

Item: 4

Police and Fire Sub-committee: 21 November 2023.

Performance against Orkney Fire and Rescue Plan.

Report by Scott Gibson, Local Senior Officer.

1. Purpose of Report

To provide details of the statistical performance of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Orkney Islands area, for the period 1 July to 30 September 2023.

2. Recommendations

The Sub-committee is invited to scrutinise:

2.1.

The statistical performance of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Services, Orkney Islands area, for the period 1 July to 30 September 2023, detailed in the Quarterly Performance Report, attached as Appendix 1 to this report, in order to obtain assurance that progress is being made against the objectives.

3. Performance Update

The Quarterly Performance Report, attached as Appendix 1 to this report, reflects the performance outcomes outlined within the Orkney Fire and Rescue Plan, and provides performance information for the period 1 July to 30 September 2023.

4. Corporate Governance

This report relates to the Council complying with governance and its scrutiny role and therefore does not directly support and contribute to improved outcomes for communities as outlined in the Council Plan and the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan.

5. Financial Implications

There are no immediate financial implications arising directly from this report.

6. Legal Aspects

There are no immediate legal implications arising directly from this report.

7. Contact Officers

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8. Appendix

Appendix 1: Quarterly Performance Report for the period 1 July to 30 September
2023.



ORKNEY PERFORMANCE REPORT

Covering the activities and performance in support of the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Orkney



SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
Working together for a safer Scotland

Quarter Two: 2023/24

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ORKNEY
ISLANDS COUNCIL

ABOUT THE STATISTICS IN THIS REPORT

The activity totals and other statistics quoted in this report 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 differences in the period totals quoted in our reports after original publication which result from revisions or additions to the data on our systems.

From 2015-16 onwards responsibility for the publication of end-year statistical data transferred from the Scottish Government to the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS). This change of responsibility does not change the status of the figures quoted in this and other SFRS reports reported to the Committee.

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INTRODUCTION

The 3-monthly monitoring report covers the SFRS's performance and activities in support of the four priorities in the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Orkney, namely:

- Priority 1 – Promoting Personal Safety and Wellbeing
- Priority 2 – Non-Domestic Fire Safety
- Priority 3 – Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals
- Priority 4 – Emergency Response Preparedness and Community Resilience










As well as supporting the four priorities in the Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Orkney, this monitoring report shows how SFRS activities and performance contribute to the wider priorities of the Orkney Council Community Planning Partnership (CPP), as set out in the Orkney Community Plan.

The figures in this report are provisional, to provide the Committee with the SFRS's direction of travel in the Orkney area, in terms of performance against headline indicators and targets. Most figures will not change; however, members should note that there may be some small variations for some indicators when the final confirmed figures are published by the SFRS.

The Orkney Council Police and Fire Sub-committee agreed the new Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Orkney in 2021, covering the subsequent 3-year period. In support of delivering the priorities in this plan, 9 headline indicators and targets have been set, and form the basis of this performance report.

PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

The table below provides a summary of the three-months (1 July – 30 September 2023) activity and year to date (YTD) progress, based on annual targets set against headlines indicators. It aims to provide – at a glance – our direction of travel during the current reporting year.

Q2 : All Incidents Attended - 43		
<p>HI 1 Accident Dwelling Fires</p>  <p>Q2 – 2 Incidents YTD – 5 Incidents</p>	<p>HI 2 ADF Fatal Casualties</p>  <p>Q2 – 0 YTD – 0</p>	<p>HI 3 ADF Non-Fatal Casualties</p>  <p>Q2 – 0 YTD – 0</p>
<p>HI 4 Home Fire Safety Visits</p>  <p>Q2 – 46 Visits YTD – 72 Visits</p>	<p>HI 5 Non-domestic Building fires</p>  <p>Q2 – 0 Incidents YTD – 1 Incidents</p>	<p>HI 6 Fire Safety Enforcement Audits</p>  <p>Q2 – 1 Audits YTD – 10 Audits</p>
<p>HI 7 Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals</p>  <p>Q2 – 9 Incidents YTD – 25 Incidents</p>	<p>HI 8 Road Traffic Collisions (RTC)</p>  <p>Q2 – 2 YTD – 5 Incidents</p>	<p>HI 9 RTC Casualties</p>  <p>Q2 – 4 YTD – 5</p>

