



Derwentside District

Community Risk Profile

2018 – 2021

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Introduction

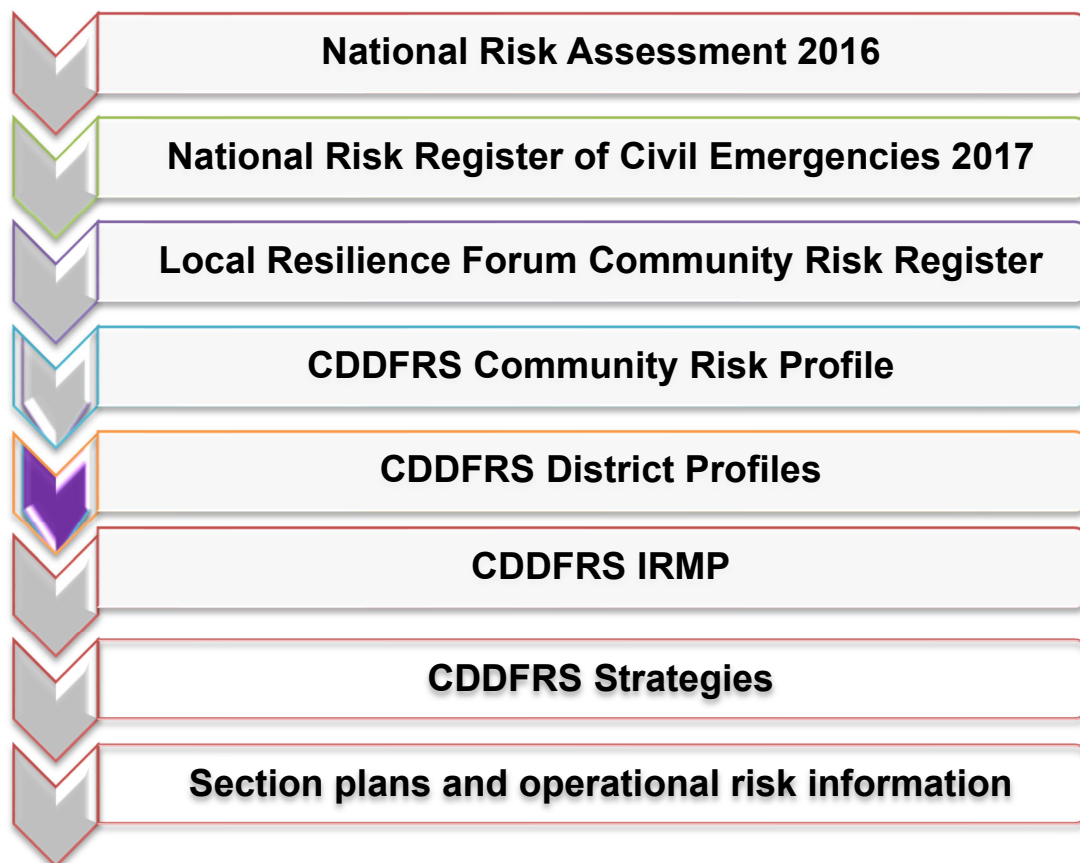
This district profile covers Consett, High Handenhold and Stanhope community fire stations and sets out our approach to the risks and challenges we face, to ensure that the people who live and work in, or visit Derwentside, are the safest people in the safest places.

As part of the County Durham & Darlington Fire & Rescue Service (CDDFRS) 'Community Risk Identification Process', both the National Risk Register (NRR) of Civil Emergencies 2017 and the Community Risk Register (CRR) for County Durham and Darlington produced by the Local Resilience Forum (LRF) have been considered.

Details of the risks identified by the National Risk Register of Civil Emergencies can be found in our [Community Risk Profile](#) document or via the following link: [National Risk Register](#).

The risks identified by the County Durham and Darlington Risk Register can be found via the following link: [County Durham and Darlington Risk Register](#).

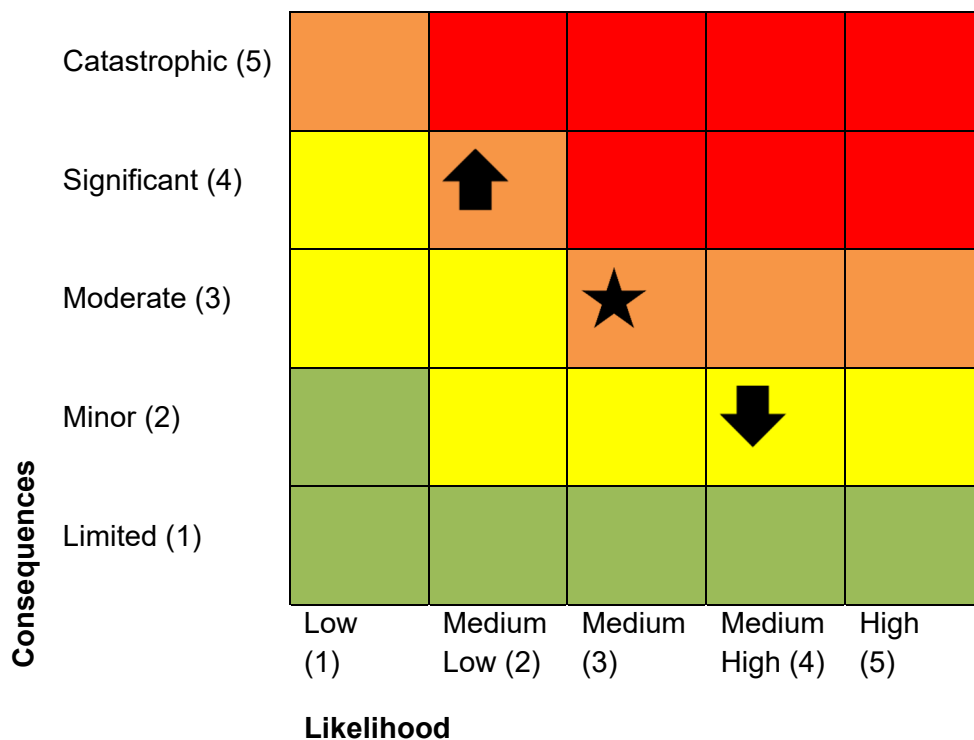
CDDFRS 'Community Risk Identification Process'



Risk Assessment Matrix

The risk assessment matrix used in this document is based on a reasonable worst-case scenario with an assessment of possible higher and lower impact events. This demonstrates alternative assessments of the risk levels which have been considered during the assessment process. The matrix below illustrates the use of ranges, with the reasonable worst case in the centre, the “upper range” being a more impactful but less likely scenario and the “lower range” being a less impactful but more likely one.

↑	Upper range	★	Reasonable worst case	↓	Lower range
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The overall level of risk used within the risk assessment matrix fits in to one of the following categories:

VERY HIGH (Red) may have a high to medium-low likelihood of occurrence, but their potential consequences are such that they will be treated as a priority by CDDFRS and resources made available to combat the threat.
HIGH (Amber) during the strategic planning process careful consideration should be given to reducing or eliminating these risks.
MEDIUM (Yellow) should be monitored to ensure appropriate measures are in place to enable an effective response.
LOW (Green) should be managed using normal planning and response arrangements and appropriate levels of resources are maintained.

Risk Assessment Methodology

The first stage of our risk assessment methodology is to identify incidents that can cause harm to the people, environment and economy within the community that CDDFRS serve.

We then identify who or what is at risk of harm from the incidents. Once the incidents and anyone at harm have been identified the District based community risk profile will be used to decide how CDDFRS address the issues identified depending upon the overall risk rating.

Likelihood:

Our likelihood assumptions are based on incidents attended over the previous 3-year period and national risk level against the population estimates for each station area as well as a high level of local knowledge and professional judgement.

Consequences:

The consequences taken into consideration alongside professional judgement include:

• Loss of life - this reflects the number of people killed at an incident.
• Injury – this covers those requiring medical intervention resulting from an incident.
• Economic impact – this includes property damage, heritage loss and business disruption.
• Environmental Damage – this includes all types of pollution to the environment
• Social Disruption – this includes transport, utilities, finance and communications.
• Psychological impact – this includes public outrage and anxiety.

Although the potential consequences listed above play a part in the assessment of risk a high level of local knowledge and professional judgement will also be used to come to a definitive score.

