

REPORT TO: DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL AUDIT COMMITTEE

REPORT NUMBER – 287-2025

24th September 2025

**Report by Area Commander Bryan Todd, Local Senior Officer,
Scottish Fire and Rescue Service**

**SUBJECT: FIRE AND RESCUE QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT
1st April to 30th June 2025**

Abstract

The Report contains performance information relating to the first quarter (April 1st – June 30th) of 2025 - 2026 on the performance of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service in support of Member scrutiny of local service delivery.

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To provide information for the Committee regarding the performance of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service against the priorities, outcomes and performance measures detailed within the *Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Dundee 2020–2023, to facilitate local scrutiny.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that members:

Note, scrutinise and question the content of this report.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

4 BACKGROUND

4.1 The *Local Fire and Rescue Plan for Dundee 2020-2023 was approved by the Community Safety and Public Protection Committee on 16 November 2020. In support of delivering the priorities in this plan, twelve headline indicators are utilised as performance measures and form the basis of quarterly monitoring reports.

4.2 The priorities and outcomes contained within the *Local Fire and Rescue Plan reflect 'place' and the contribution of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service to the City Plan for Dundee 2022 - 2032.

4.3 In summary the following priorities are detailed within the plan:

- Priority 1 – Improving Fire Safety in the Home
- Priority 2 – Improving Fire Safety and Resilience in the Business Community
- Priority 3 – Minimising the Impact of Unintentional Harm
- Priority 4 – Reducing Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals

- Priority 5 – Reducing Deliberate Fires
 - Priority 6 – Effective Risk Management and Operational Preparedness
- 4.4 Appendix 1 attached to this report provides a detailed breakdown and analysis of all data collected during the reporting period. In addition, further sections are included to provide Members with an overview of a range of community safety engagement events and partnership working. Furthermore, it highlights any notable trends with incident activity.

5 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 5.1 Not applicable.

6 ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

- 6.1 There are no environmental issues arising as a consequence of this report.

7 SUMMARY

- 7.1 The attached report updates members regarding significant community safety engagement activities and gives context to the performance of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service in the Dundee area against headline indicators and performance measures.

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* The development and consultation of new Local Fire and Rescue Plans will now be delayed until spring 2026. This is to ensure the plans fully reflect the outcomes of the current Service Delivery Review public consultation, which we believe is essential to developing meaningful and informed local priorities. A formal update and revised timeline will be shared with Committee in due course.



Dundee City

**Dundee City Council Scrutiny
Committee**

2025-26 Q1

Scrutiny Report



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2025-26 Q1
Scrutiny Report













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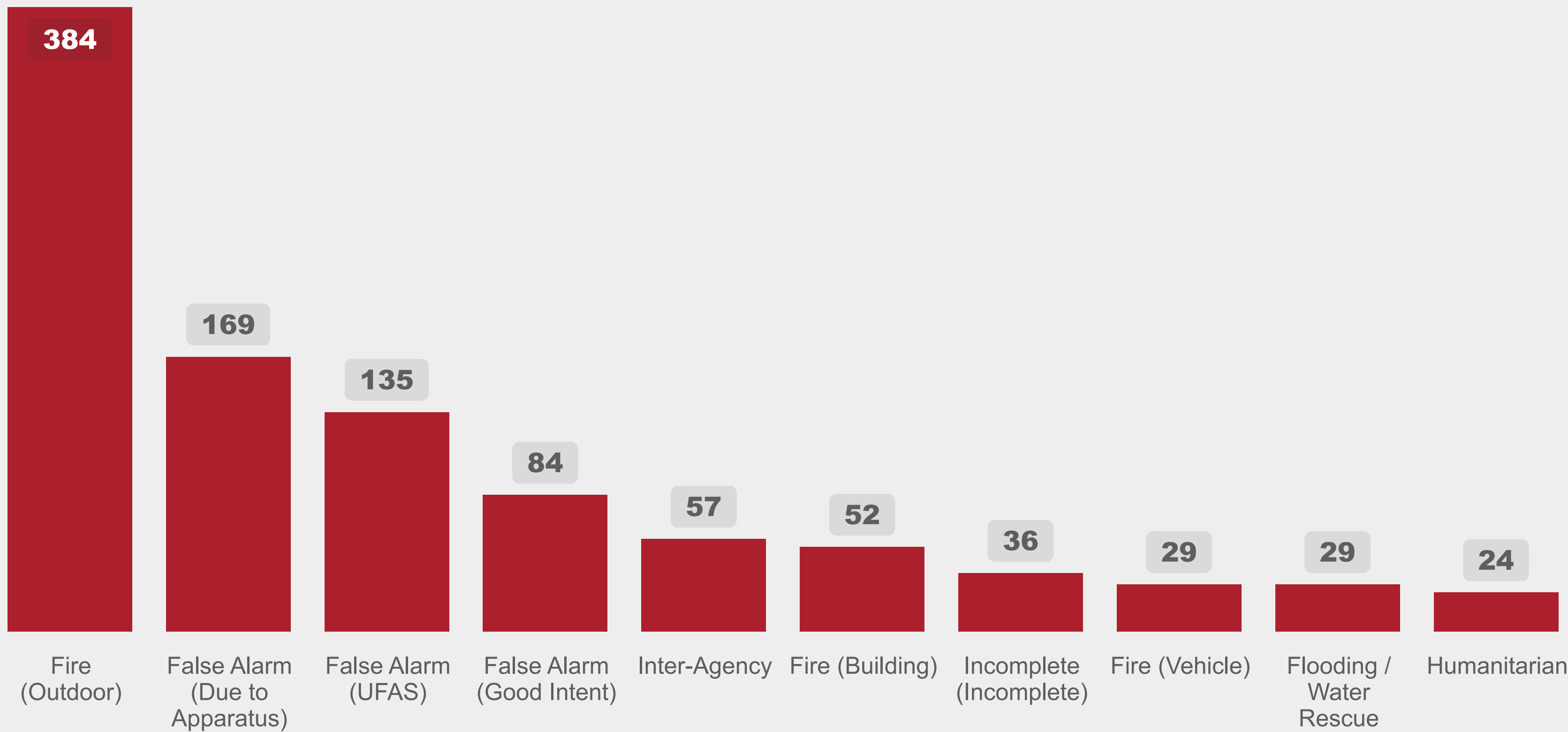
About the statistics within this report

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.

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 1,047 Total Incidents (Incl. Incompletes)	 465 Fires	 144 Non-Fire Incidents	 402 False Alarms	 135 UFAS
 26 People Rescued by Firefighters	 3 People Receiving First Aid or Hospital Treatment (Fires)	 0 Fire Fatalities	 12 People Receiving First Aid or Hospital Treatment (Non-Fire)	 3 Non-Fire Fatalities
 138 Home Fire Safety Visits	 66 Fire Safety Audits			

Top 10 Incident Types



During the Q1 reporting period the SFRS attended a total of 1047 incidents across Dundee City.

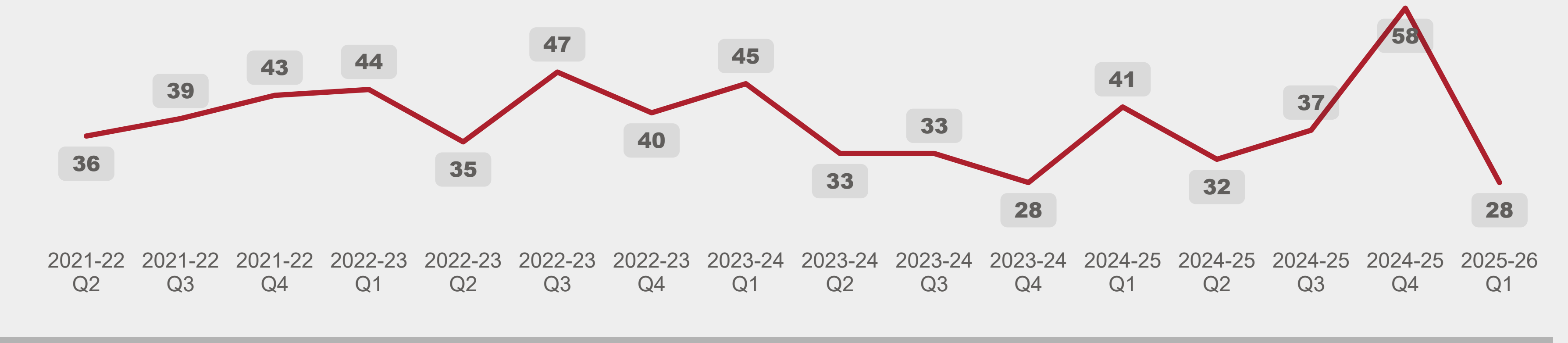
Incident types involving Fires are the most attended, totaling a combined 465 call outs, which is 44% of all incidents attended. In context, 290 (62%) of all fires were deliberate outdoor fires. We also attended 402 False Alarms and 144 non-fire emergencies, such as Road Traffic Collisions and Assisting Other Agencies incidents.

Trend information charts can be found on the following page for 5 of the key incident types attended to give an understanding on the direction of travel over a 4-year period.

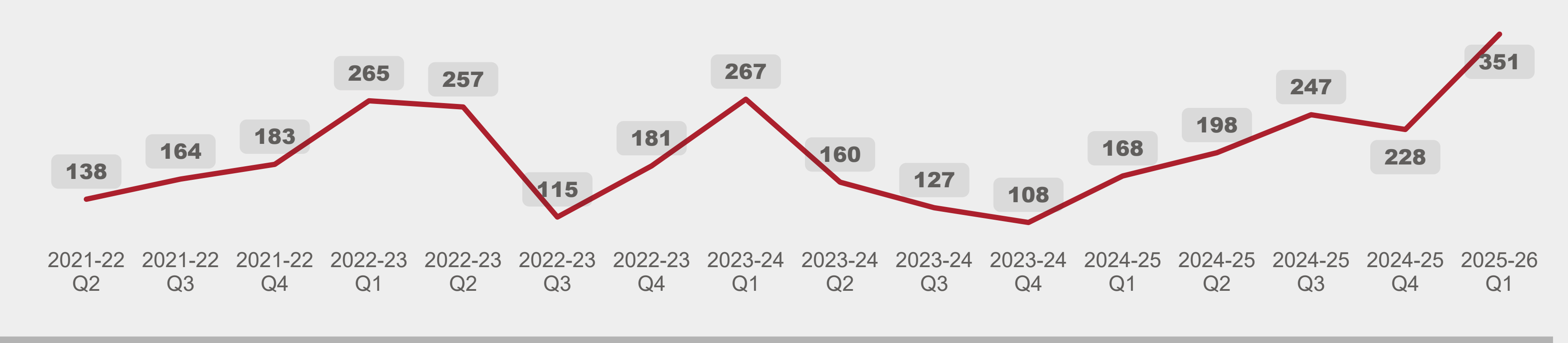
2. Trends

Previous 16 quarters (4 years)

