

Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority

Activity Report of the Chief Officer



HAMPSHIRE
FIRE AND
RESCUE
SERVICE

Contents

Introduction

1 Responding to incidents

- 1.1 Oakley domestic fire, 05/07/16
- 1.2 Biffa waste facility fire, 08/08/16
- 1.3 Boomtown vehicle fire, 12/08/16
- 1.4 Generator fire, 26/09/16

2 Community safety

- 2.1 Children and young people
- 2.2 Road safety
- 2.3 Safe & Well visits
- 2.4 Volunteers
- 2.5 Partnership working
- 2.6 Safeguarding
- 2.7 Fire investigation, Arson Task Force, Firesetters and enforcement support

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 Gosport car fires, 09/10/16
- 4.2 Calshot domestic fire, 10/10/16
- 4.3 Farnborough converted chapel fire, 18/10/16
- 4.4 Ringwood commercial fire, 27/11/16

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

Front page photo: Boomtown vehicle fire, 12/08/16

Introduction

This Activity Report covers the period 1 July 2016 to 30 September 2016. Any notable incidents that have occurred after 30 September 2016 and before the report has been issued are listed in the back in the 'Latest news' section of the report.



In early September we hosted the 2016 UKRO Rescue Challenge. The Challenge is an annual UK-wide event in which more than 50 teams of professional firefighters from fire and rescue services across the UK and Europe compete against one another in the disciplines of vehicle extrication, trauma management, urban search and rescue (USAR), rope rescue, water rescue and, for the first time this year, animal rescue.

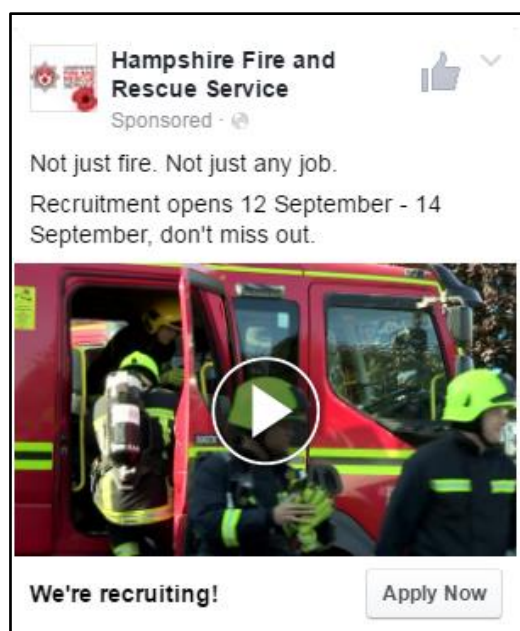
Held this year at our headquarters in Eastleigh, the challenges are regarded as a showcase for UK firefighters to compete against one another and demonstrate and develop their skills.

HFRS won more medals than any other team with golds for the best team leader in rope rescue and the best medic in the urban search and rescue category event.

In September we also opened recruitment for wholetime firefighters for the first time in a number of years. Our campaign was lead through social media and aimed at increasing the number of female applicants we received.

We used paid-for advertising on Facebook to drive the campaign, and reached more than 160,000 people. This led to 12,000 unique visits to our website over the length of the recruitment campaign and more than 800 applicants over 48 hours for the 16 spaces.

The selection process is still ongoing and the cadre of new firefighters are due to start their training in April 2016.



There have been two fire-related deaths this quarter:

- 25/08/16 – three pumps attended a persons reported fire on Rectory Road, Farnborough. One 82-year old female removed by HFRS. The coroner confirmed that the woman died of natural causes before the fire started
- 15/09/16 – fire investigation mobilised to Apple Dumpling Bridge in Gosport due to most likely self-incineration of 45-year old male. Casualty transported to hospital by ambulance service but died the next day due to his injuries

1 Responding to incidents

	Q2 2015-16	Q2 2016-17
False alarm	606	559
Primary fire	556	466
RTC	239	170
Secondary fire	526	534
Special service	498	642
Unwanted fire signal	977	1030
Co-response	2907	2215
TOTAL	6309	5616

1.1 Oakley domestic fire, 05/07/16

Three Basingstoke pumps attended a semi-detached property on Lightsfield, Oakley at 22:57 on Tuesday 05 July 2016 after reports of a fire.