The methodology used to calculate future risk is based on:

The average number of incidents attended over the previous three years against population estimates for each station area.

X

The risk of future incidents occurring through a combination of the listed consequences and a data led approach with a high level of local knowledge and professional judgement.

False Alarms

In the last 3 years false alarms have accounted for 28% of all the emergency calls responded to by CDDFRS. Of these calls around half were due to automatic fire alarm systems and the other half were calls made with good intentions.

On average the Service responds to less than 90 malicious 999 call each year. Whilst false alarms do not increase risk to the public, they do require a response from the fire service and our vehicles usually respond. All the time we are attending false alarms, appliances are unavailable for real emergencies and prevention activities.

Forward Look

When looking forward both Durham County Council (DCC) and Darlington Borough Council (DBC) are planning a significant number of changes that will inadvertently create additional demand on CDDFRS resources as well as creating a greater level of risk to the community.

This includes the potential for over 305 hectares of new land to be developed for business and industry as well as protecting over 1,500 hectares of existing business and industrial land to prevent any other use in County Durham. There are also plans to build 6,272 new homes across County Durham; part of which will include a requirement that 10% of all homes on developments would have to be designed for the older population who are subsequently at greater risk of having a fire within the home.

In addition to the development of businesses, industry and new homes there are also plans to develop new infrastructure including relief roads to the north and west of Durham all of which have the potential to increase the risk levels posed by various incidents which are covered within this document.

Executive Risk Assessment Summary: Consett

The 20 identified Service risks have been assessed using statistical information, local knowledge and professional judgement in order to be graded to be most relevant to the Consett Station area.

Service Risk Number	Risk Type	Overall Risk Rating
		Consett
1	Dwelling fires	Very High
3	Non-residential premises	Very High
4	Flooding	Very High
5	Road traffic collisions (RTC's)	Very High
6	Hazardous materials	Very High
7	Industrial	Very High
13	Wildfires	Very High
2	Other residential premises	High
9	Air	High
8	Malicious attacks/ terrorist incidents	High
11	Height	High
14	Building collapse	High
15	Secondary fires	High
16	Primary fires (other than buildings)	High
17	Waste disposal site fires	High
19	Heritage risks	High
10	Water (excluding flooding)	Medium
12	Rail	Medium
18	Major public events	Medium
20	Animals	Low

Executive Risk Assessment Summary: High Handenhold

The 20 identified Service risks have been assessed using statistical information, local knowledge and professional judgement in order to be graded to be most relevant to the High Handenhold Station area.

Service Risk Number	Risk Type	Overall Risk Rating
		High Handenhold
1	Dwelling fires	Very High
3	Non-residential premises	Very High
4	Flooding	Very High
5	Road traffic collisions (RTC's)	Very High
6	Hazardous materials	Very High
7	Industrial	Very High
8	Malicious attacks/ terrorist incidents	Very High
2	Other residential premises	High
9	Air	High
10	Water (excluding flooding)	High
11	Height	High
12	Rail	High
13	Wildfires	High
14	Building collapse	High
15	Secondary fires	High
16	Primary fires (other than buildings)	High
18	Major public events	High
19	Heritage risks	High
17	Waste disposal site fires	Medium
20	Animals	Low

Executive Risk Assessment Summary: Stanhope

The 20 identified Service risks have been assessed using statistical information, local knowledge and professional judgement in order to be graded to be most relevant to the Stanhope Station area.

Service Risk Number	Risk Type	Overall Risk Rating
		Stanhope
5	Road traffic collisions (RTC's)	Very High
6	Hazardous materials	Very High
13	Wildfires	Very High
1	Dwelling fires	Very High
4	Flooding	High
7	Industrial	High
3	Non-residential premises	High
8	Malicious attacks/ terrorist incidents	High
9	Air	High
10	Water (excluding flooding)	High
18	Major public events	High
2	Other residential premises	Medium
15	Secondary fires	Medium
11	Height	Medium
12	Rail	Medium
14	Building collapse	Medium
16	Primary fires (other than buildings)	Medium
17	Waste disposal site fires	Medium
19	Heritage risks	Medium
20	Animals	Low

District Profiles

The map below shows the make-up of districts and locations of individual stations within them.



When developing the district profiles, central teams such as business fire safety officers, community safety officers and fire investigators offer vital support in order to find patterns and trends. This assists in the development of action plans aimed at reducing the number of incidents through prevention and protection activities. Information on all the individual district profiles can be found via the following links:

[Darlington District Local Risk Profile](#)

[Derwentside District Local Risk Profile](#)

[Durham District Local Risk Profile](#)

[Easington District Local Risk Profile](#)

[Wear and Tees district Local Risk Profile](#)

About the District

The District of Derwentside covers some 105 square miles of County Durham. The population of the District is circa 90,000 and is mostly concentrated into the three major centres of Consett, Stanley and Chester-le-Street.

The District was formerly dependent upon coal mining and steel making but in more recent times a more diverse economy has been created. The area adjoins the green belt of the Tyneside conurbation along its north eastern border, whilst to the south east lies the Cathedral City of Durham. Though regarded as predominantly rural; the area varies in character from remote and sparsely populated areas in the west, to the former coalfield communities in the centre and the east, where villages tend to accommodate thousands rather than hundreds.

Deprivation

Levels of deprivation and life expectancy in County Durham have been improving over time for both males and females, although not as fast as the rest of England.

The 2015 Index of Multiple Deprivation ranks local authorities across the country on their average levels of deprivation and by the proportion of their neighbourhoods that fall within 10% and 30% of the most deprived areas in the country. County Durham is ranked 81st. This means that County Durham falls in the 30% most deprived area nationally. Locally the rankings look like this:

Proportion of the population living in the Top 30% most deprived areas from ID 2015 and ID 2010 by AAP				
AAP	ID 2015		ID 2010	
	% of the population in the top 30% most deprived LSOAs	Rank	% of the population in the top 30% most deprived LSOAs	Rank
Chester-le-Street AAP	35.9%	9	33.1%	9
Derwent Valley AAP	33.0%	10	18.2%	11
Stanley AAP	70.7%	2	71.5%	2
Weardale AAP	2.1%	14	2.3%	14

Indices of Deprivation 2015, Durham County Council

<http://www.countydurhampartnership.co.uk/media/12826/Index-of-Deprivation-2015-Factsheet/pdf/IndexDeprivation2015Factsheet.pdf>

In addition to this measure of deprivation as the number of single person households and entirely retired households increase, there is also an increasing risk of social isolation. This can bring about other risks including increased health needs and mental health issues, increased poverty (particularly amongst single person households) and increased vulnerability to crime.

Age, Gender, Ethnicity Health & Wellbeing

County Durham, along with other areas across the country, is experiencing an ever-ageing population which is predicted to increase significantly over the next ten to twenty years. This will place increased demand on some services.

The health and wellbeing of County Durham's population is shaped by a wide variety of social, economic and environmental factors (such as poverty, housing, ethnicity, place of residence, education and environment).

The importance of these wider determinants of health inequalities is well established it is very clear that health inequalities are the result of complex interactions caused by a number of factors.

In the 2011 census the population of County Durham was 513,242 and is made up of approximately 51% females and 49% males. The average age of people in County Durham is 41, while the median age is higher at 42. 94.7% of people living in County Durham were born in England.

Stanhope lies within the Weardale area of County Durham. This area includes Eastgate, Bolts Burn, Frosterley, Bollihope, Stanhope, Rookhope, Crawleyside, Cornriggs, Daddry Shield, Cowshill, East Blackdene, Wearhead, Westgate, West Blackdene, Brotherlee, St. Johns Chapel, Lanehead, Hamsterley, Wolsingham, Upper Town and Bedburn.

In the 2011 census the population of Weardale was 8,063 and the average age of people in Weardale is higher than the County average at 46, while the median age is 48.

Employment and the working environment have a direct impact on the physical, social and economic wellbeing of people and their families. The performance of the economy gives a good indication of both levels of employment and prosperity in the general population. In particular, levels of employment provide an indication of the health of the working age population. These issues also decrease psychological wellbeing, physical health and mental health and wellbeing.

