

Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority

Activity Report of the Chief Officer



HAMPSHIRE
FIRE AND
RESCUE
SERVICE

Contents

Introduction

1 Responding to incidents

- 1.1 Shirley High Street fire, 13/11/16
- 1.2 Ringwood commercial fire, 27/11/16
- 1.3 Fleet Services fire, 14/12/16

2 Community safety

- 2.1 Children and Young People (CYP)
- 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 Southampton student accommodation fire, 25/01/17
- 4.2 New Milton hotel fire, 29/01/17

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Front page photo: Fleet services fire, 14/12/16

Introduction

This Activity Report covers the period 01 October 2016 to 31 December 2016. Any notable incidents that have occurred after 31 December 2016 and before the report has been issued are listed in the back in the 'Latest news' section of the report.



Thursday 01 December saw the Service come together for the annual Celebrating Success awards, recognising the contribution of our staff and volunteers over the previous 12 months.

The awards presented included a 50-year long-service award to WM Chas McGill and a Special Recognition Award from Chief Officer Dave Curry to Firefighter (Control) Jenna Shergold for the advice she gave two young children trapped in a burning building in Gosport.

For the first time this year the HFRA Chairman presented his own award to Gosport firefighter Paul Ponsford for his dedication to getting back to work after suffering a life-changing medical condition.

Over the last quarter of 2016 and start of 2017 we continued our recruitment process, with physical assessments during week commencing 21 November 2016 and interviews in early January. This process is now complete, with successful candidates having been offered positions (subject to pre-employment checks) at the end of January.

11 retained firefighters have been offered wholtime contracts, and 16 external applicants have been offered a place on the recruits course starting on 18 April 2017



There have been no fire related deaths this quarter.

1 Responding to incidents

	Q3 2015-16	Q3 2016-17
False alarm	549	574
Primary fire	495	463
RTC	209	228
Secondary fire	251	366
Special service	609	699
Unwanted fire signal	1097	1091
Co-response	3087	2152
TOTAL	6297	5573

1.1 Shirley High Street fire, 13/11/16



We were called to a severe fire at a property in Shirley High Street at 20:24 on the evening of Sunday 13 November 2016. The terraced building is a commercial premises with residential accommodation above.

Firefighters from Redbridge, St Mary's, Eastleigh, Hightown, Romsey, Botley, Portchester and HQ attended with eight engines and support vehicles. Ultra-high pressure lance (UHPL), 16 sets of breathing apparatus, three hose reels and five jets were used to battle the first-floor blaze.

Nobody was injured in the fire. An investigation will take place to ascertain the cause of the fire. The stop message was at 00.22. Both floors of the building were severely damaged by fire and smoke.

1.2 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.

1.3 Fleet Services fire, 14/12/16



We were called at 22:40 on the night of Wednesday 14 December to a severe fire in the restaurant area of the Fleet Services on the southbound carriageway of the M3.

More than 100 firefighters from Hampshire and Surrey fought to stop the fire spreading through the building.

No-one was injured in the incident, but around 60% of the building was damaged by fire, with the remainder being affected by smoke. Crews used six jets, four hose reels and 30 sets of breathing apparatus to tackle the blaze.

The stop message was received at 14:05 the following day, however crews continued damping down and turning over on scene to eliminate any chance of re-ignition.

The fire was found to have started in a coffee machine within the restaurant area of the services and is not being treated as suspicious.

2 Community safety

2.1 Children and Young People (CYP)

FireEd 0-14 – The Schools Education Team

The team has engaged with 8,172 children at Key Stages 1 and 2 during this period, delivering fire, road, water and community resilience messages.

We're planning a 21st birthday party for the Schools Education team in the summer which will coincide with the launch of our new CYP brand and our Prince's Trust 100th Team Programme.

FireWise

During this quarter we have worked with 32 families.

Prince's Trust

Teams from Southampton, Rushmoor and Eastleigh consisting of 39 young people successfully completed the Team programme, and 38 of these achieved a qualification. All Teams attended the regional Safe Drive, Stay Alive event in Reading to enhance their road safety awareness.

All teams are involved in health awareness and fitness training, as part of the Service's commitment to health. The Southampton Team continues to utilise Sportivate funding to complete health awareness and fitness training.

