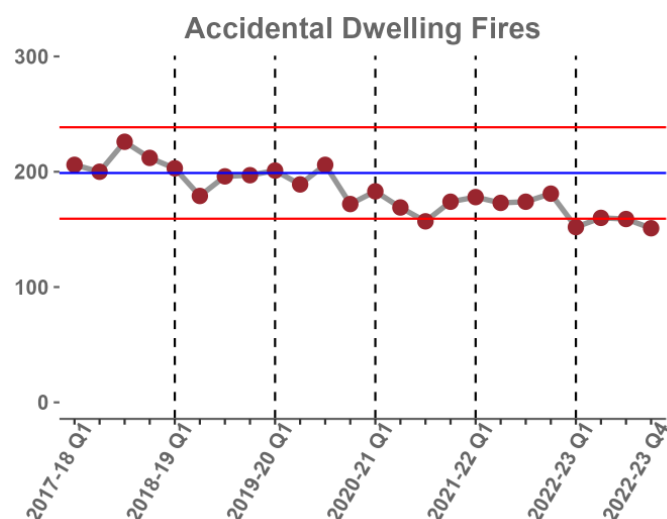


Non-fire incidents in Glasgow have increased in recent years, illustrated by totals for 2021-22 Q2 and 2022-23 Q3 being out with upper control limits. All data points since 2020-21 Q2 have been on or above average, further showing the increase in non-fire incidents. During the Covid-19 pandemic, there was a decrease in non-fire incidents attended – this is represented by the data point in 2020-21 Q1 being closer to the lower control limit than other points. This is similar to trends seen nationally, with there being a drop during the Covid-19 pandemic.



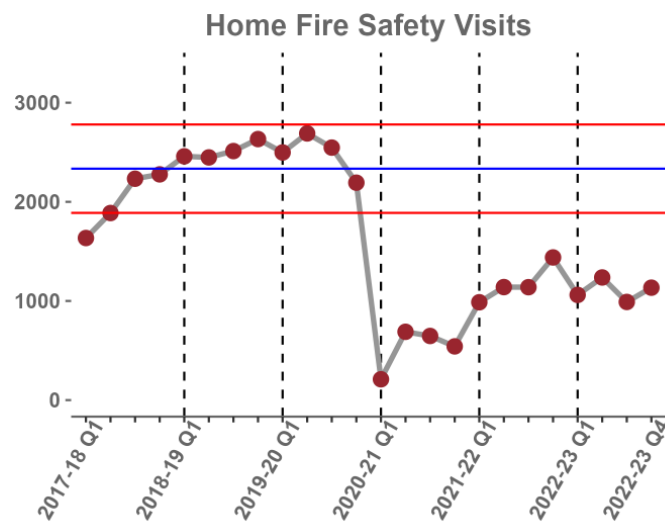
False alarm incidents in Glasgow have been subject to random variation since 2017-18 Q1. During the Covid-19 pandemic, there was a decrease in false alarm incidents, shown by the data point for 2020-21 Q1 being outside of the lower control limit. Figures remained low throughout the pandemic, shown by all data points in 2020-21 being below average. This has gradually returned to a level similar to pre-pandemic. This is consistent with national patterns in the data.