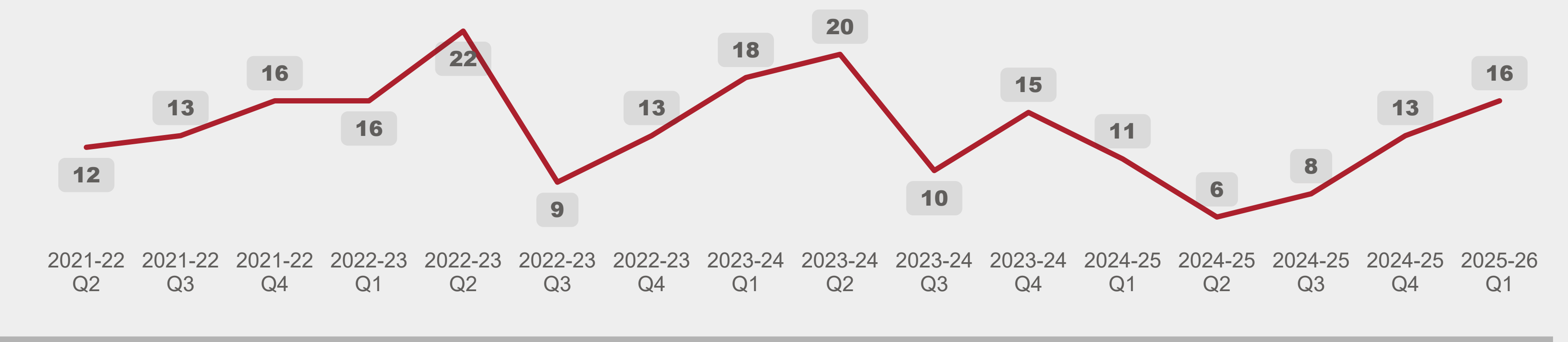
Accidental Dwelling Fires



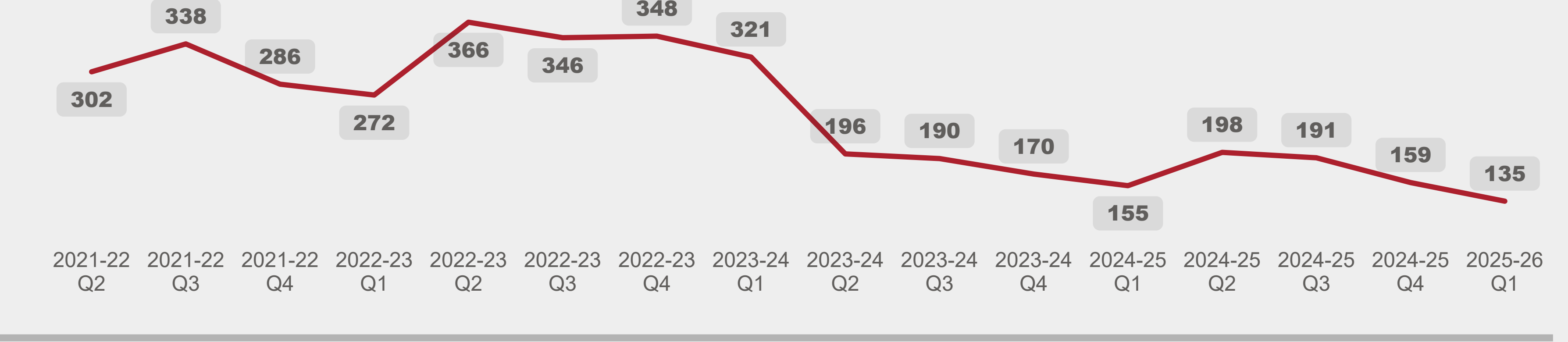
Deliberate Fires



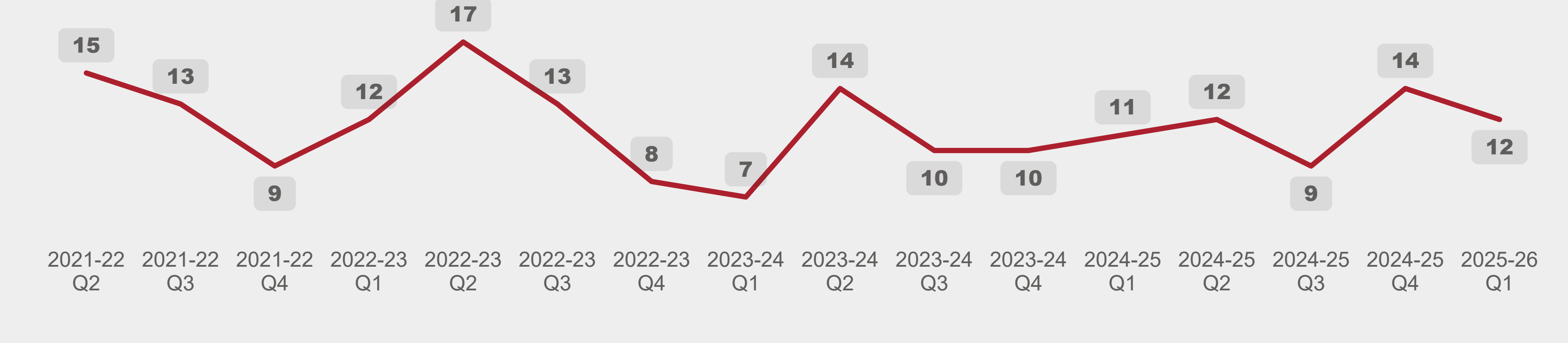
Non-Domestic Fires



Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals



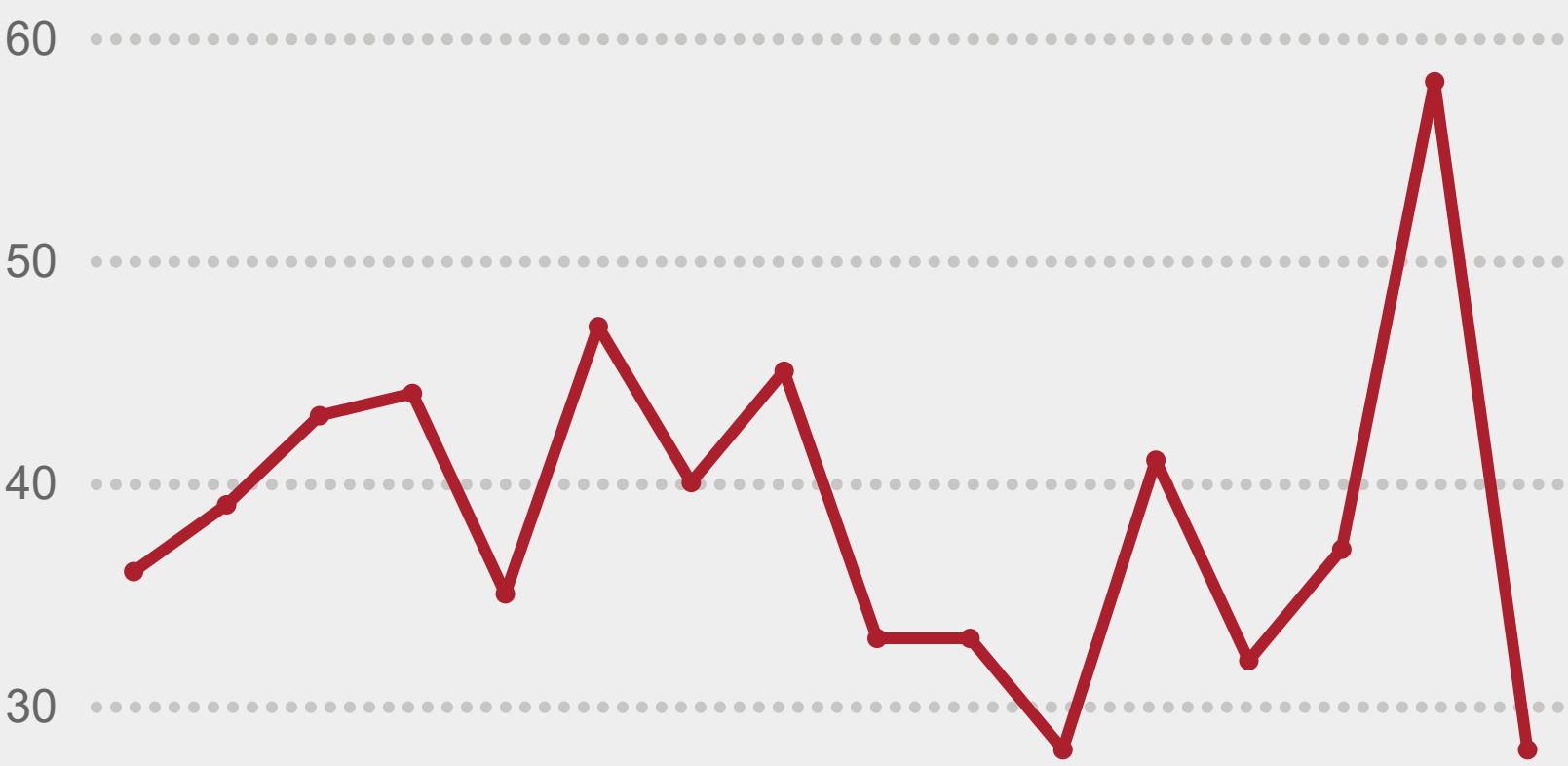
Road Traffic Collisions



3. Accidental Dwelling Fires

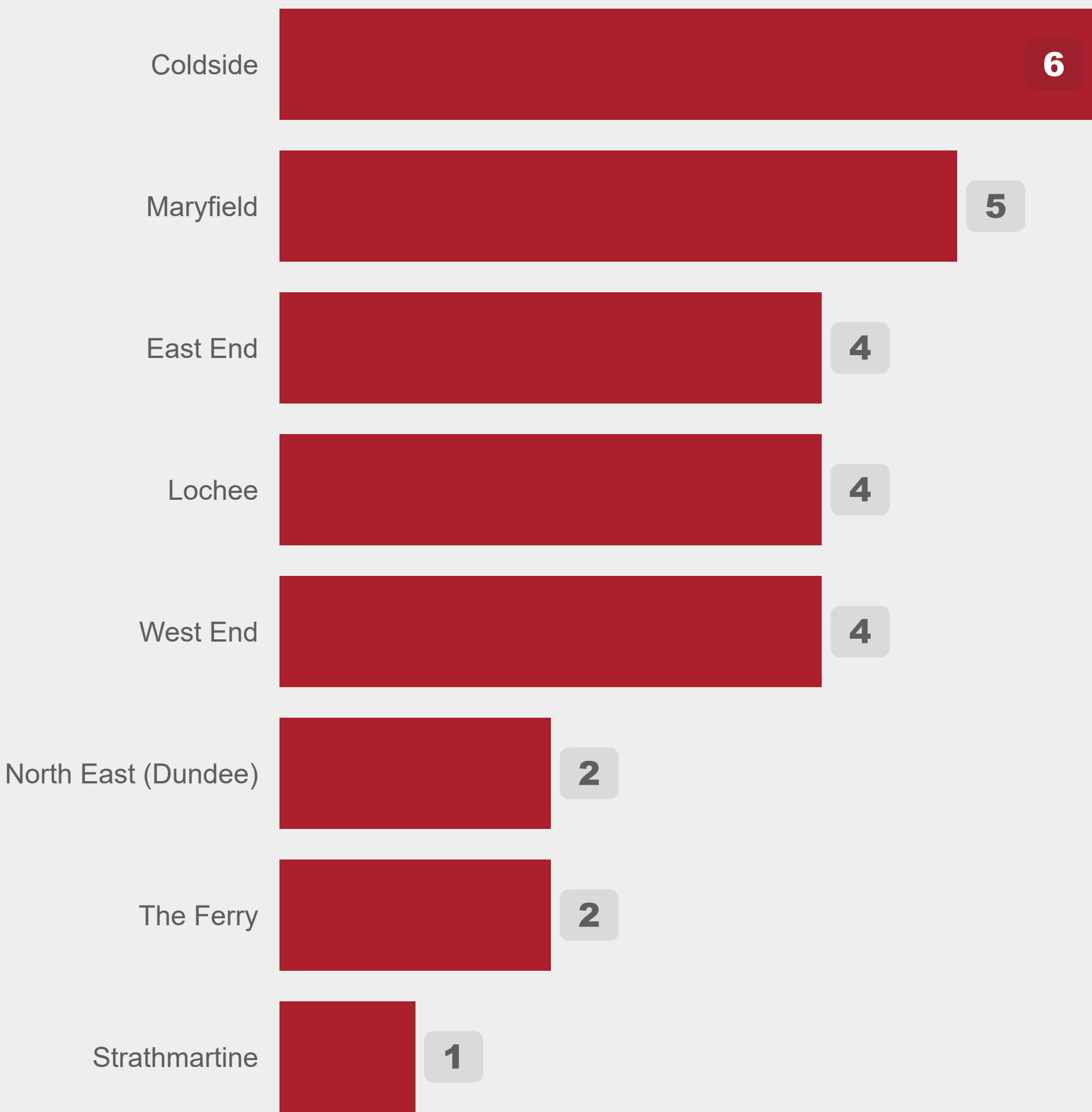
2025-26 Q1

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Extent of Damage	Incidents
Not applicable	11
Limited to item 1st ignited	10
Limited to room of origin	6
Limited to 2 floors (not whole building)	1

Incidents by Ward



Source of Ignition (Top 10)



28

Accidental Dwelling Fires in this period

Of the 28 Accidental Dwelling Fires (ADFs), 22 incidents were due to a cooking appliance, with damage being recorded at 1 incident as having spread from room of origin. No firefighting actions were required at 17 incidents with the main action taken by SFRS being removal from heat source at 4 incidents. 19 properties were fitted with smoke detection, 15 of which operated and gave early warning to the occupants. We continue to undertake Post Domestic Incident Response (PDIR) interventions following an ADF, which comprises of a HFSV's and advice to prevent further incidents and where required, we ensure the relevant safeguarding or support service referrals are progressed.

