

Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee 19 May 2015
Quarter 3 Performance Report – April 2014 to December 2014

1 Summary

1.1 The following report uses data taken from IRS and covers the period of Quarter 1 to Quarter 3 (Q3 - April to December) in 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014. This report reviews and explores various trends relating to injuries to the public caused by fire.

2 Recommendation

2.1 This paper is for information only.

3 Overview

3.1 Over the past four years the number of all injuries including first aid at scene and advised precautionary checks, has fluctuated:

	Fires	Injuries	Injuries/1000 fires
Q3 2011	1875	106	57
Q3 2012	1572	94	60
Q3 2013	1527	99	65
Q3 2014	1499	105	70
%Change from 2011	-20.05%	-0.94%	23.90%

3.2 Primary fires have been steadily decreasing for the last four years and are now 20% lower than in 2011. The reduction of primary fires shows little correlation with the number of injuries.

Because of the large reduction in primary fires the number of injuries per 1000 fires has increased by almost 25% since 2011 and follows a consistent upward trend.

4 Severity

4.1 By Q3 in 2014, 51% (54) of people injured from fires were sent to hospital. This is a slight increase from the previous year (52) but an 18% decrease from 2011 Q3 (66).

4.2

Injuries by treatment	Q3 2011	Q3 2012	Q3 2013	Q3 2014	Total
First aid given at scene	34	24	40	40	138
Precautionary check recommended	6	6	7	11	30
Person went to hospital, injuries appear to be Serious	10	12	8	9	39
Person went to hospital, injuries appear to be Slight	56	52	44	45	197
Total	106	94	99	105	404

The general trend shows that more people are now being treated at scene.

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5 Property type

5.1 For the last four years dwellings have had the largest share of injuries but this has been following a decreasing trend. By Q3 2014 they accounted for 57% (60) of injuries compared with 70% (69) by Q3 in the previous year (2013). This follows the trend in the number of fires decreasing for these types of property. Non-domestic properties (properties covered by the Fire Safety Regulations Order) account for a fairly small number, averaging 11% of the total number of injuries over the previous three years. However, by Q3 2014, this equated for 29% (30). Out of these 30 people only 9 were sent to hospital, 2 of which appeared to be serious. 10 of the 30 injuries occurred in one particular incident.

5.2

Injuries by property type	Q3 2011	Q3 2012	Q3 2013	Q2 2014	Total
Dwelling					
First aid given at scene	23	17	27	23	90
Precautionary check recommended	1	6	4	1	12
Victim went to hospital, injuries appear to be Serious	6	10	4	3	23
Victim went to hospital, injuries appear to be Slight	42	40	34	33	149
Non-domestic					
First aid given at scene	4	1	5	13	23
Precautionary check recommended	1	0	3	8	12
Victim went to hospital, injuries appear to be Serious	1	1	2	2	6
Victim went to hospital, injuries appear to be Slight	5	8	4	7	24
Outdoor					
First aid given at scene	6	1	3	3	13
Precautionary check recommended	1	0	0	2	3
Victim went to hospital, injuries appear to be Serious	2	1	0	0	3
Victim went to hospital, injuries appear to be Slight	2	3	3	3	11
Vehicle	Q3 2011	Q3 2012	Q3 2013	Q2 2014	Total
First aid given at scene	1	5	5	1	12
Precautionary check recommended	3	0	0	0	3
Victim went to hospital, injuries appear to be Serious	1	0	2	4	7
Victim went to hospital, injuries appear to be Slight	7	1	3	2	13
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6 Types of Injuries

6.1 Continuing the trend for the last four years the most common injury type was “Overcome by gas, smoke or toxic fumes; asphyxiation” which accounted for 45% of injuries by Q3 2014.

Injury type	Q3 2011	Q3 2012	Q3 2013	Q3 2014	Total
Overcome by gas, smoke or toxic fumes; asphyxiation	51	52	27	48	178
Burns - slight	19	15	21	17	72
Breathing difficulties (Other than 'Overcome by gas, smoke or toxic fumes; asphyxiation')	15	11	24	12	62
Burns - severe	7	6	7	5	25
Other	6	4	5	7	22
Combination of burns and overcome by gas/smoke	5	2	6	6	19
Choking	0	0	4	1	5
Cuts/Lacerations	0	2	1	2	5
Not known	0	2	0	2	4
Other medical condition	1	0	2	1	4
Bruising	0	0	0	3	3
Back/Neck injury (spinal)	1	0	0	0	1
Chest pain/Heart condition/Cardiac arrest	0	0	1	0	1
Chest/Abdominal injury	0	0	0	1	1
Heat exhaustion	0	0	1	0	1
Shock/Anaphylactic shock	1	0	0	0	1
Grand Total	106	94	99	105	404

6.2 Breathing difficulties and asphyxiation has fluctuated over the years. However, combined there has been a reducing trend in the percentage of these injuries being sent to hospital with 45% (27) of people being sent to hospital in Q3 2014 compared to 68% (45) in Q3 2011. This means that more of these incidences are now being treated at scene. Furthermore, burns are particularly damaging to individuals and the effects can often lead to permanent scarring. Severe burns are generally low. Severe and slight burns combined, however, represented 21% (22) of all injuries by Q3 2014. These 22 injuries show a 21% reduction compared to the previous year Q3 2013 (28).