## 2. Accidental Dwelling Fires

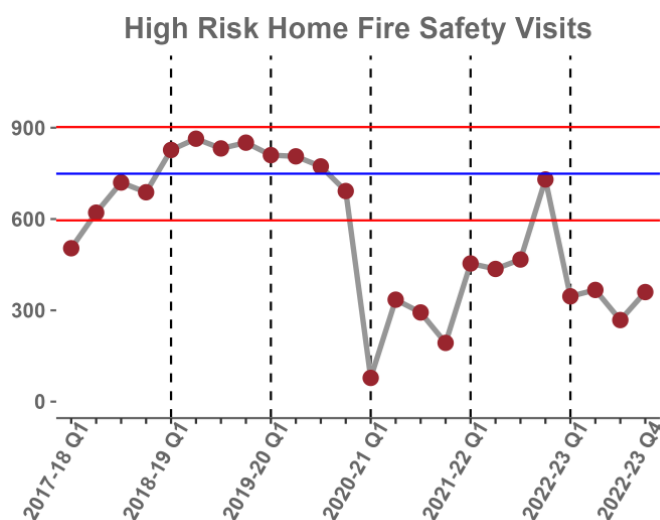


Accidental dwelling fires in Glasgow have been decreasing overall since 2017-18 Q1. Figures have been below average since 2019-20 Q3, with data points from 2022-23 Q1 being on or below the lower control limit. This is consistent with national patterns in the data.

### 3. Home Fire Safety Visits

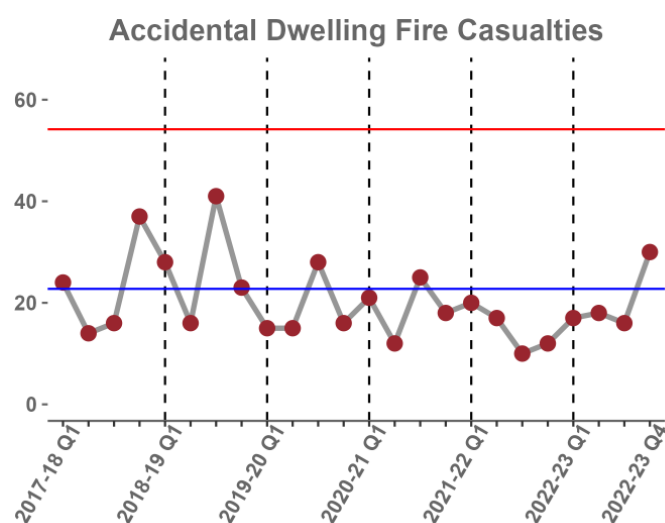


Home Fire Safety Visits in Glasgow were steadily increasing pre-pandemic (2020-21). There was a substantial decrease in Home Fire Safety Visits in 2020-21 Q1 due to lockdowns and social distancing guidelines. Figures have slowly increased since then, but remain outside of the lower control limit, showing that the number of visits carried out has not return to levels seen before the pandemic. This is consistent with national patterns in the data.



Similar to overall Home Fire Safety Visit figures, visits that were considered high risk were affected by the global pandemic, with a reduction seen between 2019-20 Q4 to 2020-21 Q1. From 2020-21 Q1 onwards, figures have remained outside of the lower control limit, with the exception of 2021-22 Q3 which was just below average. This shows that the number of high-risk visits has not returned to pre-pandemic levels. Overall high risk HFSV patterns in Glasgow are consistent with what has been seen nationally.

#### 4. Accidental Dwelling Fire casualties and fatalities



Accidental dwelling fire non-fatal casualties have remained within control limits since 2017-18 Q1. Analysis has shown a general decreasing trend although data would be required in future reporting periods to confirm an overall downward trend. This is a similar pattern to what has been seen across Scotland.

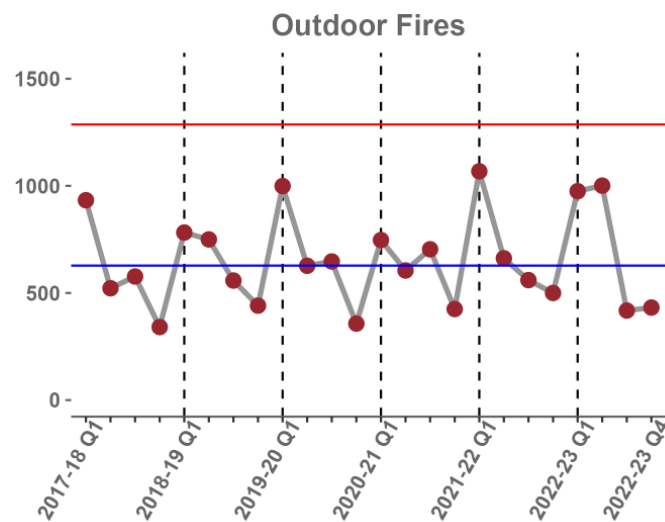
#### 5. Fatalities by Type

Fire Fatalities by Type  
2020-21 - 2022-23

Fiscal Year	Fire Category	Total
2020-21	Dwelling Fire	5
2020-21	Other Building Fire	1
2020-21	Road Vehicle Fire	2
2021-22	Dwelling Fire	3
2021-22	Other Primary Fire	1
2021-22	Road Vehicle Fire	1
2022-23	Dwelling Fire	3