The SFRS continue to work with partners to ensure we positively contribute to reducing the risk to our communities by targeting those most vulnerable, particularly around unintentional harm in the home

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Nature of Injury/Cause of Death	Casualties
Burns - slight	2
Other	1

Casualties by Ward



3

Non-Fatal Casualties

0

Fatal Casualties

1

People Rescued by Firefighters

Extent of Harm (Non-Fatal)



1

First Aid Given at Scene



2

Hospital Slight Injuries



0

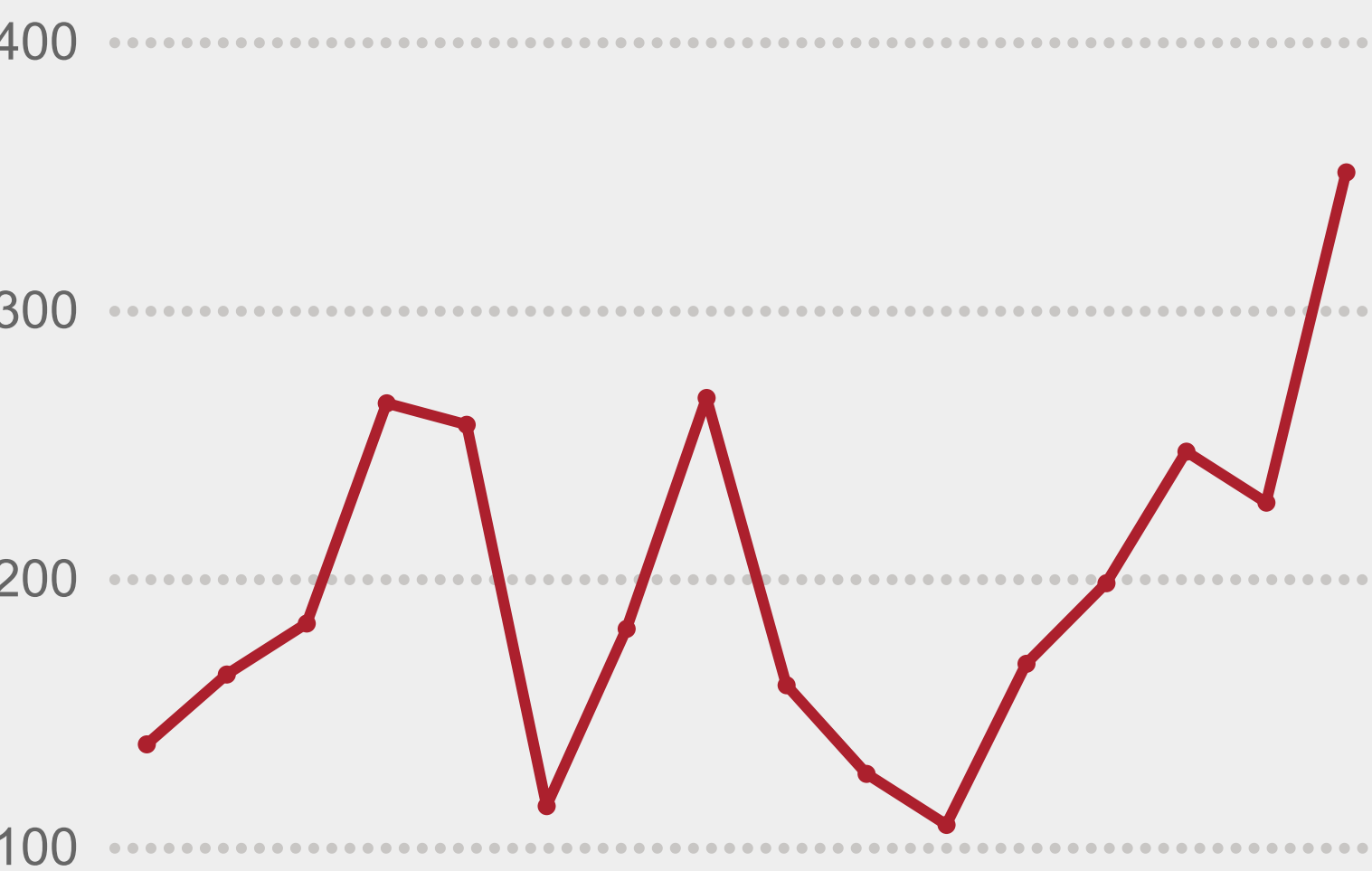
Hospital Serious Injuries

In Q1, there were 2 ADFs that resulted in 2 casualties being conveyed to hospital for slight injuries. In addition to that, 2 casualties required precautionary checks, 1 required First Aid and Firefighters rescued 1 uninjured person.

Our Community Action Team have been focusing on carrying out additional risk recognition training with partners to help them identify fire related risk factors more promptly and in turn, take effective prevention action. This may include supporting an occupier to find alternative cooking methods such as microwave meals rather than using a hob or grill pan.

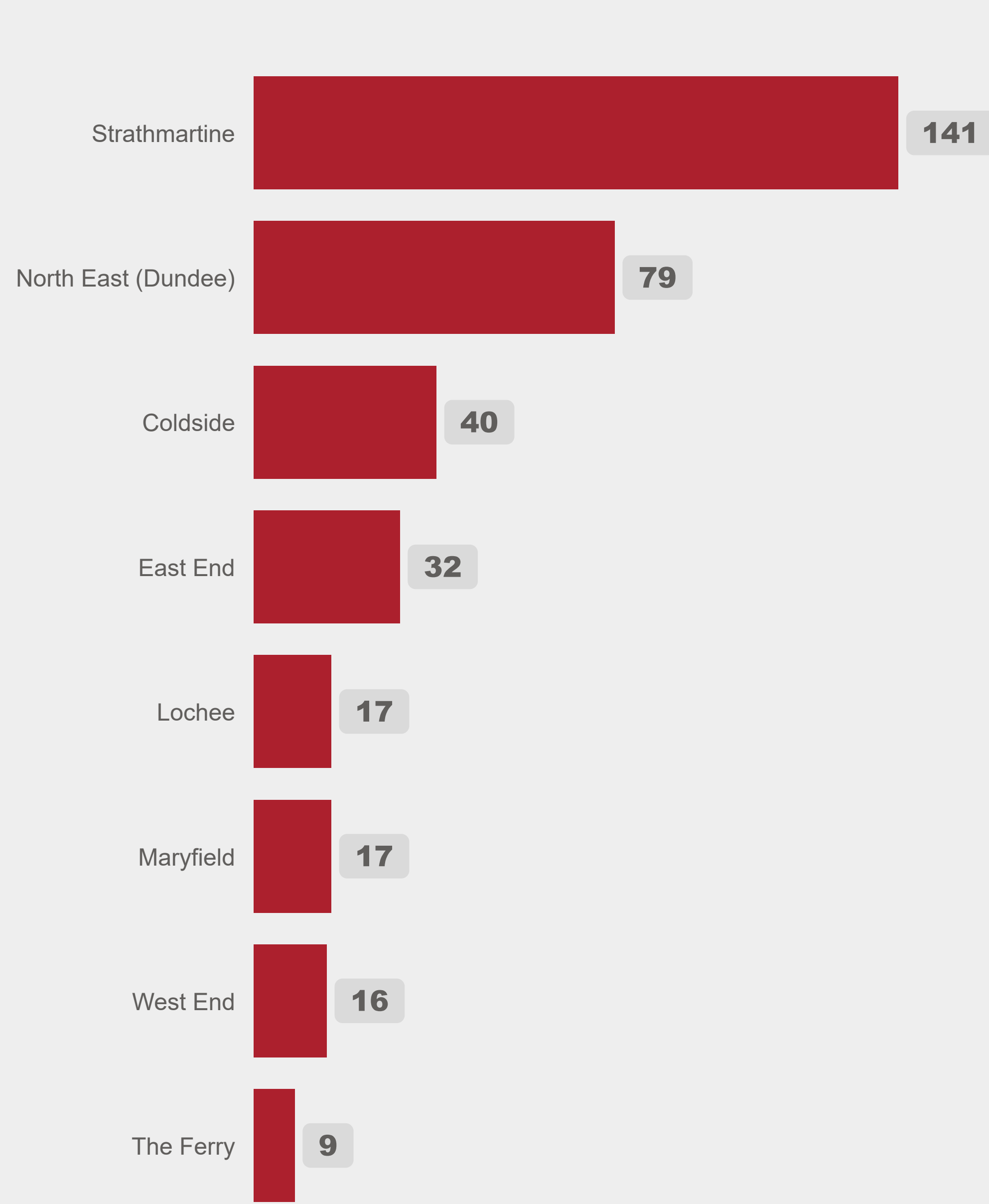
Where there are concerns about a person’s cognitive function and potential for gas appliances being used incorrectly, we will liaise with the persons next of kin and SGN to arrange for a locking cooker valve to be installed to eliminate that risk.