<http://localstats.co.uk/census-demographics/england/north-east/county-durham>

Service Risk 1. Dwelling Fires

Dwelling Fire Risk Identification Pyramid

To help tackle dwelling fires, all dwellings identified as being high or very high risk, following a SWV or partnership referral, will fall into a reinspection cycle. Properties within this will be revisited within a pre-determined time period. Removal from the reinspection process will only occur if the risk level is downgraded following a visit.

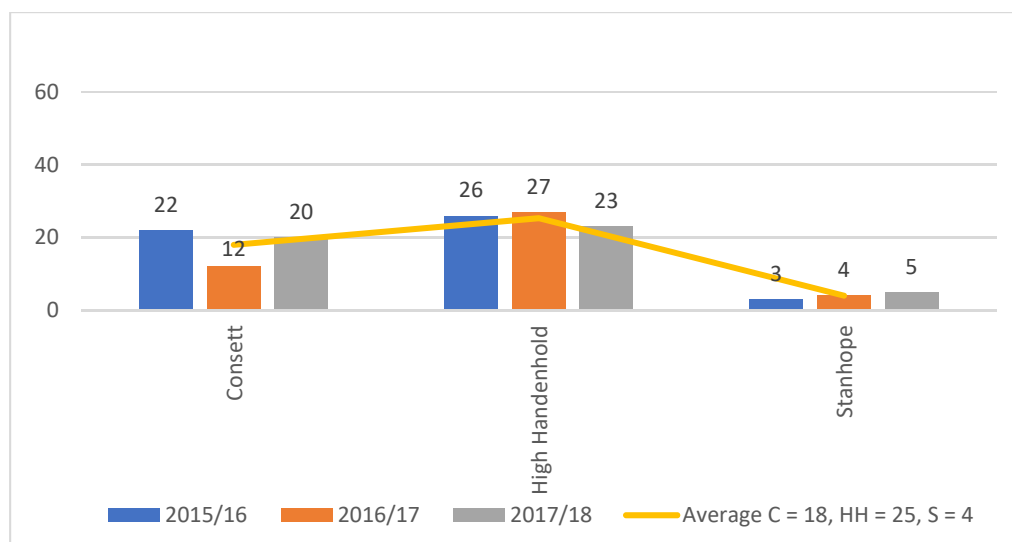


Further information on the risk methodology levels can be found in our [Community Risk Profile](#) document

Number of incidents over the previous 3 years

Dwelling fires have been divided into two separate incident types within this section: accidental and deliberate. This highlights the variance in the number, type, cause and location of incidents attended. For the purpose of this document, when establishing a risk score the likelihood and consequence relating to the total number of incidents is considered.

Dwelling fires (accidental & not known) Derwentside



Key demand information – Accidental dwelling fires (ADFs)

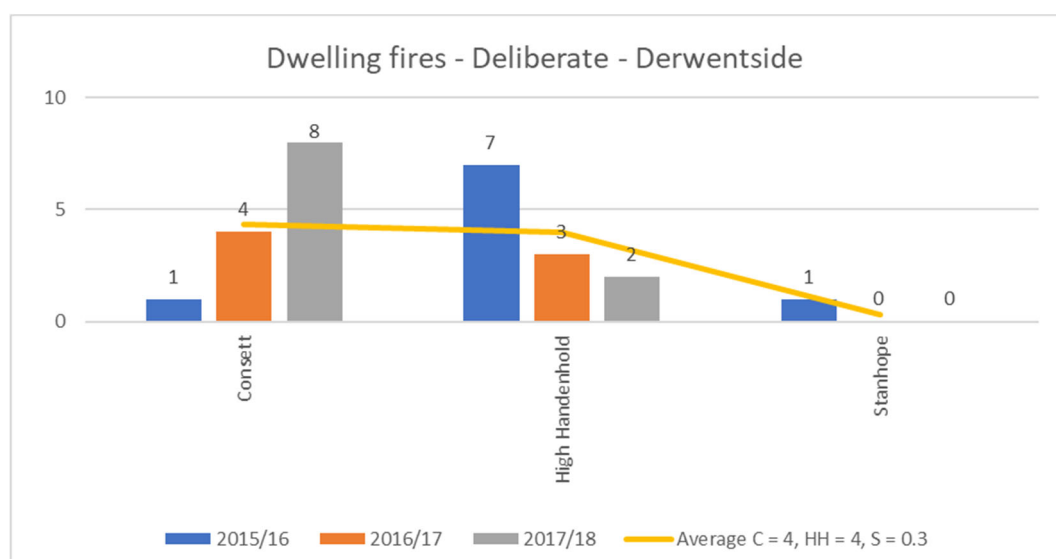
Over the previous 3 years we attended an average of 47 incidents of this type. Over half of all accidental dwelling fires (ADFs) occurred in the kitchen, followed by the bedroom and living room respectively. The majority were linked to distraction whilst using cooking appliances by lone persons over pensionable age and couples with dependent children. A number led to leading to injury due to individuals attempting to tackle the fire.

Across the district individual station averages are detailed in the graph above.

The main areas of focus in reducing Accidental Dwelling fires are the Consett North and Blackhill areas of Consett's area and the South Moor area of the High Handenhold area

Stanhope has had 13 accidental dwelling fires in the last 3 years and crews will concentrate their fire prevention work those identified as being more vulnerable as well as outlying areas where response times may increase due to travel distances.

Dwelling fires (Deliberate) Derwentside



Key demand information – Deliberate dwelling fires

Over the previous 3 years we attended an average of 8 incidents of this type. The level of deprivation and overall crime rates in Derwentside contribute to this statistic. Most deliberate dwelling fires spread from secondary fires external to the property, although fires starting in the living room and bedroom also feature prominently.

Across the district individual station averages are detailed in the graph above.

Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Derwentside is:

Risk 1 Dwelling Fires	Consett	H Handenhold	Stanhope
Likelihood	Medium High	Medium High	Medium Low
Consequence	Significant	Significant	Significant
Overall assessment	Very High	Very High	Very High

Service Risk 2. Other residential premises

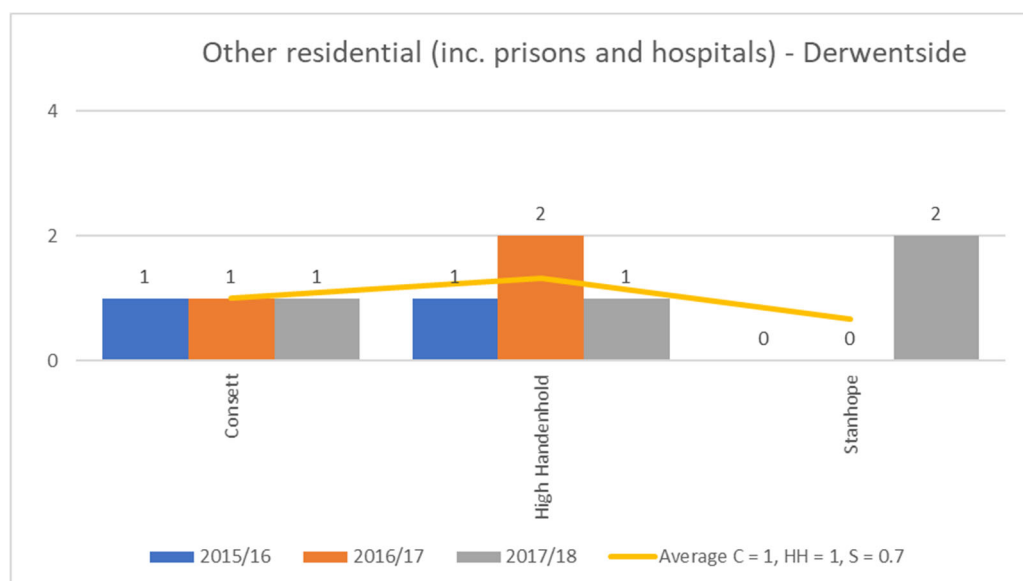
The types of property considered in this risk include non-domestic properties such as: residential care homes; hotels; student halls of residence; prisons and hospitals. The frequency of incidents in properties in this category is relatively low compared to dwelling fires. The majority of these properties are covered under the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 (FSO) and the fire authority is the enforcing agency for this legislation. Although prisons are crown premises, and therefore not covered by the FSO, they have been included in this category due to the risk and demand posed levels by these premises. There is the potential for a high number of fires to occur in these premises, (both nationally and internationally) which could lead to fatalities as a result.

