



SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
Working together for a safer Scotland

LOCAL FIRE AND RESCUE PLAN FOR WEST LoTHIAN 2014-2017



**Working together
for a safer Scotland**



**West Lothian
Council**

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Foreword

Ensuring that all our citizens can live their lives safer is a high priority for West Lothian Council and that is why we welcome the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for West Lothian covering the period 2014 - 2017.

West Lothian Council and our Community Planning Partners have an excellent record of working in partnership with the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service to improve the safety of our communities and it is vital that this work continues during a period of change for the service. Much progress has been made over the last year and I am confident this will continue over the lifetime of this plan and beyond.

The service has set ambitious targets for improvement over the plan period, which we welcome. The targets will only be achieved through effective partnership working between the Fire and Rescue Service, the Council and the wider partnership working with our communities.

George Paul

Executive Councillor Services for the Community

Welcome to the Scottish Fire and Rescue Services (SFRS) Local Fire and Rescue Plan for West Lothian 2014 - 2017. This plan is the mechanism through which the aims of the [SFRS's Strategic Plan 2013 – 2016](#) are delivered to meet the agreed needs of the West Lothian communities.

The Local Fire and Rescue Plan sets out my priorities and objectives for the SFRS within West Lothian for 2014 – 2017 and allows local authority partners to scrutinise the performance outcomes of these priorities. SFRS will continue to work closely with partners in West Lothian to ensure we are all “Working together for a safer Scotland” through targeting the risks to our communities at a local level.

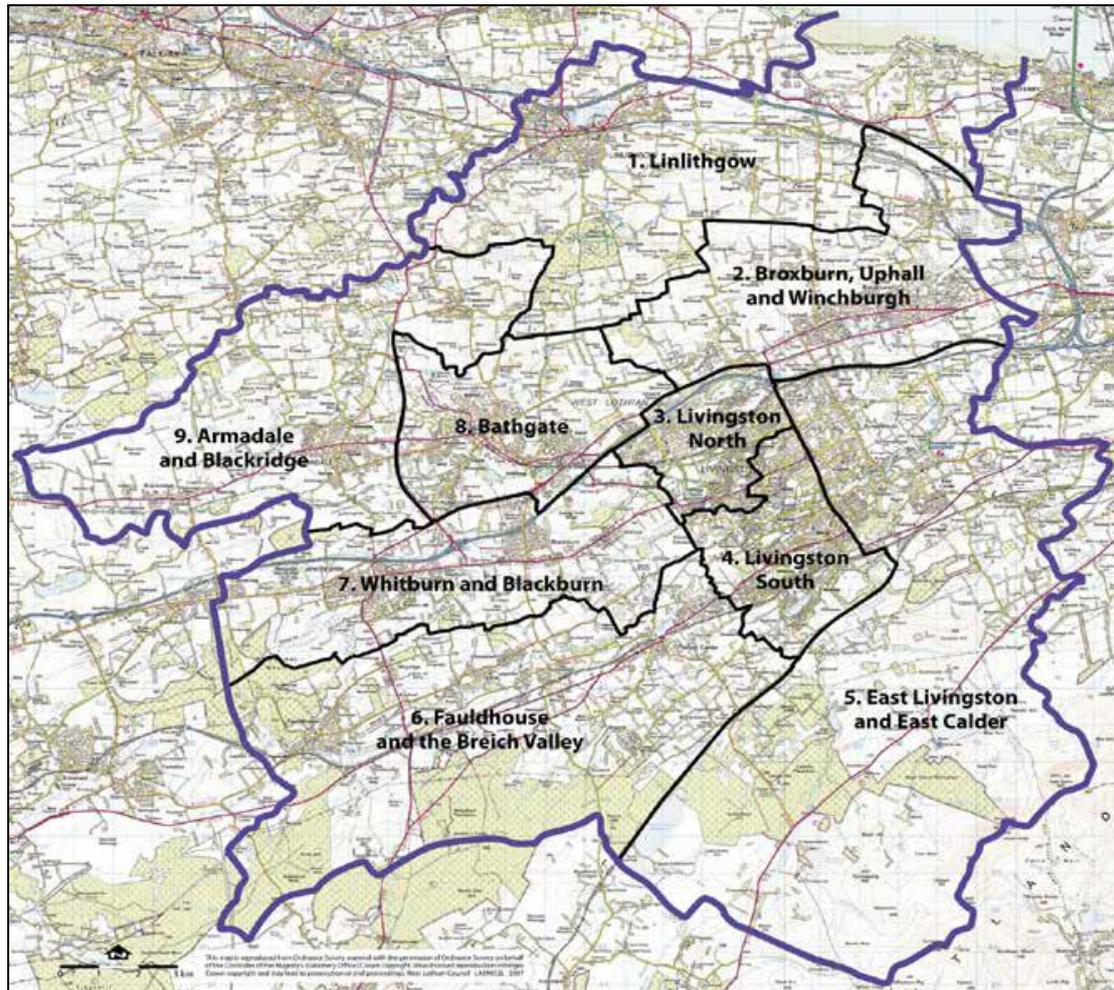
The Local Fire and Rescue Plan and its associated action plans are aligned to the Community Planning Partnership structures within West Lothian. Through partnership working, I aim to deliver continuous improvement in performance and effective service delivery in SFRS's area of operations.

The SFRS will continue to use data analysis techniques to identify risk and to ensure resources are allocated to the point of need within West Lothian communities. While considering the strategic priorities of the SFRS we will develop local solutions to local needs, and ensure equitable access to Fire and Rescue resources. Through our on-going involvement with local community safety groups in West Lothian, we will continue to develop our understanding of local needs and proactively seek out consultation opportunities with all sections of the community. Using this approach we will ensure that the service we deliver is driven by consultation, in line with public expectations and helps to build strong, safe and resilient communities.

Gary Laing

Local Senior Officer for Falkirk and West Lothian

West Lothian Ward Profile



Ward Area	Fire Station Locations
Ward 1 – Linlithgow	Linlithgow
Ward 2 – Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh	Broxburn
Ward 3 – Livingston North	Livingston
Ward 4 – Livingston South	West Calder (Polbeth)
Ward 5 – East Livingston and East Calder	Whitburn
Ward 6 – Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley	Bathgate
Ward 7 – Whitburn and Blackburn	
Ward 8 – Bathgate	
Ward 9 – Armadale and Blackridge.	

SFRS Resources Based in West Lothian

Two fire appliances are located at Bathgate Community Fire Station which is staffed by a mixture of Whole-time firefighters who are located at the station 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and Retained Duty System (RDS) firefighters who provide a 24 hours a day, seven days a week emergency on call response.

Two fire appliances are based at Livingston Community Fire Station which is staffed by mixture of Whole-time firefighters who are located at the station 24 hours a day, seven days a week; Day Duty firefighters who are located at the station Monday to Friday, during day periods, and RDS firefighters who provide emergency on call response outside of the working hours of the Day Duty firefighters.

One fire appliance is based in each of the remaining four Community Fire Stations; Linlithgow, West Calder, Whitburn, Broxburn. Each of these stations are staffed by RDS firefighters who provide a 24 hours a day, seven days a week emergency on call response.

RDS firefighters are employed on a part time basis and provide a vital service to the community in which they live or work. Most of our RDS firefighters are women and men who have primary employment in another field, but in addition to their full time job, they provide the same range of emergency services as their Whole-time colleagues.