Incidents per Ward Area in Q2

Ward	HI 1	HI 2	HI 3	HI 5	HI 7	HI 8	HI 9
East Mainland, South Ronaldsay and Burray	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
Kirkwall East	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Kirkwall West and Orphir	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
North Isles (Orkney)	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Stromness and South Isles	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
West Mainland	0	0	0	0	6	0	0

PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS

Of the 9 headline indicators, the following performance should be noted for quarter one 2023/24:

- There were **2 Accidental Dwelling Fires (ADF)** during quarter two. The incident statistics for Q2 is slightly above the 3 year average for ADFs. These incidents noted within Q2 are classed as low severity, requiring little or no intervention from the Service and minimal fire damage. All properties had an alarm system present which operated.
- There were **0 ADF Fatalities**, and **0 ADF Casualties** during quarter two which has been the average for the last 3 year Q2 period.
- There were **0 Non-Domestic Building Fires** during Q2.
- We responded to **27 False Alarm incidents** with **9** classed as **Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS)** during Q2 which is significantly below the average based on the previous 3-year figures. We continue to work towards reducing UFAS consulting with duty holders on ways to achieve this.
- We have **1 active Action Plan** in place following audit where our Officers are working with the responsible persons for compliance. We have processed 38 Short Term Let (STL) applications without objections, we have consulted and provided further guidance to 14 SLT applications requiring further fire safety measures. To date we now have 41 SLT applications pending all within the 28-day consultation time frame.
- Our Community Safety Advocates and Station personnel undertook **46 Home Fire Safety Visits**. The majority targeted the most at risk in our communities. We continue to work with our partners in gaining referrals and engage with our communities to provide education and vital safety information.
- We attended **2 Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs)** which is slightly above average. There were **0 RTC Related Fatalities and 4 RTC Related Injuries**. We continue to support Orkney's Road Safety Strategy through education and engagement.
- Our firefighters continue to train in all aspects of their role to ensure they are operationally prepared for what is required and we have continued where possible to gather information on local risks to assist us in an emergency through our operational intelligence visits.

PRIORITY 1 – PROMOTING PERSONAL SAFETY AND WELLBEING

HI 1 – Accidental Dwelling Fires (ADF)

