

Activity Report of the Chief Officer



Contents

Introduction

1 Responding to incidents

- 1.1 Ashurst fatal house fire
- 1.2 Fareham fatal garage fire
- 1.3 A3024 large hazmat incident

2 Community safety

- 2.1 Children and young people
- 2.2 Road safety
- 2.3 Home safety
- 2.4 Volunteers
- 2.5 Safeguarding
- 2.6 Fire investigation, Arson Task Force, Firesetters and enforcement support
- 2.7 Fire as a health asset
- 2.8 National resilience

3 Group activity

- 3.1 Basingstoke and Deane Group
- 3.2 Rushmoor and Hart Group
- 3.3 Havant and East Hampshire Group
- 3.4 Fareham and Gosport Group
- 3.5 Portsmouth Group
- 3.6 Winchester Group
- 3.7 Test Valley and Eastleigh Group
- 3.8 Southampton Group
- 3.9 New Forest Group

4 Latest news

- 4.1 Southampton fatal fire
- 4.2 Nutley thatch fire
- 4.3 Southampton fireworks fire

Contact: Chief Officer, Dave Curry
Tel: 023 8062 6832
Email: dave.curry@hantsfire.gov.uk

Front page photo: Nutley thatch fire

Introduction

This activity report covers the period 1 January 2016 to 31 March 2016. Any notable incidents that have occurred after 31 March 2016 and before the report has been issued are listed in the back in the 'Latest news' section of the report.

There have been two fire-related deaths this quarter (which will be discussed in more detail within this report). We have also had several RTC related fatalities.



In March we helped Electrical Safety First launch their 'Pull the Plug' campaign encouraging people in the UK to make sure that they turn off appliances (especially hair straighteners) when leaving the house.

One in 12 women admit to having left their hair straighteners switched on at least once and one in three people aged 18 – 24 have been burnt by a hair appliance, so in our burn unit we left a pair of hair straighteners on bedding to show people the consequences of what could happen! #PullthePlug

Exercise Unified Response was a large multi-agency exercise in London from 29 February – 3 March. The exercise was based on a significant building collapse, incorporating heavy transport and mass casualties.

HFRS helped with logistics support, incident management and communications aspects of the exercise over the four days.

Watch more in LFB's video at <http://bit.ly/1T82pBI>.



March also saw the official opening by HFRA Chairman Cllr Chris Carter and now former PCC Simon Hayes of the joint Fire and Police HQ in Eastleigh.

Whilst construction work is still ongoing in areas of the building, the new reception, ground floor areas and meeting rooms show a unified public face and our ambition to work closely together as part of the emergency services 'family'.

Hampshire's joint-working between fire and the police has been praised by government departments, other fire services and even the Home Secretary, as per her statements in the Commons here <http://bit.ly/21ZRK1N>.

1 Responding to incidents

	Q4 2014-15	Q4 2015-16
False alarm	466	499
Primary fire	426	454
RTC	200	181
Secondary fire	348	233
Special service	403	640
Unwanted fire signal	836	859
Co-response	2575	3392
TOTAL	5254	6258

1.1 Ashurst fatal house fire



Firefighters were called on 13 January to Ashcroft Hair Ltd on Lyndhurst Road, Ashurst after reports of fire on the first floor. On arrival fire crews reported the building well alight with smoke and flames issuing from the first floor windows to the rear of the property and through the roof space.

Crews forced entry through the front and rear entrances of the property and upon further investigation discovered the body of a male within the kitchen of the first floor bedsit. Crews requested the attendance of the Police and fire investigation.



Cause of the fire was later found to be accidental.

1.2 Fareham fatal garage fire

Crews from Fareham were called to a fire on Highlands Road, Fareham on 27 February 2016. The fire was in a large concrete garage in the rear garden of the property that was used as a workshop.

The owner of the property was in the garage when the fire started and suffered severe burns across his body and was found in the garden by a neighbour. He was transferred to hospital by SCAS but died the following night.