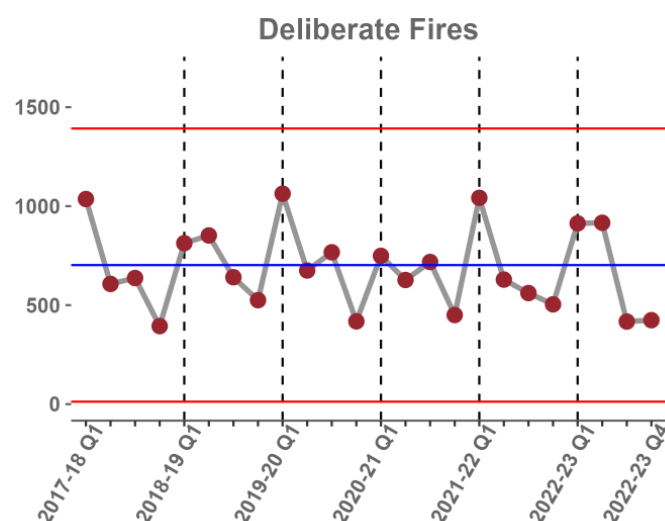
In 2020-21, there were a total of 8 fire fatalities, with 5 being in dwellings, 1 in other building, and 2 in road vehicles. In 2021-22, there were 5 fire fatalities, with 3 in dwellings, 1 in other primary fires, and 1 in road vehicle. In 2022-23, there were 3 fire fatalities, all occurring in dwellings.

## 6. Secondary fires

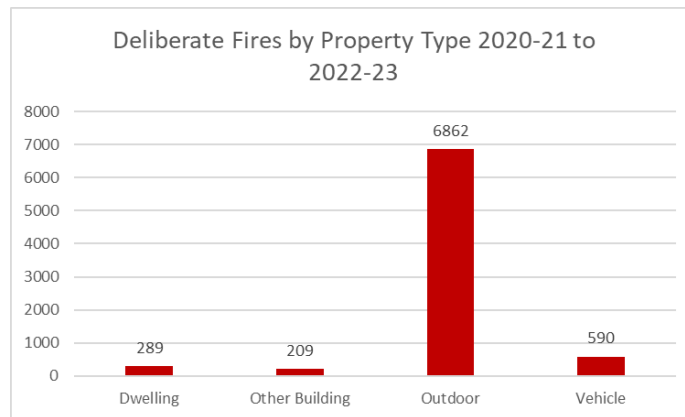


Outdoor fires have been subject to random variations since 2017-18 Q1 with no overall trend being shown for the data. Figures are consistently higher in Q1 of each year when compared to other quarters, with all figures in Q1 being above average. This is consistent with national patterns in the data.