A team of community safety engagement staff work across West Lothian to support their station based colleagues in delivering the wide range of preventative, awareness and engagement activities. Coordinating this activity is a Local Authority Liaison Officer (LALO), who is based at West Lothian Civic Centre and provides a direct link between West Lothian Council, Community Planning Partners and the Fire and Rescue Service.

Supporting the enforcement of fire safety legislation, within buildings other than domestic premises, are a team of highly trained Fire Safety Enforcement Officers who provide advice on fire safety matters, actively conduct fire safety audits of buildings, consult on building warrant plans and enforce compliance with fire safety legislation.

A management team has responsibility for service delivery and community engagement/enforcement across West Lothian. These officers are responsible for the effective service delivery across the area.

SFRS resources employed across West Lothian will aim to work in partnership and collaboration with other community resources to deliver better outcomes for communities. Sharing of information will be a key enabler in this process and will ensure that duplication of services is reduced and that community focused outcomes are aligned and delivered.

In addition to day-to-day resources based within West Lothian, it is a Strategic Aim of the SFRS that, as a single service, communities will have access to specialist skills and resources from across Scotland.

We will work with the other emergency services and voluntary groups within West Lothian that have an interest in emergency response and specialist rescue. This will allow us to identify resources, such as skills and equipment that are available nationally.

The table below indicates the staffing arrangements that support the delivery of the objectives detailed in the West Lothian Local Fire and Rescue Plan.

Whole-time Duty System Firefighter Establishment *	72
Day Shift Duty System Firefighter Establishment*	13
Retained Duty System Firefighter Establishment *	67
Prevention and Protection (Enforcement and Engagement) Staff Establishment ~	9
LSO Management Team Establishment~	9

Notes

**Based on antecedent Lothian and Borders Fire and Rescue Service Establishment levels.*

~ Based on SFRS interim working structure establishment.

The establishment levels indicated in the table above are subject to amendments and revisions as SFRS introduces revised staffing and crewing models.

Introduction

The Scottish Government provides an overarching vision for public services that focuses on the creation of a more successful country, with opportunities for all through a sustainable increase in economic growth.

This direction is supported by Strategic Objectives to make Scotland a wealthier & fairer, smarter, healthier, safer & stronger and greener place. Through a Concordat between the Scottish Government and the Convention for Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA), the Strategic Objectives have been expanded into [Local Single Outcome \(SOA\) Agreements](#), which include indicators and targets that provide the framework for how local authorities and their Community Planning Partners such as the SFRS will deliver services.

The [Fire \(Scotland\) Act 2005](#), amended by Part 2 of the [Police and Fire Reform \(Scotland\) Act 2012](#) provides the statutory basis for the SFRS to deliver a range of core services and functions that means 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 2013](#) sets the overarching strategic direction for the SFRS in the delivery of its services to the communities of West Lothian.

The Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 requires Local Fire and Rescue Plans to contain:

- Priorities and objectives for the SFRS in connection with the carrying out of its duties in the local authority's area of SFRS's functions
- The reasons for selecting each of those priorities and objectives
- How SFRS proposes to deliver those priorities and objectives
- In so far as is reasonably practicable, outcomes by reference to which delivery of those priorities and objectives can be measured
- How those priorities and objectives are expected to contribute to the delivery of any other relevant local outcomes which are identified by community planning,
- Such other matters relating to the carrying out of the SFRS's functions in the local authority's area as SFRS thinks fit.

Strategic Assessment

A strategic assessment for the SFRS's activities in Scotland established the type, frequency and impact of incidents that we attend. With this assessment in place, the Local Senior Officer (LSO) for West Lothian can effectively identify key priority areas for the SFRS to target its resources at a local level.

National Assessment

The Scottish Government, within their [National Performance Framework](#), have identified [16 National Outcomes](#) they wish to achieve. Through delivery of this Local Fire and Rescue Plan, the SFRS in particular will contribute to the following Outcomes:

- **National Outcome 1:** We live in a Scotland that is the most attractive place for doing business in Europe.
- **National Outcome 4:** Our young people are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens.
- **National Outcome 6:** We live longer healthier lives.
- **National Outcome 8:** We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk.
- **National Outcome 9:** We live our lives safe from crime disorder and danger.
- **National Outcome 11:** We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others.
- **National Outcome 12:** We value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations.
- **National Outcome 14:** We reduce the local and global environmental impact of our consumption and production.
- **National Outcome 15:** Our people are able to maintain their independence as they get older and are able to access appropriate support when they need it.
- **National Outcome 16:** Our public services are high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to local people's needs.

SFRS Strategy

The priorities for the SFRS have been laid out in the Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2013 with the following Strategic Aims defined within the Strategic Plan 2013-2016:

- **Strategic Aim 1:** Improve safety of our communities and staff.
- **Strategic Aim 2:** More equitable access to Fire and Rescue Services.
- **Strategic Aim 3:** Improved outcomes through partnership.
- **Strategic Aim 4:** Develop a culture of continuous improvement.

Equality Assessment

On 30 April 2013, the SFRS published its [Equality Outcomes](#), in compliance with the [Equality Act 2010](#) (Specific Duties) (Scotland) Regulations 2012. The SFRS Equality Outcomes are:

- **Outcome 1:** People from all Scotland's community groups feel confident in contacting the SFRS for advice and information on relevant non-emergency issues.
- **Outcome 2:** Disabled, LGBT, BME, older people and people from minority faiths are aware of the services provided by the SFRS, particularly how these can be adapted to meet their own individual needs.
- **Outcome 3:** People from all Scotland's community groups feel safer in their homes and on our roads.
- **Outcome 4:** Establish the SFRS as an employer of choice for people across protected characteristics.
- **Outcome 5:** Provide a positive and healthy workplace culture that welcomes, embraces and develops people from across all protected characteristics.
- **Outcome 6:** People from across all communities are enabled to live lives free from hate crime, harassment and domestic abuse/violence.
- **Outcome 7:** Gypsy travellers and migrant workers are safer, better informed and confident in SFRS engagement.

Although fire statistics provide actual and historical data relating to fires, the profile of a community is of vital importance in helping us to identify the steps needed to achieve these outcomes and ensure everyone has the opportunity to access our services and reduce their risk from fire and other injuries.

SFRS values

Our values framework sets out what we believe to be important in supporting how we deliver our services to the communities and support our own staff. At the core of this, is the safety of the communities we serve and we will do our utmost to enhance and support community safety and place a high value on the safety of our firefighters.

The communities of West Lothian can rightly expect to receive a first class service from the SFRS grounded in our commitment to actively pursue our values in support of better outcomes.



West Lothian Risk Profile

Understanding West Lothian and the profile of the community is of vital importance in helping the SFRS to develop this Local Fire and Rescue Plan and identify priorities and objectives to ensure everyone has the opportunity to access our service and reduce their risk from fire.

This Local Fire and Rescue Plan has been prepared within the wider context of the West Lothian Community Planning Partnership and sets out the local priorities for delivering local fire service priorities for West Lothian. Underlying this plan are the key principles of community planning namely; prevention and early intervention; integration of public services around the whole systems approach; transparency, accountability and innovation in our approaches to fire service provision.

West Lothian covers a geographical area of approximately 425 square kilometres and is situated between the two main cities in Scotland, Edinburgh and Glasgow. It has a growing population that, according to the preliminary results of the 2011 Census, is now 175,000. The rate of increase in population in West Lothian from 1991 to 2011 is around 22% the highest of all Scottish local authority areas. The population for West Lothian is projected to increase to 196,000 by 2024 that is anticipated to be the fastest growing area in Scotland.