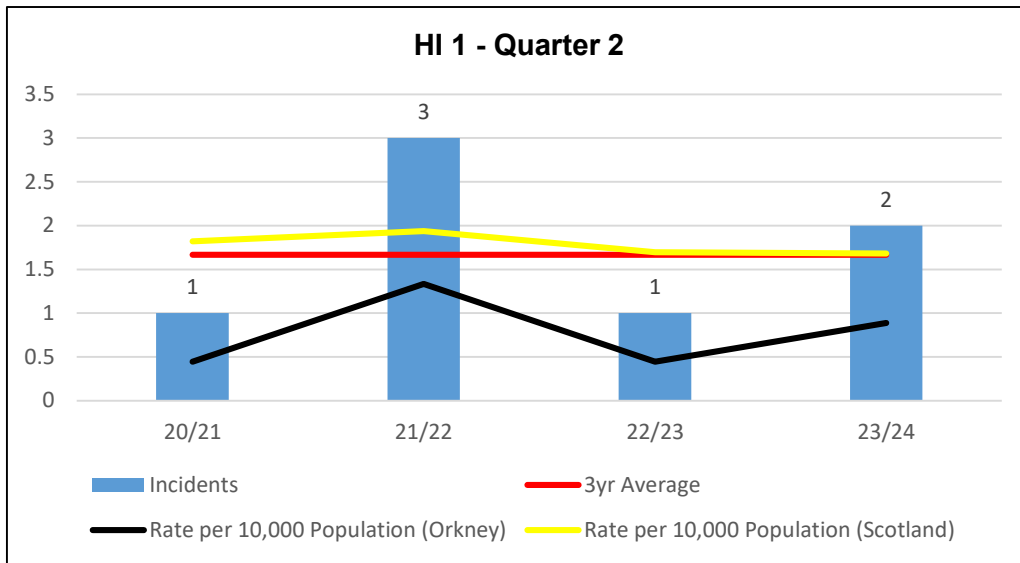


Table 1: 2023/24 Year Performance

	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24
HI 1: ADF's	2	6	5	5

HI 2 - ADF Fatal Casualties & HI 3 - ADF Non-Fatal Casualties

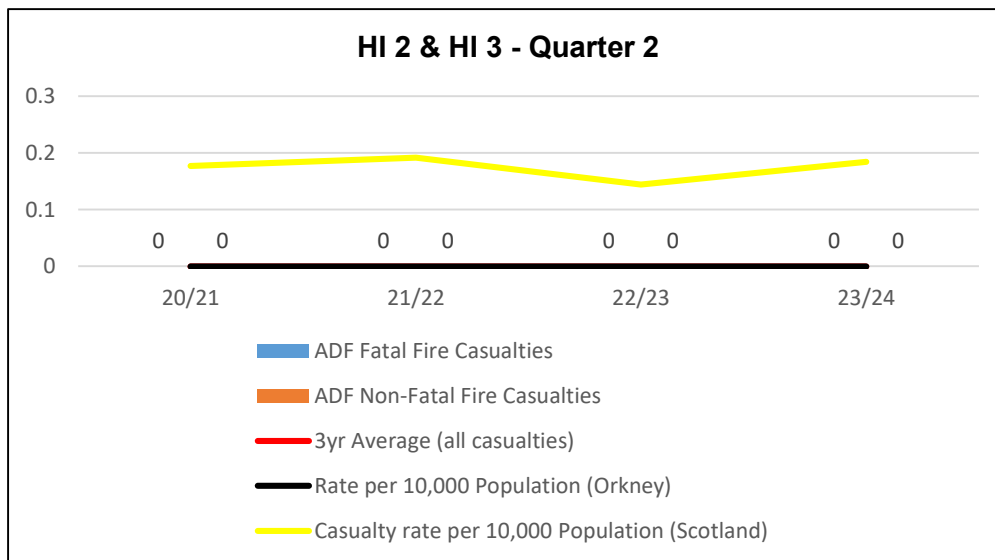


Table 2: 2023/24 Year Performance

	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24
HI 2: ADF Fatal Casualties	0	0	0	0
HI 3: ADF Non-Fatal Casualties	0	0	0	0

What we aim to Achieve:

- Downward trend in the number of accidental dwelling fires.
- Downward trend in the number of accidental dwelling fires casualties and fatalities.

What we are doing to improve on this performance:

There were **0 ADF Fatalities** for this period and year to date.

There were **0 ADF Casualties** which matches the 3-yearly average. However, the overall **2 Accidental Dwelling Fires (ADF)** is slightly lower than the previous year although slightly above the 3-year average. They were all classed as low severity, requiring little or no intervention from the Service and minimal fire damage.

All ADF's are followed up with HFSV's and agency referrals where required.