One 60 year old female casualty was rescued from the property unconscious and received life-saving resuscitation from crews on scene before the arrival of colleagues from South Central Ambulance Service.

The fire investigation concluded that the most likely cause of fire was an electrical / mechanical fault within a pain-relief heat pad causing a fire which spread to surrounding combustible materials.

1.2 Biffa waste facility fire, 08/08/16



23 pumps, two aerial ladder platforms and multiple support vehicles attended the Biffa Waste Services site on the Marchwood Industrial Park over the course of a 26-hour incident from 12:28 on Monday 08 August 2016.

150 tonnes of household waste were well alight within the facility, 100 tonnes of which were removed and extinguished by crews. In total 50 breathing apparatus and eight jets were used.

The site was handed back to owners at 13:44 on Tuesday 09 August 2016 once the site had been fully extinguished and damped down.

1.3 Boomtown vehicle fire, 12/08/16

Nine pumps plus support vehicles attended a significant fire involving nearly 100 cars at the Boomtown music festival on Alresford Road, Winchester at 16:15 on Friday 12 August 2016.

Crews were confronted with a fast moving fire in one of the festival's car parks, in close proximity to numerous other vehicles as well as the 'Boomtique' camp site for the festival, which was evacuated as a precaution.

Using eight breathing apparatus, three jets and two hose reels, crews extinguished the fire which fully destroyed 80 cars and damaged 12 more. The incident generated huge media interest due to the location, a music festival, as well as video and images tweeted from the scene.



The most likely cause was found to be a discarded cigarette setting light to stubble around the vehicles.

1.4 Generator fire, 26/09/16



Four pumps and support vehicles attended a fire involving a large external generator at the Fleur De Lis residential complex on Duttons Road, Romsey at 19:37 on Monday 26 September 2016.

21 people were evacuated from the building whilst crews tackled the blaze. 18 were re-housed by Hampshire County Council Emergency Planning afterward whilst investigations were ongoing.

Three flats suffered fire, smoke and water damage due to the proximity of the generator to the buildings. The cause was found to be the sound insulation around the generator igniting due to radiated heat.

2 Community safety

2.1 Children and Young People (CYP)

FireEd 0-14 – The Schools Education Team

The team has engaged with 2,311 children at Key Stages 1 and 2 during this period, delivering fire, road, water and community resilience messages.

Plans are underway to celebrate the 20th year of Schools Education delivered by HFRS. This celebration will coincide with our Prince's Trust 15th year and the launch of our new CYP brand.

FireWise

During this period of time we have confirmed that the pilot of FireWise (0-18), firesetters intervention programme, will become business as usual. Work will now be undertaken to upskill our part time practitioners so they can be utilised across 0-18 and adult programmes.

During this quarter we have worked with 21 families.

Prince's Trust

Prince's Trust Team programmes in Southampton, Basingstoke and Rushmoor were successfully completed at the end of July, with 34 young people completing the programme with a qualification.

During this period our FireEd 14+ team which delivers the Prince's Trust team programme underwent a restructure of its delivery model.

Funding for Prince's Trust Team programmes has been confirmed with our funding partners and we are set to deliver seven team programmes over the 16/17 academic year.

Phoenix

In this quarter we have been working with Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, who've funded the delivery of a Basingstoke Phoenix course for seven young people, through their Troubled Families programme.

NCS (National Citizen Service)

During this period we have delivered the following courses:

- 6 x 1 day courses to NCS Portsmouth, covering road safety, arson awareness and team building to 240, 15-17year olds
- 11 x half day courses to NCS Southampton, covering team building exercises to 165, 15-17year olds

2.2 Road safety

New Forest District Council and Goodwood are supporting Project Pictogram. NFDC have confirmed that they shall be using the Project Pictogram logo on the back of all their long stay parking machines.

Goodwood will be using Project Pictogram on their 2017 tickets, to remind drivers of the key safety messages whilst attending their events.

