

Levenmouth Area Committee

Committee Room 2, 5th Floor, Fife House, North Street,
Glenrothes (Blended Meeting)



Wednesday 1 October, 2025 - 9.30 a.m.

AGENDA

Page Nos.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – In terms of Section 5 of the Code of Conduct Members of the Committee are asked to declare any interest(s) in particular items on the agenda and the nature of the interest(s) at this stage.
3. **MINUTE** – Minute of the meeting of the Levenmouth Area Committee of 20 August 2025 4 - 7
4. **SCOTTISH FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE LOCAL PLAN ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT** - Report by Station Commander for Levenmouth Area, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service 8 - 25
5. **OPERATIONAL AND COMMUNITY BRIEFING ON POLICING ACTIVITIES WITHIN LEVENMOUTH** – Report by Chief Inspector Craig Fraser, Levenmouth Area Commander, Police Scotland 26 - 53
6. **SAFER COMMUNITIES TEAM UPDATE** – Report by the Head of Housing Services 54 - 79
7. **PROPOSED ROAD STOPPING-UP - ELM PARK, LEVEN (PART)** – Report by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services 80 - 84
8. **CHARGES FOR THE CLEANING OF COMMUNAL AREAS IN LOW/MID-RISE BLOCKS** – Report by the Head of Housing Services 85 - 91
9. **LEVENMOUTH RECONNECTED PROGRAMME GRANT AWARDS** – Report by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services 92 -96
10. **SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN – FESTIVE LIGHTING PLUG POINTS EAST WEMYSS** – Report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhood Services 97 - 98
11. **SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN - FESTIVE LIGHTS** – Report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhood Services 99 - 100
12. **SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN – WARM SPACES FUNDING-LCPB** – Report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhood Services 101 - 105
13. **SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN – RIVER PARK INTERIM UPDATE** – Report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhood Services 106 - 109

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| 14. | PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS – Report by the Head of Property Services | 110 - 111 |
| 15. | FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME – Report by the Executive Director,
Finance and Corporate Services | 112 - 118 |

Members are reminded that should they have queries on the detail of a report they should, where possible, contact the report authors in advance of the meeting to seek clarification.

Lindsay Thomson
Head of Legal and Democratic Services
Finance and Corporate Services

Fife House
North Street
Glenrothes
Fife, KY7 5LT

24 September, 2025

If telephoning, please ask for:
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Agendas and papers for all Committee meetings can be accessed on
www.fife.gov.uk/committees

BLENDED MEETING NOTICE

This is a formal meeting of the Committee and the required standards of behaviour and discussion are the same as in a face to face meeting. Unless otherwise agreed, Standing Orders will apply to the proceedings and the terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct will apply in the normal way

For those members who have joined the meeting remotely, if they need to leave the meeting for any reason, they should use the Meeting Chat to advise of this. If a member loses their connection during the meeting, they should make every effort to rejoin the meeting but, if this is not possible, the Committee Officer will note their absence for the remainder of the meeting. If a member must leave the meeting due to a declaration of interest, they should remain out of the meeting until invited back in by the Committee Officer.

If a member wishes to ask a question, speak on any item or move a motion or amendment, they should indicate this by raising their hand at the appropriate time and will then be invited to speak. Those joining remotely should use the "Raise hand" function in Teams.

All decisions taken during this meeting, will be done so by means of a Roll Call vote.

Where items are for noting or where there has been no dissent or contrary view expressed during any debate, either verbally or by the member indicating they wish to speak, the Convener will assume the matter has been agreed.

There will be a short break in proceedings after approximately 90 minutes.

Members joining remotely are reminded to have cameras switched on during meetings and mute microphones when not speaking. During any breaks or adjournments please switch cameras off.

THE FIFE COUNCIL - LEVENMOUTH AREA COMMITTEE – BLENDED MEETING

Conference Room 2, Fife House, North Street, Glenrothes

20 August, 2025

9.30 am – 11.00 am

PRESENT: Councillors Colin Davidson (Convener), Tom Adams, David Alexander, Ken Caldwell, Eugene Clarke, John O'Brien and Alistair Suttie.

ATTENDING: Michael Drever, Programme Manager: Levenmouth Reconnected Blueprint, Roads & Lighting Contracts; Ross Tulloch, Service Manager (Asset & Programme Management), Vivian Dyas, Co-ordinator (Programme & Financial Management), Policy & Resource Management, Nigel Hampton, Technician Engineer, Traffic Management, Roads and Transportation Services; David Paterson, Community Manager (Levenmouth), Robert Graham, Area Community Development Team Manager, Communities and Neighbourhoods Service, Laura Crombie, Service Manager, The Clued Up Project; Michael O'Gorman, Service Manager - Estates and Asset Management, Property Services and Kerry Elliott, Committee Officer, Legal and Democratic Services.

223. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were submitted in terms of Standing Order No.22.

224. MINUTE

The committee considered the minute of the Levenmouth Area Committee of 25 June 2025.

Decision

The committee agreed to approve the minute.

225. LUNDIN LINKS, LOWER AND UPPER LARGO – 20MPH SPEED LIMITS

The committee considered a report by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services detailing proposals to lower the current 30mph speed limit to a new 20mph speed limit on the A915 and A917 through Lower Largo and Upper Largo, South Feus, part of North Feus, Church Place in Upper Largo and a section of unclassified road into Lundin Links - U079. The proposal also included buffer 40mph speed limits on the approaches to the new 20mph limit in Upper Largo.

Decision

In the interests of traffic management and road safety, the committee:-

- 1) agreed to the promotion of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to introduce the 20mph speed limits with associated 40mph buffer zones as detailed in drawings TRO25/34/LL, TRO25/35/UP-EXIS and TRO25/34/UP-PROP with all ancillary procedures; and
- 2) authorised officers to confirm the Traffic Regulation Order within a reasonable period unless there are objections.

226. AREA ROADS PROGRAMME 2024/25 – FINAL REPORT

The committee considered a report by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services advising members on the delivery of the 2024-2025 Area Roads Programme (ARP).

Decision

The committee noted the contents of the report and appendices.

227. LEVEN REGENERATION – ACTIVE TRAVEL NETWORK – ON ROAD CAPITAL FUNDING

The report considered a report by the Head of Roads and Transportation Services providing an update on the delivery of Active Travel Network - On Road as part of the River Leven Regeneration Programme.

Decision

The committee:-

- 1) noted that future titles of reports would be updated to accurately reflect the Active Travel Network in the Levenmouth area as opposed to Leven;
- 2) noted the delivery of priority routes P1.2A and P1.2B which largely encompass Methilhaven Road in addition to P1.3, the Promenade extension, and the formalisation of the footpath on the A915;
- 3) approved the delivery routes ATN 6 and ATN 11B; and
- 4) approved delivery of Phase 3 and 4 routes - ATN 7, 8, 9, 13, 14, 22 and 28 pending funding provision.

228. LEVENMOUTH AREA COMMUNITY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN - ANNUAL REPORT

The committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service sharing the progress made through the Levenmouth Area Community Learning and Development (CLD) Action Plan for 2024-2025. The report highlighted achievements in Levenmouth, key learning outcomes and local partnership working.

Decision

The committee:-

- 1) acknowledged the progress made in delivering meaningful learning and development in the Levenmouth area;
- 2) recognised how welfare support had been actively woven into local CLD actions and the inter-connections with the Levenmouth Welfare Reform Anti Poverty (WRAP) Plan;
- 3) noted the active involvement and outcomes of the Levenmouth CLD Team in undertaking a peer review in June 2025;
- 4) noted the requirement to create a new Area CLD Plan to complete the three-year cycle; and
- 5) noted that a future update will be brought in August 2026, or as scheduled.

229. SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN – KEIR HARDIE LIGHTING

The committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service seeking agreement to cover the costs of a street lighting proposal at Keir Hardie Street, Methil.

Decision

The committee:-

- 1) noted that the report incorrectly stated that the funding would be drawn from the Ward 22 Local Community Planning Budget (LCPB) budget as opposed to the Ward 21 Local Community Planning Budget (LCPB); and
- 2) agreed to a total funding of £5864.68 from the Ward 22 Local Community Planning Budget (LCPB) to cover the costs of additional lighting at Keir Hardie Street, Methil.

230. SUPPORTING THE LEVENMOUTH LOCAL COMMUNITY PLAN – CLUED UP TRANSITIONS APPROACH

The committee considered a report by the Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods Service seeking agreement to part fund a Transitions approach led by colleagues in Clued Up.

Decision

The committee:-

- 1) agreed funding from the Local Community Planning Budget (LCPB) anti poverty budget of £31,334, to cover the proposed costs to progress a Transitions approach in the Levenmouth area;

2025 LAC 91

- 2) noted that the lead funder for the project would be the Corra organisation, and that future match funding would be required in years two and three of the proposal; and
- 3) requested that an interim report detailing spend and outcomes achieved be presented at the February 2026 committee.

The meeting adjourned at 10.50 am and reconvened at 10.52 am

231. DELEGATED PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

The committee considered a report by the Head of Property Services detailing a number of property transactions that had been processed under delegated powers between 2017 to March 2025.

Decision

The committee agreed to note the report and future reporting proposals.

232. PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

The committee considered a report by the Head of Property Services advising members of action taken using the List of Officer Powers in relation to property transactions in the Levenmouth area.

Decision

The committee noted the contents of the report.

233. LEVENMOUTH AREA COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The committee considered a report by the Executive Director Finance and Corporate Services relating to the future work programme of the Levenmouth Area Committee.

Decision

The committee:-

- 1) noted the content of the Levenmouth Area Committee forward work programme;
- 2) requested that the Lead Officer liaise with the Levenmouth lead for Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS), to present a report outlining the proposals for Methil Fire Station as part of the wider SFRS consultation, to a future meeting of the committee;
- 3) requested that the Lead Officer liaise with Education colleagues to present a report at the December 2025 committee on the output from the review of the Early Years Provision in the Levenmouth Area; and
- 4) agreed that members would advise the Convener, Depute Convener, Lead Officer and Committee Officer of any other items to be included on the workplan, within the remit of the committee.

1 October 2025

Agenda Item No. 4

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

Local Plan Annual Performance report

Report by: John Taylor, Station Commander for the Levenmouth Area

Wards Affected: All

Purpose

This report provides the Committee with incident information for the period 1 April 2024 – 31 March 2025. The Incident information enables the Committee to have an overview of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) Levenmouth Committee Area - against its key performance indicators (KPIs)

Recommendation(s)

The committee is asked to consider the progress across a range of KPI's within this report, and comment as appropriate.

Resource Implications

Not applicable.

Legal & Risk Implications

The Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 provides the statutory basis for fire reform, including the responsibility to:

- Put in place statutory planning and reporting requirements including providing facilities for consultation.
- Make new arrangements for strengthening local engagement and partnership working, including a new statutory role in the LSO and development of local fire and rescue plans linked to community planning, along with clear powers for local authorities in relation to the provision of fire and rescue services in their area.

Impact Assessment

An Equality Impact Assessment checklist is not required as this report does not have any immediate implications for service delivery and policy.

Consultation

This document is circulated amongst SFRS Clackmannanshire Fife Stirling LSO Commanders and appropriate partners to enable areas of high incidence to be scrutinised for reduction strategies.

Background Papers

SFRS Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Fife Local Authority Area. Link -
<https://www.firescotland.gov.uk/your-area/east/east-local-plans.aspx>

Report Contact

John Taylor
Station Commander
Levenmouth Service Delivery Commander
Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

Email – john.taylor@firescotland.gov.uk



Fife

Levenmouth

2024-25

Scrutiny Report



SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
Working together for a safer Scotland

**Working together
for a safer Scotland**

Fife

Levenmouth

Multiple selections













Fife Levenmouth 2024-25 Scrutiny Report

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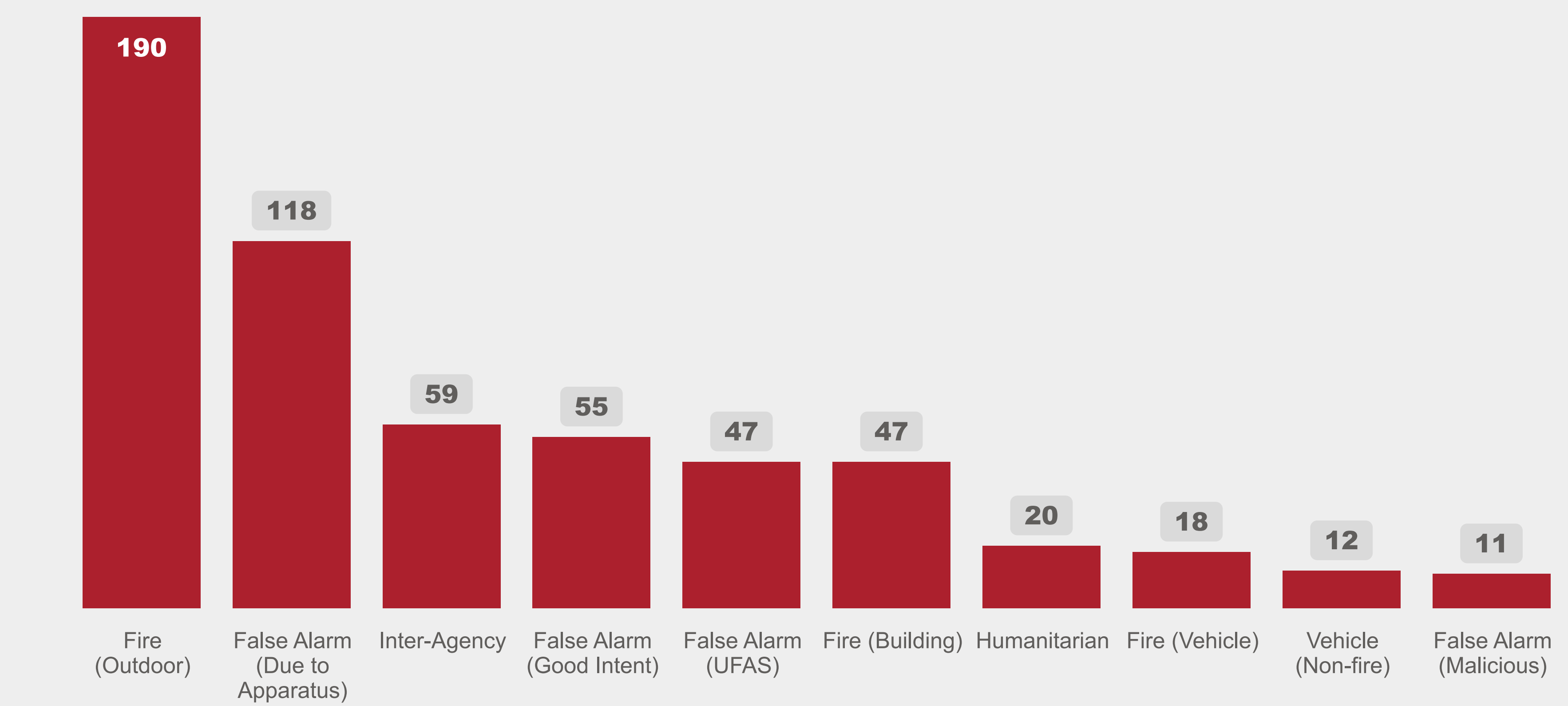
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About the statistics within this report

The activity totals and other statistics quoted within this report are published in the interests of transparency and openness. They are provisional in nature and subject to change as a result of ongoing quality assurance and review. Because all statistics quoted are provisional there may be a difference in the period totals quoted in our reports after local publication which result from revisions or additions to the data in our systems. The Scottish Government publishes official statistics each year which allow for comparisons to be made over longer periods of time.

 603 Total Incidents (Incl. Incompletes)	 255 Fires	 117 Non-Fire Incidents	 231 False Alarms	 47 UFAS
 36 People Rescued by Firefighters	 6 People Receiving First Aid or Hospital Treatment (Fires)	 1 Fire Fatalities	 11 People Receiving First Aid or Hospital Treatment (Non-Fire)	 1 Non-Fire Fatalities
 323 Home Fire Safety Visits	 35 Fire Safety Audits			

Top 10 Incident Types

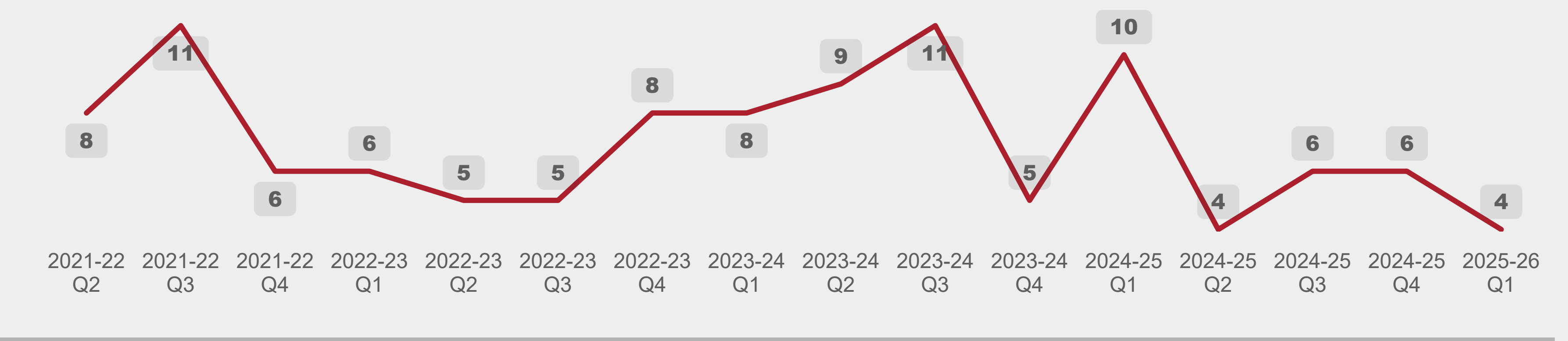


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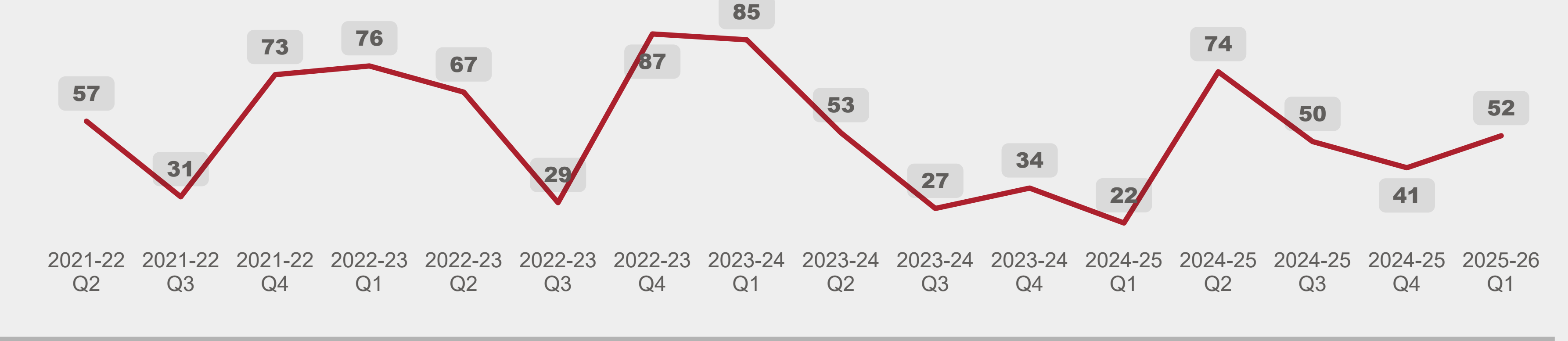
2. Trends

Previous 16 quarters (4 years)

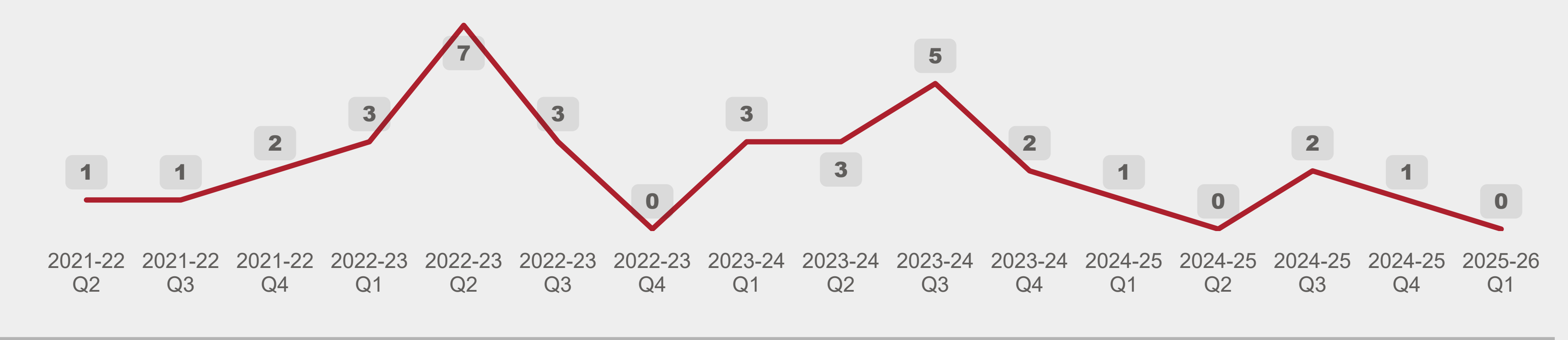
Accidental Dwelling Fires



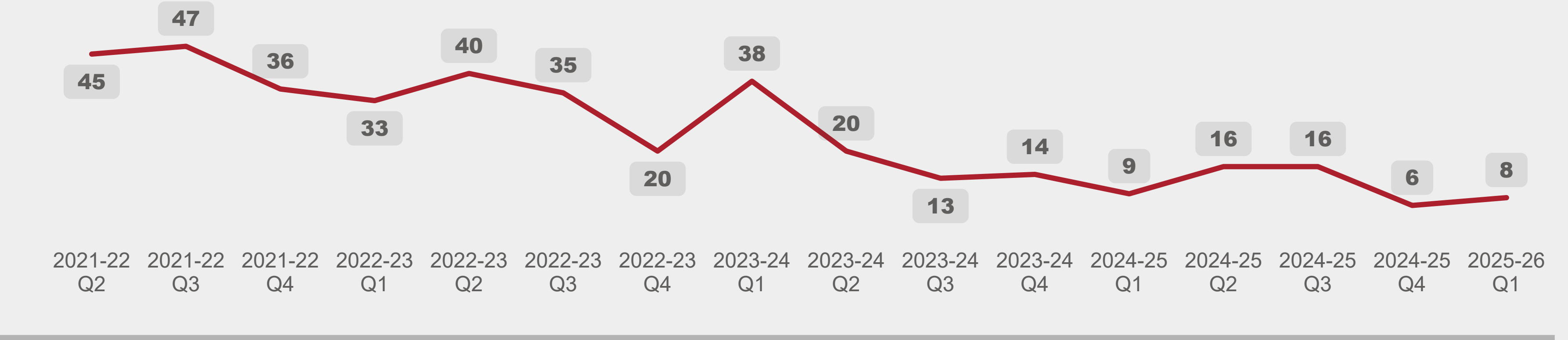
Deliberate Fires



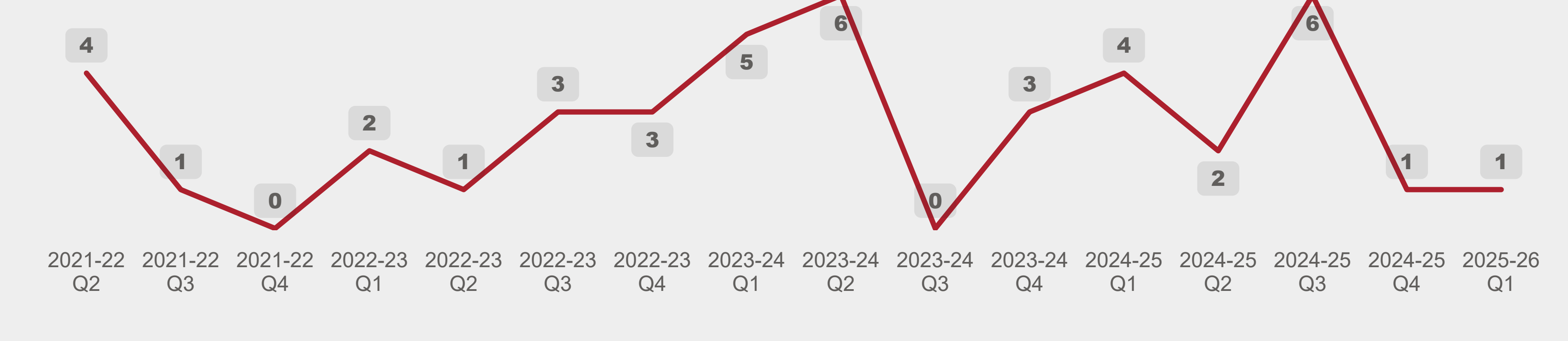
Non-Domestic Fires



Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals



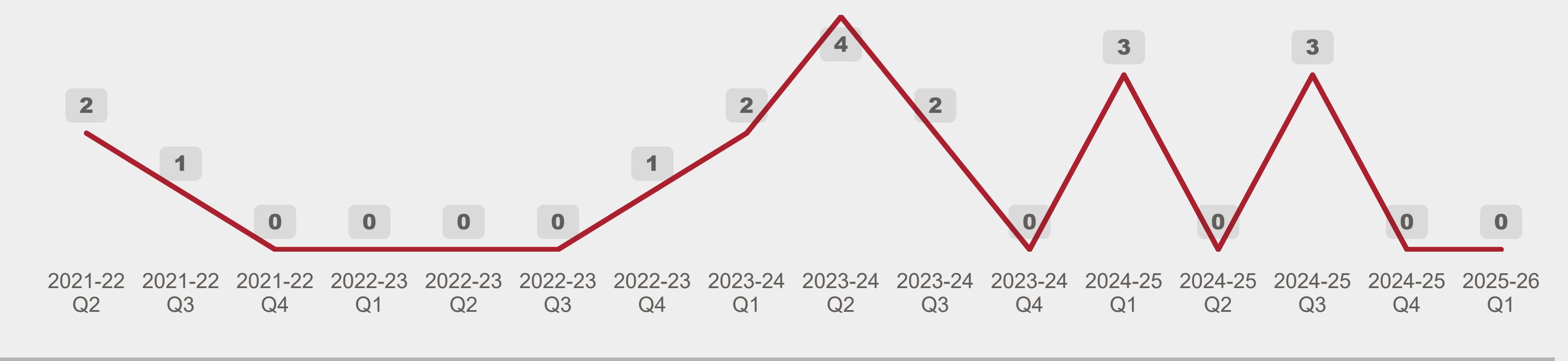
Road Traffic Collisions



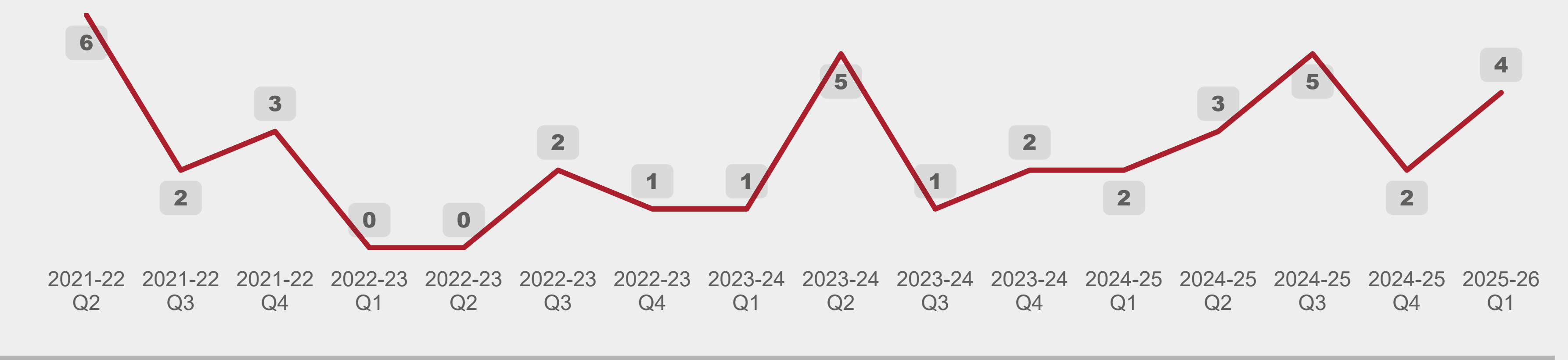
2. Trends

Previous 16 quarters (4 years)