There are 5 strands to the identification process adopted by CDDFRS when identifying businesses that require fire safety audits and inspections.



This is explained further in our [Community Risk Profile](#) document

Number of incidents over the previous 3 years



Key demand information

Most incidents attended by CDDFRS were to secure accommodation. Other than secure accommodation, properties such as hospitals, care and residential homes have also encountered a number of incidents. The residents in these types of property tend to be vulnerable for various reasons, whether that is due to age or a lack of mobility. It is also common to find hazards such as medical oxygen cylinders which contribute to the increased risk.

Two of the four fires shown for High Handenhold were at Bealey lodge care home which is now closed and one of the incidents in Stanhope was a caravan.

Across the district individual station averages are detailed in the graph above.

Risk assessment

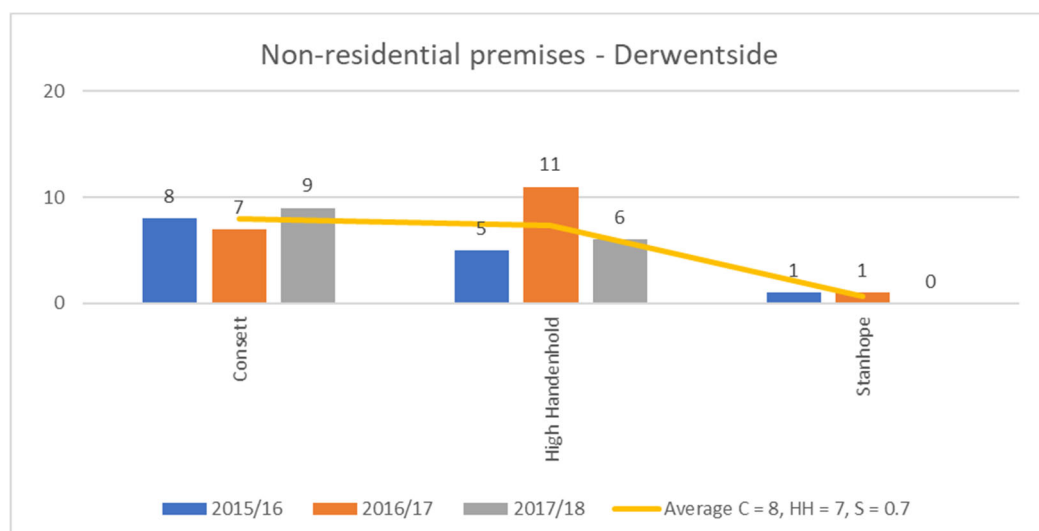
The risk to residents of Derwentside is:

Risk 2 Other residential premises	Consett	H Handenhold	Stanhope
Likelihood	Medium	Medium	Medium Low
Consequence	Significant	Significant	Significant
Overall assessment	High	High	Medium

Service Risk 3. Non-residential premises

Non-residential premises fires occur in buildings that are mainly places like shops, factories, takeaways and agricultural buildings, many of which fall within the FSO. Half of this incident type are started by accidental causes; the other half are either deliberately started or the cause could not be established. There were 8,361 non-residential fires attended nationally last year.

Number of incidents over the previous 3 years



Key demand information

Over the previous 3 years we attended an average of 16 fires in non-residential premises. In total we attended 258 incidents of this type (excluding prisons and hospitals) within the last 3 years. We have seen a slight decrease in the number of incidents we are attending year on year. Factories, shops, education establishments and takeaways are all common property types that we have responded to within this area.

Across the district individual station averages are detailed in the graph above.

Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Derwentside is:

Risk 3 Non-residential premises	Consett	H Handenhold	Stanhope
Likelihood	Medium	Medium	Medium Low
Consequence	Significant	Significant	Significant
Overall assessment	Very High	Very High	High

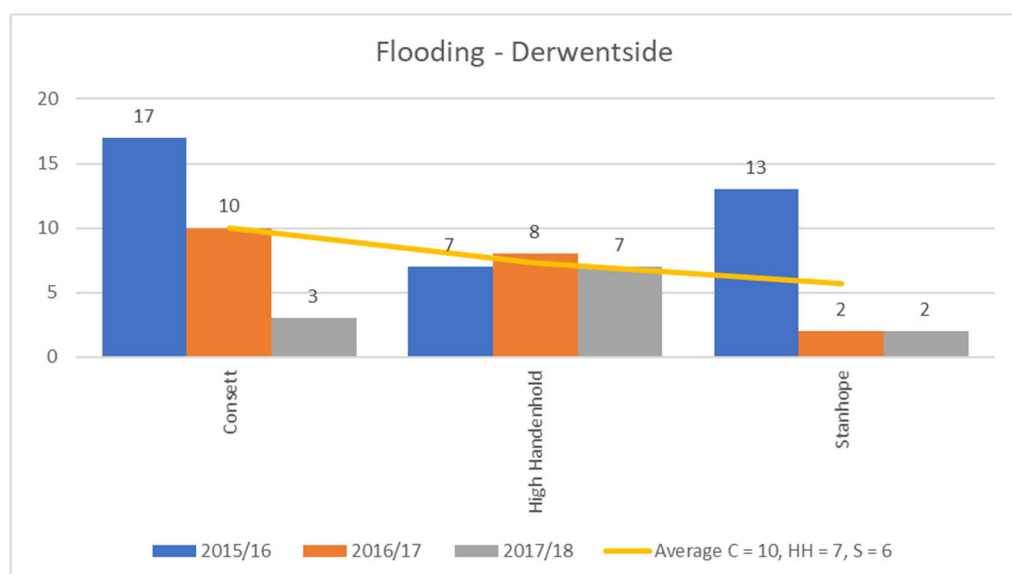
Service Risk 4. Flooding

Although there is currently no statutory duty for CDDFRS to respond to flooding incidents. We know from experience that these incidents are likely to occur in parts of our area and therefore the risk is reasonably foreseeable.

High ground is a significant part of the geology in the west of the district with lower undulating ground to the east. The River Wear runs through our area and encompasses numerous locations which are susceptible to flooding during spate conditions including the town of Chester-le-Street. More information on flooding can be found here:

<http://apps.environment-agency.gov.uk/wiyby/default.aspx>

Number of incidents over the previous 3 years



Key demand information

Over the previous 3 years we attended an average of 23 flooding incidents. The main property type involved in the flooding incidents were dwellings followed by highways, road surfaces, pavements and Nursing/Care facilities. Significant work has been carried out to limited these risks such as the work on a new surface water drainage system in Lanchester and further work on-going in Chester-le-Street.

Across the district individual station averages are detailed in the graph above.

Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Derwentside is:

Risk 4 Flooding	Consett	H Handenhold	Stanhope
Likelihood	Medium	Medium High	Medium
Consequence	Catastrophic	Catastrophic	Catastrophic
Overall assessment	Very High	Very High	High

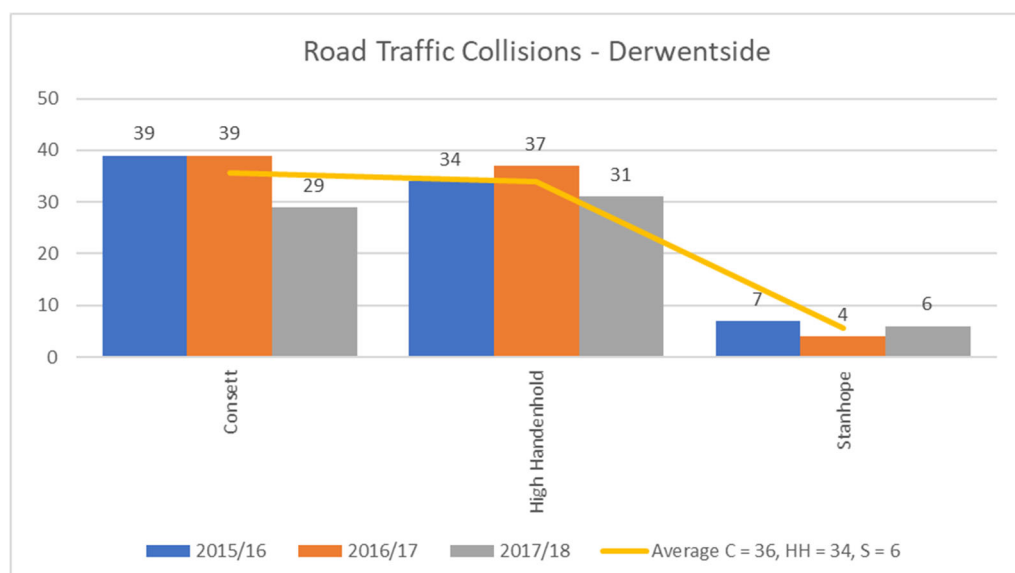
Service Risk 5. Road traffic collisions (RTCs)

Nationally, RTCs are the most frequently non-fire incident attended by the FRS. Durham County Council are the only local authority in the North East with a higher than the national average number of casualties from RTCs. The area covered by CDDFRS is large and has a significantly high number of rural roads to the west. Car occupants are the most likely to be killed in an RTC followed by pedestrians, motorcyclists, and cyclists. Children aged under 15 are most likely to be involved in RTCs as pedestrians.

