

A meeting of the Local Police and Fire Scrutiny Panel will be held on Thursday 5 June 2025 at 3pm.

Members may attend the meeting in person or via remote online access. Webex joining details have been sent to Members and Officers. Members are requested to notify Committee Services by 12 noon on Wednesday 4 June 2025 how they intend to access the meeting.

In the event of connectivity issues, Members are asked to use the *join by phone* number in the Webex invitation and as noted above.

Please note that this meeting will be live-streamed via YouTube with the exception of any business which is treated as exempt in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended.

Further information relating to the recording and live-streaming of meetings can be found at the end of this notice.

LYNSEY BROWN
Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services

BUSINESS

1.	Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest	Page
PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT		
2.	Police Scotland Performance Report	p
3.	Scottish Fire & Rescue Service Performance Report	p
NEW BUSINESS		
4.	Local Police and Fire Scrutiny Panel Update Report Report by Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development	p

The reports are available publicly on the Council's website and the minute of the meeting will be submitted to the next standing meeting of the Inverclyde Council. The agenda for the meeting of the Inverclyde Council will be available publicly on the Council's website.

Please note: this meeting may be recorded or live-streamed via YouTube and the Council's internet site, where it will be capable of repeated viewing. At the start of the meeting the Provost/Chair will confirm if all or part of the meeting is being recorded or live-streamed.

You should be aware that the Council is a Data Controller under the Data Protection Act 2018. Data collected during any recording or live-streaming will be retained in accordance with the Council's published policy, including, but not limited to, for the purpose of keeping historical records and making those records available via the Council's internet site or YouTube.

If you are participating in the meeting, you acknowledge that you may be filmed and that any information pertaining to you contained in the recording or live-stream of the meeting will be used for webcasting or training purposes and for the purpose of keeping historical records and making those records available to the public. In making this use of your information the Council is processing data which is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest. If you are asked to speak at the meeting then your submission to the committee will be captured as part of the recording or live-stream.

If you have any queries regarding this and, in particular, if you believe that use and/or storage of any particular information would cause, or be likely to cause, substantial damage or distress to any individual, please contact the Information Governance team at dataprotection@inverclyde.gov.uk

Enquiries to – **Lindsay Carrick**– Tel 01475 712114












**POLICE**
SCOTLAND
POILEAS ALBA

Inverclyde

Performance Summary Report

Reporting Period: 01/04/2024 - 28/02/2025

Unless otherwise stated, all data provided is for the period 1 April - 28 February 2025, and all comparisons are made with the same period in 2023/24. All statistics are provisional and should be treated as management information. All data have been extracted from Police Scotland internal systems and are correct as of 23 March 2025.

Incidents Recorded	Common Assault	Overall Dishonesty	Domestic Abuse Incidents
<div>-7.1%</div> <div></div> <div>16,645</div> <div>Overall Violent Crime</div>	<div>+7.5%</div> <div></div> <div>634</div> <div>Sexual Crime</div>	<div>-6.7%</div> <div></div> <div>1,311</div> <div>Road Traffic Casualties</div>	<div>+19.8%</div> <div></div> <div>751</div> <div>Disorder Complaints</div>
<div>+6.8%</div> <div></div> <div>725</div> <div>Missing People</div>	<div>-26.5%</div> <div></div> <div>97</div> <td data-cs="2" data-kind="parent"><div>Total Crime</div><div>-3.7%</div><div></div><div>5,275 Crimes</div></td> <td><div>-9%</div><div></div><div>1,885</div><div>Housebreaking</div></td>	<div>Total Crime</div> <div>-3.7%</div> <div></div> <div>5,275 Crimes</div>	<div>-9%</div> <div></div> <div>1,885</div> <div>Housebreaking</div>
<div>+48.2%</div> <div></div> <div>249</div>			



Inverclyde Performance Summary Report Reporting Period: 1 April 2024 to 28 February 2025

SECTION	PAGE NUMBER
Introduction	2
Executive Summary	3
Demand Analysis	4
Antisocial Behaviour, Violence & Disorder	5
Protecting Vulnerable People	6
Acquisitive Crime	7
Cyber and Digital Crime	7
Road Safety and Road Crime	8
Public Confidence - Complaints & Allegations	9
Local Priority Policing Outcomes - Case Studies	10
Forthcoming Initiatives	10

Introduction

I am pleased to present this report to the Police Fire and Rescue Committee for its information and consideration. Please note that all data included in this report are management information and not official statistics. All data are sourced from Police Scotland internal systems and are correct as of date of publication. Unless stated otherwise, numerical comparisons are against the comparable period in the preceding reporting year.

Chief Superintendent Rhona Fraser
Local Policing Commander
Renfrewshire and Inverclyde Division

INVERCLYDE POLICING PRIORITIES 2023 - 2026

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Violence, Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour

Violent crime in Inverclyde rose 6.8%, mainly due to a rise in minor assaults, while attempted murders and murders declined. Domestic abuse remains a key factor. Detection rates for violent and weapons offences improved notably. Weapons offences fell 4.4%, supported by school and community engagement. Disorder complaints dropped 9%, with significant reductions in vandalism and wilful fire-raising. Hate crimes totalled 128, with race the most targeted characteristic and a 68% detection rate.

Protecting People at Risk of Harm

Recorded sexual crimes in Inverclyde fell by 26.5%, with sexual assaults down 51.9%, but technology-facilitated offences like disclosing intimate images rose sharply. Missing person reports increased by 48.2%, largely due to changes in recording practices, with children - especially those in care - making up most cases. Domestic abuse incidents rose 19.8%, driven mainly by minor assaults and threatening behaviour. Inverclyde saw seven confirmed drug deaths, all involving cocaine, with efforts ongoing to reduce drug harm through education and enforcement.

Acquisitive and Cyber/Digital Crime

Inverclyde recorded a 6.7% decrease in crimes of dishonesty, contrasting with a slight national rise. Detection rates improved significantly, reaching 53.3%. Housebreaking and fraud both declined, though fraud remains a complex and evolving threat. Shoplifting increased by 17%, driven largely by a small number of prolific repeat offenders. Police are actively engaging with businesses and using exclusion zones to deter offenders. Cyber-enabled fraud now accounts for a large share of financial crime, prompting continued preventative efforts and public awareness initiatives.

Road Safety and Road Crime

Inverclyde recorded 47 road traffic casualties, a slight decrease from the previous year. Police Scotland continues to prioritise road safety through targeted enforcement and education campaigns, supported by the Road Policing Unit and Safety Camera Unit. Road traffic offences remained steady at 886, with notable increases in speeding, mobile phone use, and driving under the influence. The detection rate rose to 85%, reflecting ongoing efforts to improve road safety and reduce risk through local and national initiatives.

POLICE SCOTLAND'S POLICING PRIORITIES 2023 - 2026

Protecting vulnerable people

Renfrewshire and Inverclyde Division continues to support a multi-agency approach to reduce drug deaths, to engage with Scottish Government and stakeholders to influence approaches to supporting individuals with complex mental health needs, and to work in partnership to develop local effective and efficient pathways to support vulnerable people.

Tackling crime in the digital age

Police in Inverclyde continue to benefit from the support of specialised Police Scotland units such as the Cybercrime Unit and the Economic Crime and Financial Investigation Unit, amongst others. There are continued efforts to ensure our Officers have the training, resources and equipment needed to tackle the threat arising from cyber related criminality and technological advancement.

Working with communities

The Division continues to support this Police Scotland priority and to develop strategic partnerships to find synergy in policy making and shared resources. Police in Inverclyde recognise the importance of engaging with communities to understand their needs, and strive to support innovation in local partnership settings.

Support for operational policing

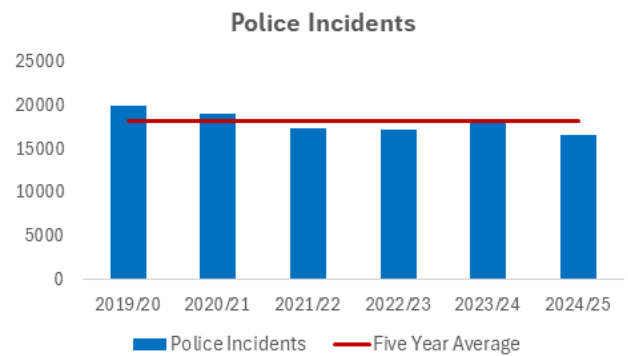
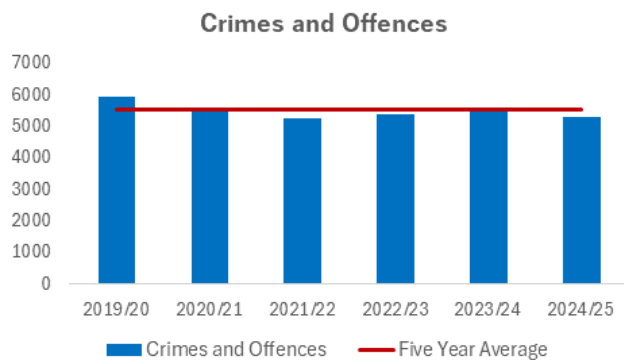
Inverclyde Police continue to link in closely with Police Scotland's Corporate Services who enable and support operational resources to deliver against the strategic priorities and their outcomes. As part of the Digitally-Enabled Policing Programme, migration to new national Core Operational Systems has led to increased efficiency and deployability of local Police Officers, allowing them to more effectively serve Inverclyde's communities.

DEMAND ANALYSIS

PYTD - PREVIOUS YEAR TO DATE

CYTD - CURRENT YEAR TO DATE

CRIME	PYTD	CYTD	INCIDENTS	PYTD	CYTD
Total Crimes & Offences	5,480	5,275	Total number of incidents	17,918	16,645



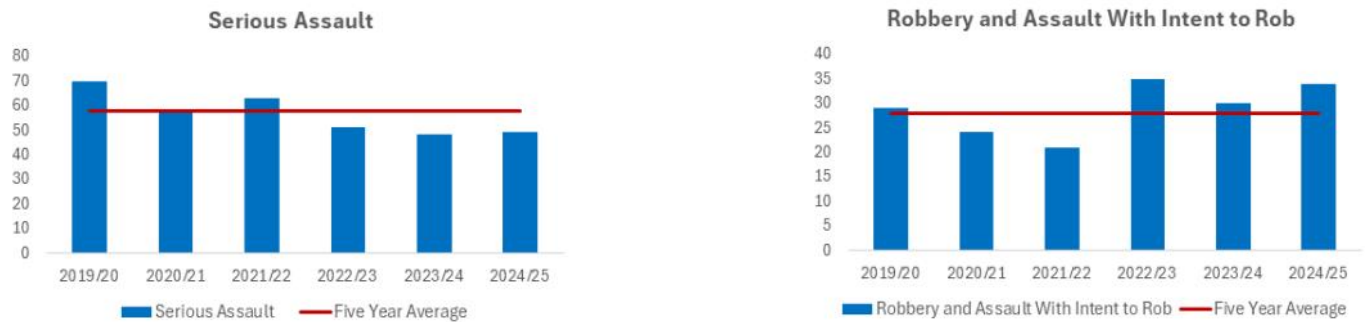
Crime and Offences

Year on year, crimes and offences in Inverclyde have fallen by 3.7%, to a total of 5,275. Conversely, recorded crimes and offences have increased by 0.7% at a national level. In Inverclyde, there was a drop in six of the eight crime groups, namely Group 2 sexual crimes (e.g. sexual assault and indecent communications offences), Group 3 crimes of dishonesty (e.g. housebreaking, fraud and theft of motor vehicle), Group 4 crimes of damage and reckless behaviour (e.g. wilful fireraising and vandalism), Group 5 crimes against society (e.g. drugs and weapon offences), Group 7 miscellaneous offences (e.g. licensing offences and general telecommunications offences) and Group 8 road traffic offences (e.g. seatbelt offences and driving dangerously). Meanwhile, recorded Group 1 non-sexual crimes of violence (e.g. minor assault, serious assault, and robbery) and Group 6 antisocial offences (e.g. breach of the peace and threatening/abusive behaviour) rose on last year's figures. The overall detection rate for crimes and offences in Inverclyde is 72.1%, an increase on the previous year's position of 64.7%; the detection rate also remains above the current national position of 66.2%.

