

February 2015

Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority

Activity Report of the Chief Officer



HAMPSHIRE
FIRE AND
RESCUE
SERVICE

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Front page photo: Fire in Fordingbridge on 2 December 2014.

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Introduction

This activity report covers the period 1 October 2014 to 31 December 2014. Any notable incidents that have occurred after 31 December 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 fire death in Hampshire and one fire death in Berkshire, which we attended, during this quarter. More details can be found in 1.3 on page five and in 1.6 on page six.

There was a four day period of national industrial action, totalling 96 hours, on 1 October through to 4 November 2014. There was also a 24 hour period on 9 December 2014.

Our annual Celebrating Success took place at headquarters on 10 December 2014. Awards were given to members of the community and partner organisations. Long service medals were also presented to firefighters and staff, who clocked up more than 400 years of experience between them. They included Martyn Long, who started with the Service back in 1964 and picked up his special 50-year Meritorious Medal. Education advisor Donna Smith took another of the Chief's awards for her targeted educational work with children including her Susie the Childminder books. The final Chief's award was presented to the Fire Investigation team, widely acknowledged as experts in their field and having played a huge role in driving down the incidence of arson in the county.

The ceremony was the last to be hosted by Chief Officer John Bonney, who retired at the end of 2014. John was with us for 13 years and served as chief officer for 10 years. He has seen the Service through some challenging times and has contributed significantly towards to making Hampshire safer.



1 Responding to incidents

Incident Category	October-December 2013	October – December 2014
False alarm	516	471
Primary fire	513	528
RTC	244	255
Secondary fire	296	264
Special service call	628	398
Unwanted fire signal	1148	1043
Total	3345	2959

1.1 Firefighters battled scrap metal blaze in Portsmouth

A fire involving 500 tonnes of scrap metal broke out at European Metal Recycling Limited, Portsmouth at 08:41 on 5 October 2014.

The fire caused a smoke plume reaching a height of over 100 feet which could be seen for miles. More than 50 firefighters tackled the blaze and worked with on site staff to make fire breaks to prevent the fire spreading.

The intensely hot metal created a difficult environment to work in and so the incident continued for several hours. The cause of the fire was an electrical fault .

1.2 Three rescued from Gosport house fire

Firefighters rescued one female and two children from a house fire in Gosport on 22 October 2014 at 04:08. Working smoke alarms alerted them to the fire which was blocking the front door and their escape route.

The female occupier dialled 999 and control operators gave her fire survival advice over the phone to help keep them safe until crews arrived. The advice given was to get herself and the children into one room, close the door, open the windows, and hang something out of the window so that crews could locate them quickly.

On arrival, firefighters from Gosport and Fareham pitched ladders to rescue the two children, whilst a breathing apparatus team rapidly entered into the building to rescue the female who was then carried out. Both the female and the children were taken to hospital suffering smoke inhalation. The investigation into the cause of the fire is ongoing. The female and children have made a good recovery.

1.3 Crews battled a fire in Aldermaston

Fire crews from Hampshire and Berkshire were mobilised to Ravenswing Caravan Park, Aldermaston after reports of a fire on Saturday 1 November 2014. The fire involved a mobile home and the crews rescued a lady in her 60s. Sadly the lady died in hospital the next day. A joint investigation into the cause of the fire is being undertaken by Thames Valley Police and Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service with the help of HFRS.

This incident happened during industrial action and was over the border within Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service's area.

1.4 Firefighters called to a gas explosion in Southampton

A father and daughter had a "miracle escape" after a suspected gas explosion reduced their Shirley home to rubble in the early hours of 18 November. Neighbours helped pull the man, 36, and girl, 4, from the debris, but both suffered only minor injuries.

Our control room received around a dozen calls reporting a loud explosion on Howards Grove, Shirley, shortly after 01:30. Crews from St Mary's and Redbridge arrived to find the two-storey, end-of-terrace property completely collapsed, but with the residents thankfully safely out.

The father and daughter were taken to hospital as a precaution but were not seriously injured.

The other houses in the terrace were evacuated as a precaution as the crews, assisted by our Urban Search and Rescue team, worked to ensure there was no further collapse of the building. Engineers from the gas board and Southampton City Council were also called to further investigate the cause of the explosion.



1.5 Crews tackled a severe house fire in Fordingbridge

Eight crews were mobilised to a severe house fire in Brook Lane in Fordingbridge on the evening of 2 December 2014.

The occupants were not at home at the time but the neighbours were alerted to the fire by a smoke alarm and they called 999. On arrival crews found the first floor and roof of the large detached property to be well alight.



Hampshire crews with the support of colleagues from Wiltshire and Dorset Fire and Rescue Service worked well together to contain the fire. Firefighters proactively used compressed air foam systems to protect nearby properties.



The investigation found the cause of the fire to be accidental.

1.6 Crews tackled a house fire in Fareham

Crews were called to a bungalow fire in Fareham on 27 December 2014, just before 08:00. The alarm was raised by a working smoke detector and the crews on scene were faced with a severe fire in the ground floor.

Two crews from Fareham and one crew from Portchester wore four sets of breathing apparatus to get into the property and used jets to extinguish the fire.

One elderly female managed to escape the property and was taken to hospital as a precaution. The crews rescued an elderly man and assisted him into the care of the ambulance service for treatment. Sadly the man died at the scene.

An investigation into the cause of the fire, in conjunction with the police, is on going but is thought to be accidental.

2 Community safety

2.1 Home safety - safeguarding

This reporting period has seen the start and conclusion of the Older Persons Campaign. This was a great success in reaching our highest risk group - older people (65+) on low income. Over the last three months firefighters and community safety officers (CSOs) have taken new and innovative steps to provide home safety advice to the hard to reach older generation. This has included attending bingo halls as guest callers and partnering up with Age UK and attending their lunch clubs.

By carrying out a three month campaign we have reached a wider audience with clear messages, using the new home safety literature and products. The overall goal was to see a change in behaviour for home safety within this group, the impact of which will be measured over the coming months. So far the new literature and products have been met with great positivity from the public and our partners, including other fire and rescue services, who are now in talks with us to share our knowledge and findings.

2.2 Children and young people

Schools and Education team

During this reporting period we developed a one to one firesetter/risky behaviour programme. The aim of the programme is to prevent play with fire through education. We have engaged with 24 families from which eight young people have successfully completed the programme.

Prospective Junior Road Safety Officers (JRSO) attended training days in Botley and Basingstoke, where we advertised next years Champion of Champions event, and helped educate the children in their new role of promoting road safety to their peers.