2.3 Safe & Well visits

This quarter we've completed 815 Safe & Well visits, from our priority one category and high risk referrals from our partner agencies. From these visits we've fitted 393 smoke detectors.

We've just started our 6 monthly evaluation and the outcomes of this are going to be used to plan for the year ahead and to help us further evolve our delivery model and targeting.

We continue to work with partners to help us deliver Safe & Well visits. For example we're working with Age Concern (Hampshire) and have direct access to their volunteer Village Agents network, who promote our safer homes messages in rural locations throughout the county.

Stations are building relationships with their local partner agencies, developing data sharing agreements, to help them target those most at risk in their area. As an organisation we're also looking at wider data sharing agreements we can develop with councils and those directly working with the most vulnerable. For example Rushmoor are working closely with Farnborough Community Care Team, to deliver joint visits to support NHS care plans.

2.4 Volunteers

We currently have a total of 92 volunteers including four students from Highbury College supporting Portsmouth initiatives and three students assigned to the fire investigation team (one intern for 12 months and 2 students for the next quarterly period).

HFRS volunteers completed in excess of 1,000 hours during the last quarter. Key events included supporting the UKRO Rescue Challenge, community reassurance following a high rise fire, station open days, Odiham fire show and numerous other community events throughout the county.

2.5 Partnership working

During this reporting period we have worked in partnership with the RNLI promoting water safety.

Work with Age Concern (Hampshire) has ensured that we can access other community groups within those areas i.e. Patient Participation Groups, GP's etc. Our volunteers attend community forums in partnership with Age Concern, undertaking bespoke talks and presentations.

Following recent discussions with the Local Resilience Forum Group, we are now working in partnership, coordinating their team of 50 volunteers (4x4 owners / drivers) who transport key emergency staff around the county ensuring business continuity.

2.6 Safeguarding

Adult Services Safeguarding Referrals	137
Children's Services Safeguarding Referrals	15

Section 11 Audit Children Safeguarding

As a partner agency of the Local Safeguarding Children's Board, we have completed and submitted the 2016 Section 11 self assessment audit.

We have had our return and the written feedback has provided assurance to HFRS that our safeguarding procedures are compliant to safeguarding children's standards and legislation.

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

Arson Task Force

Arson Task Force has supported 35 investigations in this reporting period with 15 deliberate fires, six accidental fires and one unknown.

This quarter has seen the successful conclusion of three cases at court:

- 14/07/16 – Sarah Walsh was given a hospital order by Southampton Crown Court, for an offence of arson, at 74 Redbridge Hill, Southampton
- 08/07/16 – Jenna Ford was given 20 months imprisonment, suspended for two years, ordered by Portsmouth Crown Court, for an offence of reckless arson at Flat 5, Kempenfelt House, Bishop Street, Portsmouth
- 25/08/16 – Jack Shelley was given two years imprisonment, ordered by Portsmouth Crown Court for an offence of arson at 72 Collins Road, Southsea

Coroners:

- 27/03/16, male, age 85, 49 Highlands Road Fareham, accidental fire death
- 02/04/16, male, age 43, Northumberland Road Southampton, accidental fire death

During this period there were two fatalities involving fire:

- 25/08/16 – Rectory Road, Farnborough, female, 82 died of natural causes before fire started
- 15/09/16 – Apple Dumpling Bridge, Gosport, male, 45 most likely due to self-incineration but Coroner hearing to be conducted

The memorandum of understanding with the University of Portsmouth was signed by ACO Bowers which sees our team become lecturers, continue to deliver a high standard academic course and host an internship and placements. Rosie Grant, a UoP student, has started her year placement with HFRS and is looking at the implementation of ISO17020, to align our work with the Forensic Regulators requirement for criminal evidence.

Adult Firesetters intervention programme

During this period we have taken on five arson offenders, added to the six we are already supporting. We have also completed five referrals in this quarter.

3 Group Activity

3.1 Group activity – Basingstoke and Deane

Community safety

We have supported many events, including 'Car Fest South' to ensure a safe event. This involved attending pre-event Safety Advisory Groups, pre-event inspections and liaising with response colleagues.

