



Inverclyde

2024-25 Q4

Scrutiny Report



SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Working together for a safer Scotland

**Working together
for a safer Scotland**

Inverclyde
council

Contents




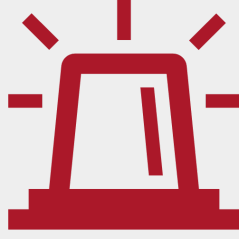








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About the statistics within this report

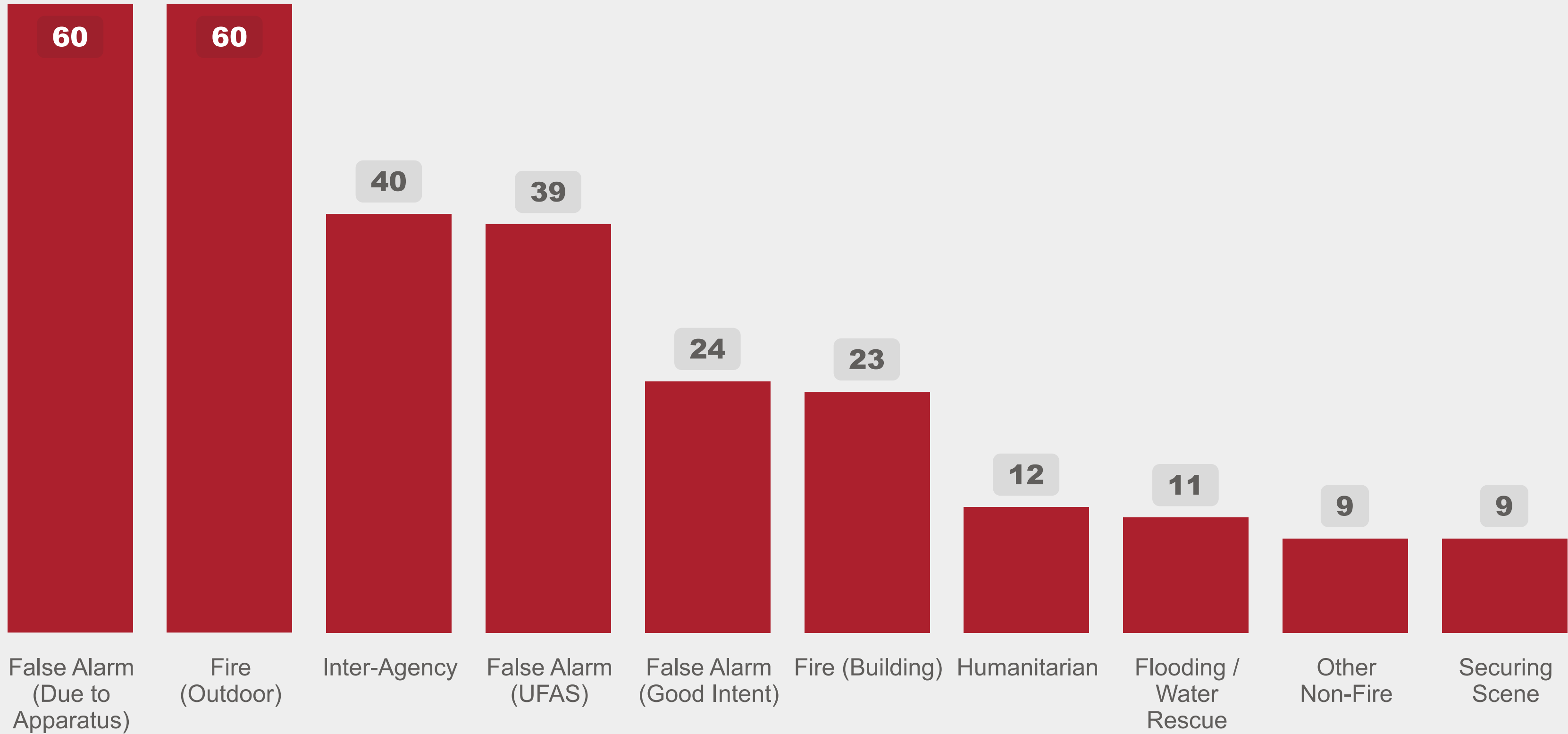
The activity totals and other statistics quoted within this report are published in the interests of transparency and openness. They are provisional in nature and subject to change as a result of ongoing quality assurance and review. Because all statistics quoted are provisional there may be a difference 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.

1. Summary

2024-25 Q4

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|--|
|  301 Total Incidents (Incl. Incompletes) |  87 Fires |  88 Non-Fire Incidents |  126 False Alarms |  39 UFAS |
|  23 People Rescued by Firefighters |  3 People Receiving First Aid or Hospital Treatment (Fires) |  0 Fire Fatalities |  8 People Receiving First Aid or Hospital Treatment (Non-Fire) |  2 Non-Fire Fatalities |
|  57 Home Fire Safety Visits |  11 Fire Safety Audits | | | |

Top 10 Incident Types



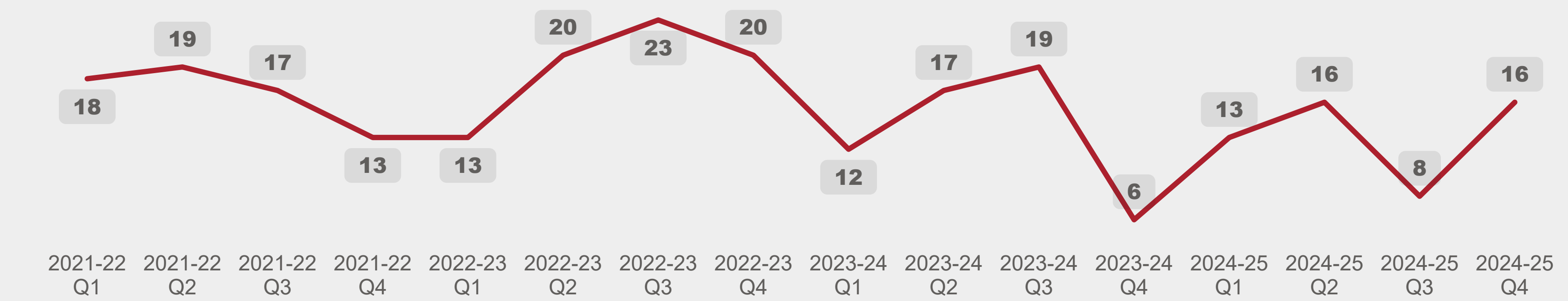
As can be seen from the above summary, in Quarter 4 of 2024-25 SFRS attended a total of 301 incidents across Inverclyde up from 227 in the same quarter last year, this was an increase of 32%. A further breakdown of some incident statistics are shown below, all figures are compared to the same quarter in 2023/24:

- Fires: Increased from 71 to 86 (21% increase)
- Special Services: Increased from 69 to 88 (27% increase)
- False Alarms: Increased from 96 to 126 (31% increase)

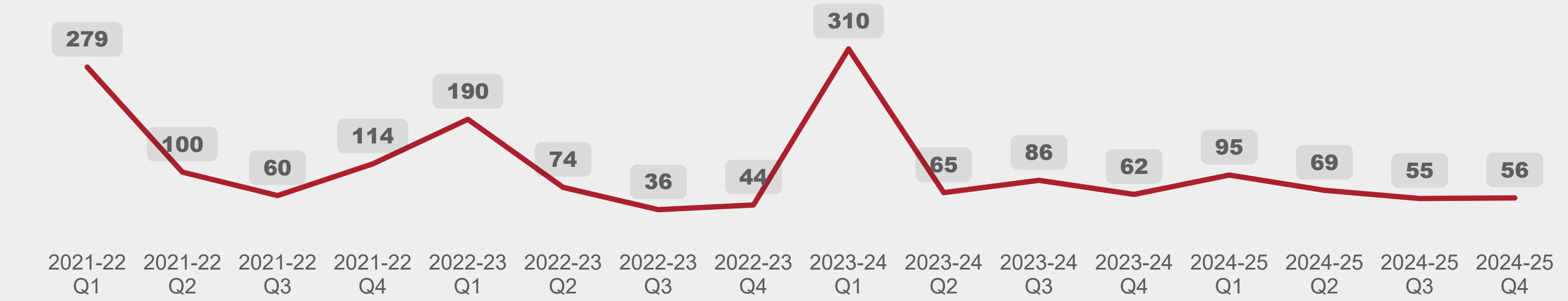
2. Trends

Previous 16 quarters (4 years)

