

Activity Report of the Chief Officer



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Front page photo: Car crash into Emsworth Sailing Club

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Introduction

This activity report covers the period 1 April 2014 to 30 June 2014. Any notable incidents that have occurred after 30 June 2014 and before the report has been issued are listed in the back in the “Latest news” section of the report.

Sadly, there has been one possible fire death during this quarter after a car fire on the A337 on 29 May 2014. We are awaiting the coroner’s report to confirm this which is due in October 2014.

During this reporting period we have attended several large high profile fires which have showed the wide range of skills of our crews and their dedication and hard work. These incidents include a high rise fire in Southampton, a flat fire where multiple casualties were rescued and a devastated church fire. Details of these incidents are in the ‘Responding to incidents’ section.

We had five periods of industrial action by the Fire Brigades Union during this period. May Bank Holiday was included in this and our advertising and social media focused on ‘take extra care’ messaging around driving, cooking, using BBQs and nights out.

With the change in weather there were several water and mud rescues in this period which required some work with the media to urge people to take extra care.

We launched our summer drink drive awareness campaign during this period to coincide with the FIFA World Cup and the Isle of Wight Festival. The theme of the campaign was based on awareness of how long alcohol remains in your system after you have finished drinking.

Our co-responder personnel attended 2442 medical incidents on behalf of South Central Ambulance Service NHS Trust during this period.

During this quarter we have seen some fantastic work from our volunteers and had 23 active volunteers at the end of this period which contributed to 525 hours of work to support our Service.

We have attended 2900 incidents during this quarter which is less compared to the 3280 incidents attended in the same period last year.

1 Responding to incidents

Incident Category	April - June 2013	April – June 2014
False alarm	489	502
Primary fire	507	439
Road traffic collision	218	198
Secondary fire	639	467
Special service call	514	509
Unwanted fire signal	913	785
Total	3280	2900

1.1 Southampton high rise fire

Fire crews dealt with a large fire on top of a high rise structure in the centre of Southampton on 3 April 2014. The building consisting of 17 floors on Portland Terrace and was reported as well alight to our Control room at 11:39.

Around 85 firefighters were mobilised to the scene to deal with the fire, which involved the roof and part of the sixteenth floor. Firefighters were able to reach the roof of the building and use jets to extinguish the flames.

The fire was extinguished by around 12:50. Crews remained on the scene cutting away to ensure there was no re-ignition.

We worked closely with Hampshire Constabulary, South Central Ambulance Service and Southampton City Council to manage road closures and keep the public safe. The cause of the fire was accidental involving the use of a propane torch.

1.2 Firefighters attended an incident at Emsworth Sailing Club

Firefighters were mobilised to Emsworth Sailing Club at 06.36 on Tuesday 22 April 2014 after reports of a car which had crashed into a building.

One male was out of the vehicle when crews arrived and was being dealt with by South Central Ambulance Service. Unfortunately, the fire from the car had spread to the building at the sailing club.

Crews from Emsworth, Havant, Horndean and Hayling Island attended the scene along with the special equipment unit from Cosham and a water carrier from Eastleigh. Firefighters used 16 sets of breathing apparatus, two hose reels and two jets to bring the blaze under control. The car was 100 per cent damaged by fire and the building was approximately 30 per cent damaged by fire.

1 Responding to incidents

1.3 Five people rescued from Southampton flat fire

Five Southampton residents were rescued from a dramatic flat fire in the early hours of 14 May 2014.

The fire started in a flat on the fourth floor of a building in York Close, Northam, Southampton, just after 02:00 hrs. The fire then spread to a communal corridor and neighbouring properties, leaving five people to be rescued by crews using ladders.



On arrival crews were met with a severe and rapidly developing fire in a top floor flat. Firefighters rescued multiple residents and aggressive firefighting was required.

Approximately 60 firefighters used 24 sets of breathing apparatus, four jets, one aerial ladder platform and two ladders were used to tackle the blaze.

The flat and corridor were damaged by the fire and three neighbouring flats were 50 per cent damaged by smoke and slightly damaged by fire.

In total, 11 people received treatment on scene from South Central Ambulance Service, with one being taken to hospital as a precaution following smoke inhalation.

The Marketing and Communications team used this incident to put out an important safety message about our 'stay put' policy, self closing doors and escape plans. The photo above was used to show how the flat next door was completely untouched by fire simply because the door remained closed during the fire.



1 Responding to incidents

1.4 Historic church in Ropley suffered a severe fire

A fire destroyed the roof and bell tower of a Grade II listed church building in Ropley on 19 June 2014.

The fire was discovered at St Peter's Church in Ropley, which dates back to Norman times, at approximately 8:50 hrs.

Control operators quickly mobilised 12 appliances and support vehicles to the scene to battle the rapidly developing fire.

This was a significant fire that has seriously affected a prominent building within the village. Crews worked hard in arduous conditions to bring the fire under control.

Firefighters visited local residents to offer reassurance and worked with the local primary school to ensure that parents could safely collect their children at the end of the school day due to road closures throughout the village.

A fire investigation is still on going due to the building being unsafe to investigate.



2 Community safety

2.1 Home safety - safeguarding

Home safety visits carried out this quarter – **1000**

Smoke alarms fitted this quarter – **1150**

The home safety project has continued to improve our home safety activities through a number of work streams, namely the referral pathway and the creation of the fire development group.

The referral pathway is our new referral process for home safety visits that will ensure any individuals that are referred to us for a home safety visit are risk assessed, before we take appropriate action. This process allows us to use our resources more effectively and prepares our staff with key information about the individual before making a visit. The pathway is in its second phase of being tested and is due to be rolled out across Hampshire towards the end of the year.

Health and wellbeing is an area where we continue to explore opportunities. We are giving training to our community safety officers as part of a trial in the delivery and fitting of sensory impairment products, vibrating pillows and strobes. This is being done in conjunction with Hampshire County Council Sensory Impairment team.

2.2 Schools and Education team

The Schools Education team has now moved to Winchester Fire Station. We have had a busy time supporting colleagues from other departments and agencies, to further increase our target audience. For example, we have joined forces with Hampshire Constabulary PCSO's to share our expertise at delivering messages to schools. We have supported work around troubled families and community resilience, by providing safety education workshops. We are also linking with Early Years providers to access young vulnerable parents and carers.

As part of our continual assessment and review process we periodically ask teachers to complete teacher appraisal forms. These assess the pupil's interest and ability to recall information, as well as allow teachers and pupils to critique the visit. Here are just a few of the comments :

- “A lovely session appropriately pitched, great behaviour management, the children really enjoyed it “ Cranford Park Infants.
- “As always, a very informative day. The children respect the views of the firefighters and listen attentively. An important addition to our curriculum” Bishops Waltham Junior.
- “They taught us what the results would be if we committed arson” Padnell Junior.