HI 4 – Home Fire Safety Visits

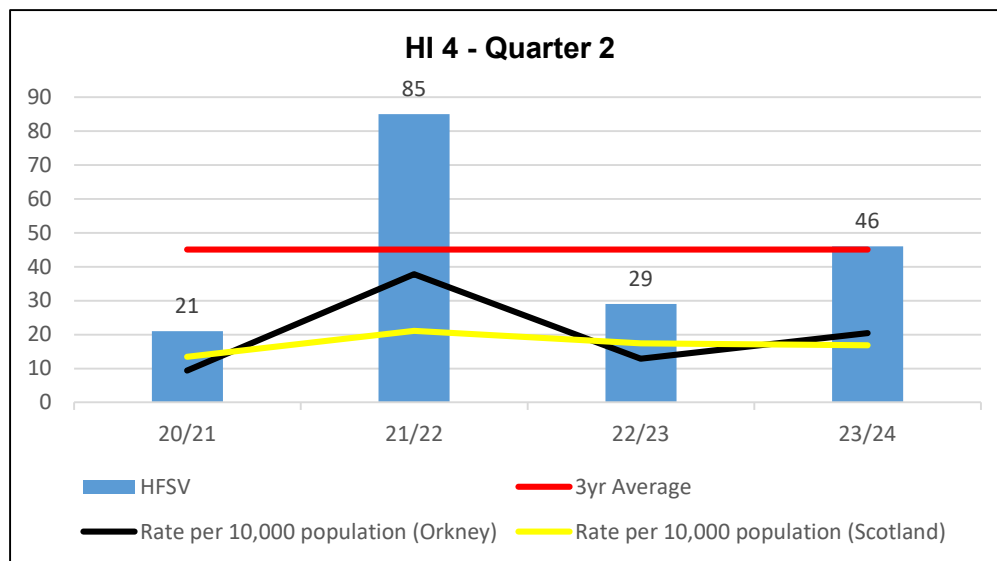


Table 3: 2023/24 Year Performance

	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24
HI 4: Home Fire Safety Visits	27	117	56	72

What we aim to Achieve

- Reduced societal and economic cost of unintentional harm or injury.
- Improved safety and wellbeing of Orkney residents.
- Support independent living of vulnerable residents within our communities.

What we are doing to improve on this performance:

Our Community Safety Advocates and Station personnel undertook **46 Home Fire Safety Visits..**

Our operational personnel engage with householders at time of incident through our Post Incident Domestic Response procedure offering information and advice as well as the fitment of detection where necessary.

To support our communities, we made **12 referrals to partner agencies** based on the needs of the individuals. Our partner referrals to the are made through Social Services, NHS, Falls Prevention, Telecare, Deaf services, mental wellbeing services and Police Scotland in order to improve on the safety and wellbeing in the domestic setting.