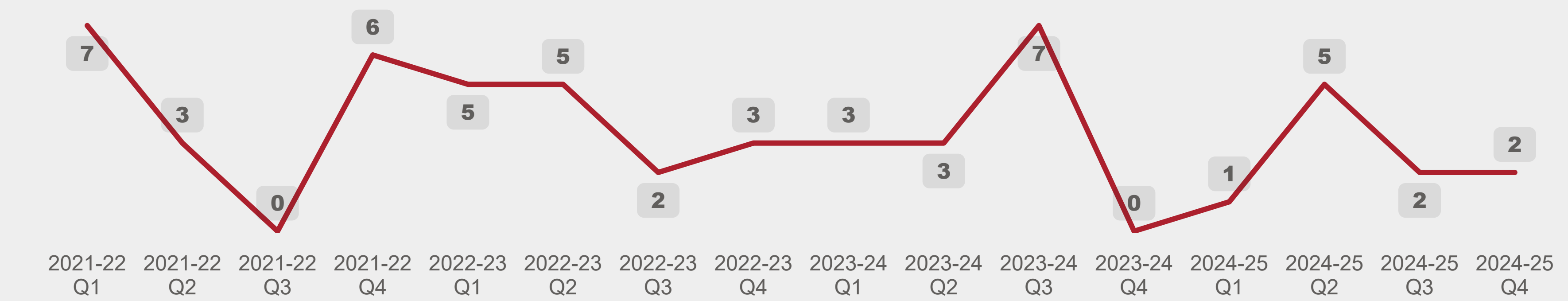
Accidental Dwelling Fires



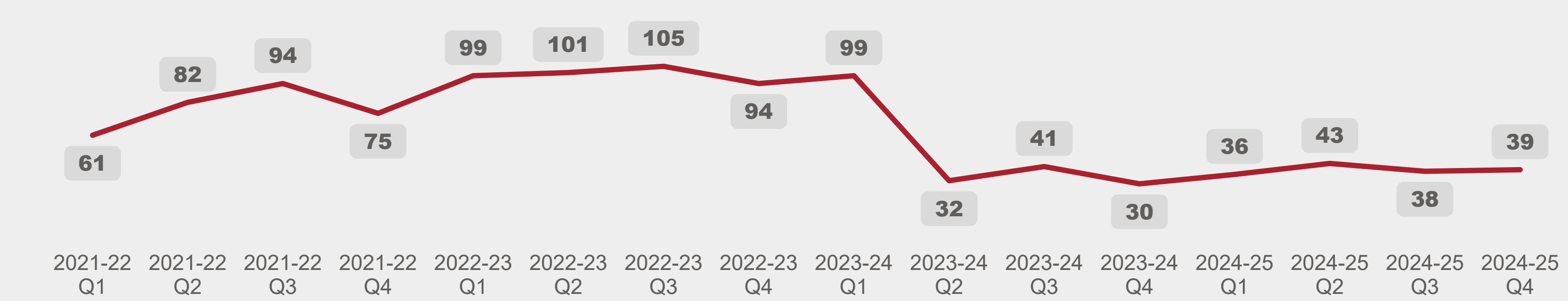
Deliberate Fires



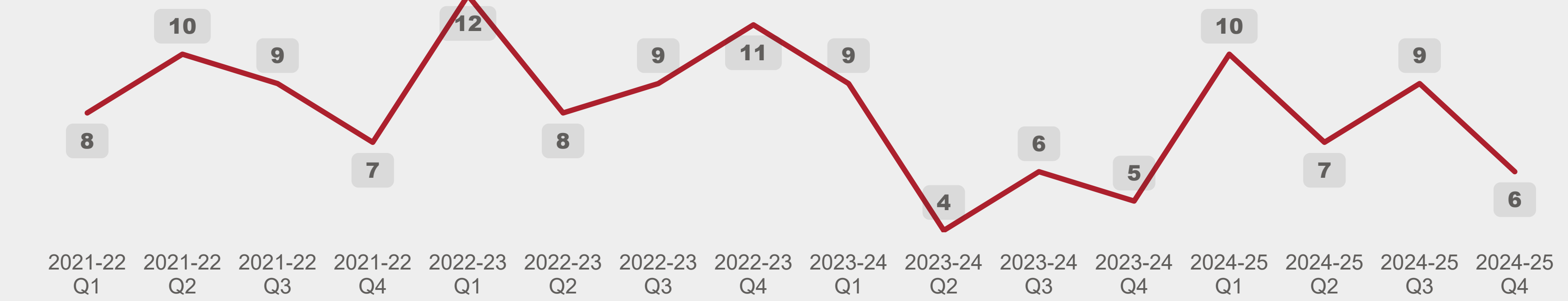
Non-Domestic Fires



Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals



Road Traffic Collisions



3. Accidental Dwelling Fires

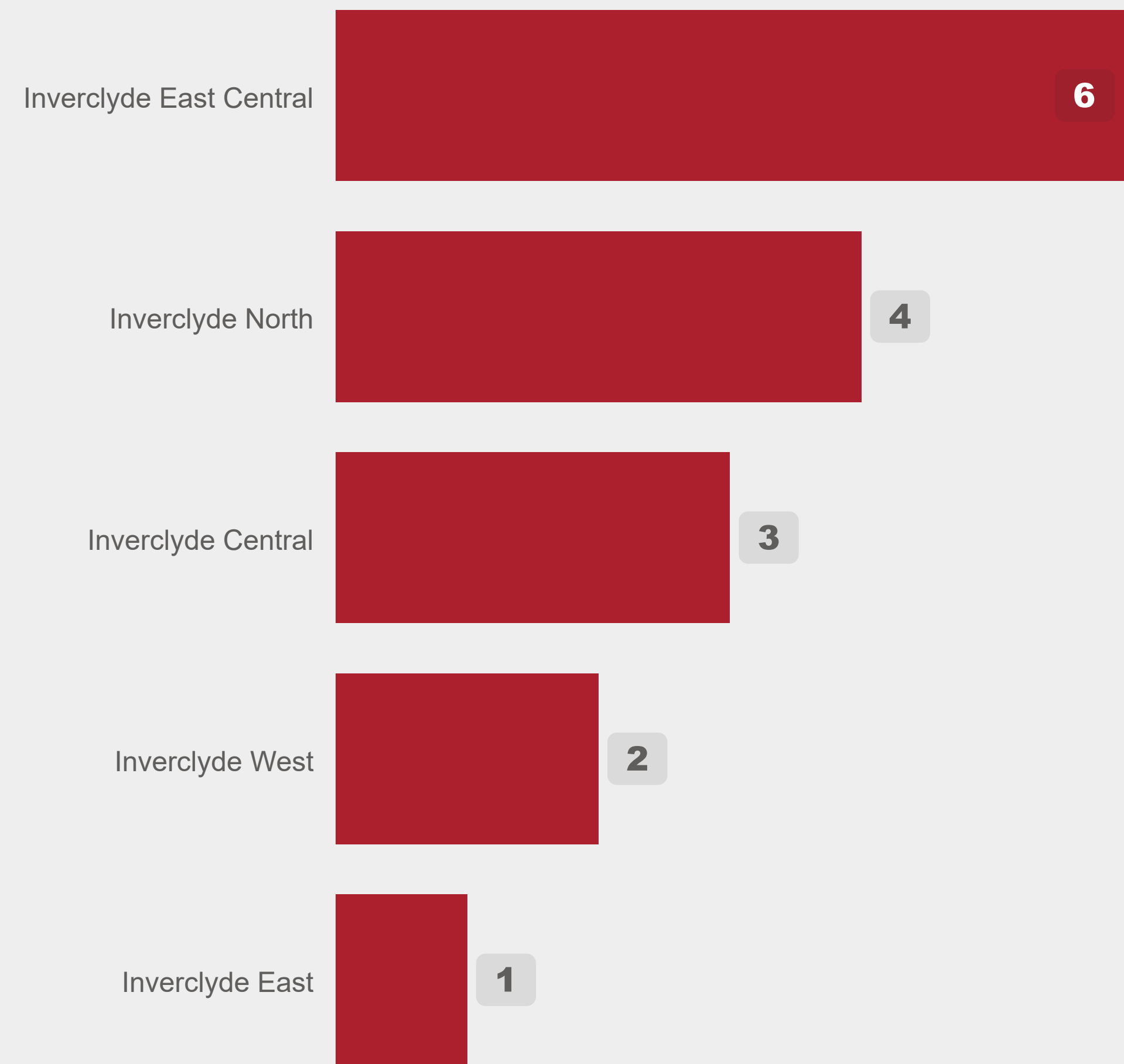
2024-25 Q4

Trend by Quarter (4 years)