Fire investigation found the cause to be accidental.



1.3 A3024 large hazmat incident

At 03:38 on 04 February 2016, six pumps, two command units, an environmental protection unit and response support vehicle were mobilised to the A3024 in Bursledon to a large milk spillage. This is treated as a hazmat incident due to the toxic nature of milk if it enters the local ecosystem.



The curtain of the HGV had split, spilling around 2000 bottles of milk onto the highway. Around 1000 litres of milk entered the drains before our attendance, but crews quickly blocked the drains and removed the remaining milk before it could cause further damage to the environment. The incident

was then left in the hands of the Environment Agency.

2 Community safety

2.1 Children and Young People (CYP)

FireEd 0-14 – Schools Education Team

The team has engaged with 7387 children at Key Stages 1 and 2, and 117 children at Key Stages 3 and 4 (January only). They have also engaged with 727 children through the Think Safe Event in the Eastleigh area.

FireEd 14+, Princes Trust and other CYP delivery

Prince's Trust team programmes

- Started with three teams in Totton, Winchester and Fareham which saw 42 young people join the programme
- The teams finished a successful programme on 15 April 2016
- A further team started in the Eastleigh area at the beginning of March and which will finish at the end of May 2016

FireWise (0-18 1:1 Fire Education)

- Worked with 18 families on a 1-2-1 basis delivering fire and risk behaviour education
- Referrals from various routes including schools, social workers, parents and police
- A further 10 families engaged with and visits being organised

Fire cadets

- We continue to have one fire cadet unit in Ringwood and are active members of the newly formed Fire Cadet Board through CFOA

National Citizen Service

- Work with Portsmouth, Southampton and Mountbatten NCS providing fire safety, road safety and team building courses. During this period we have worked with 79 16-17 year olds
- Also developed a mechanics and scrap heap challenge course trialled with 50 16-17 year olds with a further course booked for June 2016

Phoenix

- We continue to pilot this course, which is a one week intensive course with five follow up days over a period of three months
- We completed the Rushmoor Borough Council and the Hampshire County Council (Supporting Trouble Families) funded courses during this period receiving positive responses from all involved, and future plans are underway

2.2 Road Safety

During this period we launched our Road Safety Campaign #FriendsDriveSafe. This is focusing on and targeting young people, and we have concentrated our delivery on maximising social media presence. A total of 92 secondary schools were visited and provided with the resources to show and promote these social media films, with some schools allowing us to deliver these sessions to year 11. This campaign continues through April and will be evaluated during the next period.

We continue to engage with our road safety partners through regular meetings with Hampshire County Council, Hampshire Constabulary, Southampton City Council, Portsmouth City Council and IOW Fire and Rescue Service. This continues to be a proactive group and vital for all partners moving forward.

2.3 Home safety

From 01 April we launched the Safe & Well visits, which have replaced the previous home safety visits. The visits focus on fire safety, falls assessment and winter / summer deaths with a referral mechanism to partner agencies should the need arise.

Centrally we are supporting groups with a number of different targeted initiatives including leaflet updates, letter drops, magazine entries and community groups.

We are seeking feedback from our stations and groups with the early reviews being very positive. We will be evaluating this new initiative quarterly and making any necessary changes to meet the needs of the end user.

2.4 Volunteers

We continue to attract volunteers to support and assist various groups throughout the Service. We currently have a total of 87 volunteers.

Five of our volunteers have returned to Nepal to be with their families following the earthquake last year, five volunteers are currently inactive due to university and work commitments, and we have eight volunteers in various stages of enrolment.

We have appointed one NHS volunteer with specialist dementia skills who will be undertaking awareness training with our fire crews.

HFRS volunteers have contributed almost 800 hours for this reporting period, including 98 home safety visits.