PRIORITY 2 – NON-DOMESTIC FIRE SAFETY

HI 5 – Non-Domestic Building Fires

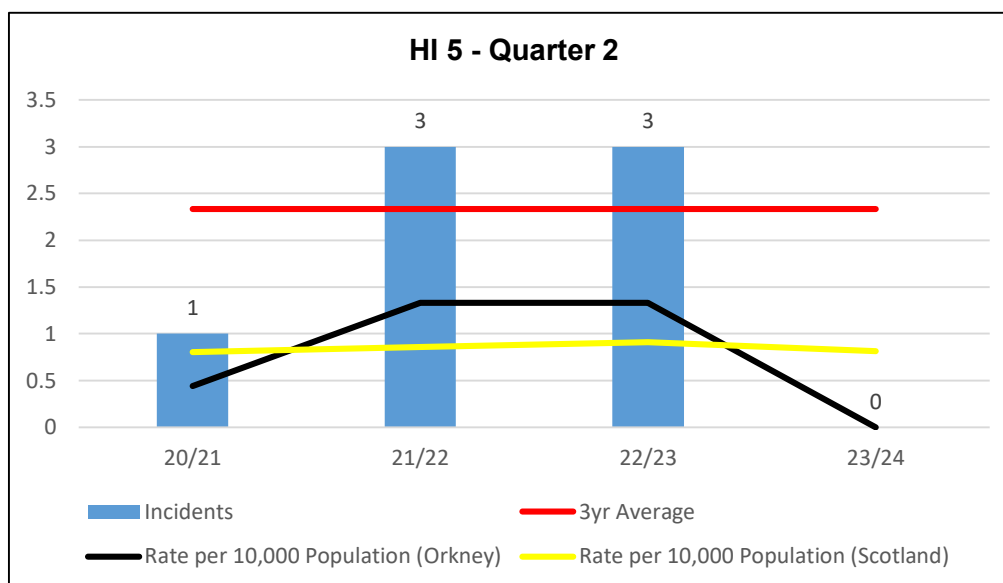


Table 4: 2023/24 Year Performance

	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24
HI 5: Non-Domestic Building Fires	1	3	4	1

HI 6 – Fire Safety Enforcement Audits - A total of 1 audit was undertaken during Quarter 2.

What we aim to Achieve

- Reduction in the number of non-domestic fires.
- Support for duty holders to understand their duties and responsibilities to comply with fire safety legislation.
- Reducing the social and economic impact of non-domestic fires and supporting business continuity and employment on Orkney.
- Contributing to the protection of our built and natural heritage.

We attended **0 non-domestic building fires** this period which is a decrease on last year and below the average per population.

What we are doing to improve on this performance:

All fires within non-domestic properties are reported to our Fire Safety Enforcement teams so that further support and guidance can be offered to assist duty holders comply with their obligations.

Focus has been placed on Short Term Let applications in order to ensure that we are responding within the agreed 28-day consultation period. 38 Processed to completion, 14 returned with guidance for acceptance. To date there has been no objections to any SLT applications.

PRIORITY 3 – UNWANTED FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS

HI7 – Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals

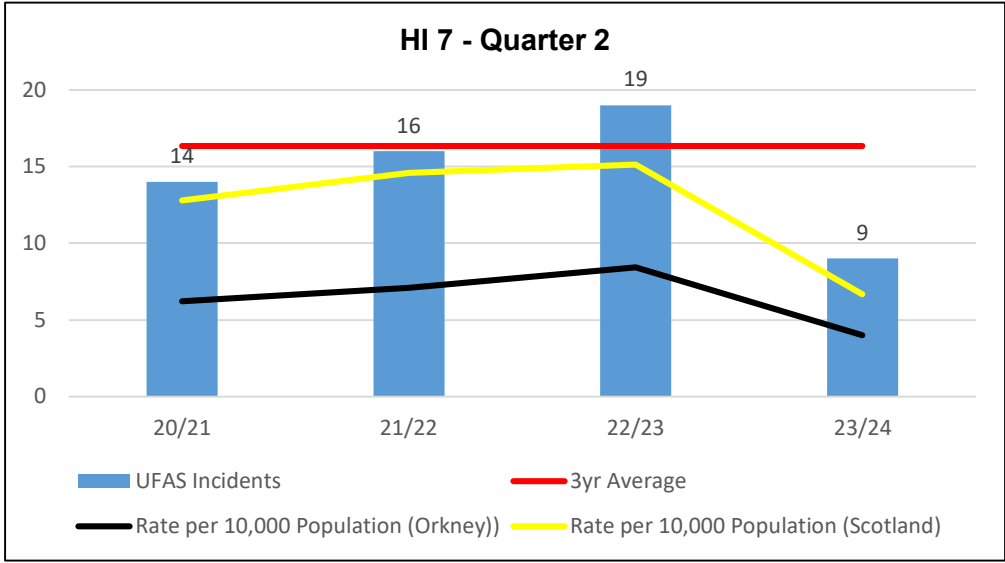


Table 5: 2023/24 Year Performance

	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24
HI 7: UFAS Incidents	19	23	27	25

Property Type	Number
Residential Home, Nursing/Care	6
Sheltered Housing	1
Public admin, security and safety	1
Entertainment and Culture	1

What we aim to Achieve:

- Reduction in the number of UFAS incidents across Orkney, particularly amongst the highest offenders.
- Reduction in unnecessary demand on On-Call Firefighters and their primary employers.
- Reduced road risk for SFRS staff and the wider community.
- Release capacity for staff training and community engagement through reduction in UFAS attendance
- Reduced costs to SFRS associated with UFAS response.