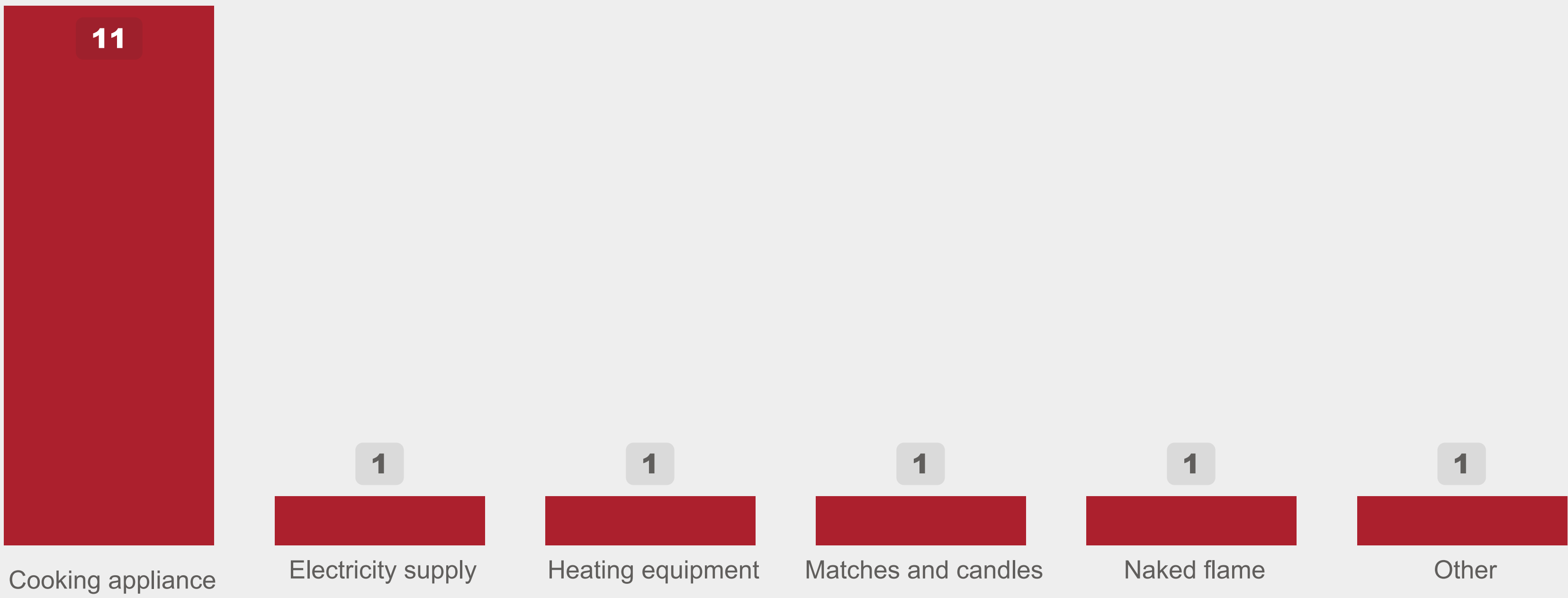


| Extent of Damage | Incidents |
|---|-----------|
| Not applicable | 11 |
| Limited to item 1st ignited | 4 |
| Limited to floor of origin (not whole building) | 1 |

Incidents by Ward



Source of Ignition (Top 10)



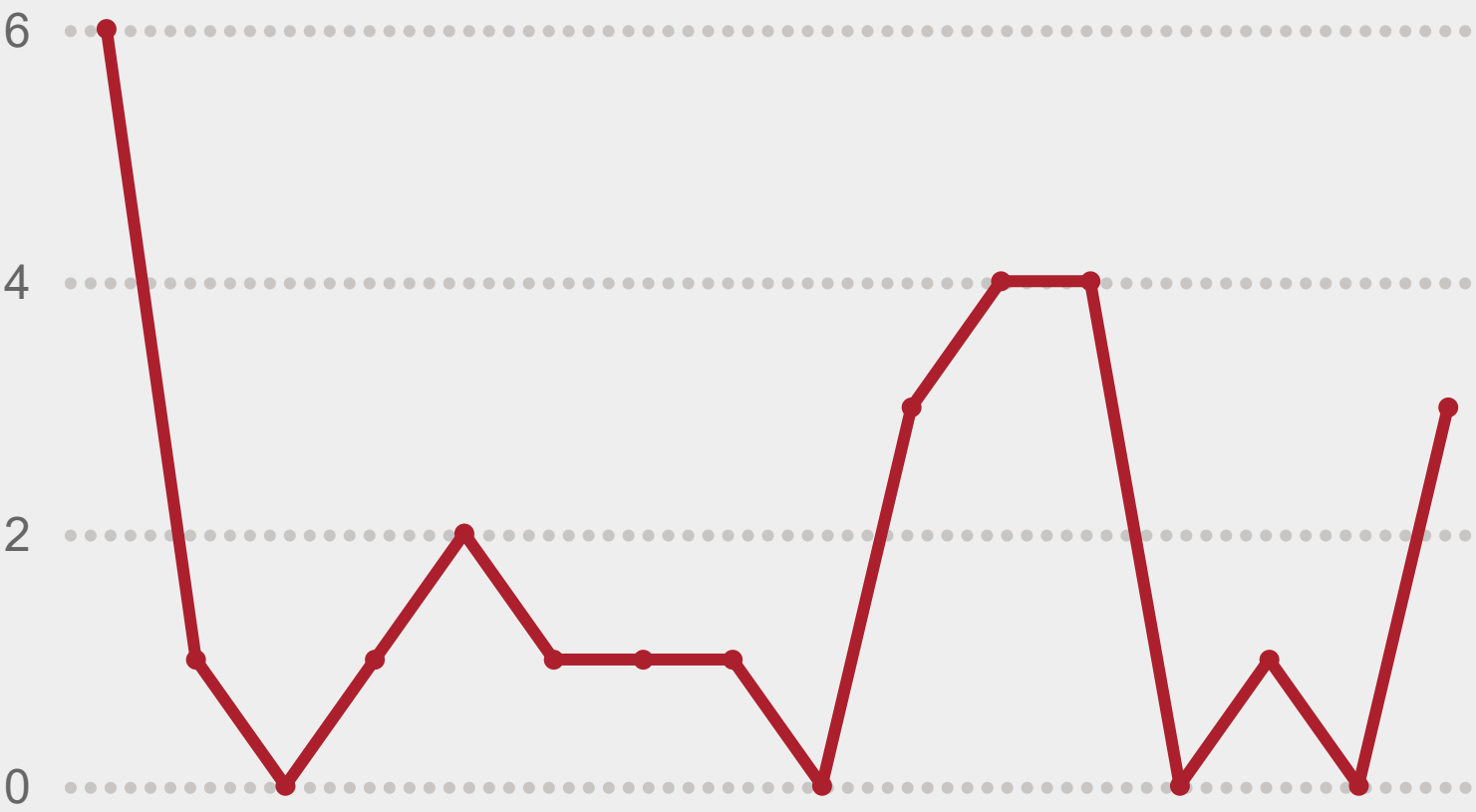
16
Accidental Dwelling Fires
in this period

This quarter we are reporting an increase in accidental dwelling fires from 6 in the same quarter last year to 16 this year, this equates to a percentage increase of 167%. Of the dwelling fires in Inverclyde this quarter, a cooking appliance was recorded as being the most common source of ignition, accounting for 11 out of 16 incidents. As can be seen from the table above, most of the fires were small in nature and either resulted in no appreciable fire damage or were limited to the item first ignited. Our operational crews continue to conduct Post Domestic Incident Responses following any incidents in a dwelling and along with our Community Action Team continue to provide advice and guidance to the community as well as carrying out Home Fire Safety Visits to reduce occurrences of accidental dwelling fires.

4. Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties

2024-25 Q4

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



| Nature of Injury/Cause of Death | Casualties |
|---|------------|
| Overcome by gas, smoke or toxic fumes; asphyxiation | 2 |
| Combination of burns and overcome by gas/smoke | 1 |

Casualties by Ward

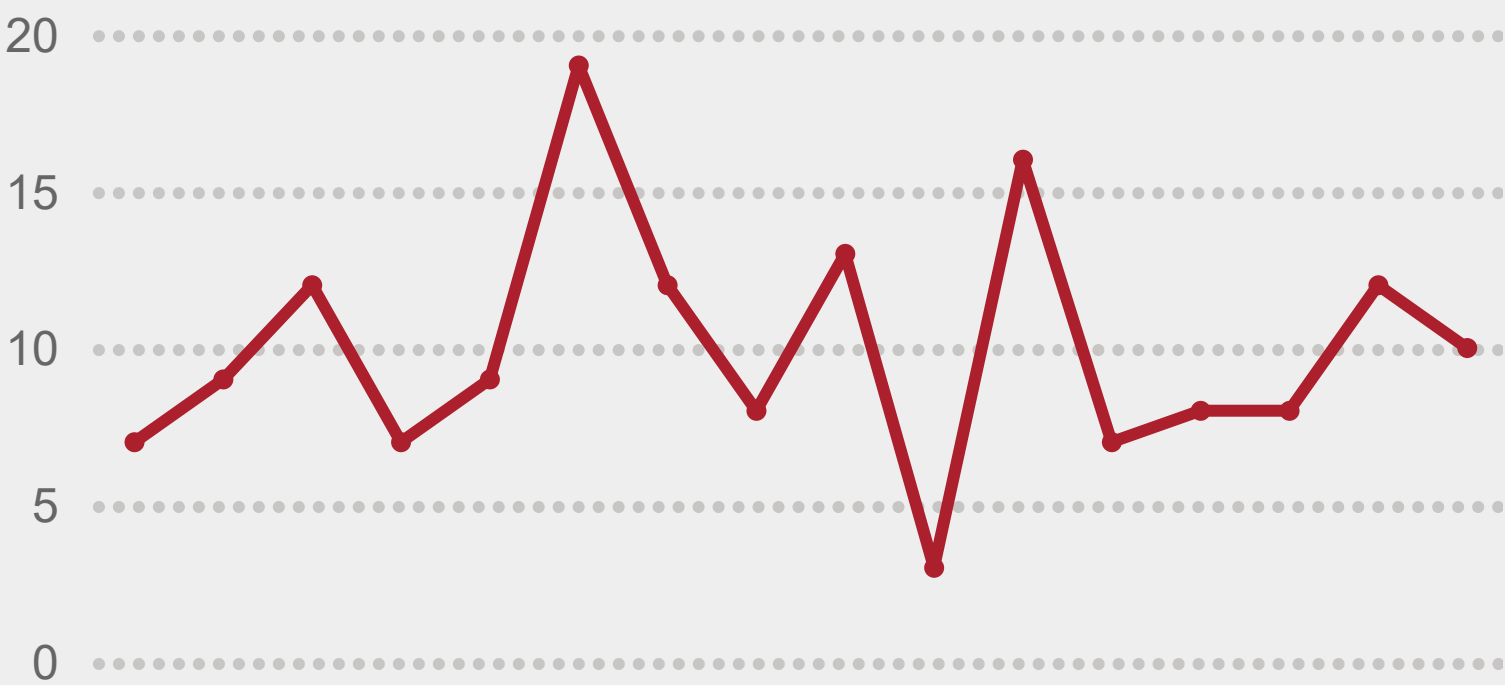


Extent of Harm (Non-Fatal)