Police Incidents

Police incidents recorded this year have dropped by 7.1%, totalling 16,645, with the reduction in abandoned/silent 999 calls (the result of technical solutions addressing accidental emergency dials from certain smartphones) accounting for around 82% of this variance. However, a decrease was also noted in other incident types including calls relating to fires, external agency requests, public nuisance reports, in addition to damage and disturbance calls. Conversely, there are indications of a rise in other incidents, with more reports of missing persons/absconders, bail/curfew/address checks, assist member of the public incidents and noise complaints. We continue to work closely with partner agencies to ensure the implementation of the most appropriate and proportionate Police response to identified issues.

VIOLENCE, ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AND DISORDER



Violence

Overall violent crime has risen by 6.8% compared to the same period in 2023/24, totalling 725 recorded crimes. An increase in minor assaults (+11.6%) was the primary driver in this, though serious assaults also increased slightly (+4.1%, an additional two crimes). However, two fewer attempted murders and three fewer murders occurred, compared to the previous year. Domestic abuse continues to be a key issue in crimes of violence, with 35% of common assaults, 27% of robberies and 14% of serious assaults in Inverclyde having a domestic element. The detection rate for violent crimes in Inverclyde in the reporting period was 64.2%, a significant increase on the previous year's rate of 47.7%.

Weapons Offences

152 offensive/bladed weapons offences were recorded in the current reporting period, a decrease of 4.4% on the previous year. Continued proactive focus on the issue contributed to the detection rate for weapons offences rising to 85.5% (from 81.1% in the previous year). Community Policing Officers and the Partnerships and Preventions Team have also worked across Inverclyde schools to deliver programs like "No Knives, Better Lives" and have also engaged with local community groups to address specific antisocial behaviour concerns.

Disorder and Antisocial Behaviour

Complaints regarding disorder in Inverclyde decreased by nine percent, with a total of 1,885 incidents reported. Tackling disorder and antisocial behaviour remains a key focus of the Inverclyde Partnership Hub, a police-led multi-agency initiative that collaborates with statutory and third-sector organisations. Crimes involving damage and reckless behaviour also fell by 21% compared to the previous year, totalling 429 crimes. Wilful fireraising crimes dropped significantly, with 30 crimes compared to the previous year's total of 71 (-57.7%). Meanwhile, recorded crimes of vandalism fell by 19.2% to a total of 367.

Hate Crime

During the reporting period, 128 hate crimes were recorded in Inverclyde, with a detection rate of 68% for these crimes. In addition to the impact of new legislation, changes in methodology and counting rules arising from the introduction of new recording systems make comparisons with previous years challenging. Race was the most commonly targeted protected characteristic, featuring in just over half of recorded hate crimes in Inverclyde.

PROTECTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE

Sexual Crime

Although overall recorded sexual crimes fell by 26.5%, trends varied significantly in terms of specific crime types. There was a slight decrease in recorded rapes (-5.6%), though this remains a critical area of concern. In contrast, sexual assault cases dropped by 51.9%, reflecting a considerable reduction in these crimes. Other categories such as indecent photos of children decreased in frequency, while threatening or disclosing intimate images surged by 55.2%, indicating a growing problem with online harassment or non-consensual image-sharing. Notably, causing to view sexual activity or images rose by 34.9%, pointing to an increase in crimes facilitated by digital platforms, reflecting the broader trend of technology-driven offences.

Missing People

Inverclyde Police take all missing person reports seriously, using a rigorous threat assessment to determine potential risks to the individual or others. During the reporting period, 127 individuals collectively featured in a total of 249 missing person reports. A total of 30 individuals were reported missing on more than one occasion during the reporting period. Compared to the same period in the previous year, total missing person reports increased by 48.2%. A significant contributory factor for this increase is the National Missing Persons Unit's implementation of national business rules relating to how these incidents are recorded and when forms must be raised, which have helped establish an accurate reflection of the number of missing people and the resulting demand of these incidents on frontline officers. 68% of people reported missing were children - with a large proportion of these featuring care-experienced young people. While 26% of missing people returned of their own accord, 58% were traced as a result of Police investigations - with the remaining 16% being traced by family, members of the public or other agencies.

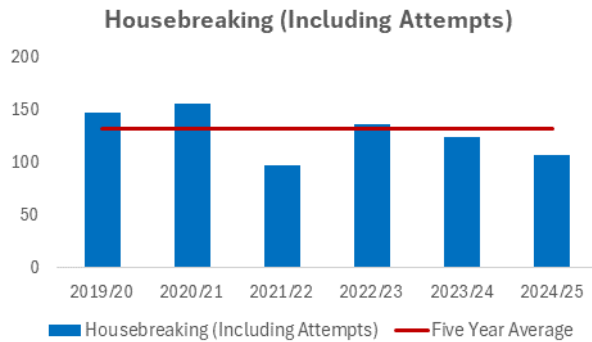
Domestic Abuse

Tackling domestic abuse remains a top priority for Renfrewshire and Inverclyde Division. While domestic abuse is widely recognised as under-reported, police remain committed to providing a professional, sensitive, and consistent response to victims. Caution should be exercised when comparing the number of domestic abuse incidents involving recorded crimes and the detection rate, as changes in methodology and counting rules, introduced with a new recording system this year, affect direct comparisons with previous periods. Despite these caveats, Inverclyde recorded a 19.8% increase in domestic abuse incidents over the past year, reaching 751 cases, with 355 of these (47.3%) resulting in a crime being recorded. Approximately 38% of domestic abuse crimes were minor assaults, with crimes of threatening and abusive behaviour comprising a further 15% of the total number of domestic-related crimes. Multi-agency collaboration remains critical in safeguarding victims and holding offenders accountable, with the Multi-Agency Tasking and Coordination (MATAC) and Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) frameworks continuing to provide essential support and ensuring effective partnership working.

Drug-Related Deaths

Seven confirmed and 11 suspected drug-related deaths occurred in Inverclyde during the reporting period, with toxicology results still awaited in relation to the latter. Although a range of substances were identified as contributing to drug-related deaths, cocaine was the most commonly implicated drug and was identified as a factor in all seven confirmed drug deaths. We continue to collaborate with various partners to combat drug-related harm, including delivering educational programs in schools and taking proactive measures to address drug supply and distribution within the community.

ACQUISITIVE CRIME



Converse to a rise of 0.4% at a national level, recorded crimes of dishonesty in Inverclyde decreased by 6.7% on the previous year, with a total of 1,311 recorded crimes. The current detection rate for acquisitive crimes in Inverclyde is 53.3%, considerably above the previous year's rate (42.2%) as well as the national rate for the same period (35.3%).

A total of 107 housebreaking crimes (including attempts) were recorded, a decrease of nearly 14% on the previous year. Housebreaking crimes of all types have fallen on the previous year's figures, with fewer crimes to dwelling houses, sheds/outbuildings and also commercial/public buildings. The detection rate also increased from the previous year's position of 20.2%, to 27.1% in the current reporting year.

Although fraud continues to be identified as a key threat in Inverclyde due to ever-evolving methods used by fraudsters, recorded crimes have fallen by nearly 23% on last year's figures, with a total of 138 crimes reported. Common fraud categories targeting victims in Inverclyde include banking and credit industry frauds, consumer and retail frauds, with other methods including romance, investment and pension fraud occurring less commonly, but nonetheless demonstrating the diverse nature of financial crime.


Theft by shoplifting crimes constituted more than half of the overall total number of crimes of dishonesty. Recorded shoplifting crimes increased by nearly 17% on the previous year, reaching a total of 705 crimes. Repeat offending continues to be a key issue in respect of shoplifting crime, with nine individuals charged with a collective total of 63 shoplifting crimes in Inverclyde.

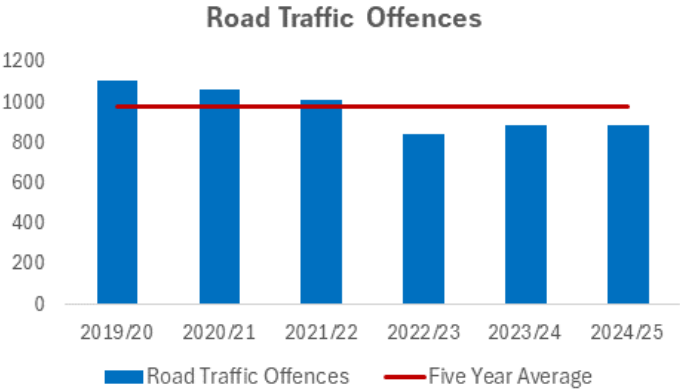
CYBER & DIGITAL CRIME

Cyber-enabled crime remains a significant concern for communities in Inverclyde. Fraud continues to be the most commonly recorded cyber-enabled in Inverclyde, with 40% of all recorded frauds being perpetrated online. We continue to address this issue through local partnerships and national collaboration with the Cyber Scotland Partnership and the financial sector to raise awareness of online fraud.

Other common cyber-enabled crimes in Renfrewshire included telecommunications offences, threats and extortion, indecent communications, the unsolicited sharing of indecent images, and possession of indecent images of children (IIOC). To combat online child sexual abuse and exploitation, we work with specialist national units and engage with a range of partner agencies to promote preventative awareness.

ROAD SAFETY AND ROAD CRIME

Road Traffic Casualties		2023/24	2024/25
	Number of persons killed on our roads	0	1
	Number of persons seriously injured	17	21
	Number of persons slightly injured	32	25
	Number of children seriously injured	0	1
Road Traffic Data from 01/04/2024 to 28/02/2025			



Road Casualties

During the reporting period, Inverclyde recorded 47 road traffic casualties - a reduction of two on the same period in 2023/24. Police Scotland remains committed to reducing road casualties through ongoing enforcement and education efforts. The dedicated Road Policing Unit (RPU) from Police Scotland’s Operational Support Division continues to support local policing through a range of road safety and crime prevention campaigns. Recent initiatives have included Operation Drive Insured, Brake Safety Road Week, the National Taxi Education & Enforcement Campaign, and the Festive Drink Drug Drive Campaign.

The West Safety Camera Unit (SCU) of Safety Cameras Scotland continues to assist Inverclyde Police across the local authority area. Camera deployment is guided by a detailed assessment of collision volume, severity, and causation. Officers will maintain close coordination with the RPU, partners, and the community to enhance road safety efforts.

Road Traffic Offences

A total of 886 road traffic offences were recorded in Inverclyde during the period, with figures effectively remaining static on the same period in 2023/24. Nationally, recorded road traffic offences increased by just over two percent on the previous year. In Inverclyde, a proactive focus on road safety and road crime has contributed to an increase of 53.9% in speeding offences, a 37.5% rise in mobile phone offences, and 37.5% increase in driving under the influence offences. The detection rate for road traffic offences in Inverclyde is 85%, which remains above the previous year’s rate of 81.7%.

PUBLIC CONFIDENCE: COMPLAINTS & USER SATISFACTION

COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE POLICE

TOTAL COMPLAINT CASES RECEIVED			TOTAL NUMBER OF ALLEGATIONS RECEIVED		
YTD	LYTD	% Change	YTD	LYTD	% Change
66	79	-16.5%	123	132	-6.8%

In the reporting period April to December 2024, a total of 66 complaint cases and 123 allegations were received in Inverclyde. 98 related to 'on duty' allegations, with over half of on duty allegations pertaining to irregularity in procedure. A further 25 allegations were received relating to quality of service, with a large proportion of these relating to policy or procedure.

Allegation Category and Type	YTD	PYTD	% change from PYTD
On Duty - TOTAL	98	96	2.1%
Assault	9	7	28.6%
Corrupt Practice	1	0	x
Discriminatory Behaviour	1	2	-50.0%
Excessive Force	14	6	133.3%
Incivility	17	18	-5.6%
Irregularity in Procedure	49	53	-7.5%
Neglect of Duty	0	2	-100.0%
Oppressive Conduct/Harassment	2	2	0.0%
Other - Criminal	0	2	-100.0%
Other - <u>Non Criminal</u>	1	2	-50.0%
Traffic Irregularity/Offence	1	2	-50.0%
Unlawful/Unnecessary Arrest or Detention	3	0	x
Quality Of Service - TOTAL	25	36	-30.6%
Policy/Procedure	12	6	100.0%
Service Delivery	6	8	-25.0%
Service Outcome	7	22	-68.2%
Grand Total	123	132	-6.8%

PUBLIC CONFIDENCE

81.9% of respondents to the 'Your Police' survey reported that they felt safe in their local area, compared to the national figure of 83.2%. 44.8% of respondents reported that their concern about crime had increased in the last 12 months, lower than the national proportion of 50.3%.