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Property Type	Incident
Grassland, woodland and crops	169
Refuse	98
Other outdoors (including land)	39
Road Vehicle	18
Non Residential	10
Outdoor structures	9
Dwelling	6
Outdoor equipment and machinery	2

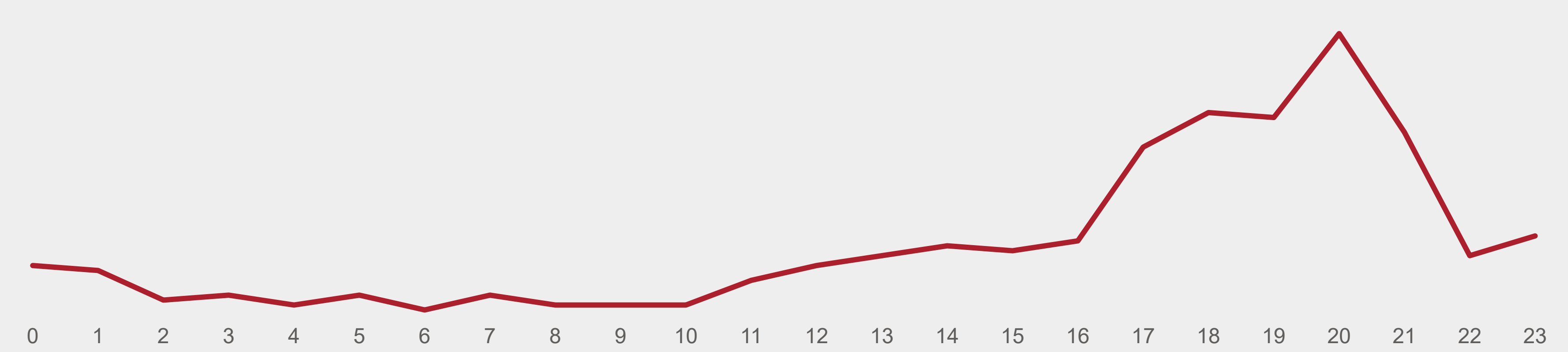
Incidents by Ward



351

Deliberate Fires
in this period

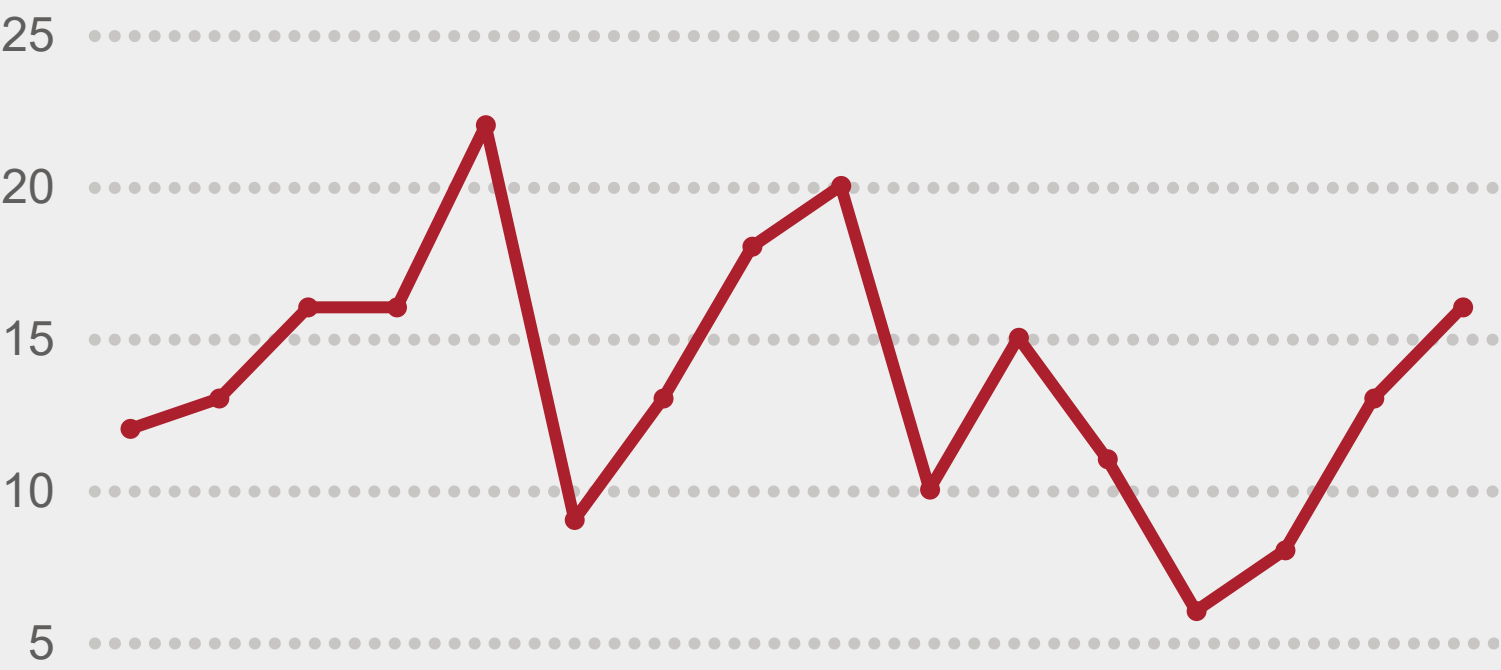
Hour of Day



Of the 351 Deliberate Fires attended in the reporting period, 61 were categorised as primary fires and 290 were secondary fires. 6 of the primary fires were within domestic dwellings and 8 in non-domestic buildings, such as industrial premises (4), a cinema, retail premises, church and a bar. There was also deliberate fires within a car park and a garden shed. 18 fires involved vehicles, which included 14 cars, 1 van, 1 caravan, a trailer and a bicycle. The remaining 27 primary fires involved grassland, woodland, crops or outdoor structures and equipment. In relation to the 290 secondary fires, these range from tree scrub, scrub land and grassland to wheelie bins, loose refuse and refuse containers.

We continue to work with partners to try and reduce the number of deliberate fires, particularly secondary fires, as part of a wider youth awareness education initiatives. These include a targeted approach working with local schools along with national campaigns to reduce this unacceptable anti-social behaviour.