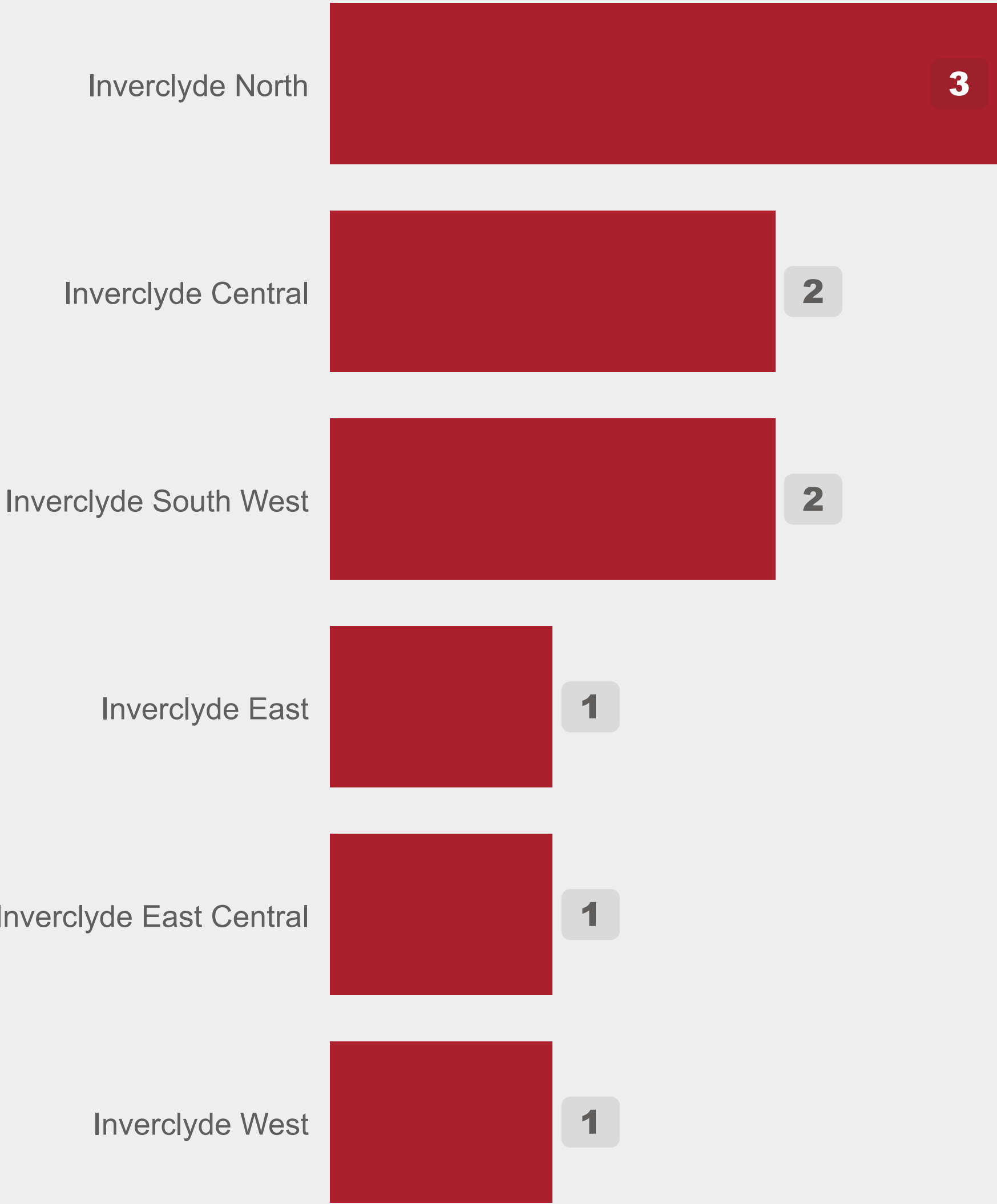


This quarter we can report a reduction in accidental fire casualties from 4 to 3 compared to the same quarter last year, this is a 25% reduction. Of the 3 casualties one was released after treatment at scene and 2 were removed to hospital, one with slight and the other with serious injuries. As can be seen by the graph showing the trend over the last 4 years, Inverclyde has historically had a low number of casualties resulting from accidental dwelling fires with occasional spikes in those numbers. Through our continued focus on community safety engagement across Inverclyde, including our Home Fire Safety Visit programme, we work to attempt to reduce those figures further.

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Casualties by Ward



8

Non-Fatal Casualties

2

Fatal Casualties

20

People Rescued by Firefighters

Extent of Harm (Non-Fatal)

2

First Aid Given at Scene

6

Hospital Slight Injuries

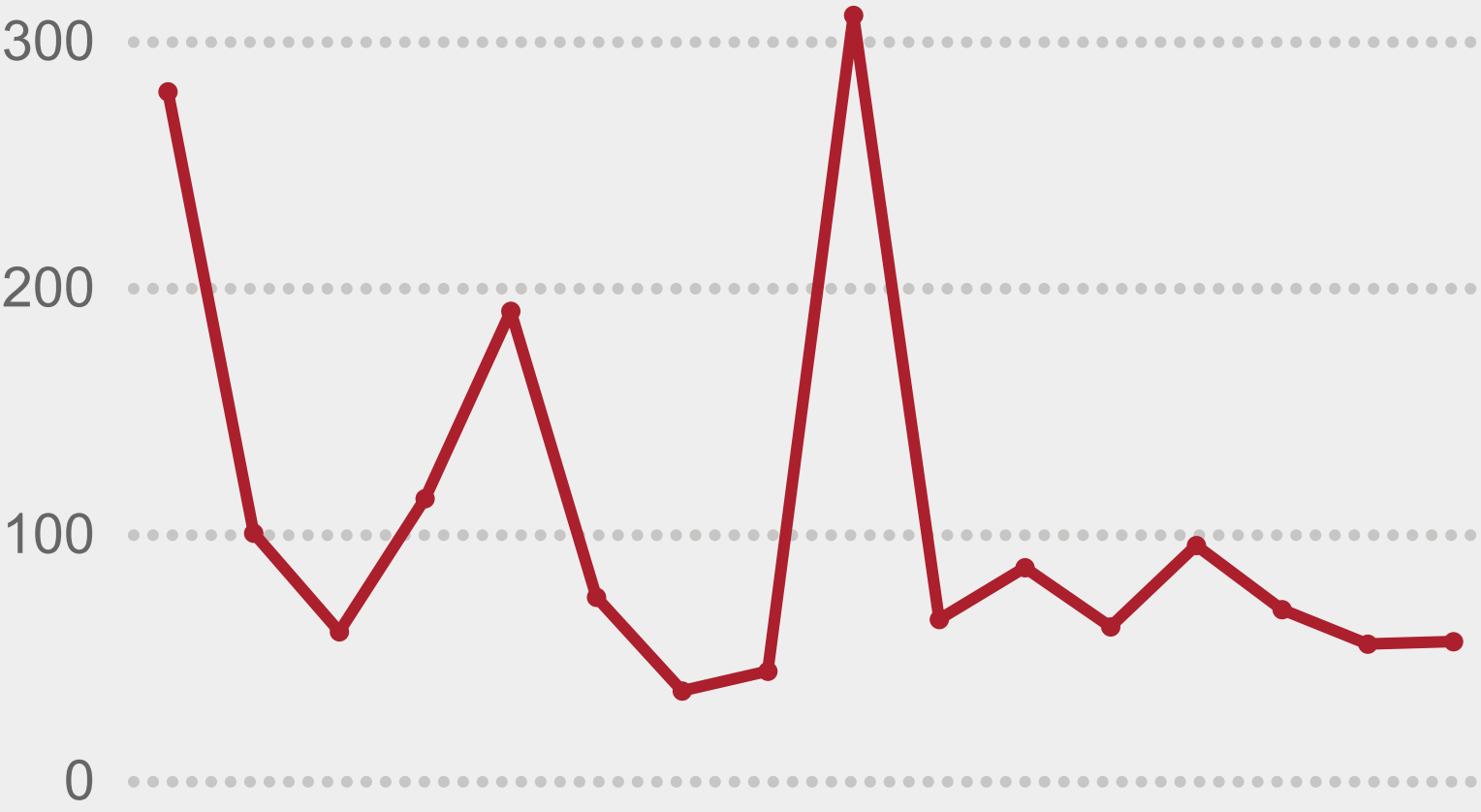
0

Hospital Serious Injuries

We have to report an increase of 42% in the number of non-fire casualties compared to the same quarter last year, up from 7 to 10, the total for this quarter includes 8 casualties who were treated at scene or removed to hospital with slight injuries. 5 casualties resulted from incidents where SFRS were called to assist other agencies and 3 as a result of road traffic collisions.