Shared intelligence with local partners revealed a number of premises being used for sleeping which required significant raising of fire safety and housing standards. This was achieved using prohibition notices, action plans and improvement notices.

Business fire safety

	Q2 2015-16	Q2 2016-17
Building and licensing consultations	64	49
Fire safety audits	6	9
Business support visits	16	3
Alleged fire risks attended	6	6
Unattended alleged fire risk	6	4
Post incident inspections	0	0
Enforcement notices	0	0
Prohibition notices	0	0

Community response

	Q2 2015-16	Q2 2016-17
False alarm	53	40
Primary fire	55	37
RTC	20	17
Secondary fire	59	42
Special service	29	37
Unwanted fire signal	81	103
Co-response	11	4
TOTAL	308	280

Significant incidents

- 05/07/16 – Lightsfield, Oakley – Fire in first floor bedroom of house. 60 year old female rescued unconscious and received life-saving resuscitation from crews on scene before the arrival of colleagues from South Central Ambulance Service
- 27/07/16 – Michaels road, Basingstoke – Six pumps called to church with fire in roof space. Aerial ladder platform, three hose reels, two jets and 12 breathing apparatus used. The investigation ongoing, but preliminary cause was found to be human act
- 15/08/16 – White City, Woolton Hill – Fire in two-flat single storey property, flat one 100% damage by fire, flat two 5% damaged by fire, 50% by water. Four HFRS pumps plus support vehicles attended Berkshire incident
- 23/09/16 – Wade Road, Basingstoke – 800 litres of diluted ferric acid leaking from plastic container. Specialist advice only by HFRS crews, leak contained by on-site specialist response

3.2 Group activity – Rushmoor and Hart

Community safety

We have held a number of information days with stakeholders and use of the community contact point has resulted in more than 40 Safe & Well referrals for addresses in the Aldershot area, within the elderly Nepalese Community. None of these addresses appear within our Exeter data. These referrals were supported by the Community Safety Officers utilising the Nepalese volunteers, HFRS response crews and our Hindi speaking Business Support Officer.

Business fire safety

	Q2 2015-16	Q2 2016-17
Building and licensing consultations	66	70
Fire safety audits	4	28
Business support visits	20	1
Alleged fire risks attended	2	2
Unattended alleged fire risk	5	6
Post incident inspections	1	1
Enforcement notices	0	0
Prohibition notices	3	0

Community response

	Q2 2015-16	Q2 2016-17
False alarm	61	66
Primary fire	64	35
RTC	25	22
Secondary fire	72	54
Special service	57	57
Unwanted fire signal	82	109
Co-response	75	86
TOTAL	436	429

Significant incidents

- 18/07/16 – Victoria Road, Farnborough – Five pumps attended a fire in a chapel which was 75% damaged by fire. Crews used three jets to extinguish the fire. Two youths arrested on suspicion of arson
- 19/07/16 – Invincible Road, Farnborough – One litre of methyldichlorosilane vented from system following failure of supply hose. BA and identification kit used before handing over to site occupier
- 21/08/16 – Star Hill, Hook – RTC involving three vehicles. One casualty released by HFRS. One adult male confirmed deceased, two adult females treated by SCAS
- 25/08/16 – Rectory Road, Farnborough – three pumps attended a house fire where an 82-year old female was recovered by HFRS. The coroner confirmed that the woman died of natural causes before the fire started

3.3 Group activity – Havant and East Hampshire

Community safety

Over the summer period our fire safety officers have continued to support external events by advising the planning groups of the required fire safety standards at pre-event planning meetings. Our involvement included supporting the Emsworth show, which attracted more than 7,000 members of the public on the August Bank Holiday.

Our operational crews and volunteers have supported several community safety events to ensure the delivery of our safer homes message. This included Waterlooville's open day which was very well attended.

