

Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority

Activity Report of the Chief Officer



HAMPSHIRE
**FIRE AND
RESCUE**
AUTHORITY

We make life safer



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Front page photo: Royal Hampshire County Hospital Fire

Introduction

This activity report covers the period 29 October to 22 December 2012. Any notable incidents that have occurred after 28 October 2011 and before the report has been issued are listed in the back “Stop Press” section of the report.

From a community safety perspective, this activity report continues to highlight the excellent work of the Arson Task Force and our Fire Investigation team in investigating the causes of fire, identifying where deliberate ignition has occurred and working with the police to identify and prosecute those responsible. Although the overall rate of arson in the county continues to reduce, this remains a high priority for us.

Community safety work continues in line with our targets and this period saw 1,254 home safety visits and 116 school visits encountering 7406 school pupils.

Prevention work continued during this period with a renewed emphasis on targeting the highest risk business premises especially those with sleeping accommodation above them. The work to streamline and improve inspection activity and reduce the burden on business also continues with work on the Local Authority Coordinators of Regulatory Services (LACoRS) partnership and the Hampshire Better Regulation Partnership.

Operationally this activity report features several large fires in industrial or commercial premises. This includes the significant fire in the Royal County Hospital in Winchester which unfortunately destroyed the diagnostic imaging department including the new multi-million pound Magnetic Resonance Image (MRI) scanner. Only sterling work by the first responding crews stopped this fire from spreading into the rest of the hospital and causing even more damage and disruption. The incidence of fires in commercial or industrial premises is being monitored to see if the current economic climate is having an impact on increasing fires.

The previous Activity Report featured a section on the Urban Search and Rescue team, and this edition sees us widen this to focus on all of the national resilience equipment and teams held in Hampshire.

Finally in response to comments from Members at the December FRA we will be changing the time periods of the group activity graphs to eliminate the anomaly caused by aligning them with the Fire Authority meetings. This report will be the last to feature the graphs in their current format with changes effective from April enabling better comparisons for Members.

01 Responding to incidents

1.1

Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service called to attend a fire in Totton, Southampton

On 2 November 2011 at 02:40 Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service was alerted to a fire at Rushington Business Park, Totton where an industrial unit was on fire.

Control operators mobilised fire appliances from Totton, Redbridge, Lyndhurst, Hythe, St Mary's and Hightown. The aerial ladder platform from Redbridge was also mobilised.

The two storey building consisting of two properties was of brick and sandwich panel construction. The building was 25 metres by 30 metres, the ground floor, first floor and the roof were involved in the fire.

Firefighters extinguished the fire using two breathing apparatus, three jets and the aerial ladder platform.

No one was injured in the fire and an investigation determined that the cause of the fire was electrical.

1.2

Eight fire appliances mobilised to a thatch fire in Buriton

At 19:09 on Sunday 13 November 2011 control operators were alerted to a fire at a thatched property at South Lane, Buriton which is south of Petersfield.

The fire involved 100 percent of the thatched roof of a two storey detached private dwelling measuring 30 metres by 12 metres.

Control operators mobilised eight fire appliances from Petersfield, Horndean, Cosham, Bordon and Portchester to the scene along with other ancillary vehicles. A total of 55 firefighters were initially deployed to the scene together with senior officers and various support staff.

Firefighters used five jets, two hose reels and 22 breathing apparatus to extinguish the fire.

The occupants of the thatched property had evacuated the property safely. Volunteers on call with the Red Cross in Hampshire also assisted at this incident.

An investigation determined that the most likely cause was accidental.

1.3

Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service attend a fire in Macadam Road in Andover

At 21:26 on 10 November 2011 control room operators were alerted to a fire at Verdo Renewables in Andover.

Crews from Andover, Whitchurch and Basingstoke were mobilised to the scene along with the aerial ladder platform from Basingstoke. Crews from Wiltshire were also assisting at the scene.

This was a fire involving wood chip in a large concrete storage area which had spread to a steel framed building used for wood manufacturing.

Crews used two compressed air foam system (CAFS) jets, one hose reel and 12 sets of breathing apparatus as well as the aerial ladder platform to bring the fire under control.

This incident was not suspicious so we did not undertake an investigation into the cause.



01 Responding to incidents

1.4

Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service mobilise fifteen fire appliances to Basingstoke blaze

At 23:07 on Thursday 30 November control operators were alerted to a fire at Bessemer Road, off Harrow Way, Basingstoke. Crews from all across the county were immediately mobilised to the scene.

Control operators mobilised 15 fire appliances as well as an aerial ladder platform with support from Royal Berkshire and Surrey Fire and Rescue Services.

It is believed that the fire started at the rear of the building which contained several units at the industrial estate off Harrow Way.

On arrival, the initial crews were faced with a fully developed fire in the light industrial block which was rapidly spreading from the front to the back of the building and across to other industrial units, with a large amount of smoke issuing. The building had partially collapsed. There were also several large explosions involving LPG cylinders.

Fire crews were able to prevent the fire spreading to further adjoining units and businesses and contained the fire within 50 per cent of the industrial unit that was ablaze.

The fire was managed as a multi-agency incident including support from Police and the Environment Agency. We had over 100 firefighters and officers and 15 appliances with support from Royal Berkshire and Surrey Fire and Rescue Services tackling the blaze. They used breathing apparatus, jets and fan sprays.

As a result of the plume of smoke issuing from the fire, local residents were advised to stay indoors and not go out in the local area and keep their windows closed.

The cause of the fire was undetermined but not suspicious.



01 Responding to incidents

1.5

Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service attend house fire in South Warnborough, Hook

At 20:47 on 1 December 2011 control room operators were alerted to a house fire in South Warnborough, Lees Hill, Nr Hook.

Crews from Odiham, Alton, Hartley Wintney, Basingstoke, Rushmoor, Fleet and Andover were mobilised to the scene. The crews were faced with a fire in the roof of a residential detached building measuring approximately 25 metres by 10 metres. The property had a timber framed barn attached to it, which was also alight.

The fire in the roof was well developed when crews arrived on the scene. Firefighters used four jets, one compressed air foam system (CAFS) jet and one hose reel to bring the blaze under control.

The stop message was received at 02:49 and the property was 25 percent damaged by fire and the attached barn was 100 percent damaged by fire.

The investigation confirmed that the fire was accidental.



1.6

Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service attend a serious fire at Royal Hampshire County Hospital

At 16:09 on Friday 9 December, Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service were alerted to a serious fire at the Royal Hampshire County Hospital in Winchester.