And of course there are always lots of letters and pictures including wonderful art work where the firefighters have been created using children's thumb prints.

2 Community safety

Type of event	Working with	Location	No of children	No of adults
Schools Safety Education Programme	Pupils in Key Stage 1	Hampshire	2985	324
Schools Safety Education Programme	Pupils in Key Stage 2	Hampshire	2585	258
Schools Safety Education Response Visit	Pupils in Key Stage 3	The Sholing Technology College	220	7
Siskin Safety Day	Troubled Families	Gosport	110 Key Stage 2	16
Citizenship Day	Pupils in Key Stage 3	Hounslow School		
Community Resilience Day	Portsmouth City Council	Southsea Fire Station	75 Key Stage 3	10
Firesetting Response Workshop	Hampshire Constabulary	Thornden School	495 Key Stage 3	20
Firesetting Response Workshop	Staff and pupils in Key Stage 3	Lord Wilson School	20 Pupils who have emotional and behaviour difficulties	10
Parent and child community visit	Young parents and carers	St Johns Pre-school Rownhams	35 under 5 years	34
Young Carers Safety Education visit	Eastleigh young carers and station staff	Eastleigh Fire Station	10 Key Stages 1/2	10
Think Safe	Hart District Council	Hawley Lane Activity Centre, Farnborough	637 Key Stage 2	44
Think Safe	Aster communities	Andover Vineyard	473 Key Stage 2	81
Think Safe	Basingstoke and Deane	Bramley Army Training Camp	767 Key Stage 2	77
Science Fair	First Partnership	Robert Mays School, Odiham	174 Key Stage 2	14

2 Community safety

2.3 Volunteers

Our total number of volunteers at the end of this quarter is 41. The first week in June 2014 was National Volunteers Week and we launched a recruitment drive for a home fire safety and events team to assist the Community Safety department. We also recruited for 'live casualties' who will help make training exercises more realistic as well as vehicle maintenance support assistants for the training department. To date we have received over 20 enquiries and will be running a series of induction events during July and August.

Activity 1 April - 30 June 2014	Number of volunteers supporting
Home safety visits	12 volunteers conducted 68 home safety visits
Young people engagement	Two volunteers engaged with students at Southdown College promoting road and fire safety
Young Firefighters Association (YFA)	One volunteer assisted with the Gosport Young Firefighter Association (YFA) group
Community engagement	Four volunteers attended events such as the Overlord Show, young parenting groups and patient forums delivering fire safety messages
Deaf Awareness sessions	Our British Sign Language volunteer has now delivered deaf awareness sessions at Rushmoor, Andover, Eastleigh and Basingstoke. These have been very well received by personnel
Total	23 active volunteers contributing to a total of 525 hours

2.4 Princes Trust

Over the past three months HFRS's Prince's Trust provision has seen 38 young people enrolled on to our 'get started' and 'team' programmes. The majority of these 16-25 year olds will have joined our programme having been long-term unemployed and/or, educational underachievers.

2 Community safety

St Mary's Team 36

This team recruited 15 young people from Southampton and the surrounding areas. We were supported by two secondments, one from Hampshire Constabulary and one from the Royal Artillery. This team has seen exceptional progress in its young people. One young person was offered a first step in training to become an architect, and successfully completed his work placement with a firm. Another young person has thrown aside their fears and with great determination improved their spelling ability, having joined us being unable to write their own name.

Gosport Team 2

This team recruited 15 young people and they played a huge part in supporting Siskin Junior School's safety day at Fort Brockhurst. The team's participation saw them acting as role models and directing 140 of the school's pupils, organised into 'watches', around the various activities to ensure that the day ran smoothly.

National Fire Cadets

We are pleased to announce that two of HFRS's current cadet units, Gosport and Ringwood, are taking up the support and branding of the National Fire Cadets. Both units have been successful in their bid for start up funding of £3500.

Supporting Hampshire Families

As of May 2014 HFRS have been commissioned by Hampshire County Council to work with families across the county who have been identified as being high risk and costly to society.

We delivered key safety messages at two Siskin School safety days to 120 children. Home safety visits were prioritised and offered to all families. To date five fire setters referrals have been made and 20 homes have been supplied with fire retardant bedding.

2.5 Fire investigation

There have been 52 fire investigations in the reporting period, 28 deliberate fires, 22 non-suspicious, two undetermined and one possible fire death in New Forest Group which is awaiting Coroners report (For more details see New Forest Group response).

Fire Investigation (FI) and Arson Task Force (ATF) have supported the investigation of 28 arson offences. The team has deployed the fire investigation search dogs throughout Hampshire to assist with five fire investigations. Five arrests have been made in relation to five offences committed in Basingstoke and Deane, Southampton and Fareham and Gosport Groups in partnership with Hampshire Constabulary.

Evidence found at the scenes by HFRS fire investigators, HFRS fire crews and Hampshire Constabulary crime scene investigators has been instrumental in securing the following convictions.

2 Community safety

- Following an act of arson and attempted murder in Highland Road, Fareham on Tuesday 2 July 2013, Karen Lyle was found guilty of attempted murder. At the hearing in April 2014 at Portsmouth Crown Court, Ms Lyle was sentenced to 22 years imprisonment.
- Following an act of arson to an address in Cliffe Avenue, Hamble on Thursday 15 May 2014, Rachel Francis Vincent accepted a police caution.

Additional case results are awaited in relation to three investigations and one Coroners Inquest.

2.6 Firesetter Intervention Scheme

The Firesetters Intervention Scheme has undertaken the following activity in this reporting period:

- 30 referrals to the Juvenile Firesetters Intervention Programme
- 6 referrals to the Adult Firesetters Intervention Programme

We have attended:

- 39 Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) meetings
- 1 South East Regional CFOA meetings hosted by Surrey Fire and Rescue Service.

Work is ongoing with HMP Winchester to educate known arsonists and assist them with their rehabilitation back into society. Part of this work has been funded by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. We have upgraded our courses so that they can be accredited as a Fire Service Short Course which allows the offender to achieve educational credits.

2.7 Road safety

The Chief Fire Officers Association's UK Road Safety Week took place from 9-15 June 2014. During this national week of activity, we promoted targeted road safety messages to road users including pedestrians, car drivers, cyclists and motorbike riders using social media and our website.

During this week we targeted both World Cup football fans and people going to the Isle of Wight Festival. The theme was based on awareness of how long alcohol remains in your system after you have finished drinking. We achieved this by developing messages and supporting literature and delivering them through new partnerships with ferry and hovercraft companies. We also worked with the licence trade to distribute information particularly targeting the trade in town centres that were showing World Cup football matches.

We have been approached by New Forest District Council who are concerned about the level of vehicle accidents in their fleet. Through a series of meetings and presentations we have developed a prevention strategy in partnership with The Blue Lamp Trust to assist in the reduction of accident rates.