2.5 Safeguarding

Adult services safeguarding referrals	101
Children services safeguarding referrals	8
Home safety visits	752

Modern day slavery seminar – 30 March 2016

As a strategic member of the Hampshire Modern Slavery Partnership, 10 HFRS community safety team members attended the recent modern slavery seminar.

Modern Day Slavery has now been embedded within the revised HFRS Safeguarding Policy Directive, and learning from this event has been incorporated within a newly developed HFRS Modern Slavery training package on Moodle.

Child sexual exploitation – 29 January 2016

A number of community safety team members recently attended a high profile CSE awareness conference hosted by Hampshire Constabulary and the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Local Safeguarding Children Boards.

Following guidance we have designed a bespoke HFRS missing, exploited and trafficked children Moodle training package in order to raise an awareness of these concerns when engaging with a child or young person through our Community Safety activities.

2.6 Fire investigation, Arson Task Force, Firesetters and enforcement support

There have been 42 fire investigations in this reporting period, with 20 deliberate fires, 20 accidental fires and two not known. There have been two fatalities over this reporting period.

Arson Task Force

During this period the Arson Task Force has supported the investigation of 20 arson offences, with arrests made in relation to three of the offences committed in three groups. The same period has seen the successful conclusion of four cases at court:

- 12/02/16 – Kevin Batchelor was sentenced to 10 months imprisonment in a YOI having been convicted by Winchester Crown Court of an offence of arson in a cell at HMP Winchester.
- 18/02/16 – Jake Somerton-Young was fined £50 with £40 costs having been convicted by Southampton Magistrates of an offence of arson at 4 Darwin Road, Southampton.
- 04/03/16 – Karen Burdon was sentenced to 10 months imprisonment having been convicted by Dorchester Crown Court of an offence of arson at 4 Poplar Way, Ringwood.
- 23/03/16 – We attended Portsmouth Coroners Court for the inquest of Joanne Jasper, 120 Woodsedge, Waterlooville. The Coroner determined that this was an accidental fire death.

Fatal fires

During this period there were two fatal incidents involving fire:

- 13/01/16 – Lyndhurst Road, Ashurst with the Coroners date set for 18/04/16 (update – Coroner ruled this as an accidental fire death)
- 27/03/16 – Highlands Road, Fareham with the Coroners date set for 12/09/16

Fire investigation activity

The FI team hosted Electrical Safety First (ESF) at headquarters and assisted them in a safety awareness campaign for hair straighteners. They set up a number of scenarios in the investigation units which demonstrated how a fire would start and develop using everyday items such as duvets, carpet and pillows. The ESF team photographed these fires and used the images in a national press briefing as part of their campaign.

They assisted Home Retail Group in organising a conference to highlight the work we have done within the Primary Authority Scheme with over 40 delegates from across the country. The conference outcomes were highlighted to the CFOA FI steering group.

Following a trial in December, the High Sheriff, Lady Portal, who was sitting on the bench when we gave evidence requested to come and see the work we do first hand. On 08 February she visited us at headquartes and during the visit we discussed the processes we use during an investigation, the evidence gathering and the legal aspects of fire investigation. In addition to this Lady Portal was also keen to see the fire dogs in action as she had heard so much about them during the court case.

Firesetters

HFRS has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Restorative Solutions in order to deliver restorative justice in the southern half of the county. This was as a result of a joint application to the PCC. We currently have four restorative justice practitioners and a number of volunteers who are awaiting training.

Enforcement Support

On 10 February 2016, Mr Salih Sen, trading at The Kebab and Chicken House in Lymington, pleaded guilty at West Hampshire Magistrates Court to nine offences under the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005. He was found guilty and ordered to pay £11,850.54 in fines and costs.

There have been three referrals from groups to the team for investigation.