Due to a high population density in certain areas across County Durham and Darlington and extensive road networks which include the A1(M); A19 and A66, alongside a vast network of rural roads, there are a high number of RTCs occurring in our area.

More information on road traffic collisions in County Durham and Darlington can be found here: <https://www.durham.gov.uk/article/2379/Road-safety-team>

Number of incidents over the previous 3 years



Key demand information

Over the previous 3 years we attended an average of 76 RTCs in total. Most have involved either extrication of trapped individuals or making the vehicle safe. Other types of work undertaken by operational crews at RTCs have involved making the scene safe and offering medical assistance where there was no requirement for an extrication to take place.

Across the district individual station averages are detailed in the graph above.

Regarding incident locations there is a mix in terms of where the RTCs have occurred. High Handenhold has the A1M and A167 running through its area, the A693 connecting Consett, Stanley and Chester le Street and several rural roads which link smaller villages.

Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Derwentside is:

Risk 5 Road traffic collisions (RTCs)	Consett	H Handenhold	Stanhope
Likelihood	Medium High	High	Medium
Consequence	Significant	Significant	Significant
Overall assessment	Very High	Very High	Very High

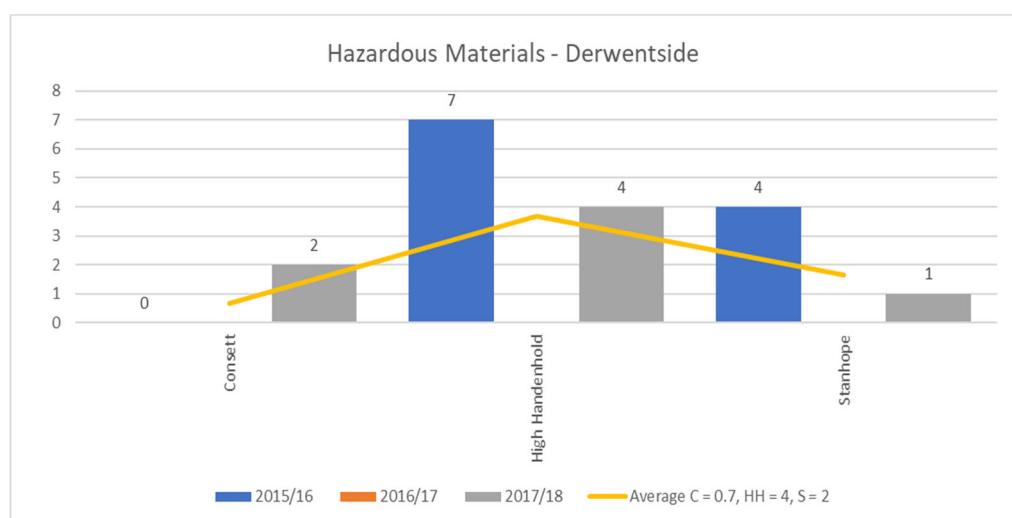
Service Risk 6. Hazardous Materials

Dangerous hazardous materials are regularly transported through the Service area via rail along the East Coast mainline or by road mainly along the A1M, A19 and A66.

There are a number of other risks associated with hazardous materials with some examples being, farms especially in some of the more rural locations to the west of the Service area, waste sites and water treatment plants. Some of which store large quantities of Chlorine.

There are also a number of high-pressure natural gas transmission pipelines crossing the region. This hazard arises from the high pressure and the possibility of fire and explosion from a release if one of the pipelines failed or were damaged.

Number of incidents over the previous 3 years



Key demand information

Over the previous 3 years we attended an average of 9 hazardous material incidents. Of the 58 hazardous material related incidents we have attended almost 50% of these related to dwellings. Derwentside District had no incidents at all during 2016/17 but still had the most over the 3-year period.

Across the district individual station averages are detailed in the graph above.

Risk assessment

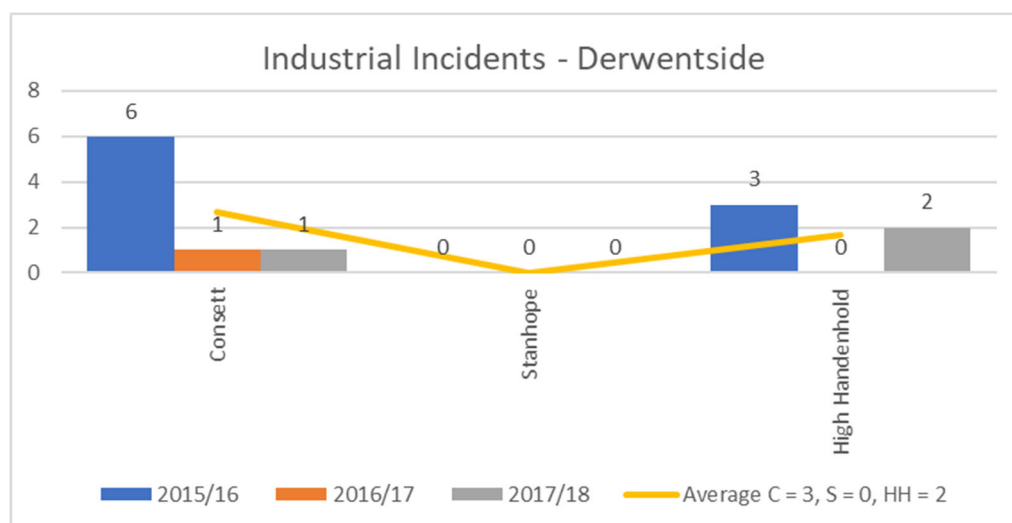
The risk to residents of Derwentside is:

Risk 6 Hazardous materials	Consett	H Handenhold	Stanhope
Likelihood	Medium	Medium	Medium
Consequence	Significant	Significant	Significant
Overall assessment	Very High	Very High	Very High

Service Risk 7. Industrial

There are a number of industrial estates in our area that pose risks as a result of the diverse range of manufacturing processes undertaken. The potential impact on our communities can vary considerably in both scale and nature. In some cases, these incidents will have very limited impacts beyond the immediate area and can be dealt with locally, although others can have cascading effects that may impact the wider community. The experienced level of demand remains relatively low at these premises due to the majority of sites being well protected from risk of fire and other incidents.

Number of incidents over the previous 3 years



Key demand information

Over the previous 3 years CDDFRS attended 50 incidents in total, 42 of which were primary fires with 8 relating to special service calls. This is an average of 4 per month. These were spread across both processing and manufacturing with almost 50% of these occurring in factories followed closely by engineering units. Other premises involved in primary fires included food and drink processing, recycling and chemical manufacturing.

Across the district individual station averages are detailed in the graph above.

Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Derwentside is:

Risk 7 Industrial	Consett	H Handenhold	Stanhope
Likelihood	Medium	Medium	Medium Low
Consequence	Significant	Significant	Significant
Overall assessment	Very High	Very High	High

Service Risk 8. Malicious attacks/ terrorist incidents

The UK faces a serious and sustained threat from terrorism, including from international groups, domestic extremists and Northern Ireland-related groups. The current UK threat level for international terrorism is 'severe', which means an attack is highly likely. While the majority of incidents have occurred in and around major cities in the UK, it is vital that all emergency services are prepared to deal with an incident in their area.