We have been supporting health and wellbeing with Hampshire County Council (HCC) and their campaign for smoke free homes. At this initial stage we are providing promotional materials to the schools we have visited, but over the coming months further opportunities will be sought with HCC.

Event	Working with	Location	Number of children	Number of adults
Schools Safety Education Programme	Pupils in Key Stage 1	Hampshire	2163	257
Schools Safety Education Programme	Pupils in Key Stage 2	Hampshire	3311	180
1:1 Education	Pupils across Hampshire	Various	24 families	
Think Safe	East Hants	Queen Elizabeth Country Park	807 Key Stage 2	86
Think Safe	Havant Borough Council	Fort Purbrook	1092 Key Stage 2	150

Health Day	Southampton University	Southampton University		30
Science Fair	First Partnership	Alton Maltings	100	12
Older Persons Safety Campaign	HFRS	Gunwharf Quay	20	70
Junior Road Safety Officers training day	Hampshire County Council	Botley and Basingstoke	130	100
Childrens Commissioners Take Over Day	Juvenile Firesetters Programme	SHQ with Neil Odin	1	

Prince's Trust

We have seen our three current teams spreading festive cheer during their team challenge phases, where they get to give something back to groups in their local community. Redbridge's team held some fantastic days, one of which saw them hosting an activity/games day with a group from Padwell Day Centre for the elderly. We also supported Southsea Santa Motorbike Ride, where we funded gifts for firefighters to deliver to a local special educational needs school. We are proud of the successful set up of our first apprenticeship. Ryan Strudwick, a former Prince's Trust, Get Started and team programme member, is taking up the position as a youth leader apprentice in 2015. Initially Ryan will be supporting our team leaders but will also undertake many of the roles within the Children and Young People team throughout the year.

National Fire Cadets

National Fire Cadets (NFC) in Ringwood has been an integral part of the local community during this period. November saw the unit take up a position in the town's Remembrance Day march. We have also been successful in receiving the third of our start up grants. This grant will be used to help set up and support a new NFC unit in Havant.

Supporting Hampshire Families

We have been working in partnership with Hampshire County Council for nine months. We continue to engage with families and lead support workers ensuring safety in the home is seen as a priority. We have developed, using our relationships and partnerships in this field, a safer homes toolkit to use when working with these families.

The toolkit comprises of a universal safety plan highlighting the common risks within this group of people. To support this, a sticker chart for younger families has been produced to encourage behaviours and learning. This chart consists of topics on home and road safety, health and wellbeing and general parenting tools, all of which link in to our risk assessment and referral pathway for home safety.

The above, coupled with additional leaflets from the safer homes team, will be piloted with identified Basingstoke families in January 2015. We also continue to support and work with the Young Mums Matters programme across the county and have embedded safety into this course.

2 Community safety

National Citizen Service (NCS)

We were approached by Hampshire NCS government groups to deliver road and fire education days. We have now confirmed dates to deliver approximately 60 courses in 2015 to over 1800 16-17 year olds, on fire and road safety education. This partnership has been well received by both parties and all of this work is delivered on a cost recovery basis.

2.3 Volunteers

We currently have a total of 65 volunteers. Seven new volunteers have been recruited and one has moved into a paid temporary post within the organisation. For the first time since the start of the programme, our active volunteers have contributed over 1,000 hours in one period, bringing the total hours to 1483.

Krista Wells, our British Sign Language (BSL) volunteer, received the award for the outstanding contribution by a volunteer, at Celebrating Success. She is currently delivering deaf awareness sessions to the crews at Southampton stations as well as undertaking home safety visits to people using BSL.

Activity	
Home safety visits	Volunteers conducted 115 home safety visits - two in British Sign Language.
Young people engagement	We have engaged with young people promoting safety at Southdown College. We have assisted with Prince's Trust and National Citizens Service (NCS) Programme. One volunteer presented work and home fire safety to a youth group in Southampton and one assisted on the Information, Communication and Education (ICE) project held at Andover Fire Station.
Fire Cadets	One volunteer assisted within the Gosport group and two with the Basingstoke group.
Community engagement	Volunteers have assisted in a number of community events including the Fareham 999 Day in November and a number of events relating to fireworks in Portsmouth, Havant and Andover. One volunteer assisted Surrey Fire and Rescue volunteers at Sainsburys in Camberley, giving home fire safety advice as well as helping at the older persons campaign launch at the Spinnaker Tower. Volunteers also participated by attending Southwood Community Centre Annual Flu Clinic and Yateley's Older Person's Forum.
Other activities	Acting as live casualties for training exercises, assisting in the Business Intelligence team, training dogs and handlers in the Fire Investigation team, cleaning and carrying out inventory checks on training vehicles, assisting with logistics, developing the Service's social media, delivering the Community Contact Point to stations on request and assisting Basingstoke Business Safety team.

2.4 Fire investigation

There have been a number of incidents of note that demonstrate the way we are working closer with other specialist teams in the Service. Notably we are developing closer links with the newly formed fire engineering team as our specialities cross over in many areas. This enables our fire investigators to look more closely at the influences the built environment has on fire development, and also allows us to produce computer simulations of incidents to inform our investigation and debrief process.

Operation Carisbrooke dealt with a number of arson related fires around the Cosham area at the beginning of 2014 and this investigation is ongoing. The Arson Task Force is working closely with Hampshire Constabulary to gather evidence that will lead to an arrest and conviction. Local crews are also supporting this by securing vital evidence, reassuring local communities and carrying out environmental audits.

There was a fire on 15 November 2014 at the Hilton Hotel, Chilworth that attracted some national interest. The fire involved an unusual fire phenomenon that caused an explosion within the premises. Our fire investigators have worked with the new fire engineering team to develop a computer simulation that will enable us to better understand this phenomenon. The results of this will be fed back into HFRS and through national forums in order to improve the safety of our firefighters at future incidents. The Building Research Establishment (BRE) has also shown an interest in this incident and we are collaborating with them to again better understand the fire and its implications in a building.

2.5 Firesetter Intervention Scheme

A number of fires have occurred in HMP Winchester as a result of offenders setting items alight in their cell. We are working proactively with the prison to investigate these fires and provide evidence for their internal adjudication process. In addition we are also developing a fire safety presentation for new inmates as part of their induction and a package to deliver to offenders prior to release so that they remain safe from fire in the community. These, combined with our Adult Firesetters programme, that we have previously reported on, assists in rehabilitating and reintegrating offenders into society.