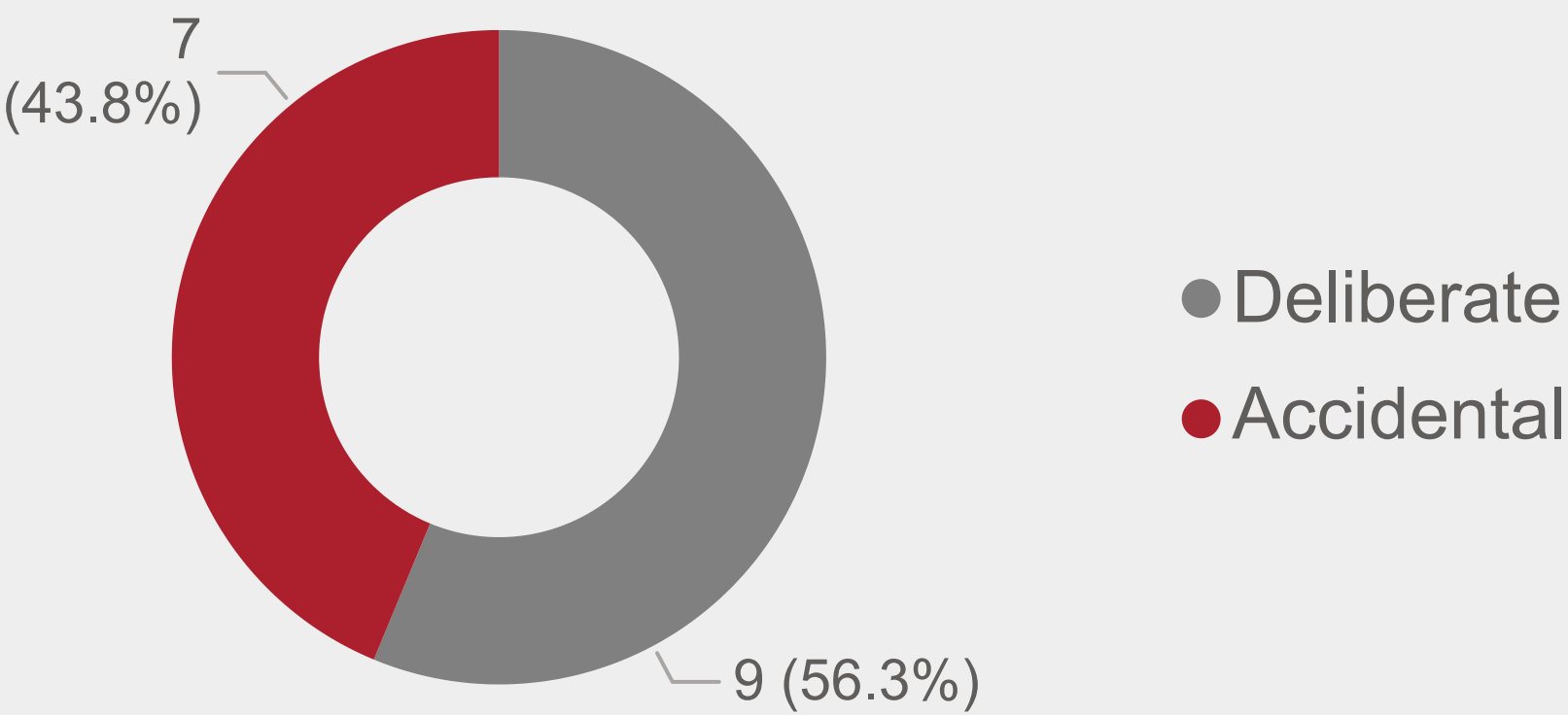
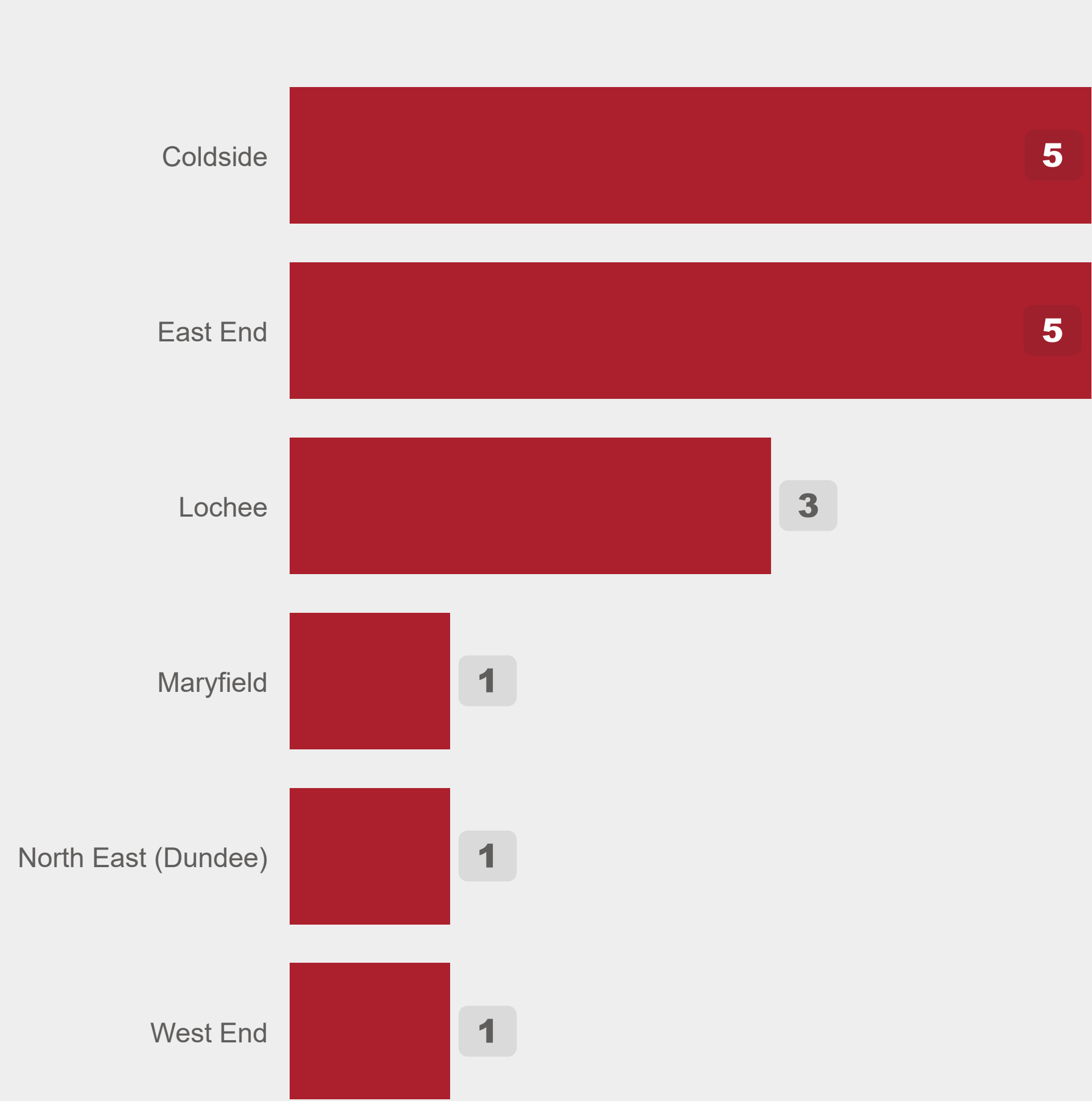
Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Top 15 Property Types

Property Type	Incidents
Industrial Manufacturing	4
Retail	3
Entertainment and culture	2
Car Parks	1
Food and Drink	1
Industrial Processing	1
Religious	1
Residential Home	1
Sheltered Housing - not self contained	1
Student Hall of Residence	1

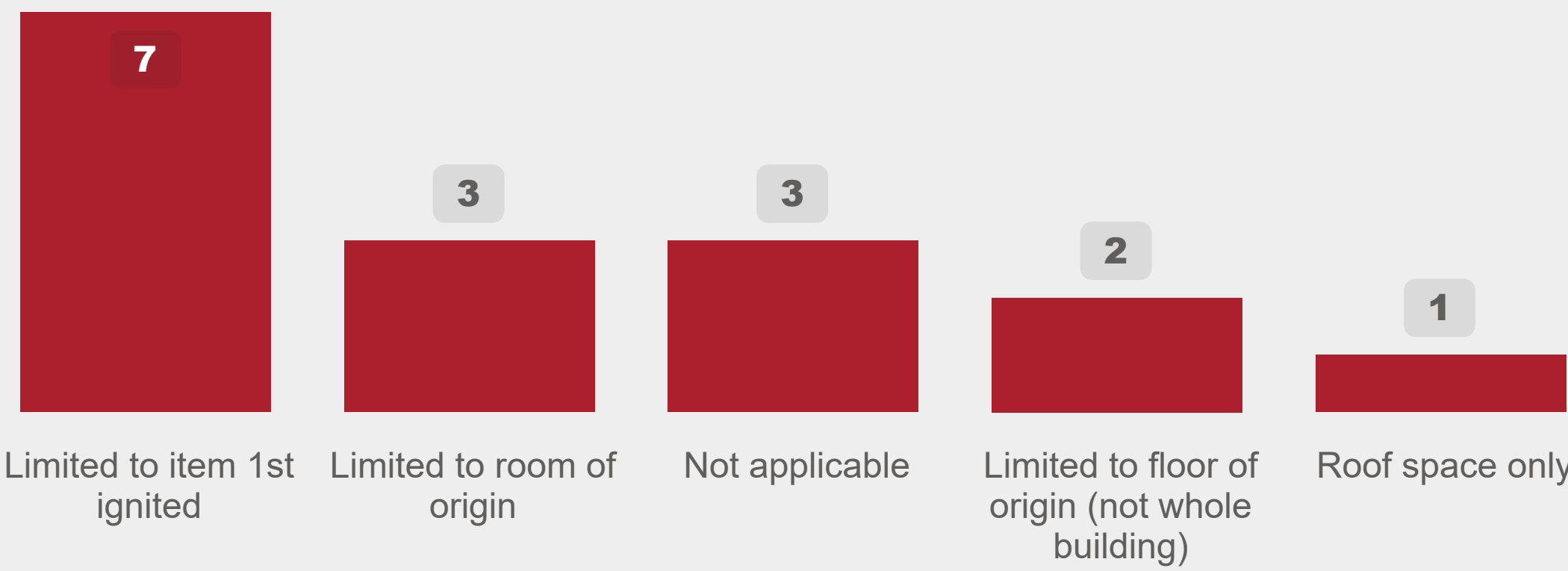
Incidents by Ward



16

Non-Domestic
Fires in this
period

Extent of Damage



The SFRS attended 16 Non-Domestic Building Fires during the reporting period, with 2 fires spreading beyond the room of origin. 8 of the incidents required no firefighting or minimal fire service intervention. A fire alarm system operated on 8 occasions. No casualties were involved with any incidents. The only repeat attendances were a derelict industrial premises.

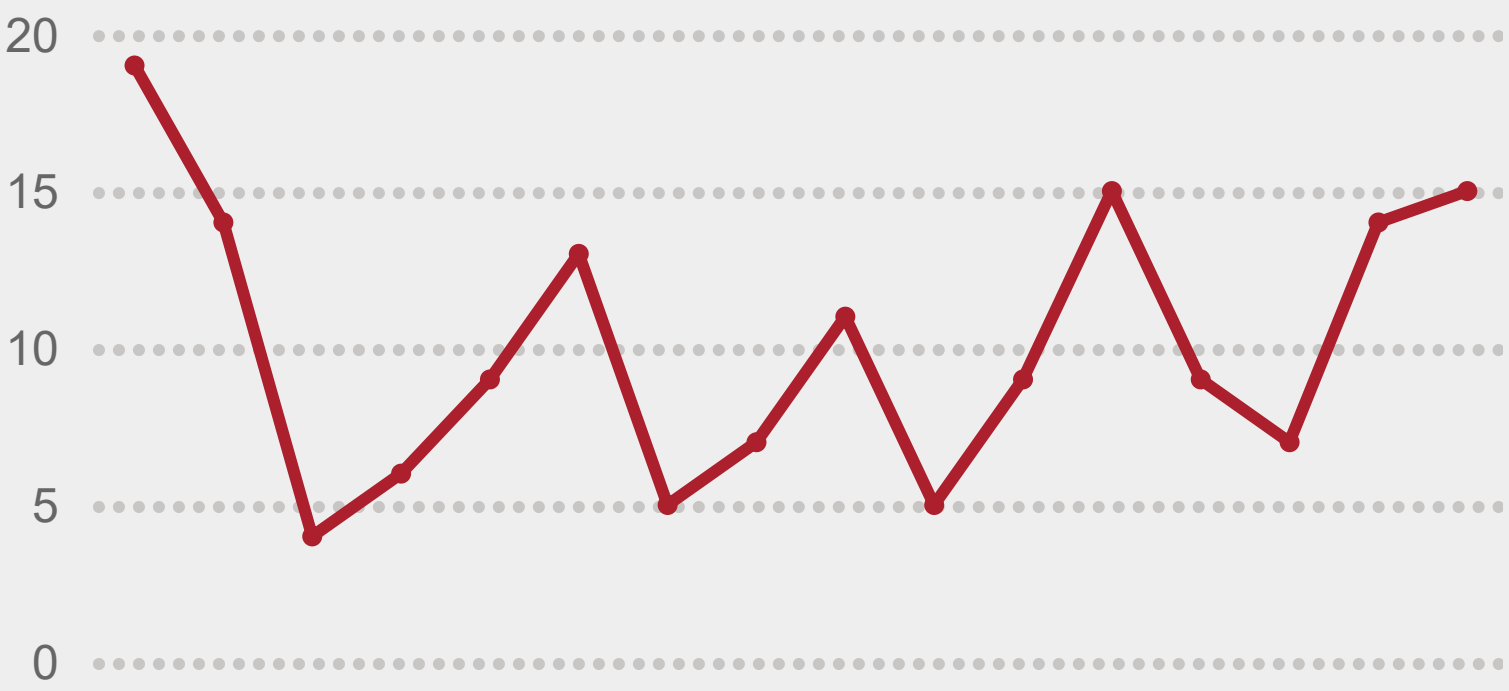
In relation to the ignition sources of the accidental fires, 3 were due to an electrical appliance, 2 involved electric lighting / supply and 2 were due to heating/industrial equipment. All deliberate fires were due to a heat source and combustible materials being brought together and 7 out of 9 were between 18.00hrs and 05.00hrs.