Business fire safety

	Q2 2015-16	Q2 2016-17
Building and licensing consultations	89	86
Fire safety audits	23	19
Business support visits	7	24
Alleged fire risks attended	4	2
Unattended alleged fire risk	1	1
Post incident inspections	6	7
Enforcement notices	0	0
Prohibition notices	1	0

Community response

	Q2 2015-16	Q2 2016-17
False alarm	70	53
Primary fire	80	54
RTC	32	10
Secondary fire	58	51
Special service	61	49
Unwanted fire signal	132	91
Co-response	880	818
TOTAL	1313	1126

Significant incidents

- 21/07/16 – Southwood Farm lane, Preston Candover – Glider crashed in cornfield, one female confirmed deceased and left in-situ for police investigation
- 26/07/16 – High street, Bordon – Eight pumps attended a fire in a two-storey commercial building consisting of four individual units. All four units affected by fire, structural collapse and water. The fire was found to be caused by an electrical fault within an improvised cannabis production system
- 15/09/16 – A3, Horndean – RTC on the southbound carriageway. One female casualty confirmed deceased and extricated from the vehicle by HFRS

3.4 Group activity – Fareham and Gosport

Community safety

Our safety advisory work has been at an all-time high over the summer months. We've supported the planning of and attended many public events including some of the South's biggest music and religious festivals.

In addition to this we did serve one prohibition, issued to the sleeping accommodation above an Indian restaurant. Major improvements were needed including structural for the accommodation to be fit for purpose. We are currently working with the owners to ensure a satisfactory outcome is achieved with the least amount of impact on the business, whilst ensuring staff remain safe.

Business fire safety

	Q2 2015-16	Q2 2016-17
Building and licensing consultations	38	55
Fire safety audits	22	16
Business support visits	11	23
Alleged fire risks attended	1	4
Unattended alleged fire risk	5	3
Post incident inspections	3	0
Enforcement notices	0	1
Prohibition notices	1	2

Community response

	Q2 2015-16	Q2 2016-17
False alarm	44	53
Primary fire	50	40
RTC	21	16
Secondary fire	50	98
Special service	42	86
Unwanted fire signal	95	98
Co-response	303	155
TOTAL	605	546

Significant incidents

- 16/08/16 – Fort Brockhurst, Gunners Way, Gosport – 92 year old female rescued from the moat. Conscious and assessed and treated by HFRS before being transported to hospital by SCAS
- 17/18/16 – Gosport and Stokes Bay Golf Course, Gosport – Emergency landing by helicopter on golf course, strong smell of smoke in cockpit. Inspection hatch removed and scorched wiring discovered

3.5 Group activity – Portsmouth

Community safety

Portsmouth has hosted two large scale events during this period, the Americas Cup World Series and Victorious Festival. Both were supported by fire safety inspections and we've worked closely with Portsmouth City Council's events team.

We have visited and attended meetings prior to the closure of approximately 30 HMOs (houses of multiple occupancy) within one area of Portsmouth, working closely with the police and PCC.

We have met with the Hampshire Ethnic Minority & Traveller Achievement Service with the objective of setting up a forum. We're also regularly attending the Portsmouth refugee drop-in centre in order to develop relations.

FSO Dave Knight continues to develop links with ethnic minority groups whilst maintaining those already established. He gave a presentation on the requirements of the FSO to restaurant and takeaway owners utilising his existing contacts with Portsmouth Chinese Association.

Business fire safety

	Q2 2015-16	Q2 2016-17
Building and licensing consultations	60	80
Fire safety audits	17	32
Business support visits	148	47
Alleged fire risks attended	15	25
Unattended alleged fire risk	0	19
Post incident inspections	6	8
Enforcement notices	0	0
Prohibition notices	0	2

Community response

	Q2 2015-16	Q2 2016-17
False alarm	86	81
Primary fire	63	61
RTC	14	19
Secondary fire	60	89
Special service	90	133
Unwanted fire signal	131	136
Co-response	317	157
TOTAL	761	676

Significant incidents

- 31/07/16 – Ackworth road, Hilsea – Six pumps attended a fire involving large amount of confidential waste and outdoor structure of corrugated construction. Heat damage to surrounding premises
- 19/09/16 – Clarence Esplanade, Portsmouth – One adult female and one child rescued from the Solent Wheel on the pier
- 29/09/16 – Quinton Close, Portsmouth – Fire on 13th floor of 18-storey building. One flat severely damaged by fire. Number of residents evacuated to local rest centre

3.6 Group activity – Winchester

Community safety

Winchester has hosted several events such as Beggars, the Hat Fair, Blissfields 2016 and Wickham Music Festival, at all of which we have supported the organisers. Our business education team improved crowd safety from fire, following proactive inspections and close liaison with event organisers.