West Lothian enjoys a diverse community that is growing. In 2001, there were 4,900 people from minority ethnic communities living in West Lothian, this represented 3.1% of West Lothian's population. Since the 2001 census there has been an increase in the minority ethnic population through an increase in net in-migration. People from ethnic backgrounds can be more vulnerable due to feeling isolated within communities because of a number of reasons, including language barriers and cultural differences.

West Lothian's population is relatively young in comparison to other local authorities in the rest of Scotland, and a high proportion of under 16s. West Lothian's projected population change is also different to most other comparator local authorities, and the Scottish average, in that most of this projected change is estimated to be through natural change e.g. the birth rate being higher than the mortality rate. The educational activities outlined in this Local Fire and Rescue Plan are designed to target young people in the area as part of a preventative strategy.

It is anticipated that West Lothian will see an increase in the proportion of older people living in the area, in common with the rest of the Scotland, as people live longer. Risk to people is increased when age is combined with other factors, such as living alone, living in poverty and in isolation. Physical and mental health issues associated with aging can also contribute to an increase in risk.

Community Planning Partners put significant emphasis on reducing health inequalities across West Lothian and recognise that inequalities can lead to earlier death and poorer health. There is a correlation between health inequalities such as smoking and alcohol/drugs misuse and the increased vulnerability to the risks of fire. This Local Fire and Rescue Plan recognises these links and sets out activities that are aimed at reducing these risks.

West Lothian is important to the Scottish economy and provides a base for a wide variety of businesses and organisations that have located or developed in the area. In 2009, there were 4,120 VAT and PAYE registered businesses in the area. The predominant business sectors in the area are; food and drink, life sciences, financial services, tourism, energy and electronics.

The number of households in West Lothian is predicted to grow significantly. In 2010, there were around 72,500 households in West Lothian and around 74,500 houses. By 2033 there are expected to be 97,100 households in West Lothian, an increase of around 34%. This Local Fire and Rescue Plan takes into consideration the need to ensure the SFRS can respond to the predicted growth of households in the area.

The 2012 Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) shows that West Lothian has 13 data zones out of 211(6.2% in the 15% most deprived data zones in Scotland. Historical SIMD data indicates that there will be an increase in fire related activity in areas of deprivation. This Local Fire and Rescue Plan allows the SFRS sufficient flexibility to target our resources in areas of the most need.

Local Operational Assessment

Identified local key priority areas for West Lothian are monitored through the gathering and analysis of operational activity data.

The Local Fire and Rescue Service activity table below provides a historical indication of the incident types, and the number of incidents, that SFRS attended in West Lothian. The Red/Amber/Green (RAG) Trend column provides an indication whether the number of incidents, per incident type, in the year 2012/13 was higher or lower than in the previous year (2011/12).

Local Fire and Rescue Activity data source SFRS, Incident Recording System (IRS)

Incident Type	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	3 year average	Trend
All deliberate primary fires	215	186	96	165.7	↓
All deliberate other building fires	51	47	28	42	↓
All deliberate secondary fires	823	683	402	636	↓
All accidental dwelling fires	176	150	179	168.3	↑
All accidental other building fires	47	56	47	50	↓
All fatal fire casualties	1	4	2	2.3	↓
Non-fatal casualties excl. precautionary checks	49	60	57	55.3	↓
Non-fatal casualties incl. precautionary checks	53	76	60	63	↓
Special Service (Road Traffic Collision RTC)	71	70	82	74.3	↑
Special Service flooding	8	6	5	6.3	↓
Special Service extrication	33	21	29	27.6	↑
Special Service 'others'	106	90	84	93.3	↓
False Alarm (Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals UFAS)	1401	1417	1570	1463	↑
False Alarm: Good intent	495	505	362	454	↓
False Alarm: Malicious	76	71	50	65.6	↓

Local Assessment

The local assessment addresses issues relevant to West Lothian. Through analysis of local operational assessment, Community Planning Partners priorities and the needs of the community, local improvement and demand reduction plans can be developed to ensure positive outcomes and results are achieved.

The local assessment has been developed taking cognisance of the outcomes of the public consultation on the draft West Lothian Local Fire and Rescue Plan, local data analysis, SFRS Strategic Aims, National Outcomes, outcomes identified in the West Lothian Single Outcome Agreement 2013-2023, West Lothian Community Planning Partnership: Community Plan 'Towards 2020', West Lothian Community Planning Partnership: Strategic Assessment 2013 and West Lothian Community Safety Partnership: Strategic Assessment 2012-15.

The key priority areas in West Lothian that are considered in the Local Assessment and those that action plans will be developed for are:

- Priority 1 Local Risk Management and Preparedness
- Priority 2 Reduction of Accidental Dwelling Fires
- Priority 3 Reduction in Fire Fatalities and Casualties
- Priority 4 Reduction of Deliberate Fire Setting
- Priority 5 Reduction of Fires in Non-Domestic Property
- Priority 6 Reduction in Casualties from Non-Fire Emergencies
- Priority 7 Reduction of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals.

The table below depicts the links between the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for West Lothian key priorities and the West Lothian Community Planning Partners SOA outcomes.

West Lothian SOA Outcomes	Local Fire and Rescue Plan for West Lothian Priorities						
	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3	Priority 4	Priority 5	Priority 6	Priority 7
1) Our children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed		√	√				
2) We are better educated and have access to increased and better quality learning and employment opportunities		√	√	√		√	
3) Our economy is diverse and dynamic, and West Lothian is an attractive place for doing Business	√	√		√	√		√
4) We live in resilient, cohesive and safe Communities	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
5) People most at risk are protected and supported to achieve improved life chances.		√	√				
6) Older people are able to live independently in the community with an improved quality of life		√	√				
7) We live longer, healthier lives and have reduced health inequalities.	√	√	√				
8) We make the most efficient and effective use of resources by minimising our impact on the built and natural environment.	√	√		√	√		√

Priorities, Actions and Outcomes

1. Local Risk Management and Preparedness

The SFRS has a statutory duty to reduce the risks to our communities to make certain that they receive the best possible service. The management of risk within our community means:

- Identifying the risks to the community that fall within the scope of responsibility of the SFRS.
- Undertaking a process to prioritise these risks.
- Ensuring that appropriate Local and National resource capability and trained Fire Service personnel are in place to address them.

The SFRS monitors existing risks and emerging threats in terms of the natural and built environment, as per the Lothian and Borders Community Risk Register, to identify areas that require risk management and preparation initiatives. Examples of such risks identified in West Lothian are:

- Forest or moorland fire
- Local accident on motorways and major trunk roads
- Localised flash flooding up to 200 properties
- Fire or explosion at a gas terminal or involving a gas pipeline.

The SFRS is committed to working in partnership with all relevant stakeholders to ensure emergency planning and preparedness arrangements are in place and tested. An element of our partnership working includes empowering and supporting communities to build community resilience and cohesion. Through this work, we will work with communities to harness their resources and expertise. Examples of this work includes; making communities aware of the risks that they face, simple steps to improve their own safety.

Aligns to:

National Outcomes:

- 6: We live longer healthier lives.
- 8: We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk.
- 9: We live our lives safe from crime disorder and danger.
- 11: We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others.
- 12: We value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Aims:

- 1: Improve safety of our communities and staff.
- 2: More equitable access to fire and rescue services.
- 3: Improved outcomes through partnership.
- 4: Develop a culture of continuous improvement.