We responded to **27 False Alarm incidents** with **9** classed as **Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS)** during Q2 which is significantly below the average based on the previous 3-year figures.

What we are doing to improve on this performance:

We have continued our engagement with these premises and made recommendations to reduce occurrences.

Orkney has imbedded an Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) Champion within its management structure. UFAS Champions are part of a network of national Champions that exists across Scotland to support local areas in delivering priorities that balance SFRS national direction against local needs, for reducing UFAS demand.

Our Operations Control centers will actively call challenge Alarm Receiving Centers to determine our response to Automatic Fire Alarm incidents.

The 1st of July has seen the introduction of our updated response to UFAS. We will continue to monitor the effectiveness of its implementation and to embrace good practice.

PRIORITY 4 – OPERATIONAL RESILIENCE AND PREPAREDNESS

What we aim to Achieve

- Responding to and resolving operational incidents in a safe, effective and efficient manner that keeps staff, partners, and the public safe
- Contributing to wider safety by focusing on preventing emergencies occurring
- Planning and preparing for response and mitigating the social and economic impact of emergencies upon communities
- Reinforcing local resilience within communities and in Community Fire Stations

What we are doing to improve on this performance:

During this period, we delivered our quarterly training commitment to operational firefighters, whereby we trained and tested their preparedness to deal with a variety of incident types.

Firefighters continue to carry out Operational Intelligence within their station area so that they are aware of the associated risks and hazards, and if required can take effective actions in dealing with incidents at these sites. All this information is continually updated on our tablets carried on frontline appliances thus giving our staff information at the point of need.

In areas of Orkney, we have seen successful recruitment and availability (**12 of our appliances above 90% availability and the remaining 2 available between 60-80% of the time**). However, we recognise that we still face some challenges on our islands where population levels are low or decreasing.

To support our On-Call stations, increase recruitment and provide cover we employ 2 full-time On-Call Watch Commanders to plan and deliver activities to support resilience in the community.

We continue to implement options to increase resilience and flexibility of response in support of the On-Call improvement programme.

- A joint mobilising process whereby two appliances who do not have safe minimum crewing numbers available can meet at an agreed rendezvous point to give them enough crew to safely respond to the incident.
- A formalised process which will allow On-Call staff to undertake paid duties at other stations to increase their staffing levels, undertake prevention activities and thereby increase appliance availability.