Following a non-domestic building fire, our dedicated Protection Officers audit relevant premises to ensure they are complying with their statutory responsibilities and to give advice to prevent any further incidents.

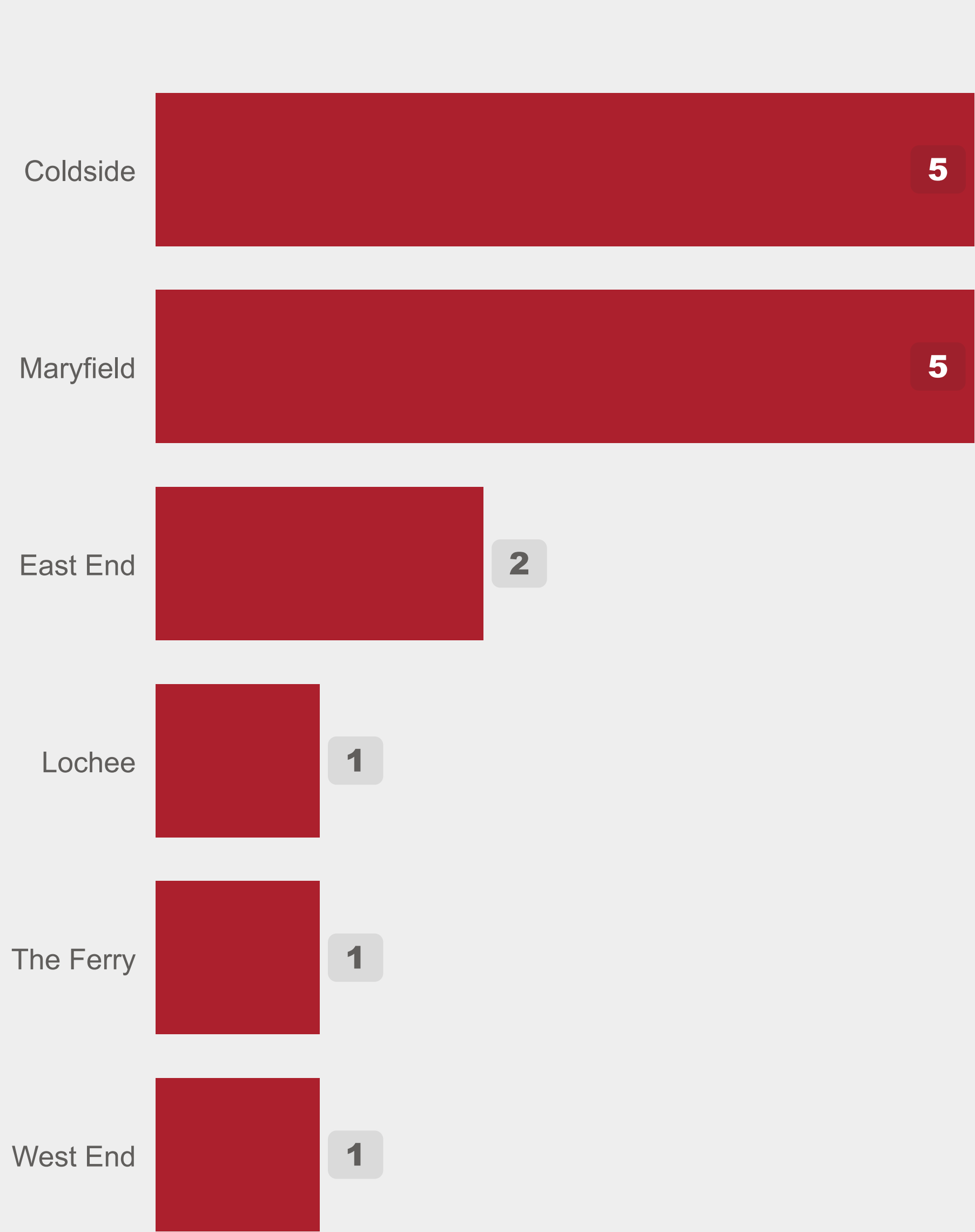
7. Non-Fire Casualties

2025-26 Q1

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Casualties by Ward



Nature of Injury/Cause of Death	Casualties
Back / Neck injury (spinal)	3
Not known	3
Fracture	2
Overcome by gas, smoke or toxic fumes; asphyxiation	2
Bruising	1
Chest / Abdominal injury	1
Collapse	1
Cuts/Lacerations	1
Other	1

12

Non-Fatal Casualties

3

Fatal Casualties

24

People Rescued by Firefighters

Extent of Harm (Non-Fatal)



0

First Aid Given at Scene



10

Hospital Slight Injuries



2

Hospital Serious Injuries

The SFRS attended 144 non-fire emergencies over the reporting period which resulted in 3 fatal and 12 non-fatal casualties. Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs) contributed to 7 of the non-fatal casualties, with more detail provided in section 8 of this report.

Of the 3 fatal casualties, 2 were from effecting entry to a premises for another agency / assisting another agency and 1 was a suicide.

In relation to the non-fatal casualties, 5 casualties required hospital treatment, 1 of which for serious injuries and 4 for slight injuries. 4 incidents were effecting entry to a premises for another agency and 1 incident involved Hazardous Materials from a lorry where the driver had slight injuries when exposed to a corrosive substance.

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



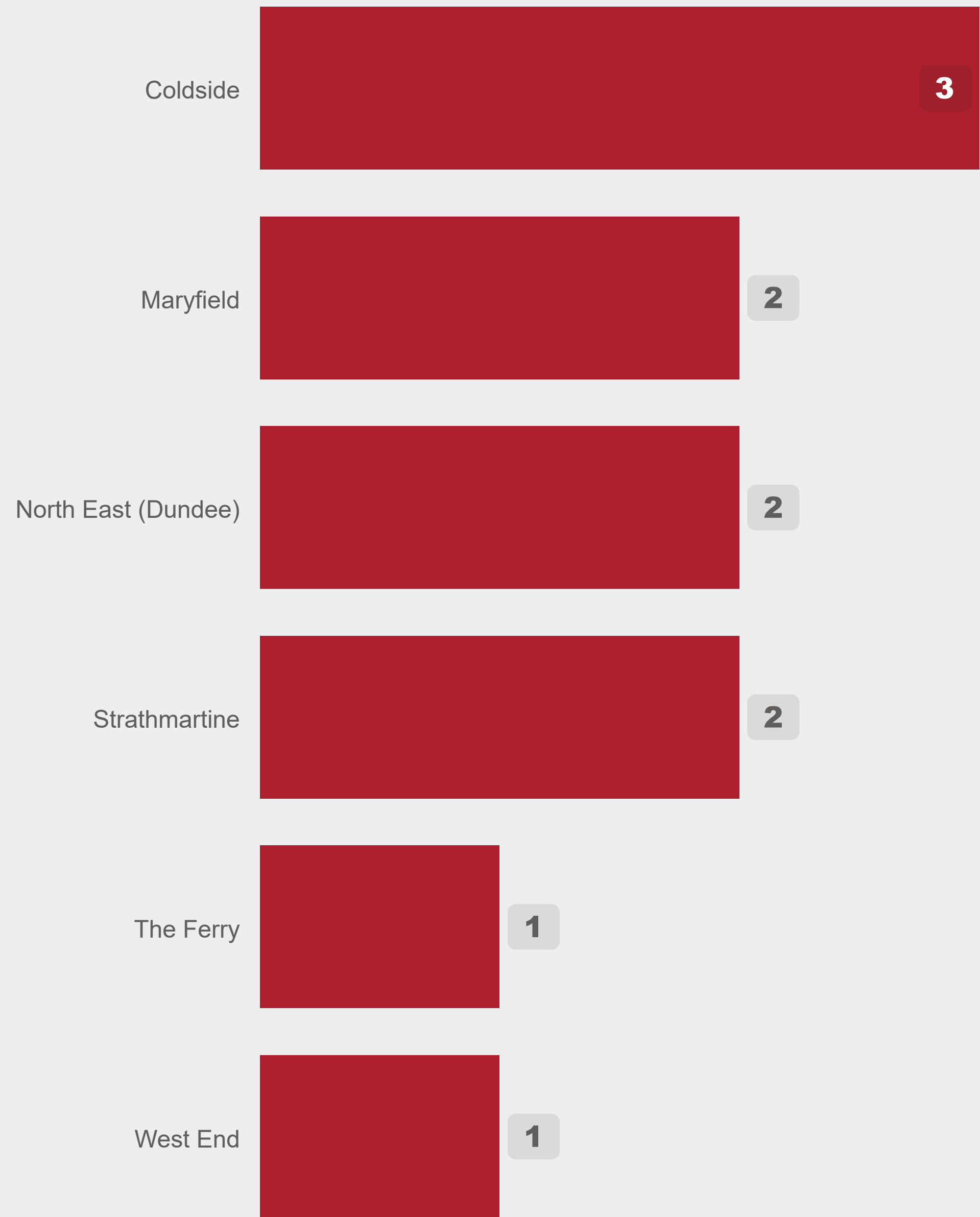
11

Road Traffic Collisions in this period

Property Type	Incidents
Car	10
Van	1

Incident Type	Incidents
Vehicle (Non-fire)	10
Fire (Vehicle)	1

Incidents by Ward



7

Non-Fatal Casualties

0

Fatal Casualties

4

People Rescued by Firefighters

Extent of Harm (Non-Fatal)