2 Community safety

2.8 Co-responders

Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service personnel attended 2442 medical incidents on behalf of South Central Ambulance Service NHS Trust during this period.

Month	Calls
April	847
May	946
June	649
Total	2442



Our vehicles have been busy supporting the community, providing additional resilience to our partners South Central Ambulance

Service during their peak periods.

Throughout this period our personnel have attended incidents alongside our colleagues in the Air Ambulance, Hazard Area Response Teams (HART) and our regular response crews.

2.9 National resilience capability

Portsmouth University

At the request of Portsmouth University the Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) team facilitated a field exercise and provided trainers for the Crisis and Disaster Management field exercise in May. This is the second year USAR has been involved with this course and planning is in place to develop it further for next year.

Police collaboration

We continue to support the College of Policing in the delivery of both the POLSA (Police Search Advisor) and the SERM (Scene Evidence Recovery Manager) courses.

USAR prepared and ran a joint exercise with the Hampshire Constabulary Collapsed Structures team at Fort Widley as part of our collaborative working programme. This was focused on forensic victim recovery from collapsed structures.

USAR ran an open week at SHQ and invited all HFRS personnel along with our partner agencies. This was very well received by all who attended and our external partners were fully briefed on the capability of the USAR team who have a wide range of skills and equipment that are available.

Overseas

One USAR member accompanied by a firefighter from Basingstoke delivered training in Valparaiso in Chile on the aerial ladder platforms (ALP) that were purchased from HFRS and shipped to Valparaiso. This was a two week intensive course for the Valparaiso Fire Service to train operators on the ALPs.

2 Community safety

At the request of the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (Myndigheten för samhällsskydd och beredskap, MSB) one USAR team member joined the training team in Sweden to deliver training on worksite management and scene assessment on their annual worksite management course.

As part of the UK Government's response to the wide scale floods in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Hampshire USAR provided the base of operations equipment and two team members to run the base of operations for the team of 34. This was a response to a request from European Union Civil Protection to the Cabinet Office Civil Contingencies Secretariat. All base of operations equipment and protocols worked fully and the team were congratulated on their work in supporting the team's every need.

2.10 Marketing and communications

Flooding recovery

Following the major flooding in Hampshire, we formed part of the multi-agency approach to communicating vital flooding recovery advice and information to the public. This included information on disposal of sandbags, safely returning to homes and access to funding for repairs.

The work, which included the regular refreshing of our website and social media channels, continued long after the floodwaters had subsided, to support the worst-affected communities in the county.

Industrial action

Between April and June, five periods of industrial action by the Fire Brigades Union took place.

The communication strategy adopted continued to provide clear, simple advice and safety information to the public to help reduce 999 calls during these periods.

A dedicated campaign targeted at keeping people safe over the May Bank Holiday strike period took place, utilising our website, social media channels and media interviews.

Isle of Wight Festival and World Cup anti-drink-drive campaign

As mentioned earlier in the report both the World Cup and Isle of Wight Festival started on the same weekend in June. We targeted both football and festival fans with anti-drink-driving messages, highlighting the dangers of driving the morning after.

Flyers and posters were produced to hand out to both football fans out watching the World Cup in town centres and to festival goers departing for the Isle of Wight from the ferry ports in Southampton and Portsmouth.

We also linked up with the festival organisers and encouraged them to share our drink-drive messages through their social media channels.

3 Group activity

3.1 Group activity – Basingstoke and Deane Group

Community safety

The table below shows the number of home safety visits carried out between 1 April 2014 and 30 June 2014 and the number of smoke alarms fitted.

	Number
HSVs undertaken	54
Smoke detectors fitted	55

Fire investigations

Basingstoke and Deane had one fire investigation involving a flat.

Arson and risk reduction

One statement was taken.

Mosaic risk groups

D, H and K

Business fire safety

Our business support officers (BSOs) have been working in rural areas to offer advice on business continuity and resilience.

We visited a large hotel in Basingstoke, which is part of a national chain, after a complaint from a member of the public regarding the standard of fire safety. The means of escape was not appropriate and instead of a prohibition notice we were able to work with the responsible person to resolve the issues. This way the hotel was able to remain open and safe.

Following a request for a variation in the licence we paid a visit to Highclere Castle. The castle is a Grade 1 listed building so any changes would need to be agreed by English Heritage and the local authority conservation officer. On this occasion the request was to increase the numbers for two major outdoor functions 10000 to 15000 people. The 5000 acre site was reviewed, as were the management plan and controls, this will be reported back to the Safety Advisory Group.

Our BSOs have been visiting businesses in rural areas and have managed to get an engineering works in Overton to remove their acetylene equipment following safety advice. The BSOs are now looking to approach national companies who use acetylene and discuss alternative solutions.

3.1 Group activity – Basingstoke and Deane Group

Enforcement

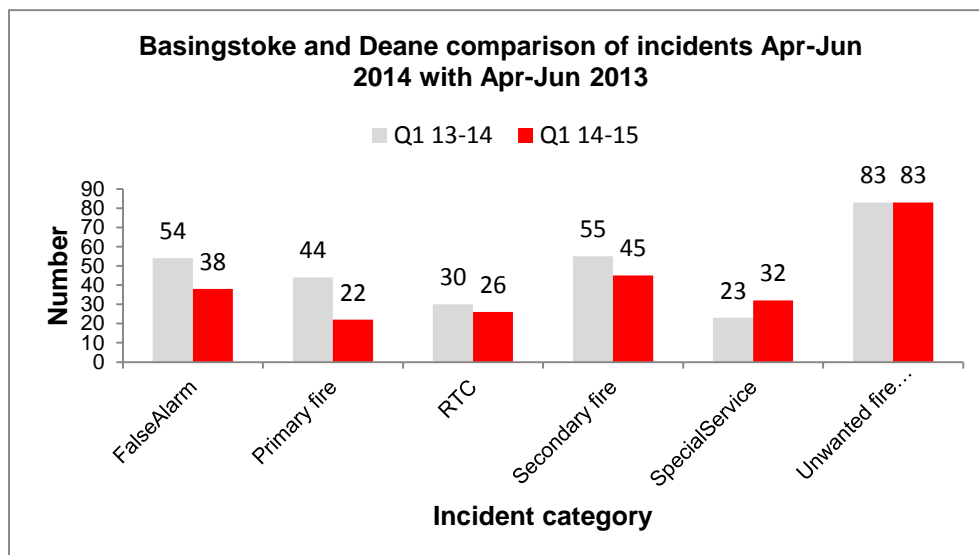
No enforcement notices were issued.

Prohibitions

No prohibition notices were issued.

Community response

On 17 June 2014 at 12:09 five crews were mobilised to Labcold Limited, Stag Oak Lane in Chineham after reports of a fire. An industrial building used to manufacture refrigerators was involved in fire. The building was 10 per cent damaged by fire and 70 per cent damaged by smoke. Crews used 12 sets of breathing apparatus, two jets and two hose reels to extinguish the fire and an aerial ladder platform was used for observation and ventilation.