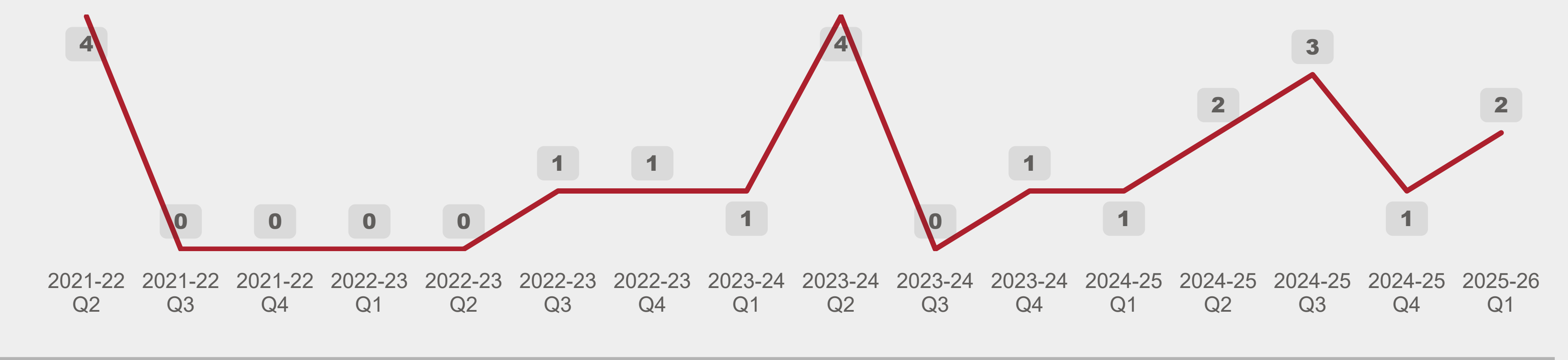
Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties



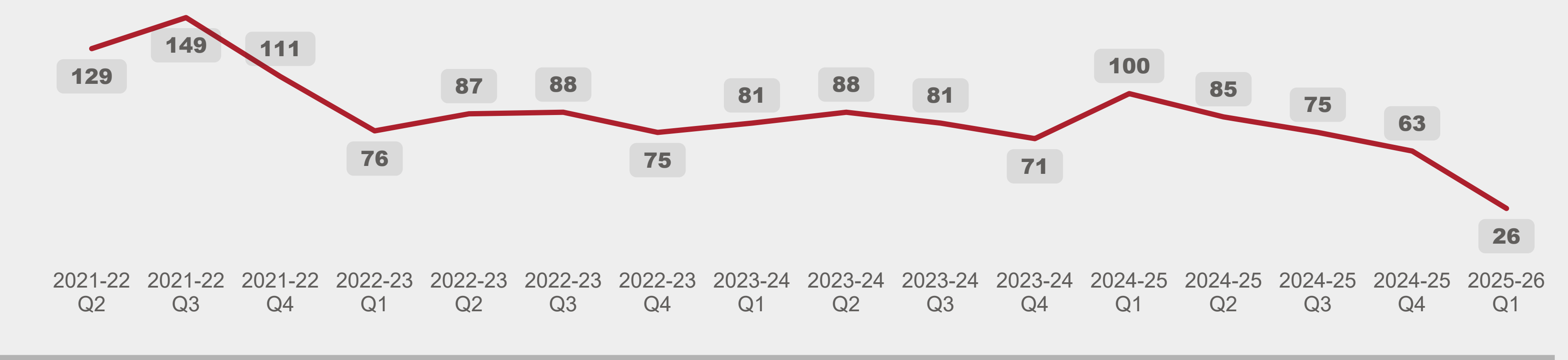
Non-Fire Casualties



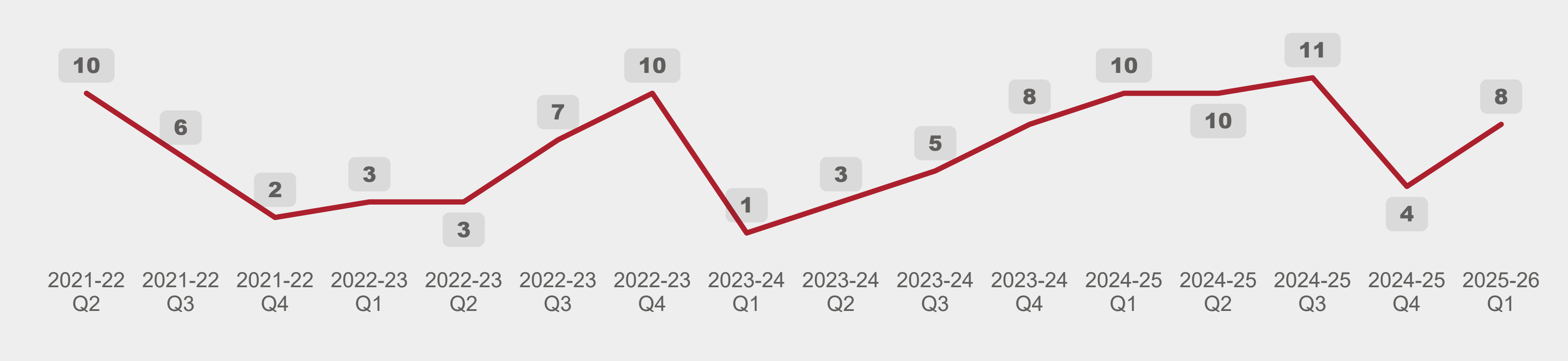
Road Traffic Collision Casualties



Home Fire Safety Visits



Fire Safety Audits



Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Extent of Damage	Incidents
Limited to item 1st ignited	12
Limited to room of origin	6
Not applicable	6
Limited to floor of origin (not whole building)	1
Whole building	1

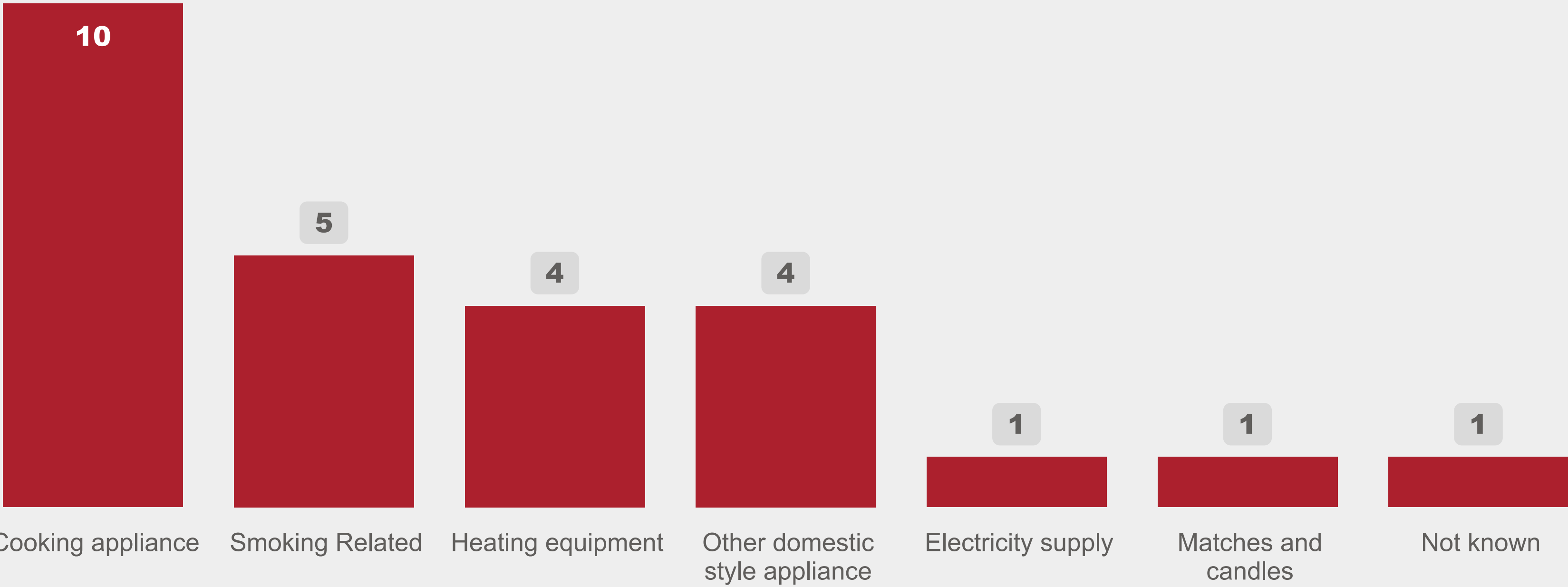
Incidents by Ward



26

Accidental Dwelling Fires in this period

Source of Ignition (Top 10)



TOTAL: 26 incidents. 10 incidents were caused by cooking appliances, 5 by smoking related, 4 by heating equipment, 4 by other domestic style appliances, 1 by electricity supply, 1 by matches and candles, and 1 not known.

Of the 10 incidents caused by cooking appliances, 6 were caused by gas cookers, 3 by electric cookers, and 1 by a portable electric heater. Of the 5 incidents caused by smoking related, 3 were caused by cigarettes, 1 by a candle, and 1 by a heater. Of the 4 incidents caused by heating equipment, 2 were caused by radiators, 1 by a heater, and 1 by a fire. Of the 4 incidents caused by other domestic style appliances, 2 were caused by kettles, 1 by a toaster, and 1 by a coffee machine. Of the 1 incident caused by electricity supply, it was caused by a faulty plug. Of the 1 incident caused by matches and candles, it was caused by a candle. Of the 1 incident not known, it was caused by a heater.

4. Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties

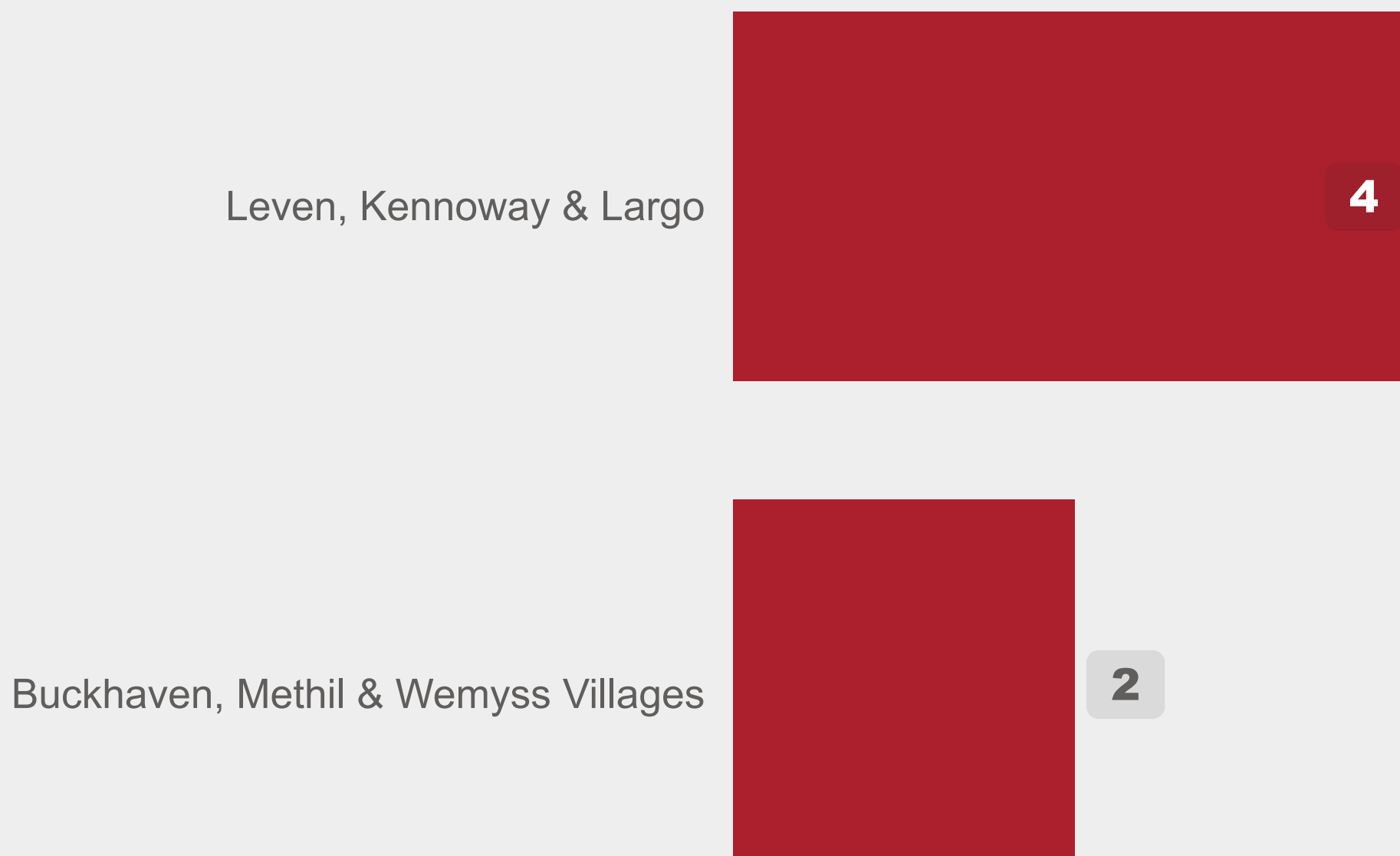
2024-25

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Nature of Injury/Cause of Death	Casualties
Overcome by gas, smoke or toxic fumes; asphyxiation	5
Combination of burns and overcome by gas/smoke	1

Casualties by Ward



5

Non-Fatal Casualties

1

Fatal Casualties

4

People Rescued by Firefighters

Extent of Harm (Non-Fatal)



2

First Aid Given at Scene



3

Hospital Slight Injuries



0

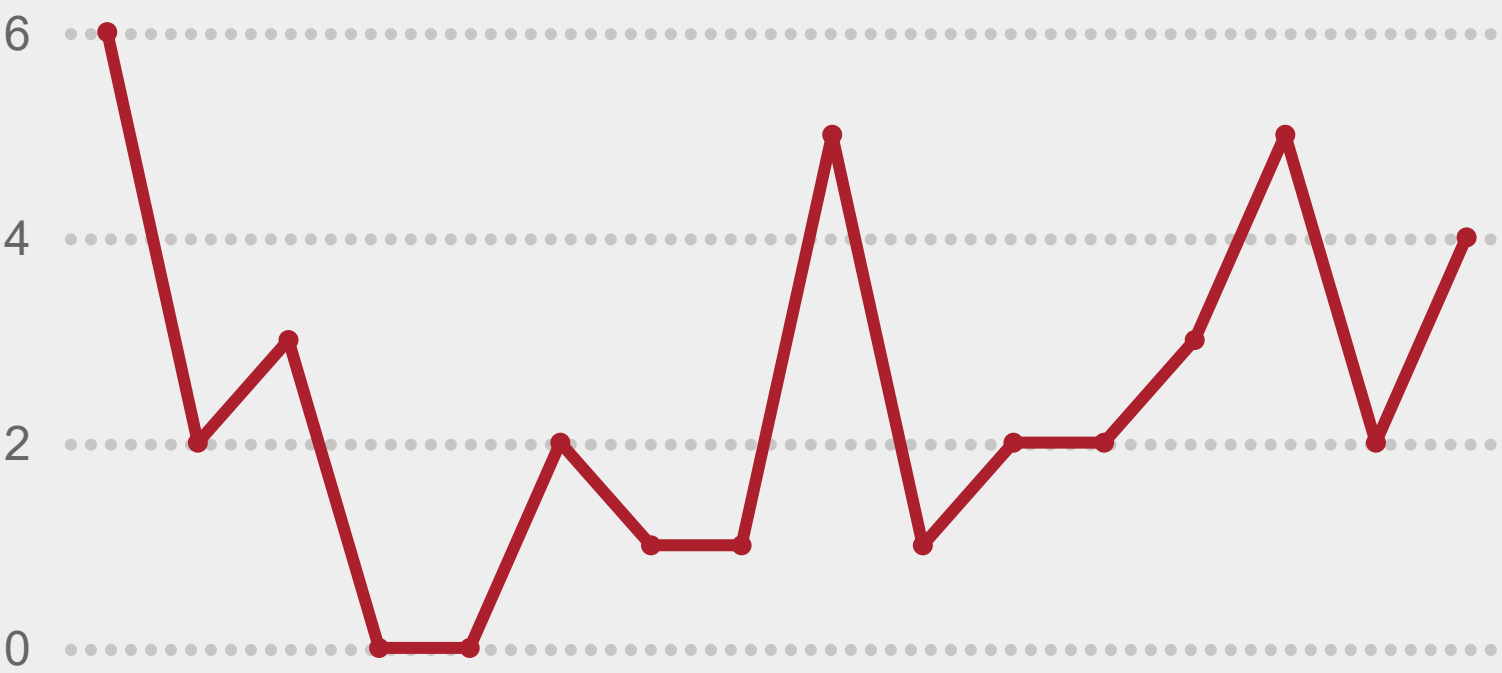
Hospital Serious Injuries

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5. Non-Fire Casualties

2024-25

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Casualties by Ward

Buckhaven, Methil & Wemyss Villa...

8

Leven, Kennoway & Largo

4

11
Non-Fatal
Casualties

1
Fatal
Casualties

32
People
Rescued by
Firefighters

Extent of Harm
(Non-Fatal)



0

First Aid Given
at Scene



8

Hospital Slight
Injuries



3

Hospital Serious
Injuries

Report generated on 21/08/25

6. Deliberate Fires

2024-25

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Incidents by Ward

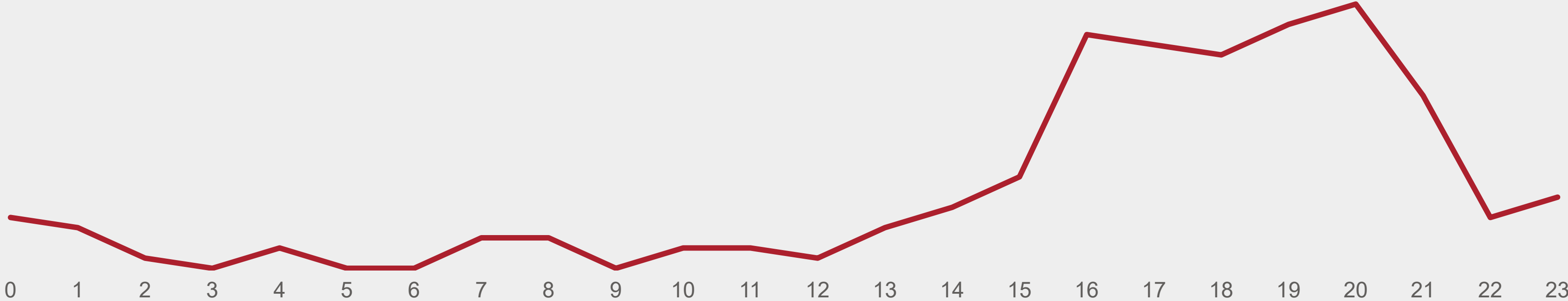


Property Type	Incident
Refuse	80
Grassland, woodland and crops	70
Other outdoors (including land)	16
Dwelling	7
Road Vehicle	7
Non Residential	3
Outdoor structures	3
Outdoor equipment and machinery	1

187

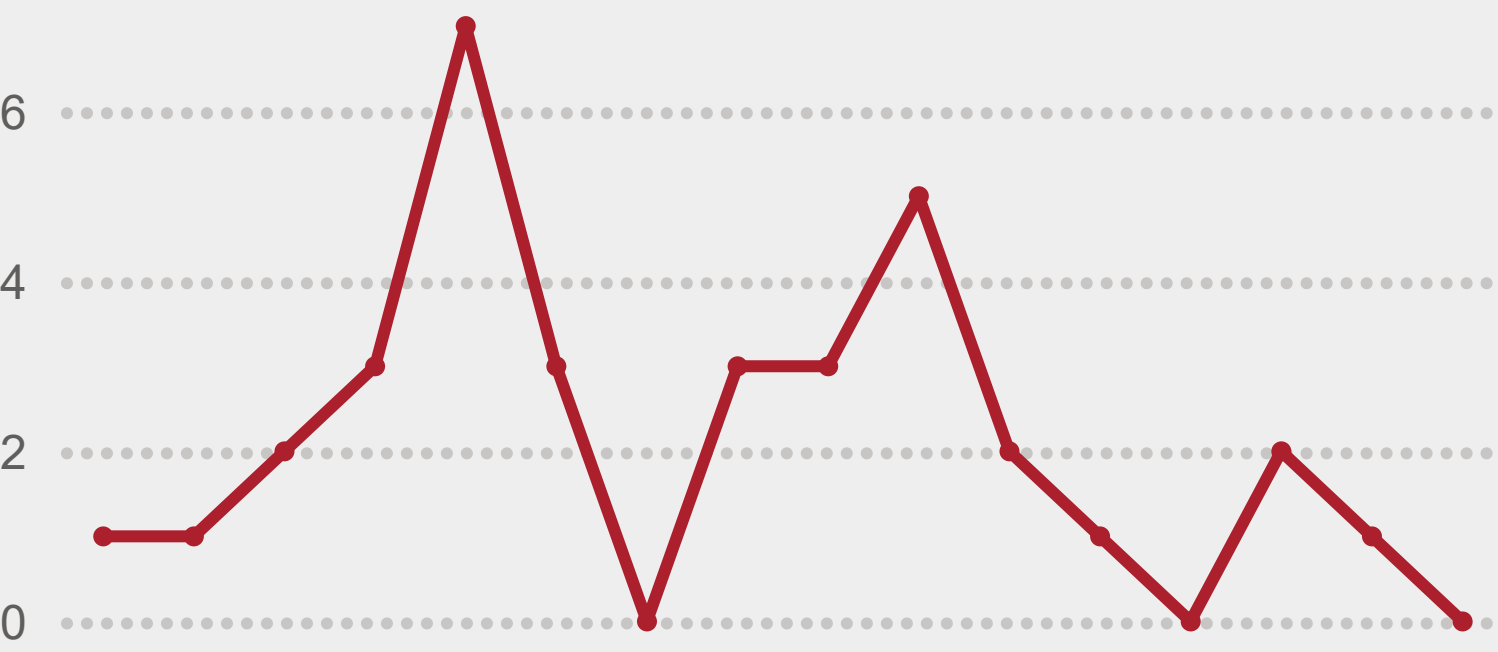
Deliberate Fires in this period

Hour of Day



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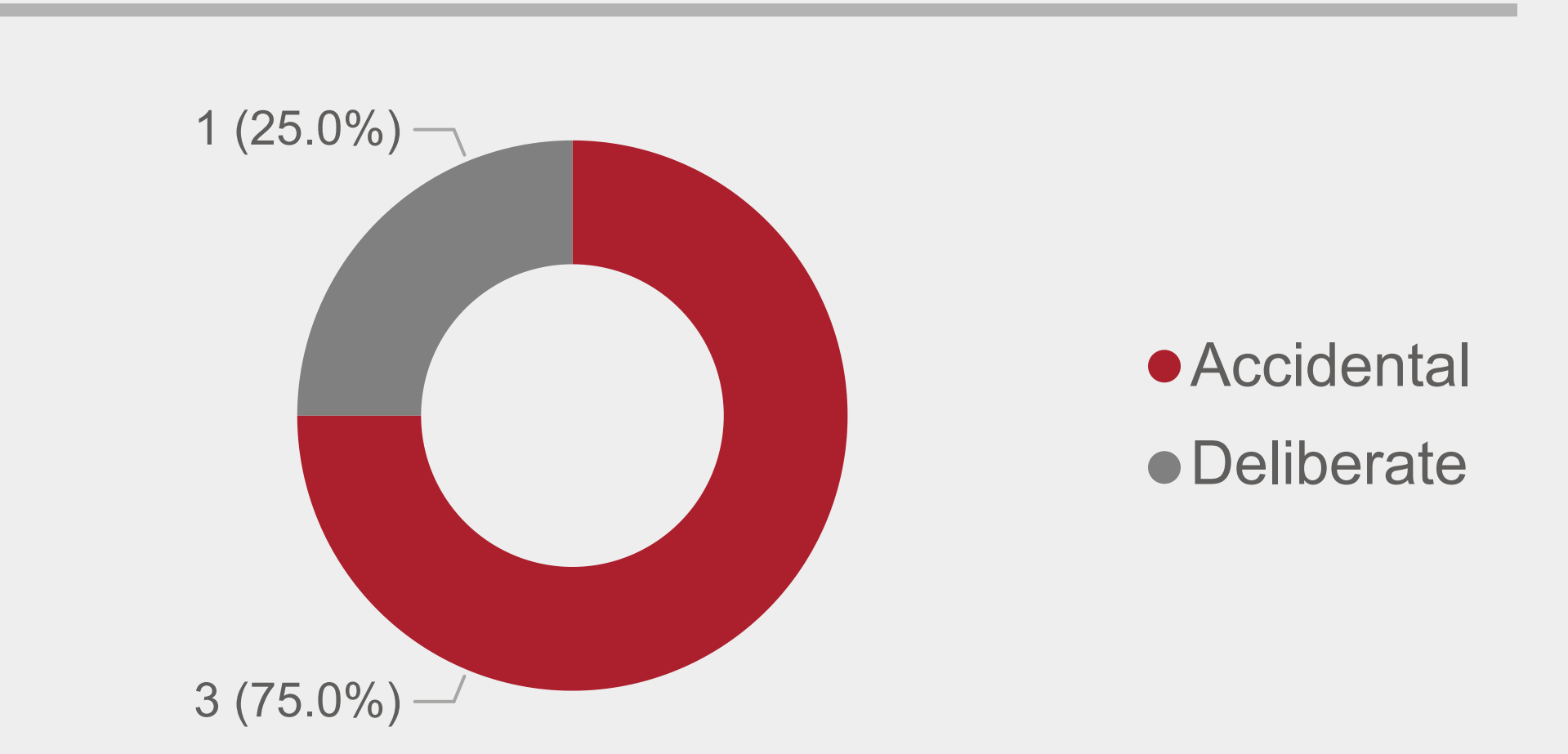
Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Top 15 Property Types

Property Type	Incidents
Food and Drink	2
Sheltered Housing - not self contained	1
Vehicle Repair	1