West Lothian Priority:

- West Lothian Community Planning Partnership: Community Plan 'Towards 2020'
- West Lothian Community Planning Partnership: Single Outcome Agreement 2013-23 'achieving positive outcomes' No's 3,4,7 and 8
- West Lothian Community Planning Partnership: Strategic Assessment 2013
- West Lothian Community Safety Partnership: Strategic Assessment 2012-15
- East Service Delivery Area Regional Resilience Partnership \ [Lothian and Borders Local Resilience Partnership Community Risk Register](#)
- [The Civil Contingencies Act 2004 \(Scotland\) Regulations 2005](#).

We will achieve it by:

- Ensuring our training, staff development and equipment is fit for purpose to meet our current risk profile and adaptable to changing circumstances.
- Ensure all known risk information is obtained, communicated and tested.
- Working locally with partner organisations and agencies to ensure effective response plans are developed for identified risks.
- Fulfilling our statutory duties in relation to the Civil Contingencies Act.

In doing so we will add value by:

- Keeping our staff and members of the public safe, should any incident occur.
- Reducing the financial burden and disruption caused to our communities when emergencies occur.
- The wealth and prosperity of our area will increase
- Proactively helping the wider community by preventing emergencies and planning to mitigate their effects when they occur.

2. Reduction of Accidental Dwelling Fires

Throughout West Lothian, accidental dwelling fires have occurred within a wide variety of locations. There are direct links to areas of social deprivation and those who are most vulnerable to fire within the community.

Alcohol consumption and/or drugs misuse continue to be identified as a contributory factor in a number of serious injury/fatal fires, due to the affect that they have upon the occupant's ability to react appropriately in a fire situation. In addition, cigarettes and smoking materials continue to be identified as the primary ignition source in a number of serious injury/fatal fires.

House fires can have a significant negative impact on both individuals and the community, in relation to the human, social and economic cost of fire.

Through our Home Fire Safety Visit programme, Community Engagement and Education activities, we aim to reduce the risk and impact of fire and the associated losses.

Aligns to:

National Outcomes:

- 6: We live longer healthier lives.
- 8: We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk.
- 9: We live our lives safe from crime disorder and danger.
- 11: We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others.
- 12: We value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Aims:

- 1: Improve safety of our communities and staff.
- 2: More equitable access to fire and rescue services.
- 3: Improved outcomes through partnership.
- 4: Develop a culture of continuous improvement.

West Lothian Priority:

- West Lothian Community Planning Partnership: Community Plan 'Towards 2020'
- West Lothian Community Planning Partnership: Single Outcome Agreement 2013-23 'achieving positive outcomes' No's 1,2,3,4,5,6,7 and 8 (SOA1304 -14 indicator)
- West Lothian Community Planning Partnership: Strategic Assessment 2013
- West Lothian Community Safety Partnership: Strategic Assessment 2012-15

We will achieve it by:

- Active participation in West Lothian Community Planning arrangements and adopting a partnership approach to risk reduction.
- Sharing information with Health Care, Social Work and relevant partners to help protect the most vulnerable.
- Developing new partnerships to identify and support at risk groups.
- Identifying opportunities for engagement with all members of our community to promote fire safety and good citizenship.
- Delivery of fire safety related educational programmes and community engagement activities.

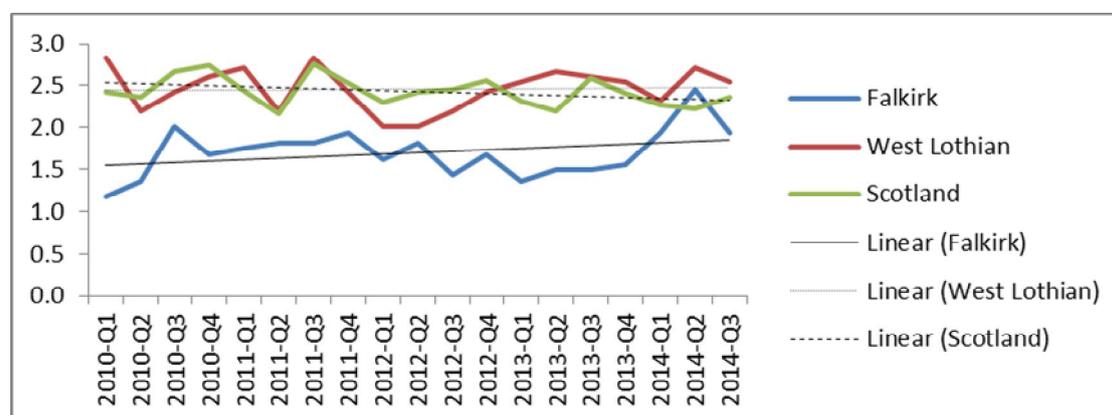
In doing so we will also add value by:

- Promoting confident and safe communities where residents feel positive about where they live.
- Our citizens will be protected.
- Our communities will be safer.
- Reducing the potential financial burden on society through the education of residents.

We aim to reduce Accidental Dwelling Fires in West Lothian by 2% per year, which contributes towards the SFRS target of reducing Accidental Dwelling Fires by 10% per year, over a three-year rolling period.

Performance

The graph below provides empirical incident data on performance in relation to Accidental Dwelling Fires. (data source SFRS, IRS)



The graph depicts the occurrence of Accidental Dwelling Fires per 10,000 population*. For benchmarking purposes, comparative trend data from a comparable local authority area (Falkirk) and Scotland has been included.

*Source: - General Register Office for Scotland (GROS)

3. Reduction in Fire Fatalities and Casualties

Fire casualties tend to occur in accidental dwelling fires. Evidence suggests that where occupants of a dwelling misuse alcohol and/or drugs or are elderly or infirm, there is an increased likelihood of becoming a fire casualty/fatality. The absence of a working smoke detector can greatly increase the vulnerability of these individuals.

The human and financial costs associated with fire casualties/fatalities are high due to potentially significant trauma/loss of life to individuals, and societal costs.

The SFRS in West Lothian aims to target a reduction in these casualties by adopting a partnership approach to reduce the risk to individuals, particularly those that are most vulnerable.

Aligns to:

National Outcomes:

- 6: We live longer, healthier lives.
- 8: We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk.
- 9: We live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger.
- 11: We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others.
- 15: Our people are able to maintain their independence as they get older and are able to access appropriate support when they need it.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Aims:

- 1: Improve safety of our communities and staff.
- 2: More equitable access to fire and rescue services.
- 3: Improved outcomes through partnership.
- 4: Develop a culture of continuous improvement.

West Lothian Priority:

- West Lothian Community Planning Partnership: Community Plan 'Towards 2020'
- West Lothian Community Planning Partnership: Single Outcome Agreement 2013-23 'achieving positive outcomes' We live in resilient, cohesive and safe
- Communities No's 1,2,4,5,6 and 7 (SOA1304_13 & SOA1304_14 indicators)
- West Lothian Community Planning Partnership: Strategic Assessment 2013
- West Lothian Community Safety Partnership: Strategic Assessment 2012-15

We will achieve it by:

- Active participation in West Lothian Council Community Planning arrangements and adopting a partnership approach to risk reduction.
- Continued delivery of the Home Fire Safety Visit programme to households within West Lothian, with particular emphasis on the most vulnerable in our community.
- Targeted Home Fire Safety Visit referrals from partner agencies.
- Promoting healthier lifestyles through encouraging a reduction in alcohol, drugs and cigarette use.
- Ensuring our community safety strategy considers all persons at risk from fire.