42.7% agreed, or strongly agreed that they had confidence in the Police in their local area, with 39.6% of respondents giving this response at the national level. 27.9% of Inverclyde respondents expressed the opinion that the police were doing a good job in the local area (nationally, 32.8% of respondents responded this way).

Key concerns raised by the community in the recent period include antisocial behaviour, road traffic issues such as inconsiderate and dangerous parking and speeding, and crimes of damage such as vandalism and wilful fire-raising.

LOCAL POLICING PRIORITY OUTCOMES – CASE STUDIES

Unmarked Vehicle Pilot

Throughout April and May, the Priority Policing Team (PPT) Unmarked Vehicle Pilot continued to develop, now involving both PPT and Local Problem Solving Team (LPST) officers to maximise use and provide valuable experience in tackling road traffic and serious organised crime-related issues. The pilot has been productive, with 205 stops, six vehicles seized, 53 intelligence logs, and 43 detections, including multiple drug possession offences, disqualified and uninsured driving, and dangerous driving. Officers also responded to 10 urgent assistance calls, which assisted our colleagues greatly. Enforcement activity included several Sheriff Misuse of Drugs Act warrants in Greenock and Port Glasgow, leading to the seizure of cocaine, herbal cannabis, nearly £10,000 in cash, drug paraphernalia, and a knuckleduster. This initiative has proven effective in addressing road traffic violations and drug-related crime while demonstrating the value of cross-team collaboration.

Community Engagement and Support Activities

LPST officers have also been heavily involved in various community engagement and support activities. These included supporting an eviction at Dempster Street, conducting leaflet drops to promote safety, and providing inputs to air cadets, schools, and community wardens. Officers engaged in Distress Brief Intervention (DBI) training and took part in the Inverclyde Fireskills course, further enhancing their operational readiness. They also supported multiple community events, such as the Veterans Champion Meeting, Greenock Town Centre Regeneration Forum, and the Local Authority Liaison Officer - Partners Against Rural Crime event. In addition, anti-disorder patrols were conducted during the Morton FC vs Dunfermline FC match, showcasing the officers' active role in maintaining community safety and building strong relationships with local groups.

FORTHCOMING INITIATIVES

Preventions Inputs

Upcoming engagements will focus on raising awareness around cybercrime and internet safety through presentations across multiple schools in Inverclyde, including a specific focus on the issue of sexual extortion.

Road Safety and Road Crime

Police in Renfrewshire, assisted by specialist Road Policing Officers, will continue to support and promote national road safety campaigns in the forthcoming period, including the 2 Wheels Campaign in June, Summer Drink Drug Drive campaign (June - July) and the Drug Driving Week campaign in August.



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

Inverclyde

2024-25 Q4




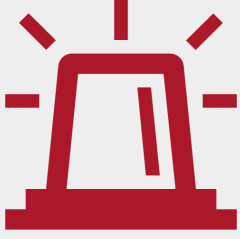




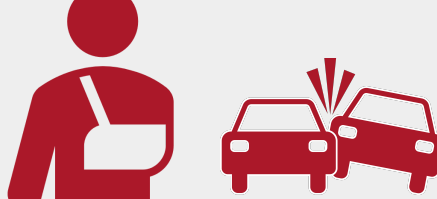



Scrutiny Report

Contents

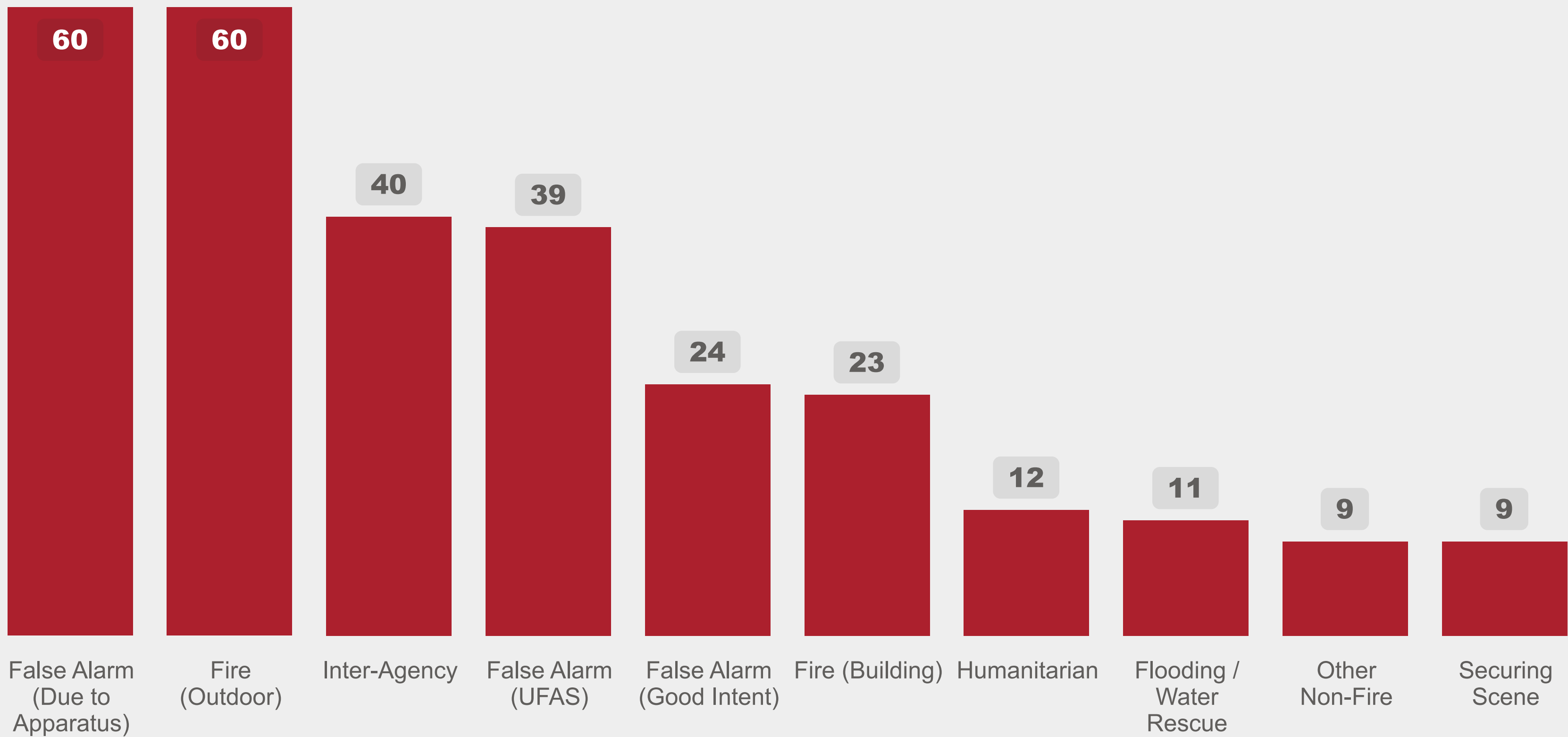
1	Summary	Page 3
2	Trends	Page 4
3	Accidental Dwelling Fires (ADFs)	Page 5
4	Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties	Page 6
5	Non-Fire Casualties	Page 7
6	Deliberate Fires	Page 8
7	Non-Domestic Fires	Page 9
8	Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS)	Page 10
9	Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs)	Page 11
10	Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSVs)	Page 12
11	Fire Safety Enforcement	Page 12
12	Community Safety & Engagement	Page 13
13	Glossary of Terms	Page 14

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.

 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



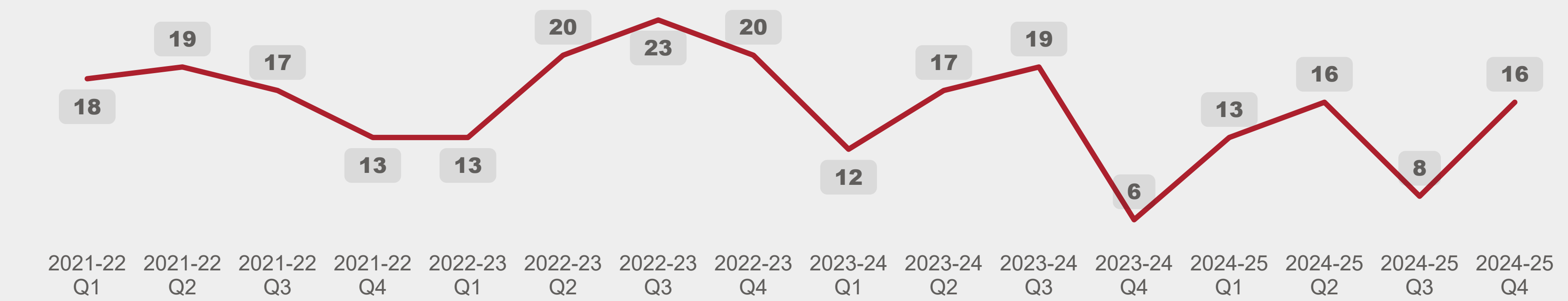
As can be seen from the above summary, in Quarter 4 of 2024-25 SFRS attended a total of 301 incidents across Inverclyde up from 227 in the same quarter last year, this was an increase of 32%. A further breakdown of some incident statistics are shown below, all figures are compared to the same quarter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

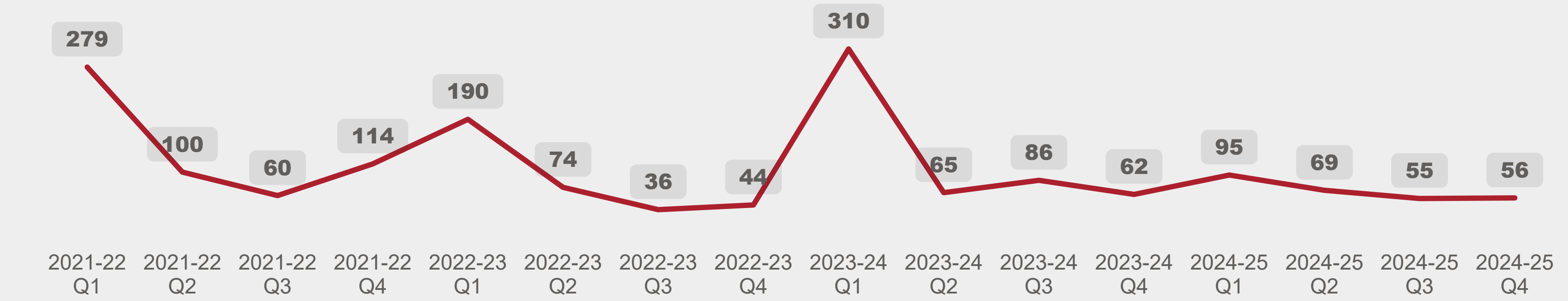
2. Trends

Previous 16 quarters (4 years)