We responded to Boomtown festival's car fire and took an active lead in the subsequent debriefs for the organisers to make the event safer in the future.

Business fire safety

	Q2 2015-16	Q2 2016-17
Building and licensing consultations	49	51
Fire safety audits	27	11
Business support visits	13	7
Alleged fire risks attended	2	7
Unattended alleged fire risk	4	1
Post incident inspections	2	1
Enforcement notices	2	0
Prohibition notices	0	0

Community response

	Q2 2015-16	Q2 2016-17
False alarm	35	41
Primary fire	44	33
RTC	24	24
Secondary fire	25	21
Special service	33	43
Unwanted fire signal	116	103
Co-response	164	91
TOTAL	441	356

Significant incidents

- 17/07/16 – Erskine Road, Winchester – Fire and explosion involving pressure cooker in private home. One casualty escorted to hospital by police and SCAS following discovery of unknown substance in fire investigation
- 12/08/16 – Alresford Road, Winchester – Nine pumps plus support vehicles attended a significant fire involving nearly 100 cars at the Boomtown music festival caused by a discarded cigarette

3.7 Group activity – Test Valley and Eastleigh Group

Community safety

Our safety advisory work has been at an all-time high over the summer months. We've supported the planning of, and attended, many public events including some of the South's biggest music and religious festivals.

High profile events in the group included the one-day international cricket at the Ageas Bowl. Our business education team improved crowd safety from fire, following proactive inspections and close liaison with event organisers.

Business fire safety

	Q2 2015-16	Q2 2016-17
Building and licensing consultations	89	74
Fire safety audits	7	13
Business support visits	45	6
Alleged fire risks attended	6	8
Unattended alleged fire risk	2	4
Post incident inspections	2	1
Enforcement notices	0	0
Prohibition notices	0	0

Community response

	Q2 2015-16	Q2 2016-17
False alarm	52	52
Primary fire	49	54
RTC	35	17
Secondary fire	40	43
Special service	34	49
Unwanted fire signal	96	114
Co-response	354	305
TOTAL	660	634

Significant incidents

- 10/09/16 – Kingsway, Chandlers Ford – Small hazmat incident involving approximately 10 litres of household chemicals. One female casualty conscious and breathing transferred to hospital by SCAS
- 26/09/16 – Duttons Road, Romsey – Four pumps and support vehicles attended a fire involving a large external generator. 21 people were evacuated from the building whilst crews tackled the blaze. Cause was found to be radiated heat igniting cladding / soundproofing.

3.8 Group activity – Southampton

Community safety

The Southampton team have continued to support large events in the city including, Let's Rock and the Boat Show through pre-event meetings and performance visits. Our community safety team have reached out at events including Newtown Family Day, a sheltered housing scheme in Hightown and also the Solent University Fresher's Week Fayre.

Further to the fireworks incident in Bitterne last quarter, the inspectors have engaged with all firework retailers in the city and carried out audits where appropriate.

Business fire safety

	Q2 2015-16	Q2 2016-17
Building and licensing consultations	71	71
Fire safety audits	17	17
Business support visits	16	16
Alleged fire risks attended	8	8
Unattended alleged fire risk	0	0
Post incident inspections	4	4
Enforcement notices	2	2
Prohibition notices	3	3

Community response

	Q2 2015-16	Q2 2016-17
False alarm	150	116
Primary fire	118	106
RTC	35	20
Secondary fire	99	94
Special service	108	144
Unwanted fire signal	163	188
Co-response	197	130
TOTAL	870	798

Significant incidents

- 06/09/16 – John Thornycroft Road, Woolston – Fire in flat of seven-storey high rise. Eight pumps in attendance. One male arrested by Hampshire Constabulary on suspicion of arson
- 11/09/16 – Oakley Road, Southampton – Fire in disused building. Ground and first floor 100% damaged by fire.
- 27/09/16 – Kent Street, Southampton – Fire in maisonette flat on first and second floor of five-storey building. Second floor 100% damaged by fire, first 50% damaged by smoke and water. Damage to two other flats due to spread of fire. Two people to hospital suffering from smoke inhalation

3.9 Group activity – New Forest Group

Community safety

We continue to support the New Forest Group in combining our technical and community safety activities.