3.2 Group activity – Rushmoor and Hart Group

Community safety

The table below shows the number of home safety visits carried out between 1 April 2014 and 30 June 2014 and the number of smoke alarms fitted.

	Number
HSVs undertaken	93
Smoke detectors fitted	120

Fire investigations

Rushmoor and Hart have had one fire investigation involving a flat.

Arson and risk reduction

There was one fire investigation deployment.

Mosaic risk groups

D, H and K

Business fire safety

We received a complaint about fire safety following a fire at a farm in Blackwater. The severe fire destroyed 18 stables and sadly two horses died. There was limited fire separation in the design of the stables and as a result the fire had spread rapidly. The fire appeared to have been started in a bin positioned next to the stables. The inspector worked with the owner to improve the fire safety arrangements and agreed an action plan for the premises.

We stopped the use of sleeping accommodation above a tailor's premises in Aldershot due to inadequate means of escape and fire alarm. English was not the first language of the responsible person, we are working with him to bring the premises up to standard. We have also introduced him to our business safety officers so that business support and communication can be maintained.

We received a call from a build and design group who were concerned that they had not received a final certificate for an extension. The premises is a residential care home that had just completed an extension to the building. Following an investigation it appeared that the approved inspector had failed in his duty to consult with the fire service. We discovered a number of issues with the fire safety provision within the extension. We have now worked with the owners to resolve the issues.

3.2 Group activity – Rushmoor and Hart Group

Enforcement

No enforcement notices were issued.

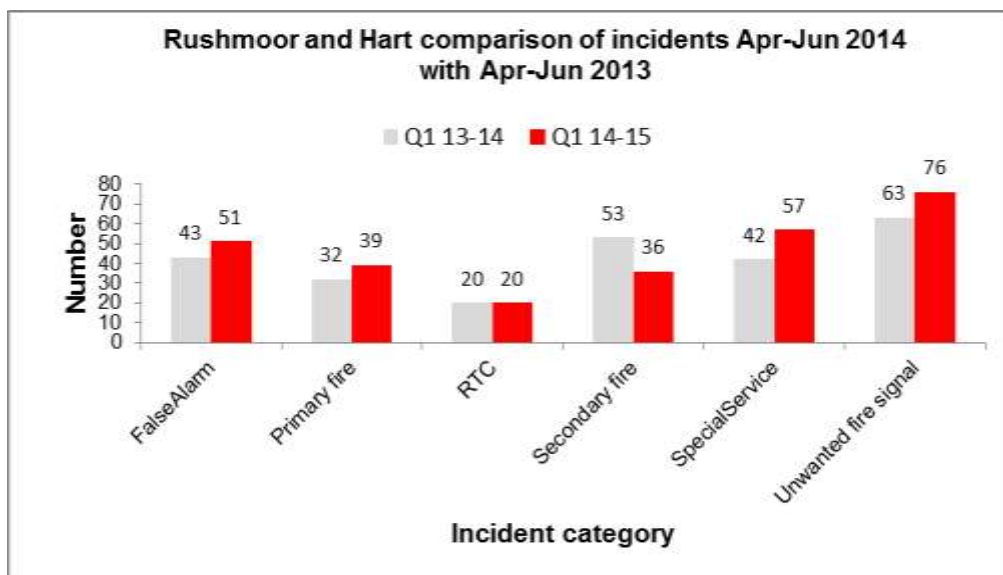
Prohibitions

One prohibition notice was issued.

Community response

Four crews were called to a fire involving an out-building at the Lord Campbell Public House, Alexandra Road in Aldershot on 13 April 2014 at 23:29. The building was 100 per cent involved in fire and partially collapsed. The building was known to be used for rough sleeping. Crews searched the building but there was no one inside. Crews used six sets of breathing apparatus, three jets, one hose reel and one compressed air foam (CAFS) jet to put the fire out. This incident appeared to have been started deliberately so the police were informed.

Five crews were called to Caesars Camp in Rushmoor on 14 April 2014 where they were faced with approximately six hectares of gorse and heather on fire. Crews used eight sets of breathing apparatus, two hose reels and two main jets to extinguish the fire.



3.3 Group activity – Havant and East Hampshire Group

Community safety

The table below shows the number of home safety visits carried out between 1 April 2014 and 30 June 2014 and the number of smoke alarms fitted.

	Number
HSVs undertaken	172
Smoke detectors fitted	166

Fire investigations

Havant and East Hampshire had six fire investigations involving two houses, one flat, one hotel, one laundry and one beach hut.

Arson and risk reduction

There was one fire investigation search dog deployment.

Mosaic risk groups

D, H and K

Business fire safety

As part of the group initiative our inspectors have been looking at care homes including residential care and nursing homes. In general they are well managed. However a common theme has been the need to upgrade the premises to a present day standard. This does not generally mean massive alterations to the home but a way of achieving a higher standard by working with them.

Our community support officer visited a sheltered housing scheme where a number of the occupants were considered high risk due to their life-style (alcohol dependant smokers). There was evidence of burns to the carpets, blankets and sofas. The occupants were provided with fire resistant bed throws and were given advice about smoking whilst under the influence of alcohol and being tired. We discussed the vulnerability of residents and high risk of fire death due to characteristics displayed by individuals.

Following a request from East Hants District Council Licensing team we visited a hotel in Bordon. There was poor management and poor standards of safety in respect of a planned outside event. We identified difficulties with cultural differences in perception of hazards and risks between the Lithuanian organisers and HFRS. We are currently continuing to provide advice and guidance to organisers. It will be an on going issue in trying to achieve adequate standards. We plan to offer fire safety training to organisers in Alton to try and avoid similar issues in the future, thus ensuring safer events in the area.

3.3 Group activity – Havant and East Hampshire Group

Enforcement

No enforcement notices were issued.

Prohibitions

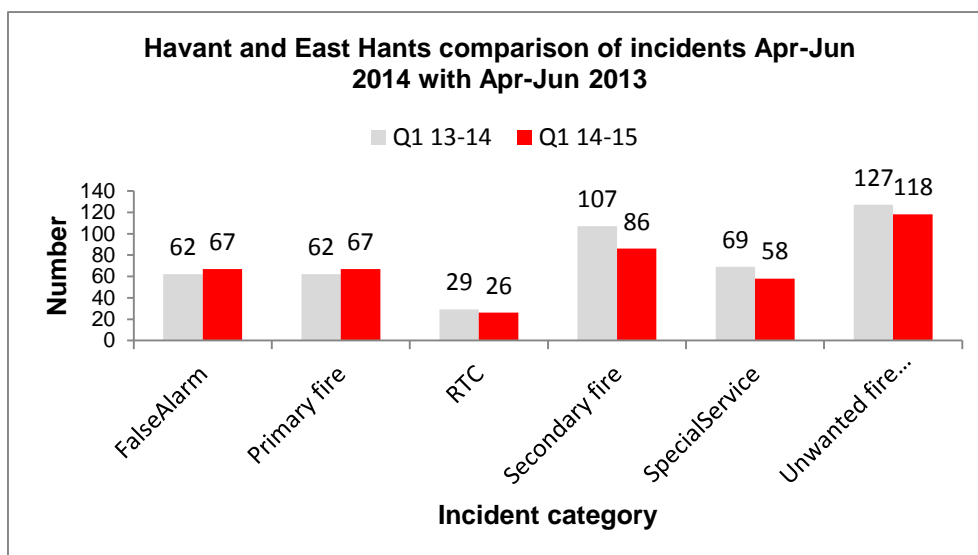
No prohibition notices were issued.