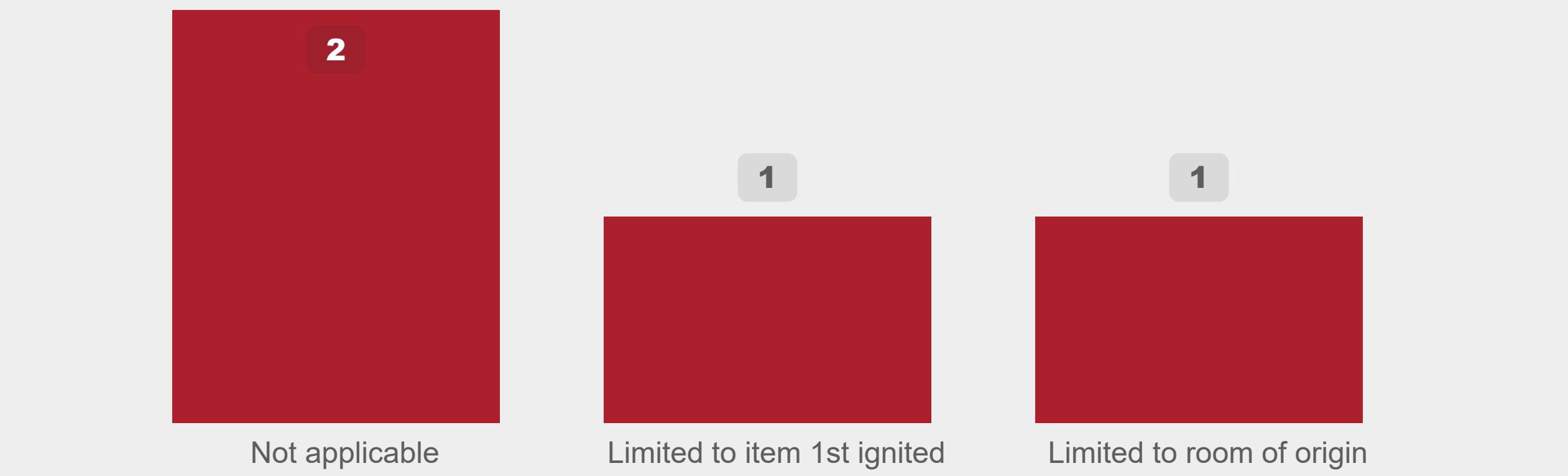
Incidents by Ward



4

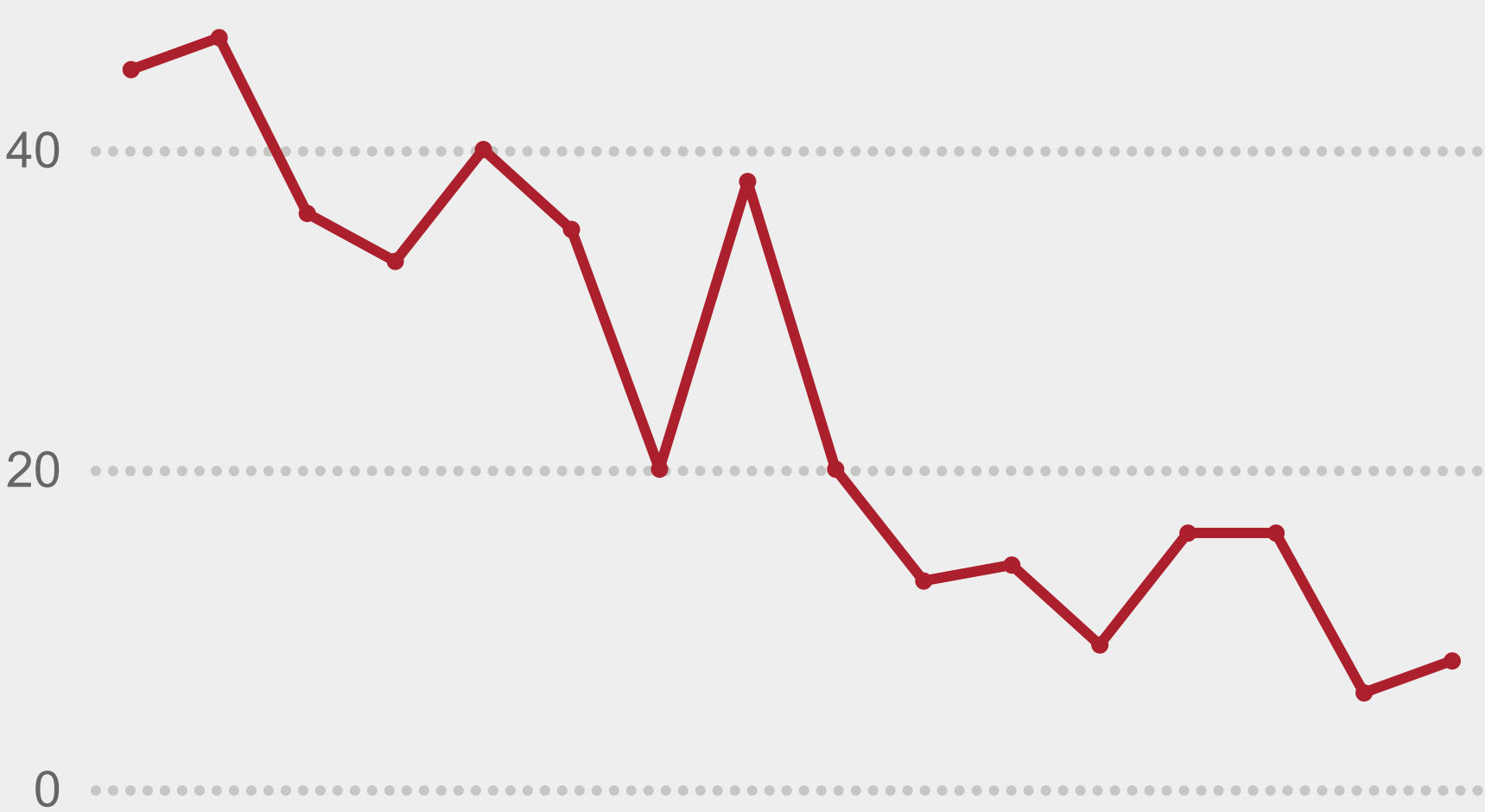
Non-Domestic Fires in this period

Extent of Damage

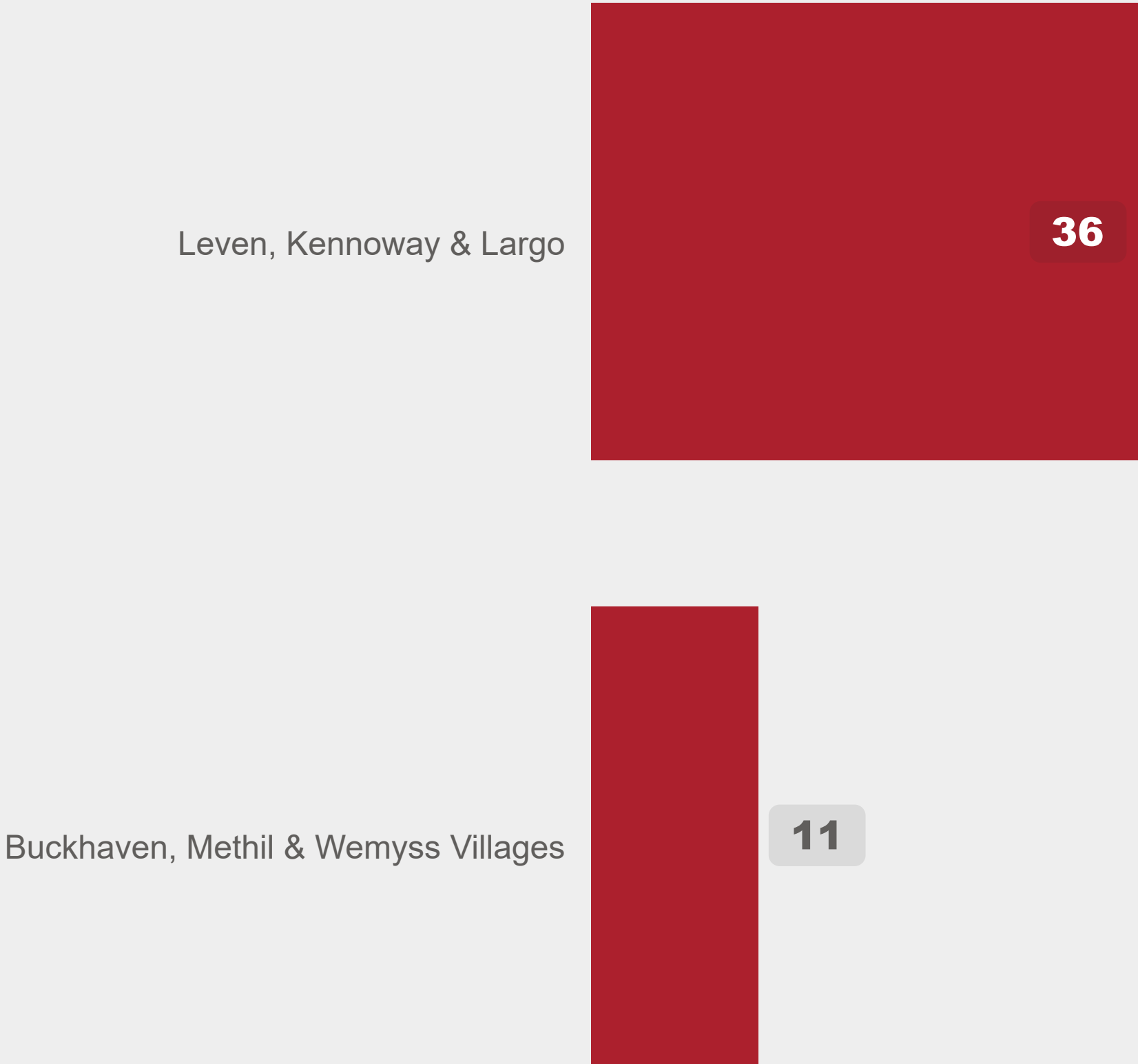


Q1 Year 1: 1, Q2 Year 1: 1, Q3 Year 1: 2, Q4 Year 1: 3, Q1 Year 2: 7, Q2 Year 2: 3, Q3 Year 2: 0, Q4 Year 2: 3, Q1 Year 3: 3, Q2 Year 3: 5, Q3 Year 3: 2, Q4 Year 3: 1, Q1 Year 4: 0, Q2 Year 4: 2, Q3 Year 4: 1, Q4 Year 4: 0

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Incidents by Ward



Top 15 Property Types

Property Type	Incidents
Residential Home	25
Hospitals and medical care	14
Sheltered Housing - not self contained	3
Education	2
Retail	2
Industrial Processing	1

47

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals in this period

Over the last 4 years, we have seen a reduction of 38 UFAS incidents attended since the previous reporting year. This is a significant reduction and we are pleased to see that the number of incidents has decreased. We will continue to work with our partners to reduce the number of incidents further.

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Trend by Quarter (4 years)



13

Road Traffic Collisions in this period

Property Type	Incidents
Car	12
Van	1

Incident Type	Incidents
Vehicle (Non-fire)	12
Inter-Agency	1

Incidents by Ward



7

Non-Fatal Casualties

0

Fatal Casualties

5

People Rescued by Firefighters

Extent of Harm (Non-Fatal)

0

First Aid Given at Scene

6

Hospital Slight Injuries

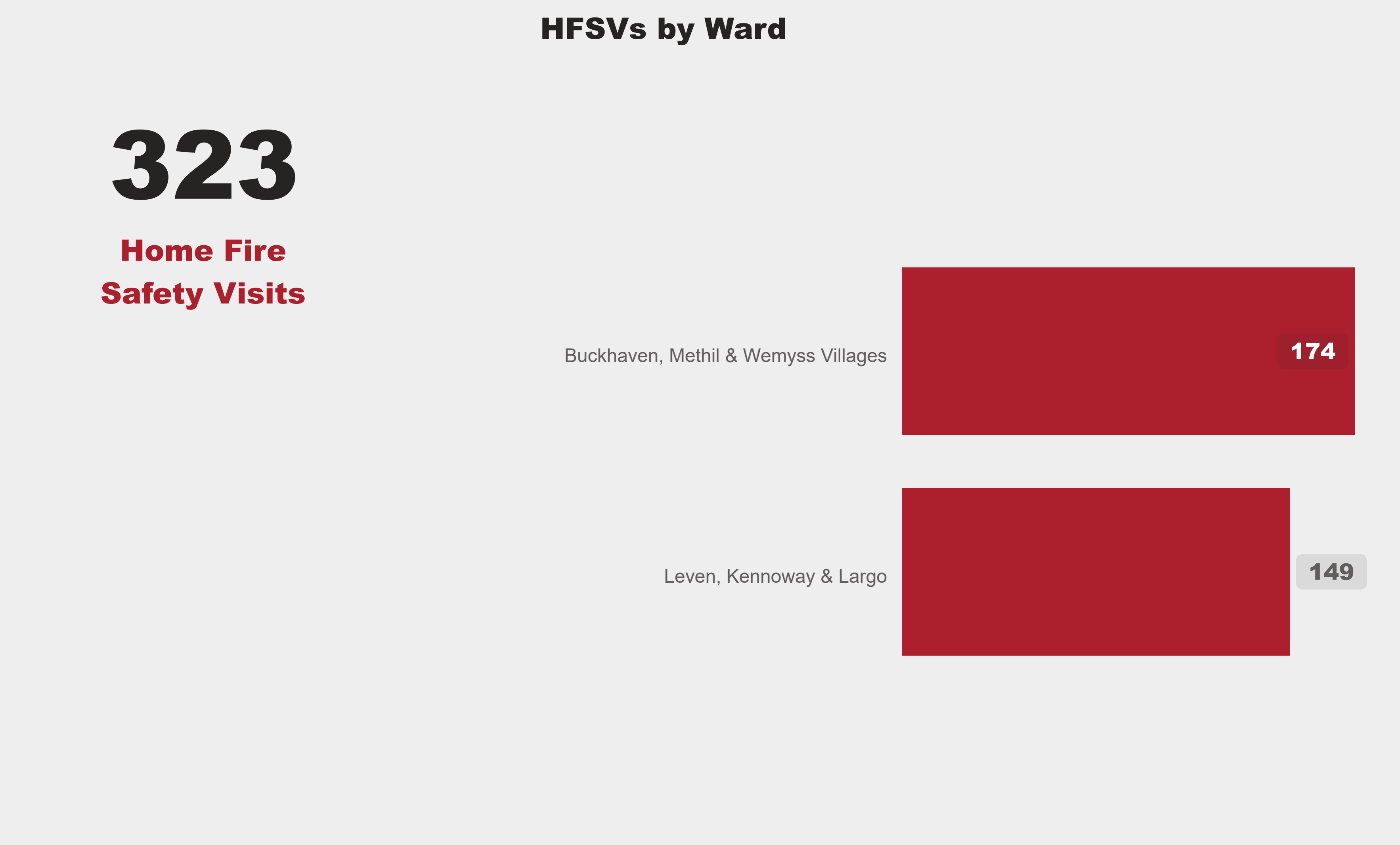
1

Hospital Serious Injuries

As SFRS generally only attend RTC’s of a serious nature, where persons are trapped, the figures do not capture every RTC which occurs within Levenmouth.

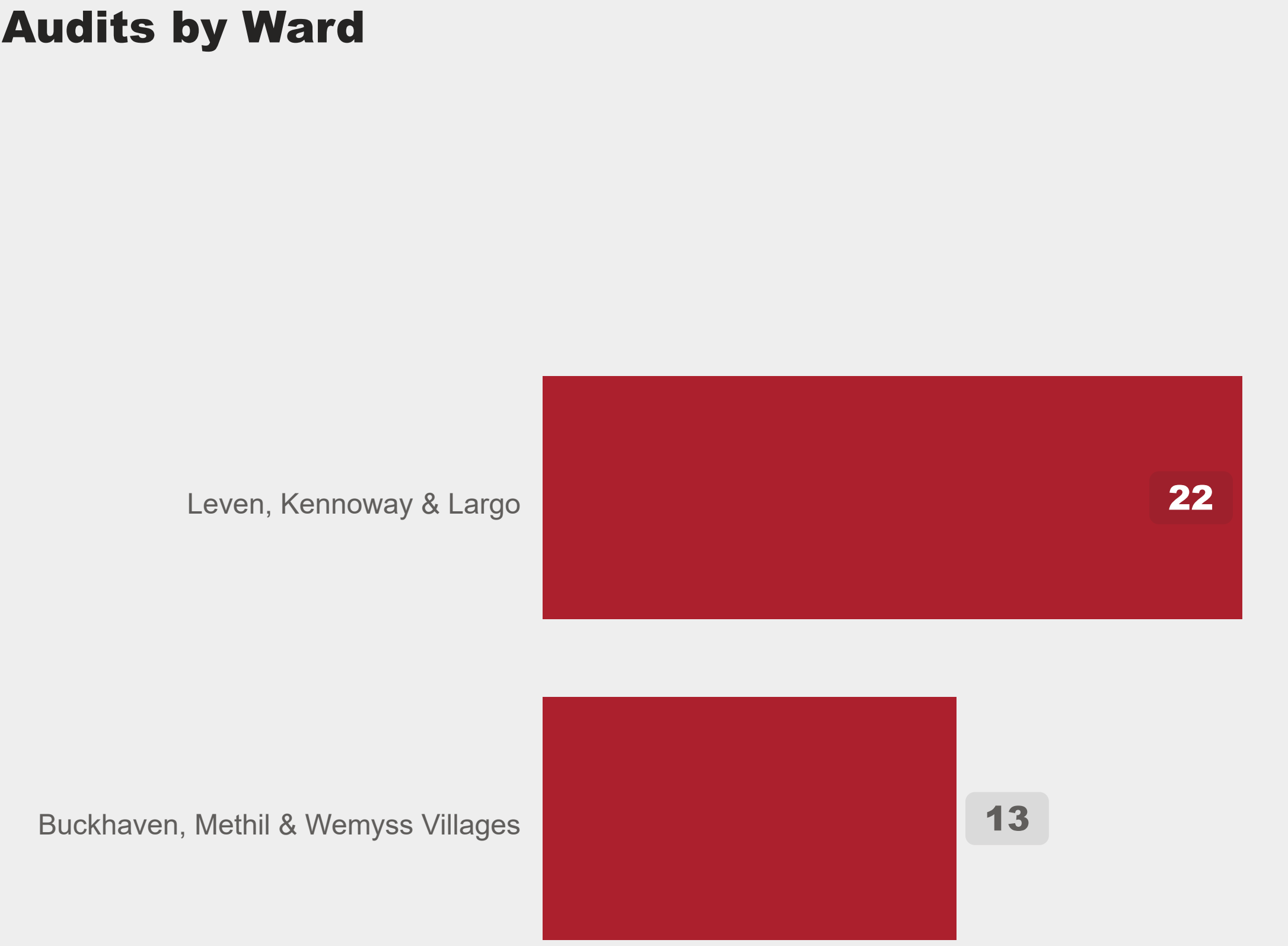
We have seen a reduction of 1 RTC since the previous reporting period.

SFRS are working with partners on Road safety initiatives and casualty reduction strategies.



11. Fire Safety Enforcement

Job Type	Count
Audit	35
Consultation	24
Specific Visit	3



To support Community Safety and ensure people stay safe in their own homes, the SFRS continues to carry out their Home Fire Safety Visit Programme, specifically targeting those deemed as High Risk.

Our Legislative Fire Safety Enforcement Officers carried out 455 audits within relevant premises within the Fife Council area.

Figures for Fife Local Authority Area:

Home Fire Safety Visit Programme.

The SFRS carried on with our Home Fire Safety visit programme within the Fife Council area, visiting 744 high risk premises. This year also saw the introduction of a new home Fire Safety Visit App that will allow us to target HFSV’s to those most at risk and allow us to refer onwards to partner organisations in a more streamlined manner. Numbers include:

Total Completed 1900 (744 high risk)
Adult Protection (AP1) Referrals 147

Anti-Social Behaviour ASB and Bonfire Safety.

Ten talks to over 600 young people carried out by the Community Action Team. Some large events and some smaller more targeted events in problem areas across a range of schools and youth groups. Additionally, schools were given information for their digital boards and presentations for their own use to support delivery of ASB information and reduction initiatives.

Partnership Training.

Locally we carried out twenty partnership training sessions on risk recognition and referring into SFRS. Groups we worked with included NHS, Social work and education groups. In total 360 people received training.

Youth Volunteer Scheme.

This course has continued at Methil Community Fire Station over the year. As a national course the YVS aims to provide a safe, welcoming and enjoyable environment for young people to learn and work together.

Water Safety and Water Safety School Talks.

SFRS attended a number of events to promote water safety. These included joint patrols with Police Scotland and engaging with the public at problem areas to reassure and educate the public. Also, six talks carried out at Schools in the area to approx. 785 young people ahead of the summer holidays.

13. Glossary of Terms

Term - What it means

ADF

Accidental Dwelling Fire.

HFSV

Home Fire Safety Visit.

PDIR

Post Domestic Incident Response, a term used to indicate actions taken following attendance at a fire or other incident in the home. PDIRs include amongst things the offer of a free follow up home fire safety visit.

RTC

Road Traffic Collision.

Special Service

Calls to incidents which are not fires or false alarms such as RTCs, rescues, flooding, incidents involving hazardous materials or the provision of assistance to other agencies.

UFAS

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals. When an automatic fire detection and alarm system is activated as a result of anything other than an actual fire the activation is classed as a false alarm. If an attendance is made to such an event by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, then the event is recorded as an UFAS incident.

UFAS Policy Change

In response to COVID, on the 6th May 2020, the SFRS decided to send 1 pump to UFAS premises that did not have their own Predetermined attendance (PDA).

As of 1st July 2023, the COVID interim 1 pump response was ended and a new UFAS policy was implemented.

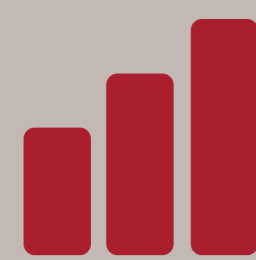
The new policy is to call challenge all UFAS incidents with the intention of non-attendance. Hospitals, care homes, and sleeping risk premises are all exempt and receive either 2 pumps or their premise specific PDA.



SCOTTISH

FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

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BUSINESS
INTELLIGENCE

Design, figures and charts by the Business Intelligence team.

1 October 2025

Agenda Item No. 5



Operational and Community Briefing on Policing Activities within Levenmouth

Report by: Chief Inspector Craig Fraser, Local Area Commander Levenmouth

Wards Affected: Ward 21 – Leven, Kennoway and Largo and Ward 22 – Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages.

Purpose

This report provides Elected Members with information on matters impacting on or involving Police Scotland, which have relevance to community safety in the Levenmouth Policing Area.

Recommendation

Elected Members are asked to consider and comment upon the update provided and support Police Scotland moving forward in addressing priorities.

Resource Implications

There are no additional resource implications arising from the activity outlined in this report.

Legal & Risk Implications

There are no identified legal or risk implications.

Impact Assessment

An Equalities Impact Assessment is not required because the report does not propose a change or revision to existing policies and practices.

Consultation

Consultation is an ongoing process with Elected Members, local communities and key stakeholders through Community meetings and partner agencies through established meeting processes.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 This report provides members with an update of the performance with regards to the priorities in Levenmouth, campaigns and other initiatives, from **1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025**. All police activity highlighted in this report was undertaken in line with local and national objectives and in support of other organisational priorities within the Levenmouth policing area. This report can be read further in conjunction with the Local Authority Scrutiny Board report. Any data that is provided is from locally sourced information and has not been ratified by Police Scotland analysts.

2.0 Levenmouth Local Area Policing Plan - Updates

- 2.1 The Fife 'P Division' Local Policing Plan 2023-26 demonstrates Police Scotland's commitment to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of the people and communities of Fife. It confirms how we will address the Policing priorities, based on threat and risk, whilst delivering on public concerns raised via the 'Your Police' survey. The Fife Police Plan demonstrates the commitment of local policing to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of the people and communities of Fife.

More information on the Policing Plan can be found at [Fife Policing Plan](#)

- Antisocial Behaviour
- Violent Crime
- Substance Misuse
- Road Safety
- Protecting People at Risk of Harm

- 2.2 The Levenmouth Area Plan ensures that whilst we take cognisance of the divisional priorities highlighted in the Fife Division Local Policing Plan 2023 - 2026 we address, by implementing a bespoke approach, the specific needs and concerns of local communities in Levenmouth and avoid a focus on a standardised approach – which could be to the detriment of the area.

2.3 In addition, Policing in 2023 – 2024 in Levenmouth was subject to a review of public confidence, led by the Scottish Police Authority, who were completing a 9-month survey into community confidence. At the outset, the project looked at the community engagement model that is in place and liaised with the local community through survey and open days to identify any area where improvements could be achieved. In the following 6-month Period, supplementary community engagement took place in Levenmouth, with the objective of complimenting the already established community engagement that is in place in Levenmouth. At the completion of the project, the SPA concluded that the engagement infrastructure and partnership in place was exceptional however assisted with recommendations to build on the success moving forward. These recommendations around enhanced engagement are now in place.

2.4 **Improving Levenmouth Together**

2.5 Following the successes of the Improving Levenmouth Together multi-agency programme over the last 6 years, the project has evolved to a 12-month full time position. Initially the project covered a period of April to October inclusive, with a focus primarily on enforcement, however the 12-month approach allows an attention to longer term engagement as well as remaining robust on the illegal use of motor/quad bikes, on-road offending, anti-social behaviour in public places and the setting of small (secondary) fires.

2.6 The funded officers remained dedicated to anti-social behaviour and despite the continued operational challenges, have continued to produce outstanding results.

2.7 As with the previous years since its inception, the Improving Levenmouth Together programme led to a reduction in the number of youths congregating and drinking alcohol in public places, repeated thefts of commercial and domestic bins, which were subsequently set on fire, and acts of criminal damage and threats towards those wishing to protect their property.

2.8 Whilst there remains a reduction in the number of calls to Police Scotland, relating to the illegal use of motor/quad bikes, alcohol consumption in public places and the

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setting of small (secondary) fires, the focus remains on continuing to reduce the number of calls through enforcement, prevention, and diversion activities.

- 2.9 Police Scotland are working with partners to introduce meaningful diversion opportunities, with a multi-agency approach to developing safe places for our young people to use, both indoors and outdoors, with the “right time – right place” environments and resources to thrive.



- 2.10 Improving Levenmouth Together comprises of a collaboration with a number of partners, including;

- Police Scotland
- Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
- Fife Council Local Area Elected Members
- Fife Council Safer Communities Team
- Fife Council Housing
- Fife Council Traffic Management
- Fife Council - Parks, Streets and Open Places.
- Fife Council – CLD
- Fifers for the Community
- Local Housing Associations
- Community Education
- Education – Levenmouth Academy
- Community Trade Hub
- Kingdom Off Road Motorcycle Club
- Clued Up
- Barnardos
- Active Fife
- DAPL

2.11 From the start of April 2024, following the supported funding application by the Local Area Committee, Police had a dedicated team in place, carrying out high visibility and plain clothed deployments across all communities in both Wards 21 and 22. Police Scotland matched this investment, with an officer made available to have two constables dedicated to ASB in Levenmouth. Funding was agreed for this provision over the next 3 years.