2.7 Fire as a health asset

Medical response

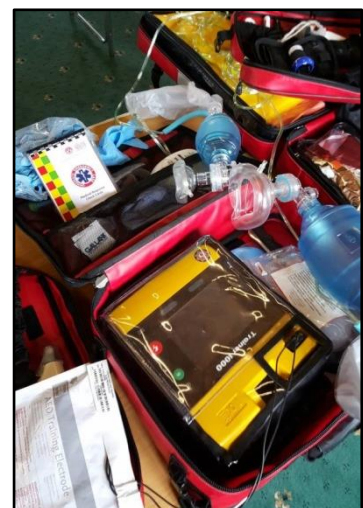
Our co-responders attended a total of 3,452 medical incidents during the period.

Fire appliance Immediate Emergency Care (IEC) capability

Work is well underway to get all aspects in place to give our staff IEC capability.

All new equipment has been evaluated, trialled, ordered, delivered into headquarters, and signed off by our clinical governors. Logistics and FMC are currently altering appliances to fit the new equipment.

The IEC training has been given to embedded and associate instructors across all wholetime watches and retained sections, building on the previous two years trauma care package. The roll out of the IEC, including the training to all staff, began on the 1 April 2016 at Wickham Fire Station.



Prevention and health outcomes in elderly and youth

We have successfully implemented the training and the delivery of a falls risk assessment tool (FRAT) and HOMEFAST assessment into the new Safe & Well visits. The new visits offer a 'light touch' health assessment to occupants over 65. In April, 25 falls risk referrals have been generated and passed onto the appropriate health partner for further prevention and intervention to take place.

We have developed a new falls prevention course named Safety Through Education Exercise and Resilience (STEER) and a falls champions course. We have been commissioned to deliver 12 STEER Courses and eight falls champion courses to the sum of £43K from North East Hampshire and Farnham CCG (Vanguard project).

We have forged a partnership with all seven local CCG's and secondary schools across the county deliver the 'A Better Me' programme. Directed at Year 8 students, the programme promotes a healthy mind and healthy body; encouraging the young people who may have long term health conditions, low level self-harm issues or are disengaged from physical activity to re-engage in a healthy lifestyle.

2.8 National resilience

Didcot Power Station National Incident 23/02/16

We were deployed to Didcot Power Station to the nationally declared major incident. Crews took part in search and rescue operations over three days. In addition HFRS provided a USAR tactical advisor and welfare officers.

NRAT year one assurance process

All 17 USAR fire and rescue services were required to submit evidence on USAR team preparedness. HFRS conformed in all 25 marked areas, with two areas highlighted as best practice. We were one of only five of the teams that had no needs identified, this is a credit to a well-managed and established team here at HFRS.

UKISAR

- WM Lee Giffard attended a joint exercise with London Fire Brigade in Atlanta, USA. Course costs were covered by LFB.
- We have received DFID Field Hospital Type 1 training and we are now available for international deployment as of 01/04/16. Hampshire is one of three UKISAR teams to receive this.
- We hosted a UKISAR training weekend for 70 national FRS personnel (Merseyside, Cheshire, Kent, Essex, Greater Manchester, London and Lincolnshire) in preparation for IER (INSARAG External Reclassification) in Weeze Germany (May 2016)

3 Group Activity

3.1 Group activity – Basingstoke and Deane

Community safety

The table below shows the number of home safety visits carried out and smoke detectors fitted between 1 January 2016 and 31 March 2016.

Home Safety Visits	46
Smoke detectors fitted	78

Fire investigations

There were three fire investigation and one statement taken in this reporting period.

Business fire safety

	Q4 2014-15	Q4 2015-16
Action plans	10	4
Alleged fire risks attended	5	6
Building and licensing consultations	36	59
Business support visits	46	9
Enforcement notices	0	0
Fire safety audits	12	15
Post incident inspections	0	0
Prohibition notices	0	0

Community response

	Q4 2014-15	Q4 2015-16
False alarm	36	41
Primary fire	36	38
RTC	21	7
Secondary fire	26	18
Special service	20	29
Unwanted fire signal	73	84
Co-response	12	15
TOTAL	224	232

Significant incidents

- *08/01/16, shed / garage fire, Middleton Gardens, Basingstoke*
Fire involving a garden shed which spread to a single storey garage block. The shed contained a helium gas canister and tumble dryer. Three pumps and an aerial ladder platform were required and crews used four breathing apparatus, two hose reels and two jets.
- *24/03/16, Domestic fire, Alderwood Drive, Hook*
Fire in two storey dwelling spreading from integral garage to the property. Five pumps and the aerial ladder platform were required, and crews used ten breathing apparatus, two main jets and three hose reels.