## 7. Deliberate fires by Property Type

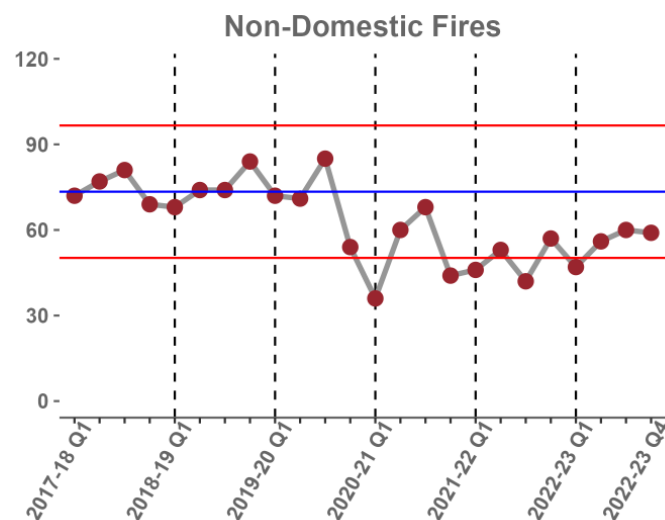


Deliberate fires have been subject to random variation since 2017-18 Q1. Figures in Q3 of each year appear to be lower than other quarters, with figures in Q1 being consistently above average. This is consistent with national patterns in the data.



Between 2020-21 and 2022-23, most deliberate fires have occurred in outdoor settings, with 6,862 fires in total occurring in this property type over this time. This is followed by vehicle fires (590 fires in total), dwelling fires (289 in total) and other building fires (209 in total).

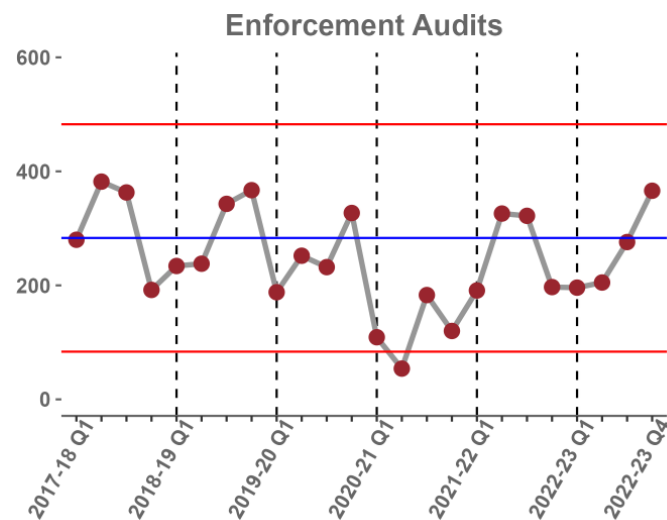
## 8. Non-Domestic Fires



Non-domestic fires decreased substantially between 2019-20 Q2 and 2020-21 Q1. Figures have remained low since then, with all figures being below average. Since 2020-21 Q3, all figures have been close to or below average, suggesting that non-domestic fires may be on an overall downward trend. This downward trend is seen across Scotland.