Control room operators mobilised crews from Winchester, Eastleigh, Romsey and Alresford as well as other stations across the county, bringing over 100 firefighters to the scene.

Initial fire crews were faced with a rapidly developing fire in the Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) building of the hospital. They quickly set to work to contain the fire and bring the blaze under control.

Due to the swift action and coordinated approach the crews were able to prevent the fire spreading to the rest of the hospital. This would have no doubt been a much more serious incident had it not been for the firefighters who have worked hard in arduous conditions.

In a relatively short period of time, Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service were able to liaise with the police and the hospital to ensure a coordinated approach in dealing with patients coming to both the maternity ward and the accident and emergency department.

Crews remained at the scene damping down and making the scene safe into the night and next morning.

The cause of the fire was undetermined and was not believed to be suspicious.



National Resilience Capability

As part of the UK national resilience arrangements the government has provided equipment and or funding for fire and rescue services. This is to maintain specialist response capability in the event of a large scale incident such as a natural disaster or terrorist attack. Hampshire FRS hold a large number of these national resilience assets (formerly known as New Dimensions) including:

- High volume pumps - capable of pumping large volumes of water over long distances, and used to good effect at incidents such as the Buncefield fire and the 2007 floodings. These are based at Hardley Fire Station.
- Incident response unit - based at Hightown Fire Station, this vehicle can provide large scale decontamination of members of the public affected by a chemical or biological release.
- Detection, Identification and Monitoring (DIM) - is both a specially equipped vehicle containing state of the art sampling and identification equipment, and specially trained hazardous materials officers who can carry out this work. This vehicle has been used extensively over the last few years especially in relation to 'white powder' incidents.
- Urban Search and Rescue - this team and range of vehicles based at Eastleigh is considered to be amongst the best in the country and have been widely used. They also provide significant additional capability for Hampshire and are increasingly being used as part of our normal pre-determined attendances.
- Enhanced logistical support – based at Eastleigh this involves HFRS undertaking to provide advanced logistical support to large scale incidents anywhere around the country using the Incident Command Team and the command vehicle. As one of only three FRS's providing this service we are government funded and use this resource to improve our own command capability.
- Flood response – we are currently in the process of developing a flood rescue capability using a grant received from DEFRA and utilising the water support unit from Fareham Fire Station.
- International Search and Rescue (ISAR) – consisting of volunteers from among the USAR members plus other specialists. Hampshire has a highly respected and extremely expert ISAR team who have significant experience having deployed in recent years to Iran, Haiti, New Zealand and Japan.

It is our intention to use future activity reports to inform Members of any operational activity carried out by any of the specialist teams.

02 Community Safety (incorporating Prevention and Protection)

2.1

Princes Trust

Completed Southampton Team 29 - 13 out of 14 young people achieved the programme and qualification.

Completed Rushmoor Team 4 - 11 out of 12 young people achieved the programme and qualification.

The Prince's Trust team were awarded the Chief Officer's Special Recognition award at the 2011 Celebrating Success awards in November.

2.2

Firesetters Intervention Scheme

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

- 24 referrals to the Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Programme
- 5 referrals to the Adult Firesetter Intervention Programme

We have also attended four Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangement (MAPPA) meetings.



02 Community Safety

(incorporating Prevention and Protection)

2.3

Road Safety

We have continued to assist at six of our Colleges Road Safety Weeks in Ringwood, Farnborough, Winchester, Totton and twice in Eastleigh, raising awareness of seatbelt and moped safety to young motorists.

Throughout December we have worked with the Police and local authority road safety teams in support of the Drink/Drive campaign. Ten public awareness events were held across the county.

2.4

Home Safety Visits

During this reporting period we have conducted 1254 Home Safety Visits (HSV), targeted at those we consider to be most at risk, and we installed 1300 smoke detectors as a result.

The visits were delivered all over the county and were targeted where the need and risk was greatest. The visits were identified through MOSAIC data, partnerships, post incident protocols and referrals through other agencies.

This reflects our drive to target the most vulnerable people in Hampshire, through referrals from partner agencies and the good work of our personnel.

The visits were delivered by a combination of whole time, retained duty system, green book personnel and on occasion other organisations.

02 Community Safety

(incorporating Prevention and Protection)

2.5

Schools Education Team

This last half term has been a very busy one for the team leading up to Christmas.

We delivered our schools safety education to the following number of pupils from Key Stages 1, 2, 3 and 4 :

- 2,769 Key Stage 1 pupils during 41 school visits
- 2,562 Key Stage 2 pupils during 43 school visits
- 2,075 Key Stage 3/4 pupils during 32 school visits

Other support for schools.

In addition we supported five schools with their topic on the great fire of London. This involved over 600 Key Stage 1 pupils taking part in our water based display, during which the children themselves made a bucket chain and learned first hand that the Fire Service today is quicker and better at fighting fires than in 1666.

Think Safe Event with Havant Borough Council.

We took part in a Think Safe event which was different to the events we have previously attended as the local authority decided to give the event a crime reduction focus. We developed a new scenario which focused on arson awareness. This was well received by both the staff and 1,116 pupils, during the two weeks the event ran.

We joined other organisations and departments from HFRS at a huge education event at Southampton City Cruise terminal.

This was organised by Solent Education Business Partnership and we attended the science fair section arranged for Year 6 pupils from local schools. Our exhibit was attended by 130 pupils and 12 adults.

Hampshire constabulary.

Once again we joined Hampshire Constabulary, Fareham Borough Council and other agencies at a Say No and Phone (SNAP) disco. This was at Fernham Hall and, as always, was very well attended by 600 pupils from local secondary schools. Our team took along remote controlled Ferraris and beer goggles and discussed the dangers of drinking alcohol and attempting to ride a bike or being a passenger in a vehicle when the driver has been drinking.

02 Community Safety

(incorporating Prevention and Protection)

2.6

Fire Investigation

There have been 35 fire investigations in the reporting period, 20 deliberate fires and 15 non-suspicious.

During the reporting period, Fire Investigation and Arson Task Force have supported the investigation of 20 arson offences, with arrests made in relation to four of the offences committed. The team has deployed the fire investigation dog in Hampshire to assist with one fire investigation.

During the reporting period Fire Investigation Officers attended two court cases for arson related incidents.

Additionally case results being received in relation to two investigations during this reporting period.