For the purposes of this document, 'terrorist' refers to any individual or group seeking to use violence as a means of inflicting terror for political reasons. This includes a wide variety of individuals and groups of varying ideologies and backgrounds.

CDDFRS have had no attacks or incidents of a malicious nature in recent years although the risk of such incidents remains. We have attended white powder incidents, but none have been classed as malicious in nature therefore they are covered within the hazardous materials section of this document.

Key demand information

There have been no incidents of this nature over the previous 3 years. As a result of the risk levels posed, CDDFRS took the decision earlier this year to implement an MTA response capability across the Service.

For more information on Counter Terrorism see:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/national-counter-terrorism-security-office>

Risk assessment

The risk to residents of County Derwentside is:

Risk 8 Malicious attacks/ terrorist incidents	Consett	H Handenhold	Stanhope
Likelihood	Low	Medium Low	Low
Consequence	Significant	Significant	Significant
Overall assessment	High	Very High	High

Service Risk 9. Air

Although one of the safest modes of transport there is, incidents relating to air travel are still present across the UK with most occurrences relating to smaller aircrafts such as microlights and gliders. Within County Durham and Darlington there are several airfields such as Durham Tees Valley International on the outskirts of Darlington, Catterick Garrison and RAF Leeming are both located just south of Darlington, whilst Newcastle International Airport is to the North.

Number of incidents over the previous 3 years

There have been no incidents of this nature over the previous 3 years.

Key demand information

Although there have been no incidents of this nature over the previous 3 years. There are a number of smaller scale airfields located at around the County with the smaller scale aircrafts and parachute companies operating out of these facilities.

Risk assessment

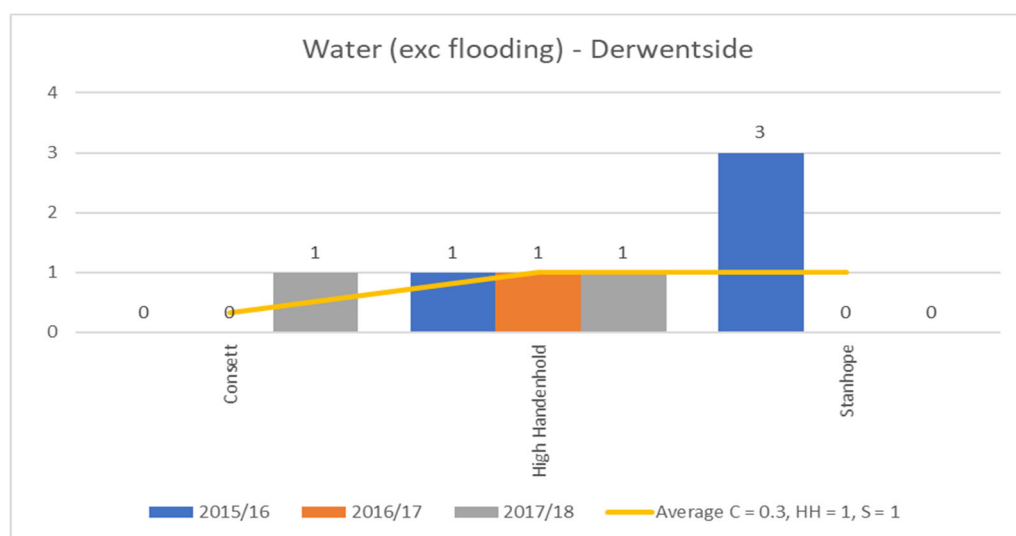
The risk to residents of Derwentside is:

Risk 9 Air	Consett	H Handenhold	Stanhope
Likelihood	Medium Low	Medium Low	Low
Consequence	Significant	Significant	Significant
Overall assessment	Very High	Very High	High

Service Risk 10. Water (excluding flooding)

There are several water-related risks across County Durham and Darlington which include the River Wear, River Skerne and River Tees all of which pose their own risks. The risk of members of the public entering the water and getting into difficulty appears to be on the increase. County Durham has over 17kms of coastline and there are several lakes, reservoirs and other water bodies across the area that pose risks to the community. CDDFRS continue to prepare for water rescue incidents daily and provide an emergency rescue response 24 hours a day.

Number of incidents over the previous 3 years



Key demand information

Over the previous 3 years we attended an average of 2 water rescue related incidents. Overall this equates to 43 water rescue incidents in total with an increase in number year on year. The main type of incidents we attend involve the rescue of people from rivers, including on 5 occasions rescues from vehicles. Domestic pets, livestock and horses make up the bulk of the remaining incidents.

Across the district individual station averages are detailed in the graph above. The district area has a number of water risks within it including the River Wear and Stanhope ford.

Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Derwentside is:

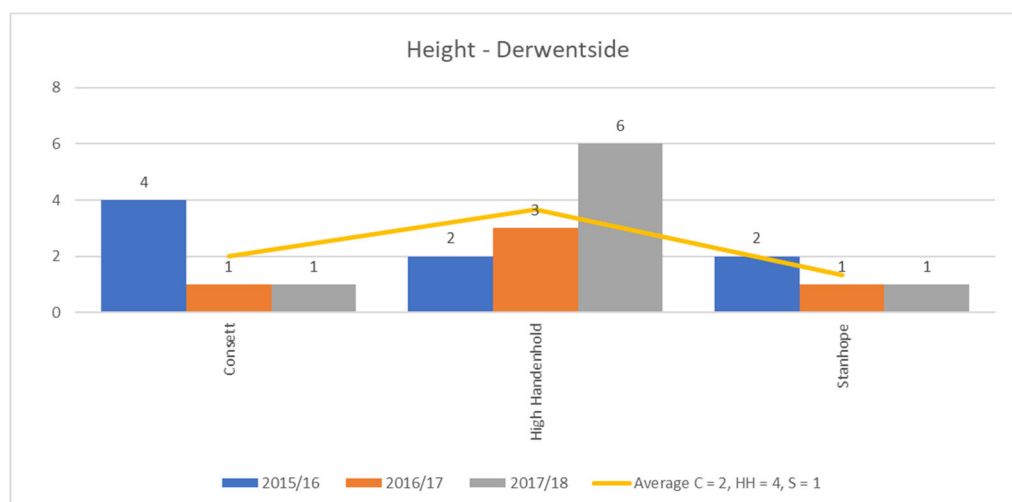
Risk 10 (excluding flooding)	Consett	H Handenhold	Stanhope
Likelihood	Medium Low	Medium	Medium
Consequence	Significant	Significant	Significant
Overall assessment	Medium	High	High

Service Risk 11.Height

Nationally, FRSs respond to a wide range of incidents at height. These involve a variety of environments, such as above and below ground, industry, buildings/dwellings (including buildings under construction), open structures and natural environments (such as steep ground, rock faces, excavations or sink holes).

CDDFRS covers a wide geographical area including coastlines to the east and fells and dales in the rural regions to the west. We respond to incidents where people are stranded in inaccessible locations and where there is a high level of risk due to things such as the level of industry and confined space e.g. mine shafts across County Durham and Darlington.

Number of incidents over the previous 3 years



Key demand information

Over the previous 3 years we attended an average of 7 height rescue related incidents. This equates to 90 incidents in total. Of these almost a quarter involved dwellings, 15% trees and 5% bridges with the remainder being made up of other premises. The majority of those rescued were persons followed closely by domestic and wild animals.

Darlington District saw an increase in height rescues in 2017/18 as did the High Handenhold station area.

Across the district individual station averages are detailed in the graph above.