0

First Aid Given at Scene

6

Hospital Slight Injuries

1

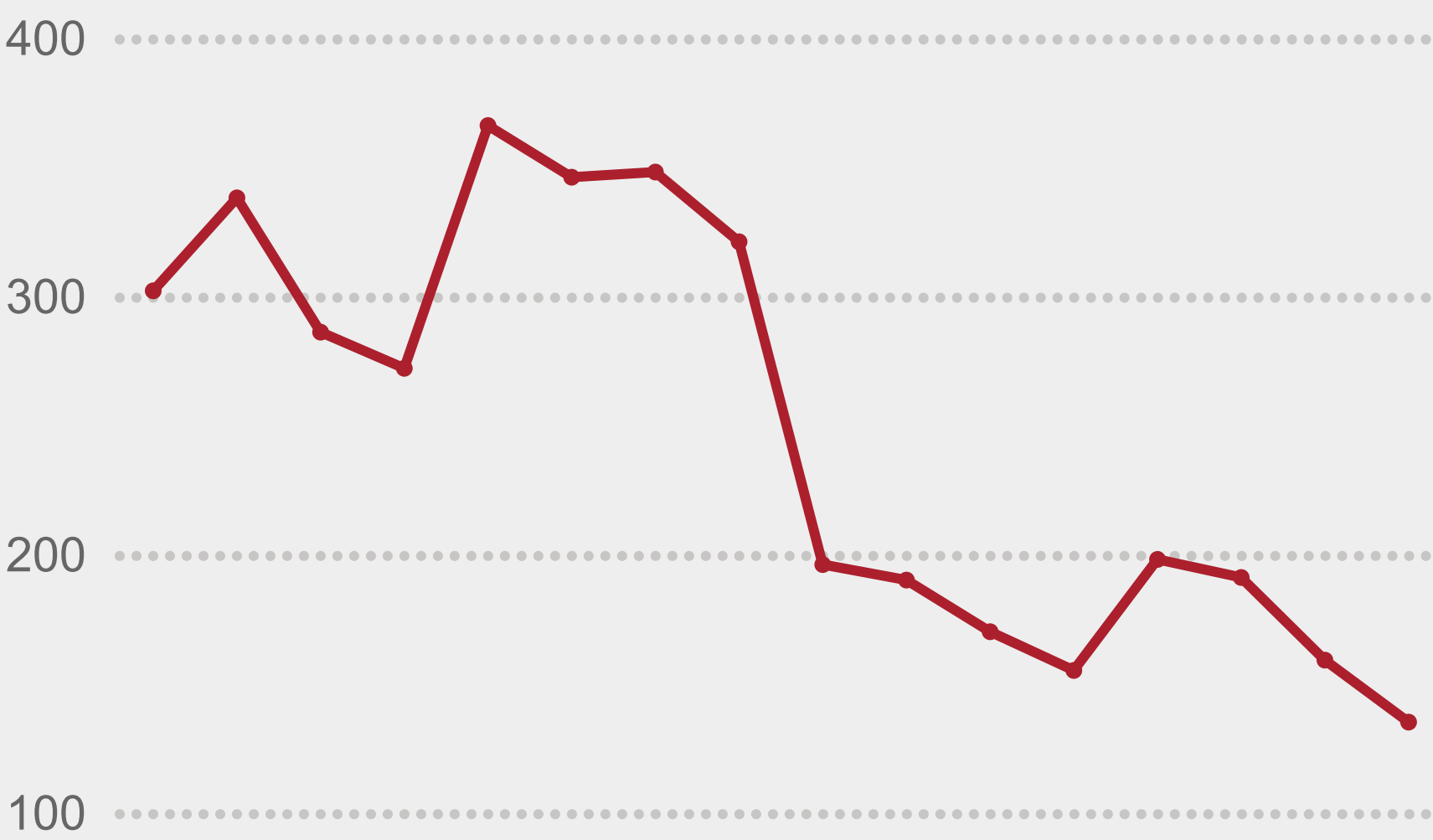
Hospital Serious Injuries

There were 5 Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs) that accounted for 7 non-fatal casualties within the reporting period. There were 6 further RTCs resulting in no casualties and there were no fatal RTC casualties in Q1.

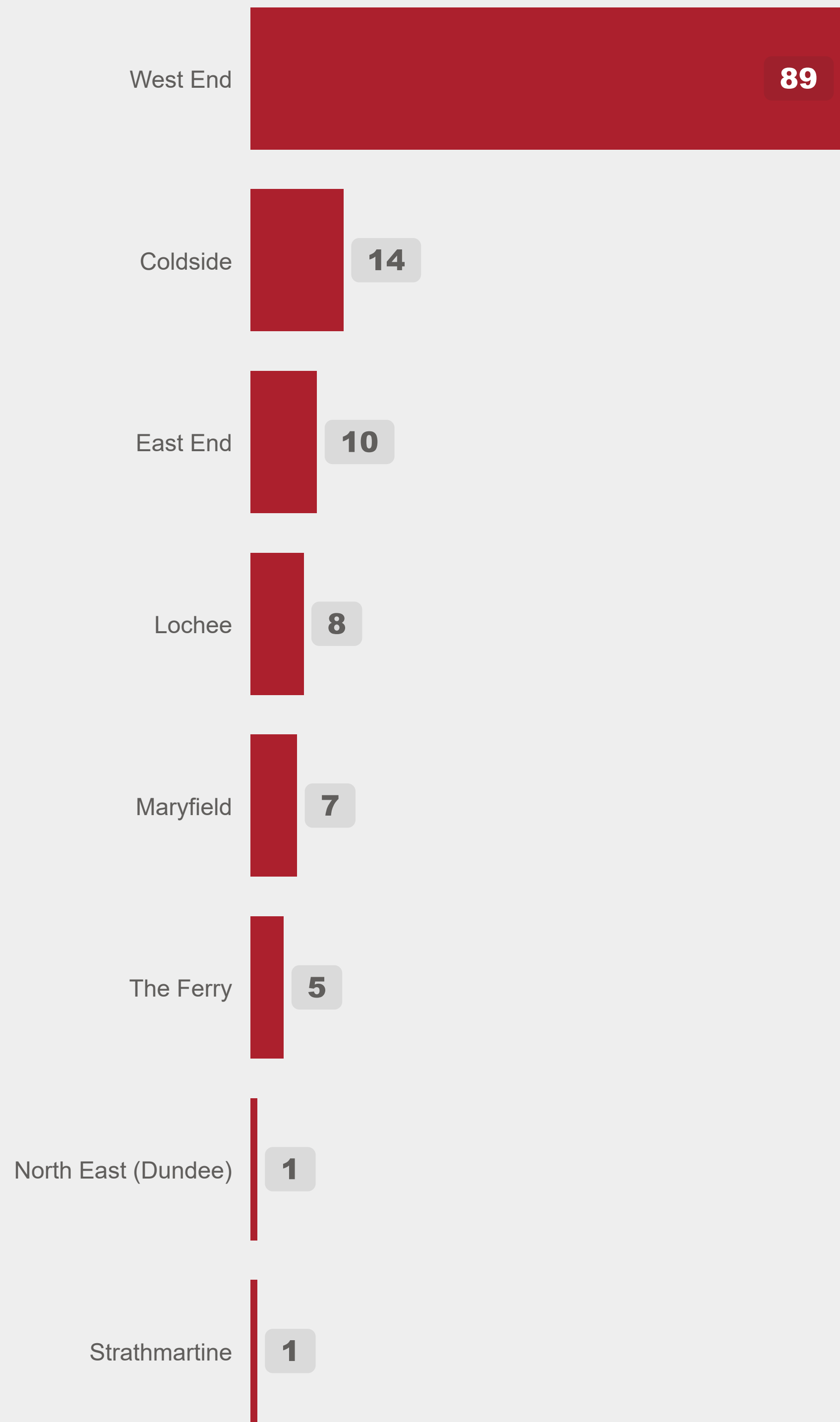
Of the non-fatal casualties, there were 2 RTCs in the Coldsides ward resulting in a casualty with serious injuries and 2 casualties with slight injuries. 2 RTCs in the Maryfield ward resulting in 3 casualties with slight injuries and 1 RTC within The Ferry ward that resulted in a further casualty with slight injuries.

A multi-agency approach is essential to reduce RTCs and associated casualties, with the Tayside Road Safety Partnership taking a collaborative approach to identifying reduction priorities to influence and shape the prevention activity in Dundee; such as education initiatives, targeted speed enforcement campaigns and in increasing public awareness.

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Incidents by Ward



Top 15 Property Types

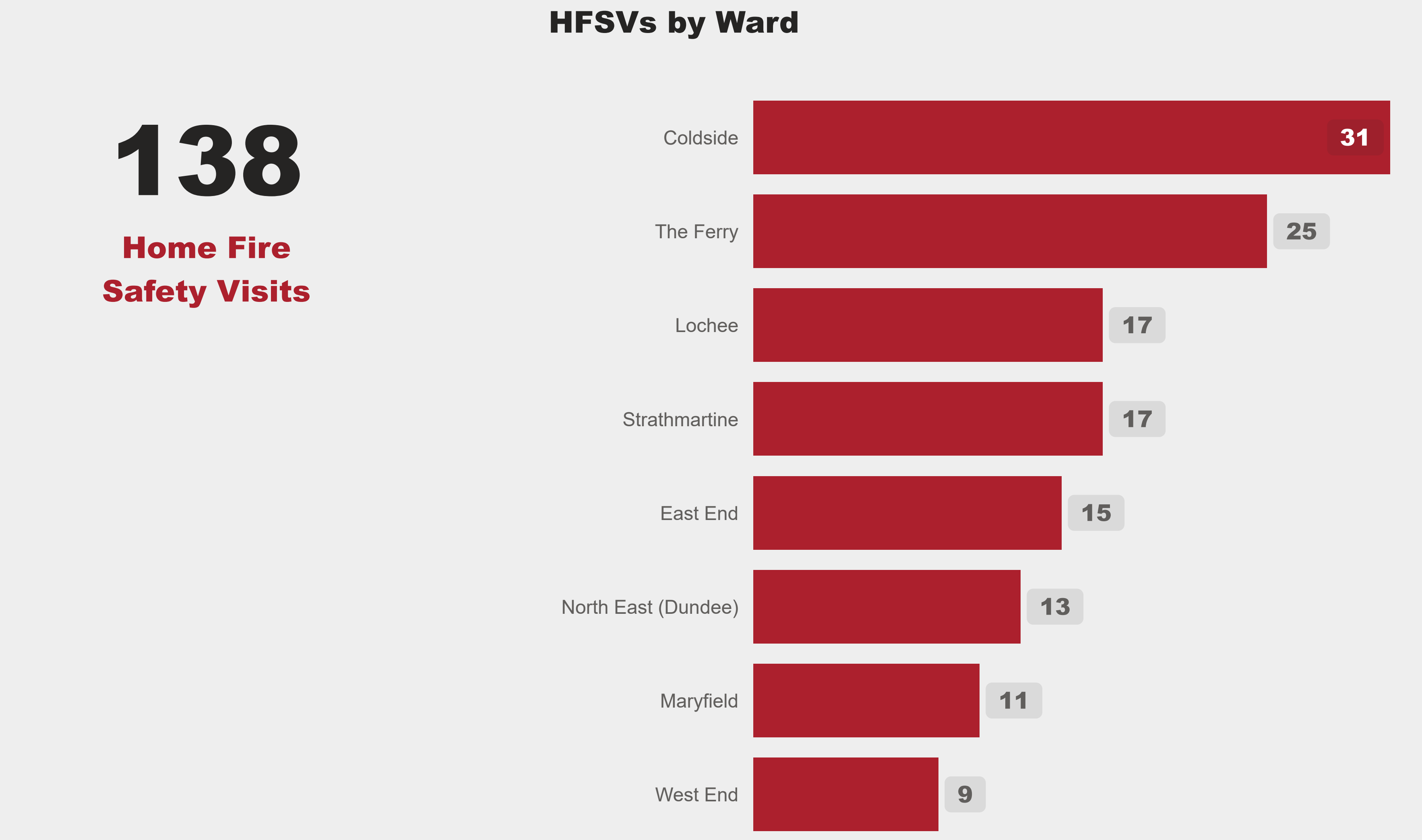
Property Type	Incidents
Hospitals and medical care	47
Student Hall of Residence	37
Residential Home	25
Hostel (e.g. for homeless people)	5
Nurses'/Doctors' accommodation	5
Boarding House/B&B for homeless/asylum seekers	3
Hotel/motel	3
Sheltered Housing - not self contained	3
Offices and call centres	2
Education	1
Food and Drink	1
Industrial Manufacturing	1
Public admin, security and safety	1
Retail	1