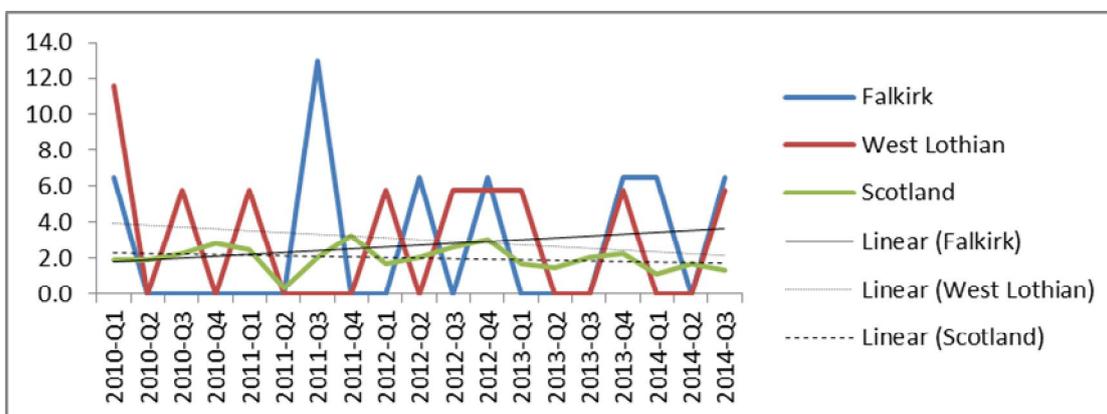
In doing so we will also add value by:

- Our citizens will be protected.
- Our communities will be safer.
- Reducing demand on other partner services such as local health care and social work partners.
- Reducing fire casualty hospitalisation times.

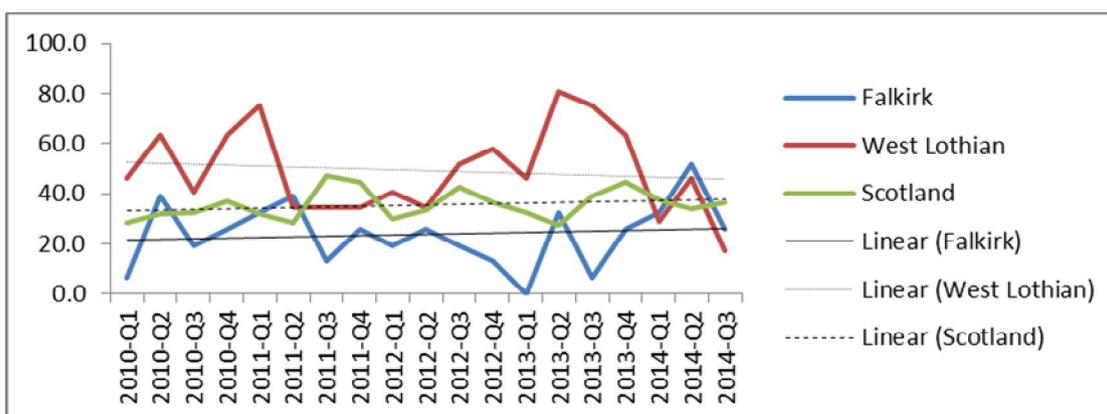
We aim to reduce Fire Casualties in West Lothian by 5% per year, which contributes towards the SFRS target of reducing Fire Casualties by 5% per year, over a three-year rolling period.

Performance

The graph below provides empirical incident data on performance in relation to Fire Fatalities (data source SFRS, IRS)



The graph below provides empirical incident data on performance in relation to Non-Fatal Fire Casualties (excl. precautionary check-ups) (data source SFRS, IRS)



The graphs above depict the number of Fatal and Non-Fatal Fire Casualties per 1,000,000 population*. For benchmarking purposes, comparative trend data from a comparable local authority area (Falkirk) and Scotland has been included.

*Source: GROS

4. Reduction in Deliberate Fire Setting

Deliberate fire setting is a significant problem for the SFRS and is responsible for a significant number of secondary fires that are attended across West Lothian. In the main, secondary fire categories are refuse, grassland and derelict buildings incidents. In addition deliberate fire setting is responsible for a number of primary fires that involve property loss and potential injury/loss of life.

There is a close link between deliberate secondary fires and other forms of anti-social behaviour. By continuing to focus our attention on deliberate fires this will reduce the demand on the SFRS and the burden upon partners and in turn enhance community wellbeing and the environmental impact.

Aligns to:

National Outcomes:

- 4: Our young people are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens.
- 8: We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk.
- 9: We live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger.
- 11: We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others.
- 12: We value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations.
- 14: We reduce the local and global environmental impact of our consumption and production.
- 16: Our public services are high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to local people's needs.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Aims:

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- West Lothian Community Planning Partnership: Community Plan 'Towards 2020'
- West Lothian Community Planning Partnership: Single Outcome Agreement 2013-23 'achieving positive outcomes' We live in resilient, cohesive and safe
- Communities No's 2,3,4 and 8 (SOA1304_13 indicator)
- West Lothian Community Planning Partnership: Strategic Assessment 2013
- West Lothian Community Safety Partnership: Strategic Assessment 2012-15

We will achieve it by:

- Engaging in a multi-agency approach to tackle deliberate fire setting and fire related anti-social behaviour by the targeting resources to areas of demand.
- Deliver youth engagement programmes to reduce anti-social behaviour through diversionary activities and education.
- Identify and develop partnerships with organisations who engage with young people.

- Providing an enhanced level of Fire Investigation within West Lothian.

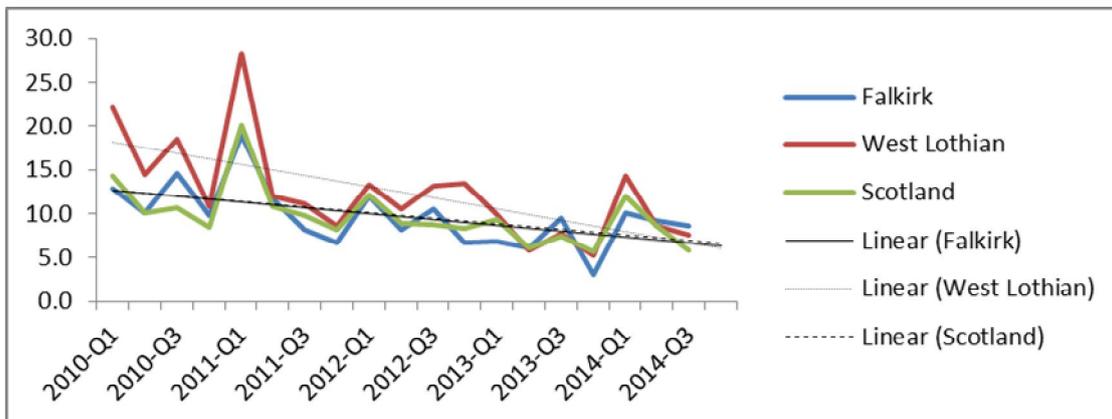
In doing so we will also add value by:

- Promoting safe and attractive communities in which people want to live.
- Diverting those persons away from anti-social behaviour by encouraging them to be good citizens.
- Reducing the adverse effects that deliberate fire setting has on peoples' lives within West Lothian.
- Supporting the national focus towards early and effective intervention.

We aim to reduce Deliberate Fire Setting in West Lothian by 5% per year.