Community response

Six crews and an aerial ladder platform were mobilised to North End Lane, Cheriton on 25 May 2014 after reports of a fire. The fire was in a T-shaped building used as domestic dwelling. The roof and first floor were 60 per cent damaged by fire and the ground floor was 50 per cent damaged by water. Crews used four jets, five hose reels and six sets of breathing apparatus to extinguish the fire.

On 20 April 2014 four crews were called to Tournerbury Lane in Hayling Island after reports of a fire. The building was a five bedroom chalet style bungalow consisting of a ground floor and a first floor. The fire originated from rubbish which then spread to the fascia and the roof of the property. The roof was 10 per cent damaged by fire, the rest of the property was 10 per cent damaged internally by smoke. Crews used two jets, two hose reels and four sets of breathing apparatus to put the fire out.

Six crew were called to Emsworth Sailing Club in Bath Road, Emsworth on 22 April at 06:36 after reports of a car into a building. (For more details see 1.2)



3.4 Group activity – Fareham and Gosport Group

Community safety

The table below shows the number of home safety visits carried out between 1 April 2014 and 30 June 2014 and the number of smoke alarms fitted.

	Number
HSVs undertaken	109
Smoke detectors fitted	150

Fire investigations

Fareham and Gosport had six fire investigations involving one hostel, two flats, one thatch cottage, one factory and one mental health unit.

Arson and risk reduction

Four statements were taken, CCTV evidence was collected from three appliances and three presentations were given.

Mosaic risk groups

D, H and K

Business fire safety

Following a fatal fire in a block of flats in Lee-on-Solent earlier this year, we have been working with the responsible person and the residents to improve the fire safety in the flats. Some of the original fire resistant doors to the flats had been replaced with UPVC doors, in addition there was very little or no fire detection within the flats. We arranged for smoke detectors to be fitted where required and recommended early replacement of the doors. We have been advised that all the work has now been completed.

We have been working with many businesses to ensure that they have good fire safety measures in place. Where there have been problems we have worked with them to agree a satisfactory outcome to make their premises safe from fire. A recent example was a Chinese takeaway with sleeping accommodation above which had no smoke detection and compartmentation. Using one of our Chinese fire safety advocates we were able to overcome the language barrier and come up with an action plan which met our requirements and had minimum disruption to the business.

Following fires in other parts of the country involving care homes such as Rose Park in Lanarkshire, we allocated an officer to look at care homes in Fareham and Gosport. A number of residential care homes, especially for the elderly, have a number of common fire safety issues. These need to be resolved in order to be broadly in line with the identified standard from the Rose Park Care Home coroners report. Following an initiative started in April 2014 we have been inspecting these homes and giving advice to improve their fire safety.

3.4 Group activity – Fareham and Gosport Group

Enforcement

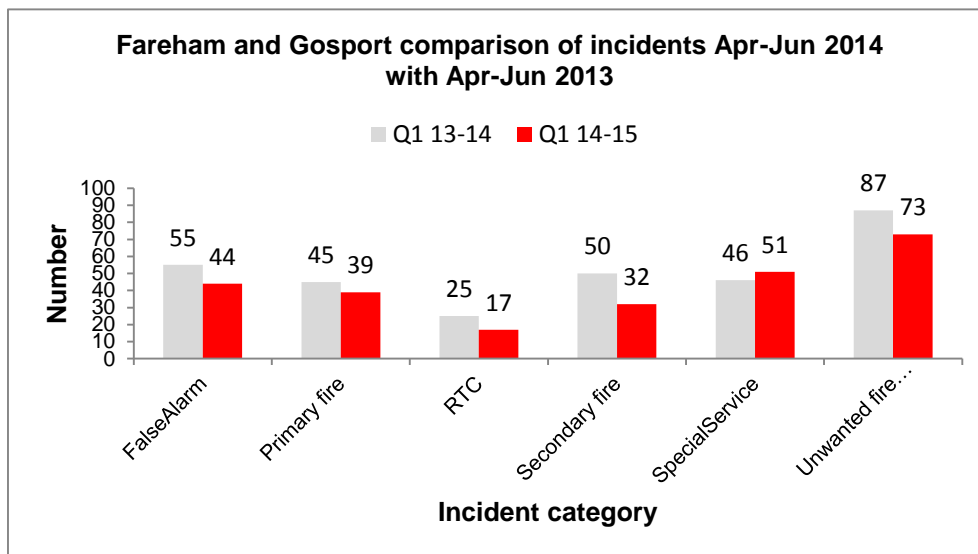
No enforcement notices were issued.

Prohibitions

No prohibition notices were issued.

Community response

On 21 May 2014 five crews were called to Lawrence Walk in Gosport after reports of a fire in a building consisting of eight floors which was being demolished. The fire involved a number of flats on the third floor. Crews used six sets of breathing apparatus, three jets and one covering jet to put the fire out and the cause was doubtful.



3.5 Group activity – Portsmouth Group

Community safety

The table below shows the number of home safety visits carried out between 1 April 2014 and 30 June 2014 and the number of smoke alarms fitted.

	Number
HSVs undertaken	143
Smoke detectors fitted	170

Fire investigations

Portsmouth had six fire investigations involving one building on HM Naval Base, one workshop, one school, one laundry and two houses of multiple occupancy (HMOs).

Arson and risk reduction

There were two fire investigation search dog deployments, CCTV evidence was collected from eight appliances and one presentation was given.

Mosaic risk groups

D, H and K

Business fire safety

We have been working with businesses across Portsmouth to ensure that their fire safety is adequate. We have been using fire safety advocates to help overcome any language barriers. An example is a linen shop which needed an upgrade in fire safety standards. We used our Bengali fire safety advocate to work with the responsible person and put an agreed action plan in place. The shop is now fully up to standard and safe from fire.

We were asked to visit a sheltered housing property in Cosham which was being refurbished. They wanted some fire safety advice and a proposed 'stay put' policy for their residents. We found compartmentation issues which would compromise any proposals for 'stay put'. We gave advice and helped to ensure that the fire safety and evacuation plans work well together to protect the 67 tenants.