2.6 Road safety

Our success in improving road safety hinges on the arrangements with partners, particularly local authority road safety departments and the Roads Policing Unit. 'Safe Drive Stay Alive' is produced by such a road safety partnership. Each partner has been working to reduce the number of people dying on the roads and this year the event in November took place in Hedge End in November.

The event provides road safety education through hard-hitting presentations and film clips, targeted at those most at risk on our roads. A disproportionate number of young inexperienced drivers remain at significant risk and are injured or killed on our roads. As a result we fully supported this event which was attended by 1500 young people from across Hampshire.

We have continued to run a programme of young driver awareness education events, providing resources at various events including tyre safety in Andover and a street sense presentation at Bay House School, Gosport.

We were also able to secure a valuable prime-time slot on BBC local news as a result of our support for Children in Need. We used this opportunity to promote some key road safety messages. We also worked with Hampshire County Council on the Christmas drink drive campaign that focussed on reducing the incidence of drink and drug impaired driving. The message was targeted towards members of the public at evening entertainment venues.

2.7 Co-responders

Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service personnel attended 2704 medical incidents on behalf of South Central Ambulance Service NHS Trust during this period. Of the incidents attended approximately 50 per cent were as a result of patients suffering either cardiac or breathing related symptoms.

Month	Calls
October	889
November	871
December	944
Total	2704

In addition the firefighters at Beaulieu and Waterlooville are undertaking co-responding training courses to support their colleagues in the New Forest and East Hampshire.

2.8 National resilience capability

The USAR rope team supported several multi service exercises such as HMS Bristol organised by the police on the 10 December 2014, and Exercise Modex on 4 - 6 December organised by a corporate emergency and safety organisation in Lincoln. USAR also ran a selection event for new ISAR doctors at Fort Widley over four days which resulted in the appointment of three new doctors to UK-ISAR.

Ebola logistics support at Kemble Airfield

During October and November the team in their UK-ISAR role, supported an urgent request from the Department of International Development. This was to assist in running a logistics hub at Kemble Airfield in Wiltshire. It involved receiving and packaging the urgent medical and support equipment as part of the UK Governments response in West Africa.

National Industry Partnership Working

Members of the team assisted in the production of a new national good practice guidance for the crane industry, further improving safety standards across a national industry.

Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV)

Two members of the team attended the first UAV show located at Olympia, as guest speakers with a high standing reputation within the UAV sector.

The team hosted a visit by 30 children from a local autistic group. They also continue to work with the Beneficial Foundation of Portsmouth by supplying and delivering equipment for reallocation to charitable and worthy causes. On 1 October 2014 the team also supported the launch of our Older Persons Campaign with an abseil and rescue demonstration at Gunwharf Quay.

2.9 Marketing and communications

Home safety campaign

Over the last three months Marketing and Communications has provided media support for the Community Safety Older Person's Campaign. Clear messaging and demographic information aided the Marketing and Communications team to publicise the campaign across Hampshire, provide media relations at the launch event and continue the expansion of our social media channels and messaging through the Community Safety twitter account. We held a coffee morning at HQ for some older people on and invited Fred Dinenage from Meridian. They covered the story heavily on Meridian evening news with Fred holding one of our smoke alarm testers.

Christmas campaign

We put together a social media campaign around the Christmas period which started from 1 December through to New Years Day.

We kept it short and directed people to our website. The theme was #FollowTheFamily.

Our engagement with the public through social media was apparent through statistics. We had 590 likes on Facebook and 99 retweets on Twitter.



Risk Review

We have been engaging with our staff around the on going Risk Review as well as the Estate Transformation project. We also worked with local media around these projects to raise their awareness of where we are with this work. The story was picked up by BBC, Meridian and several radio stations.

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 October 2014 and 31 December 2014 and the number of smoke alarms fitted.

	Number
HSVs undertaken	70
Smoke detectors fitted	93

Fire investigations

Basingstoke and Deane had four fire investigations.

Arson and risk reduction

There was one fire investigation search dog deployment and one statement was taken.

Mosaic risk groups

D, H and K

Business fire safety

During this period we have dealt with 174 fire safety inspections and 139 business support visits. We carried out Christmas inspections ensuring shopping complexes controlled their stock and maintained their fire exits. We have created a Service consultation team at headquarters which will deal with all forms of fire safety consultation and release the delivery offices to carry out proactive risk reduction work.

We gave fire safety advice to a developer regarding a vacant Grade II listed public house in Kingsclere. The developer was looking at conversion options for the property.

Pre consultation work in this type of premises ensures that the Service actively supports the viability of heritage buildings and enables them to be bought back into use and thus support the local economy. We explained the fire safety considerations and their impact on the available design options/courses of action set against various conversion scenarios. We look forward to the full consultation.

3.1 Group activity – Basingstoke and Deane Group

Enforcement

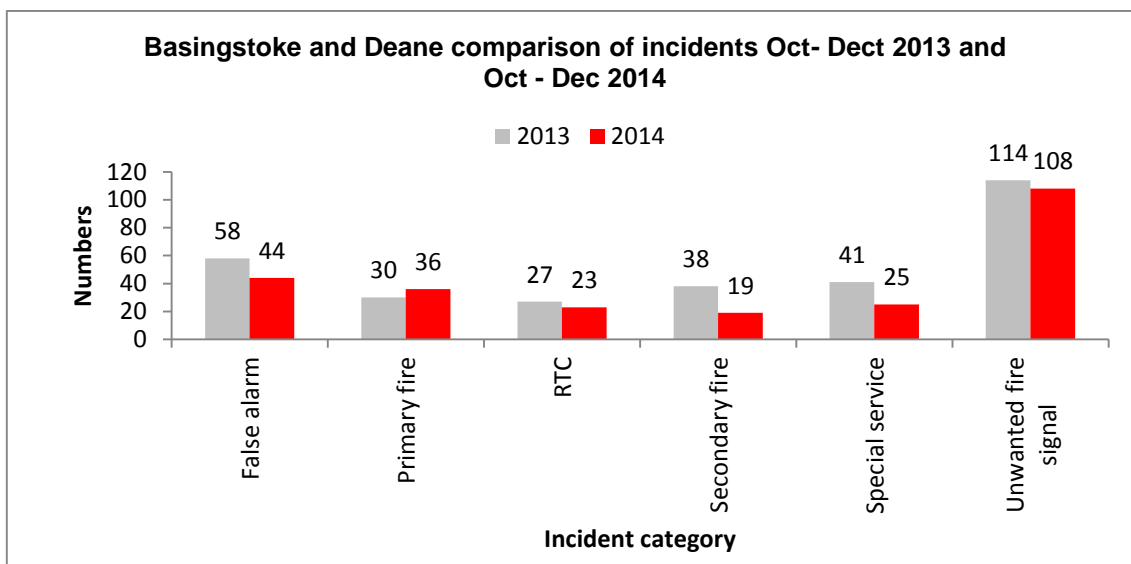
No enforcement notices were issued.