3.2 Group activity – Rushmoor and Hart

Community safety

The table below shows the number of home safety visits carried out and smoke detectors fitted between 1 January 2016 and 31 March 2016.

Home Safety Visits	44
Smoke detectors fitted	99

Fire investigations

There was one fire investigation in this reporting period.

Business fire safety

	Q4 2014-15	Q4 2015-16
Action plans	4	1
Alleged fire risks attended	9	6
Building and licensing consultations	46	49
Business support visits	122	21
Enforcement notices	0	0
Fire safety audits	15	10
Post incident inspections	0	3
Prohibition notices	3	0

Community response

	Q4 2014-15	Q4 2015-16
False alarm	41	36
Primary fire	43	28
RTC	25	19
Secondary fire	33	26
Special service	41	58
Unwanted fire signal	85	79
Co-response	75	121
TOTAL	343	367

Significant incidents

- *There have been no significant incidents in the Rushmoor and Hart Group this quarter.*

3.3 Group activity – Havant and East Hampshire

Community safety

The table below shows the number of home safety visits carried out and smoke detectors fitted between 1 January 2016 and 31 March 2016.

Home Safety Visits	135
Smoke detectors fitted	153

Fire investigations

There have been nine fire investigations in this reporting period, one resulting in the arrest and charging of a suspect.

Business fire safety

	Q4 2014-15	Q4 2015-16
Action plans	10	14
Alleged fire risks attended	9	7
Building and licensing consultations	58	90
Business support visits	15	18
Enforcement notices	0	0
Fire safety audits	23	24
Post incident inspections	5	3
Prohibition notices	1	1

Community response

	Q4 2014-15	Q4 2015-16
False alarm	62	54
Primary fire	64	58
RTC	29	22
Secondary fire	58	38
Special service	45	56
Unwanted fire signal	109	79
Co-response	636	1060
TOTAL	1003	1367

Significant incidents

- *13/01/16, fatal RTC, A31, Four Marks*
RTC involving three vehicles. One vehicle 100% damaged by fire. One male deceased at the scene, incident handed over to the police for investigation. Crews used two breathing apparatus and one hose reel.
- *06/03/16, domestic fire, Plain Farm Lane, East Tisted*
Fire involving two outbuildings and the ground floor of a two-floor domestic property. Six pumps and a water carrier were required and crews used ten breathing apparatus, two hose reels, two CAFS jets and two jets.

3.4 Group activity – Fareham and Gosport

Community safety

The table below shows the number of home safety visits carried out and smoke detectors fitted between 1 January 2016 and 31 March 2016.

Home Safety Visits	101
Smoke detectors fitted	199

Fire investigations

There has been one fire investigation in this reporting period.

Business fire safety

	Q4 2014-15	Q4 2015-16
Action plans	10	8
Alleged fire risks attended	4	3
Building and licensing consultations	50	52
Business support visits	20	19
Enforcement notices	0	0
Fire safety audits	22	16
Post incident inspections	3	3
Prohibition notices	0	0

Community response

	Q4 2014-15	Q4 2015-16
False alarm	40	51
Primary fire	43	37
RTC	15	19
Secondary fire	23	29
Special service	42	75
Unwanted fire signal	80	77
Co-response	296	377
TOTAL	539	665

Significant incidents

- 22/02/16, domestic fire, Albert Street, Gosport
Fire involving a mid-terrace house. First floor rear bedroom well alight with spread into loft area. First floor 80% damaged by fire. Three pumps and an aerial ladder platform attended and crews used two hose reels, one jet, six breathing apparatus and positive pressure ventilation.