Through work with Portsmouth City Council, Portsmouth Football Club has installed a sprinkler system following our advice. We have also helped them upgrade their existing fire safety arrangements to comply with the safety at sports grounds standards.

3.5 Group activity – Portsmouth Group

Enforcement

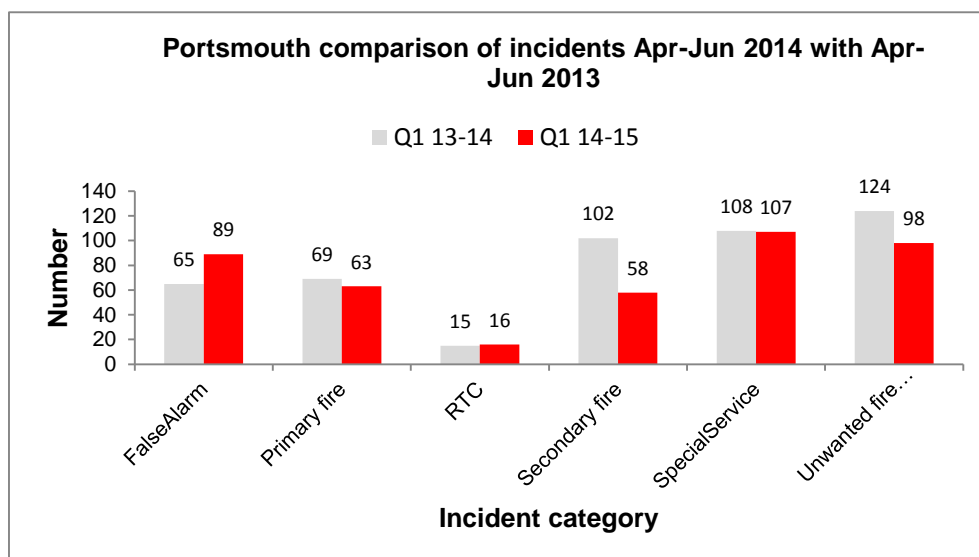
No enforcement notices were issued.

Prohibitions

One prohibition notice was issued.

Community response

Five crews were mobilised to Windsor House in Canal Walk, Landport on 7 June 2014 at 20:40 after reports of a fire. The fire was in the communal stairs and first floor of a building of seven floors and a basement. One casualty was rescued from the first floor, three casualties were rescued from a second floor balcony and two people were rescued from the roof by an aerial ladder platform. Ten other residents were led to safety. Crews used 10 sets of breathing apparatus and two hose reels to extinguish the fire. The incident was handed over to the police as it was cause doubtful.



3.6 Group activity – Winchester Group

Community safety

The table below shows the number of home safety visits carried out in the between 1 April 2014 and 30 June 2014 and the number of smoke alarms fitted.

	Number
HSVs undertaken	37
Smoke detectors fitted	48

Fire investigations

Winchester had three investigations involving one flat, one house and a horse box.

Arson and risk reduction

One presentation was given.

Mosaic risk groups

D, H and K

Business fire safety

We have been focussed on reducing the demand on operational resources by visiting premises that create false alarms and non-emergency lift incidents. We have also supported operational crews with identifying site specific risk information to improve operational effectiveness in the event of an incident.

We have been working to increase our pool of fire safety advocates, which will progress our aim of educating and supporting communities to help protect themselves.

We have begun to make better use of statistical data to reduce risk. An example is the identification of a trend of fires in tumble driers. We visited laundries to provide advice and also discussed the trend with other relevant businesses such as care homes and hotels.

We have attended 49 building and licensing consultations, 16 fire safety audits and undertaken 27 business support visits. We have also responded to five alleged fire risks and carried out three post fire incident inspections.

3.6 Group activity – Winchester Group

Enforcement

No enforcement notices were issued.

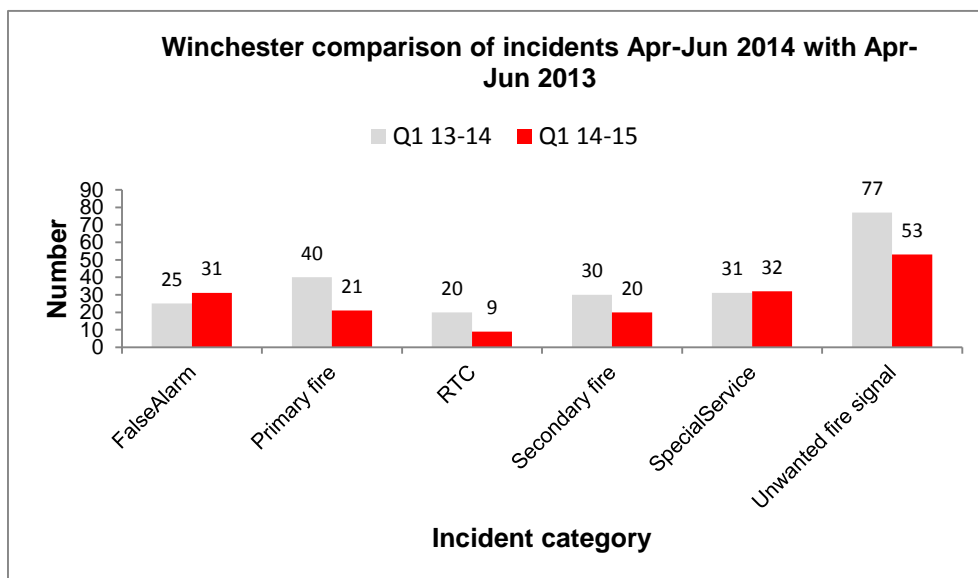
Prohibitions

Three prohibition notices were issued which were all related to sleeping accommodation above shops.

Community response

On 19 June 2014 at 08:47 crews were mobilised to St Peters Church in Ropley. Twelve crews were mobilised to the scene along with support staff. Despite our best efforts the church was severely damaged by fire. (For more details see 1.4)

Six crews attended a fire in May Bush Lane, Soberton Heath on 27 June 2014. This was a fire in a single storey out-building measuring 80 metres by 40 metres. Crews used 12 sets of breathing apparatus, two jets and two hose reels to extinguish the fire.



3.7 Group activity – Test Valley and Eastleigh Group

Community safety

The table below shows the number of home safety visits carried out between 1 April 2014 and 30 June 2014 and the number of smoke alarms fitted.

	Number
HSVs undertaken	113
Smoke detectors fitted	135

Fire investigations

Test Valley and Eastleigh had three fire investigations involving two flats and one church.

Arson and risk reduction

One presentation was given.

Mosaic risk groups

D, H and K

Business fire safety

We have been focussed on reducing the demand on operational resources by visiting premises that create false alarms and non-emergency lift incidents. We have also supported operational crews with identifying site specific risk information to improve operational effectiveness in the event of an incident.