Prohibitions

No prohibition notices were issued.

Community response

Fire crews from Hampshire and Berkshire were mobilised to Ravenswing Caravan Park, Aldermaston after reports of a fire on Saturday 1 November 2014. The fire involved a mobile home and the crews rescued a lady in her 60s. Sadly the lady died in hospital the next day. This incident happened during industrial action. (For more details see 1.3)



3.2 Group activity – Rushmoor and Hart Group

Community safety

The table below shows the number of home safety visits carried out between 1 October 2014 and 31 December 2014 and the number of smoke alarms fitted.

	Number
HSVs undertaken	84
Smoke detectors fitted	96

Fire investigations

Rushmoor and Hart had no fire investigations.

Arson and risk reduction

There were no fire investigation search dog deployments.

Mosaic risk groups

D, H and K

Business fire safety

During this period we have dealt with 174 fire safety inspections and 139 business support visits. We also carried out Christmas inspections ensuring that shopping complexes controlled their stock and maintained their fire exits. We have created a Service consultation team at headquarters which will deal with all forms of fire safety consultation and release the delivery offices to carry out proactive risk reduction work.

Our BSO's continue to support businesses in the north of the county. During this reporting period they have:

- Carried out a large number (221) of pre Christmas excessive stock level advisory visits to major shopping centres and large retail stores.
- Started to train and develop a disabled volunteer in business support activities.
- Developed relationships with the Nepalese business community. This will result in a number of fire safety workshops aimed specifically at this community taking place in the new year.
- Attended joint Nepalese events with the community safety officers to engage with the business community.

3.2 Group activity – Rushmoor and Hart Group

Enforcement

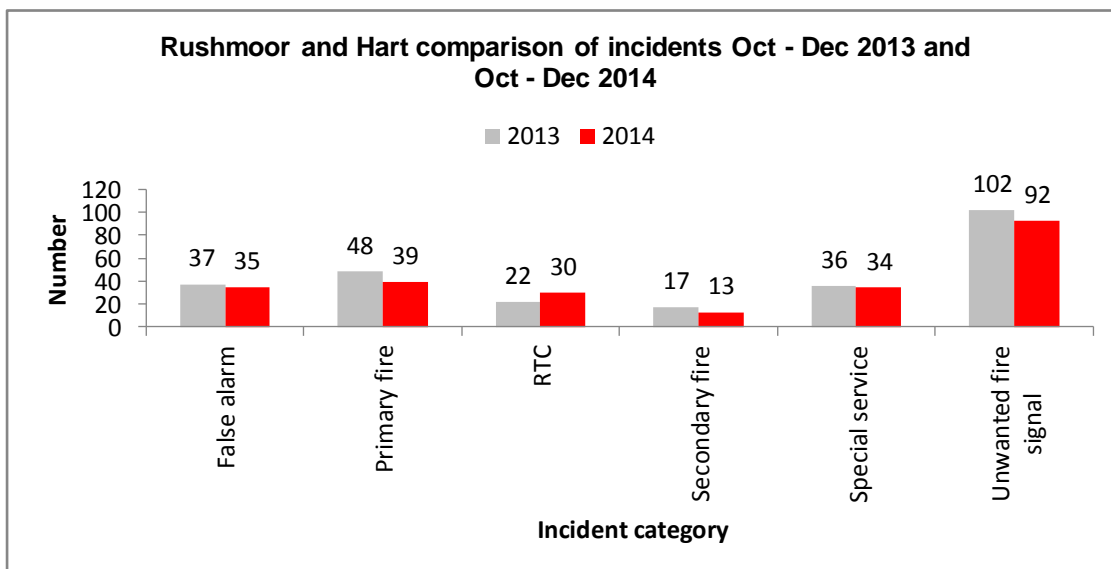
No enforcement notices were issued.

Prohibitions

One prohibition notice was issued.

Community response

Crews rescued one male from a Transit van on 14 October 2014 in Ford Lane, Bramshill. The van had become stuck in approximately six feet of water. Crews rescued the man and then assisted him into the care of the ambulance service.



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 October 2014 and 31 December 2014 and the number of smoke alarms fitted.

	Number
HSVs undertaken	123
Smoke detectors fitted	175

Fire investigations

Havant and East Hampshire had three fire investigations.

Arson and risk reduction

CCTV evidence was collected from one appliance.

Mosaic risk groups

I, M, and N

Business fire safety

During this period the officers from the East Hants (Alton) office dealt with 43 fire safety inspections and 18 business support visits. The officers for the Portsmouth and Havant office dealt with 209 fire safety inspections and 119 business support visits.

We carried out Christmas inspections ensuring that shopping complexes controlled their stock and maintained their fire exits. We have created a Service consultation team at headquarters which will deal with all forms of fire safety consultation and release the delivery offices to carry out proactive risk reduction work.

We attended a fire at a home occupied by adults with learning difficulties in Havant. A post incident inspection revealed that there was no information for the oncoming officer in charge. In addition, there were no robust fire procedures in place and there was a general lack of knowledge of the building. There were some failings in the fire safety provision for the property and we are now working with the responsible person to improve all aspects of fire safety. As this is a national organisation we are also investigating whether they could enter into a Primary Authority Partnership with us.