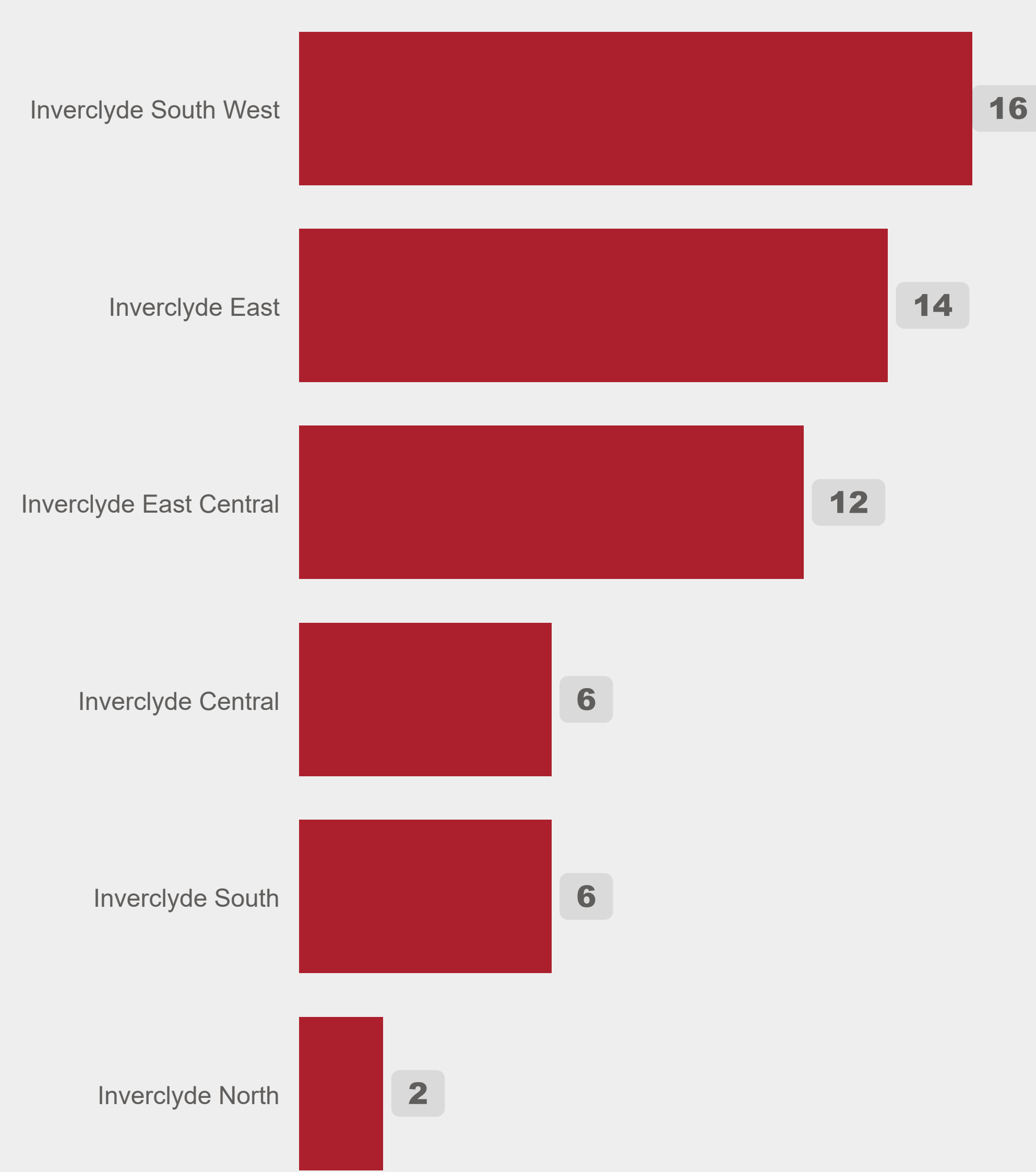
This quarter also saw 2 non-fire fatalities in Inverclyde, again these were at incidents where SFRS attended to assist partner agencies.

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



| Property Type | Incident |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| Grassland, woodland and crops | 26 |
| Refuse | 17 |
| Other outdoors (including land) | 7 |
| Road Vehicle | 3 |
| Dwelling | 1 |
| Non Residential | 1 |
| Outdoor structures | 1 |

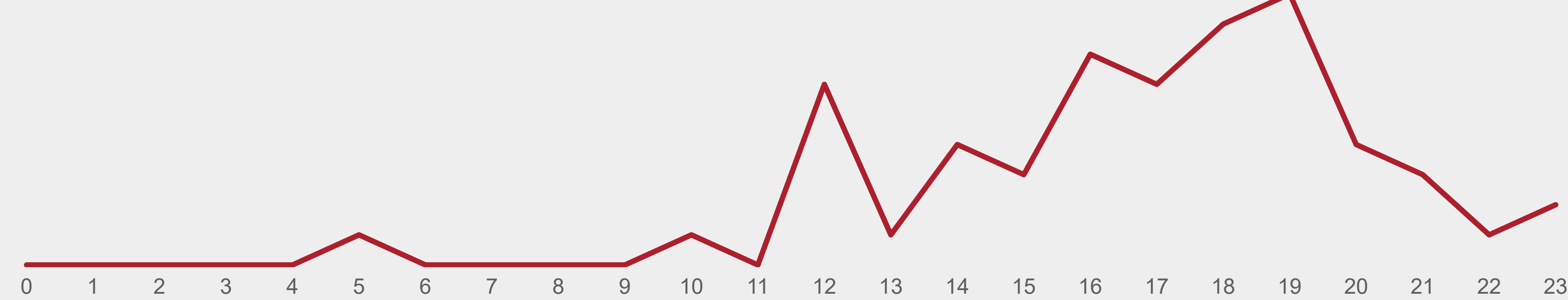
Incidents by Ward



56

Deliberate Fires
in this period

Hour of Day

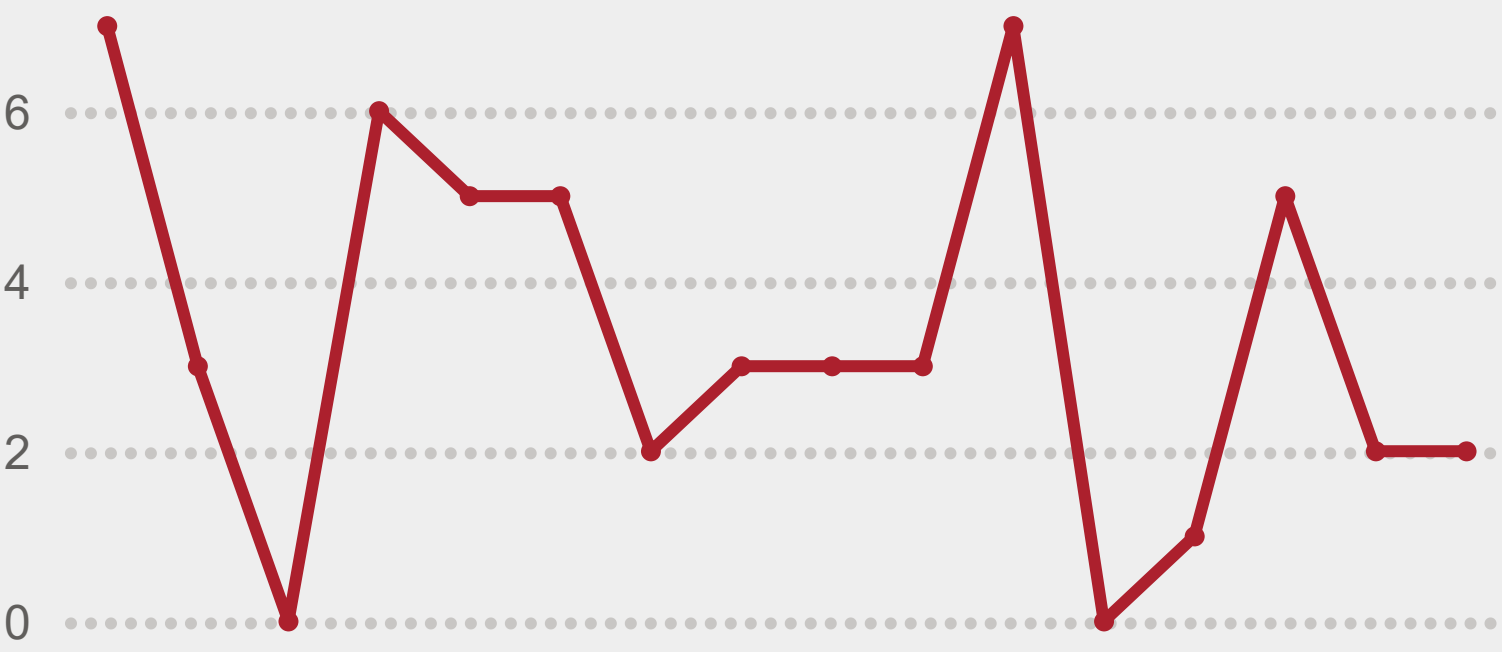


This quarter saw a reduction in the number of deliberate fires in Inverclyde compared to the same period in 2023/24, the number of deliberate fires dropped from 62 to 56, a reduction of 9%. As can be seen from the graph above tracking deliberate fires across Inverclyde for the last 4 years, the overall trend has been downwards with occasional spikes. SFRS continues to work closely with our local partners to continue that trend and reduce the impact of fire-related antisocial behaviour across Inverclyde.