We are working to increase our pool of fire safety advocates, which will progress our aim of educating and supporting communities to help protect themselves.

We have begun to make better use of statistical data to reduce risk. An example is the identification of a trend of fires in tumble driers. We visited laundries to provide advice and also discussed the trend with other relevant businesses such as care homes and hotels.

We have attended 69 building and licensing consultations, 17 fire safety audits and undertaken 35 business support visits. We also responded to three alleged fire risks and four post fire incident inspections.

3.7 Group activity – Test Valley and Eastleigh Group

Enforcement

No enforcement notices were issued.

Prohibitions

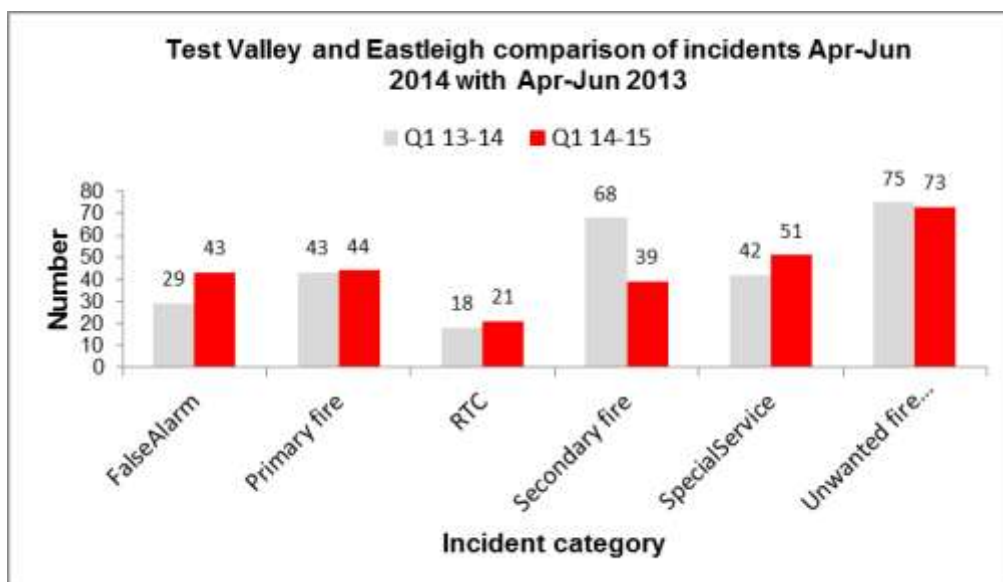
No prohibition notices were issued.

Community response

On 15 April 2014 at 14:50 four crews were mobilised to Wessex Gardens in Andover after reports of a fire. The fire was in the roof of a domestic property. There was heavy smoke logging and damage to the roof of an adjacent property. Crews used six sets of breathing apparatus, two hose reels and one jet to put the fire out.

On 12 June 2014 four crews were mobilised to Crampmoor Lane in Romsey after reports of a road traffic collision involving three vehicles. There were two casualties in one vehicle and one casualty in the other vehicle which was on its roof. All casualties were extricated by crews.

Four crews were sent to Campbell Road in Eastleigh on 28 June 2014 following reports of a train fire. This was a diesel train consisting of four carriages. The engine compartment and diesel tank was 100 per cent damaged by fire and the bodywork was 20 per cent damaged by fire. Crews used 12 sets of breathing apparatus, two jets and one compressed air foam jet.



3.8 Group activity – Southampton Group

Community safety

The table below shows the number of home safety visits carried out between 1 April 2014 and 30 June 2014 and the number of smoke alarms fitted.

	Number
HSVs undertaken	143
Smoke detectors fitted	161

Fire investigations

Southampton had 11 fire investigations involving four houses, three bedsits, one vehicle and three flats.

Arson and risk reduction

There was one fire investigation search dog deployment, five statements were taken and two community safety presentations were given.

Mosaic risk groups

D, H and K

Business fire safety

We have seen a continuation of high levels of building development within Southampton and have been working closely with the architects and developers of the Watermark and Ocean Village projects to ensure a good level of fire safety provision during the design phase.

We have introduced a business support officer to provide advice and guidance to businesses on fire safety and business continuity matters.

We are focussing on reducing the demand on operational resources due to unwanted fire signals and non-emergency lift incidents.

We are also supporting operational crews by assisting in the provision of site specific risk information, which will improve operational effectiveness at incidents.

We have attended 78 building and licensing consultations, 14 fire safety audits and undertaken 35 business support visits. We have also responded to nine alleged fire risks and one post fire incident inspection.

3.8 Group activity – Southampton Group

Enforcement

No enforcement notices were issued.

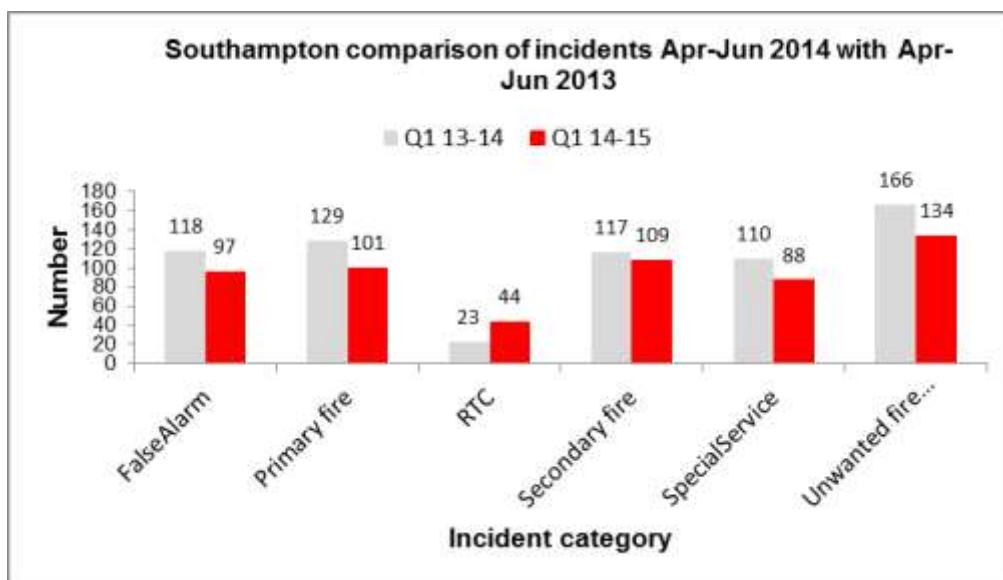
Prohibitions

No prohibition notices were issued.