3.3 Group activity – Havant and East Hampshire Group

Enforcement

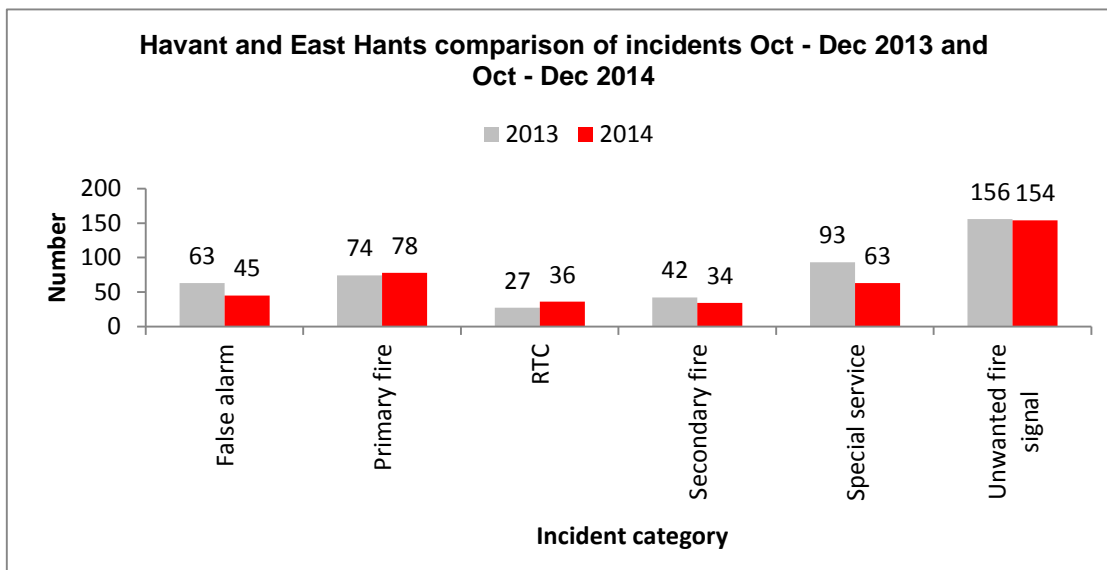
No enforcement notices were issued.

Prohibitions

No prohibition notices were issued.

Community response

Six crews were mobilised to Selbourne Road in Alton on 21 October 2014 after reports of a fire in two industrial units. Both buildings were destroyed by fire and two adjacent buildings were slightly damaged by radiated heat. Crews wore ten sets of breathing apparatus and used four jets to extinguish the fire.



3.4 Group activity – Fareham and Gosport Group

Community safety

The table below shows the number of home safety visits carried out between 1 October 2014 and 31 December 2014 and the number of smoke alarms fitted.

	Number
HSVs undertaken	161
Smoke detectors fitted	193

Fire investigations

Fareham and Gosport had three fire investigations.

Arson and risk reduction

There were two fire investigation search dog deployments and three statements were taken.

Mosaic risk groups

I, M, and N

Business fire safety

During this period we carried out 117 fire safety inspections and 48 business support visits. We carried out Christmas inspections ensuring shopping complexes controlled their stock and maintained their fire exits. We have also created a Service consultation team at headquarters which will deal with all forms of fire safety consultation and release the delivery offices to carry out proactive risk reduction work.

We continue to enjoy an excellent relationship with both Fareham and Gosport Borough Council's private sector housing departments, focusing on houses in multiple occupation. We have carried out a number of joint visits on premises in Fareham, Gosport and Warsash. These have resulted in advice being given to the responsible people and the local authorities issuing an improvement notice and schedule.

We have been dealing with a Grade II listed building in Titchfield village centre for some time, which is being converted to a respite centre for cancer patients. The installation of a sprinkler system was recommended, as the building has a difficult internal layout, and is unable to provide the usual level of protection and means of escape. We have now been through the formal consultation process and are pleased that the building is now fully sprinklered with a robust fire alarm system.

The Business Fire Safety department not only looks outwards to the community but also looks inwards to ensure the safety of our employees. We have carried out the fire risk assessments of all our building stock and are now reviewing the assessments based on need. These reviews can take place if changes have been made or if the assessment is believed to be out of date. Recently we have reviewed the fire risk assessments of Fareham and Portchester Fire Stations.

3.4 Group activity – Fareham and Gosport Group

Enforcement

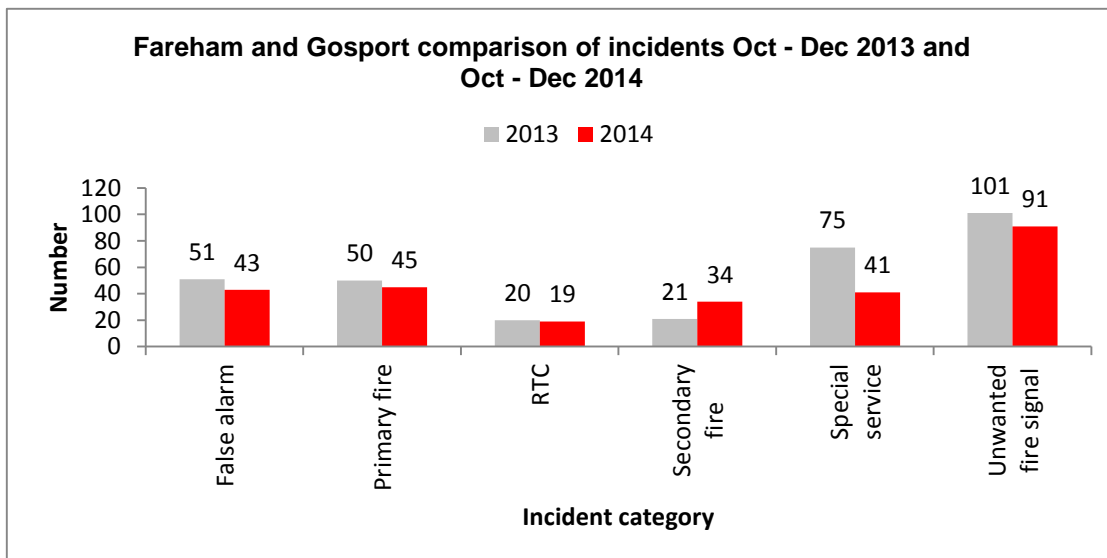
No enforcement notices were issued.

Prohibitions

No prohibition notices were issued.

Community response

On 22 October 2014 crews were mobilised to The Crossways in Gosport after reports of a fire involving the ground floor of a terrace property. One female and two children were rescued by firefighters and taken to hospital by ambulance suffering smoke inhalation. Crews wore six sets of breathing apparatus and used two high pressure hose reels and one covering jet to extinguish the fire. One firefighter suffered smoke inhalation and had precautionary checks.



3.5 Group activity – Portsmouth Group

Community safety

The table below shows the number of home safety visits carried out between 1 October 2014 and 31 December 2014 and the number of smoke alarms fitted.

	Number
HSVs undertaken	133
Smoke detectors fitted	133

Fire investigations

Portsmouth had nine fire investigations.

Arson and risk reduction

There was one fire investigation search dog deployment and CCTV evidence was collected from 12 appliances.

Mosaic risk groups

I, M, and N

Business fire safety

During this period the officers for the Portsmouth and Havant offices have dealt with 209 fire safety inspections and 119 business support visits. We carried out Christmas inspections ensuring shopping complexes controlled their stock and maintained their fire exits. We have also created a Service consultation team at headquarters which will deal with all forms of fire safety consultation and release the delivery offices to carry out proactive risk reduction work.