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7 Cause of fire

- 7.1 The main cause of fire generating the largest number of injuries was ‘Heat source and combustibles brought together deliberately’ in Q3 2014. The number of injuries from this type of fire was over three times higher than any other cause.
- 7.2 Cooking related fires resulted in 16% of all injuries by Q3 2014. Cooking related fires have been consistent in producing large proportions of injuries over the last four years.

Injuries by cause of fire	Q3 2011	Q3 2012	Q3 2013	Q3 2014
Heat source and combustibles brought together deliberately	14	9	16	32
Combustible articles too close to heat source (or fire)	6	6	9	11
Cooking - other cooking	19	16	14	11
Overheating, unknown cause	5	0	6	8
Cooking - chip pan/deep fat fryer	10	8	6	7
Faulty fuel supply - electricity	1	4	4	7
Negligent use of equipment or appliance (heat source)	9	5	3	6
Other	11	9	7	5
Bonfire going out of control	0	2	1	3
Careless handling - due to knocking over	2	4	0	3
Faulty fuel supply - gas	2	1	1	3
Accumulation of flammable material	2	1	1	2
Careless handling - due to sleep or unconsciousness	2	4	4	2
Fault in equipment or appliance	10	9	7	2
Careless handling - due to careless disposal	5	3	7	1
Other intentional burning, going out of control	1	1	2	1
Vehicle crash or collision	1	0	0	1
Bomb/incendiary device	0	4	1	0
Chimney fire	1	0	0	0
Faulty fuel supply - petrol product	1	1	2	0
Faulty leads to equipment or appliance	0	5	1	0
Natural occurrence	0	0	1	0
Person too close to heat source (or fire)	2	1	0	0
Playing with fire (or heat source)	0	0	5	0
Suicide/attempted: setting fire to self	2	1	1	0
Total	106	94	99	105

Looking at the ‘Heat source and combustibles brought together deliberately’ cause type. There were 18 incidents of this type that caused 32 injuries. Only 22% (7) of which were sent to hospital.

8 Fire Station Grounds

- 8.1 By Q3 2014 there was a large variation in the number of injuries recorded for each Station Ground with no single station accumulating noticeably more injuries than the rest. The average number of injuries per station ground was 4. Four stations had greater than twice the average and 16 stations had no injuries.

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8.2

Injuries by Station Ground	Q3 2011	Q3 2012	Q3 2013	Q3 2014	Grand Total
St Marys	16	2	14	5	37
Southsea	10	13	3	9	35
Hightown	5	6	15	7	33
Redbridge Hill	4	15	6	3	28
Fareham	1	5	7	11	24
Rushmoor	3	3	8	9	23
Winchester	1	2	7	11	21
Gosport	7	5	2	6	20
Andover	6	4	4	5	19
Eastleigh	2	3	7	4	16
Cosham	3	2	7	3	15
Havant	3	7	0	5	15
Basingstoke	4	4	5	1	14
Waterlooville	6	3	0	1	10
Bordon	4	0	3	2	9
Totton	1	7	1	0	9
Alton	7	0	0	1	8
Hythe	0	3	1	4	8
Lymington	6	0	2	0	8
New Milton	1	1	1	4	7
Fleet	4	1	0	0	5
Romsey	3	2	0	0	5
Ringwood	1	0	0	3	4
Hardley	0	0	0	3	3
Hayling Island	1	0	2	0	3
Horndean	1	0	0	2	3
Bishops Waltham	0	0	1	1	2
Emsworth	0	1	0	1	2
Hamble	0	1	1	0	2
Petersfield	0	1	0	1	2
Stockbridge	1	0	1	0	2
Yateley	2	0	0	0	2
Botley	0	1	0	0	1
Brockenhurst	1	0	0	0	1
Burley	0	0	0	1	1
Droxford	0	0	1	0	1
Fordingbridge	0	1	0	0	1
Grayshott	1	0	0	0	1
Hartley Wintney	0	0	0	1	1
Lyndhurst	0	1	0	0	1
Sutton Scotney	0	0	0	1	1
Tadley	1	0	0	0	1
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9 Time of the year

- 9.1 The largest proportion of injuries occurred in October with 24% of the total by Q3 2014. There is little trend in the number of injuries compared with the time of year.

One incident occurred on Farehams Station Ground in October and accounted for 40% of the injuries recorded in October 2014. This single incident resulted in 10 injured people, who all suffered asphyxiation; only 2 of which were sent to hospital.

9.2

Month	Q3 2011	Q3 2012	Q3 2013	Q3 2014	Total
April	27	5	14	5	51
May	9	14	12	11	46
June	12	8	11	5	36
July	13	11	17	15	56
August	16	8	12	18	54
September	7	17	6	4	34
October	13	10	7	25	55
November	5	10	8	17	40
December	4	11	12	5	32
Grand Total	106	94	99	105	404