7. Non-Domestic Fires

2024-25 Q4

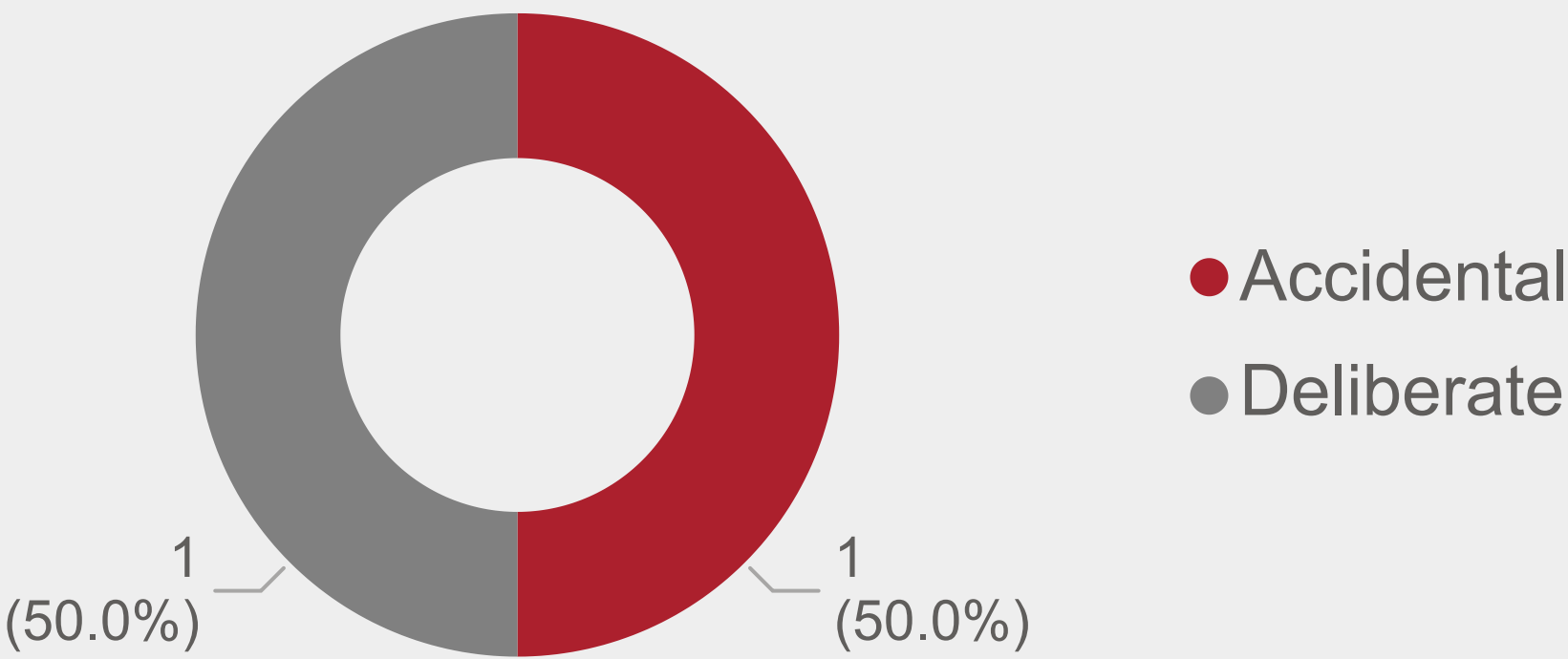
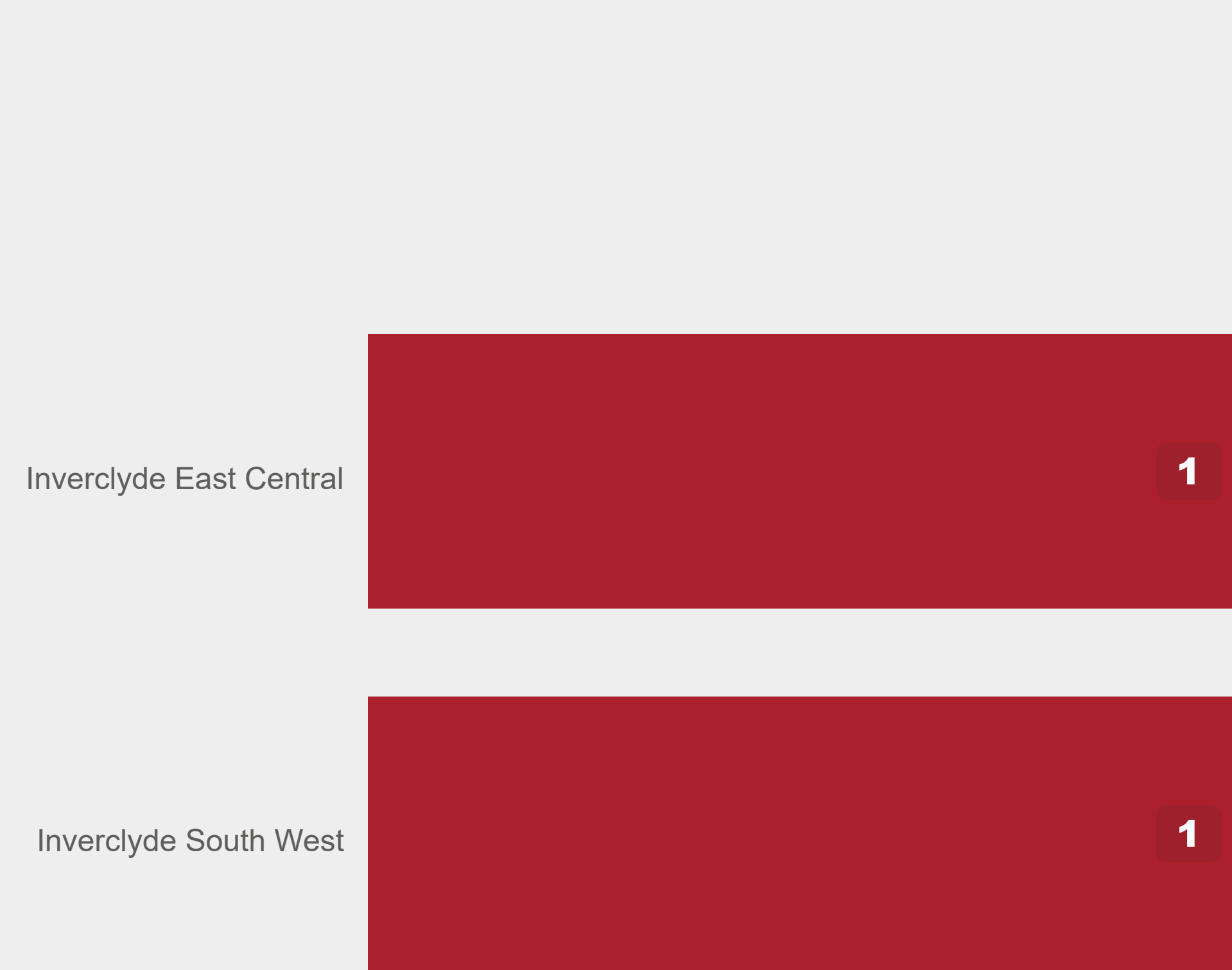
Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Top 15 Property Types

| Property Type | Incidents |
|----------------|-----------|
| Food and Drink | 1 |
| Vehicle Repair | 1 |