As part of their Team Challenge, the Southampton Team ran a soup kitchen at St. Mary's Fire Station, where they provided hot soup and drinks to homeless people in the city, provided warm clothing and torches, and gave them fire safety advice.

2.2 Road safety

We supported the regional Safe Drive, Stay Alive event in Hedge End, with representatives from our Service speaking about their real life experiences to warn young people of the dangers of the road.

2.3 Safe & Well visits

This quarter we've completed 717 Safe & Well visits, from our priority one category and high risk referrals from our partner agencies. From these visits we've fitted 652 smoke detectors.

We have completed our six monthly Safe & Well evaluation with returns from all of the groups involved in the delivery of this initiative. The recommendations from this report will allow us to evolve our model to more effectively deliver our goals. This will be primarily focused on areas such as the use and accuracy of Exeter data, the use of mobile data input and the feedback that is provided to staff.

Delivery groups have adopted a person centered approach and have shown a high degree of commitment to delivery including development of group and station specific delivery models. Centrally we have supported this with continued joint work between the Community Safety and Fire as a Health Asset teams to further develop our partnerships with other agencies. This includes a new referrals initiative with SCAS and the Southern Health Partnership Workshop for the North Group. Stations also continue to build on their relationships with their local partner agencies to develop data sharing agreements and help them target those most at risk in their area.

2.4 Volunteers

We continue to attract volunteers to support and assist various groups throughout the Service. We currently have a total of 95 volunteers. In addition to these, we have three students assigned to the fire investigation team – one intern for 12 months and two students for the next quarter.

HFRA volunteers contributed just under 1,000 hours in the last quarter. Key events included supporting Christmas festivals, station open days, community reassurance following a fire at a caravan park on Hayling Island, upskilling sessions, Celebrating Success, and numerous other community events throughout the county.

2.5 Partnership working

We continue to work in partnership with the RNLI and MCA promoting water safety and with Age Concern (Hampshire) to promote Safer Homes messages throughout the county.

As a result of sharing key sites with Hampshire Constabulary, we are investigating how we can further work together, accessing our volunteer teams within these sites, this will open a number of areas to us for the future. We continue to work with the police attending a variety of events throughout the county promoting Safer Homes and working with young people.

Following a successful meeting with Purple Door, Portsmouth University, we are seeking to enrol students to assist Community Safety initiatives in Portsmouth and Southsea.

2.6 Safeguarding

Adult Services Safeguarding Referrals	96
Children's Services Safeguarding Referrals	10

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

Arson Task Force

There have been 40 fire investigations in the reporting period, 23 deliberate fires, five accidental and 12 undetermined. There have been no fatalities over the reporting period. The Arson Task Force has also supported the investigation of 23 arson offences.

The same period has seen the successful conclusion of three cases at court:

- 11/11/16 – Chad Peter Dendy was found guilty at Portsmouth Crown Court of arson reckless following a car fire. He was sentenced to three years imprisonment
- 09/12/16 – Billy Henry Cooper pleaded guilty at Portsmouth Magistrates Court to arson following a fire at 2 Totland Road, Rowner. He was sentenced to £300 compensation plus court costs
- 14/12/16 – Elliot James Waller pleaded guilty at Southampton Crown Court to arson reckless following a fire at London Lodge, Main Road, Holbury. He was sentenced to 18 months imprisonment

Coroners:

- 14/11/16 – Winchester Coroners Court inquest into the death of John Lennox Currie was held. This was following a fire at 4 Otters Walk, New Milton. The coroner made a determination of fire death by misadventure

3 Group Activity

3.1 Group activity – Basingstoke and Deane

Business fire safety

	Q3 2015-16	Q3 2016-17
Building and licensing consultations	45	60
Fire safety audits	8	9
Business support visits	1	18
Alleged fire risks attended	10	11
Unattended alleged fire risk	4	1
Post incident inspections	0	1
Enforcement notices	0	0
Prohibition notices	0	0
Action plans	6	3

Community response

	Q3 2015-16	Q3 2016-17
False alarm	52	51
Primary fire	47	41
RTC	20	24
Secondary fire	25	28
Special service	35	52
Unwanted fire signal	110	99
Co-response*	7	2
TOTAL	296	297

*NB: Co-response calls are registered in the station area of where the incident took place, not where the responding vehicle is from