We have been working with Portsmouth City Council for the past 15 months on a sprinkler retrofit project. We are encouraging the local authority to install sprinklers as part of their refurbishment of high risk residential premises. In October we took them to Derbyshire to look at the relationship between Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service and the local authority. As a partnership they have retrofitted sprinklers in care homes and sheltered housing at minimal cost and disruption, and are installing sprinklers in a new housing estate. As a result, Portsmouth City Council have retrofitted a sprinkler system to a house occupied by adults with learning difficulties and have committed to doing the same in a second home. They have also proposed installing sprinklers in two sheltered housing schemes for vulnerable people.

3.5 Group activity – Portsmouth Group

Enforcement

No enforcement notices were issued.

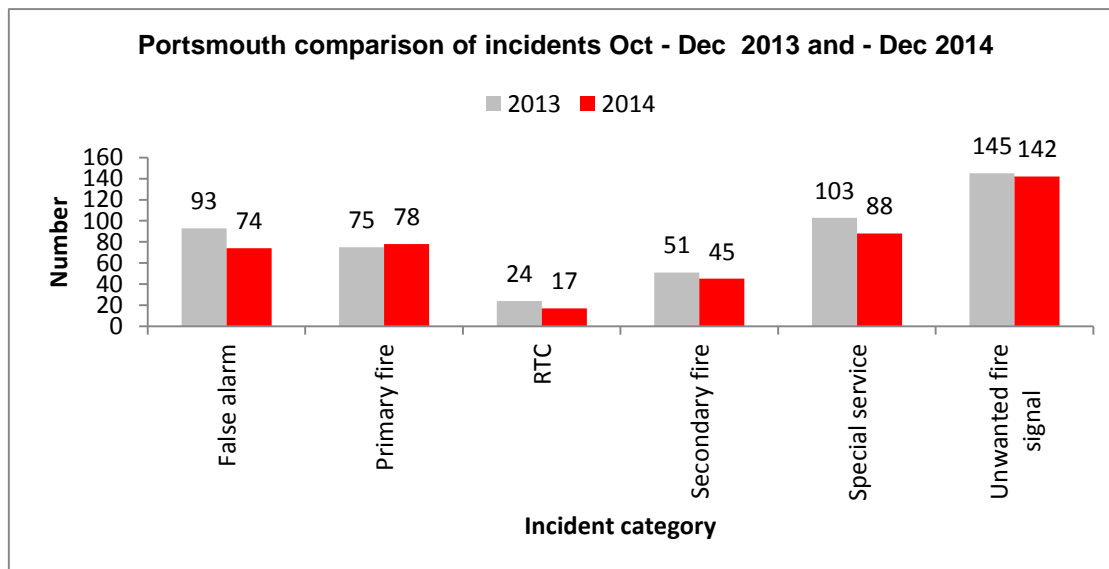
Prohibitions

Three prohibition notices were issued.

Community response

A fire involving 500 tonnes of scrap metal broke out at European Metal Recycling Limited in Portsmouth at 08:41 on 5 October 2014. The fire caused a smoke plume reaching heights of over 100 feet which could be seen for miles. More than 50 firefighters were on scene tackled the blaze and worked with on site staff to make fire breaks to prevent the fire spreading. (For more details see 1.1)

Six crews were mobilised to Southampton Road in Paulsgrove on 9 November 2014 after reports of a fire in a snooker club. The fire was on the first floor and crews wore 10 sets of breathing apparatus and used three jets and two hose reels to extinguish the fire.



3.6 Group activity – Winchester Group

Community safety

The table below shows the number of home safety visits carried out in the between 1 October 2014 and 31 December 2014 and the number of smoke alarms fitted.

	Number
HSVs undertaken	25
Smoke detectors fitted	32

Fire investigations

Winchester had five fire investigations.

Arson and risk reduction

One statement was taken.

Mosaic risk groups

I, M, and N

Business fire safety

We have attended 51 building and licensing consultations, six fire safety audits and undertaken 20 business support visits. We have also responded to two alleged fire risks and carried out one post fire inspection.

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 targeting our audit activity at premises that have sleeping accommodation above takeaway businesses. Our intelligence data indicates that there are high levels of non-compliance in this type of business. We have also worked with small business advisors in local banks to provide better information to start up businesses in the Winchester area.

Following the fire at St Peters Church, Ropley in June 2014, we arranged to meet with the conservation officers from all of the local authorities. The main purpose of the meeting was to push the heritage agenda and the new information that is now available on our website. The information on the website is for responsible persons to create and use salvage plans and fire strategies for their premises.

3.6 Group activity – Winchester Group

Enforcement

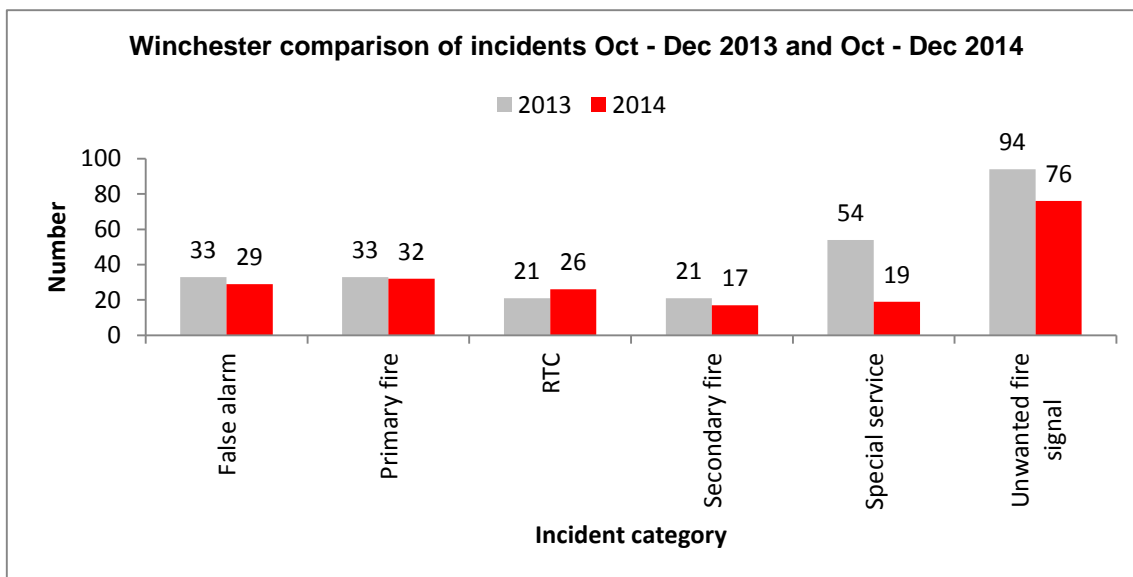
No enforcement notices were issued.