Station Establishment and Availability

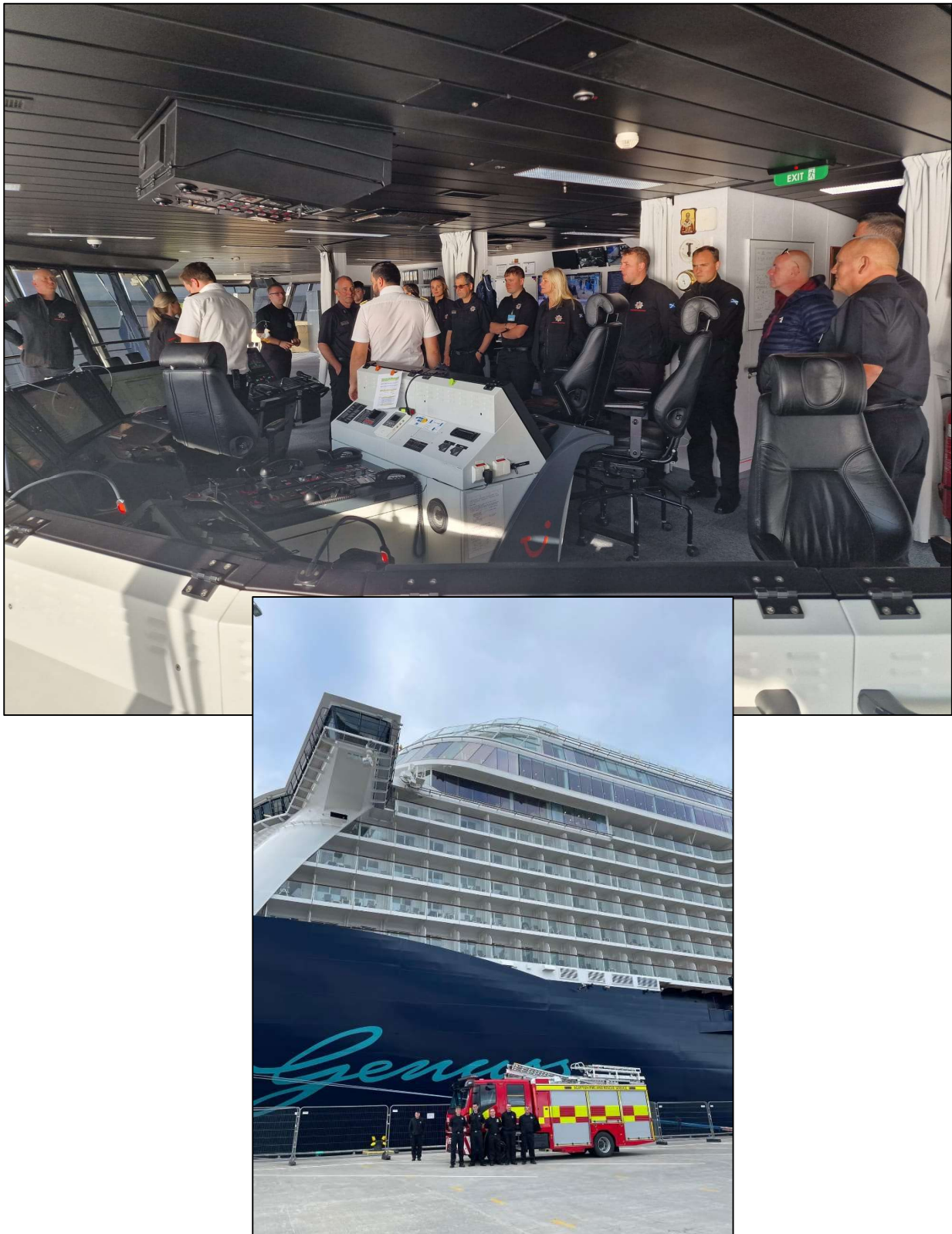
- 14 x On-Call Retained Duty System appliances across 12 Stations

Station	July – Sept 23 Availability* %	Male	Female	Totals
Eday	63.33%	4	1	5
Hoy	90.58%	5	0	5
Kirkwall – 1 st Appliance	99.99%	16	3	19
Kirkwall – 2 nd Appliance	93.83%			
North Ronaldsay	90.33%	3	2	5
Papa Westray	95.18%	7	0	7
Rousay	79.76%	6	0	6
Sanday	99.58%	9	0	9
Shapinsay	94.19%	6	1	7
St Margaret's Hope	93.73%	8	0	8
Stromness – 1 st Appliance	100%	18	2	20
Stromness – 2 nd Appliance	93.74%			
Stronsay	98.45%	10	1	11
Westray	99.57%	11	0	11