Following a review of evidence from a fire crime related scene at a petrol station in Burgess Road, Southampton on 13 March 2011 involving the ignition of fuel vapours to a pump hose and nozzle and to residual petrol vapours present on the forecourt, The defendant was found guilty of attempted arson at Southampton Crown Court on 5 September 2011.

The defendant received a two year prison sentence. The Expert Witness Report produced by the Fire Investigation Officer at the request of Hampshire Constabulary was instrumental in securing the conviction.

On the 21 December 2011 the defendant for the incident at 30 Catisfield Lane, Fareham (6 August 2011) was found guilty for arson.

Community Safety

Home Safety Visits

Number of Home Safety Visits: 45

Smoke detectors fitted: 43

Fire Investigations

Basingstoke and Deane Group have had two investigations in the reporting period, involving an industrial unit and a vehicle. One was deliberate and one was non-suspicious.

Arson and Risk Reduction

- There were no fire investigation search dog deployments.
- No statements were taken.

Mosaic Risk Group

D, H and K

Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order

We have carried out inspections under the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 ensuring that premises within the area are complying with fire safety legislation.

We have forged close working links with local authority building control and licensing teams. These links allow for a good transfer of information during consultations, which we respond to within a two week period.

The trial period of the 'Response Watch Fire Safety Visits' has continued during this reporting period. Watch based personnel from Basingstoke Fire Station are carrying out fire safety inspections (not Fire Safety Audits) with support from Protection Watch Managers. This has led to Response and Protection personnel exchanging intelligence, and undergoing joint planning.

Enforcement

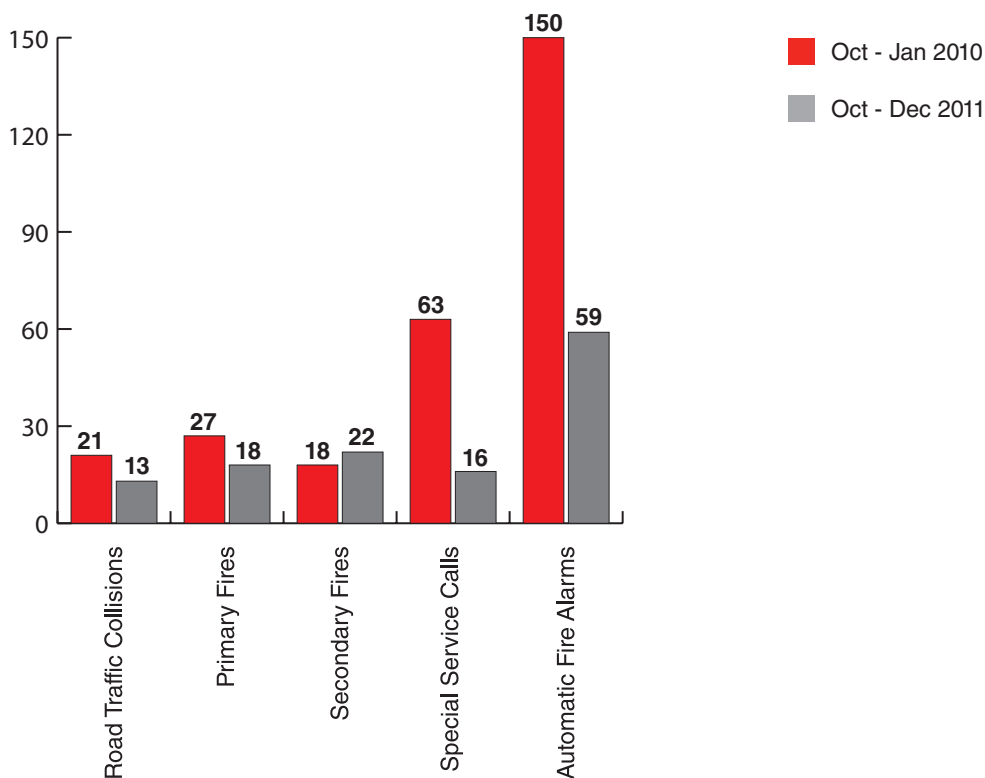
No enforcement notices were served in this period.

Prohibition

No prohibition notices were served in this period.

Community Response

On 30 November 2011 at 23:07, firefighters were mobilised to Bessemer Road, Harrow Way in Basingstoke. 15 Fire appliances and an aerial ladder platform were in attendance with support from Royal Berkshire and Surrey Fire and Rescue Service. (See 1.4 for more details)



Community Safety

Home Safety Visits

Number of Home Safety Visits: 117

Smoke detectors fitted: 110

Fire Investigations

Rushmoor and Hart Group have had four investigations in the reporting period, involving three houses and a vehicle. One was deliberate and three were non-suspicious.

Arson and Risk Reduction

- There were no fire investigation dog deployments.
- No statements were taken.

Mosaic Risk Group

D,F and E

Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order

Outside of our risk based inspection programme, targeting the highest recorded risks, the team have dealt with information relating to fire risks. These premises have included licensed premises, shops and offices. All risks identified were investigated by an officer and those of greatest risk inspected. All such visits resulted in informal enforcement action to reduce the risk within the premises.

We have been working hard to support businesses who aim to comply with all aspects of the Fire Safety Order. As such, we are working with a number of premises to support them using informal enforcement means rather than serve formal enforcement notices.