Significant incidents

- 03/11/16 – Fire involving airing cupboard spread to roof on London Road, Whitchurch. Roof 75% by fire and smoke, first floor 100% by smoke, ground floor 50% by smoke. 11 BA, two jets, two hose reels used
- 04/12/16 – External fire at end-of-terrace property on Egerton Drive, Basingstoke. Spread to ground floor kitchen and first floor bedroom window. Four BA, two jets and two hose reels used

3.2 Group activity – Rushmoor and Hart

Business fire safety

	Q3 2015-16	Q3 2016-17
Building and licensing consultations	41	63
Fire safety audits	14	16
Business support visits	14	0
Alleged fire risks attended	3	12
Unattended alleged fire risk	4	1
Post incident inspections	3	1
Enforcement notices	0	0
Prohibition notices	0	0
Action plans	5	4

Community response

	Q3 2015-16	Q3 2016-17
False alarm	64	56
Primary fire	39	37
RTC	29	33
Secondary fire	25	40
Special service	39	69
Unwanted fire signal	81	86
Co-response*	117	81
TOTAL	394	402

*NB: Co-response calls are registered in the station area of where the incident took place, not where the responding vehicle is from

Significant incidents

- 18/10/16 – Fire involving single storey L-shaped building used as a workshop on High View Close, Farnborough. 100% damaged by fire. Three jets and two hose reels used
- 25/10/16 – Small chlorine leak at Village Hotels & Leisure, Pinehurst Road, Farnborough. Six BA and two chemical suits used. Leak identified and isolated by HFRS before handing over to on-site management
- 16/11/16 – Significant fire in ground floor kitchen on Woodland Walk, Aldershot. Six BA, three hose reels and two jets used. One dog deceased
- 22/11/16 – Car into a shop front on Chapel Lane, Farnborough. One male casualty medically trapped in vehicle and released by crews before being handed over to the care of SCAS
- 14/12/16 – Fleet Services fire (see full information on page 5)

3.3 Group activity – Havant and East Hampshire

Business fire safety

	Q3 2015-16	Q3 2016-17
Building and licensing consultations	50	71
Fire safety audits	19	30
Business support visits	30	11
Alleged fire risks attended	4	3
Unattended alleged fire risk	5	0
Post incident inspections	3	0
Enforcement notices	0	0
Prohibition notices	0	0
Action plans	19	11

Community response

	Q3 2015-16	Q3 2016-17
False alarm	64	52
Primary fire	57	49
RTC	19	16
Secondary fire	39	49
Special service	73	67
Unwanted fire signal	134	127
Co-response*	1078	666
TOTAL	1464	1026

*NB: Co-response calls are registered in the station area of where the incident took place, not where the responding vehicle is from

Significant incidents

- 06/11/16 – Fire involving a caravan on Manor Road, Hayling Island. Caravan 100% damaged by fire. All persons accounted for, two casualties taken to hospital by SCAS. Two propane cylinders removed and cooled
- 01/12/16 – Smell of ammonia and staff feeling unwell at Warblington School, Havant. No source of ammonia found by HFRS. Three people to hospital by SCAS, six assessed on scene

3.4 Group activity – Fareham and Gosport

Business fire safety

	Q3 2015-16	Q3 2016-17
Building and licensing consultations	45	60
Fire safety audits	8	9
Business support visits	1	18
Alleged fire risks attended	10	11
Unattended alleged fire risk	4	1
Post incident inspections	0	1
Enforcement notices	0	0
Prohibition notices	6	0
Action plans	74	3

Community response

	Q3 2015-16	Q3 2016-17
False alarm	45	50
Primary fire	62	56
RTC	25	24
Secondary fire	27	40
Special service	80	69
Unwanted fire signal	114	127
Co-response*	268	170
TOTAL	621	536

*NB: Co-response calls are registered in the station area of where the incident took place, not where the responding vehicle is from

Significant incidents

- 11/11/16 – Fire in ground floor flat of three storey property on Forton Road, Gosport. 12 casualties led to safety by HFRS (three children and nine adults) and checked over by SCAS

3.5 Group activity – Portsmouth

Business fire safety

	Q3 2015-16	Q3 2016-17
Building and licensing consultations	63	69
Fire safety audits	34	39
Business support visits	88	96
Alleged fire risks attended	15	20
Unattended alleged fire risk	10	10
Post incident inspections	10	3
Enforcement notices	0	0
Prohibition notices	0	0
Action plans	20	20