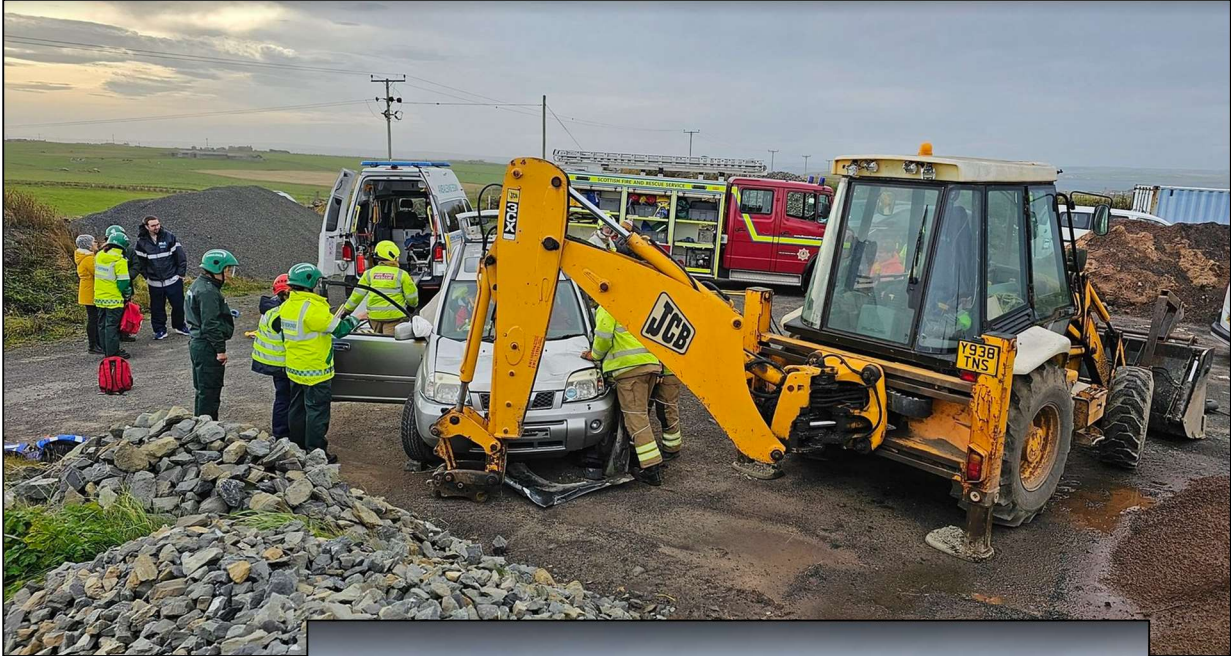
- 113 x Station based personnel.
- 2 x Wholetime On-Call Watch Commanders.
- 1 x Wholetime Community Safety Advocate.
- 2 x Station Commanders, 1 x Group Commander, 1 x Area Commander.
- In addition to the above Orkney is remotely supported through the provision of Fire Safety Enforcement, Instructional staff and administrative functions.

APPENDIX 1: COMMUNITY SAFETY ENGAGEMENT AND RESILIENCE EXERCISING

Crews from Kirkwall and Stromness attended a visitation to one of the larger cruise ships that regularly visit Orkney. The main purpose was to engage with the management teams onboard to discuss operational tactics, gain further awareness of their safety and evacuation systems.



Working and exercising alongside our partner agencies is essential to achieve the best outcomes for our communities. An example of this was a multi-agency response to a simulated road traffic event on Shapinsay. Following the exercise all agencies involved had the opportunity to contribute towards a structured debrief in order to capture shared operational learning.



Continuing the theme of Road Safety, SFRS supported Police Scotland and Orkney's Road Safety Strategy by hosting another successful "Rider Refinement". The learning event was attended by one of the Crew Commanders from Kirkwall Community Fire Station, who is an accomplished motorcycle rider, and commented on the success of the event in refreshing his safety and driving style whilst on the road.



Quarter 2 is the regular focus of a large number of community events across the Islands. Our crews make use of these events to promote community safety messaging, reassurance and promote employment opportunities.



Venues included Stromness for Shopping week, Shapinsay Show, Community carwashes at Westray and Papa Westray, Fireskills engagement, Stronsay weekend and Westray School visitation. A total of 487 young persons engaged with delivering a variety of safety messages.

MSP Liam MacArthur at the Shapinsay Show using the virtual reality learning tool.