2.12 Performance / Outcomes

Raw data below provides an overview of current calls to the Police by comparison to the same periods in 2018 through to 2024 inclusive. Despite a slight rise in 2022 / 2023, after 3 years of decrease, there has been a reduction of 31 calls in comparison to last year, which equates to a 93% reduction in motorbike related calls in total since the implementation of Improving Levenmouth Together. A significant decrease in anti-social use of motorbikes and quads.

Motor / Quad Bike Calls (Police figures)

2018 / 2019	891
2019 / 2020	354
2020 / 2021	217
2021 / 2022	85
2022 / 2023	175
2023 / 2024	94
2024 / 2025	63

- By maintaining the attention on ASB in 2024/25 we were able to reduce the number of calls relating to motor bike ASB to the lowest number in the last 8 years and will remain committed to achieving these levels moving forwards through 2025. There

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has been a reduction of 31 calls in comparison to last year, which equates to a 93% reduction in in total since the implementation of Improving Levenmouth Together.

The slight rise in 2022/23 highlights the requirement to continue to focus on the ASB issue and partnership approach to build on the success already achieved.

Fire Calls (Police figures)

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	TOTAL
2018/19	22	14	22	33	20	16	28	20	30	15	20	16	256
2019/20	33	12	13	12	19	15	11	9	11	14	10	16	175
2020/21	16	12	7	11	6	5	9	11	12	5	5	15	114
2021/22	28	9	11	21	2	14	5	11	10	9	13	31	164
2022/23	23	30	23	24	25	18	8	6	5	13	33	20	228
2023/24	27	14	25	11	7	11	12	6	6	8	2	8	137
2024/25	2	5	4	9	8	19	17	14	1	5	7	10	101

- During 2024 there was a reduction in deliberate Fires reported to police with 26% fewer deliberate fires than in 2023/24.
- These figures represent a 71% reduction on the pre-ILT numbers.
- The introduction of partnership working with Safer Communities, Fife Council, The Fire Service and Police has ensured a more robust reporting of derelict buildings in Levenmouth that could be vulnerable to wilful fire-raising to ensure they are suitably secured. In addition, an education package was designed and implemented by Safer Communities with our support at Levenmouth Academy to educate the young people in the area around the dangers and consequences relating to deliberate fire setting.

2.13 Over the course of the 2023/24 Improving Levenmouth Together programme, attributed directly to the funded post, the following enforcement results were achieved;

- **116** people charged in connection with Anti-social behaviour and Road Traffic offences.
- **8** people under 16 identified and charged for disorder in Leven Town Centre which had gathered media attention.
- Use of national resources, including the drone unit and off road motorbike team have resulted in the seizure of illegal Motorbikes and Quads as well as raising awareness of our commitment locally to tackling this issue.
- **12** people arrested on apprehension warrants.

2.14 Improving Levenmouth Together continues to establish itself as a sustainable partnership through 2024-2025 with partners continuing to engage and commit to the aims and objectives. The officer selected to lead is supported by another officer and has more of a focus on prevention and intervention rather than the punitive approach of previous years. There has also been added strands of tackling drug and alcohol misuse, helping to improve the mental health provision in Levenmouth and additional work with primary school aged Children. The partnership will support communities and fulfil the overarching aim to support the wellbeing of the people in Levenmouth. The project has been acclaimed nationally, with various Police Forces across the United Kingdom looking to implement a similar project tailored to their area.

Serious and Violent Crime – Area Overview

2.15 Serious and violent crime remains a priority for Police Scotland. In Levenmouth, there is a commitment to robustly respond to any reports of this nature and bring offenders to justice. The detection rate remains consistently high for these types of crimes which is a clear result of Local Policing and Crime Management working closely together to ensure enquiries are progressed and the best possible service provided to members of the local community.

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The prevention, investigation and detection of all forms of violence remains a focus. During the reporting period the volume of serious assaults was similar to the previous year, with Fife having one of the best detection rates in the country (76%). Nationally detection sits at 68%.

Our local Violence Reduction and Antisocial behaviour action plan continues to be successful in disrupting, deterring, and detecting anti-social behaviour and violent crime. With a focus on prevention and enforcement, emphasis is placed on:

- Management of violent offenders by robustly dealing with bail conditions
- Reduction of violent crime by targeting violent individuals wanted on warrant
- Disruption of ASB and youth disorder through patrols of 'hot spot areas'
- Management of licenced premises through pro-active visits

In addition to the above, Levenmouth and North East Fife area experienced a rise in high value vehicle crime at the end of 2022 and beginning of 2023. Vehicle criminality is an evolving focus for Police Scotland with organised criminals having access to software where they can clone the keys for high value vehicles by connecting to the keys using a laptop and stealing the signal of the keys, to allow access to and ability to start the vehicle. They are then able to drive off without the physical key. In addition, there has been an increase in the number of housebreakings where the keys to high value vehicles are obtained and thereafter the vehicle is stolen. Partnership work with various departments within Police Scotland, including the Proactive Team, CID and local policing have been utilised to tackle this evolving trend, which is not exclusive to Fife however there has already been various offenders from Levenmouth arrested, charged and in prison in connection with these offences.

Protecting victims of domestic crimes and violence within relationships remain a key priority for Police Scotland. Domestic incidents are reviewed daily by the East Local Area Command Team. Locally they are robustly managed and prioritised, focusing on apprehending offenders and supporting/protecting victims and witnesses. We work closely with the Fife's public protection unit (PPU) and partner agencies both locally and nationally.

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The Domestic Abuse Investigations Unit, part of the PPU, is dedicated to protecting victims of domestic abuse. This team investigates incidents, including but not limited to serious and sexual offences, coercive and controlling behaviours and honour-based violence.

High-risk cases are discussed at MARAC (Multi-agency Risk Assessment Conferences), where we work closely with partners to support victims, assess risk, and take swift and appropriate action. Our Detective constables are specially trained, and trauma informed.

Nationally we work with Our Domestic Abuse Task Forces to ensure the most serious offenders are targeted and brought to justice.

Road Safety and Road Crime – Area Overview

- 2.16 We are working closely with P Division Road Policing to deliver on the prevention and enforcement strategy to aid road safety.

We fully support local and national initiatives to reduce road crime and road casualties. Education remains at the heart of our prevention strategy, and we support this with positive engagement with groups from nursery age upwards.

Our road safety initiative 'Bannerman' has been delivered to local primary schools to promote safe travel and parking around our schools. This is a project involves the pupils designing banners for their schools promoting driving safely and parking responsibly to empower parents and guardians to listen to the advice. This has been delivered by Area Ward Officers. Additionally, there have been safety inputs within classrooms and working with the children outside to demonstrate our speed camera equipment. Further collaborative work continues in respect to the Safer Routes to / from schools and the encouragement to develop the role of Junior Road Safety Officers (JRSO's).

We review information and intelligence daily and ensure targeted speed site deployments, supplemented where necessary by the use of 'Pop up Bob' and 'Pop up

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Bairns'. In addition, we receive support for our colleagues in Road Policing, and the Safety Camera Partnership.

Stop Points are also regularly conducted, often later at night and in the early hours to deter and detect travelling criminals involved in crimes of dishonesty. These are often coordinated across Fife and intelligence led.

Information and intelligence is received from a variety of sources in respect to individual's intent on using our roads to support the commission of crime or in circumstances where their use of vehicles infringes upon road traffic legislation. Such information and/or intelligence is assessed and action taken where it is deemed proportionate, legal and necessary.



Misuse of Drugs / Alcohol Abuse – Area Overview

2.17 Tackling the misuse of alcohol and drugs remains a priority in Levenmouth. Our prevention strategy remains focussed on working with our partners and signposting individuals to supporting services.

Drugs misuse and dealing are fundamentally linked to crimes violence and disorder. During the review period Methil and Buckhaven areas were highlighted as hot spots. Intelligence led and targeted patrols of hotspot areas, utilising regular high-visibility deployments and strategic use of stop and search powers, have been used to deter drugs possession and supply.

Partnership working and problem orientated planning have been utilised to great effect in the Levenmouth area. Local Community and Community Investigation Unit officers of Police Scotland worked with partner agencies including Fife Council housing, Scottish Government, Fife Council Safer communities, Police Scotland's PSYV and Crimestoppers to tackle ongoing issues with violence and drugs misuse. Enforcement activity is supported by the invaluable information we receive from our partners and members of our communities. This allows us to continue to detect, disrupt and deter such activities.

Through engagement with DAPL and Clued Up, there is a desire from Police Scotland to look at prevention of young people and adults engaging in drug and alcohol abuse. Enhanced partnership working and signposting to support agencies, will provide those affected by drug and alcohol abuse, with a wraparound service.

3.0 Ward 21 – Leven, Kennoway and Largo and Ward 22 Methil, Buckhaven, Wemyss.

With the implementation of Improving Levenmouth Together, there is a more collaborative approach to both wards combined. The following is a summary of crime trends and our actions to tackle the issues.

3.1 Ward Crime Update

The following outlines an update on crime during the review period, excluding sexual and domestic crimes.

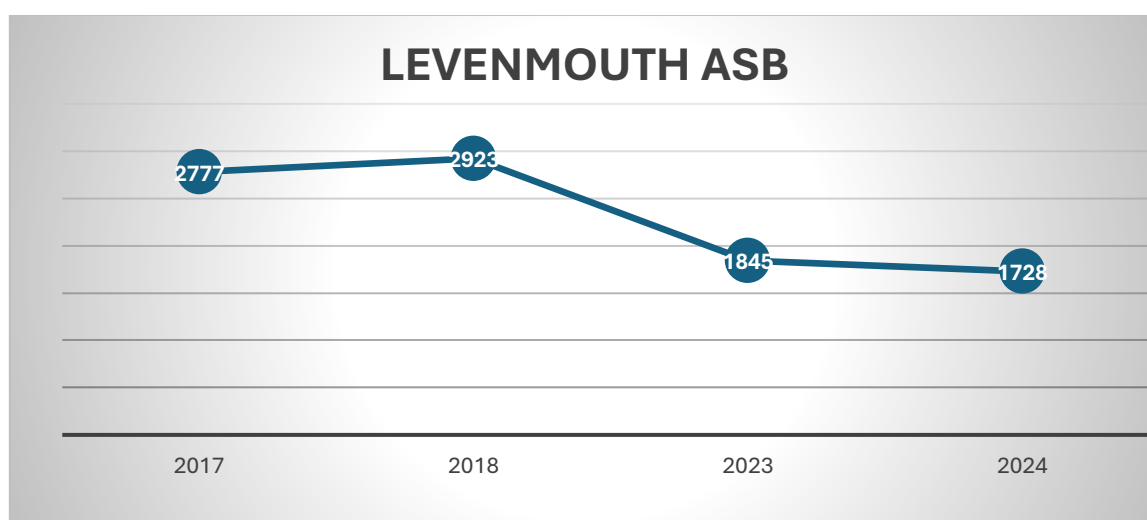
3.2 Anti-Social Behaviour

Antisocial behaviour remains a priority for Police Scotland, P Division (Fife) and Levenmouth. Our focus is on prevention and enforcement when criminality is reported.

Through the focus of the Improving Levenmouth Together enforcement and prevention teams, there has been notable success in dealing with offenders and putting measures in place (e.g. bail / undertaking conditions) to prevent these persons from committing further criminality.

The focus remains on preventing antisocial behaviour, motorbikes and wilful fire-raising through the Improving Levenmouth Together programme and partnership working with the Community Trade Hub, Fife Council, Education, Active Fife and Kingdom Off-Road Motorbike group.

- Prior to Improving Levenmouth Together, the total number of ASB related calls were significantly higher, with 2777 in 2017 and 2923 in 2018. This has reduced by 41%, with number of calls being 1728 for the review period. The decrease is demonstrated in the graph below.



3.3 Assault and Violent Crime

Assault and violent crime by its very nature can be difficult to proactively target, particularly in residential properties, however by maximising the opportunity to be in the right place at the right time through high visibility patrols and intelligence led Policing we can minimise the impact. In public spaces we have now implemented rapid deployment cameras which has proven effective in the prevention as well as the detection of crime. By deploying CCTV in key strategic areas, the ability to quickly and robustly investigate and detect crime is enhanced. Our focus remains to improve on the perception of crime and make those in our communities not only feel confident to report criminality but feel safer in their local areas in the first instance.

Through regular high visibility patrols, weekend Improving Levenmouth Together deployments and joint working with Safer Communities, we continue to develop our preventative strategy towards prevention of assault and violent crime.

3.4 **Road Safety and Road Crime**

Road safety and road crime remain a priority Levenmouth.

As a local area, we have executed local road policing action plans and regularly conduct joint operations with our road policing colleagues. The long-term focus is to deploy dedicated officers to prevent and enforce road policing.

3.5 **Misuse of Drugs and Alcohol Abuse**

We are continuing to work closely with our partners to tackle misuse of drugs and alcohol abuse in the area.

Through our Improving Levenmouth Together programme, we intend on working closely with Health, Education and third sector support agencies, to promote health and wellbeing for young people in the area and tackle those turning to drug and alcohol abuse.

Through enforcement, we are providing our communities with reassurance that drug dealing will not be tolerated. The pro-active nature of our teams at Levenmouth has led to a number of positive results and persons reported to the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS). This process involves gathering information from the community and partnership working in order to collate an intelligence profile. This evidence is thereafter submitted to the sheriff in order for a decision to make on the proportionality of a search warrant for addresses/nominals suspected of being involved in the supply of illegal drugs.

An example of the success of this process was in February 2025, whereby a large-scale illegal drug operation was uncovered in Methil. Subsequently, 5 addresses were searched, and 3 persons were charged and reported in the cultivation and supply of

controlled drugs. Furthermore, in excess of 250,000 pills were seized along with specialist equipment.

Through engagement with DAPL and Clued Up, we continue to focus on prevention of young people and adults engaging in drug and alcohol abuse. Enhanced partnership working and signposting to support agencies to implement early intervention.

4.0 Working in Partnership – Updates

- 4.1 Internal and external partnership work continues with focus to support local policing plans and the priorities as detailed in the Plan For Fife, 2017-2027, under the themes of 'Thriving Places' and 'Community Led Services'.

4.2 Improving Levenmouth Together

Improving Levenmouth Together is the initiative to counter anti-social behaviour in partnership with several stakeholders and has evolved into a brand for policing in Levenmouth that is built on collaborative working, which is now being utilised as the concept for the initiatives and projects we are looking to progress. It has also gained recognition throughout the United Kingdom as a blueprint towards collaborative working to tackle various issues in our community.

Improving Levenmouth Together provides a recognisable name for the initiatives and is indicative of the aim. We have developed a number of initiatives over the last year to complement our preventative strategy.

- **Levenmouth Mental Health Initiative**

A mental health initiative was agreed between Fife Health and Social Care Partnership, SAMH, Scottish Ambulance Service, and Police Scotland. The introduction of an additional provision in Levenmouth has helped complement the existing services and provisions. Sam's Café in Leven, offers provision in the form of

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drop in and peer support services on a Saturday. It was felt that further provision was required given the demand in Levenmouth compared to other areas in Scotland. Following a consultation with Tayside NHS we continued to explore the option of an improved Mental Health Provision in the form of a Mental Health Vehicle, to attend and treat people in mental health crisis and in June 2024, the Mental Health Triage vehicle was launched, with deployments on each of the weekend nights 2000-0500 hours. A full report on the pilot will be released by NHS Fife in due course.



- **Distress Brief Intervention (DBI)**

On 11th December 2023 the Distress Brief Intervention (DBI) programme commenced within NHS Fife. Initially having been trialled in a number of NHS Board areas across Scotland, over the past few years - the Scottish Government has now asked for all Health Boards to implement it. The DBI programme was set up to improve the response to people presenting to frontline services, in distress. Across Scotland it has now provided a key support to over 50,000 people needing help. The service is for aged 16 and over and it offers a fast, compassionate service with comprehensive and intensive counselling offered over 14 days to provide strategies to manage distress and hopefully avoid escalation. To minimise the impact of the roll-out and monitor capacity, it was decided that pilot areas would be implemented, with acute services (A and E) and the Levenmouth area (Police and SAS) being chosen. Partner agencies, including Police, SAS, Social Work, GPs etc. become level 1 providers, who can refer those in need into the level 2 providers. NHS Fife have contracted Scottish Action for Mental Health (SAMH) as the Third Sector level

2 counselling provider. This allowed a swift referral to trained Third Sector staff from SAMH—who contact the person within 24- hours of referral and provide community based problem-solving support, wellness, distress management planning, supported connections and signposting. The programme has been well received locally as part of the wider Mental Health public health Policing plans. The pilot in Levenmouth has proven what a success this can be across the Division to help reduce repeat calls to Police and help divert demand away from the frontline. The incredible collaboration between our Health and Social care, Emergency Services and third sector colleagues will no doubt enable more persons locally, and across Scotland, to receive the Mental Health support they require – when they need it.

- **Community Trade Hub**

Our collaborative working with the Community Trade Hub has seen us support the Guided Start programme. This is an innovative approach to engage young people in learning environments. The concept is to deliver educational environments to deliver training in a variety of trades, catering, hospitality, and horticulture. The project will engage young people and provide them with the skills and qualifications to reach a positive destination. This engagement has helped to significantly reduce anti-social behaviour during the school holidays as well as in term time. We have also assisted in delivering the camps during the school holidays.

The STEM Project is another initiative that will launch during 2025/26 to deliver meaningful engagement with Primary School Children is a further example of collaborative engagement with meaningful outcomes. It was recognised that working with children from a younger age was key to delivering messaging at a point where lasting intervention could be more effective. A joined-up approach with Police Scotland, Community Trade Hub and the Scottish Violence Reduction Unit will deliver to the Primary 7 age cadre in all Levenmouth Primary Schools, in the coming academic year.

- **Think Equal Nursery Project**

Think Equal is an early years social and emotional learning (SEL) programme designed for children aged 3 to 6 years, using picture books, lesson plans, and

structured activities to teach emotional regulation, respect, empathy, equality, and kindness. The project was delivered at Paxton and Woodmill Nurseries.

SVRU's Involvement & Levenmouth Rollout

- The Scottish Violence Reduction Unit (SVRU), which employs a public health approach to reduce violence, is actively supporting the primary prevention of harmful behaviours. They believe giving young children emotional and social learning tools helps set a foundation for safer future societies.

Early social learning: By introducing essential life skills—like self-esteem, empathy, critical thinking, and emotional awareness—at a formative age, the programme aims to reduce harmful behaviours later in life and foster inclusive, healthy citizens.

Alignment with SVRU strategy: SVRU emphasizes primary prevention, meaning intervening early to address risk factors before they escalate. Supporting SEL in nursery settings directly feeds into this framework.

Collaborative approach: This initiative exemplifies how public sector, charitable organisations, and private funders can work together for lasting societal benefit.

Quit Fighting for Likes

This national initiative, launched in September 2024, is a collaboration between the Scottish Violence Reduction Unit (SVRU), Youth Link Scotland, and Medics Against Violence (MAV) as part of Scotland's broader Violence Prevention Framework. Improving Levenmouth Together supported the delivery at Levenmouth Academy.

Its aim is to provoke thoughtful discussion among young people about the risks of filming and sharing violent incidents on social media and to provide alternatives for safer online engagement.

Awareness Animation & Memes: Digital content that dramatizes the impact of violent imagery online and encourages young people to “switch off” rather than share.

Raising Awareness of Diversity in our Community

1. PC Murray launched a race awareness campaign which was delivered to local primary schools in conjunction with professional footballer Nathan Austin. There has been an increased number of BME pupils at schools in Methil, so the campaign was to raise awareness of the requirement for diversity in our community, drawing on his experiences as a child and teenager of Black origin growing up in Scotland. Being a professional footballer locally we were able to enhance the delivery of these important messages due to his notoriety, which automatically gained attention and respect from the young people.
2. PC Murray has been working with East Fife Community Football club to access funding from the SYFA specifically ring fenced for assisting refugees to play football for free, in order to remove the financial barrier which may have prevented participation previously. Following the partnership work there has been children from Zimbabwe afforded access to various age group football training at East Fife. This has helped support immigrants who have been housed in the Levenmouth area with integration into their new community.
3. Both community ward officer teams have worked with partners at Fife council housing to support immigrants from Somalia, Nigeria and Zimbabwe. The officers have engaged with these families to signpost them to partners who are in a position to support their needs. This has assisted in breaking down barriers that exist with distrust of authority, as well as ensuring there is no community tensions in the current climate.
4. Inputs at local primary schools in conjunction with the Scottish Violence Reduction Unit. Quit fighting for likes was delivered by Community officers to P6 and P7 in our local schools and the SVRU delivered a Relationship Based Practice Session to Nursery and Primary School Teachers to increase the awareness of recognising and dealing with children experiencing life traumas. Additionally, the think Equal project is being delivered by SVRU in local Nursery's. This is a story book-based project that raises the importance of diversity and tolerance in our community.

- **CCTV Cameras**

In 2022 funding was sought from LAC for the purchase and installation of new CCTV units for Levenmouth. 6 solar CCTV units were installed in hot spot areas across Levenmouth to assist in the prevention and detection of anti-social behaviour as well as crimes of violence and dishonesty. There are 3 cameras installed in each of the wards so there is shared equity over our 2 areas. The quality of the footage is excellent, particularly during the hours of darkness and have proved instrumental in the detection of several serious crimes.

- **Levenmouth Retail Crime Initiative**

This initiative was launched in 2018 with all retail and commercial premises visited by local officers. Store architectural surveys and staff training on retail crime prevention and offender de-escalation were carried out.

A Retail Watch contact list was also created with contact made via email and telephone. This communication tool allows the local police to contact everyone in the town centre area with up-to-date advice and warnings in respect of crime trends, crime prevention techniques and offers of support regarding personal safety and crime prevention. This is a two-way communication tool which will allow premise owners and staff to contact the police with questions and concerns. The scheme was supported with high visibility corporate signage and window stickers. Our Improving Levenmouth Together team are also working in conjunction with Sainsburys to offer school leavers who have been involved in ASB at the retail park job opportunities so assist with positive destinations and deter further behaviours.

- **Elderly and Vulnerable group engagement**

The Forget Me Not day was just one example of our engagement events, where 90 people from the Levenmouth area were in attendance. A meal was prepared and served by our PSYV group and those in attendance had direct access to various partner agencies who all offered their expertise in a variety of topics.



- In July and October 2024 our Crime Prevention Officer completed a Crime Prevention session for people with early onset dementia and in June 2024 the SCAM VAN was deployed in various locations in Levenmouth. The SCAM van, which is a national initiative in partnership with Trading Standards, to provide crime prevention information and reduce the risk of members of the public become victims. In December 2024 the Festive campaign included crime prevention leaflet drops and stalls in the town centre to deliver safety advice. ATM and online scam advice was delivered in April to Leven Rotary Club and in July to St Agatha's Church.

- **Forecourt watch**

Forecourt Watch is a crime reduction partnership initiative designed to meet the requirements of both police and fuel retailers within Levenmouth. It ensures that police, oil companies and fuel retailer's work together to meet agreed crime reduction objectives while reducing demands on police resources. It targets multiple offenders and introduces tested procedures to minimise retailer losses. In areas where Forecourt Watch schemes operate, research shows that associated crime can be reduced by more than 50%.

4.3 **Police Scotland Youth Volunteers (PSYV) -**

PSYV Levenmouth continues to be a fantastic initiative, which is co-ordinated by a number of adult volunteers. These volunteers dedicate their time, effort and commitment to meeting the aims and objectives of PSYV, whilst providing youths from diverse backgrounds with an opportunity to develop themselves in a safe and thriving environment. The group continue to operate from Levenmouth

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Academy every Monday evening with 22 Youth Volunteers and 12 Adult Volunteers within the group.

The group have been running for nearly seven years and have achieved the PSYV Silver Award, which is an absolutely fantastic achievement and testament to the hard work and dedication of the volunteers and the young people. PSYV have completed deployments and supported many events from local galas to the national Military Tattoo. One of the key local events arranged and delivered by the PSYV this year was a breakfast with Santa. A free breakfast, open to all, with particular tailoring towards vulnerable families at a time where finances are already stretched.

Deployments are as follows;

- June 2024

22nd – Methil Gala - - YV's assisted with the parade, taking up points and engaging with members of the public.

15th – It'll Cost You Campaign – Campaign promoting the offences related to purchasing alcohol for people underage - Sainsburys Leven

1st – Methilhill Gala – YV's assisted in marshalling, manning stalls and assisting with other related tasks to support the event.

- November 2024

4th – After Dark Leaflet Deployment

- December 2024

13th – Forget Me Not Event

20th – Santa Breakfast

- March 2025

OFFICIAL: POLICE AND PARTNERS

17th & 24th – Food bank project – Youth Volunteer's used fund they had raised, designed a seven-day meal plan, based around nonperishable foods. They carried out the shopping task in four groups and made a large food donation to Leven Food Bank. They attended a second session where they sorted the donation and assisted in making up packs for people to collect.

5.0 Public Engagement – Updates

5.1 Public engagement remains key to providing reassurance and confidence in the local police.

5.2 Below is a summary of our engagement over the reporting period;

- Primary School / Nursery Engagement
- Levenmouth Academy – Continued Engagement / Safety Inputs
- Fife College, Levenmouth Campus - Continued Engagement / Safety Inputs
- PSYV Deployments – Fundraising for foodbanks
- Local Events
- Elected Members Engagement
- Community Council Meetings
- Ward Meetings
- Levenmouth Forecourt Watch
- Pop Up Surgeries
- Sheltered Housing Engagement (Drop Ins)
- Crime Prevention Surveys – Business / Residential
- After Dark Campaign – Winter Home Security
- Rural Watch
- Social Media Engagement

5.3 Below is a summary of our additional planned engagement.

- Monthly Engagement – Community Council Chairpersons

- PSYV Deployments – Foot Patrols
- Supervisors walking the beat.
- Educational engagement with Primary and Secondary schools.
- Improving Levenmouth Together Initiatives
- Retail Crime Initiative
- Pub Watch Initiative

6.0 Licensed premises

- 6.1 Licensed premises are subject to Red, Amber and Green (RAG) grading system, which highlights specific premises that, for a variety of reasons, have come to the notice of the police. The definition of the three RAG categories is as outlined below:
1. **Red** - Problematic Premises (highest grading)
 2. **Amber** - Premises subject to formal intervention (subject to some form of monitoring & intervention where appropriate), and
 3. **Green** - Monitored Premises – (all reported incidents)
- 6.2 There are no licensed premises within Levenmouth requiring intervention at this time.
- 6.3 All incidents and crimes occurring within or linked to licensed premises are the subject of a licensed premises report. This allows us to continually monitor the management of premises and assess whether enhanced measures are required. Regular contact with our colleagues in Licensing allows for any issues to be highlighted at an early stage, action taken and resolved before its allowed to escalate.
- 6.4 Our in-depth liaison with partners and robust management of licenced premises and positive engagement with our licensees though “Pub Watch” and similar allows a clear message to be sent to those intent on disorder that Police action will be robust and her directed patrols, which involves high visibility patrols, visits and checks of our licenced premises.

- 6.5 Our work to engage with a “Pub Watch” scheme has proven successful where licensed premises and our partner agencies focus on preventing criminality and explore further positive engagement with our communities. Integrating into this has allowed for the relevant partnership working and information sharing when appropriate. The positive relationship remains our focus maximising ongoing engagement for the future.
- 6.6 A number of licenced premises from Levenmouth participated in the Best Bar None Scheme. This year the scheme provided training such as Bystander, Naloxone and ACT training to staff, which premises have engaged well with. Premises have shown many great examples of how they prioritise public safety and crime prevention. They have also displayed some commendable work within their local communities. The Caledonian Hotel and East Dock Bar, were awarded in the review period.