Prohibitions

One prohibition notice was issued.

Community response

On 6 November 2014 three crews were mobilised to Sheardley Lane in Droxford where there was a fire in an industrial unit involving an acid bath. Crews wore four sets of breathing apparatus and used one hose reel and one jet to extinguish the fire. One person was taken to hospital by ambulance. Advice was taken from the National Chemical Emergency Centre and Public Health England were informed. The DIM unit, environmental protection unit attended and detection identification monitoring equipment was used.



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 October 2014 and 31 December 2014 and the number of smoke alarms fitted.

	Number
HSVs undertaken	99
Smoke detectors fitted	117

Fire investigations

Test Valley and Eastleigh had four fire investigations.

Arson and risk reduction

No activity.

Mosaic risk groups

I, M, and N

Business fire safety

We have attended 74 building and licensing consultations, eight fire safety audits and have undertaken 38 business support visits. We have also responded to four alleged fire risks and carried out three post fire inspections.

We have been focussed on reducing the demand on operational resources by visiting premises that create false alarms and non-emergency lift incidents. We are currently working with Aster Communities to help them reduce the number of false alarms in one of their homes in Stockbridge.

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

We are making better use of statistical data to reduce risk, for instance the two recent fires in historic churches have led us to contact and/or visit every church in the area to provide guidance and advice on fire prevention, salvage plans and business continuity.

3.7 Group activity – Test Valley and Eastleigh Group

Enforcement

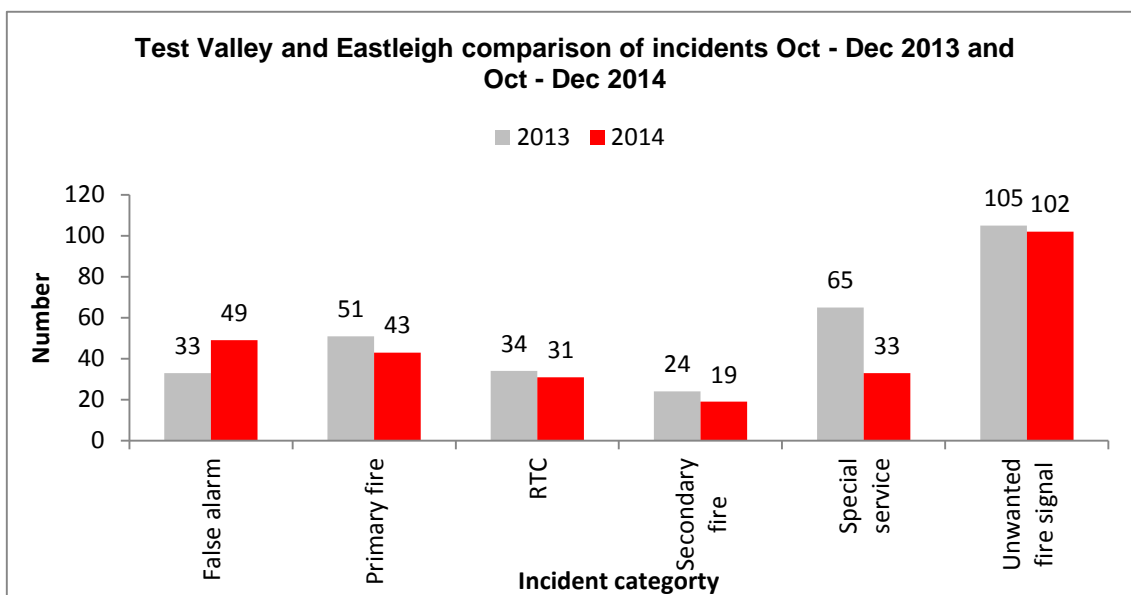
No enforcement notices were issued.

Prohibitions

No prohibition notices were issued.

Community response

On 15 November 2014 at 11:16 eight crews were mobilised to the Hilton Hotel in Chilworth after reports of a fire in a hotel. The hotel has five floors and the fire broke out in the health suite in the basement. Two casualties were treated on scene for smoke inhalation by our crews and assisted them into the care of the ambulance service.



3.8 Group activity – Southampton Group

Community safety

The table below shows the number of home safety visits carried out between 1 October 2014 and 31 December 2014 and the number of smoke alarms fitted.

	Number
HSVs undertaken	104
Smoke detectors fitted	120

Fire investigations

Southampton had 19 fire investigations.

Arson and risk reduction

There was one fire investigation search dog deployment, nine statements were taken and CCTV evidence was collected from three appliances.

Mosaic risk groups

I, M, and N

Business fire safety

We have attended 93 building and licensing consultations, 28 fire safety audits and undertaken 25 business support visits. We have also responded to 18 alleged fire risks and carried out five post fire inspections.

Construction of the new Watermark development at West Quay has started and we have continued to consult with the developers and fire engineering consultants. We are ensuring that the construction doesn't adversely affect the existing site or our operational capabilities.

Many of the new student halls of residence are now occupied, and we have continued to support the management teams within the buildings. We have worked with the management at one of the high rise blocks after an incident which was extinguished by a sprinkler activation. We provided support to improve their procedures and approached them to join the Primary Authority Partnership scheme.

The Christmas period saw the return of the Southampton Christmas market which we supported through safety advisory group meetings and on site visits. We carried out inspections at several high street locations in the run up to Christmas providing advice and support to businesses.

3.8 Group activity – Southampton Group

Enforcement

Two enforcement notices were issued.