We've successfully completed a Safe & Well trial which has been implemented into our group plan. The team have completed 387 of the 1,025 priority one visits this quarter. This ongoing work will contribute to planning the way we complete and resources future priority 1s and 2s in the coming months.

Business fire safety

	Q2 2015-16	Q2 2016-17
Building and licensing consultations	54	53
Fire safety audits	23	8
Business support visits	8	11
Alleged fire risks attended	3	2
Unattended alleged fire risk	5	1
Post incident inspections	3	1
Enforcement notices	0	0
Prohibition notices	0	0

Community response

	Q2 2015-16	Q2 2016-17
False alarm	52	57
Primary fire	52	46
RTC	33	25
Secondary fire	62	52
Special service	44	44
Unwanted fire signal	78	88
Co-response	606	520
TOTAL	927	832

Significant incidents

- 27/07/16 – Singleton Way, Totton – Ruptured gas main alight in excavation by Southern Gas Networks. Area made safe by HFRS and local properties evacuated
- 08/08/16 – North road, Marchwood – Total of 23 pumps over a 26-hour incident where 400 tonnes of household waste were involved in fire. Approximately 98 tonnes well alight
- 26/08/16 – Christchurch Road, Ringwood – Fire in flat roof of thatched property. Five Hampshire pumps attended alongside colleagues from Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service.

4 Latest news

4.1 Gosport car fires, 09/10/16

From 19:25 on Sunday 09 October 2016 the Service was called to four separate car fires in the Foster Road area of Gosport.

The fires were believed to have been set by the same person, and the fourth car set alight was a police car sent to investigate the first three.

No one was injured in any of the fires and the fire investigation found the cause to be ignitable liquid poured on the windscreen / bonnet and ignited. The police investigation is still ongoing.

4.2 Calshot domestic fire, 10/10/16

Four pumps, the aerial ladder platform and multiple support vehicles attended a fire in a mid-terrace house on Tristan Close, Calshot at 18:26 on Monday 10 October 2016.

On arrival crews found a significant fire in the rear first floor bedroom of the property which was tackled using three jets, two hose reels, eight sets of breathing apparatus and positive pressure ventilation.

No injuries were reported in the blaze. The first floor suffered 80% damage by fire and 20% by smoke, the ground floor 100% damage by smoke and water and the roof 100% damaged by fire.

The fire investigation concluded that the most likely cause of fire was application of a naked flame to combustible materials in the bedroom. The police investigation is still ongoing.

4.3 Farnborough converted chapel fire, 18/10/16

Four pumps (two from Rushmoor and two from Surrey FRS) were called to High View Close in Farnborough at 19:54 on Tuesday 18 October 2016, after reports of a fire in a converted chapel.

On arrival the crews discovered a well-developed fire in the chapel, which had been converted to a workshop, and the roof above. The blaze was tackled using three jets and two hose reels. The building suffered 100% damage by fire, but no one was injured.

The fire investigation is ongoing, but the most likely case was found to be human act by application of a naked flame to combustible materials.

4.4 Ringwood commercial fire, 27/11/16

Fire Control received an initial call to a rubbish bin on fire at the rear of a row of shops in Ringwood town centre at 07:50 on Sunday 27 November 2016.

On arrival, crews discovered the fire had spread into the roof space of the building and an assistance message was put back to make pumps eight, including resources from Dorset and Wiltshire as well as Hampshire.

The fire spread across the roof space of six shop units and around 50 firefighters used water and foam jets, as well as the aerial ladder platform, to contain the fire and prevent any further spread. The roof space of the units was destroyed by the fire but thankfully no-one was injured.

The fire investigation has eliminated all sources other than deliberate ignition and the police are carrying out an arson investigation.