7.0 Protection of Vulnerable People

- 7.1 The protection of vulnerable people is a primary focus for the day-to-day policing within Levenmouth. The decision-making process which determines the type of policing response received centres primarily around the Threat, Risk and Harm posed.

As a result, Policing focusses largely on responding to those most in need through their own vulnerability, or vulnerability through the position they have found themselves in.

Concern related calls require significant officer involvement, engagement and diversion from what could be traditionally reviewed as policing duties, namely dealing with reported crime. These calls, such as child concern, adult concern, domestic abuse and youth offending are entered on to the Vulnerable Persons Database (VPD) system for review and sharing with partner agencies.

Sharing of these concerns with Fife Social Work often triggers further safeguarding, including Adult Support and Protection and Initial Referral Discussions (IRD). Fife

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Concern Hub Adult Support and Protection Co-Ordinators participated in 1,537 multi agency discussions throughout the review period, including IRDs, case conferences and professionals' meetings.

Over the review period P division recorded 18,111 concern reports on the Vulnerable Person Database. 2,316 of these concern reports were created for vulnerable persons in the Levenmouth area.

- 7.2 Local Policing have worked with our CID, community investigation and prevention department to tackle criminal exploitation in the Levenmouth area.

Partnership working is key to dealing with the exploitation of vulnerable individuals for criminal gain. Police work with partners in Fife Council housing and safer communities, Fife Social Work, Scotland's Serious and Organised Crime department to identify and disrupt supply chains and combat County Lines networks. With support from local communities the officers also work diligently to tackle cuckooing of vulnerable persons, safeguarding those exploited and their properties.

During the review period our proactive and reactive CID departments have focused on targeting County Lines/Human Trafficking activity within P Division. Three cases have been reported for consideration of prosecution.

We have just finished out County Lines Intensification week whereby we have been focussing on raising awareness of vulnerable individuals and how they may be targeted. A presentation has been delivered to over 800 officers within Fife and disseminated to 23 partner agencies including Fife Council/NHS and local charities.

- 7.3 During the reporting period police in Levenmouth dealt with 201 missing person incidents. 73% of all missing people were aged 17 years and under.

Local policing is heavily supported by our divisional Missing Person Operational Co-ordinator and Young Runaways Missing Person Co-ordinator, DS Muir and DC Wilson.

DS Muir and DC Wilson review all missing persons reported up to the age of 18 years or on a social work order. Their role supports local policing in keeping people safe and ensuring local resources are deployed to the greatest need.

Their roles include working with partner agencies, often chairing professional's meetings, reviewing missing persons episodes and carrying out return home meetings. The officers can identify risk and subsequently direct juveniles to partners including social work, the multi-systemic team, education and inclusion.

The officers also proactively work to reduce missing episodes, which can drastically increase local policing's availability. They hold quarterly Care Home Forum's, liaise with colleagues across the UK, attend national missing persons meetings and complete regular rapport building visits to local care establishments.

- 7.4 Furthermore, Police Scotland service centres support the mental health pathway, which where risk deems appropriate, diverts individuals direct to the relevant partner agencies. Both interventions reduce demand on frontline Policing and allows for those in need to use the pathway and see the Right Person at the Right Time and the Right Place.
- 7.5 During December 2024 officers carried out a day of action, supported by Police Scotland's PSYV carrying out high visibility patrols. During this information packs were hand delivered to areas highlighted by intelligence providing practical advice on personal and home safety.

8.0 On the Horizon – Significant matters ahead

- 8.1 Our priorities require clear focus and the deployment of resources to address community concerns. This requires considerable investment across all sectors as we look to implement, short, medium and long term strategies to provide reassurance and maintain public confidence in service provision. Locally we continue to expand the ILT initiative and joint approach to the Mental Health provision in the Levenmouth area, ensuring that the Ambulance Mental Health Car is implemented smoothly.

8.2 Seasonal trends are acknowledged, and we are prepared for what we would expect to see over the winter months, with particular focus upon -

- Antisocial Behaviour
- Violent Crime
- Substance Misuse
- Road Safety
- Protecting people at risk of harm

As the effects of the ongoing financial crisis develop, there is likely to be an associated rise in crimes of dishonesty and the clear correlation between that and those struggling to make ends meet. With this will be the requirement for Officers in contact with vulnerable members of our society to be able to signpost accordingly.

8.3 We continue to seek new and innovative ways to improve upon our prevention, intervention and enforcement activities, through shared learning of best practice and the support from our well-established partnerships. As the new Levenmouth Rail project gathers pace, liaison with partners will increase accordingly, ensuring that local Policing provides support at all stages. Diversifying our approach with the purchase of electric cycles supported by the LAC, was a small option for improving our intervention capacity and access to the more rural areas of the ward areas such as the proposed rail network particularly during construction.

8.4 We also continue to seek further networking opportunities with a focus on keeping those who live, work and visit our area safe and prioritising diversion schemes to deal with offending at the core and include a prevention strategy.

8.5 We have seen the opening of the Improving Levenmouth Together hub at the Greig Institute building in the heart of Leven this year. The change of premises allowed enhanced engagement and further develop the partnership-working environment that currently exists with Fifer's for the Community and Safer communities. A new premises near to the new Rail Link is in the pipeline for 2024 which will allow the partnership working to evolve further.

8.6 What is absolutely crucial at a time of positive investment in the Levenmouth area is early and ongoing Police engagement with partners responsible for the development of the River Leven and newly established railway link. With this comes a widespread implementation of active travel routes and public spaces, however ever mindful of the potential for ASB, crime and the fear of crime, Police and other agencies such as Safer Communities, need to directly ratify plans in the development stage to ensure that all steps are taken from the outset to minimise the impact to the communities of Levenmouth.

8.7 The Community Policing Team is as follows;

Chief Inspector Craig Fraser	-	Local Area Commander
Inspector Matt Spencer	-	Community Inspector
Sergeant Craig Fyall	-	Community Sergeant
Constable Gordon Latto	-	Ward 21 Community Constable
Constable Liam Tarvit	-	Ward 21 Community Constable
Constable Colin Rafferty	-	Ward 22 Community Constable
Constable Neil Murray	-	Ward 22 Community Constable
Constable Richard Cartwright	-	PSYV Levenmouth
Constable Nick Newbold	-	Improving Levenmouth Together lead officer

Members are invited to note and comment on the content of this report as per the recommendations made at the front of the report.

Report Contact

Chief Inspector Craig Fraser
Levenmouth Area Commander
Email – craig.fraser@scotland.pnn.police.uk

1 October 2025

Agenda Item No. 6

Safer Communities Team Update Report

Report by: John Mills, Head of Housing Services

Wards Affected: Wards 21 and 22

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide elected members with an update on the operational activity of the Safer Communities Team within the Levenmouth committee area during the 12-month period 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025.

Recommendation

The committee is asked to note and comment on the activity to date.

Resource Implications

None.

Legal & Risk Implications

None.

Impact Assessment

An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) is not required as this report presents an update on the activity of the Safer Communities Team. No policy or funding changes are being proposed that are likely to have an impact on equality groups.

Consultation

Consultation has taken place with community safety partner agencies.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update elected members on the activity of the Safer Communities Team (SCT) within this committee area during the financial year the reporting period.
- 1.2 This report sits alongside individual updates from Police Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS). It should be noted that the three core agencies (Police Scotland, SFRS and Fife Council's SCT) may comment on work carried out *in partnership* with each other and other agencies but cannot comment specifically on work carried out independently by other services.
- 1.3 Some information may be included on Fife-wide activity to raise awareness of the range of activities which may be of interest to members and their constituents.
- 1.4 Each activity is categorised as either People or Place focussed.

2.0 People Focussed Activity

Home Safety & Security

- 2.1 Our Fife Cares service carried out a total of 70 visits in relation to **home safety advice**, a slight increase on the previous year (67 visits).
 - 2.1.1 The majority of home safety visits (91%) related to requests for tailored home safety advice specifically for families with children under five years of age, with the remainder for home safety advice for vulnerable adults.
 - 2.1.2 Health Visitors were the main source of home safety referrals for child safety, whilst the remainder came from a variety of other sources such as Homestart, Housing colleagues, Social Work and various NHS Services.
 - 2.1.3 Home safety referrals in relation to vulnerable adults were received mainly from Mobile Emergency Care Teams and Home Care services.
 - 2.1.4 The Fife Cares service also provides **home security advice** under the Safe, Secure and Supported at Home initiative. Visits in relation to this service decreased slightly during the reporting period (60) compared to the previous year (65).
 - 2.1.5 Following a successful pilot, the Safe and Secure at Home referral process for ASB cases identified by our Investigations Officers as requiring urgent attention, has now been rolled out across Fife. Traditionally, such referrals would have been made via Police Scotland. However, it was agreed that delivering this advice through Fife Cares would allow the Safer Communities Team to respond to residents' needs more efficiently. This approach enables Investigations Officers to provide a more holistic and timely service, while freeing up Police resources to focus on wider community demands.
 - 2.1.6 Safe Secure and Supported at Home referrals were mainly received from our own Investigation Officers, Police Scotland and Housing services but were also received from other sources such as Fife Women's Aid, Victim Support and Social Work.

Private Space Antisocial Behaviour

2.2 **Fife Community Safety Support Service (FCSSS)** is a voluntary service delivered by Sacro and funded by Fife Council, offering a range of services to enhance community safety including:

- Practical and emotional support for people experiencing hate incidents and anti-social behaviour (including support to young people)
- Mediation
- Training
- Restorative Work
- Attendance at Community events
- Witness Support (provided for those in civil proceedings).

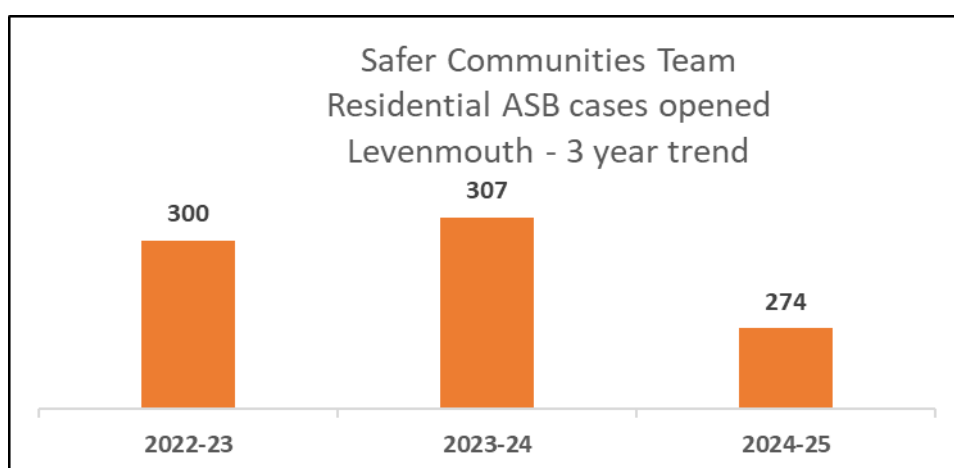
2.2.1 During 2024-25, the service received 38 referrals, a decrease of six on the previous year. Of these, 28 involved some form of mediation between the parties involved, although all were provided emotional and/or practical support. Appendix 1 provides examples of feedback received by FCSSS plus some additional information on the service.

2.2.2 Work continues to encourage referrals to this service, and Elected Members are reminded that, where they have permission of the parties involved, they are able to refer directly to FCSSS or encourage their constituents to self-refer if they require support via the following:

- **01592 593100**
- infofifecm@sacro.org.uk

2.2.3 The Safer Communities Team is Fife Council's single point of contact for all cases of **private space (residential) antisocial behaviour (ASB)**.

2.2.4 The team opened 274 ASB cases during the reporting period, a decrease of 33 cases on the previous year. The following graph shows the number of residential ASB cases opened by the Team in Levenmouth over the past three years:



2.2.5 Of the 274 cases opened, 230 (84%) were contacted within locally agreed timescales (see table 1 below):

Category	Type	Priority	Target timescale: <i>Initial contact</i>	Target timescale: <i>Resolution</i>
A	Extreme	High	1 working day	12 months
B	Serious	Medium	3 working days	6 months
C	General	Low	5 working days	2 months

Table 1 - ASB Locally Agreed Timescales

2.2.6 During the reporting period, 278 ASB cases were resolved (closed) in line with the Scottish Housing Regulator's guidelines (see Appendix 2 for definitions). 96% of which were resolved within the locally agreed timescales shown in Table 1 above.

2.2.7 Of those at 2.2.6, resolution was achieved by the following methods:

- 20 cases where appropriate advice was provided (this preceded the split in recipient following feedback received at last year's area committee meetings).
- 99 cases where appropriate advice was provided to complainer. This included cases where:
 - the perpetrator was unknown,
 - there was insufficient evidence to proceed with formal action, or
 - the complainer did not wish any further action taken.

On these occasions, advice was provided on how and when to report any further incidents, and the complainer was provided with a point of contact within the Safer Communities Team.

- 33 cases where appropriate advice was provided to the person responsible (where there was insufficient evidence to proceed with formal action, but advice was given in order to try to prevent further incidents occurring).
- 58 warnings were issued.
- 21 cases were investigated with appropriate action taken and were subsequently referred to another service (such as FCSST) for further suitable action.
- 6 cases were closed following either the complainer or the perpetrator moving away.
- 41 cases were closed following investigation, appropriate action taken, and subsequently returned to the referrer for further action on their part.

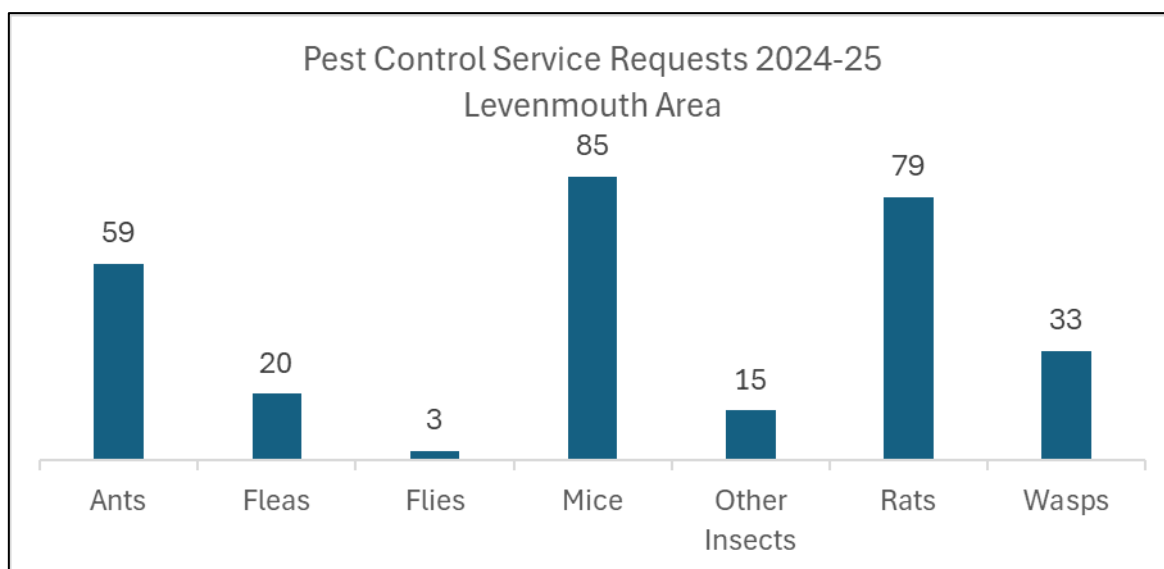
2.2.8 In addition to the above, two cases also involved legal action as follows:

- one interim ASBO granted
- one full ASBO granted.

2.2.9 The Safer Communities Team works in partnership with Police Scotland and Housing Service colleagues through monthly meetings focused on residential antisocial behaviour. These meetings aim to strengthen joint efforts in addressing ASB issues within communities. Key outcomes and actions from these discussions are then shared with local Together groups and People/Place meetings to support coordinated responses.

Pest Control

2.3 Our **Pest Control** officers responded to 294 requests for service during 2024-25. The full number and type of pests dealt with are depicted in the graph below:



2.3.1 The following key performance indicators provide an overview of our effectiveness in meeting service standards and achieving organisational objectives over the reporting period:

- Number of requests responded to within target - 218 (74%)
(the target response time is 3 working days)
- Number of requests resolved within target – 255 (87%)
(the target resolution time is 28 working days).

Stray dogs and dog control

2.4 A slight decrease in the number of reports about **stray dogs** received by the Safer Communities Dog Wardens was noted on the previous year (25 in 2024-25 compared with 26 in 2023-24). Only six of the dogs were microchipped, and none reflected the correct details of their owner. Seven dogs were subsequently claimed/returned to their owners, with the remainder passed to an animal charity for assessment prior to being rehomed. Officers continue to raise awareness of the importance of microchipping and the legislation in force.

Take the Lead

2.4.1 This initiative builds on actions started in 2023 following a tragic dog attack in South West Fife that resulted in the deaths of one ewe and 19 lambs. Since then, we have maintained our collaboration with Police Scotland to host a series of pop-up displays at various locations across Fife, aimed at raising public awareness about the importance of keeping dogs under control in public spaces.

Dog Watch

2.4.2 This scheme continues to encourage commercial dog walkers to register with the Safer Communities Team. As part of the process, SCT staff carry out visits to inspect vehicles and review paperwork, including insurance documents and client records, to ensure everything meets required standards. Once checks are completed and the associated fee is paid, the dog walker is added to the publicly accessible Dog Watch register. This allows

members of the public to see which dog walkers have been inspected by Fife Council, helping them make informed decisions. While commercial dog walkers are not currently subject to licensing or regulation, we believe this scheme offers valuable oversight.

2.4.3 During 2024-25, there were four registered Dog Walkers in the Levenmouth area.

Road Safety

2.5 The Fife Community Safety Partnership has recently reinvigorated the Road Casualty Reduction Group, in which officers from Safer Communities Team are involved.

2.5.1 The development of road safety activity is guided by road casualty statistics provided by Transportation Scotland and development of recent project and initiatives include the following (please see appendix 3 for more information on all of our road safety activity):

- a new Pedestrian Toolkit,
- the Drivewise 65+ project,
- the refresh of the Safe Drive Stay Alive initiative.

2.5.2 In addition to the above, our Project Officers provided a number of **Road Safety** initiatives which covered the whole life spectrum from birth onwards (see Appendix 4 for road safety activities focussed on each life stage).

2.5.3 Whilst many campaigns and events were delivered to a Fife-wide audience and held in more central venues, the following were delivered specifically in this area:

- Five child car seat clinics held (67% of the 55 seats checked were fitted incorrectly)
- Safe Drive Stay Alive event (one school – 144 pupils)
- Pass Plus initiative – one participant from Levenmouth.

Water Safety

2.6 Officers from the Safer Communities Team support the Fife Water Safety Group, which is a working group set up under the Fife Community Safety Partnership's Reducing Harm priority. SCT officers have attended the Train the Trainer for **Waterside Responders Course**, and the RNLI continue to take the lead on delivering any local courses. The aim is to have local responders on hand in areas where water safety issues may occur.

2.6.1 Our officers also identified the gap for an emergency first aid and water safety course for **Wild and Open Water Swimmers**. SCT officers will work with RNLI to create a suitable course, with RNLI taking the lead moving forward.

2.6.2 Currently, water safety education in schools can be provided by teachers, using [Water Safety Scotland | Water safety advice and resources](#). However, there is ongoing discussion within the Water Safety Task Group, around the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service delivering within schools. Updates will be given to members as and when available.

Youth Justice

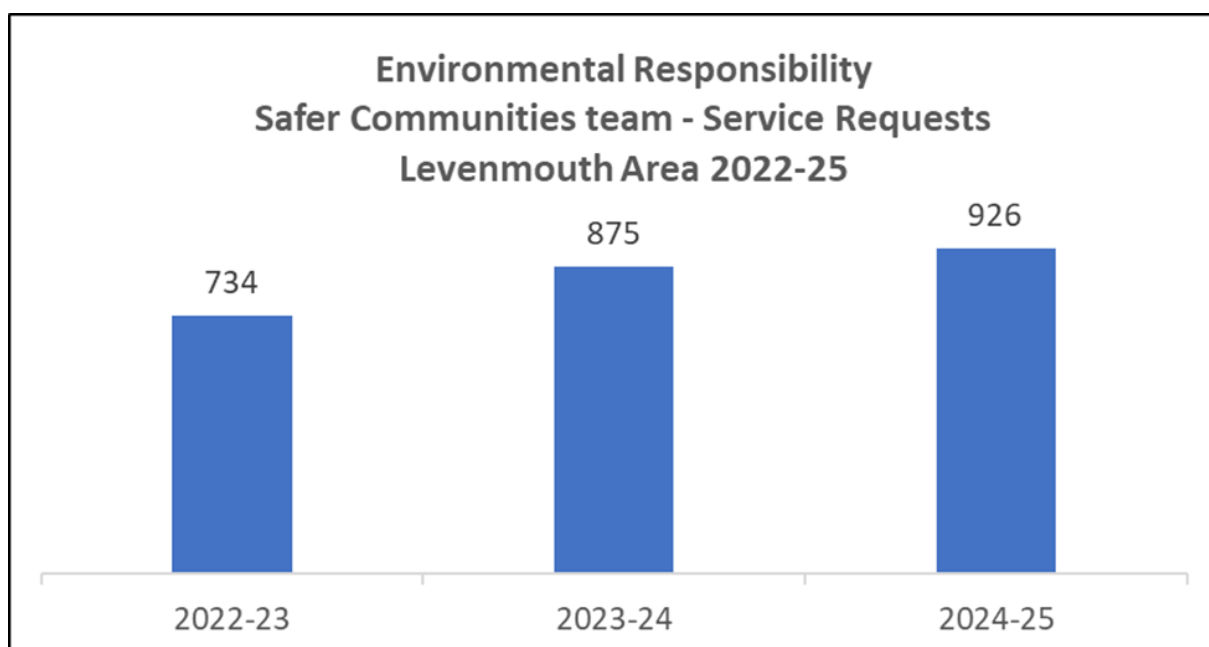
2.7 Our **Youth Justice Officers** (YJOs) received 34 referrals from the Youth Offender Management Group (YOMG) during 2024-25, a decrease on the previous year (40 referrals).

- 2.7.1 In addition to this, the YJOs also supported young people at Levenmouth Academy – both on a one-to-one basis and in groups - who were referred to them, tailoring the approach required depending on the needs of the young people involved.
- 2.7.2 During the reporting period, the YJOs have also been involved in partnership activity with colleagues from SFRS, Police Scotland, Active Schools, Barnardo's, Clued Up, CLD, Fife Violence Against Women Partnership, Fife Health & Social Care Partnership.
- 2.7.3 They have also been Involved in the Levenmouth Academy partnership meetings, looking at ways to support pupils not engaging in education. This has helped inform 1:1/group work.
- 2.7.4 YJOs also worked with partners such as Social Work, Clued Up and the Violence Reduction Unit to specifically devise and deliver sessions regarding weapon use and weapon reduction in Levenmouth area. This was in response to intelligence about 'postcode gangs'.
- 2.7.5 Appendix 5 provides more information about our youth justice activities during the reporting period.

3.0 Place Focussed Activity

Environmental Responsibility

- 3.1 In terms of **environmental responsibility**, 926 requests for service were received during the reporting period.
- 3.1.1 The following graph shows comparative figures for service requests received over the past three financial years. It should be noted that the figure for 2024-25 now incorporates service requests for dog barking which are now dealt with by the Safer Communities Team:



- 3.1.2 Appendix 6 provides data showing the number of service requests per type of environmental responsibility over the past three financial years.
- 3.1.3 The following key performance indicators provide an overview of our effectiveness in meeting service standards and achieving organisational objectives over the reporting period:

- Number of requests responded to within target - 751 (81%)
(the target response time is 3 working days)
- Number of requests resolved within target – 890 (96%)
(the target resolution time is 28 working days).

Patrols

- 3.2 Our Safer Communities Officers (SCOs) operate to a Patrol Matrix and carried out a range of patrols within the Levenmouth area. Officers carried out 2076 patrols in the area over the reporting period, compared to the previous year of 2684. The patrols covered a variety of community issues, including public space antisocial behaviour, dog fouling, youth issues, fire raising, noise, vandalism, motorbike vehicle misuse, littering, illegal dumping, derelict building monitoring and partnership working. Support referrals, intelligence and requests came from numerous sources including, but not limited to, public reporting, police, fire and housing colleagues, elected members, social work, education and various partnership meetings.
- 3.2.1 Our Patrol Matrix is reviewed and updated every four weeks at our Team Meeting and considers any intelligence from our partners at our monthly HUB and IMM meetings. See Appendix 8 for examples of SCO Patrols and Community Engagement.

Open (Public) Space Antisocial Behaviour

- 3.3 The Safer Communities Team engages regularly with partners through monthly area hub meetings and weekly Incident Management Meetings (IMM). These forums bring together Police, Fire, Housing Services, Fife Coast & Countryside Trust, and—where relevant—organisations such as Clued-Up, Includem, Community Learning & Development, and Education.
- 3.3.1 At IMM meetings, partner resources are coordinated in advance of weekend operations, informed by data analysis and operational intelligence identifying the most prevalent times and locations of 'hot spot' activity across Fife. This targeted planning enables effective deployment of staff to address open space ASB, with an emphasis on early engagement with young people to discourage risk-taking and poor behaviour.
- 3.3.2 Through both the area hub and IMM meetings, emerging issues are identified, resources are allocated where needed, and valuable data is shared among partners. Where joint mobilisation is not required, Safer Communities Officers focus on local patrols in their own areas. Joint patrols are also conducted, when necessary, with SCOs working closely with Police and other partners to address ongoing concerns and share intelligence to tackle ASB and community safety related incidents.

Community Engagement and Events

- 3.4 Safer Communities Officers attended a number of events and meetings over the last financial year including Tenants and Residents meetings, Community Councils, galas and community events. Officers also actively support Community Litter Picks with equipment and advice on locations in tandem with Keep Scotland Beautiful.

4.0 Social Media Campaigns

- 4.1 Due to the success of our Facebook presence during the pandemic and in subsequent years, we continued to utilise this platform to convey community safety messages to the residents of Fife during 2024-25.
- 4.2 We provided information, advice, and assistance on a number of different campaigns, and attracted over 11,579 followers on Facebook during the reporting period.
- 4.3 We reached an overall audience of 1.6 million views, with our page being visited 38,000 times, and 22,000 people either liking, sharing or commenting on our posts.
- 4.4 Our furthest reaching post was in March this year and highlighted the importance of not allowing dogs to approach others. This post was viewed over 96,000 times.
- 4.5 In order to keep up to date with forthcoming events and activities co-ordinated by the Safer Communities Team or shared by the Team on behalf of partner agencies, members are invited to 'like' our Facebook page **Safer Communities Fife**.



5.0 Conclusions

- 5.1 This report provides members with information on the wide range of safer communities' activity being undertaken in this committee area, in line with local priorities and emerging issues, and in partnership with other community safety organisations.