Enforcement

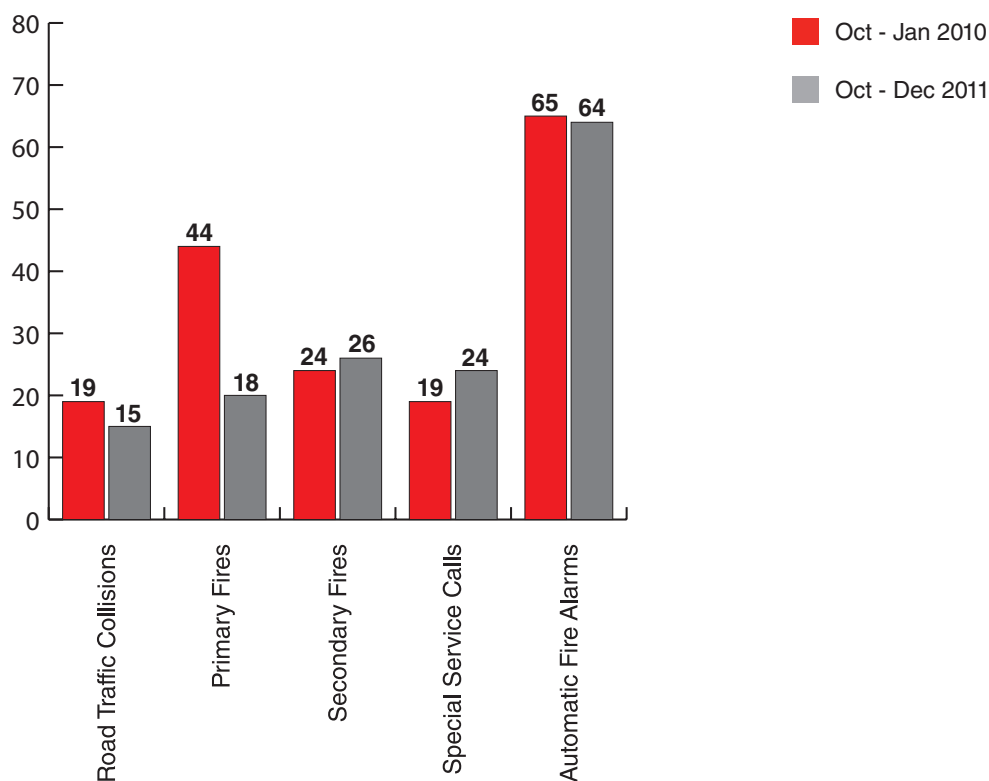
No enforcement notices were served in this period.

Prohibition

No prohibition notices were served in this period.

Community Response

On 04 November 2011 at 18:18 two fire crews were mobilised to a road traffic collision on the A30 in Blackbush. The incident involved two private vehicles with two females trapped. Crews released the casualties and they were taken to hospital by South Central Ambulance Service.



Community Safety

Home Safety Visits

Number of Home Safety Visits: 143

Smoke detectors fitted: 231

Fire Investigations

Havant and East Hants Group have had seven investigations in the reporting period, involving three flats, two vehicles, a thatched cottage and a house. Six were deliberate and one was non-suspicious.

Arson and Risk Reduction

- There were no fire investigation search dog deployments
- One statement was taken

Mosaic Risk Group

D,B and M

Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order - Havant

During this period we have conducted Fire Safety Audits at licensed premises with sleeping accommodation above. Evidence has shown that these are potentially one of our highest risk areas. One of the premises was a listed building. This was found to be of a particularly good standard and showed that good fire safety provisions do not have to affect the appearance of such a building

During this period protection officers have been working with the responsible persons for the Meridian Shopping Centre in Havant to lower the number of fire alarm activations. This is being done by giving education and advice.

Enforcement

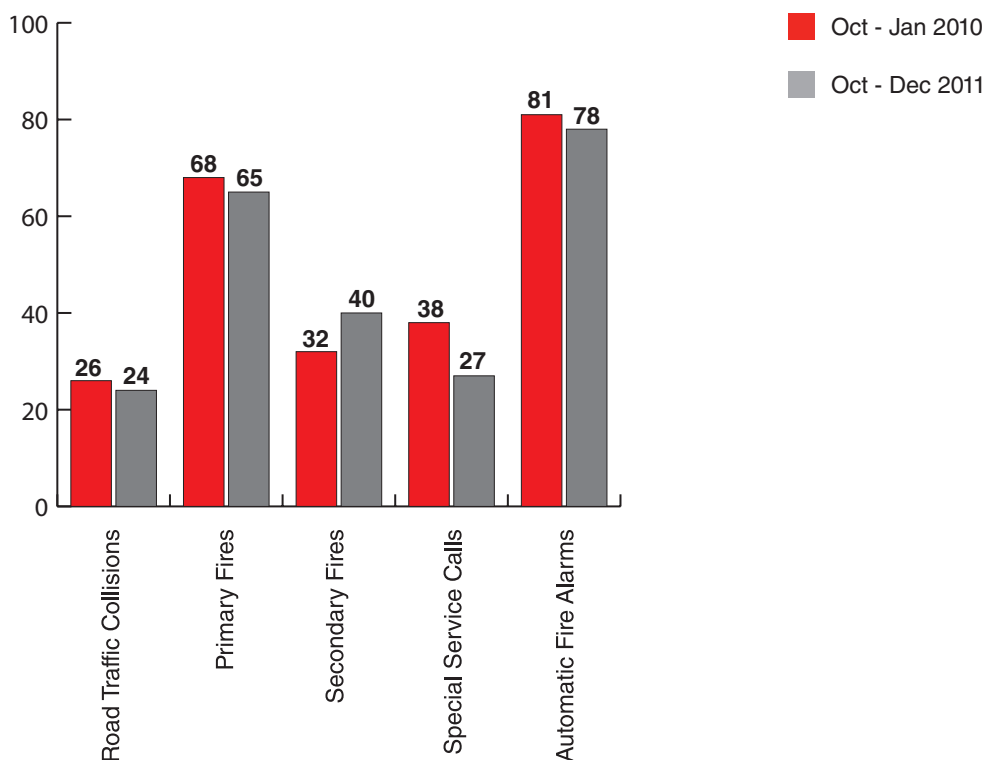
During this period the protection department has issued two enforcement notices both on licensed premises with sleeping accommodation provided.

Prohibition

Following an alert from one of our partners within the Hampshire Better Regulation Partnership we served a prohibition notice on a Chinese takeaway with sleeping accommodation provided on the first floor.

Community Response

On 13 November 2011 at 19:09 firefighters were mobilised to a thatch fire in South Lane in Buriton. Eight appliances along with other ancillary vehicles attended. (See 1.2 for more details).



Community Safety

Home Safety Visits

Number of Home Safety Visits: 158

Smoke detectors fitted: 207

Fire Investigations

Fareham and Gosport Group have had two investigations in the reporting period, involving a house and a factory.

One was deliberate and one was non-suspicious.

Arson and Risk Reduction

- There have been no fire investigation search dog deployments
- One statement was taken

Mosaic Risk Group

E, M and J

Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order

Licensed premises have been our priority target for inspection. We have increased our joint working activity with the local authority under our Local Authority Coordinators of Regulatory Services (LACoRs) Partnership. The number of reported houses in multiple occupation (HMO's) has decreased. Our joint inspections take place on previously identified HMO's to ensure the standard is provided and maintained as some of the highest risk regulated buildings. The joint arrangements have proved successful in using both agencies resources efficiently to reduce risk.