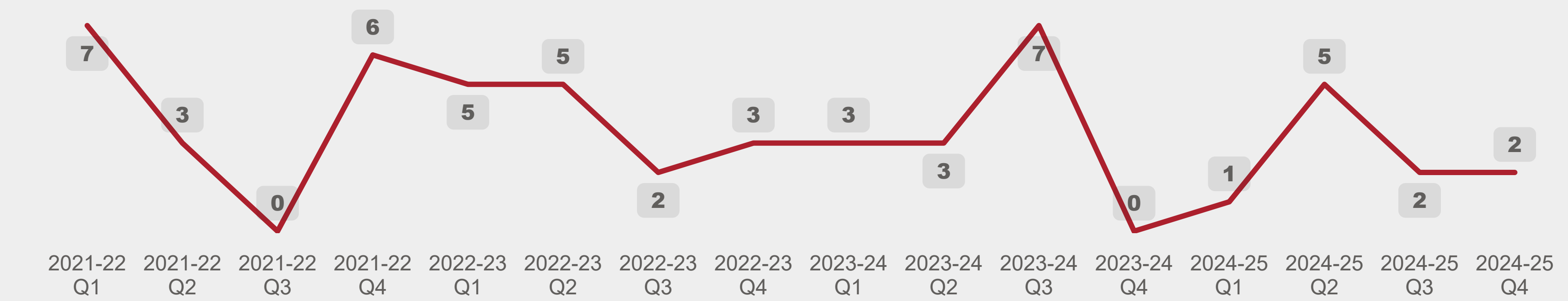
Accidental Dwelling Fires



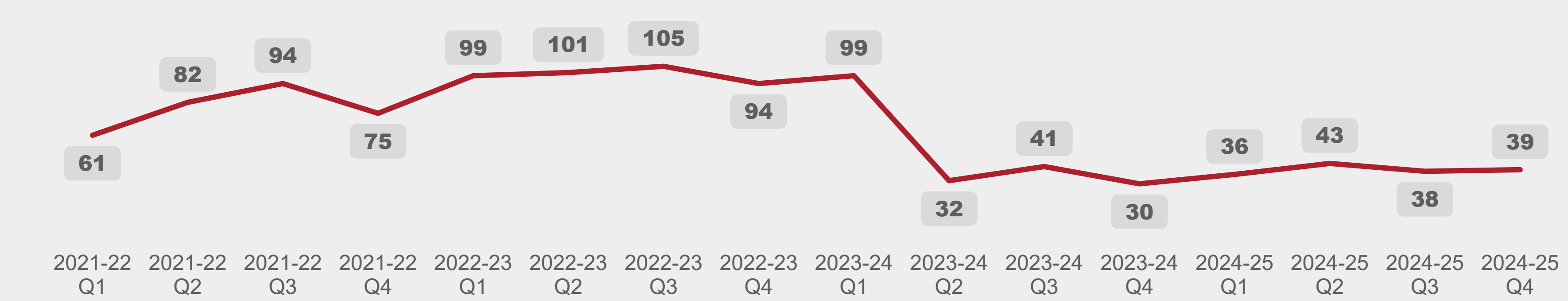
Deliberate Fires



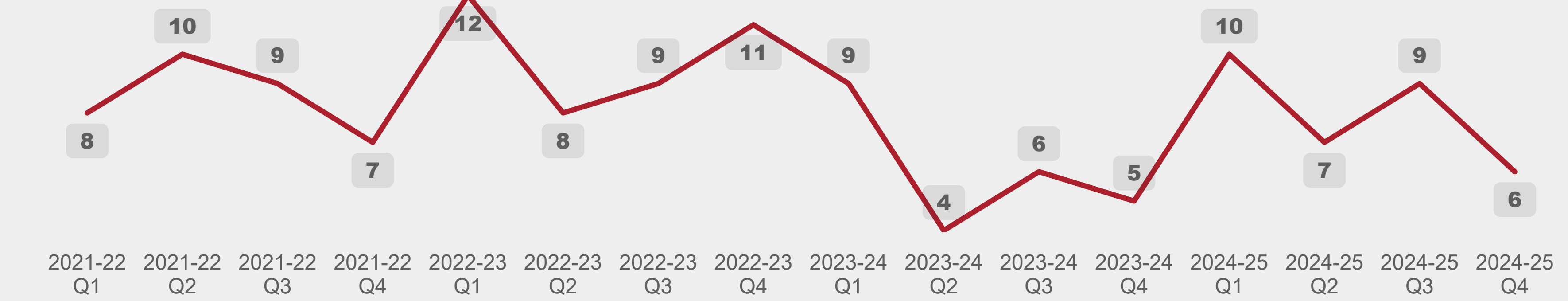
Non-Domestic Fires



Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals



Road Traffic Collisions



3. Accidental Dwelling Fires

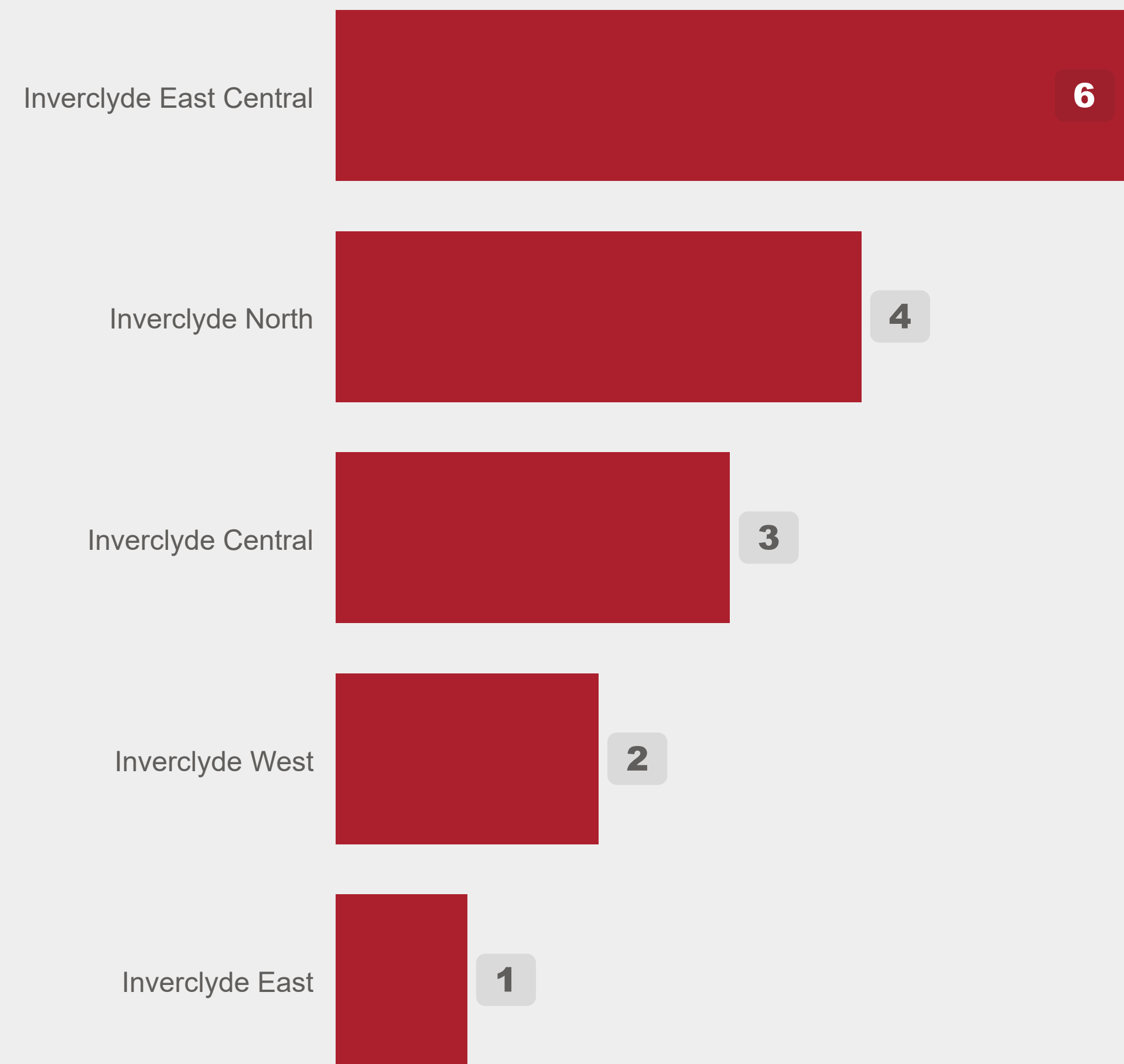
2024-25 Q4

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.

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



3

Non-Fatal Casualties

0

Fatal Casualties

3

People Rescued by Firefighters

Extent of Harm (Non-Fatal)