Performance

The graph below provides empirical incident data on performance in relation to All Deliberate Fires (data source SFRS, IRS)



The graph depicts the occurrence of All Deliberate Fires per 10,000 population*. For benchmarking purposes, comparative trend data from a comparable local authority area (Falkirk) and Scotland has been included.

*Source: GROS

5. Reduction of Fires in Non-Domestic Properties

All fires in workplaces and business premises are classed as Non-Domestic Fires and come under the scope of the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005.

Fire Safety Enforcement Officers carry out audits to ensure statutory responsibilities are met and provide advice to businesses on fire safety. The types of premises encompassed by the Act can be wide-ranging and include industrial, commercial and those premises providing sleeping accommodation such as residential care premises.

In addition to the costs associated with fires in commercial properties, many businesses that experience a significant fire do not reopen afterwards.

We proactively work as part of a partnership, with local industry to ensure that Businesses Continuity Planning and Emergency Preparedness Arrangements are appropriate, to ensure we can mitigate the impact of fires and other emergencies on business and that we are prepared to respond to adverse safety events.

Aligns to:

National Outcomes:

- 1: We live in a Scotland that is the most attractive place for doing business in Europe.
- 6: We live longer, healthier lives.
- 9: We live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger.
- 12: We value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Aims:

- 1: Improve safety of our communities and staff.
- 2: More equitable access to fire and rescue services.
- 3: Improved outcomes through partnership.
- 4: Develop a culture of continuous improvement.

West Lothian Priority:

- West Lothian Community Planning Partnership: Community Plan 'Towards 2020'
- West Lothian Community Planning Partnership: Single Outcome Agreement 2013-23 'achieving positive outcomes' We live in resilient, cohesive and safe
- Communities No's 3,4 and 8 (SOA1304_13 indicator)
- West Lothian Community Planning Partnership: Strategic Assessment 2013
- West Lothian Community Safety Partnership: Strategic Assessment 2012-15

We will achieve it by:

- The audit of business and commercial premises by Fire Safety Enforcement Officers using a risk based approach.
- Work with the West Lothian Council licensing department to ensure all multiple occupation houses comply with the required standards in relation to Fire Safety.
- Carrying out Post Fire Audits following any fire within relevant premises.

- Consultation with West Lothian Council Building Standards Officers and architects.
- Participation in major incident preparedness and exercising.

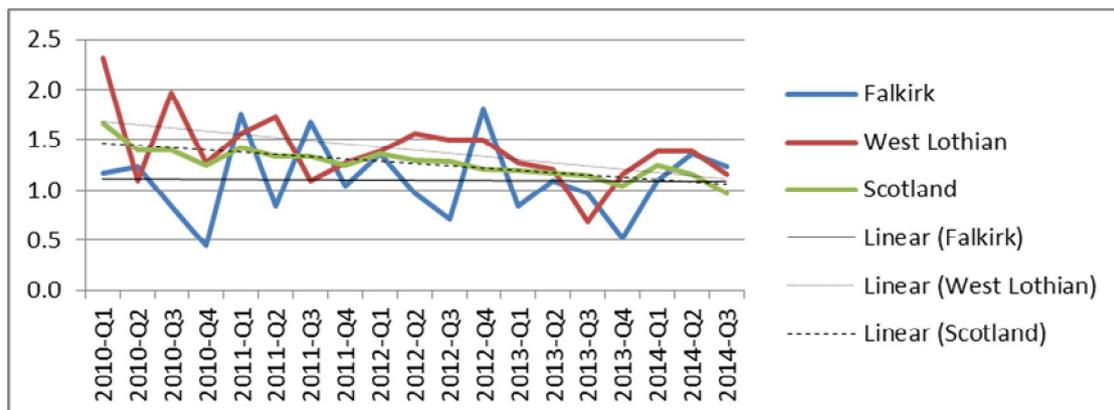
In doing so we will also add value by:

- The wealth and prosperity in our area will increase.
- The quality of our infrastructure will help promote growth of the local economy.
- Safeguarding the wellbeing of residents and employees within relevant premises.
- Supporting business continuity and employment within West Lothian.
- Our citizens will be protected.
- Our communities will be safer.

We aim to reduce Non-Domestic Premises Fires in West Lothian by 3% per year, which contributes to the SFRS target of continually reducing Non-Domestic Premises Fires.

Performance

The graph below provides empirical incident data on performance in relation to fires in Non-Domestic Premises (data source SFRS, IRS)



The graph depicts the occurrence of all fires in Non-Domestic Other Buildings per 10,000 population* For benchmarking purposes comparative trend data from a comparable local authority area (Falkirk) and Scotland has been included.

*Source: GROS

6. Reduction in Fatalities and Casualties from Non-Fire Emergencies

A central part of the SFRS's role is responding to non-fire emergencies such as Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs) and other rescue situations such as; rescue from water, from height or from entrapment. Operational fire fighters are trained to a high standard and have at their disposal the most modern equipment for extricating people in rescue situations and administering first aid to casualties.

Attendance at RTCs is a core role for the SFRS but primary responsibility for road safety lies with Transport Scotland, Police Scotland and local authorities. The SFRS has a crucial role in support of these organisations activities at a local level and can provide access to hard-hitting education programmes aimed at the most at risk groups to highlight the consequences of RTCs and dangerous driving. National statistics identify that the most at risk group is young drivers who are targeted through the multi-agency initiative "Westdrive", which is aimed at 4th year school pupils and supports [Go Safe, Scotland's Road Safety Framework for 2020](#).

The educational road safety activities that we deliver are designed to increase driver awareness in relation to the consequences of dangerous driving. Particular focus continues to be on young and new drivers.

Aligns to:

National Outcomes;

- 4: Our young people are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens.
- 6: We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk.
- 9: We live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger.
- 15: Our public services are high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to other people's needs.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Aims:

- 1: Improve safety of our communities and staff.
- 2: More equitable access to fire and rescue services.
- 3: Improved outcomes through partnership.
- 4: Develop a culture of continuous improvement.

West Lothian Priority:

- West Lothian Community Planning Partnership: Community Plan 'Towards 2020'
- West Lothian Community Planning Partnership: Single Outcome Agreement 2013-23 'achieving positive outcomes' We live in resilient, cohesive and safe
- Communities No's 2 and 4 (SOA1307_04)
- West Lothian Community Planning Partnership: Strategic Assessment 2013
- West Lothian Community Safety Partnership: Strategic Assessment 2012-15
- West Lothian Community Safety Partnership: Road Casualty Reduction Plan 2012 – 15.

We will achieve it by:

- Continuing our educational programmes, such as Westdrive, particularly aimed at high risk groups within our communities.
- Develop innovative ways of delivering the road safety agenda in collaboration with partners.
- Working with our partners within West Lothian to ensure that all agencies can map road incident hotspots.