The Fareham and Gosport office remain an active member of the Hampshire Better Regulation Partnership (HBRP) User Group. The purpose is to influence the agreed methodology of how regulatory inspections should be co-ordinated within Hampshire amongst all partner authorities. This is to enable HFRS and partners to obtain maximum information about the levels of risk in workplaces and other public access areas. This has the benefit to local businesses of substantially reducing regulatory inspections thus cutting interference to business. HFRS has carried out 163 HBRP audits and received 279 alerts this year.

Enforcement

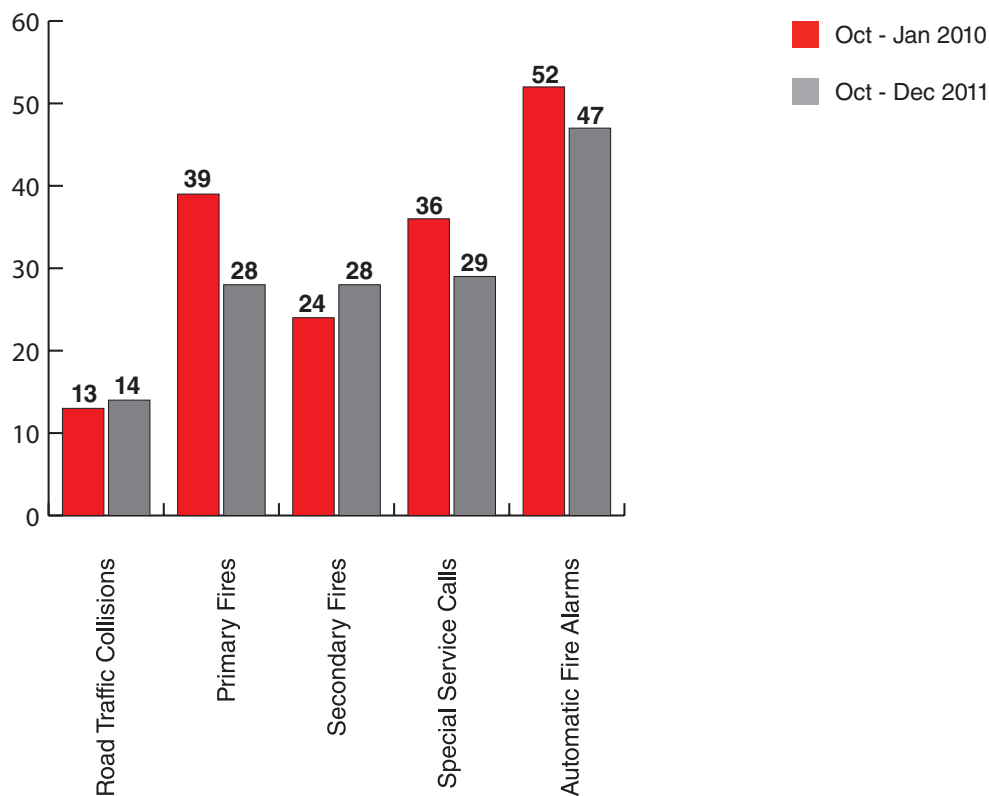
No enforcement notices were served in this period.

Prohibition

No prohibition notices were served in this period.

Community Response

On 05 November 2011 at 03:03 two fire crews were mobilised to a small kitchen fire in Cobden Street in Gosport. The fire involved a cooker and was extinguished using one hose reel and two breathing apparatus.



Community Safety

Home Safety Visits

Number of Home Safety Visits: 333

Smoke detectors fitted: 320

Fire Investigations

Portsmouth Group have had four investigations in the reporting period, involving a flat, two houses and a vehicle. Two were deliberate and two were non-suspicious.

Arson and Risk Reduction

- There was one fire investigation search dog deployment
- Seven statements were taken

Mosaic Risk Group

G, N and I

Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order

Working with our local authority partners continues to provide an effective means to identify higher risk buildings ensuring our inspection regime is appropriate and not burdensome to businesses. This has led to some formal enforcement during this period.

During this period inspectors specifically targeted some of the larger shops and shopping centres, to give advice and ensure all escape routes and other fire safety matters are managed during the busiest period of trading. We found a number of issues, however all were discussed and resolved appropriately with advice and informal enforcement.

Working with Portsmouth University to support and identify improvements in fire safety standards is a high priority. The university is one of the biggest property owners within the city, hence its importance for us to help to lead the way. This relationship also assists us with gathering risk information for Site Specific Risk Information (SSRI) to make our response colleagues more aware of potential dangers.

Enforcement

Two enforcement notices were served including commercial premises with sleeping accommodation above as a result of information from our local authority colleagues.

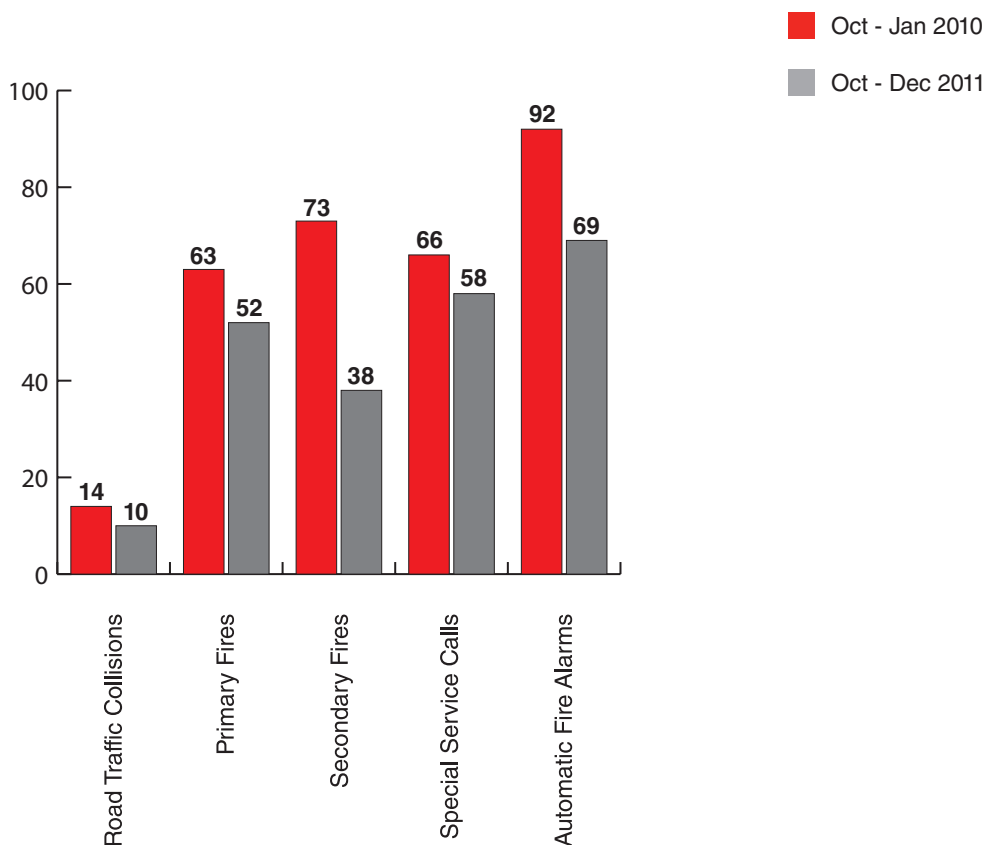
We also used action plans to reduce the risk within premises including hotels, public houses and nursing homes.