1

First Aid Given at Scene

1

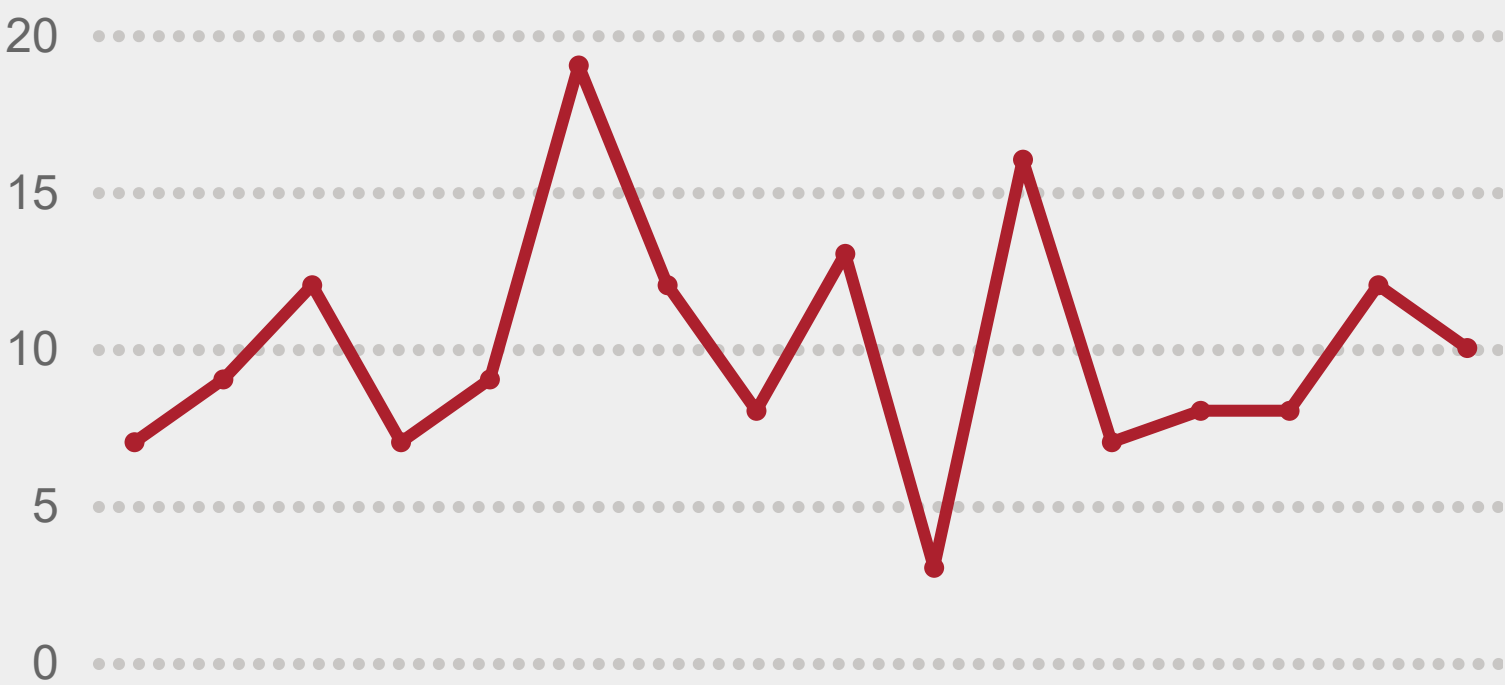
Hospital Slight Injuries

1

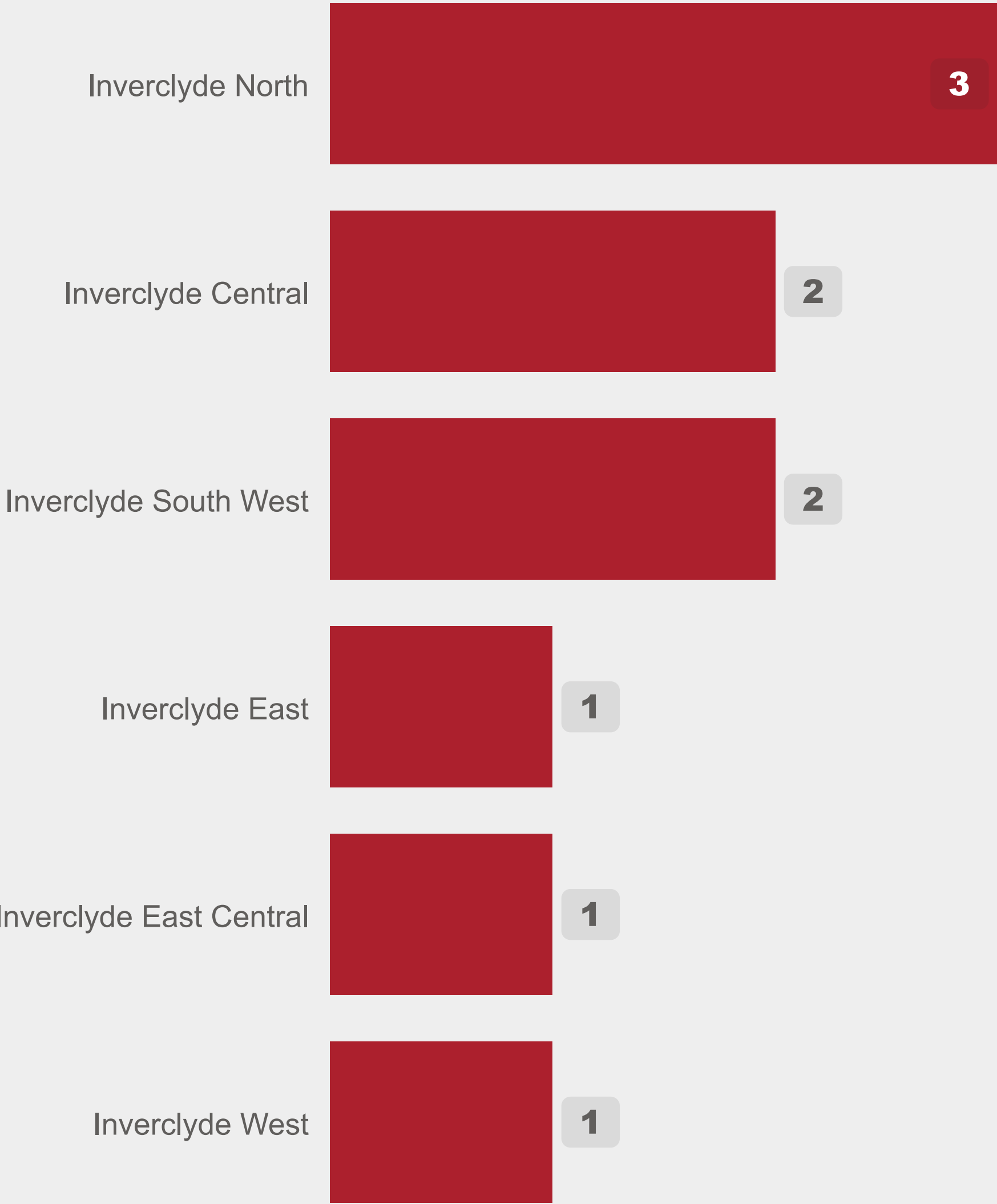
Hospital Serious Injuries

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

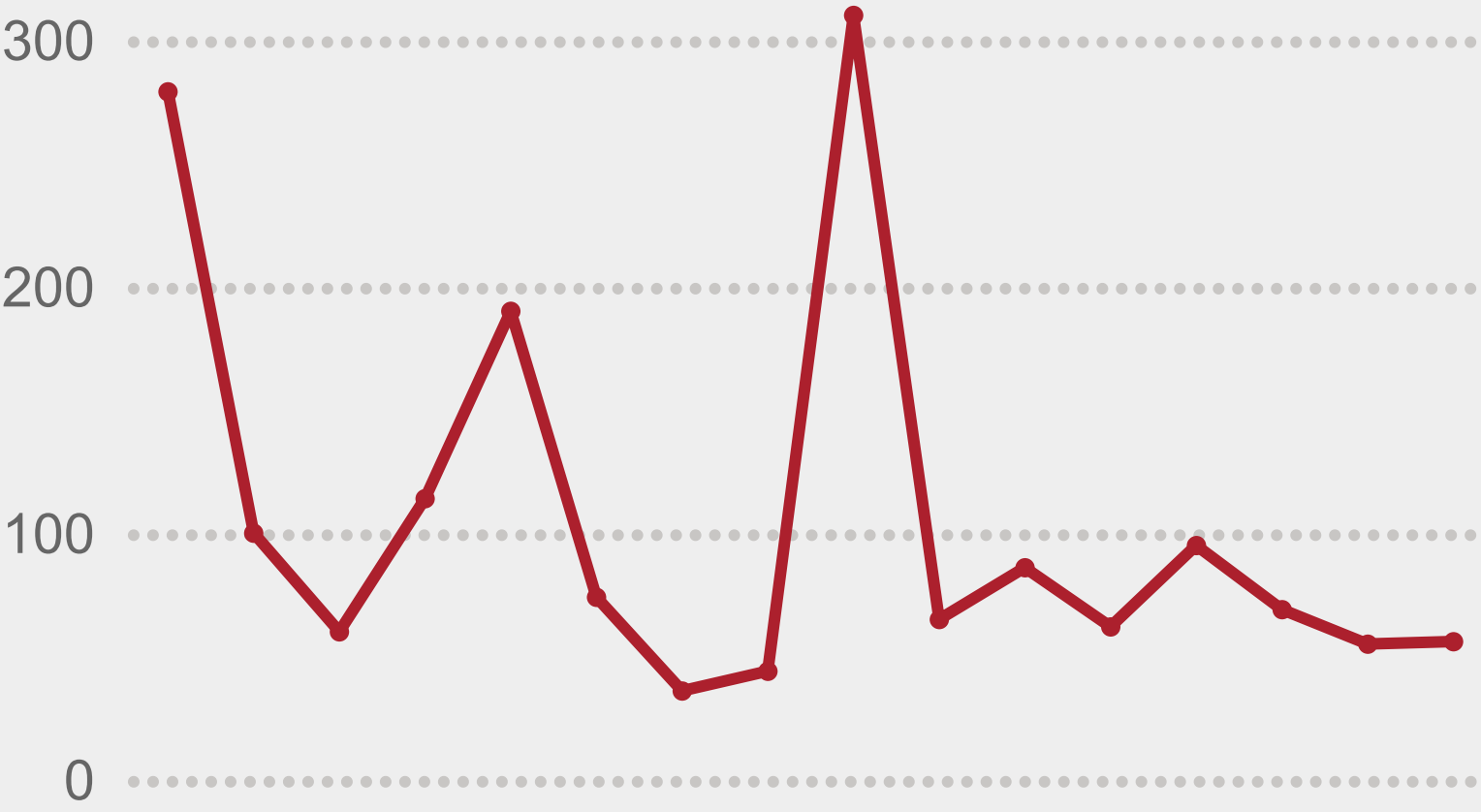
0

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.

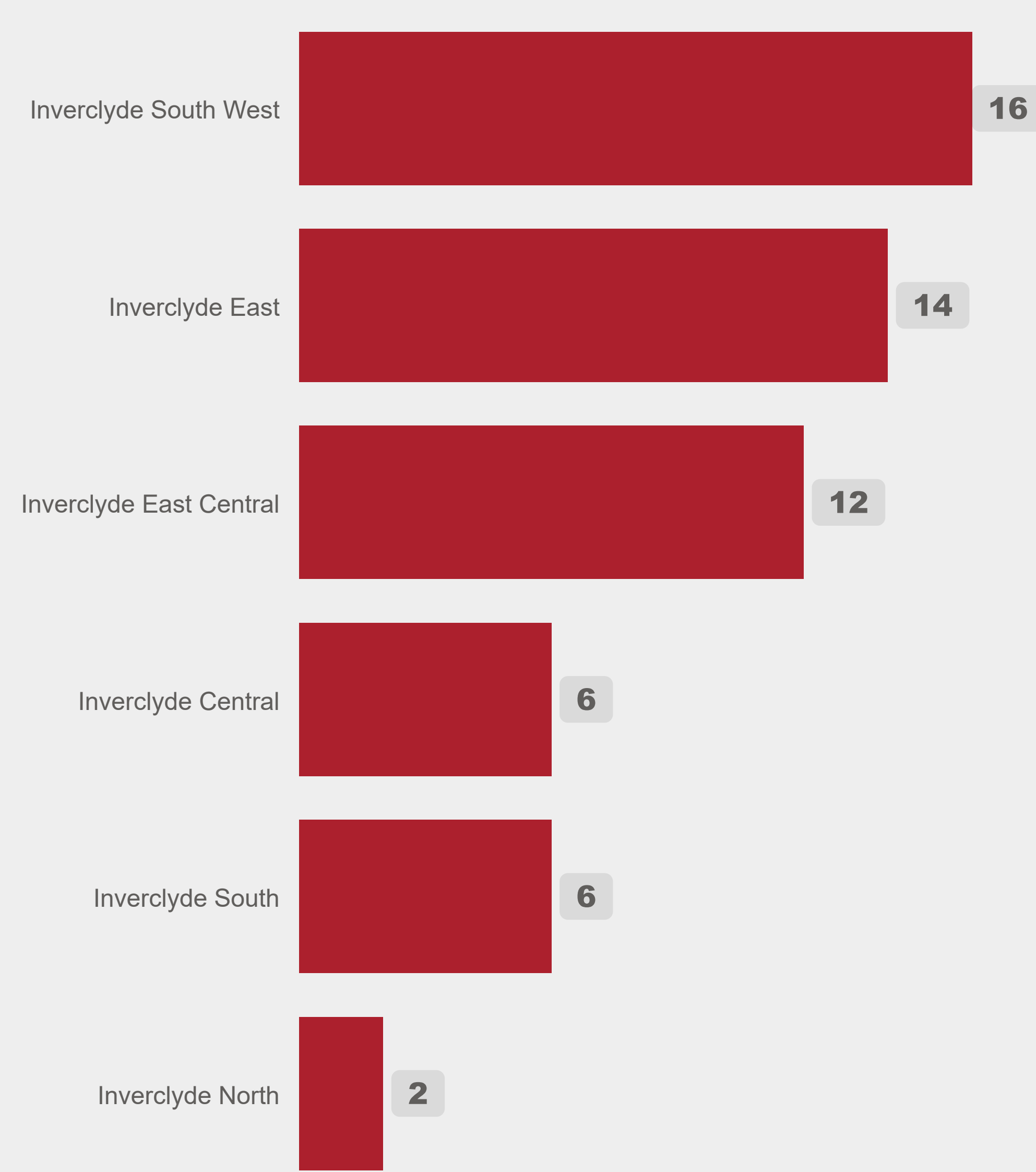
This quarter also saw 2 non-fire fatalities in Inverclyde, again these were at incidents where SFRS attended to assist partner agencies.