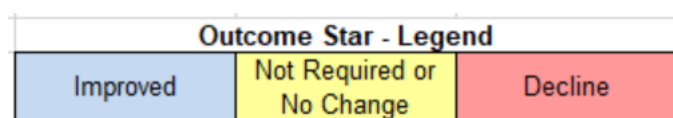
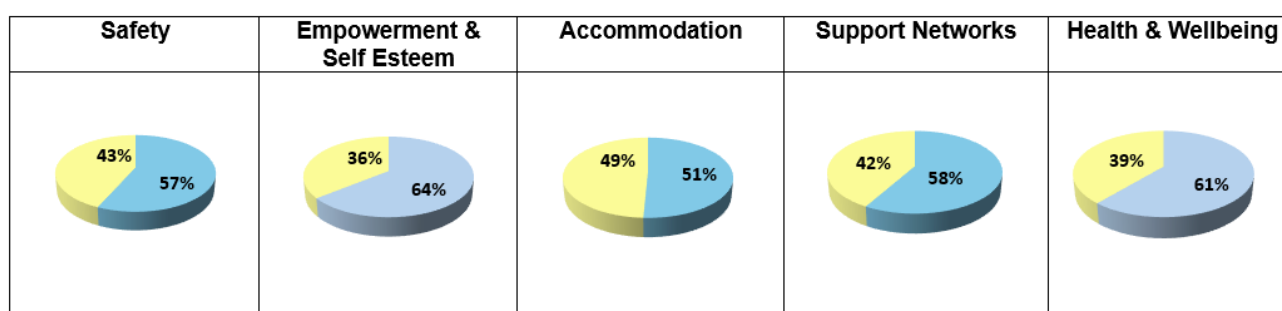
List of Appendices

- 1. FCSSS – further information on Fifewide services (2024-25)
- 2. Scottish Housing Regulator ASB Guidance (March 2023)
- 3. Road Safety initiatives
- 4. Road Safety timeline
- 5. Youth Justice activity
- 6. Environmental responsibility service requests (2022-25 graphs)
- 7. SCO patrols and Community Engagement

FCSSS - Further information on Fife-wide services (2024-25)

- All referrals were responded to within 2 working days (100%).
- The majority of referrals were received from the Safer Communities Team (70%).
- Complaints about noise were most common (34%), followed by issues in relation to clashes of lifestyle (26%).
- A total of 457 households were involved with FCSSS during 2024-25.

Outcomes in relation to support cases are measured using the Empowerment Star assessment tool, where clients feedback on how their involvement with FCSSS has affected five different areas of their lives. The diagram below indicates the percentages of positive outcomes through FCSSS involvement:



Examples of service user feedback:

- *"Thank you so much for helping me. So glad I met you and was introduced to the service you provide"*
- *"FCSSS has been a game-changer in our community. Their prompt response and effective interventions have significantly improved our neighbourhood's atmosphere"*
- *"Thanks to FCSSS, we've noticed a marked decrease in disruptive activities. Their dedication and professionalism are truly commendable"*
- *"The team at FCSSS is exceptional. They listen attentively and take swift action, making our community a safer and more pleasant place to live."*
- *We're incredibly grateful for FCSSS. Their proactive approach and consistent follow-up have made a huge difference in reducing antisocial incidents."*
- *"FCSSS has provided us with peace of mind. Their effective strategies and support have transformed our area, making it a better place for everyone."*
- *"I've been impressed with FCSSS's commitment to resolving issues. Their efforts have led to a noticeable improvement in our neighbourhood's quality of life."*
- *The responsiveness and thoroughness of FCSSS are outstanding. They've managed to address and resolve problems that we thought were unsolvable."*

Feedback received from a support worker:

- *I have had this case for about a month that came through from Safer Communities Team, Fife Council as support required. Poor girl and family living in situation where they were getting abuse from [neighbours] and likewise within the area. Met on a home visit and kept in contact with phone calls providing emotional support, advice and guidance. She called me today informing me that she has been offered [another property...] which is also the catchment school area. She thanked me for my support and when I replied I haven't done anything she replied that I kept her sane and from losing her sanity."*

Scottish Housing Regulator Guidance for Landlords (March 2023)

Antisocial Behaviour

Indicator 15 (Updated)	<p><i>Percentage of anti-social behaviour cases reported in the last year which were resolved.</i></p> <p>(i) Number of cases of anti-social behaviour reported in the last year. Of those at (i):</p> <p>(ii) Number of cases resolved in the last year.</p>
Definition	<p>Resolved</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • where the landlord has taken appropriate measures, as set out in its ASB policies and procedures, to address the cause of the anti-social behaviour complaint and has advised the complainant of the outcome; or • where the landlord does not have the authority or powers to resolve, and it has provided a full explanation of the landlord's position to the complainant. <p>A Case</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A case is opened when a tenant or service user reports an incident of ASB to their landlord. • A case can be made up of a single report/complaint of ASB; or • Multiple reports/complaints about the same party, made whilst a case is still ongoing. Such further reports/complaints would not be counted as a further new case. • Once a case is resolved and a further report/complaint of ASB is received, this should be treated as a new case.

Road Safety Updates Annual Report April 2024 - March 2025

Overview

The last figures released were for the year 2023. These show that in Scotland there were 155 fatalities due to road traffic collisions. Although this was the fourth lowest fatality rate since records started the overall casualty stats rose due to serious and slight injuries and predictions show that the fatality stats for 2024 will be up on this. Fife had 14 fatalities during this 2023 year and although this does not seem a large number, our aim is to have no deaths on Fife roads, and this is the reason for all the preventative measures we put in place.

In Car Safety



Clinics – We continue to hold child car seat clinics during the warmer months, and this year have tried some different venues. Some have worked and some not so successful.

Pull-Overs – Along with our colleagues in Road Policing, we held two pull-over clinics at Kirkcaldy Prom and Leven Prom. These are always very successful and busy, with 28 cars being stopped and checked. More have been planned for 2025-26.



Individual Checks – These are carried out on an ad hoc basis for those individuals who contact us directly.

Partnerships – This year we worked more with SFRS, who have also had full training, to deliver clinics. We also will continue to work with Road Police on the pull over clinics.



Training – We continued to share our knowledge with Fife Women's Aid and trained their staff to help them feel confident with carrying children in their vehicles.

Primary

JRSO Initiative – Our team continue to support the Junior Road Safety Officer (JRSO) initiative across all Fife Schools. A number of schools have already established JRSO pupils/groups within their schools and continue to run the initiative and therefore our input is not required. However, we are still available to support schools looking to set up new JRSO's as and when required.

Individual School Inputs – Our team is unable to deliver individual inputs to all schools, but we will respond if there is a specific issue at a school. In this instance Benarty Primary had a road traffic issue in relation to cycling and in conjunction with Transportation's Bikability Officer we attended to deliver assembly inputs to P4 and P5's.

Road Safety Magic Show – We recently made contact with a company that delivers Road Safety Magic Shows and managed to secure some free sessions of this for some of our primary schools. These have now been arranged but will take place in the next financial year.

Secondary

S1 Talks – Our project officers continue to support areas where statistics are high or where a recent incident has occurred. During 2024-25 we delivered S1 talks within Kirkcaldy High School and Auchmuty High School. We carried out 17 class talks to 392 S1 Pupils at these two schools. The school guidance staff are also provided an additional resource which we encourage them to use as a follow up session to generate more discussion.

Fife Pupil Support – SCT were invited back in to Fife Pupil Support Service to deliver a road safety input based around passenger behaviour to this challenging group of pupils. Discussion is also in place to deliver an input to their younger S1/S2 pupils

SDSA

New Film Resource

In 2024 we were given the opportunity to create a new film resource for Safe Drive Stay Alive. The previous film was created in 2014 and was starting to show age with the current pupils watching it. The new film was created and donated by Simplicity Marketing and the script was written and developed in partnership with SCT, Police, SFRS, Ambulance and NHS. The launch of this was held in October 2024 and 50 partners attended.



Inputs and follow up resource – The new SDSA resource has been designed to be taken in to individual schools and this has been well received by schools as it is easier for them to timetable. This is still a partnership project but is led and co-ordinated by Safer Communities Project Officers. All 18 high schools plus 1 private school were offered the SDSA input, and it is also now part of the 5th Year PSE Curriculum. A total of 18 schools and 2292 pupils received the input during 2024-25.

We have also produced a follow up resource for the guidance staff to use within subsequent PSE classes. This enables teachers to hold more in-depth discussion with pupils and to develop the messages given in the main presentation.



College

Princes Trust – Fife College in Dunfermline requested we deliver a road safety input to their Prince's Trust Course. During 2024-25 we delivered 2 inputs to 2 separate groups covering 23 students. Dunfermline have also recommended us to the Glenrothes campus who run a similar course.

New Drivers



Pass Plus - We continued to support and fund new drivers to gain additional driving knowledge and experience. During 2024-25 we held 5 online courses with a total of 26 new drivers attending. This project continues to have support from a Fife Road Policing officer. The breakdown of attendees is as follows:

Numbers are not high in this project as funding is limited, and continuation is currently under review.

Road Traffic Offenders

Course – This 5 week course is run by Justice Social Work, although we are invited to present an input during week 1 and then present SDSA in week 5. During 2024-25, two courses took place, involving 21 participants from across Fife (no area breakdown available).

New Project – Justice Social Work contacted us to discuss the development of a new resource for Fife residents who they need to work with but are not in the system long enough to attend one of the above courses. We developed an input that JSW staff could deliver on a 1:1 basis and delivered this training to 12 JSW staff.

Driving For Work

Taxi Drivers - This course is organised by Fife Council Licensing Team, and we are an invited speaker. Safer Communities presents a generic road safety input around occupational road risk and during 2024-25 we attended 11 courses and delivered to 413 taxi drivers.

Kingdom Housing – SCT were invited by Kingdom Housing to deliver a road safety occupational road risk input to their staff. These inputs are delivered on an ad-hoc basis when they have an influx of new staff, and during 2024-25 we delivered one input to 50 staff members.

Amazon – We are currently in discussion with Amazon in Dunfermline around supporting them to develop a campaign around safety in and around their Car Park.

Older Drivers

Practical Days – In 2022, we introduced the new Drivewise 65+ days. This is a practical session for older drivers who attend a venue and go on a drive observed by a Road Policing officer. They are then given hints and tips to help keep them safe and driving for longer. We held three events during the 2024-25, as follows:

Drivewise 65+ Events in Kirkcaldy - https://youtu.be/_ygiz_n8qOQ

Drivewise 65+ Event in Cupar - <https://youtu.be/Njp8OvPMfyA>



Talks – We offer talks to older groups about how to stay driving safely for longer. During 2024-25 we gave 4 talks

Older Driver Events – In partnership with Road Police and SFRS we attended at three venues across Fife to speak to Older Drivers about driving safer for longer and to carry out quick eye sight checks. Across the three events we spoke to around 100 people.



Events

Levenmouth Schools Event @ Savoy Park – As part of the new railway station opening, an event was held for primary pupils at Savoy Park. Safer Communities were invited to have a practical fun station at this event and deliver messages around Safer Communities and Road Safety to 350 pupils who attended.



Family Fun Day at Lochore Meadows – In a follow up to the previous year's successful event, the Safer Communities Team held another family fun day event at Lochore Meadows in July 2024. Along with partners from various services, we staged a number of fun events including themes such as water safety, road safety and orienteering. The weather was lovely on this occasion, and we had a great turnout to the event.



Forget Me Not Event at Buckhaven – We were invited to attend this event in December 2024 and held a stall which provided details around the role of the Safer Communities Team, which included road safety. As part of this event, we developed a walk around treasure hunt which contained messages about what our team does.

Radio Campaigns

We formed a partnership with Fife Ford in December 2022 and, as part of this, they fund our radio campaigns for Slow Down for Schools, Winter Driving and some other subjects outside of road safety.

Slow Down for Schools – We produced this radio campaign to encourage drivers to think about their speed when they are driving near to schools when the pupils are starting and finishing. The messages were recorded by Safer Communities and Police Scotland staff and the campaign ran when the schools started back after summer holidays in August 2024. The radio audio messages were aired 56 times over the campaign dates and reached 38,000 people with each person hearing the advert/message around 3 times.

Slow Down for Schools Video - <https://youtu.be/0XULfslmkxs>

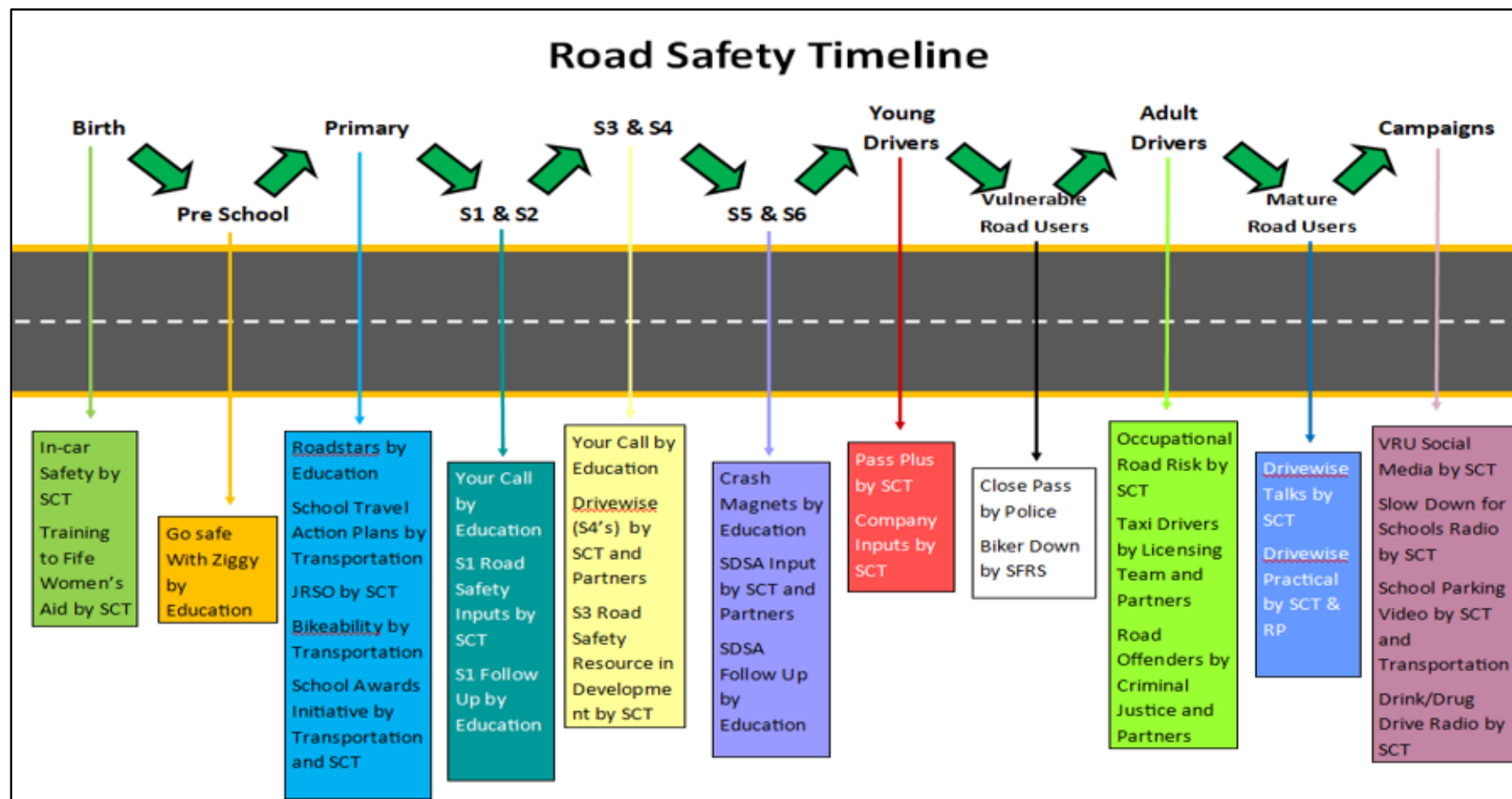
Winter Driving - This radio campaign was produced and run in December to coincide with the national Police Scotland winter driving campaign. Again, messages were written and recorded by Safer Communities and Road Policing officers. A video was also created to promote these messages. The radio audio messages were aired 56 times over the campaign dates and reached 45,990 people with each person hearing the advert/message around 5 times.

Winter Driving Video - <https://youtu.be/uIPoGDTT1mQ>

Pedestrian Social Media Campaign



During 2024-25, Safer Communities staff were tasked through the Road Casualty Reduction Group with organising the creation of a Pedestrian Social Media Campaign. This was based on a successful campaign run by Glasgow Council. A campaign toolkit was created by Safer Communities Project Officers in conjunction with Fife Council Communications Team and was launched in October 2024, with messages put out on social media to coincide with the clocks change in October. Messages shared on our Safer Communities facebook page had a reach of over 40,000 people.



Youth Justice Activities

This year we've been involved in supporting, delivering and/or facilitating the following:

- Delivered our own bullying input with Police at Kirkcaldy HS, Viewforth and Wade.
- Antisocial Behaviour inputs at Balwearie HS, Wade, Inverkeithing HS, Queen Anne HS, Lumphinnans PS, Pitreavie PS, St Leonards PS, Easy P at the Maxwell Centre.
- Designed a new ASB input with Police in Cupar, with others currently being developed to include online safety
- High School transition event for Inverkeithing Primary School as well Levenmouth Academy cluster groupwork with Clued Up.
- Diversifire for pupils that attended schools in Lochgelly/Cowdenbeath, Glenrothes as well as Kirkcaldy areas.
- Punch Beyond diversion at Lochgelly High School.
- Secured funding for the F24 program at Auchmuty High – resulted in the capacity to deliver three groups now with a view to offering all schools in Glenrothes.
- Supporting Active Schools with a 'Healthy Body Healthy Mind' girls' group in Glenrothes.
- Supporting Barnardo's and Clued Up with individual sessions.
- Involved in response to youth ASB in Cupar, Dunfermline, Rosyth, Inverkeithing and Glenrothes (supporting Clued Up, Cupar Youth Café and CLD partners).
- Co facilitating Ask/Tell Suicide Prevention training with Fife Health and Social Care Partnership and Under Pressure Training with VAWP.
- Attended Daring Ventures training, this explores the impact of relationships and how we seek connections. This will help inform training for early years/primary schools
- Mentors in Violence Prevention training, supported sessions at Levenmouth Academy, Glenwood HS, Kirkcaldy High and Balwearie High as well as facilitated capacity building sessions for staff throughout Fife. Also spoke at the first ever MVP conference in Fife.
- Training for Trainers - 'GBV - Early Intervention for primary and early years staff'. This is to enable a delivery of gender-based violence training to early years and primary school staff, so that we can start educating school communities in this area at a far earlier stage.

We have also supported identified young people individually and in groups at the following schools:

- Inverkeithing HS
- Woodmill HS
- St Columba's
- Auchmuty HS,
- Madras College
- Lochgelly HS
- Glenwood HS
- Glenrothes HS
- Levenmouth Academy
- Bell Baxter
- Beath HS
- Queen Anne HS
- Kirkcaldy HS.

YJOs are part of the following initiatives:

- Fife Suicide Prevention Network
- Violence Against Woman Partnership,
- Secondary Support Multiagency/SLG,
- YAP Group.

YJOs on the Spot - questions asked and answered:

Why did you get involved in an event/project?

We attend regular meetings such as YOMG, youth work meetings, strategy groups, MVP strategy group amongst others, because of attending these meetings, it allows us opportunities to offer support and offer earlier intervention/prevention.

Who asked for your help?

Partners such as Education, Police Scotland and SFRS. Other third sector partners we have approached directly, for support with their expertise, such as BRAG with their F24 experience or Barnardo's to support summer programs with inputs.

What partnership working took place?

We've launched a new partnership with the YMCA in Glenrothes to expand the F24 program. As part of this, the YMCA will deliver a digital youthwork experience, giving young people the chance to develop new skills and explore STEM in a fun and engaging way. This collaboration will not only broaden access to the program but also support its continued growth and delivery.

What was the outcome?

While it can be challenging to measure the outcomes of preventative work, our goal is to give young people the opportunity to be educated and supported in a way that helps them understand the impact of antisocial behaviour in their community and become aware of the agencies that can offer support.

The following photos are from some of the various projects mentioned above

F24 2024-25

Winning the 'best team' in the Fife Schools competition as well as a group photo of all the participants

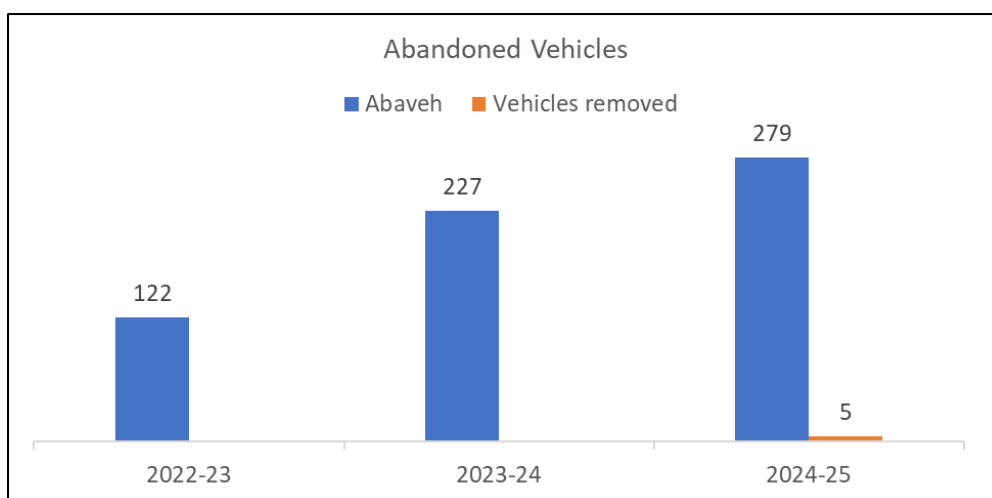


DIVERSIFIRE 2024-25

A variety of photos from the Diversifire Project during 2024-25.

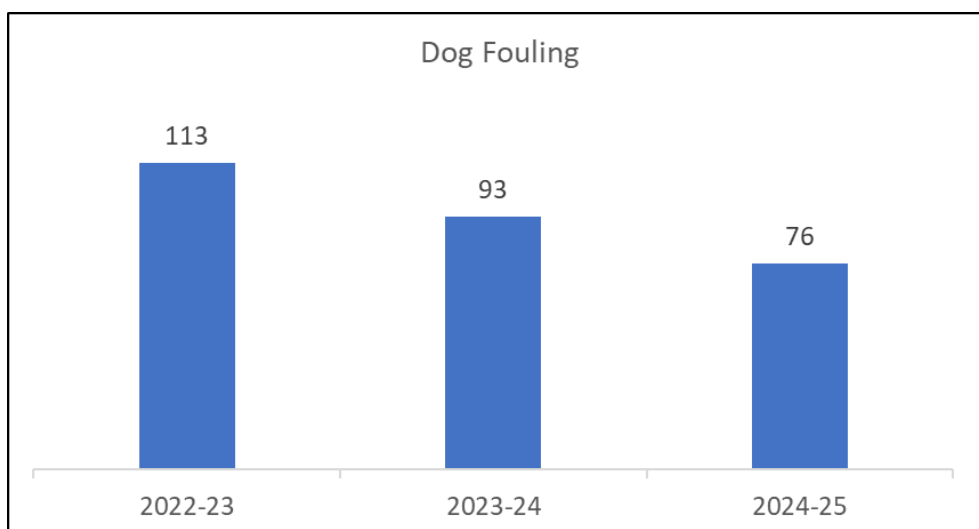


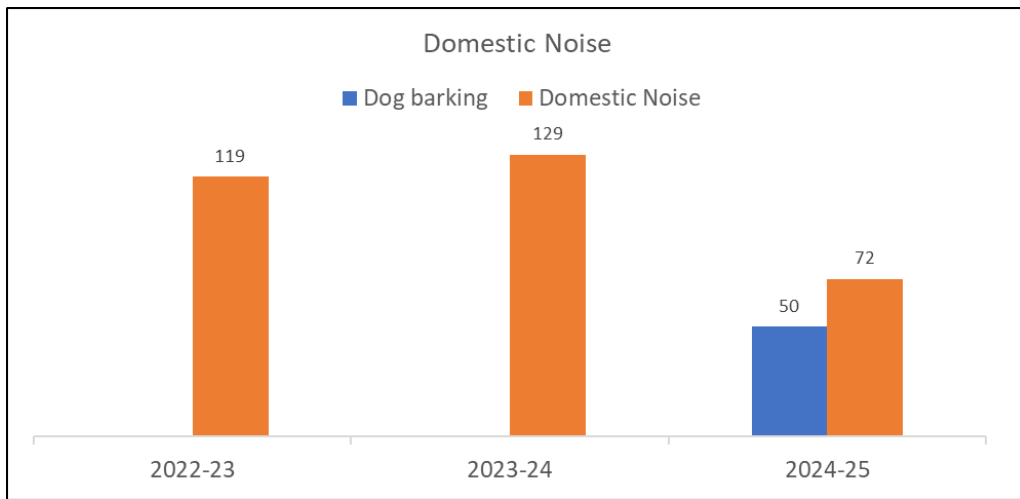
**Environmental Responsibility Service Requests
Received by Safer Communities Team
Levenmouth Committee Area 2022-25**



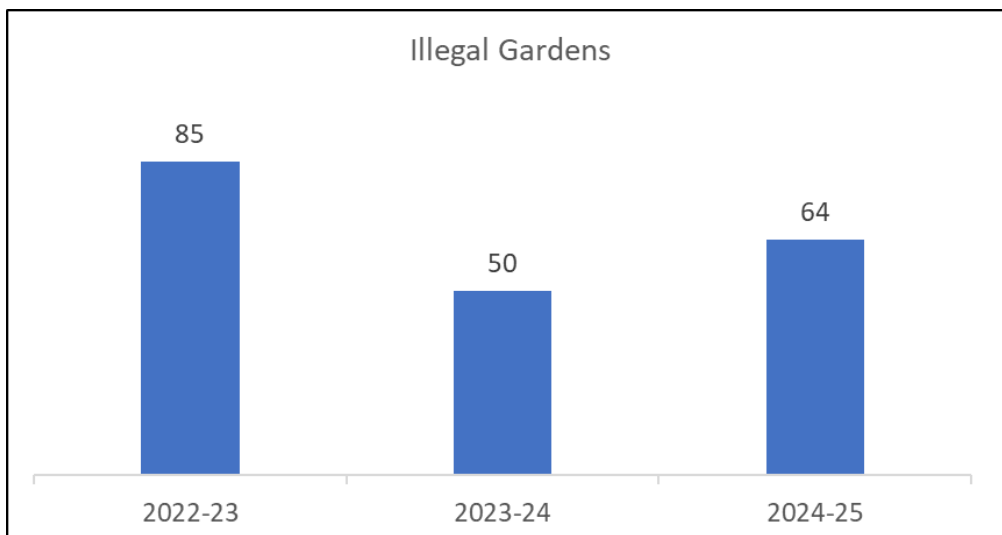
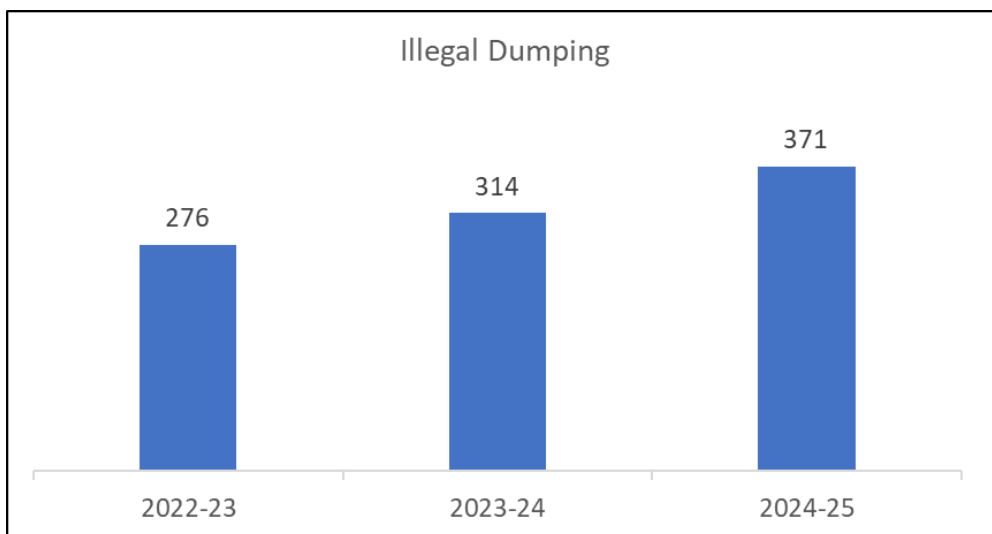
The abandoned vehicle graph above includes new information for 2024-25 regarding the number of vehicles assessed as abandoned and subsequently uplifted.