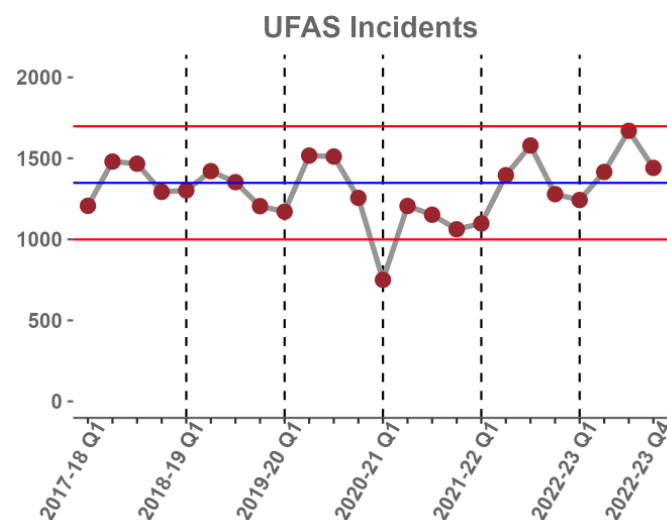


## 9. Audit Figures

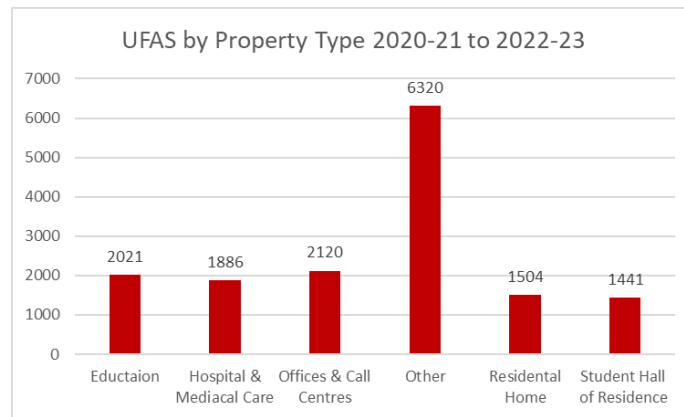


Enforcement audit figures were subject to random variation between 2017-18 Q1 and 2019-20 Q4. During the Covid-19 pandemic, figures decreased, with the figures for 2020-21 being below average and the figure for 2020-21 Q2 being outside of the lower control limit. Since then, figures have returned to pre-pandemic levels. This is consistent with national patterns in the data.

## 10. Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS)

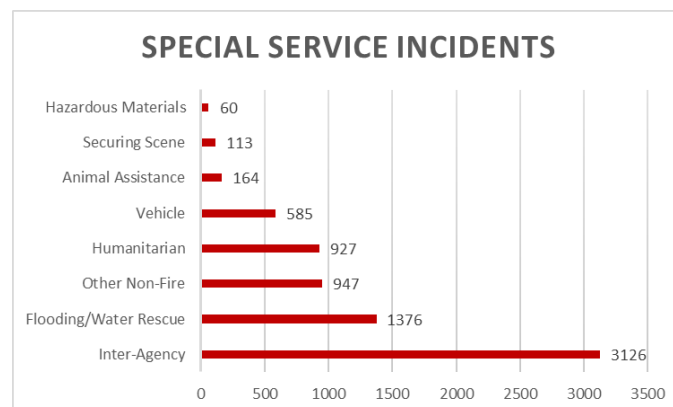


Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) were subject to random variation between 2017-18 Q1 and 2019-20 Q3. Figures decreased substantially during the global pandemic, when most offices were closed, and home working was encouraged. This meant that less people were in workplace buildings, and so there was less opportunity for an unwanted signal to occur. UFAS figures remained below average after this quarter until 2021-22 Q2. In 2022-23 Q3, figures were close to upper control limits, however this has returned to levels slightly above average for 2022-23 Q4. This is consistent with national patterns in the data.



Between 2020-21 and 2022-23, most Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) occurred in property types that fall under the category 'Other', with 6,328 occurring within the stated time. This was followed by Offices and call centres (2,120), education properties (2,022) and hospitals and medical care properties (1,886).

## 11. Non-Fire Emergencies



Most non-fire incidents that occurred between 2020-21 and 2022-23 were inter-agency incidents, with 3,050 of this incident type occurring within this time. This was followed by flooding and water rescue incidents (1,292), other non-fire incidents (934) and humanitarian incidents (864).

## Conclusion

The continuing decrease in dwelling fires across the city highlights the ongoing partnership approach in reducing risk throughout our communities. Our Operational Crews and Community Action Teams (CAT) have been at the forefront of risk reduction in the home through targeted high risk Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSV) and where appropriate have fitted smoke detection systems.

Our Prevention and Protection (P&P) Fire Safety Enforcement (FSE) Teams delivered fire safety audits throughout the pandemic in a pragmatic way and as we have returned to the new normal have returned to core audit activities.

The focus on preventative measures through engagement and education continues to grow with the introduction of the Early Intervention Programme and the annual Bonfire Strategy.

Over the coming 12 months we will continue to work with partners to reduce risk within our communities as we reassess the operational landscape and the needs of the people within Glasgow.

## Recommendation

It is recommended that the following priorities are taken forward in the new Local Fire and Rescue Plan for the City of Glasgow area:

Priority 1: Domestic Fire Safety

Priority 2: Unintentional Harm in The Home

Priority 3: Deliberate Fire Setting

Priority 4: Operational Preparedness and Resilience

Priority 5: Non-Domestic Fire Safety Enforcement

Priority 6: Unwanted Fire Alarm Singles

Priority 7: Road and Water Safety