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

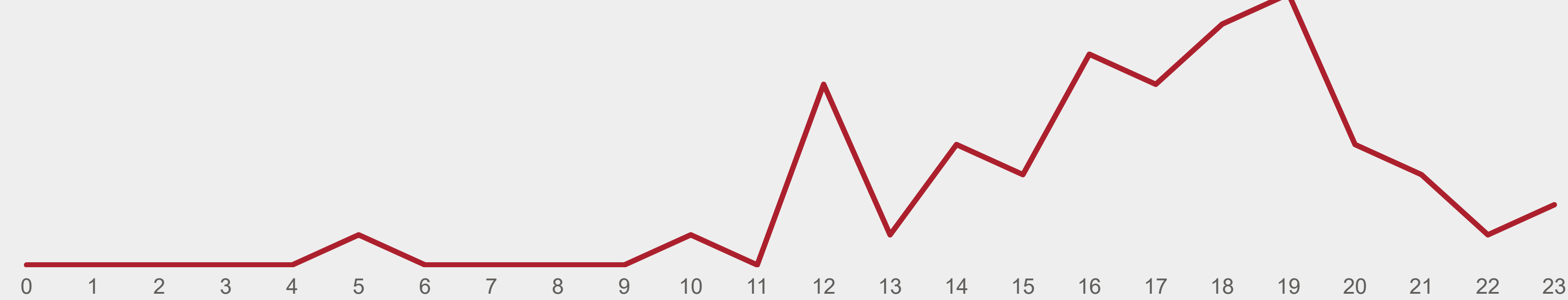
Incidents by Ward



56

Deliberate Fires
in this period

Hour of Day

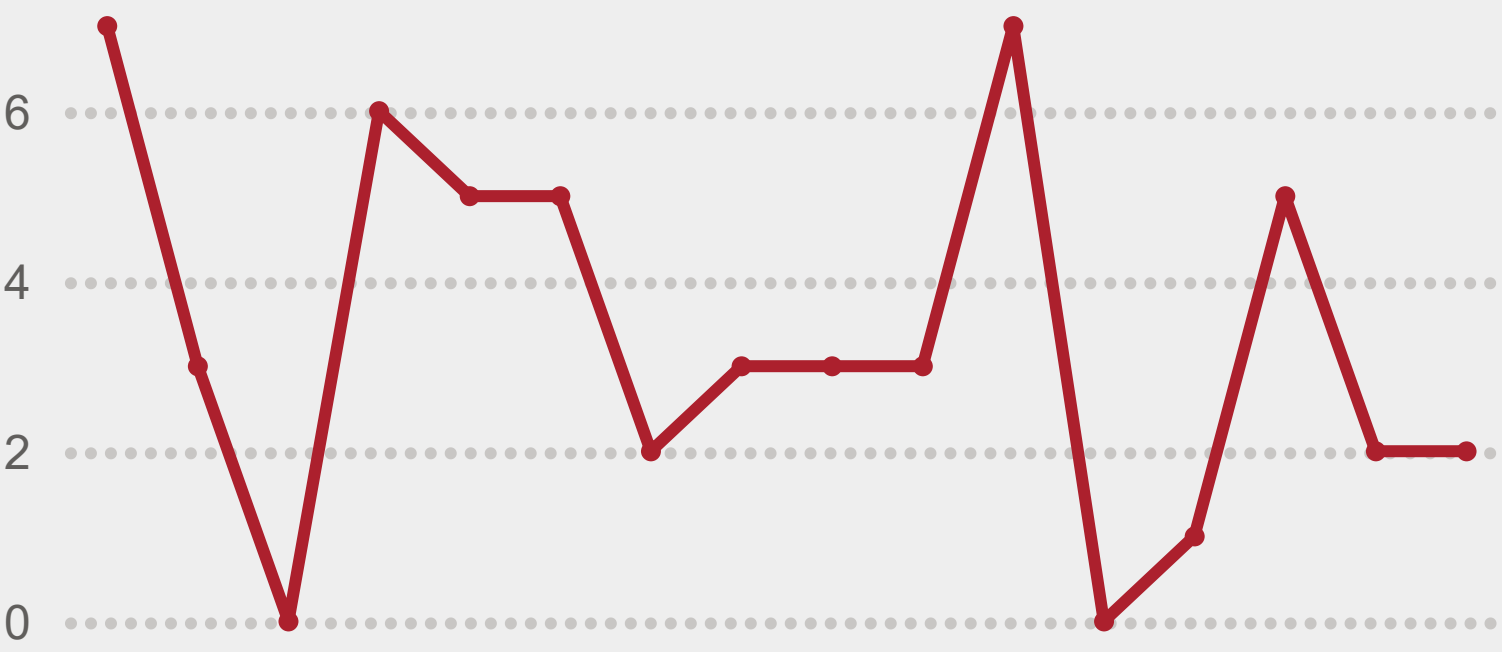


This quarter saw a reduction in the number of deliberate fires in Inverclyde compared to the same period in 2023/24, the number of deliberate fires dropped from 62 to 56, a reduction of 9%. As can be seen from the graph above tracking deliberate fires across Inverclyde for the last 4 years, the overall 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

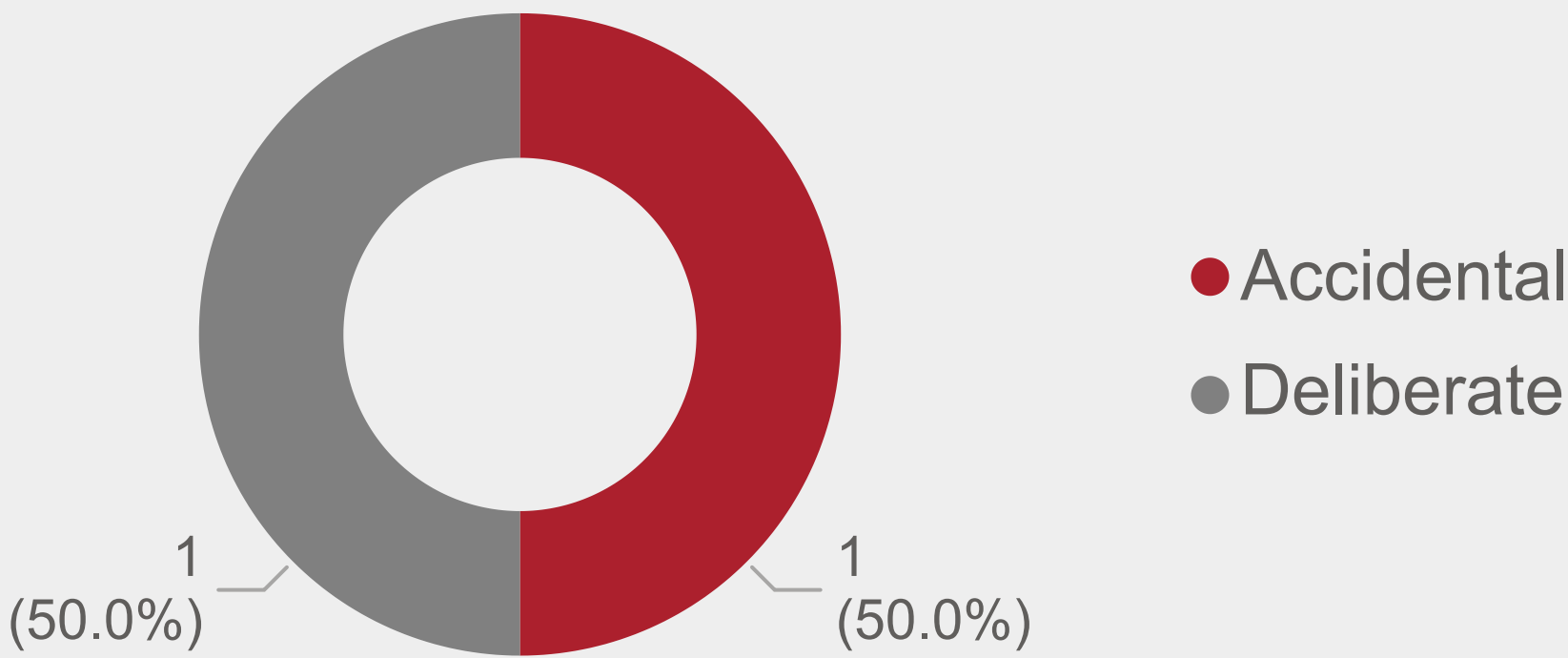
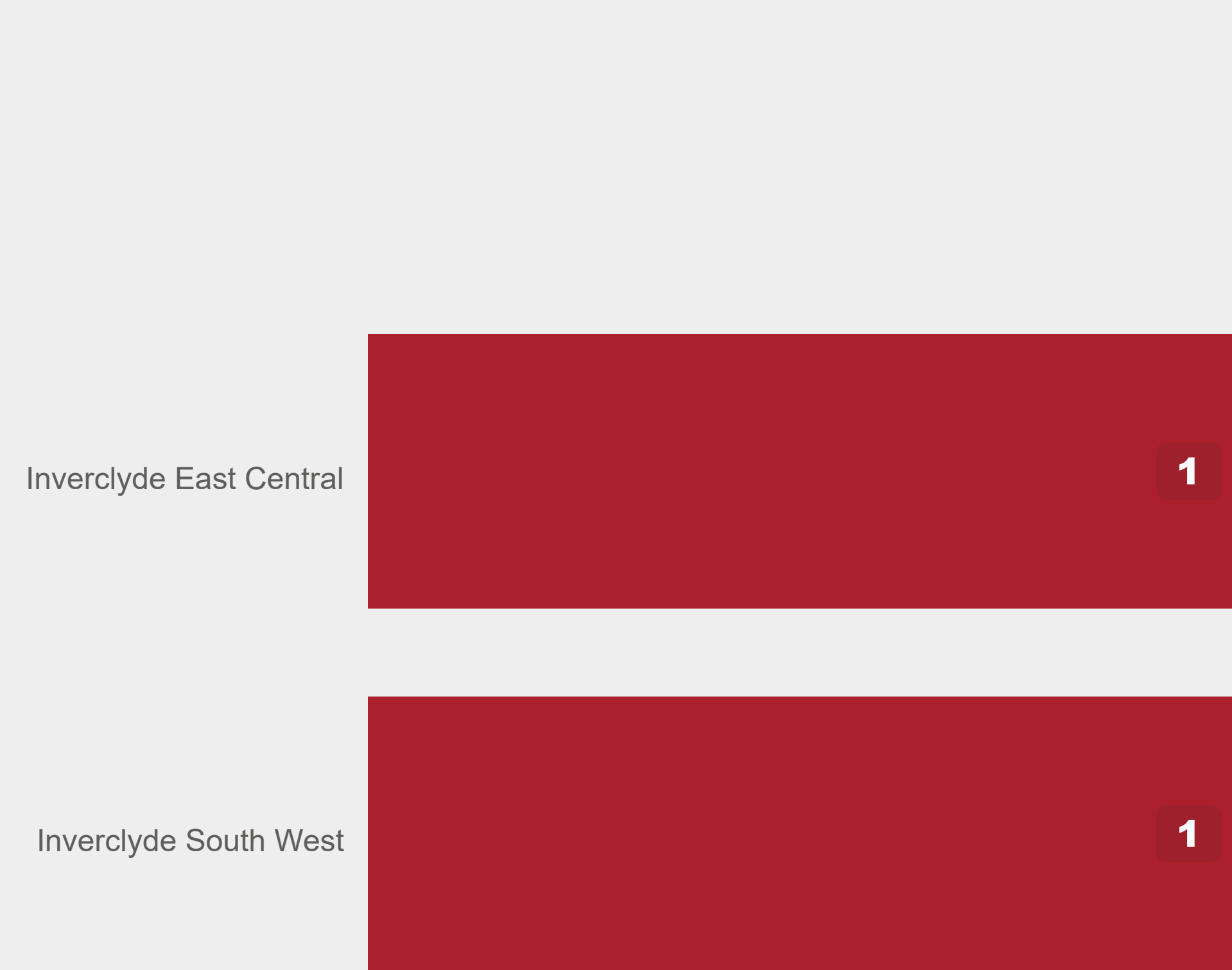
Trend by Quarter (4 years)



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

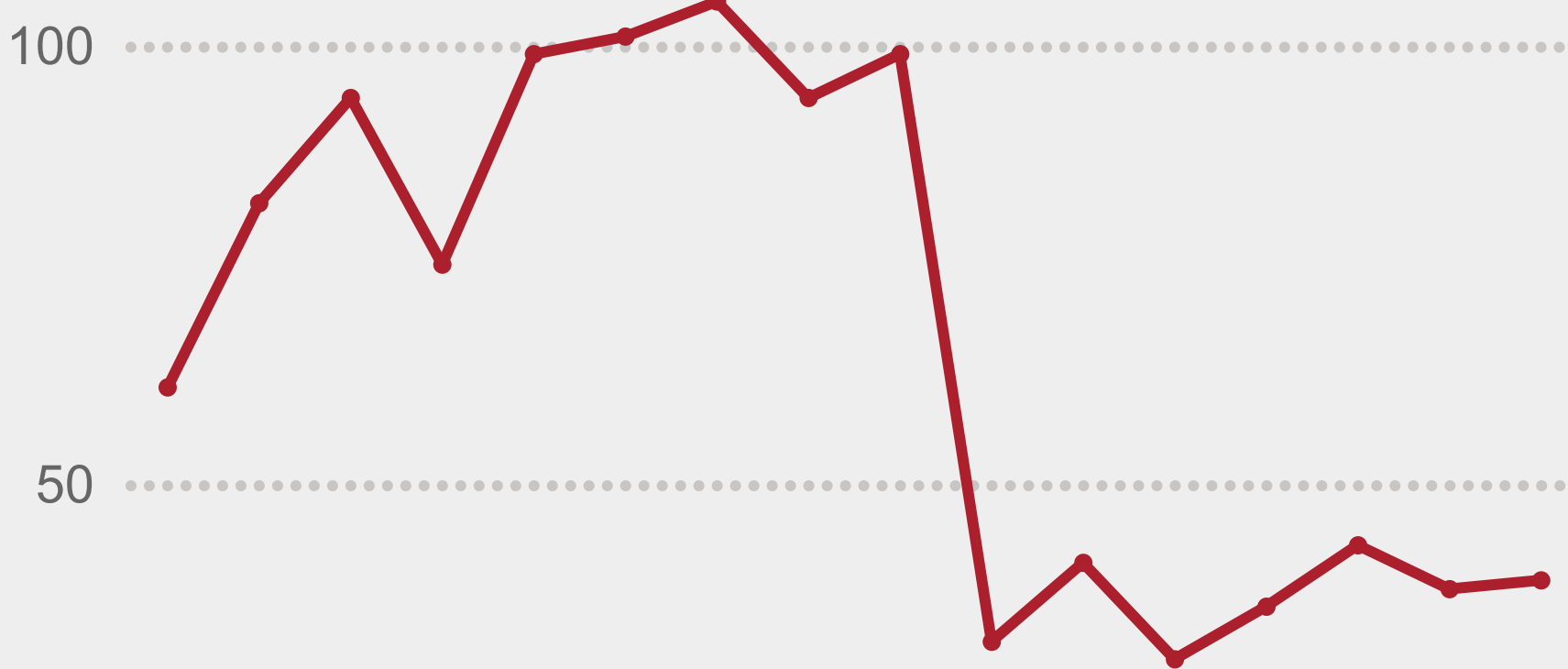


Quarter 4 of 2024/25 has seen a 200% increase in non-domestic fires within Inverclyde compared to the same period in the previous year, although this seem a large increase it only equates to two incidents due to their being no non-domestic fires in Q4 of 2023/24. One of these incidents was accidental 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.