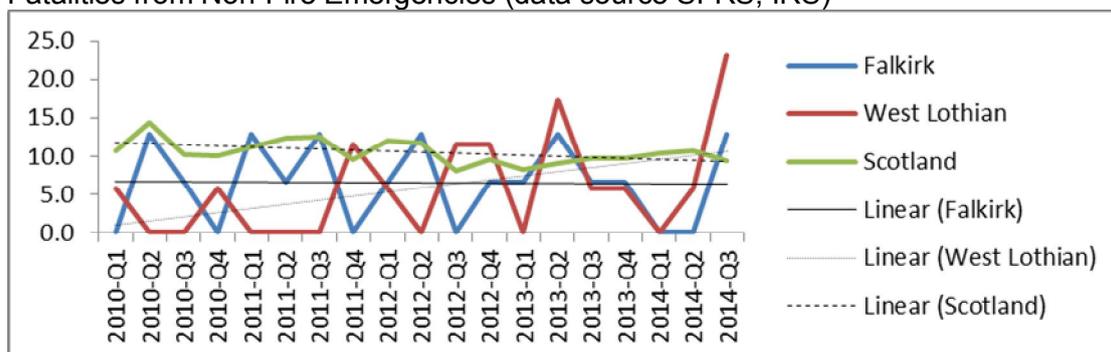
In doing so we will also add value by:

- Our citizens will be protected.
- Our communities will be safer.
- Reducing the number of hospital admissions, and the associated costs to the NHS and other organisations due to RTC related injuries.
- Encouraging young drivers and other groups to be responsible road users through active engagement and education.

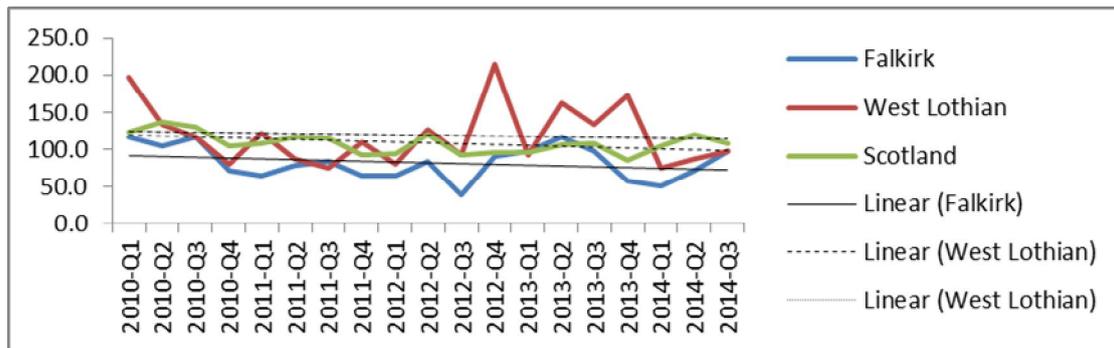
We aim to reduce Casualties from Non-Fire Emergencies in West Lothian by 4% per year, which contributes to the SFRS target of reducing Casualties from Non-Fire Emergencies per year, over a three-year rolling period.

Performance

The graph below provides empirical incident data on performance in relation to Fatalities from Non-Fire Emergencies (data source SFRS, IRS)



The graph below provides empirical incident data on performance in relation to Non-Fatal casualties from Non-Fire Emergencies (excl. precautionary check-ups) (data source SFRS, IRS)



The graphs above depict the number of Fatal and Non-Fatal Non-Fire Emergency Casualties per 1,000,000 population*. For benchmarking purposes, comparative trend data from a comparable local authority area (Falkirk) and Scotland has been included.

*Source: GROS

7. Reduction of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) are those occasions when an automated fire alarm system activates and results in the mobilisation of SFRS resources, when the reason for that alarm turns out to be something other than a fire emergency.

UFAS are categorised into three main categories: False Alarm Good Intent, False Alarm Malicious or False Alarm Equipment Failure.

Within West Lothian UFAS incidents in non-domestic properties account for a significant amount of the total calls attended.

UFAS has a negative impact on the SFRS through the deployment of resources to incidents where their life saving services are not required. This negative impact is also experienced by businesses through loss of production, business continuity or service delivery.

Attendance at UFAS creates a negative financial burden upon SFRS as well as increasing the road risk and environmental impact within West Lothian.

Aligns to:

National Outcomes;

- 1: We live in a Scotland that is the most attractive place for doing business in Europe.
- 6: We live longer, healthier lives.
- 8: We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk.
- 9: We live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger.
- 12: We value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations.
- 14: We reduce the local and global environmental impact of our consumption and production.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Aims:

- 1: Improve safety of our communities and staff.
- 3: Improved outcomes through partnership.
- 4: Develop a culture of continuous improvement.

West Lothian Priority:

- West Lothian Community Planning Partnership: Community Plan ‘Towards 2020’
- West Lothian Community Planning Partnership: Single Outcome Agreement 2013-23 ‘achieving positive outcomes’ No’s 3, 4 and 8.
- West Lothian Community Planning Partnership: Strategic Assessment 2013
- West Lothian Community Safety Partnership: Strategic Assessment 2012-15

We will achieve it by:

- Working with the business and commercial sector to provide advice and guidance in relation to the management of unwanted fire alarm signals.
- Ensure premises with unwanted fire alarm signal occurrences comply with the British Standard 5839 Part 1 & 6: current editions.
- Implementation of SFRS UFAS policy.

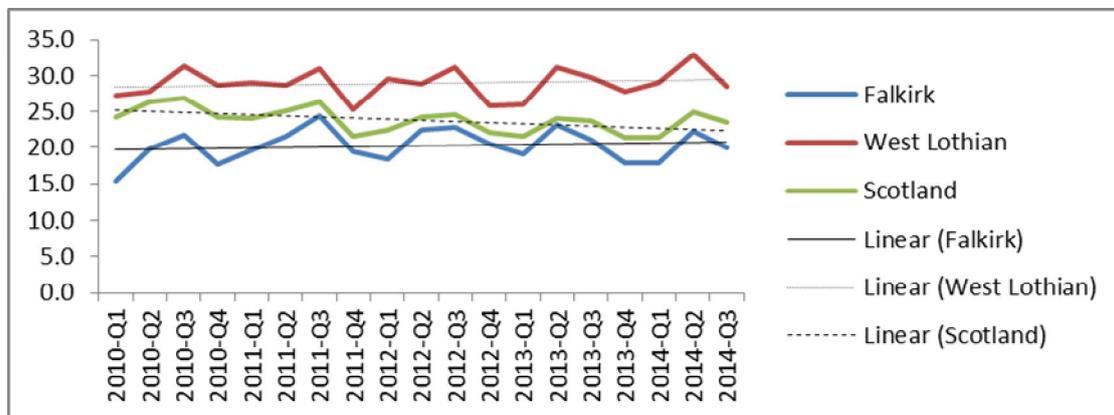
In doing so we will also add value by:

- The wealth and prosperity in our area will increase.
- The negative impact of UFAS on local business will reduce.

We aim to reduce Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals in West Lothian by 5% per year.

Performance

The graph below provides empirical incident data on performance in relation to All False Alarms (data source SFRS, IRS)