Prohibition

Four prohibition notices were issued in this period. One was to a mosque following a local authority building control consultation. The layout has seen a prohibition of the use of the first floor and basement. Other premises included a dwelling above a business, a shop and a hotel.

Community Response

On 10 December 2011 at 08:05 fire crews were mobilised to a fire at the Co-Operative supermarket in London Road, North End. Four appliances were in attendance along with command support. The fire involved the external roof timbers. Two sets of breathing apparatus and one hose reel was used to bring the fire under control.



Community Safety

Home Safety Visits

Number of Home Safety Visits: 19

Smoke detectors fitted: 21

Fire Investigations

Winchester Group has had one investigation in the reporting period, involving a hospital which was not suspicious.

Arson and Risk Reduction

- There were no fire investigation search dog deployments
- One statement was taken

Mosaic Risk Group

D, A and M

Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order

Following some close liaison with local authority colleagues and providing them with advice on how to spot fire risks, we have seen a number of possible fire risks sent in for our attention. This allows us to respond in a more measured manner, responding to the risk presented.

We have been working with Colten Care Ltd who are constructing a new dementia care home in Winchester. This building will be fitted with a sprinkler system, for which we have been providing advice and support.

Enforcement

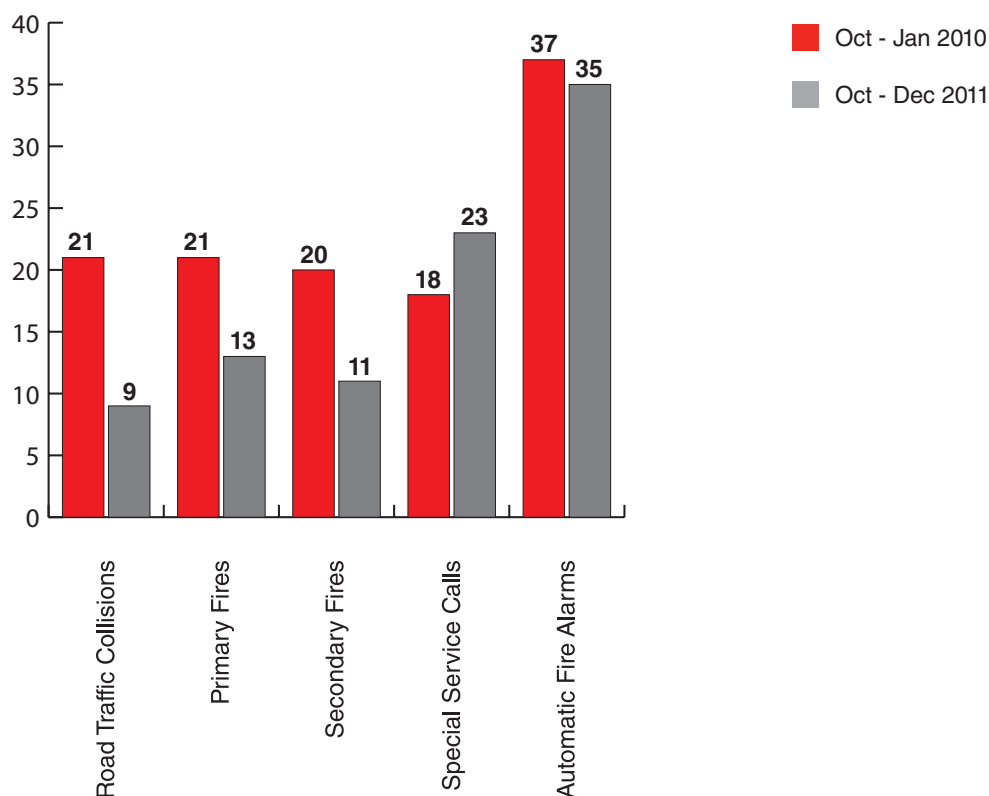
During this period we served one enforcement notice. This was on a general commercial premises.

Prohibition

One prohibition notice was served on a licensed premises with sleeping accommodation above.

Community Response

On 9 December 2011 at 16:09 fire crews were mobilised to the Royal Hampshire County Hospital in Winchester. Ten appliances and a special equipment unit along with other support vehicle were in attendance. (See 1.6 for more details).



Community Safety

Home Safety Visits

Number of Home Safety Visits: 75

Smoke detectors fitted: 69

Fire Investigations

Test Valley and Eastleigh Group have had six investigations in the reporting period, involving a flat, a bungalow, two houses, a thatched cottage and a restaurant. Five were deliberate and one was non-suspicious.

Arson and Risk Reduction

- There was one fire investigation search dog deployment
- Two statements were taken

Mosaic Risk Group

D, M and A

Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order

Identified risks within this group are those where vulnerable people could be present, especially in sleeping accommodation. This forms the basis of our risk based inspection programme.

We have developed a protocol with our local authority colleagues in respect to high risk houses of multiple occupancy (HMOs).

This follows a successful model which is being used in other areas, to help identify and reduce fire risk within these types of buildings.

We began this protocol with some joint inspections within the local authority area.