Incidents by Ward



2

Non-Domestic
Fires in this
period

Extent of Damage

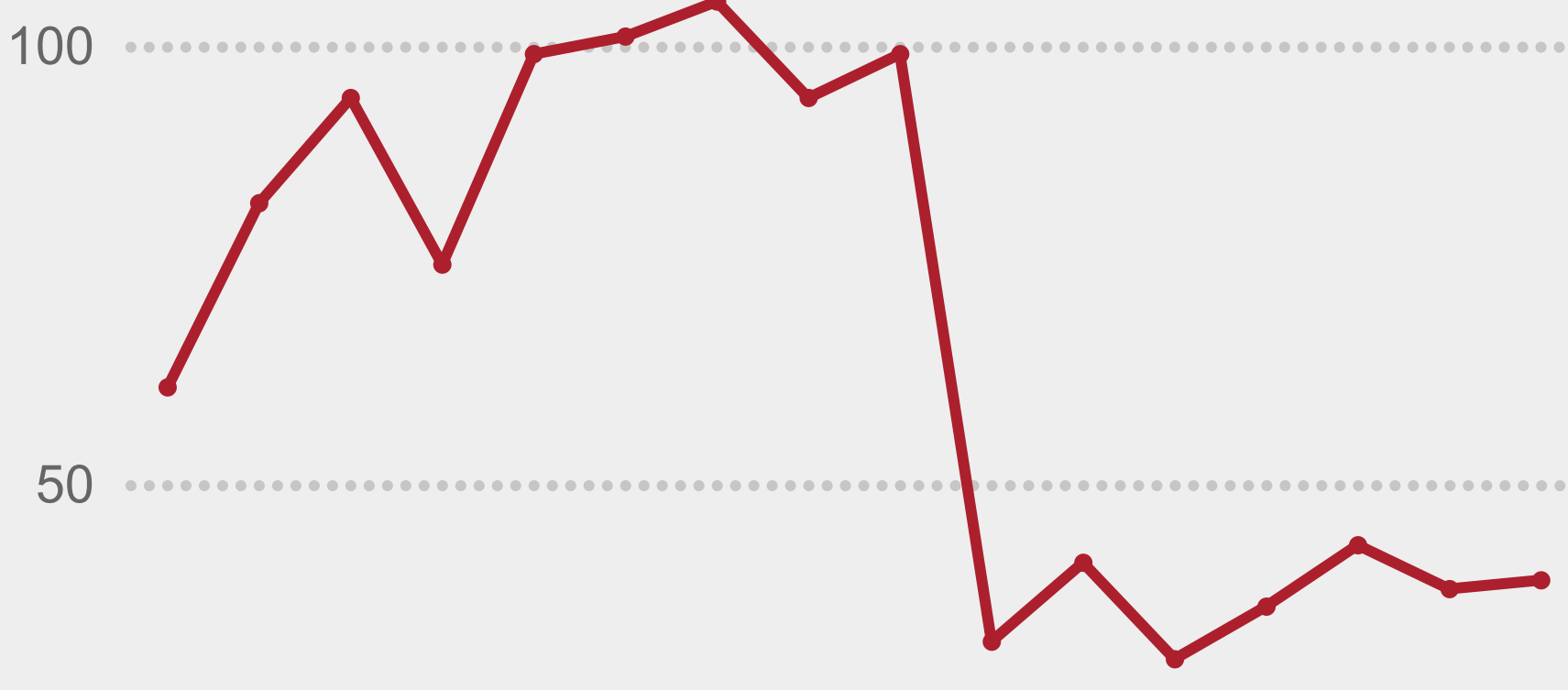


Quarter 4 of 2024/25 has seen a 200% increase in non-domestic fires within Inverclyde compared to the same period in the previous year, although this seem a large increase it only equates to two incidents due to their being no non-domestic fires in Q4 of 2023/24. One of these incidents was accidental in nature and occurred in a commercial garage doing vehicle repairs and the other was a deliberate fire involving a takeaway food shop. Both premises were subject to a post fire audit by our Fire Safety Enforcement Team as is SFRS policy for fires in non-domestic premises, ensuring that the premises' fire risk assessments remain valid following the incident, that the premises are compliant with the relevant legislation and that responsible persons can be provided with advice, guidance and the opportunity to engage with our protection officers asking any questions they may have.

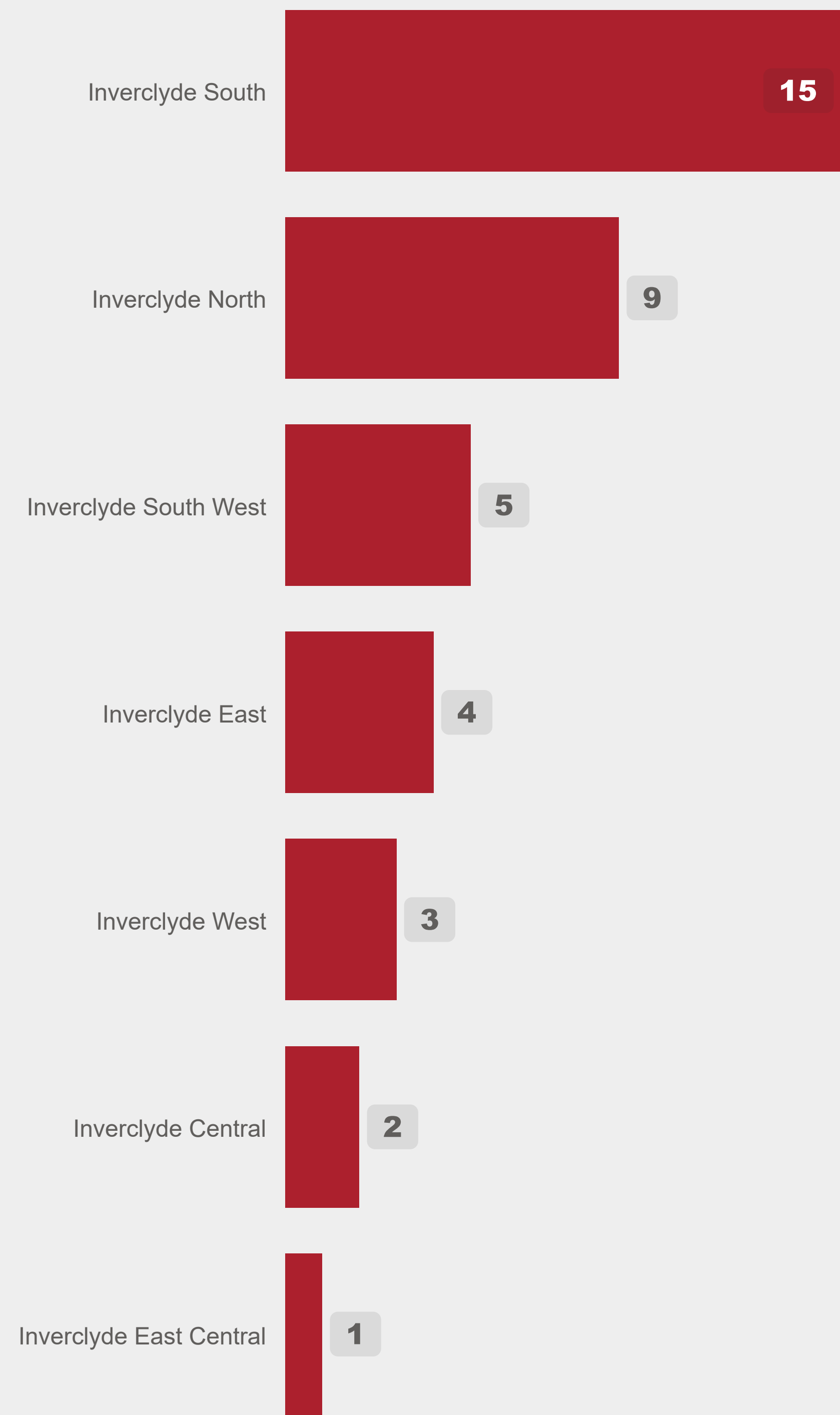
8. Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals

2024-25 Q4

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Incidents by Ward



Top 15 Property Types

| Property Type | Incidents |
|--|-----------|
| Residential Home | 19 |
| Hospitals and medical care | 13 |
| Sheltered Housing - not self contained | 2 |
| Entertainment and culture | 1 |
| Hotel/motel | 1 |
| Offices and call centres | 1 |
| Other Residential Home | 1 |
| Religious | 1 |

39

Unwanted Fire Alarm
Signals in this period

UFAS incidents have risen to 39 in Q4 of this year up from 30 in the same period last year, this equates to a 30% increase. As can be seen from the trend graph, following the introduction of our amended UFAS policy we saw a sharp decline in the total number of UFAS incidents across Inverclyde and although we are still well below where we used to be, there has been an overall increasing number of UFAS incidents across the last 12 months. We continue to engage with responsible persons on all occasions that we attend UFAS incidents to reduce such occurrences and where premises reach the triggers for additional actions, the necessary steps are initiated. As can be seen above, residential homes were the main source of UFAS incidents across Inverclyde this quarter followed by hospitals and medical care facilities.

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



6

Road Traffic Collisions in this period

| Property Type | Incidents |
|-------------------|-----------|
| Car | 5 |
| Multiple Vehicles | 1 |

| Incident Type | Incidents |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Vehicle (Non-fire) | 6 |

Incidents by Ward



3

Non-Fatal Casualties

0

Fatal Casualties

0

People Rescued by Firefighters

Extent of Harm (Non-Fatal)