Community response

	Q3 2015-16	Q3 2016-17
False alarm	79	97
Primary fire	61	61
RTC	13	14
Secondary fire	43	41
Special service	121	124
Unwanted fire signal	143	148
Co-response*	274	236
TOTAL	734	721

*NB: Co-response calls are registered in the station area of where the incident took place, not where the responding vehicle is from

Significant incidents

- 04/10/16 – Fire in kitchen of third floor flat in high rise on Clarendon Road, Portsmouth. 26 year old female led to safety by crews. Two BA and two jets used
- 28/10/16 – Fire in ground floor bedsit of HMO property on Waverley Road, Southsea. All persons accounted for. Bedroom 50% damaged by fire, 50% damaged by smoke. Four BA and two hose reels used
- 21/12/16 – Fire in commercial property on Albert Road, Southsea. Ground floor 10% by fire, first floor 20% by fire, 50% by smoke and water. Fire prevented from affecting second floor flat. Six jets, two hose reels and 46 BA used

3.6 Group activity – Winchester

Business fire safety

	Q3 2015-16	Q3 2016-17
Building and licensing consultations	38	50
Fire safety audits	10	9
Business support visits	3	0
Alleged fire risks attended	1	1
Unattended alleged fire risk	1	3
Post incident inspections	3	2
Enforcement notices	4	3
Prohibition notices	0	0
Action plans	5	3

Community response

	Q3 2015-16	Q3 2016-17
False alarm	28	37
Primary fire	25	32
RTC	24	22
Secondary fire	15	13
Special service	32	38
Unwanted fire signal	106	100
Co-response*	158	95
TOTAL	388	337

*NB: Co-response calls are registered in the station area of where the incident took place, not where the responding vehicle is from

Significant incidents

- 24/11/16 – Fire in a domestic building on Burley Brook Road, Durley. Roof 20% destroyed by fire, 70% destroyed by smoke and heat. Four BA, three jets and two hose reels used
- 28/11/16 – Electrical fire in Southern Water pumping station, Garnier Road, Winchester. Sewage pumps unstable – HFRS deployed polybooms to contain raw sewage and incident handed over to Southern Water
- 29/12/16 – Fire involving 120 tonnes of straw in a 60x40m steel frame barn. Crews on scene for approximately 22 hours extinguishing, removing and turning over

3.7 Group activity – Test Valley and Eastleigh Group

Business fire safety

	Q3 2015-16	Q3 2016-17
Building and licensing consultations	80	59
Fire safety audits	12	10
Business support visits	14	1
Alleged fire risks attended	1	9
Unattended alleged fire risk	1	3
Post incident inspections	3	1
Enforcement notices	0	1
Prohibition notices	0	1
Action plans	5	4

Community response

	Q3 2015-16	Q3 2016-17
False alarm	51	53
Primary fire	39	34
RTC	21	20
Secondary fire	15	23
Special service	54	47
Unwanted fire signal	113	121
Co-response*	358	246
TOTAL	651	544

*NB: Co-response calls are registered in the station area of where the incident took place, not where the responding vehicle is from

Significant incidents

- 31/10/16 – Fire in domestic property on Harewood Close, Eastleigh. Fire in ground floor kitchen, one dog rescued and given oxygen therapy. Four BA, two hose reels and two jets used
- 31/10/16 – Fire in residential property on Middlebridge Street, Romsey. Small oven fire extinguished by HFRS. 92 year old female treated for smoke inhalation and taken to hospital by SCAS
- 12/12/16 – Fire in thatched property on Lower Street, Braishfield. Crews on scene for seven and a half hours removing thatch, extinguishing and turning over

3.8 Group activity – Southampton

Business fire safety

	Q3 2015-16	Q3 2016-17
Building and licensing consultations	89	89
Fire safety audits	25	28
Business support visits	23	12
Alleged fire risks attended	9	8
Unattended alleged fire risk	3	0
Post incident inspections	6	3
Enforcement notices	5	6
Prohibition notices	0	1
Action plans	8	9