3.5 Group activity – Portsmouth

Community safety

The table below shows the number of home safety visits carried out and smoke detectors fitted between 1 January 2016 and 31 March 2016.

Home Safety Visits	89
Smoke detectors fitted	132

Fire investigations

There have been six fire investigations and three statements taken in this reporting period.

Business fire safety

	Q4 2014-15	Q4 2015-16
Action plans	22	16
Alleged fire risks attended	15	33
Building and licensing consultations	43	59
Business support visits	37	15
Enforcement notices	2	0
Fire safety audits	39	30
Post incident inspections	16	9
Prohibition notices	1	1

Community response

	Q4 2014-15	Q4 2015-16
False alarm	60	94
Primary fire	47	62
RTC	15	15
Secondary fire	41	14
Special service	88	153
Unwanted fire signal	119	107
Co-response	121	261
TOTAL	491	706

Significant incidents

- 01/01/16, garage fire, Bilton Way, Copnor*
Crews were called to a fire in a garage workshop involving two vehicles inside the workshop area. Four pumps and one aerial ladder platform were sent and crews used four breathing apparatus, two jets and three positive pressure ventilation fans.
- 12/03/16, commercial fire, Port Solent, Portsmouth*
Fire in cooking extractor system and roof space of restaurant. Six pumps and an aerial ladder platform were required and crews used four breathing apparatus and two jets.

3.6 Group activity – Winchester

Community safety

The table below shows the number of home safety visits carried out and smoke detectors fitted between 1 January 2016 and 31 March 2016.

Home Safety Visits	50
Smoke detectors fitted	51

Fire investigations

There have been five fire investigations in this reporting period.

Business fire safety

	Q4 2014-15	Q4 2015-16
Action plans	13	5
Alleged fire risks attended	6	5
Building and licensing consultations	49	60
Business support visits	29	19
Enforcement notices	0	0
Fire safety audits	21	14
Post incident inspections	4	1
Prohibition notices	0	0

Community response

	Q4 2014-15	Q4 2015-16
False alarm	33	26
Primary fire	30	34
RTC	17	16
Secondary fire	19	23
Special service	15	35
Unwanted fire signal	61	85
Co-response	150	164
TOTAL	325	383

Significant incidents

- *There have been no significant incidents in the Winchester Group this quarter.*

3.7 Group activity – Test Valley and Eastleigh Group

Community safety

The table below shows the number of home safety visits carried out and smoke detectors fitted between 1 January 2016 and 31 March 2016.

Home Safety Visits	93
Smoke detectors fitted	126

Fire investigations

There has been one fire investigation and one statement taken in this reporting period.

Business fire safety

	Q4 2014-15	Q4 2015-16
Action plans	10	1
Alleged fire risks attended	6	5
Building and licensing consultations	60	75
Business support visits	69	28
Enforcement notices	0	0
Fire safety audits	21	18
Post incident inspections	1	7
Prohibition notices	0	0

Community response

	Q4 2014-15	Q4 2015-16
False alarm	45	40
Primary fire	38	40
RTC	23	27
Secondary fire	34	24
Special service	26	52
Unwanted fire signal	77	100
Co-response	316	397
TOTAL	559	680

Significant incidents

- *There have been no significant incidents in the Test Valley and Eastleigh Group this quarter.*

3.8 Group activity – Southampton

Community safety

The table below shows the number of home safety visits carried out and smoke detectors fitted between 1 January 2016 and 31 March 2016.

Home Safety Visits	100
Smoke detectors fitted	132

Fire investigations

There have been 12 fire investigations and seven statements taken in this reporting period, resulting in one arrest.