1

First Aid Given at Scene



2

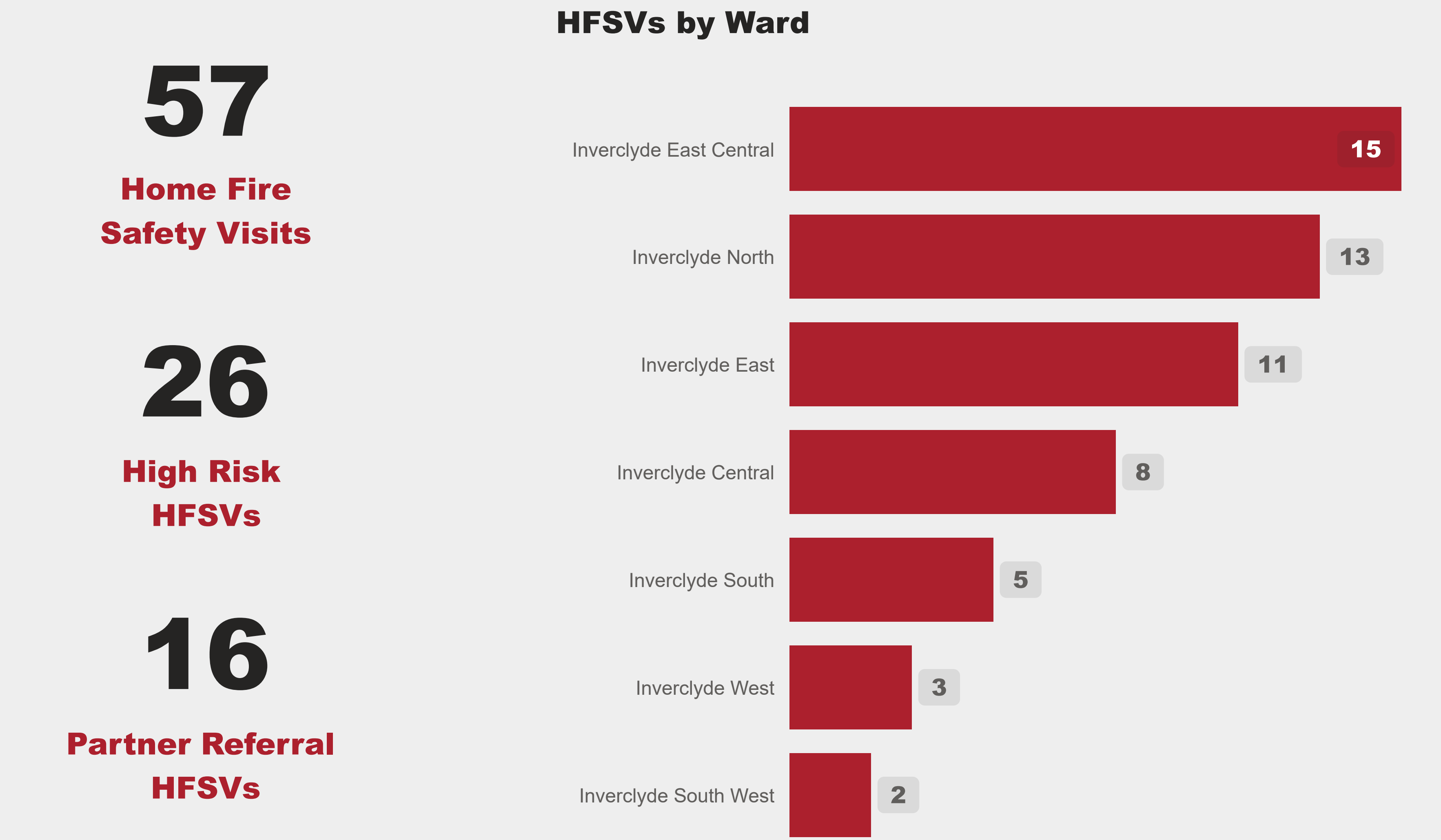
Hospital Slight Injuries



0

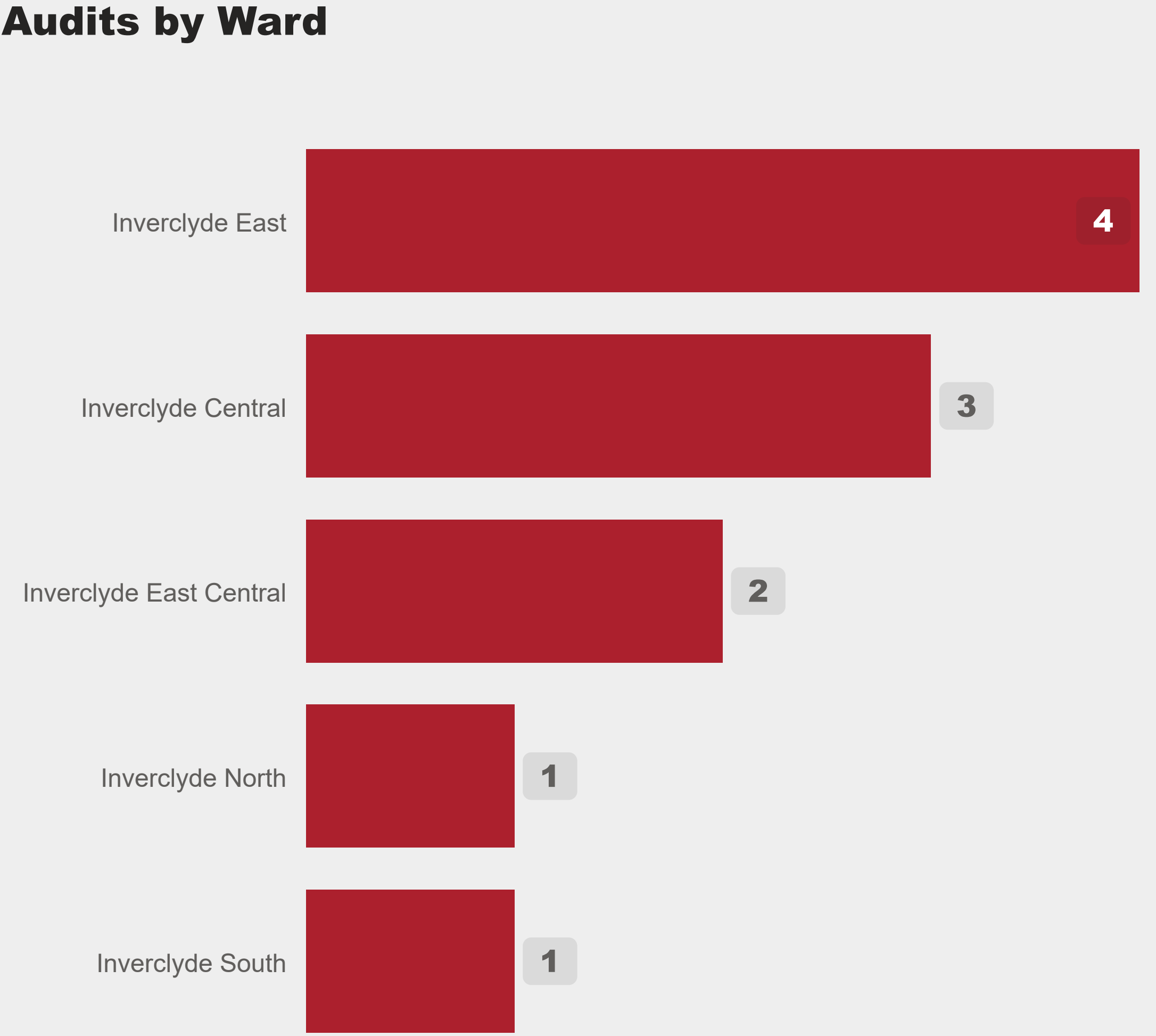
Hospital Serious Injuries

This quarter we are reporting an increase in the number of RTCs within Inverclyde, during this period there were 6 RTCs up from 5 in the same period last year, this is a 20% increase. The 6 RTCs this quarter resulted in 3 casualties, none of whom were seriously injured and only 2 required hospital treatment. As can be seen from the graph above, the number of RTCs occurring in Inverclyde has since Q1 of 2023/24 generally been lower than the previous levels with a couple of spikes. We continue to work in partnership to deliver road safety information and advice to the community in Inverclyde to further reduce road traffic collisions and associated casualties.



11. Fire Safety Enforcement

| Job Type | Count |
|----------------|-------|
| Audit | 11 |
| Consultation | 2 |
| Specific Visit | 2 |



During quarter 4 of 2024/25 our operational crews and Community Action Team carried out 57 Home Fire Safety Visits, with 26 being in high-risk households. As can be seen from the report 16 of these were generated through referrals from our partners. With the change to the qualifying criteria for Home Fire Safety Visits under our revised programme we should see the percentage of high-risk visits increase as we aim to target those in our communities who are most at risk of fire.

Our Protection Officers conducted 11 audits across Inverclyde during this quarter, this includes the 2 post fire audits mention in the non-domestic fires section of the report. They also conducted 2 specific visits to premises, there are a number of reasons for specific visits, for example in response to a complaint regarding fire safety matters, following a request for advice or as a follow-up to an earlier visit.

Both sets of activities covered in this section of the report contribute to keeping the Inverclyde community safe, both in their homes and when frequenting non-domestic buildings.

Our Community Action Team carried out several activities within Inverclyde over Quarter 4 of 2024/25, these included:

Holding a pop up road safety event within the Oakmall Shopping Centre. The event aimed to raise awareness about safe driving practices and provide CAT members with the opportunity to engage with the public providing safety advice and reinforcing key messaging and themes, it provided an excellent opportunity for open conversation, distributing safety resources, and encouraging responsible driving habits within the community. The event was well-received and highlighted the ongoing importance of supporting drivers of all ages through education and engagement.

Delivering a fire safety presentation to 130 young people at St Ninian’s Primary School.

Also, over this period our operational crews have also been engaging in various community safety activities,including many aligned to our Winter Thematic Action Plan (TAP). SFRS runs four seasonal TAPs per year aligned to the prevalent risks during those periods, these TAPs see our crews and CATs delivering advice in respect of those risks supported by appropriate public messaging by our communications and media team.

Some examples of the engagement by our operational crews across Inverclyde are:

Attending I-Zone in Port Glasgow where they engaged with staff and young people in attendance on the topics of deliberate fire setting, wildfires and battery safety and water safety.

Attending 3 different sheltered/retirement housing complexes where they engaged with residents on fire safety topics including safe cooking, and smoking safety.

Attending Whinhill Primary School fete, the crew engaged with members of the community advice around fire safety in the home, water safety, deliberate fire setting and wildfires.

Our operational crew also conducted 21 Post Domestic Incident Responses across Inverclyde over this period which generated 10 Home Fire Safety Visits.

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.

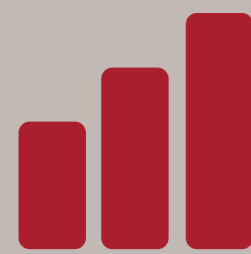
The new policy is to call challenge all UFAS incidents with the intention of non-attendance. Hospitals, care homes, and sleeping risk premises are all exempt and receive either 2 pumps or their premise specific PDA.



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Design, figures and charts by the Business Intelligence team.