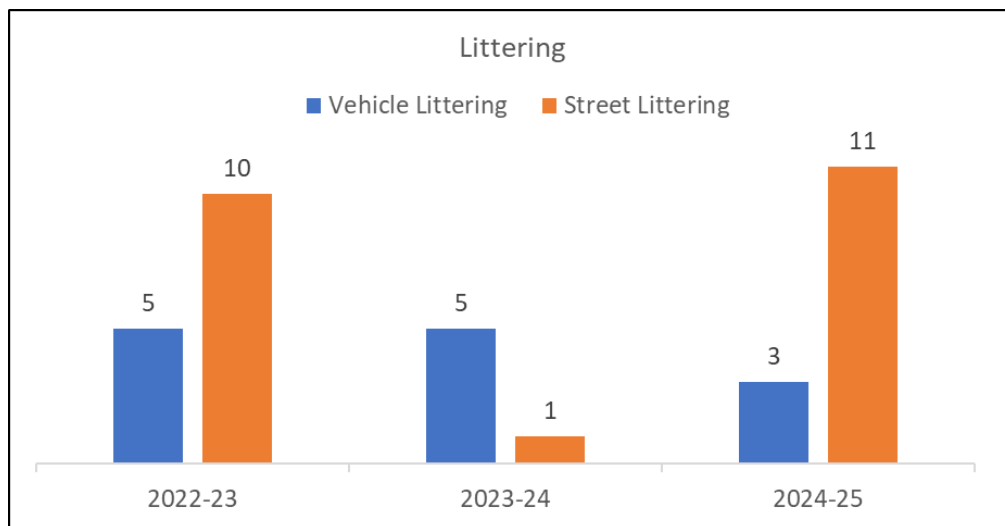
There are various reasons why a vehicle may be reported as abandoned when they are not, and these can include: Lack of movement, condition of vehicle, expired MOT/tax, neighbour dispute, poorly parked, unfamiliar vehicle to area and temporary breakdown.





The Domestic Noise graph above includes new information for 2024-25 regarding dog barking, which the Safer Communities Team now deal with along with other forms of domestic noise.





SCO Patrols and Community Engagement

Photos 1 and 2 show our Safer Communities Officers carrying out Twilight patrols in the Levenmouth area



Photo 1



Photo 2

Photos 3 & 4 show Officers engaging with dog walkers across the Levenmouth area, from giving advice to issuing warnings. We received a warm welcome from the local community, and many people thanked us for our continued service.



Photo 4



Photo 3

Photo 5 shows some of our officers in attendance at an event at the Levenmouth Hub on the High Street, which was well attended by representatives from various agencies and local councillors. We engaged in several productive discussions regarding proposed new bridges and walkways along the River Leven, all of which were highly informative. Additionally, the Levenmouth Community Manager invited us to help identify several key locations along the route for potential new CCTV installations.



Photo 5

1 October 2025
Agenda Item No. 7

Proposed Road Stopping-up - Elm Park, Leven (Part)

Report by: John Mitchell, Head of Roads & Transportation Services

Wards Affected: Ward 22 - Buckhaven, Methil & Wemyss Villages

Purpose

This report seeks approval to promote a stopping-up order for a section of Elm Park (Sawmill Bridge), Leven as illustrated in drawing SM/2024.

Recommendation(s)

It is recommended that Committee agree to the promotion of the stopping-up under Section 1(4) of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984.

Resource Implications

There are no resource implications associated with this proposal.

Legal & Risk Implications

The order will be promoted in accordance with the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 which requires a public notice with a 28-day period for objections.

Impact Assessment

The general duties section of the impact assessment has been completed, and the summary report is attached to this report.

Consultation

All statutory consultation requirements under the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 will be fulfilled through the publication of legal notices in the press and on site at Elm Park.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Elm Park, including Sawmill Bridge and Iron Brig is included in the Council's List of Public Roads and is the responsibility of Roads and Transportation Services to manage and maintain.

- 1.2 On 19th January 2023, provisional approval was granted for a £19.4 million Levelling-Up Fund award for projects in Glenrothes and Mid-Fife. This includes £14.43 million for the Levenmouth Connectivity Project and £4.98million for Riverside Park, Glenrothes.
- 1.3 The Leven River Park Route will provide accessible, on and off-road paths for walking, cycling and wheeling. The 3-4 metre route will connect Leven and Cameron Bridge stations, integrate with rail crossings and link to the wider Active Travel Network including key bridges at Duniface and Mountfleurie.
- 1.4 To ensure full connectivity and successful delivery of these improvements, Elm Park (Sawmill Bridge) requires to be stopped-up to vehicular traffic under Section 1(4) of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984. This process includes a public notice and a 28-day objection period.
- 1.5 Once the statutory process is complete, the route will remain adopted but will be pedestrianised and designated as a footpath. Removing vehicular access is expected to increase the lifespan of the structure and enhance safety for users using the River Park Route.

2.0 Issues and Options

- 2.1 Approval will enable the safe implementation of the Active Travel Route. Otherwise, the road would be left open to vehicular traffic, compromising the safety and effectiveness of the Active Travel Route.

3.0 Conclusions

- 3.1 The proposed stopping-up is essential to ensure the safe and successful implementation of the Active Travel Route.

List of Appendices

1. Plan SM/2024: The Fife Council (Sawmill Bridge/Elm Park, Leven) (Stopping Up) order 2025
2. Equality Impact Assessment Summary

Report Contacts

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Ross Tulloch
Service Manager, Asset Management & Commercial
Bankhead Central, Glenrothes
E-mail – ross.tulloch@fife.gov.uk



Legend

 Stopped Up

The Fife Council (Sawmill Bridge/Elm Park, Leven) (Stopping Up) Order 2025 SM/2024)

Indicative Plan ONLY. Exact adopted road boundaries should be confirmed through Roads Asset Management. All queries should be directed to Garry Glass Ext 444387"

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Scale: 1:1,237

Prepared By: SMcCarroll-95
Service: Roads & Transportation Services
Printing Date: 08 August 2025

Equality Impact Assessment Summary

<p>Which Committee report does this IA relate to (specify meeting date)? Levenmouth Area Committee</p>
<p>What are the main impacts on equality?</p> <p>Impact on Local Businesses: The stopping-up of Elm Park to vehicular traffic may alter access routes for deliveries and customers. However, the enhanced pedestrian and cycling infrastructure is expected to increase footfall, potentially benefiting local businesses in the long term.</p>
<p>In relation to a strategic decision, how will inequalities of outcome caused by economic disadvantage be reduced?</p> <p>The strategic decision to stop-up Elm Park and integrate it into the River Park Route is expected to reduce inequalities of outcome caused by economic disadvantage by improving access, affordability, and opportunity for all, especially those in lower-income or underserved communities.</p> <p>Improved Access to Employment and Services The River Park Route will provide safe, free, and direct access for walking, cycling, and wheeling. This benefits individuals who do not own a car, helping them reach jobs, schools, healthcare, and other essential services more easily.</p> <p>Affordable Transport Options Active travel infrastructure reduces reliance on costly transport modes. This supports low-income households by lowering travel expenses and increasing mobility.</p> <p>Inclusive Economic Participation By connecting communities through accessible routes, the project enables greater participation in the local economy, including access to markets, retail, and leisure. It also supports local businesses by increasing footfall and encouraging community engagement.</p> <p>Health and Wellbeing Benefits Active travel promotes physical activity, which can reduce health inequalities linked to economic disadvantage. Improved health outcomes can lead to better educational and employment prospects, creating a positive economic cycle.</p> <p>Job Creation and Skills Development The Levelling-Up Fund investment supports construction and maintenance jobs, some of which may be targeted toward local or disadvantaged groups. Opportunities for training and apprenticeships may also be integrated into the delivery of the project.</p> <p>Long-Term Economic Resilience Infrastructure that supports sustainable travel contributes to resilient communities, better prepared to adapt to economic challenges. It encourages investment and regeneration, particularly in areas previously</p>

underserved.

What are the main recommendations to enhance or mitigate the impacts identified?

Inclusive Design Standards

Ensure the pedestrianised route is fully accessible for all users, including those with disabilities, older adults, and parents with prams.

Incorporate features such as tactile paving, gentle gradients, rest areas, and clear signage.

Community Engagement

Conduct targeted consultation with economically disadvantaged groups and those with protected characteristics to ensure their needs are considered.

Use accessible formats and multiple channels (online, in-person, translated materials) to reach diverse audiences.

Support for Local Businesses

Provide clear signage and alternative access routes during construction to minimise disruption.

Promote the area as a destination for walking and cycling to increase footfall and support economic activity.

If there are no equality impacts on any of the protected characteristics, please explain.

Following a thorough assessment, no negative impacts have been identified on any of the protected characteristics, including age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.

Further information is available from: Name / position / contact details:

Vicki Storrar, Lead Consultant (Roads & Lighting Asset Management)

1 October 2025

Agenda Item No. 8

Charges for the cleaning of communal areas in low/mid-rise blocks

Report by: John Mills, Head of Housing

Wards Affected: Ward Nos. Levenmouth (21,22).

Purpose

To consult with Area Committees about applying a consistent charging procedure where the Council cleans the stairwells and other communal areas on behalf of its tenants. This will address the current inequity and help recover the costs to the Council of providing the service.

Recommendation(s)

The Committee is asked to:

Agree to harmonise charges and apply this to all tenants who receive the service. This will reduce pressure on the HRA from 2026/27 onwards through a two-year implementation programme.

Resource Implications

This proposal will help recover the cost of providing the service and increase income into the HRA. The exercise to harmonise charges applied for stairwell cleaning can be undertaken by existing staffing resources.

Legal & Risk Implications

There are no additional legal or risk implications arising from this report.

Impact Assessment

An EqlA summary form has been completed –the summary form is attached in the appendix.

Consultation

A discussion has been held with Fife Tenants Forum, and they were supportive of this approach. Further consultation with the tenants affected by this proposal will be undertaken prior to any changes being implemented.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The Revised Estate Management Approach has resulted in various initiatives to improve our housing estates. There needs to be a continued focus on improving the condition of stairwells, closes and other shared spaces particularly in our six in a block and maisonette flats. Stair cleaning is an important part of estate management in flatted dwellings, and it is important communal areas are maintained to a reasonable standard.
- 1.2 The Council tenancy agreement states it is the responsibility of tenants with internal communal areas to maintain these on a weekly basis. They must be kept clean, neat and tidy and always clear of obstruction. Where the Council cleans stairwells and other communal areas then the cost of providing this service should be recovered from the tenants in accordance with the Housing Services Charging Policy. This states all those who benefit from the service should pay for it equally and equitably.
- 1.3 A review was recently undertaken of the charges applied to tenants for the cleaning of stairwells in low/mid-rise blocks of flats. It was found there were variations in how this was applied across different locations. For example, in Glenrothes and Levenmouth there are currently no charges made to tenants for this service. Other areas show charges being applied inconsistently across different blocks. There are examples where neighbouring blocks are receiving the same level of service, and some are being charged for this work and others are not. Overall, the current income received from tenants does not fully recover the cost of the Council providing this service.
- 1.4 The reason for this lack of consistency in charging for stairwell cleaning seems to be historic. It is likely the arrangements currently in place pre-date the creation of Fife Council. We currently do not provide this type of cleaning service in Dunfermline and South West Fife and the responsibility therefore falls to the tenants in these areas to clean their own stairwells and communal areas. The former District Council opted not to provide this type of service for their tenants, and this position has remained unchanged.
- 1.5 The Factoring Service roll out has increased the number of mixed tenure blocks under our management where the Council has successfully been appointed as the factor. An exercise was undertaken to ensure the owners in these blocks were appropriately charged for their share of the services that are provided. In factored blocks, the owners share of the cleaning costs is fully recovered. However, this service charge is not always applied to the Council tenants who live within these same blocks.

2.0 Current position

- 2.1 The total cost in 2024/25 for providing stair cleaning services was £435,504 and for 2025/26 it is £459,650. It is anticipated this cost will continue to increase annually. The table below outlines the monthly costs of providing this service across the relevant Areas. It also shows the current income received from tenants where charges are in place and from owners who are in factored blocks.

Table one

	NEF	LVN	GLN	KDY	COW
Service cost each month.	£5343.23	£2454.17	£6091.67	£23358.19	£1056.95
No. Tenants receiving service	321	207	361	1417	69
No. Tenants charged	83	0	0	1155	65
Tenant Charge Income	£1734.88	£0	£0	£6190.80	£348.40
Owner Charge Income	£441.72	£84.55	£1202.76	£4126.61	£71.07
HRA subsidy	£3166.63	£2369.62	£4888.91	£13,040.78	£637.48

- 2.2 The income received from tenants does not meet the full cost of providing this service and there was a considerable annual shortfall of £284,307 in 2024/25 that had to be met by the HRA. This will increase to £289,241.04 for 2025/26. This is not sustainable going forward and the current charging structures applied are not equitable to tenants across different areas in Fife.
- 2.3 The current charges applied to tenants on a fortnightly basis are either £0, or the flat rate of £2.68 (caretaking charge) or £7.34 (stair cleaning charge) per fortnight. A higher stair cleaning charge is in place in St Andrews of £15.18 per fortnight.

3.0 Proposed approach

- 3.1 A phased approach will be taken to rectify the current anomalies in the charging procedure over two years. This will give us time to consult with the tenants who will be affected and update the housing system with the revised service charges. It is proposed the initial tranche will commence at the start of 2026/27 and includes 84 blocks located in the Kirkcaldy, Glenrothes and North East Fife areas.
- 3.2 Once the initial phase of this exercise is completed any feedback received will be considered and changes will be made to the process if required. It is planned that phase two will continue in the Summer of next year and include a further 114 blocks across Kirkcaldy and Levenmouth. There will be a phase three and four covering the remaining 295 blocks in North East Fife, Levenmouth, Glenrothes, Kirkcaldy and Cowdenbeath and these are scheduled to be completed towards the end of Financial Year 2026/27. Appendix two shows the number of properties that will be included in each of the four phases of this exercise. This includes a breakdown of how many tenants will have to either pay this service charge for the first time or where the existing charge will need to be amended.
- 3.3 Tenants will be required to contribute towards the cost of providing this service and the standardised fortnightly charge is expected to be in the region of £6. This will reduce most of the current shortfall in providing the stair cleaning service. For those tenants in

receipt of Universal Credit this is an eligible charge that should be covered by the DWP. Assistance will be offered to tenants to ensure they correctly notify the DWP and claim this additional charge along with their rent.

- 3.4 A 'Fife Living Rent' is defined as being affordable for a household with someone in full-time employment and not assisted through benefits, based on a calculation of charging a fixed percentage (28%) of net lower quartile earnings. In Fife, the current living rent threshold is £127.68 per week. Total rent costs inclusive of this additional service charge would be below this level and therefore considered affordable.

4.0 Conclusions

- 4.1 A revised charging procedure should be applied consistently and equitably for stair cleaning services across each Area. This should assist with the costs of providing this service and reduce the current level of subsidy from the HRA.
- 4.2 Consultation will be carried out with tenants affected by the implementation of new or revised charges for stair cleaning in their blocks. It is the responsibility of tenants to maintain their communal areas to a good standard of cleanliness and the cost of this must be passed on if the Council provides this service on their behalf.
- 4.3 As part of the Revised Estate Management Approach it will be explored whether there is a demand for this service in areas of Fife that have not benefited to date. This would involve consultation with tenants who live in low/mid-rise blocks in Dunfermline and South West Fife.

List of Appendices

1. EqlA Summary Form
2. Area breakdown of each phase of the exercise to rectify the current anomalies in the charging procedure.

Background Papers

The following papers were relied on in the preparation of this report in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1973:-

None.

Report Contact:

Joan Lamie
Service Manager Housing Estates and Safer Communities
Email: joan.lamie@fife.gov.uk

Equality Impact Assessment Summary Report

(to be attached as an Appendix to the committee report)

Which Committee report does this IA relate to (specify meeting date)?

Area Committees

What are the main impacts on equality?

No impact as the cost of the stair cleaning service will now apply consistently to Council tenants Fife who receive this service.

What are the main recommendations to enhance or mitigate the impacts identified?

Whilst tenants within the protected characteristics living in Fife Council housing will be affected by the proposal, there will be no difference in the treatment of tenants who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

If there are no equality impacts on any of the protected characteristics, please explain.

No recommendations other than to monitor any potential impacts through future review.

Further information is available from: Name / position / contact details:

John Mills, Head of Housing

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Appendix one – Area/phase breakdown

493 Blocks 2344 FC Properties

Blocks

<u>Phase</u>	<u>Fife</u>	<u>NEF</u>	<u>LVN</u>	<u>GLN</u>	<u>KDY</u>	<u>COW</u>
1	84	10	0	29	45	0
2	114	0	3	0	0	0
3	162	22	24	22	88	6
4	133	41	5	29	51	7

Properties

<u>Phase</u>	<u>Fife</u>	<u>NEF</u>	<u>LVN</u>	<u>GLN</u>	<u>KDY</u>	<u>COW</u>
1	317	29	0	131	157	0
2	489	0	20	0	469	0
3	952	106	158	100	556	32
4	586	176	29	130	214	37

New Charges

<u>Phase</u>	<u>Fife</u>	<u>NEF</u>	<u>LVN</u>	<u>GLN</u>	<u>KDY</u>	<u>COW</u>
1	168	28	0	131	9	0
2	184	0	20	0	164	0
3	403	79	158	100	63	3
4	295	121	29	130	14	1

<u>Amended Charges</u>						
<u>Phase</u>	<u>Fife</u>	<u>NEF</u>	<u>LVN</u>	<u>GLN</u>	<u>KDY</u>	<u>COW</u>
1	149	1	0	0	148	0
2	305	0	0	0	305	0
3	549	27	0	0	493	29
4	291	55	0	0	200	36

1 October 2025

Agenda Item No.9

Levenmouth Reconnected Programme Grant Awards

Report by: John Mitchell, Head of Roads and Transportation Services

Wards Affected: Ward 21 – Leven, Kennoway and Largo, Ward 22 – Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to allow Committee to consider a project recommended for funding from the sixth round of the Levenmouth Reconnected Programme Large Grant Fund.

Recommendation(s)

The committee is asked to approve an award of £250,000 to the Bishops Court, Kennoway, Public Realm improvement project, from the Levenmouth Reconnected Large Grant Programme

Resource Implications

The grant funding remaining in the Levenmouth Reconnected Programme as of 10th September 2025 is £2,042,866. Should the above project be approved for a grant award; £1,792,866 would remain in the grant programme.

Legal & Risk Implications

Legal Services has reviewed and agreed the Grant terms and conditions.

Impact Assessment

An Equality Impact Assessment and a Fife Environmental Assessment Tool (FEAT) assessment have not been completed because the report does not propose a change or revision to existing policies or practices. Individual projects will carry out their own Impact Assessments.

Consultation

Fife Council Financial Services, Legal Services and the Communications and Customer Insights team have been consulted in preparing this report.

Consultation has been undertaken with the Levenmouth Reconnected Programme Working Group and Oversight Group, in the assessment of individual projects.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The process to approve grant awards from the £10m Levenmouth Reconnected Programme (LRP) fund was approved by the Policy & Coordination Committee on 13 May 2021 (2021 PC78 para. 296 refers).
- 1.2 Currently, £6,661,092 has been awarded to large grant projects over five rounds. The total grant made available to small projects is £350,000 and £60,920 has been awarded to accelerated projects.

2.0 Issues and Options

- 2.1 In round 6 of the large grant programme four projects submitted Large Grant Applications.
- 2.2 The Levenmouth Reconnected Working Group assessment panel has assessed and scored the four project applications in accordance with the agreed governance process.
- 2.3 Of these projects, one was recommended for a funding award, two were requested to provide additional information and one was rejected.
- 2.4 The LRP Oversight Group reviewed the project assessments and also recommended that the Bishops Court, Kennoway, Public Realm Improvement Project receive a grant award.
- 2.5 Appendix 1 summarises this project.
- 2.6 The remaining two projects will be assessed and scored once additional information has been received.

3.0 Conclusions

- 3.1 The Bishops Court, Kennoway project has been scrutinised and scored by the Large Grant Award Assessment Panel and approved by the LRP Oversight Group for a funding award of £250,000 from the LRP Large Grant Programme.

List of Appendices

- 1. Project Summary

Background Papers

None

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Bishops Court, Kennoway, Public Realm Improvement Project

Project Summary	Total cost	LRP grant
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A much-needed public realm improvement at a busy local retail centre in Kennoway, which also houses health service provision. Bishops Court is also a key interchange for buses between Leven and Glenrothes bus stations. • The primary objective of the proposal is to improve the environment for users of the shops and NHS services, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removing the old walls and railings along the shopping level and replacing them with railings • Creating a ramp from the bus stop to make access easier for everyone • Upgrading the surfaces along the parade of shops • Adding new seating and planters to make the space more welcoming • The improvements will also impact on the feeling of safety for users of this space • The current state of the public realm at Bishops Court is poor; the space has had very little investment since it was first built in the 1960's. The central terrace used to house below ground toilets, which fell out of use in the early 1990's. We have been required to carry out infill work at these toilets to allow us to progress with the designs for the new ramp access to the shopping level, as we would not have been allowed to construct anything while there was a void space below. This significant infill work was covered through Fife Council revenue budgets, as we understand it at this point the work cost in the region of £50,000. • Local or Neighbourhood retail areas have found it difficult to attract public realm funding from Council budgets as most of the available funding gravitates to the plethora of main town centres in Fife. However, we feel that more focus is required on these local sites given there is ongoing encouragement to promote the concept of better access to local services. In Scotland for example, 20-minute neighbourhoods have made their way into policy and political spheres through inclusion within the Programme for Government 2020-21 and explicit mention in the recently published National Planning Framework 4 Position Statement. • This project would support several key priorities within the current local plan around, improving the built environment, supporting sustainable transport options, community safety, supporting local businesses and protecting jobs. • Match funding has already been allocated from the Levenmouth Area Committee Capital Budget. 	£330,000	£250,000

Key Risks (mitigation):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding shortfall due to cost increase. (Contingency sum applied to costs, scope for value engineering to match budget, scope for finding additional funding) Contract Programme does not meet LRP timeframe (Design complete, public consultation complete and public in support, project managed by Fife Council Property Services) Weather delays (Nature of project and environment means this is a low risk in terms of project delays) Lack of community buy in (Community instigated project, Overwhelming support at consultation phase, design changed to accommodate public needs) Maintenance of new assets does not meet local expectations (Use of Place approach to ensure maintenance regimes are adhered to and asset is properly looked after)
Timescale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Works require to be tendered however will be deliverable by the end of March 2026.
Opportunities for all	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of access ramp to improve access by people with mobility issues accessing the shopping level from the bus stop and adjacent areas.
Inclusive Jobs and Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investment in the public asset will contribute to triggering private investment in the quality of shopfronts and the shopping offer. A higher quality offer should help promote footfall, secure existing employment and expand job opportunities in an area where people in the main, have to travel out of town to access employment.
Community Led Services	<p>Increased volunteering opportunities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early discussions with the Kennoway Community Shed have been successful in securing agreement on the type and style of planters for the shopping area. These will be maintained by this local community group, with plants supplied from their own nursery facilities at the nearby Cotlands Park. This work will be carried out by local volunteers who have been involved in a range of projects including the development of the nearby memorial garden, which is a well-kept landmark in the town, appreciated by local people, which tangibly highlights the quality of maintenance achievable by a motivated local group supported when required by the Council.
Thriving Places	<p>Improvements in transport connectivity (walking, cycling, bus and rail).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This project will improve access to services and will help promote the use of the local bus services. <p>Town centre public realm improvements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bishops Court houses a library, health centre, pharmacy, COOP as well as a cafe unit, takeaways and hairdressers. This type of provision ensures the space has reasonably significant footfall, and as such contributes to the reduction of longer car journeys to other locations for people in the Kennoway area wishing to access services. Feedback from local consultation highlighted that local people liked to use the space but felt let down by the overall look of Bishops Court and considered it to be peripheral in the thoughts of the Council when it came to investment priorities. These improvements will ensure the space is more sustainable, better used and more appreciated. <p>Maximising the quality of the built and natural environment.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence shows that when the Council invests in its public realm areas, there is reciprocal investment into shop fronts and internal space by business owners.
Maximises social and economic benefits of rail line	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New train services offer better travel options for those who require some assistance, there also needs to be improvements made to onward travel options locally. The new train station is fully accessible and close to onward travel options by bus, taxi, or private car, this project improves access arrangements at the main bus stop and retail centre for Kennoway, therefore building on the introduction of more robust and accessible travel infrastructure locally. This proposal therefore actively supports the core aim of the Levenmouth Rail link - which states that the link will provide a major boost to economic sustainability for the area. The addition of high-quality infrastructure that supports visitors and residents and promotes Levenmouth as an inclusive destination is key to maintaining the positive momentum in terms of economic activity that the rail link will bring
Other Project Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meets Community aspirations for a place they use and value Invests in an area which has not seen a significance investment from projects supported by the LRP Will be deliverable within the Programme timescales.

Assessment Panel Summary

- Project delivers on a number of themes across improved transport links, improved place and public realm, opportunities for local journeys, reduction in the need for further travel to access services.
- Delivers an improved asset which will be maintained in perpetuity.
- Project driven from resident and local input.

Grant Offer

Full grant offer

1 October 2025
Agenda Item No. 10

Supporting the Levenmouth Local Community Plan – Festive Lighting Plug Points East Wemyss

Report by: Paul Vaughan, Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods

Wards Affected: Ward 22

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek agreement from the Area Committee for a contribution from the Local Community Planning Budget (LCPB) for a total of £5,150 to install plug points to facilitate the installation of festive lights in East Wemyss.

Recommendation(s)

The committee is asked to agree a contribution of £5150.00 towards the cost of the installation of 16 plug points on lighting columns in East Wemyss, to facilitate the installation of festive lights.

Resource Implications

Approval of this funding will reduce the LCPB element by £5150.00.

Legal & Risk Implications

There are no legal implications inherent in this report. Risk management is at the heart of the process in terms of fitting units securely and safely. This approach to supporting community led lighting installations is low risk, in that it incorporates secure and safe plug in points installed by Fife Council on lighting columns that have been individually assessed to ensure they can take the relevant load.

Impact Assessment

An Equalities Impact Assessment is not required because the report does not propose a change or revision to existing policies and practices.