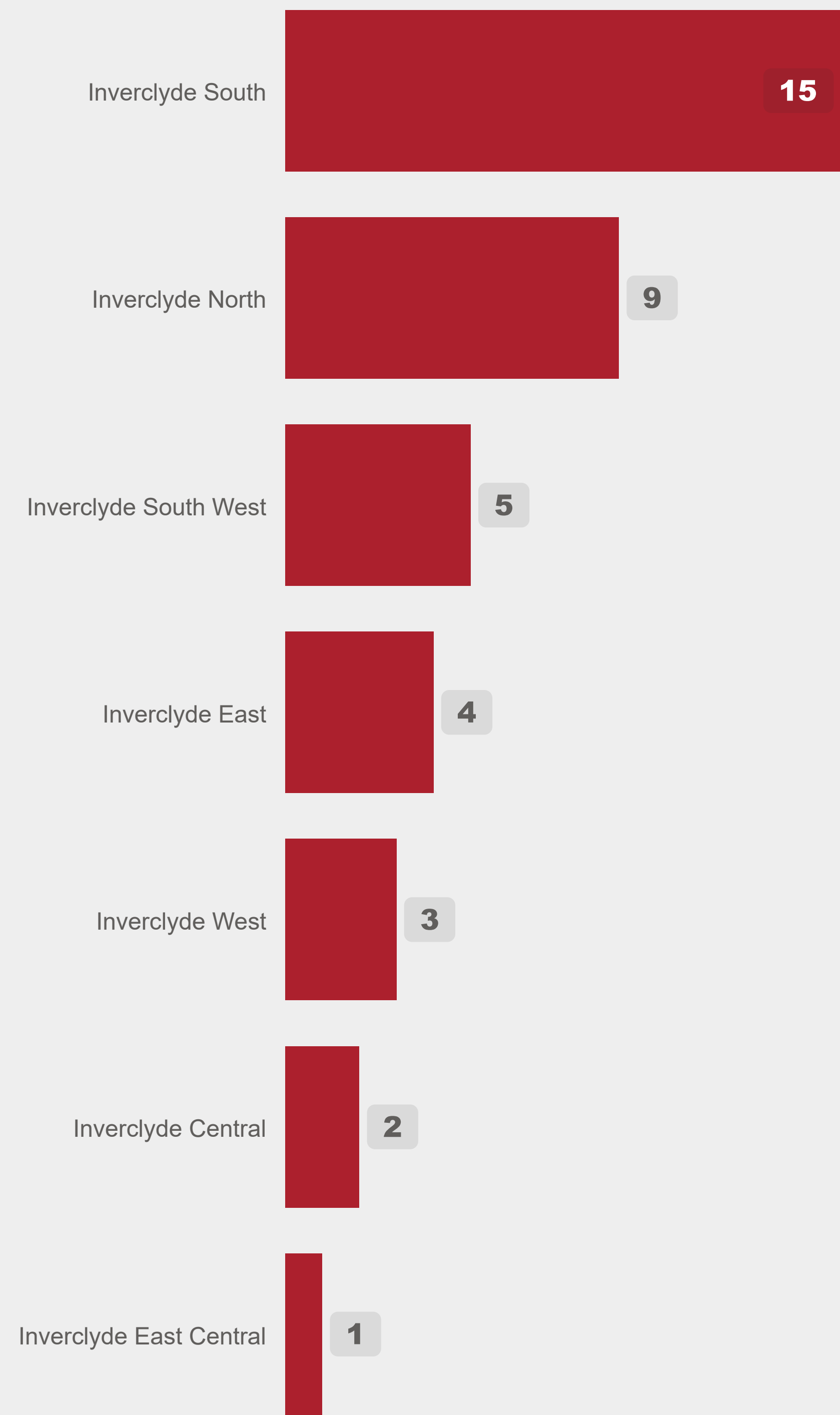
8. Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals

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

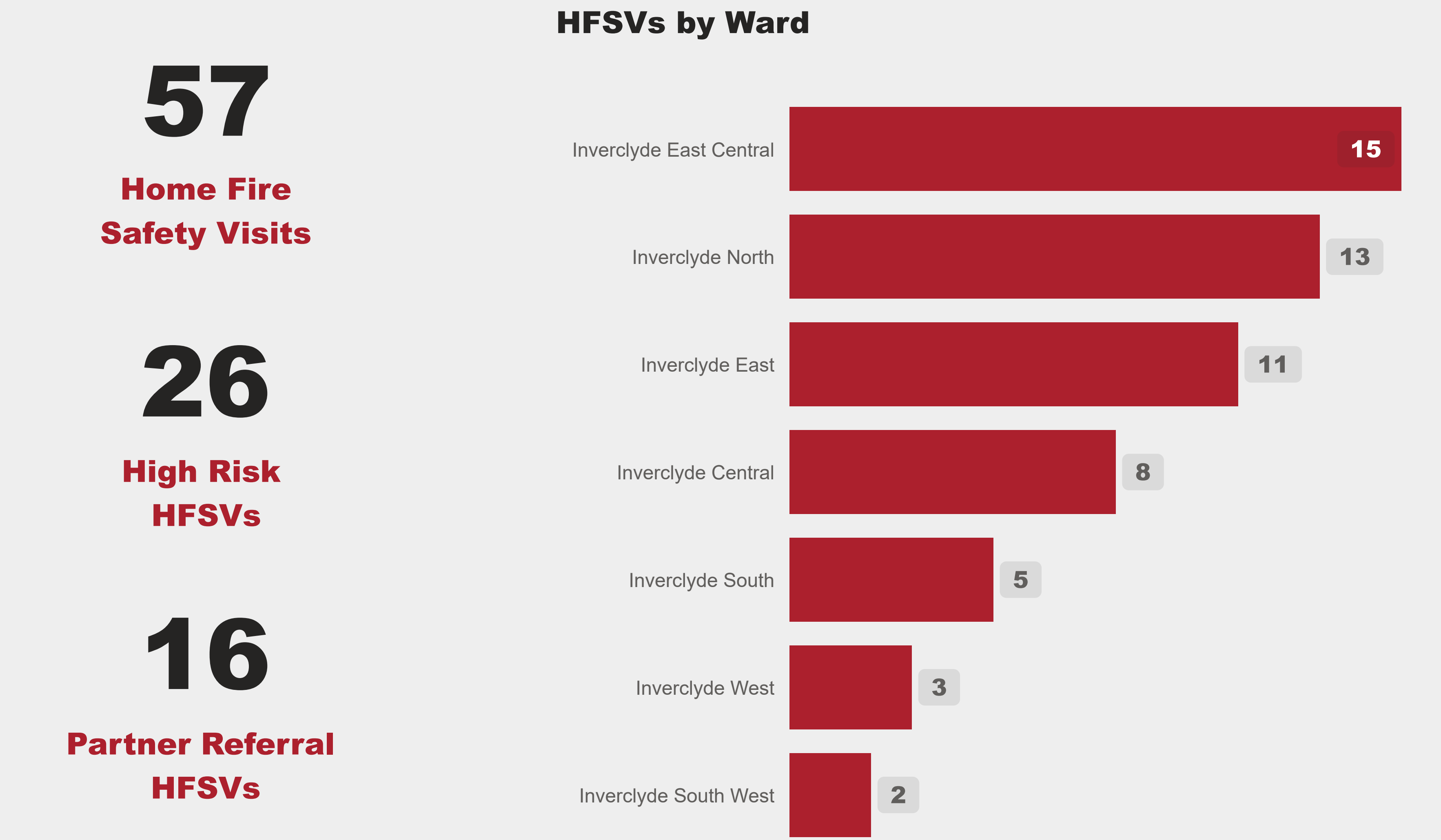
Hospital Slight Injuries



0

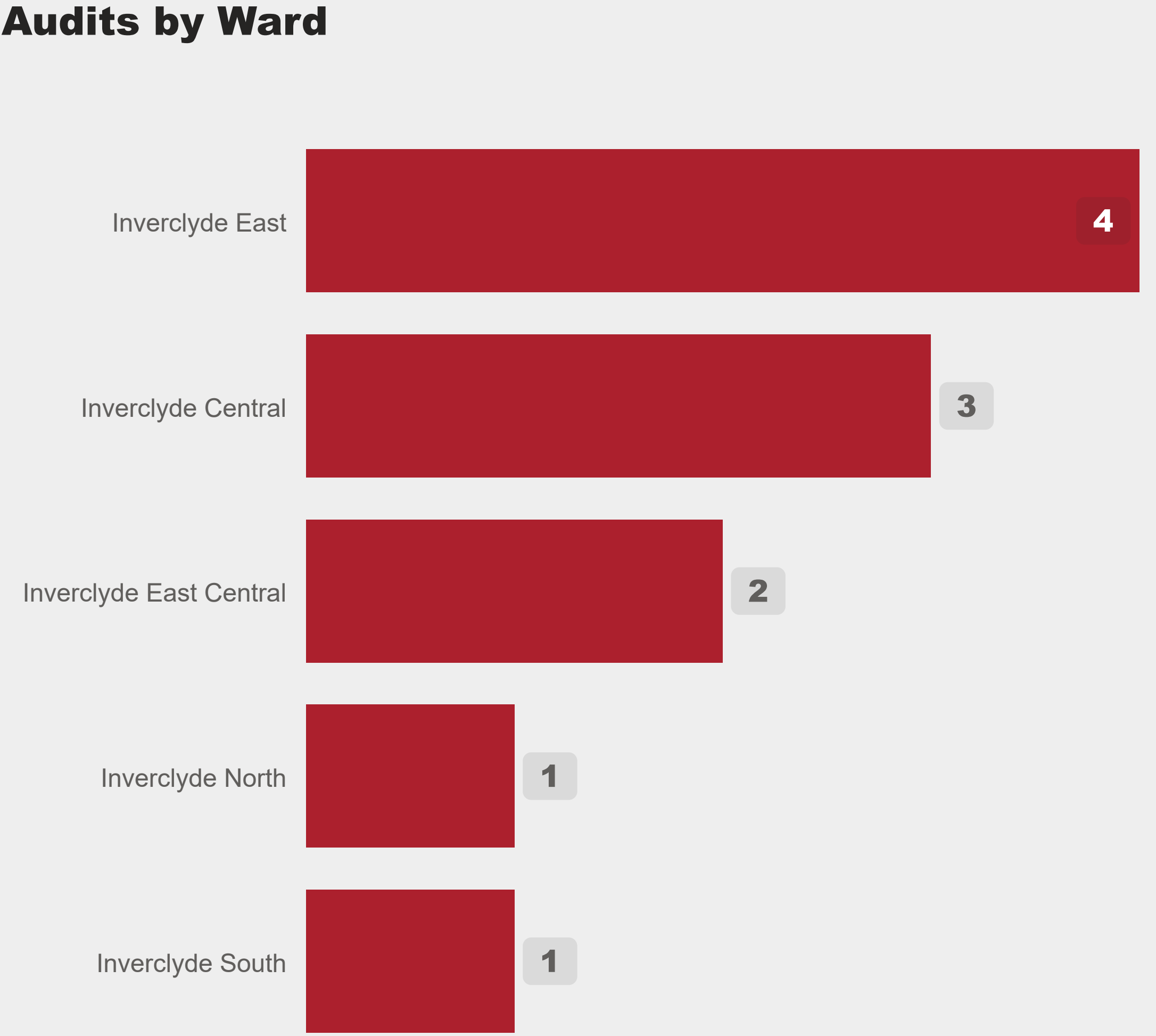
Hospital Serious Injuries

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.