Prohibitions

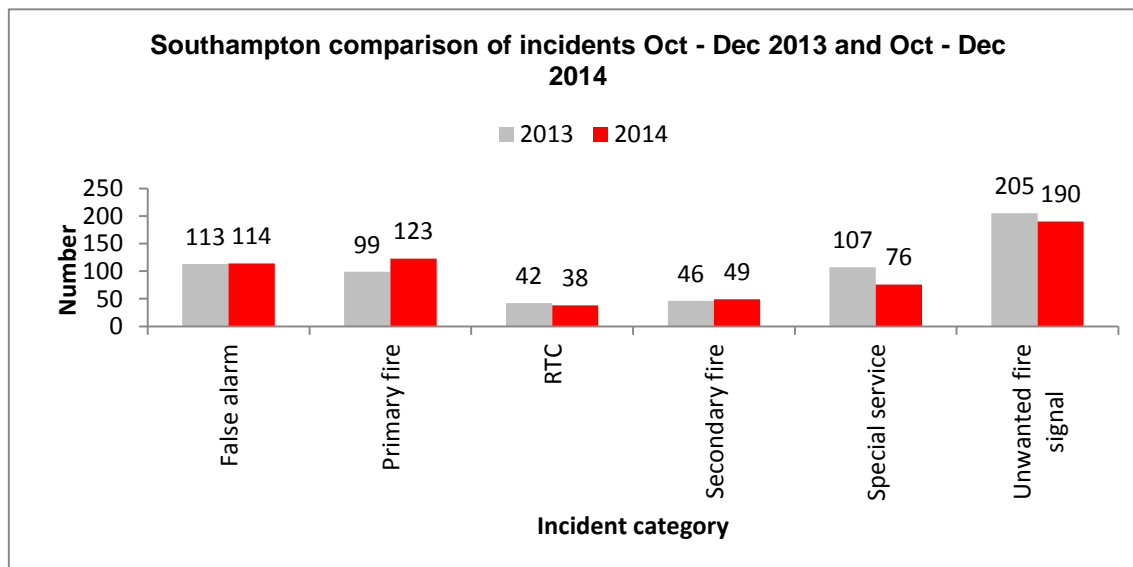
Two prohibition notices were issued.

Community response

On 19 October 2014 crews were mobilised to Dawson Road in Southampton after reports of a fire in the ground floor of a two storey flat. Crews wore four sets of breathing apparatus and used one hose reel and one jet to extinguish the fire. Firefighters led five people to safety and two people were taken to hospital by an ambulance.

Eight crews were sent to a fire in Portswood Park in Southampton on 24 October 2014. The fire was in the first floor boiler room of a two storey building consisting of domestic flats. Crews wore eight sets of breathing apparatus and used three jets to put the fire out. Five people were rescued by crews.

A father and daughter had a "miracle escape" after a suspected gas explosion reduced their Shirley home to rubble in the early hours of 18 November. Neighbours helped pull the man, 36, and girl, 4, from the debris, but both suffered only minor injuries. (For more details see 1.4)



3.9 Group activity – New Forest Group

Community safety

The table below shows the number of home safety visits carried out between 1 October 2014 and 31 December 2014 and the number of smoke alarms fitted.

	Number
HSVs undertaken	96
Smoke detectors fitted	107

Fire investigations

New Forest had two fire investigations.

Arson and risk reduction

There was one fire investigation search dog deployment and CCTV evidence was collected from two appliances.

Mosaic risk groups

I, M, and N

Business fire safety

We have attended 25 building and licensing consultations, 49 fire safety audits and undertaken 63 business support visits. We have also responded to 10 alleged fire risks and carried out four post fire inspections.

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

We are concentrating our effort on visiting every takeaway food outlet within the New Forest to offer advice and guidance on identified issues that have arisen within similar businesses.

Christmas inspections were conducted covering Lyndhurst, Lymington, New Milton, Hythe and Totton. Positive feedback was gained from many of these businesses and some issues were identified for future inspection activity.

3.9 Group activity – New Forest Group

Enforcement

No enforcement notices were issued.

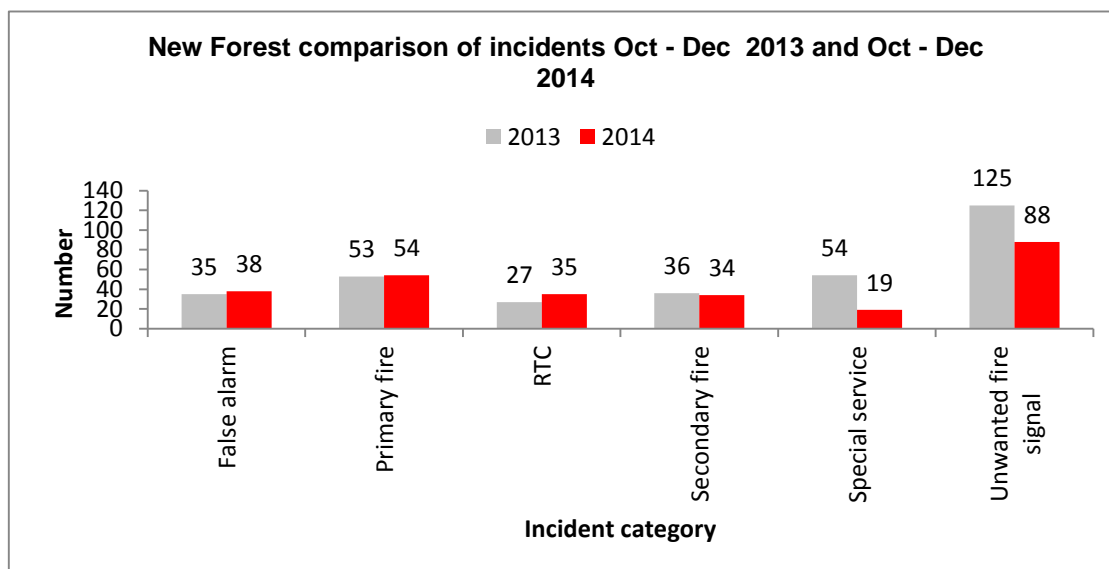
Prohibitions

One prohibition notice was issued relating to sleeping accommodation above a commercial building.

Community response

On 2 December 2014 Control mobilised eight crews to a severe house fire in Brook Lane, Fordingbridge. The ground floor, first floor and the roof were 100 per cent damaged by fire and heat. (For more details see 1.5)

Six crews were mobilised to Pelican Mead in Ringwood on 12 November after reports of a fire. The fire involved a four bedroom detached property which left the roof 100 per cent damaged by fire and the first floor with 50 per cent damage. The ground floor was also smoke and water damaged. Crews wore 10 sets of breathing apparatus and used five jets and two hose reels to extinguish the fire. The fire was caused by an electrical fault.



4 Latest news

4.1 Two killed in light aircraft crash near Popham

Around 25 firefighters assisted police and ambulance colleagues at a light aircraft crash near Popham airfield on 3 January 2015. Sadly two people were killed and another seriously injured.

Emergency services were alerted at 15:43 and the reports said that the aircraft came down in the woods south of the A303.

Sadly, Lewis Tonkinson, 50 and Sally Tonkinson, 44, from Alcester in Warwickshire died following the crash. Their six year old son is being treated at Southampton General for life threatening injuries.

The Air Accident Investigation Branch (AAIB) carried out an assessment. Enquiries have revealed that the aircraft took off from Bembridge on the Isle of Wight.

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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