Business fire safety

	Q4 2014-15	Q4 2015-16
Action plans	8	6
Alleged fire risks attended	17	7
Building and licensing consultations	64	83
Business support visits	17	59
Enforcement notices	4	0
Fire safety audits	25	18
Post incident inspections	10	11
Prohibition notices	1	0

Community response

	Q4 2014-15	Q4 2015-16
False alarm	90	118
Primary fire	92	113
RTC	29	35
Secondary fire	69	34
Special service	95	115
Unwanted fire signal	169	154
Co-response	177	222
TOTAL	721	791

Significant incidents

- 20/01/16, residential fire, Roberts Road, Southampton*
 Fire involving a two floor residence and nursery. Fire in the rear of building and roof space requiring five pumps and an aerial ladder platform. Crews used eight breathing apparatus, two jets and one hose reel. One casualty to hospital.
- 19/03/16, residential fire, Lydgate Road, Southampton*
 Fire in kitchen of first floor flat. One male rescued from flat by HFRS, one female self-rescued. Both treated for smoke inhalation by the ambulance service. Three persons rescued via ladder and eight led to safety. Four pumps were in attendance and crews used six breathing apparatus, two jets, two hose reels and positive pressure ventilation.

3.9 Group activity – New Forest Group

Community safety

The table below shows the number of home safety visits carried out and smoke detectors fitted between 1 January 2016 and 31 March 2016.

Home Safety Visits	67
Smoke detectors fitted	79

Fire investigations

There were four fire investigations in this reporting period, resulting in one suspect arrested, charged and cautioned.

Business fire safety

	Q4 2014-15	Q4 2015-16
Action plans	30	8
Alleged fire risks attended	11	3
Building and licensing consultations	48	61
Business support visits	21	14
Enforcement notices	0	0
Fire safety audits	50	19
Post incident inspections	5	9
Prohibition notices	1	0

Community response

	Q4 2014-15	Q4 2015-16
False alarm	59	39
Primary fire	33	44
RTC	26	21
Secondary fire	45	27
Special service	31	63
Unwanted fire signal	63	93
Co-response	792	775
TOTAL	1049	1062

Significant incidents

- *13/01/16, fatal domestic fire, Lyndhurst Road, Ashurst*
Fire in a first floor bedsit, 100% damaged by fire. On entry crews discovered on male deceased at the scene. Three pumps and an ALP were required and crews used four breathing apparatus and three jets.
- *16/02/16, fatal RTC, Hordle Lane, Hordle*
RTC involving one vehicle. Three people released prior to the arrival of HFRS but one person deceased trapped in vehicle. HFRS assisted with scene safety and investigation alongside police before extrication of deceased.

4 Latest news

4.1 Southampton fatal fire

Crews were called to garages on fire on Northumberland Road, Southampton. On arrival crews were informed that there may be someone living in the garage and immediately made up to three pumps and committed firefighters in breathing apparatus to find any casualties.

It was discovered that the double garage had been converted to makeshift living accommodation and one middle aged male was discovered deceased in the fire compartment.

Investigation of the fire later found the cause to be accidental.

4.2 Nutley thatch fire



On 28 April 2016 crews were dispatched to a significant thatch fire on Farleigh Road, Nutley.

Initially responding crews found a large quantity of smoke issuing from the thatch and requested the aerial ladder platform and further pumps. In all 17 pumps and crews, and numerous support vehicles were required at this incident and it ran for more than seven and a half hours.

We later received a note of thanks from the owners of the property expressing their great appreciation for the professionalism, commitment and hard work of our staff in saving as much of their property and possessions as we could.

4.3 Southampton fireworks fire

Crews were called on the morning of 13 May 2016 to a fire in a garden centre on Bitterne Road West, Southampton which involved a large quantity of fireworks.

13 pumps, two aerial ladder platforms, two command vehicles and multiple other support vehicles managed to contain the significant fire to the initial property and one adjoining building, saving local businesses and homes.

The fire generated a large amount of local and national news, video, pictures and social content.