Enforcement

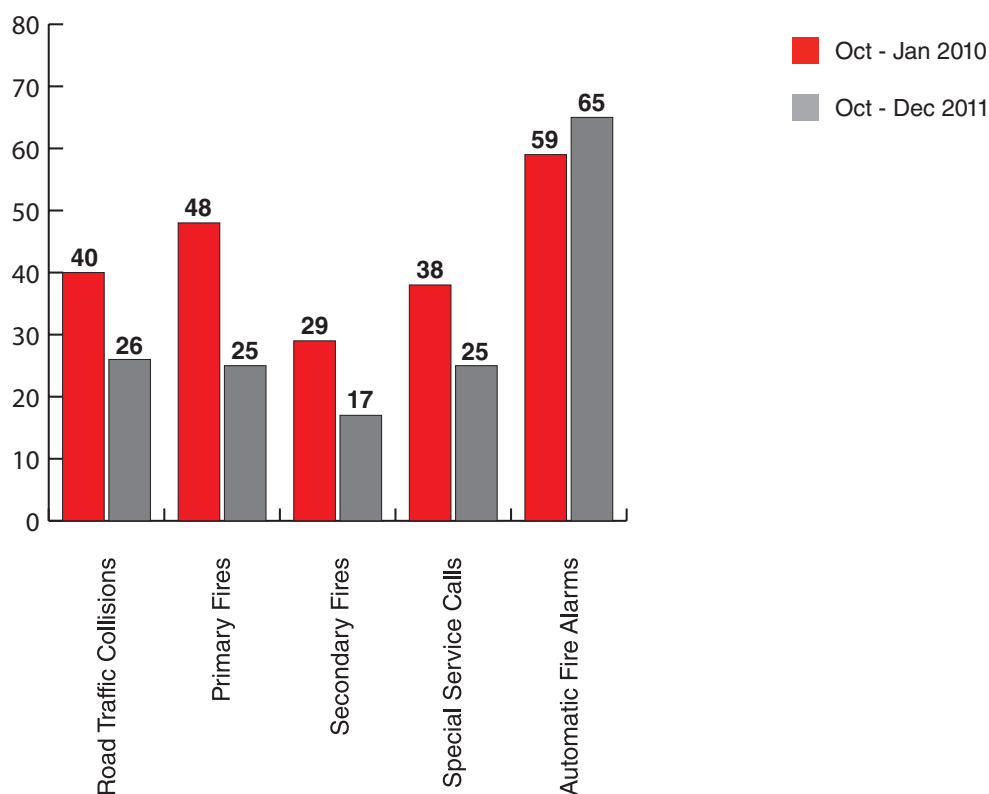
During this period we served three enforcement notices. The premises were two nursing care homes and a private hospital.

Prohibition

No prohibition notices were served in this period.

Community Response

On 10 November 2011 at 21:26 fire crews were mobilised to Verdo Renewables in Macadam Road Way, Andover. The fire involved wood chips in a large concrete storage area. (See 1.3 for more details).



Community Safety

Home Safety Visits

Number of Home Safety Visits: 326

Smoke detectors fitted: 255

Fire Investigations

Southampton Group have had eight investigations in the reporting period, involving two flats, three houses, a bin shed and two hospital incidents. Four were deliberate and four were non-suspicious.

Arson and Risk Reduction

- There were no fire investigation search dog deployments
- Two statements were taken

Mosaic Risk Group

G, N and M

Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order

We have continued to build our partnership with our local private sector housing team within Southampton City Council, by supporting them as they take the lead on enforcing fire safety within the many houses of multiple occupancy (HMO's). We have targeted high risk sleeping accommodation above licensed businesses.

We recently had success in supporting the Police Licensing Team by conducting Christmas During Performance Inspections (DPI) of the nightclubs within the Bedford Place vicinity of the city, as these premises have identified specific fire safety related issues. Following the DPI's, we will be carrying out some formal enforcement activity in some of the venues visited.

Our support of those businesses to make their premises safer continues. We have assisted 10 premises to identify fire safety issues and record informally on an action plan to remedy these issues.

Enforcement

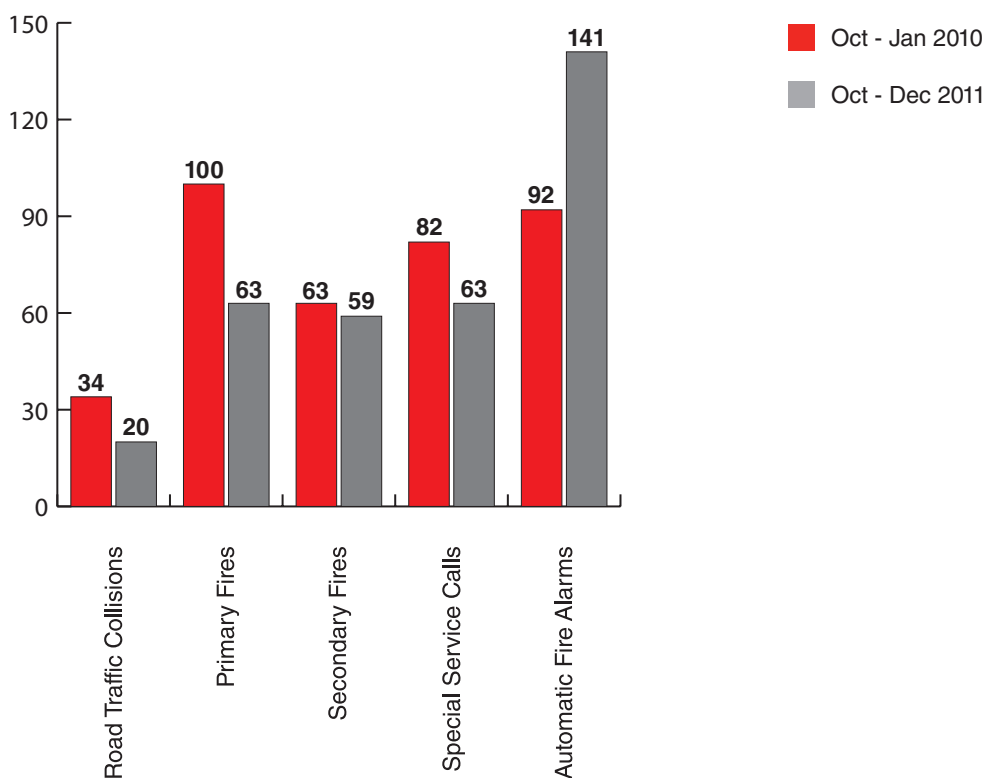
During this period we served a total of four enforcement notices. Premises were two guest houses, a hotel and a licensed premises.

Prohibitions

No prohibition notices were served in this period.