Community response

On 3 April 2014 there were reports of a fire in a high rise building in Portland Terrace, Southampton. This was a 17 storey high rise building in the centre of Southampton which was under construction. The fire was on the roof and the sixteenth floor. Control mobilised 15 crews and two aerial ladder platforms. (For more details see 1.1)

Eight crews were mobilised to Avon House, York Close in Southampton on 14 May 2014 after reports of a serious fire. The building had four floors used as residential flats and the fire was in a flat on the fourth floor which then spread to the corridor. Two people were rescued by the aerial ladder platform and two people were rescued by a ladder. One person went to hospital by ambulance and 11 people were treated by the ambulance service. (For more details see 1.3)



3.9 Group activity – New Forest Group

Community safety

The table below shows the number of home safety visits carried out between 1 April 2014 and 30 June 2014 and the number of smoke alarms fitted.

	Number
HSVs undertaken	136
Smoke detectors fitted	145

Fire investigations

New Forest had 15 investigations involving one shed, four vehicles, one Chinese takeaway, one health centre, one Methodist church, three houses, one derelict stable block, one laundry and two yachts.

Arson and risk reduction

There were two fire investigation search dog deployments, CCTV evidence was taken from eight appliances, one statement was taken and one presentation was given.

Mosaic risk groups

D, H and K

Business fire safety

We have been focussed on reducing the demand on operational resources by visiting premises that create false alarms and non-emergency lift incidents. We have also been working with New Forest District Council to reduce the number of unwanted fire signals within their premises.

We have also supported operational crews with identifying site specific risk information to improve operational effectiveness in the event of an incident.

We have been helping a rest home which has issues with escape routes to rectify their problems.

We continue to assist the National Motor Museum in Beaulieu to improve their business continuity and salvage plans.

We have attended 69 building and licensing consultations, 17 fire safety audits and undertaken 72 business support visits. We have also responded to six alleged fire risks and four post fire incident inspections.

3.9 Group activity – New Forest Group

Enforcement

One enforcement notice was issued following a fire in Totton.

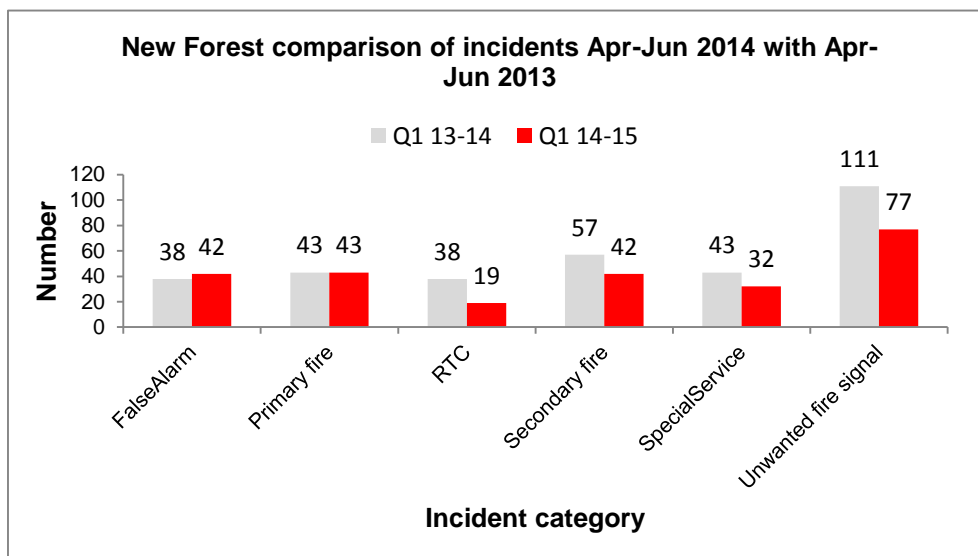
Prohibitions

Two prohibition notices were issued relating to sleeping accommodation above commercial buildings.

Community response

On 29 May 2014 crews were called to a fire involving a private car which had left the road on the A337 Everton at 03:09. Sadly there was a 29 year old male in the car who had died. The car was 100 per cent damaged by fire and the crews used two sets of breathing apparatus, one hose reel and one compressed air foam jet to put the fire out. We are awaiting the coroner's report to confirm whether this was a fire death which is due in October.

On 12 May 2014 at 05:49 four crews were called to Springfield Avenue in Holbury. The incident was a fire in a chalet bungalow and a neighbouring car port. The roof was 100 per cent damaged by fire, the ground floor was 25 per cent damaged by fire and 100 per cent damaged by smoke. The car port was 100 per cent damaged by fire. Crews used eight sets of breathing apparatus, three jets and two hose reels to put the fire out. One adult female was taken to hospital for further checks.



4 Latest news

4.1 Landfill site fire

Our crews along with colleagues from Dorset Fire and Rescue Service were called to a fire on the Blue Haze landfill site on Verwood Road, near Ringwood, at 03:30 hrs on 26 July 2014.

The fire involved an area of non-hazardous waste approximately two acres in size, and around 35 firefighters worked to contain the fire and bring it under control. The crews worked with the site operator Veolia to create breaks in the material and prevent any further spread.

4.2 Firefighters battle house fire in Calmore

Control operators were alerted to a house fire in The Drove, Calmore just after 08:00 on 5 August 2014.

Six appliances were mobilised from Totton, Redbridge, Hythe, Eastleigh, Romsey and Hightown fire stations to attend this incident.

The fire started on the ground floor and spread to the first floor and roof space. Crews entered the property wearing breathing apparatus and used hose reels to extinguish the fire.

Sadly, a man in his 60s, was found deceased in the house. A woman was taken to Southampton General Hospital to be treated for smoke inhalation and shock.

The cause of this incident is not yet known but a joint investigation with Hampshire Constabulary is on going.

4.3 Car fire in Hursley

Crews from Eastleigh were mobilised to a very serious car fire in Merdon Castle Lane, Hursley on 11 August 2014 at 20:00 hrs. The car was well alight when crews arrived and three casualties were treated by HFRS, South Central Ambulance Service and the police.

Unfortunately, one female adult had approximately 40 per cent burns, one five year old boy had approximately 80 per cent burns and one six year old girl had approximately 70 per cent burns.

The five year old boy was taken to hospital by air ambulance and the 40 year old and six year old females were taken to hospital by ambulance.

Firefighters put the car fire out using two hose reels, one jet and two sets of breathing apparatus. A joint investigation is being carried out with the police to find out what happened.

5 Key to mosaic groups

A

Residents of isolated rural communities

B

Residents of small and mid-sized towns with strong local roots

C

Wealthy people living in the most sought-after neighbourhoods

D

Successful professionals living in suburban or semi-rural homes

E

Middle income families living in moderate suburban semis

F

Couples with young children in comfortable modern housing

G

Young, well-educated city dwellers

H

Couples and young singles in small modern starter homes

I

Lower income workers in urban terraces in often diverse areas

J

Owner occupiers in older-style housing, typically in ex-industrial areas

K

Residents with sufficient incomes in right-to-buy social housing

L

Active elderly people living in pleasant retirement locations

M

Elderly people reliant on state support

N

Young people renting flats in high density social housing

O

Families in low-rise social housing with high levels of benefit need



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