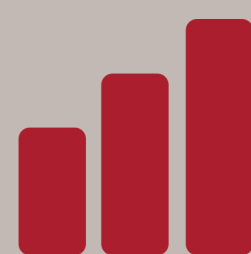
The new policy is to call challenge all UFAS incidents with the intention of non-attendance. Hospitals, care homes, and sleeping risk premises are all exempt and receive either 2 pumps or their premise specific PDA.



SCOTTISH

FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Working together for a safer Scotland



BUSINESS
INTELLIGENCE

Design, figures and charts by the Business Intelligence team.

Report To:	Local Police and Fire Scrutiny Panel	Date:	5 June 2025
Report By:	Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development	Report No:	P&F/03/25
Contact Officer:	Hugh Scott, Service Manager, Inclusive Communities	Contact No:	01475 715450
Subject:	Local Police and Fire Scrutiny Panel Update Report		

1.0 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 ☐ For Decision ☒ For Information/Noting
- 1.2 The report informs the panel of local and national initiatives, reviews, and consultations and, where appropriate, informs Members of potential future agenda items relevant to Police Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) and local impacts.
- 1.3 This report is intended to draw these elements together with a view to informing and shaping future meeting agendas as appropriate and raising awareness of emerging issues.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the panel:
1. notes the current and emerging local and national issues relating to Police and Fire & Rescue matters;

Ruth Binks
Corporate Director
Education, Communities & Organisational Development

3.0 THE SCOTTISH POLICE AUTHORITY BOARD

3.1 The meeting of SPA Board was held on the 27 March 2025 <https://www.spa.police.uk/what-we-do/governance-meetings/board-meeting/27-march-2025/> and considered several updates, including: -

- Joint Equality Outcomes
- Community Confidence Action Research – Final Report
- Supporting Opportunities for Life (SOL)
- Mental health taskforce update
- Criminal justice efficiencies
- Annual Police Plan 25-26

3.2 New Joint Equality Outcomes Published

Police Scotland and the Scottish Police Authority (SPA) have introduced a new set of Joint Equality Outcomes for Policing (2025–2029) to ensure policing is more inclusive, representative, and trusted by all communities. These outcomes were shaped through extensive engagement and data analysis, aligning with broader strategic goals like the 2030 Vision and Policing Together Strategy.

The seven equality outcomes focus on both employment and service delivery:

1. Confidence in Reporting: Increase trust among minoritised communities to report crime and concerns.
2. Accessible Services: Improve access to information and communication tailored to diverse needs.
3. Community Engagement: Enhance engagement to shape services using community insights.
4. Violence Against Women and Girls: Support societal change and ensure responsive policing.
5. Representation and Voice: Improve representation and influence of minoritised groups in policing.
6. Inclusive Leadership: Strengthen leadership skills in equality, diversity, and inclusion.
7. Workplace Support: Better meet the needs of minoritised colleagues through improved resources and policies.

The report can be viewed at the following link <https://www.spa.police.uk/publication-library/equality-outcomes-for-policing-2025-2029/>

3.3 Community Confidence Action Research – Final Report

On 27 February 2025 the Scottish Police Authority (SPA) and Police Scotland held an online event to mark the conclusion and launch the final report of the Community Confidence Action Research Project, which ran from 2021 to 2024. The project engaged with four communities across Scotland (Letham, Levenmouth, Irvine Fullarton, and Wick) to understand factors contributing to lower police confidence and to collaboratively develop local initiatives to improve it. Findings from surveys and community discussions across all four areas, despite a strong community spirit, highlighted concerns such as anti-social behaviour, a lack of visible policing, and a perceived decline in community facilities. The final report, considered by the Authority's Policing Performance Committee, offers valuable insights for shaping future local policing strategies. The Authority expressed gratitude to community groups, local authorities, and project officials for their contributions.

The final report can be viewed at the following link <https://www.spa.police.uk/publication-library/project-final-report-december-2024-community-confidence-action-research/>

3.4 Supporting Opportunities for Life (SOL)

Supporting Opportunities for Life (SOL) is a partnership project between being delivered by our officers in partnership with charity Aid and Abet and the Scottish Violence Reduction Unit. Peer mentors will work with officers in West Lothian and engage with young people aged 10-25 in schools, colleges and in the community.

Through the use of early intervention inputs, SOL will help to build and support the young people to break that cycle of offending, encourage them to make positive life choices and identify pathways out of offending.

3.5 Mental health taskforce update

The taskforce has made progress in several areas: all Contact, Command and Control (C3) personnel are trained in the Mental Health Pathway (a collaboration with NHS24), which has led to over 2,000 more referrals and a reduction of over 41,932 officer hours spent on mental health calls since training began in September 2023. All officers have access to the Mental Health Index (MHI) since September 2024, enabling them to consult with clinicians for advice and appropriate service access for individuals in mental health crisis, receiving positive feedback and reducing incident times. Additionally, in February, 70 officers attended a "train the trainer" event for Distress Brief Intervention (DBI), which allows trained officers to refer individuals in distress to relevant support agencies; over 1,900 officers are now DBI trained, with over 4,600 referrals made since 2017.

3.6 Criminal justice efficiencies

Police Scotland is actively pursuing efficiencies within the criminal justice system to improve experiences for victims, witnesses, and offenders, ultimately aiming to prioritise frontline policing. The summary case management scheme is showing significant success, particularly in Dundee, with a substantial reduction in the initial and repeat citations of witnesses, including police officers. This streamlining benefits victims, especially those of domestic abuse, by reducing court time and speeding up case resolution. Consequently, officers have more time for community policing. Police Scotland is also improving its own processes through more efficient case reporting, better use of direct measures, and enhanced demand analytics. Furthermore, the police estate is being utilised for local investigations and suspect interviews, reducing travel time for officers and increasing their presence in communities.

3.7 Annual Police Plan 25/26

The Police Fire and Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 mandates the Chief Constable to create an Annual Police Plan (APP) each year. The APP is a vital part of Police Scotland's strategic planning, supporting the delivery of the Joint Strategy for Policing (2023): Policing for a Safe, Protected and Resilient Scotland. The APP has evolved annually since Police Scotland's inception, outlining operational and organizational goals for the upcoming 12 months to enhance policing services. In 2024, Police Scotland introduced its 2030 Vision, which is being implemented through two three-year business plans. The APP for 2025/26 represents the second year of the first three-year business plan.

The plan is available to view at the following link <https://www.spa.police.uk/spa-media/1vxi5ug3/item-9-annual-police-plan.pdf>

4.0 **NATIONAL ROLL OUT OF BODY WORN CAMERAS**

- 4.1 Police Scotland has begun its national rollout of body-worn video cameras, starting in Tayside where around 750 officers will be equipped in the weeks following the March launch. Over the next 18 months, more than 10,500 cameras will be issued to frontline officers and custody staff across Scotland. Chief Constable Jo Farrell prioritised this initiative, highlighting its potential to de-escalate incidents, improve public trust, reduce complaints, enhance safety, and benefit the justice system by providing transparent evidence and faster justice. The rollout follows strong

public support and a recommendation from an independent review. The Scottish Government and the Scottish Police Authority also welcome the move, emphasising its role in increasing public confidence and officer safety, supported by the Digital Evidence Sharing Capability (DESC) system. All frontline uniformed officers and custody staff will be expected to wear and activate the cameras when using police powers. The rollout will continue across Scotland, with the Highlands and Islands and Northeast next in summer 2025.

5.0 RETAIL CRIME TASK FORCE

- 5.1 Police Scotland has launched a national Retail Crime Taskforce to address a rise in shoplifting and related offences. Funded by £3 million from the Scottish Government, the taskforce employs a four-pronged approach: prevent, pursue, protect, and prepare. The team comprises 14 officers and detectives, along with four civilian specialists, including analysts and an Architectural Liaison Officer. Uniformed officers will primarily operate in Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Lanarkshire, while the Taskforce's specialist resources can assist other divisions with prevention and security measures. The unit will target repeat offenders using data and intelligence for proactive enforcement. Initiatives like direct reporting in Fife and the use of the Digital Evidence Sharing Capability (DESC) aim to improve investigation speed and justice outcomes. The Architectural Liaison Officer will advise retailers on enhancing security. The funding will also support diversionary programs and focus on repeat and organised offenders. Assistant Chief Constable Tim Mairs emphasised the unacceptable impact of retail crime on workers and the Taskforce's commitment to prevention and enforcement through partnership working. Community Safety Minister Siobhian Brown and Employment and Investment Minister Tom Arthur also welcomed the initiative and its collaborative approach with the retail sector.

6.0 MOTORCYCLE SAFETY CAMPAIGN

- 6.1 Police Scotland and Transport Scotland have released a report revealing that 269 motorcyclists died on Scotland's roads between January 2015 and August 2024, accounting for 18% of all fatalities despite motorcycles making up less than 1% of traffic. In response, Police Scotland has launched a campaign urging all road users to help reduce these deaths. Chief Superintendent Hilary Sloan is calling on motorcyclists to be aware of high-risk situations like left-hand bends and overtaking, and for other drivers to be extra vigilant for motorcyclists, especially in rural areas on weekends. The campaign involves Rider Refinement classes and targeted patrols, but relies on all road users taking responsibility and caring for each other. The Highlands, Argyll and Bute, and the Scottish Borders recorded the highest number of fatal motorcycle collisions, with most victims being men aged 46-55.

7.0 PROPORTIONATE RESPONSE TO CRIME UPDATE

- 7.1 SPA published a paper in March which presented members of the Policing Performance Committee with an update on the national roll out of Proportionate Response to Crime. The paper discusses the implementation and evaluation of the Proportionate Response to Crime (PRTC) process within Police Scotland, which aims to enhance investigative efficiency by assessing crimes early to determine proportionate lines of enquiry. The phased rollout concluded in June 2024 across various divisions, with subsequent monitoring showing that a small percentage of reports are directly filed through this process. The initiative has the potential to free significant front-line police hours, although user experience survey responses suggest generally positive public perceptions of the process. Efforts were made to ensure transparency and manage public trust, with extensive engagement and communication strategies. The process operates alongside existing assessment models like THRIVE, emphasising a proportionate investigative approach for low-threat incidents, and includes ongoing research to monitor public confidence and experience. The report concludes that the PRTC process supports a more efficient, proportionate approach to crime investigation without compromising community safety or public trust.

The paper can be viewed at <https://www.spa.police.uk/publication-library/proportionate-response-to-crime-19-march-2025/national-rollout-update/#publication-parent>.

8.0 SFRS WILDFIRE CAMPAIGN 2025

- 8.1 The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service has launched its 2025 Wildfire Campaign, highlighting spring as the most critical period for wildfires in Scotland. Data shows that nearly 80% of large outdoor fires since 2010 occurred between March and May. The campaign will use social media to educate the public on responsible outdoor behaviour and direct them to the SFRS website for information on wildfire causes, prevention, and safety measures.

9.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation(s) is(are) agreed:

SUBJECT	YES	NO
Financial		X
Legal/Risk		X
Human Resources		X
Strategic (Partnership Plan/Council Plan)		X
Equalities, Fairer Scotland Duty & Children/Young People's Rights & Wellbeing		X
Environmental & Sustainability		X
Data Protection		X

9.2 Finance

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

9.3 Legal/Risk

There are no legal/risk implications contained within this report.

9.4 Human Resources

There are no human resource implications contained within this report.

9.5 **Strategic**

There are no strategic implications contained within this report.

10.0 **CONSULTATION**

10.1 There were no consultations required outside those noted in the report.

11.0 **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

11.1 None