Community Response

On 23 October 2011 at 07:00 fire crews were mobilised to a house fire in Ordnance Road in Southampton. The fire involved the roof space of a four storey building which was being used as flats. Six fire appliances were in attendance and crews used ten sets of breathing apparatus, four jets and two hose reels. An investigation revealed that the most likely cause was accidental through careless disposal of smoking materials.



Community Safety

Home Safety Visits

Number of Home Safety Visits: 38

Smoke detectors fitted: 44

Fire Investigations

New Forest Group have had one investigation in the reporting period, involving a warehouse/distribution depot which was suspicious.

Arson and Risk Reduction

- There were no fire investigation dog deployments
- No statements were taken

Mosaic Risk Group

A, D and B

Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order

The New Forest office continues to work with businesses with associated sleeping accommodation provided as it's main target. This period has seen us identify a particular company with poor inherent fire safety standards, following a fire in one premise and enforcement action by our colleagues in Dorset Fire and Rescue Service.

Preliminary conversations have taken place with the New Forest District Council with a view to setting up a partnership agreement to agree self compliance in local authority controlled premises.

Enforcement

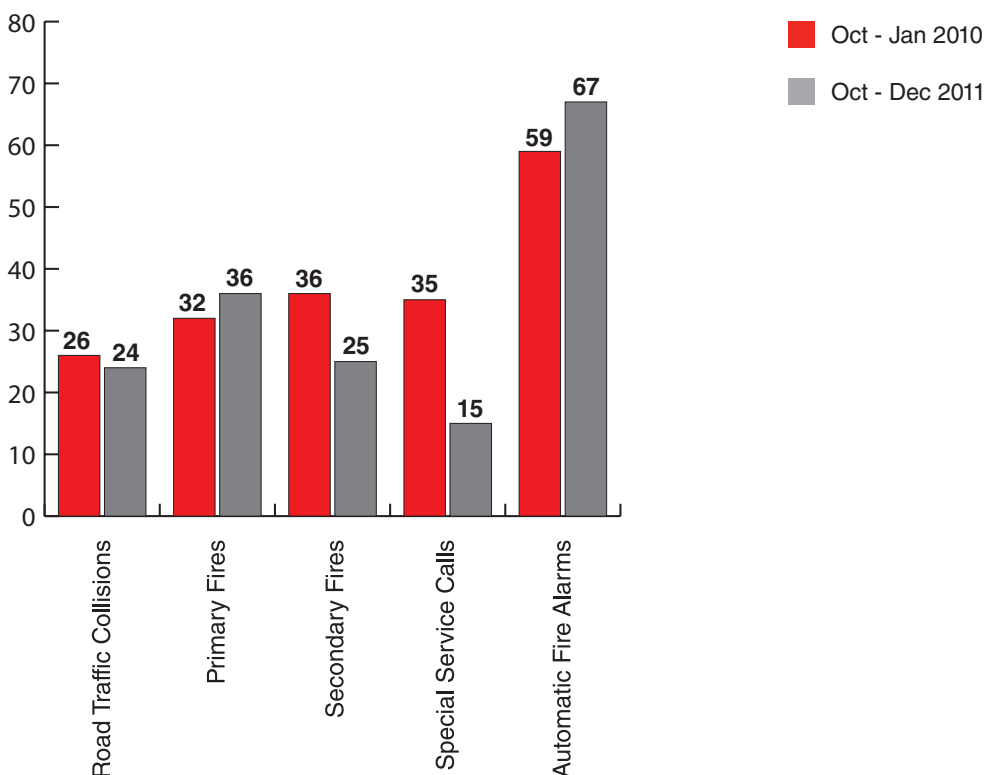
During this period we served a total of 10 enforcement notices. Three were on licensed premises with the remaining on holiday let accommodation.

Prohibition

Two prohibition notices were served, one in respect to sleeping accommodation above a licensed restaurant and the other on a holiday let.

Community Response

On 2 November 2011 at 02:40 fire crews were mobilised to a fire at Rushington Business Park in Totton. Seven fire appliance were in attendance along with an aerial ladder platform form. The firefighters tackled the fire using two breathing apparatus and two jets. (See 1.1 for more details)





5.1

Hampshire and Wiltshire firefighters combine forces to tackle Christmas morning blaze

At 0125 on 25 December 2011 Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service was alerted to a flat fire in Junction Road in Andover. Control operators mobilised crews from Andover to the scene where it was apparent that the fire was serious and further backup was immediately requested.

Two fire appliances from Andover Fire Station were mobilised together with fire appliances from Whitchurch, Sutton Scotney, and Stockbridge in Hampshire. In support, crews from Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service based at Ludgershall and Amesbury Fire Stations were also in attendance.

The fire involved a first floor flat and combined roof space in a two story building consisting of six self-contained flats. Eight breathing apparatus, two hose reels, two covering jets and an aerial ladder platform were used to extinguish the fire.

Upon arrival the crews saw thick smoke belching from the roof space, soffits and guttering of the building. A small gathering of young residents waved them into the car park and they quickly gave the firefighters useful information about the building which assisted them greatly in the early stages of the incident.

The police assisted firefighters with evacuating the premises. At the rear of the building, smoke and flames around three foot high were coming out of the windows and roof space. There was very severe fire damage within the affected flat, the ceiling had collapsed and the ferocity of the fire had been such that the underside of the external roof tiles were exposed.

The result of a joint fire investigation with Hampshire Constabulary showed that the cause was undetermined.

5.2

Fire crews tackle blaze at Totton Industrial Estate

At 01:31hrs on 20 January 2012 Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service was alerted to a fire at an industrial unit at Lulworth Business Centre, Nutwood Way in Totton. A total of 60 firefighters were in attendance to tackle the fire at the premises which operates as an industrial dry cleaner.

Control operators mobilised eight fire appliances and support vehicles to the scene. Fire crews from Totton, Redbridge, Lyndhurst, Romsey and St Mary's. The multi-role vehicle from Eastleigh Fire Station and the incident command unit from Service Headquarters were also in attendance.

Upon arrival crews could see flames above the roof of the building. Firefighters gained access to the premises using specialist cutting equipment and crews ventilated the premises. The blaze was tackled using a combination of dowsing the flames from above with the aerial ladder platform monitor and traditional methods on the ground.

The incident involved a two story industrial unit measuring 40 metres by 10 metres of traditional construction consisting of brick and sandwich panels. The fire was extinguished using one aerial ladder platform, two breathing apparatus and two jets.

A fire investigation determined that the cause of the fire was accidental.

Key to Mosaic Risk 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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