Community response

	Q3 2015-16	Q3 2016-17
False alarm	125	143
Primary fire	120	105
RTC	25	41
Secondary fire	35	94
Special service	124	148
Unwanted fire signal	189	204
Co-response**	161	109
TOTAL	779	844

*NB: Co-response calls are registered in the station area of where the incident took place, not where the responding vehicle is from

Significant incidents

- 24/10/16 – Fire on fifth floor of property on Rowlands Walk, Southampton. 20% damage to property after fire in boiler. Four BA, two jets and tactical ventilation used
- 26/10/16 – Fire in ground floor flat of three storey building on Denzil Avenue, Southampton. Flat 100% damaged by fire. Two BA and one hose reel used. One hamster rescued
- 30/10/16 – Fire in terraced house on Tennyson Road, Southampton. Ground floor severely damaged by fire. Six BA, three jets and two hose reels used. Three oxygen cylinders removed from property
- 03/11/16 – Fire in loft of bungalow on Heath House Lane, Hedge End. All persons accounted for. 10 BA, two jets, one hose reel and one CAFS jet used.
- 13/11/16 – Shirley High Street fire (full details on page 4)
- 18/11/16 – Fire in terraced properties on Mortimer Road, Southampton. One house 100% roof, 50% first floor by fire, other 10% roof by fire. Ten BA, two jets, two hose reels and one CAFS jet used
- 26/11/16 – Fire in high rise building on Duke Street, Southampton. Six BA and three jets used. Fire caused by unattended cooking
- 05/12/16 – Fire in detached property on High Street, Bursledon. Roof 100% by fire, ground and first floor 100% by heat and smoke. One elderly male rescued
- 31/12/16 – Fire in M&S West Quay. Shopping centre evacuated, small fire in fridge extinguished. Four BA, one sprinkler, two jets and PPV used

3.9 Group activity – New Forest Group

Business fire safety

	Q3 2015-16	Q3 2016-17
Building and licensing consultations	51	54
Fire safety audits	12	5
Business support visits	3	9
Alleged fire risks attended	6	2
Unattended alleged fire risk	2	1
Post incident inspections	3	1
Enforcement notices	1	0
Prohibition notices	0	0
Action plans	2	2

Community response

	Q3 2015-16	Q3 2016-17
False alarm	39	34
Primary fire	41	45
RTC	28	29
Secondary fire	25	33
Special service	46	53
Unwanted fire signal	91	72
Co-response*	666	547
TOTAL	936	813

*NB: Co-response calls are registered in the station area of where the incident took place, not where the responding vehicle is from

Significant incidents

- 10/10/16 – Fire in mid-terrace house on Tristan Close, Calshot. Ground floor 100% by smoke and water, first floor 80% by fire and 20% by smoke, roof 100% by fire. Eight BA, three jets and two hose reels used
- 15/11/16 – Fuel leaking from reservoir at Co-Operative Group petrol station on Wellworthy Road, Lymington. Scene made safe by HFRS ahead of work by specialist contractors to drain tank and dissipate vapours
- 27/11/16 – Ringwood commercial fire (full details on page 4)
- 17/12/16 – One male adult and one female child released from bog on Beaulieu Road, Beaulieu and airlifted to hospital by Coastguard

4 Latest news

4.1 Southampton student accommodation fire, 25/01/17

Five pumps from St Mary's, Hightown and Redbridge and an aerial ladder platform attended a fire in a 17-storey block of student accommodation on Duke Street, Southampton on Wednesday 25 January 2017.

The fire broke out in the third floor common room, and firefighters used six sets of breathing apparatus, a jet and tactical ventilation to tackle the blaze.

The cause was found to be a light fitting having melted and dropped to the floor, igniting the carpet.

4.2 New Milton hotel fire, 29/01/17

We were called to the Chewton Glen Hotel, Christchurch Road, New Milton at 00:07 on Sunday 29 January 2017 after reports of a fire in the housekeeping quarters.

Two pumps from New Milton, two from Lymington and one from Redbridge attended alongside support vehicles. The fire was located in the laundry room, and crews used 24 sets of breathing apparatus and two hose reels to tackle the fire.

All residents and staff were accounted for and evacuated from the hotel. The contents of the laundry room were 100% damaged by fire, but the damage was contained to the single room. The stop came in at 02:55.

The cause of the fire was found to be through overheated laundry and is not being treated as suspicious.