Consultation

This approach has been promoted by the East Wemyss and McDuff Community Council, elected members have been aware of the proposal from its inception. Given the tight timescales for this project members were also consulted on this approach by email on 3/9/25. Members were asked if they were supportive of the approach being proposed to install the plug in points, members advised that they were. The community manager also met with a steering group for this project on 18th June and 11th August to progress the approach.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The criteria for spend from the LCPB requires authorisation from Area Committee before amounts of over £5,000 can be committed.
- 1.2 This report is to seek agreement from this Area Committee for a contribution from the Local Community Planning Budget, specifically in this case from the Ward 22 budget.

2.0 Issues and Options

- 2.1 The Levenmouth Plan notes that a key priority for local people is to make the most of the built environment in the various communities throughout Levenmouth. Other towns and villages have benefitted from lighting schemes over the last few years including Kennoway and the Coaltown of Wemyss. These displays give a clear statement in terms of pride in place, with local people at the forefront of the project approaches.
- 2.2 It has been agreed locally that the Council will support efforts by a suitable local representative body, in our various settlements, to secure festive lighting arrangements by funding the plug in infrastructure for lighting units. The communities themselves would be responsible for the hire in, or purchase of lights from established suppliers, so far this appears to be a good way of progressing these types of local projects.
- 2.3 As noted we rely heavily on our colleagues in Transportation, especially the street lighting team, who have been key to progressing the safety checks on the integrity of individual columns, and organising the installation of the plug points.
- 2.4 East Wemyss and Mcduff community council have been very proactive in raising funding for the light fittings themselves and this partnership arrangement ensures that the community is putting its own stamp on investments in the community.

3.0 Conclusion

- 3.1 This project will make an impact on civic pride in the area whilst supporting the local economy.
- 3.2 In addition, this project meets the underpinning aims of the approved Levenmouth Local Community Plan, notably around the theme of Thriving Places.

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1 October 2025
Agenda Item No. 11

Supporting the Levenmouth Local Community Plan – Leven Town Centre Festive Lights

Report by: Paul Vaughan, Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods

Wards Affected: Ward 21

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek agreement from the Area Committee for a contribution from the Local Community Planning Budget (LCPB) of £8,000, towards the festive lights display.

Recommendation(s)

The committee is asked to agree:-

- 1) a contribution of £8000.00 towards the cost of the erection and dismantling of the festive decorations for Leven town centre during November/December 2024; and
- 2) that if there are additional costs in terms of repairs to fixing points identified during erection, these will be covered separately through delegated decision making if under the £5000 threshold.

Resource Implications

Approval of this funding will reduce the LCPB element by £8000.00

Legal & Risk Implications

There are no legal implications inherent in this report. Risk management is at the heart of the process in terms of fitting units securely and safely. A visual inspection will be carried out at the time of fitting and any repairs required to anchor points or to lighting hardware will be carried out before fitting takes place. The team charged with carrying out the work are highly experienced and competent to carry out this work. A high-lift unit will be used to allow the work to take place in a manner that ensures the safety of pedestrians and those carrying out the work. The timing for this work will be scheduled to coincide with quiet periods for the High Street area.

Impact Assessment

An Equalities Impact Assessment is not required because the report does not propose a change or revision to existing policies and practices

Consultation

There is no specific consultation process attached to this request. The festive lighting show in Leven is a recurring event and draws positive plaudits from visitors to the town.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The criteria for spend from the LCPB requires authorisation from Area Committee before amounts of over £5,000 can be committed.
- 1.2 This report is to seek agreement from this Area Committee for a contribution from the Local Community Planning Budget.
- 1.3 Leven was always considered a main town centre in Fife and benefitted year on year from funding from the Council to put on a display of festive lights. This funding was subsumed several years ago into the local community planning budget for the area, as part of a streamlining exercise for budgetary codes.

2.0 Issues and Options

- 2.1 The Levenmouth Plan notes that economic development and area regeneration is a key focus, and the last two years has seen several projects put in place to improve the environment around Leven town centre, including improvements to, and decluttering of, the High Street furniture provision.
- 2.2 Leven High Street is the main retail area within Levenmouth, offering a selection of national stores along with independent shops. This retail space has become more accessible since the opening of the rail link to a wider number of Fife based customers and visitors from further afield.
- 2.3 Improvements to visual amenity and making the area a nice place to be for shoppers and visitors will help to retain and hopefully increase the footfall of the area. We will continue to monitor the footfall recording data over the festive period and beyond to better understand how and when the High Street area is being utilised by local people and visitors to the town.
- 2.4 Leven Environment Group (LEG) has led on the festive lights project for many years and is supported by Leven Community Council. The erection and dismantling of the lighting structures, as well as the ongoing maintenance and safe storage of the units, is an involved and complex piece of work.
- 2.5 Along with the installation and dismantling process, the LEG group also lead on the safety of the plug points and retaining bolts, and as noted in the report already, they ensure these are checked in accordance with current safety regulations. In the case of the retaining bolts these must be checked regularly by a specialist testing company and are certified as meeting the standards.

3.0 Conclusion

- 3.1 This project meets the underpinning aims of the approved Levenmouth Local Community Plan, notably around the theme of Thriving Places. The involvement of a voluntary group in the organisation of this festive offer also supports the ethos of moving towards community led services.

Report Contact

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1 October 2025
Agenda Item No. 12

Supporting the Levenmouth Local Community Plan – Warm Spaces funding-LCPB

Report by: Paul Vaughan, Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods

Wards Affected: Ward 21, 22

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek agreement from the Area Committee for a contribution from the LCPB funding for Levenmouth of £25,000 towards the full cost of provision of warm spaces in Levenmouth.

Recommendation(s)

The committee is asked to:-

- 1) agree a contribution of £25,000 towards the cost of providing warm spaces in Levenmouth and;
- 2) note that this funding is purely from the local budgets and that there is no centralised funding support available in the current year.

Resource Implications

Approval of this funding will reduce the Levenmouth local community planning fund by £25,000.

Legal & Risk Implications

There are no legal implications inherent in this report. All issues relating to the service provision by the individual projects noted in this report are covered by individual risk assessments carried out that are relevant to the facility being used.

Impact Assessment

An Equalities Impact Assessment is not required because the report does not propose a change or revision to existing policies and practices.

Consultation

This approach was formed through discussions at the Poverty Board and has been endorsed by the Cabinet Committee, this is a continuation of an approach which has been in place since 2022. Part of this report will give an overview of the provision in 2024/25 which has strong evidence of the value of this service.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The criteria for spend from the LCPB requires authorisation from Area Committee before amounts of over £5,000 can be committed.
- 1.2 This report is to seek agreement from the Area Committee for a contribution from the LCPB of £25,000.
- 1.3 A considerable number of local groups have in past few years stepped up to the plate to put in place measures across most of the settlements in our area to ensure that in light of the cost-of-living crisis, individuals and families had a place to turn to for some support.
- 1.4 A list of the current providers of the service are shown below:
 - The Shed @ Bayview
 - St Kenneth's Parish Church, Kennoway
 - Kennoway Community Shed
 - Leven Bowling Club
 - Rotary Club of Buckhaven & Methil
 - Windygates Bowling Club
 - Kennoway Bowling & Sports Club
 - Leven Parish Church
 - Methilhill Community Children's Initiative (MCCI)
 - Leven Parish Church
 - East Wemyss C.A.F.E.
 - Rosie & McDuff Management Committee
 - Home-Start Levenmouth
 - The Auld Hoose
 - Buckhaven Bowling Club
- 1.5 The prerequisite for any service activity by a community-based group was that it had to operate from a suitably accessible venue and offer some aspect of social interaction or additionality to just a warm space. Feedback from several groups have shown that this aspect of the offer is often what recipients appreciate most.
- 1.6 An evaluation report was completed by the Local Development Officer, Jen Watt to review the provision in 2024/25, some of the findings of that evaluation are shown below and provide evidence as to the value of the approach.
- 1.7 The report was based on 11 evaluations returned from the 14 groups who received funding from local budgets.
- 1.8 Of the 14 providers 8 groups were within ward 21 and 6 in ward 22, from these 4 providers were able to run all year-round provision, going well beyond the expected timeframe, which was set as November to March.
- 1.9 Twelve of the groups were able to provide preventative work which covered the dissemination of information through leaflets, signposting to other services or visits from specialist advice and support services.

- 1.10 We used Fife's Council's 'Get Help' website to share information on the range of warm welcomes sessions and were able to offer 7 days of provision which also covered evenings which evidences the variety in our area offer, to suit a range of needs.
- 1.11 Provider organisations were also offered free training covering Elementary Food Hygiene, First Aid and Our Fife Support to ensure group's awareness of necessary regulations and to aid the employability journey for local volunteers involved in groups.
- 1.12 In total the community groups involved in the Warm Spaces approach in Levenmouth managed to provide 8786 meals across winter 2024-2025.
- 1.13 Evaluation tells us the benefits felt by the community are more through increased connections with people and as a result reduced social isolation, as opposed to the importance of support due to fuel poverty/insecurity, although this is still a major consideration.
- 1.14 These connections go beyond the winter period and see increased activity by participants throughout the year, some of this was through sign-ups to CLD led provision as well as support being given to access other community-based activities.
- 1.15 Some comments from participants and providers are captured below to give a flavour of the benefits of the approach:
- 'Feels like a home from home, all staff are so nice and make everyone feels welcome. My son loves visiting and doing the different crafts they always have prepared and help him with. He loves the toys and enjoys playing away independently which he doesn't do most places'
 - 'We have found this project very valuable for bringing people together. Intergenerational relationships have been made as our older customers enjoy chatting to the children or reading them a book.'
 - 'One of the most impactful ways we supported connection was by encouraging volunteering. Many participants who first attended as guests later came back to volunteer, forming new friendships and support networks in the process. These volunteer opportunities gave people a sense of purpose and helped them feel more rooted in the community. Four of the original attendees have subsequently joined the club and now volunteer at many different events'
 - 'This was a huge success, people benefitting from a heat, chatting away, doing arts and crafts or knitting & woodworking, gardening.'
 - 'Stronger connections have been made within the community by providing a regular space for people to meet. There is now a group/committee, to raise funds for Christmas lights for the village. More community members are attending the Community Council meetings as well'

2.0 Issues and Options

- 2.1 The Levenmouth Plan notes that investment is required to mitigate the impacts of poverty and inequality in Levenmouth. This project supports that approach along with the benefits as observed last year of reducing social isolation which in turn helps to improve mental health outcomes.

- 2.2 We will look to run the approach from November 2025 through to the end of March 2026.
- 2.3 In previous years we have been able to be relatively generous in our funding offer to groups, as we benefitted from additional funding from COVID recovery funding etc.
- 2.4 The Community Manager wrote to elected members by email on 11/04/25 to advise that this additional funding would no longer be available, and the focus for centralised funding would be on general support to CARF and Cosy Kingdom as well as extending the funding for the boiler repair scheme and winter warmer packs - which will be Fife wide offers.
- 2.5 At that time it was hoped that we would be able to continue to work with all the current providers in the area, albeit at a reduced level of funding.
- 2.6 On that basis it is proposed that we will contact all the noted providers and request them to formulate an approach that will fit within the new budget envelope. This may require a reduction in the extent of a food offer within the service, however we would hope that given the evidence of the evaluation that social interaction and support would continue at the high levels and evident quality, of previous years.
- 2.7 We would not propose to look to expand the current cohort of providers at this time, however we would keep discussions open if members felt there were gaps.
- 2.8 Should additional funding become available over the winter period we would advise members through ward meetings and seek direction from members through ward meetings, on whether these should potentially be allocated as a top up help to groups providing a warm space service. This was an approach we took in 2023.

3.0 Conclusion

- 3.1 This project will make an impact in terms of improving support opportunities for individuals and families who are vulnerable and as a result will be significantly impacted by the ongoing cost-of-living crisis, plus the further impact of increased utilities cost due to the increase in the price cap. This project forms a key part of the tools local partners need to ensure we can provide a safety net for those who need it across all our main settlements.
- 3.2 In addition, this project meets the underpinning aims of the current approved Levenmouth Local Community Plan, notably around the theme of Opportunities for All and Thriving Places.

List of Appendices

None

Background Papers

Warm Welcomes Review 2024/25- Jen Watt Local Development Officer

[Cost of Living Support](#) - link to get help website

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1 October 2025

Agenda Item No. 13

Supporting the Levenmouth Local Community Plan – River Park Interim Update

Report by: Paul Vaughan Head of Communities and Neighbourhoods

Wards Affected: Ward 21& 22

Purpose

This report is only for noting and gives members an update on the progress of the River Park programme. This report was requested by members and forms part of the governance approach for funding allocated by Levenmouth Reconnected, which was agreed at the 12th February 2025 meeting (2025 LAC 74 para. 191 refers).

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to note:-

- 1) the current activity relevant to this project; and
- 2) that the physical work has not yet started on site due to ongoing lease discussions.

Resource Implications

There is no resource implication directly linked to this report, although as stated this project is supported financially by the Levenmouth Reconnected fund, along with other funders, most notably the National Lottery.

Legal & Risk Implications

There are no legal implications inherent in this report, however members will note that a range of risk issues were noted in the 12th February 2025 report which included:

- Securing lease arrangements over land for the Nature Network and River Accessibility projects
- The Integration of Nature Network and River Accessibility project works with River Park route being delivered by Fife Council
- Delivery of capital works within LRP funding timescale
- Low take up of engagement activities and events so benefits not realised as a result

An Equalities Impact Assessment is not required because the report does not propose a change or revision to existing policies and practices.

Consultation

Members will be aware that the wider Leven Programme has carried out a significant range of consultative activity over the last few years. As noted in the 12th February 2025 report to the Area Committee the engagement processes will continue throughout the lifespan of the River Park programme, to ensure local people are engaged in the approach and able to input into the desired outcomes.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The Leven River Park Programme will run for 4 years and deliver a range of infrastructure, engagement activities and events.
- 1.2 The main activity of the programme will include the following key projects:
 - Interpretation Planning
 - Green Skills Academy (Led by FC)
 - Explore Outdoors (FCCT led)
 - Green Health Partnership (FCCT Led)
 - Heritage group capacity building (GAT/ Archaeology Scotland Led)
 - Ongoing engagement and consultation
 - Nature Network Phase 1 (Planting, habitat enhancement, wetland and pond creation)
 - River accessibility project (path and boardwalk provision)
- 1.3 The programme covers a range of priorities within the LRP framework as well as local planning priorities which include:

Opportunities for all

- By delivering on Family and Adult Learning Opportunities through the various activity headings.
- Improved Health Outcomes for Local People – specifically through Green Health Partnership project but wider outcomes for the provision of improved access to River Park as well as interpretation and engagement activities to encourage the use of the area for physical activity and recreation, which can be key to improving mental health.

Inclusive Jobs and Growth

- Delivers on Increased Opportunities for Skills and Learning through Green Skills Academy with training and opportunities for progressing to employment
- Explore Outdoors programme focuses on personal development

Community Led Services

- Develop and Support Community leadership through Green Health Partnership, community champion led development of interpretation project

- Opportunities for local volunteering for all ages and abilities through the various programmes to be delivered

Thriving Places

- By maximising the quality of the built and natural environment through the nature network and river accessibility project
- Programme delivers on reducing effects of climate change directly through habitat and water environment improvements as well as encouraging low carbon lifestyles, specifically through the encouragement of active travel choices.

- 1.4 In terms of the key priorities for the LRP approach there will be a focus on delivering key economic benefits to the area through
 - Developing the River Leven to be valued local and visitor destination as part of improving the tourism offer in Levenmouth.
 - Ensuring high quality connections to key points in Levenmouth through support to the active travel routes
 - High quality skills and learning opportunities with a focus on local people.
- 1.5 While there will be a range of individual benefits derived from all these activities one of the most exciting will be supported by the Explore Outdoors approach which will link with schools in the area and will seek to support teaching staff to be more confident to utilise outdoor spaces for learning by making more frequent use of them.
- 1.6 This approach aims to change the relationship that local communities have had with the River Leven in the past decades. We had effectively turned our back on the river and as a result it became a space that was not cherished and was left open for abuse.

2.0 Issues and Options

- 2.1 As noted it is a requirement of the funding secured via the LRP for regular updates to come to Committee on the River Park approach. This first update is reasonably short, as the capital element of the work is still to start. There have been very detailed discussions ongoing around securing lease agreements over large areas of ground around the river with the respective landowners.
- 2.2 It is hoped that these lease negotiations will be concluded soon, once they are we expect to have about 3 weeks' notice from the legal agreement to actual physical work starting onsite.
- 2.3 Despite this initial delay there is still a lot of good quality engagement and discussions going on locally, these approaches have been supported by volunteers, and most events that have been organised have been fully booked.
- 2.4 It has become clear that local people wish to see a tangible local dividend for the area, future updates to the committee will ensure these are communicated to members. There are a range of opportunities being explored currently where local individuals and organisations can potentially become delivery agents for a number of activities.
- 2.5 As noted once the lease issues are resolved, the project team is ready to press the button to start construction. When timescales become clear, local letter drops will be carried out by the team and the main construction contractor. Clear messaging on the start date will also be publicised on social media, through the mailing list and via press releases.

- 2.6 A number of members will have attended activities related to the programme over the summer period; it should be noted that these events have also been supported by the members of the Levenmouth Community Steering Group which has been invaluable in getting information out locally. Some highlights are noted below:
- The Community Connections event (1st July) was very successful. This enabled the project team to reconnect with existing partners and meet new people.
 - The 'Trail in the Park' launch event on 16th August – essentially a pop-up heritage trail was very successful. This was run in conjunction with the MCCI Open Day. Attracted 40+ visitors to 5 stalls
 - Activities have also been delivered through Heritage projects, the Green Health Partnership and Community Engagement.
 - 16 activities have been held recently with over 300 participants supported by 80 hours of volunteering time.
- 2.7 For ongoing information members will be encouraged to use and promote the main Leven Programme page which contains useful details on the approaches being taken. One new development is the [Meet the River Park Team](#) page which recently went live and will help you get to know the various team members and check the details on each of the projects.

3.0 Conclusions

- 3.1 As noted this is the first of a range of updates that will be coming to the area committee, to keep elected members fully informed on the progress of the River Park programme.

List of Appendices

None

Background Papers

The following papers were relied on in the preparation of this report in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1973:

- Levenmouth Area Committee – 12th February 2025 Agenda item 5
- The Leven Homepage - <https://www.theleven.org/>

Report Contact

Author Name - David Paterson

Author's Job Title - Community Manager - Levenmouth

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1 October 2025

Agenda Item No. 14

Property Transactions

Report by: Alan Paul, Head of Property Services

Wards Affected: 22

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to advise Members of action taken using the List of Officer Powers in relation to property transactions.

Recommendation(s)

The Committee is asked to note the contents of this report.

Resource Implications

There are no resource implications arising from these transactions, as any expenditure is contained within the appropriate Service budget.

Legal & Risk Implications

There are no legal or risk implications arising from these transactions.

Impact Assessment

An EqIA is not required and is not necessary for the following reasons: the items in this report do not propose a change or revision to existing policies and practices.

Consultation

All consultations have been carried out in relation to this report.

1.0 Background

- 1.1** In dealing with the day to day business of the Council there are a number of matters relating to the purchase, disposal and leasing of property and of property rights. This report advises of those transactions dealt with under powers delegated to Council Officers.

2.0 Transactions

2.1 Acquisitions

2.1.1 6 Weavers Court, East Wemyss

Date of Acquisition: 29 August 2025
Price: £160,000
Reason: Property purchased to add to the council's housing

2.2 Leases by the Council – New Leases

2.2.1 Office 19, Fife Renewable Innovation Centre, Ajax Way, Methil

Term: 5 years from 28 August 2025
Rent: £2,924 per annum from 28 August 2025 to 27 August 2027 rising to £3,440 per annum from 28 August 2027 to 27 August 2030

3.0 Conclusions

- 3.1** These transactions are reported back in accordance with the List of Officer Powers.

List of Appendices

1. N/A

Report Contact

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1 October 2025

Agenda Item No.15

Levenmouth Area Committee Forward Work Programme

Report by: Eileen Rowand, Executive Director, Finance and Corporate Services

Wards Affected: 21 and 22

Purpose

This report supports the Committee's consideration of the workplan for future meetings of the Committee.

Recommendation(s)

It is recommended that the Committee review the workplan and that members come forward with suggestions for specific areas they would like to see covered in any of the reports.

Resource Implications

Committee should consider the resource implication for Council staff of any request for future reports.

Legal and Risk Implications

Committee should consider seeking inclusion of future items on the workplan by prioritising those which have the biggest impact and those which seek to deal with the highest level of risk.

Impact Assessment

None required for this paper.

Consultation

The purpose of the paper is to support the Committee's discussion and therefore no consultation is necessary.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Each Area Committee operates a workplan which contains items which fall under three broad headings: items for decision, supporting the Local Community Plan and Scrutiny/Monitoring. These items will often lead to reactive rather than proactive scrutiny. Discussion on the workplan agenda item will afford members the opportunity to shape, as a committee, the agenda with future items of business it wishes to review in more detail.

2.0 Conclusions

- 2.1 The current workplan is included as Appendix one and should be reviewed by the committee to help inform scrutiny activity.

List of Appendices

1. Workplan

Background Papers

The following papers were relied on in the preparation of this report in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1973:-

- None

Report Contact

Helena Couperwhite

Committee Services Manager

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Levenmouth Area Committee of 3 December 2025			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Area Housing Plan 2025-26	Housing Services	Peter Nicol	Annual Report. Last reported 27.11.24. Next scheduled 7.10.26.
Supporting the Levenmouth Local Community Plan - Corra Support - Anti Poverty Funding	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	Following 27/11/24 meeting further report to be scheduled on 1/10/25.8/9 - moved to Dec 2025 meeting.
Levenmouth Criminal Justice Social Work - Welfare Worker - Funding Request	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	8/9 - moved from 1/10/25 meeting to 3/12/25.
Complaints Annual Update Report		David Thomson-CRM, Diarmuid Cotter	Report last presented 27.11.24. Next scheduled 7.10.26.
Local Capital Budget - Annual Update Report	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	last reported Nov 24
Common Good Annual Report 2024/2025	Finance and Corporate Services	Eleanor Hodgson	Annual Report. Last reported to 27.11.24 committee. Next scheduled 25.11.26
Supporting the Levenmouth Local Community Plan - Justice Social Work (JSW) Welfare Support Worker	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service		Initial report presented to committee on 27/11/24. Follow up report scheduled for 3/12/25.
Levenmouth Reconnected Programme Grant Awards	Roads & Transportation	Phil Clarke	20/5 added to workplan following special meeting of 14/5/25.
Early Years Review (Levenmouth)	Education	Stewart Westwater	20/8 - request from Cllr Clarke for Levenmouth specific report to be scheduled for the December meeting. DP to liaise with service.

Levenmouth Area Committee of 11 February 2026			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Levenmouth Community Plan Update Report	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	Annual Report. Last presented 12.02.25. Next Scheduled 13.01.27.
Local Economic Profiles - Annual Report	Economy, Planning and Employability	Alison Laughlin	Annual Report. Last scheduled 12/2/25 meeting. Next scheduled 13/1/27.
Area Roads Programme 2026 - 2027	Roads & Transportation	Vicki Storrar	26/11/24 item added for annual reporting to the 11/2/26 meeting.
Supporting the Levenmouth Community Plan - Clued Up Transitions Approach - 6 month update	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson, Laura Crombie	20/8 requested to be added for a 6 month interim update report.

Levenmouth Area Committee of 1 April 2026			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Health and Social Care Locality - Annual Update	Health and Social Care	Jacquie Stringer-fc	Annual Report. Last presented 2.4.25.
Public Health - Annual Progress Report	Education	Pamela Colburn	Annual Report. Last presented 2.4.25.
Levenmouth Anti Poverty Work Annual Update	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	Annual Report. Last Presented 1.4.25.
Anti Social Behaviour Approach Levenmouth - Police Resource	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	Annual Report. Last reported 2.4.25. 2027 Date to be finalised.

Levenmouth Area Committee of 24 June 2026			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Grounds Maintenance Service Domestic Waste and Street Cleansing Annual Review	Environment & Building Operations (AT&E)	Scott Clelland, Alexander Anderson-Es	Annual Report. Last presented 25/6/25.
Educational Outcomes 24/25	Education	Shelagh McLean	Annual Report. Last presented 25.6.25.

Levenmouth Area Committee of 24 June 2026			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Community Recovery Fund (CRF) Project Proposals - Update and Current Spend Profile	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	Annual Report. Last presented 25.6.25.
River Leven Programme Update	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	

Levenmouth Area Committee of 19 August 2026			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Area Roads Programme - Outturn Report	Roads & Transportation	Vicki Storrar	26/11/24 added to forward workplan for annual reporting.
Levenmouth Area Community Learning and Development Action Plan - Annual Report	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	Robert Graham	Last reported August 2025.

Levenmouth Area Committee of 7 October 2026			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Safer Communities Team - Annual Update	Housing Services	Liz Watson-SC	Annual report. Last presented 1.10.25. Jan 2025 request made by Service to amend reporting cycle to report Sept/October annually. Safer Communities, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Operational and Community Briefing on Policing Activities to all be realigned to report at same meetings.
Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Local Plan Annual Performance Update	Scottish Fire & Rescue Service		Annual report. Last presented 1.10.25. Jan 2025 request made by Service to amend reporting cycle to report Sept/October annually. Safer Communities, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Operational and Community

Levenmouth Area Committee of 7 October 2026			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
			Briefing on Policing Activities to all be realigned to report at same meetings.
Operational and Community Briefing on Policing Activities within Levenmouth	Police Scotland		Annual report. Last presented 1.10.25. Jan 2025 request made by Service to amend reporting cycle to report Sept/October annually. Safer Communities, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Operational and Community Briefing on Policing Activities to all be realigned to report at same meetings.
Supporting the Levenmouth Local Community Plan - Festive Lights	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service		Annual Report. Last presented 1.10.25.
Area Housing Plan	Housing Services	Peter Nicol	Annual Report. Last presented 1.10.25
Education - Pupilwise and Parentwise Surveys	Education	Shelagh McLean	Annual Report - last reported October 2025.

Levenmouth Area Committee of 25 November 2026			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Complaints Annual Update Report	Customer Services Improvement Service	David Thomson-CRM	Annual report. Last presented 3.12.25
Common Good Annual Report	Finance and Corporate Services	Eleanor Hodgson	Annual Report. Last presented 3.12.25.
Local Capital Budget Annual Report	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	Last reported Dec 2025.

Levenmouth Area Committee of 13 January 2027			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Levenmouth Local Community Plan - Update Report	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	Annual Report. Last presented 11.2.26.

Levenmouth Area Committee of 13 January 2027			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Local Economic Profiles - Annual Report	Economy, Planning and Employability	Alison Laughlin	Annual Report. Last presented 11.2.26.

Unallocated			
Title	Service(s)	Contact(s)	Comments
Long Term Management of Methil Heritage Centre	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	Requested at 25.06.25 meeting
Update on Fife Heritage Rail Conservation Building (Large Grant Funding)	Roads & Transportation	Phil Clarke	1 year Update report requested at 21.08.24 meeting.
Eagle Road MUGA - Resurfacing Proposal Funding Request	Communities and Neighbourhoods Service	David Paterson	
Property Transactions	Property Services	Michael Ogorman	To be added to agenda when required.
Property Transactions Update Report	Property Services	Michael Ogorman	16/5 - added to workplan following People and Communities Scrutiny Committee of 15.05.25