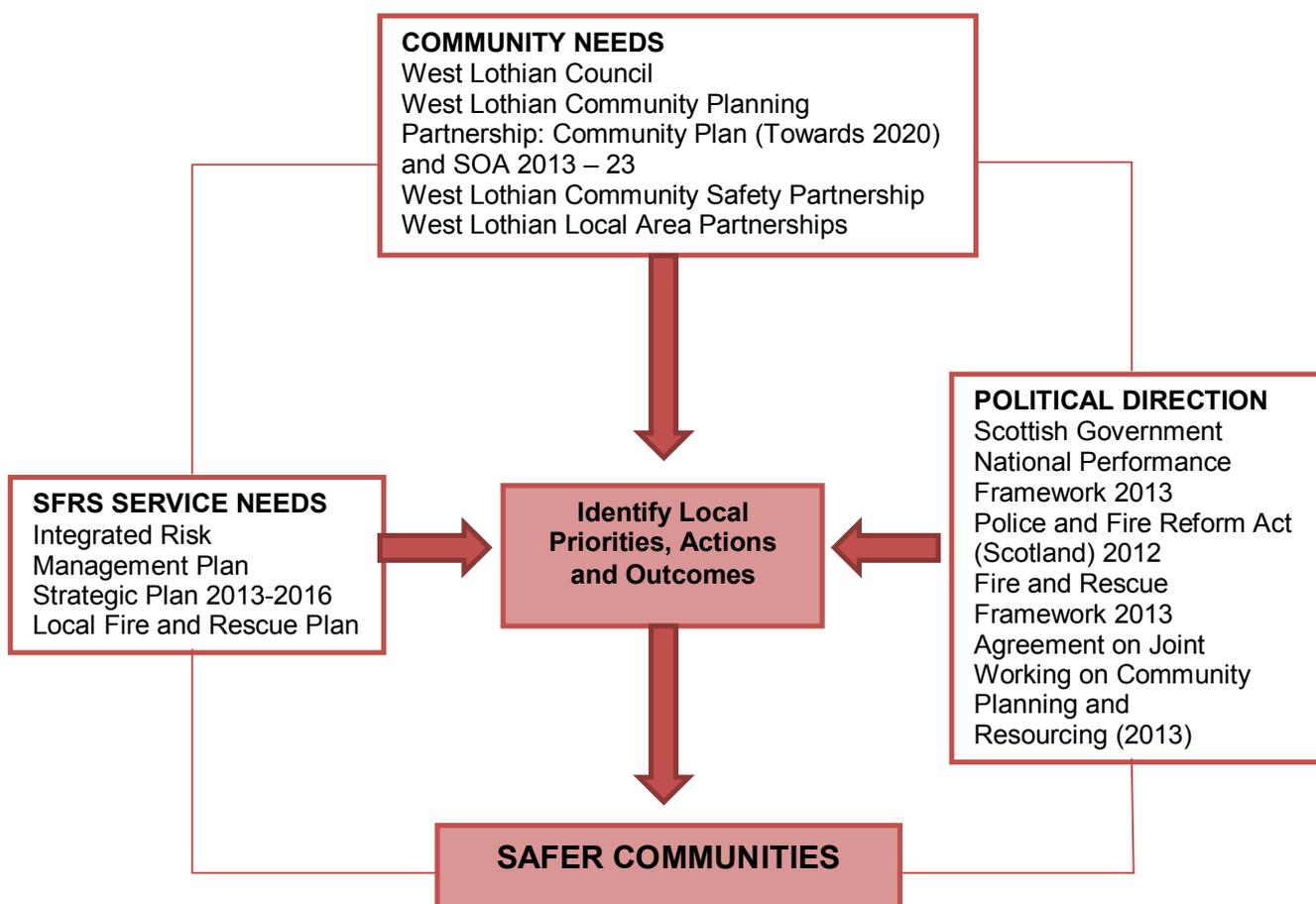


The graph depicts the occurrence of All False Alarms per 10,000 population*. For benchmarking purposes, comparative trend data from a comparable local authority area (Falkirk) and Scotland has been included.

*Source: GROS

Achieving Local Outcomes

Following a process of identifying local risks within West Lothian, priority actions to address them and expected outcomes have been set within this Local Fire and Rescue Plan. Local risks were identified following considerations of political direction set by the Scottish Government, community needs identified through consultation and the operational resources and capacity of the SFRS.



OUTCOMES

The Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 includes a framework for local scrutiny and engagement arrangements between local authorities and the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

Across West Lothian, local scrutiny of the performance of the Fire and Rescue Service takes place at the West Lothian Council Services for Communities

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 in its lifetime. A review may also be carried out if the Scottish Minister directs it or if a new Strategic Plan is approved.

Contact Us

If you have something you would like to share with us, you can get in touch in a number of ways:

- Use the feedback form on our website to send an email - www.firescotland.gov.uk
- Contact your local Community Fire Station - details are listed on our website or in your local telephone directory.
- Contact Falkirk & West Lothian LSO Area Headquarters on 01324 629121.
- Write to us at the address at the bottom of this page.

We are fully committed to continually improving the service we provide to our communities and recognise that to achieve this goal we must listen and respond to the views of the public.

We use all feedback we receive to monitor our performance and incorporate this information into our planning and governance processes in order to continually improve our service.

We are proud to say that the majority of the feedback we receive is positive, and we are keen to hear examples of good practice and quality service delivery that exemplifies the standards of care that we strive to provide for the communities of Scotland.

In instances where our standards of service are questioned, we welcome the opportunity to investigate the circumstances, and are committed to correcting any lapses and using the learning outcomes to improve our future service delivery.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format or a version in another language, please contact:

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Service Delivery Area East HQ, Main Street, Maddiston FK2 0LG

Tel 01324 710220 Fax 01324 715353 or alternatively visit our website www.firescotland.gov.uk

Glossary of Terms

Accidental: Caused by accident or carelessness. Includes fires that accidentally get out of control.

Casualty: consists of persons requiring medical treatment beyond first aid given at the scene of the incident, those sent to hospital or advised to see a doctor for a check-up or observation (whether or not they actually do). People sent to hospital or advised to see a doctor as a precaution, having no obvious injury, are recorded as 'precautionary check-ups'. Casualty figures do not include fatalities.

Deliberate: covers fires where deliberate ignition is suspected

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals: an event in which the Fire and Rescue Service believes they are called to a reportable fire and then find there is no such incident. These can be Malicious, of Good Intent or caused by Equipment.

Fatality: a casualty whose death is attributed to a fire is counted as a fatality even if the death occurred later. Fatalities associated with Other Incidents can include attendance to assist Police or Ambulance colleagues when a person has been found who has committed suicide, for example. Often there is little we can do as a Service to influence this particular figure.

Primary Fires: includes all fires in buildings, vehicles and most outdoor structures or any fire involving casualties, rescues or fire attended by five or more pumping appliances.

Secondary Fires: These cover the majority of outdoor fires including grassland and refuse fires unless they involve casualties or rescues, property loss or if five or more appliances attend. They include fires in derelict buildings but not chimney fires.

Incident Recording System: Department of Communities and Local Government Fire and Rescue Service Directorate, web-enabled Incident Recording System for collection and subsequent statistical handling and publication of incident data from United Kingdom Fire and Rescue Services.

Abbreviations

AFA - Automatic Fire Alarm

UFAS - Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals

RTC - Road Traffic Collision

LGBT - Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender

BME - Black Minority Ethnic

COMAH - Control of Major Accident and Hazards

IRS - Incident Recording System

References

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Strategic Plan for 2013-2016.
<http://www.firescotland.gov.uk/about-us/strategic-plan.aspx>

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<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2005/5/contents>

The Scottish Government National Performance Framework.
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/About/Performance/scotPerforms>

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<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/About/Performance/scotPerforms/outcome>

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<http://www.westlothian.gov.uk/media/downloaddoc/1799465/lcp/SOA2013>

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West Lothian Community Safety Partnership, Strategic Assessment
<http://www.westlothian.gov.uk/Community-life-and-leisure/396/>

Lothian and Borders Local Resilience Partnership Community Risk Register
http://alcoholisnotanexcuse.co.uk/files/Information/Strategic%20Plans/Community-Risk-Register_2012.pdf

The Civil Contingencies Act 2004 (Scotland) Regulations 2005
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2005/02/20630/51567>

Scotland's Road Safety Framework to 2020
<http://www.roadsafetyobservatory.com/Pdf/SCOTLAND%20RS%20FRAMEWORK%202020.pdf>