135

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals in this period

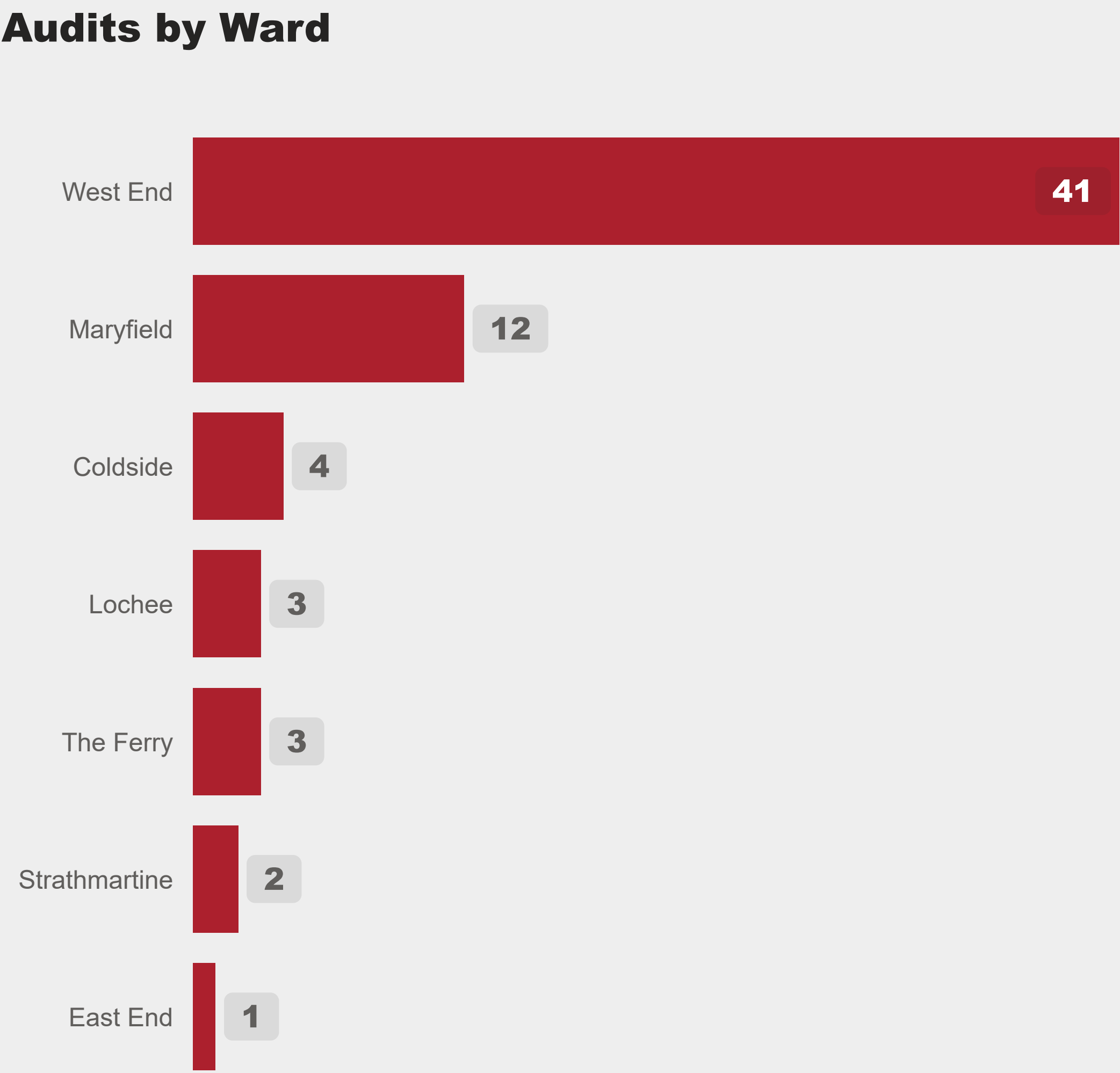
Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) from Automatic Fire Alarms has an impact in terms of unnecessary blue light journeys, redirecting SFRS resources away from other activities such as community safety engagement and causing considerable disruption to businesses.

Operational crews continue to investigate the cause of every UFAS incident to ensure the appropriate level of engagement with the Dutyholder is undertaken when in attendance. Every UFAS incident that the SFRS attends is used as an opportunity to educate the Dutyholder on the impact UFAS has on their businesses, the community and the SFRS. The reduction in UFAS mobilisations within Dundee has continued to provide opportunities for reinvesting the released capacity into areas that would deliver greater value, such as training and further prevention work.



11. Fire Safety Enforcement

Job Type	Count
Audit	66
Specific Visit	18
Fire Engineering Consultation	16
Consultation	8
Short Post Fire Audit	2



Our dedicated Fire Safety Enforcement Officers continue to audit relevant premises that fall within the scope of the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 to ensure compliance with their statutory responsibilities. Several Post Fire Audits were carried out with no patterns or trends being identified across the premises audited. Support and guidance was given to improve fire safety management in the workplace in relation to the cause of the incident.

Ongoing work with Dundee City Council to consult with and support the licensing of Short Term Lets throughout the city continues. Fire Engineering consultations were also completed, along with a number of other consultations and specific visits ranging from high rise building inspections and HMO visits to resolving complaints and concerns.

12. Community Safety Engagement & Partnership Working Q1

Community Fire Station Open Day



Local SFRS personnel hosted a station open day at Macalpine Road Community Fire Station in April. This allowed SFRS to engage with local communities, with an estimated 1200 people coming through the doors. The event was extremely popular and included the attendance of Lord Provost Bill Campbell and Cllr. Lynne Short.

The aim of the event was to provide a free fun filled day for the public to attend over the Easter weekend, in collaboration with our partners from public, private and third sector. The SFRS Spring Thematic Action Plan (TAP) and the Dundee Partnership City Plan were used to shape the day and ensure the correct partners were involved. We delivered fire and water safety messaging to a large numbers to people and provided a free lunch through our partners at The Rapid Relief Team who served approximately 850 burgers, with 200 filled rolls, soup and crisps provided by Tayside Contracts.

We set out to provide fun activities for the people attending especially children, this was achieved by providing an arts and crafts stall, bouncy castle, beat the goalie and an Easter egg hunt to name a few. The Army and Sea cadets also attended to provide young people with an opportunity to sign up for their groups, potentially reducing youth Anti - Social Behaviour (ASB) through diversionary activity, with a further focus on future employability prospects.

The event will hopefully have a lasting impact and further strengthen relationships between the SFRS, other blue light partners and the local community, to a reduce the number of deliberate fires and other ASB type incidents in this area. £800 of donations was raised on the day for the Firefighters Charity.

Dundee Schools Competition

Dundee Community Action Team (CAT) supported by operational crews delivered a schools competition involving six secondary schools and the four Community Fire Stations from across Dundee. It ran over a nine-week period with the concluding with a competition day at Blackness Road Fire Station on 30th May. Each school team had up to eight pupils and were taught pump, ladder and combined drills by operational staff at the station they were aligned to. They were also taught how to parade, carry out squad numbering and words of command. The aim of the competition was to strengthen relationships between Community Fire Stations and secondary school pupils in their area; thus reducing ASB, deliberate fire setting and acts of violence towards blue light agencies. For the Young People, the initiative helps build confidence, discipline and responsibility, which gives them a sense of achievement and a pride in themself, their school, local community and the wider City. Many of the participants in the initiative are keen to embrace a career with SFRS following their hands-on experience, which gives them real focus and motivation around employability prospects.



Fire Related Anti-Social Behaviour Educational Initiative

SFRS and Police Scotland identified a growing trend of deliberate outdoor fires within Dundee in Q1. Utilising a partnership approach, Fire Related ASB (FRASB) presentations were delivered to 14 schools across the City that were identified in hot s pot areas. The aim of the presentations was to highlight the impact deliberate fire setting can have on the SFRS and the co nsequential risks involved should our resources be tied up when a time-critical incident comes in. Local examples are also used to show the young people the negative impact these actions are having on the local environment in their community. This collaborative working with partner agencies to design and deliver appropriate initiatives to reduce the number of FRASB incidents, and the wider ASB within the communities, hopefully reduces demand on operational resource and improves firefighter, partner and public safety.

Work Experience

Dundee CAT completed work experience sessions with Harris Academy and St Johns RC High School during Q1. This involved three students from each school coming into the CAT for three days. These sessions allowed us to give an insight into the SFRS to the students. We gave them an experience of various roles and jobs included in the fire service, including prevention/partnership work, community engagement and operational elements. This allowed SFRS to strengthen our relationship with the students who could act as local champions at their school, promoting SFRS and positive behaviours.

Children's Car Seat Safety

SFRS staff attended events at Boomerang Community Center in Q1 and provided car seat safety advice. Two of our Community Safety Advocates have completed the Good Egg car safety training and during the events they provided advice to twenty-two parents and gave correction advice to three. This activity linked into SFRS seasonal Community Safety Calendars Child Safety Week.

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.

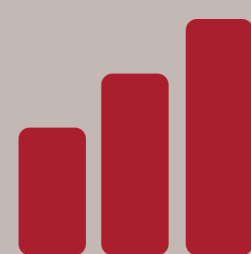
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BUSINESS
INTELLIGENCE

Design, figures and charts by the Business Intelligence team.