Risk assessment

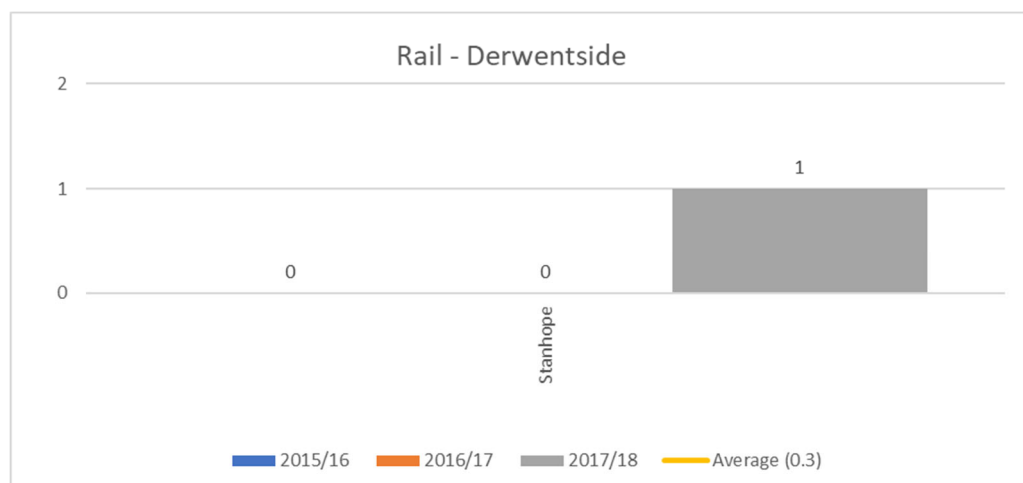
The risk to residents of Derwentside is:

Risk 11 Height	Consett	H Handenhold	Stanhope
Likelihood	Medium High	Medium	Medium Low
Consequence	Significant	Significant	Significant
Overall assessment	High	High	Medium

Service Risk 12. Rail

The East Coast mainline runs through our Service area with stations at Darlington, Durham and Chester-le-Street. Should an incident occur at any one of the stations or at any point along the network there is the potential for a significant impact on the local community. There has not been an incident involving a train derailment or anything of this magnitude in the last three years, however, there have been several smaller incidents that have caused major disruption such as trains having to be stopped and or cancelled. If lines were closed for any reason, there would be widespread impact on not only the local community and surrounding areas but also potentially the wider economy.

Number of incidents over the previous 3 years



Key demand information

Over the previous 3 years we attended an average of 0.3 rail incidents. Of these incidents none were related to the trains themselves but instead involved assisting other agencies.

Across the district individual station averages are detailed in the graph above.

Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Derwentside is:

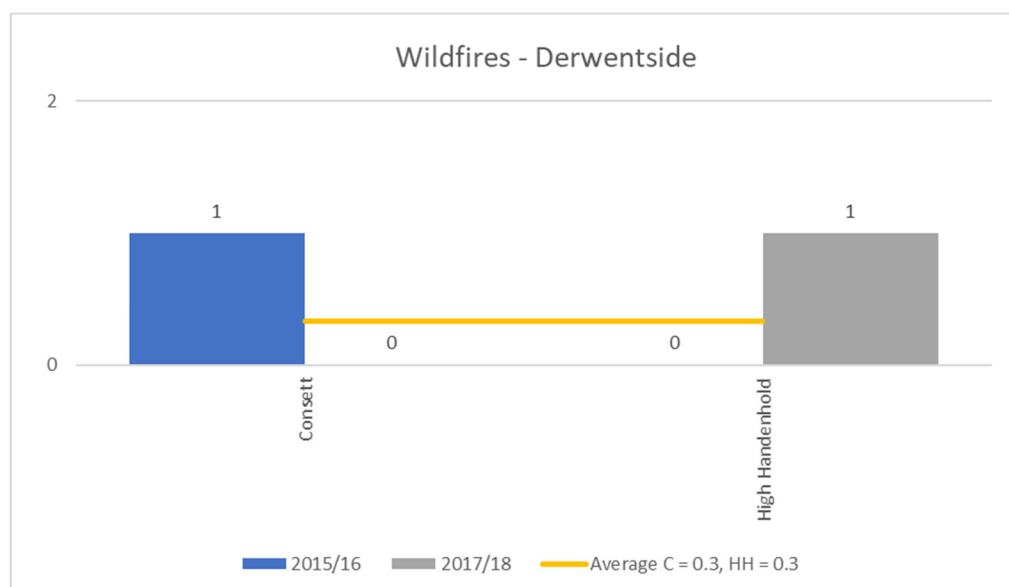
Risk 12 Rail	Consett	H Handenhold	Stanhope
Likelihood	Low	Medium Low	Low
Consequence	Significant	Significant	Significant
Overall assessment	Medium	High	Medium

Service Risk 13. Wildfires

Nationally there have been a number of high-profile wildfire incidents. CDDFRS have supported the most recent fire in Lancashire by deploying a large number of personnel and equipment to help efforts in bringing the fire under control.

Number of incidents over the previous 3 years

For the purpose of this risk assessment wildfires are be classed as; incidents which covered more than 10,000m² and/or involved 4 or more appliances or vehicles and/or an incident that lasted more than 6 hours from the time of call to incident end.



Key demand information

Compared to other national wildfire incidents all the ones occurring in our area have been relatively small. However, they have had an impact on our resources with 4 fire appliances or more attending 50% of all the incidents over the previous 3 years. Within the criteria set for this element of risk the main areas of concern are stacked/baled crop and scrubland.

Across the district individual station averages are detailed in the graph above.

Stanhope covers a wide area of moorland and pre prepared incident plans have been formulated to enable the service to manage the risk in the event of an incident occurring and crews have specialist equipment and training to deal with incidents of this type.

Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Derwentside is:

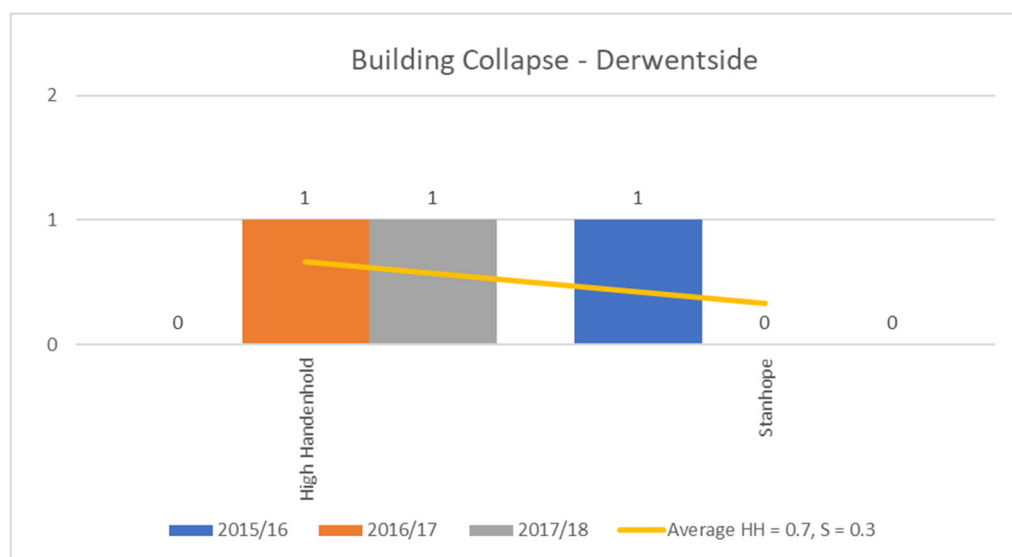
Risk 13 Wildfires	Consett	H Handenhold	Stanhope
Likelihood	Medium	Medium Low	Medium High
Consequence	Significant	Significant	Significant
Overall assessment	Very High	High	Very High

Service Risk 14. Building collapse

When a building collapse occurs, there is the potential for a number of persons to be: killed, seriously injured, trapped or classed as missing. There is also a risk of power loss and damage to other essential services. Roads and access routes can be become blocked; all of which would impact greatly on the local communities. Depending on the size and construction of the building, and number of people inside, there will of course remain the possibility of fatalities or serious casualties.

Due to the diversity of the buildings and architecture within County Durham and Darlington there will always remain the risk of buildings collapsing; whether that be due to gas explosions, fire, age and construction type, structural defects or dilapidation. This is why CDDFRS feel it necessary to include such a risk within this document.

Number of incidents over the previous 3 years



Key demand information

Over the previous 3 years we attended an average of 1 incident relating to building collapse equating to 15 incidents in total. The main incident types include partial collapse of gable ends and chimneys. With some of the more recent incidents involving a car crashing into a property and the partial collapse of a World War 2 bunker due to fire damage. Across the district individual station averages are detailed in the graph above.

Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Derwentside is:

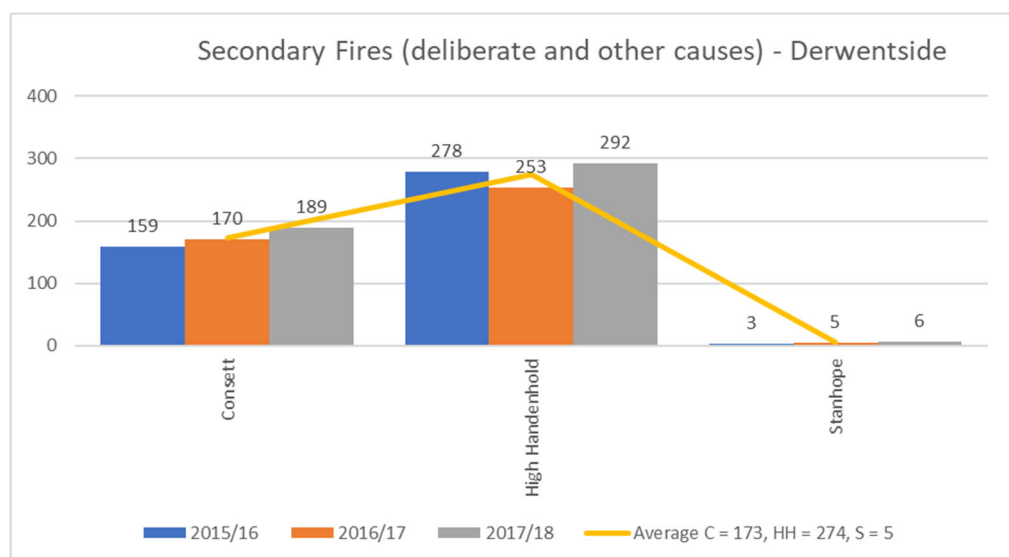
Risk 14 Building collapse	Consett	H Handenhold	Stanhope
Likelihood	Medium Low	Medium Low	Low
Consequence	Significant	Significant	Significant
Overall assessment	High	High	Medium

Service Risk 15. Secondary fires

This type of incident incorporates fires with no casualties, rescues or valuable property loss. It includes outdoor fires and derelict property (together classed as 'small fires'). Outdoor fires may include grass, refuse, wheelie bins and straw.

Although there may be less damage incurred and these incident types generally occur outdoor, the impact of deliberate secondary fires on CDDFRS is substantial. Secondary fires are one of the biggest burdens placed on our resources. As with primary fires the number of accidental secondary fires we experience is low in comparison to those set deliberately.

Number of incidents over the previous 3 years



Key demand information

Over the previous 3 years we attended an average of 452 fires of deliberate and unknown cause secondary fires equating to 6,581 in total. Loose refuse is the main item being set alight with other items including scrub land, wheelie bins and small refuse/ rubbish/ recycling containers. Of all the incidents attended across the Service the majority occurred between the hours of 16:00 and 22:00 and the months of April to August. The majority of these incidents are centred within local towns and local wooded areas with Annfield Plain and Havannah being a particular hot spot

Across the district individual station averages are detailed in the graph above.

Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Derwentside is:

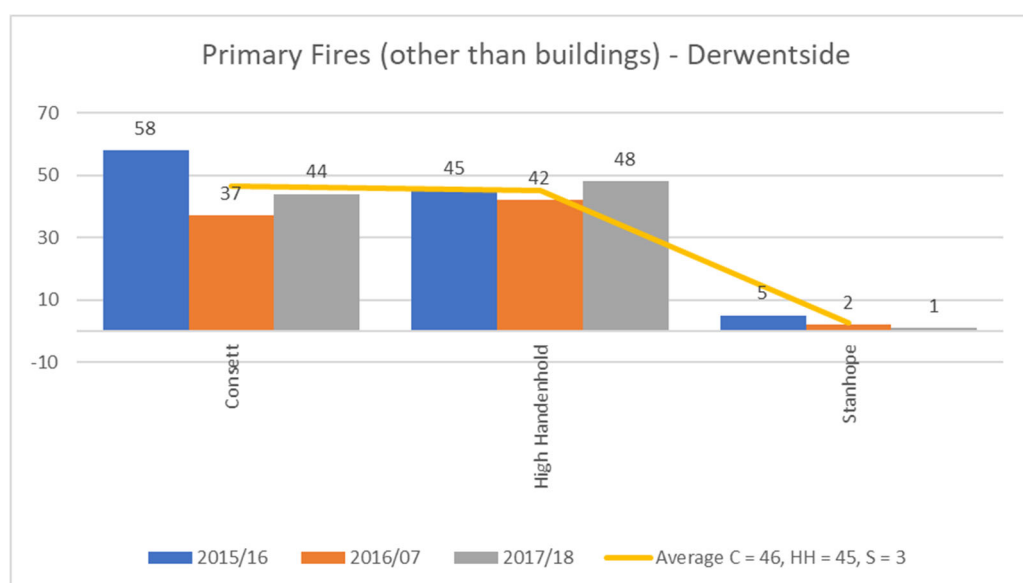
Risk 15 Secondary fires	Consett	H Handenhold	Stanhope
Likelihood	High	High	Low
Consequence	Significant	Significant	Significant
Overall assessment	High	High	Medium

Service Risk 16.Primary fires (other than buildings)

Primary fires in this category are those that occur in a vehicle or outdoor structure, any fire involving fatalities, casualties or rescues; or any fire attended by five or more pumping appliances. We have classified this section as 'Primary Fires' (other than buildings) as many of the incidents for primary fires have already been covered within other categories due to them relating to premises.

Primary fires covered within this section predominantly relate to incidents involving road vehicles, but the category also includes agricultural equipment, garden sheds, garages and straw bales. Although these incidents do not involve properties, they do still have a value attached to the things involved in the fire.

Number of incidents over the previous 3 years



Key demand information

Over the previous 3 years we attended an average of 94 primary fires that did not involve buildings. The actual overall total number of incidents we attended was 1,734 with Easington district accounting for the most. Most incidents were deliberate road vehicle fires with garden sheds, grassland, woodland and crops making up the remaining incidents.

Across the district individual station averages are detailed in the graph above.

Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Derwentside is:

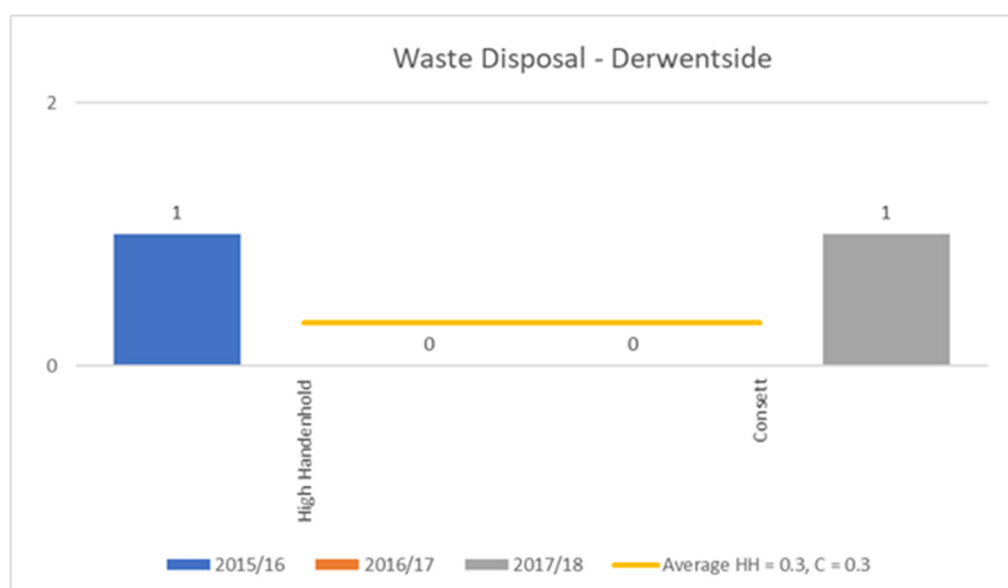
Risk 16 Primary fires (other than buildings)	Consett	H Handenhold	Stanhope
Likelihood	High	High	Medium Low
Consequence	Significant	Significant	Significant
Overall assessment	High	High	Medium

Service Risk 17. Waste disposal site fires

Waste disposal sites are recognised nationally as being susceptible to fires whether accidental or through negligence. Such fires are becoming more frequent and have the potential to impact upon resources and local communities for a significant period of time.

As well as the health risk to the residents of County Durham and Darlington and firefighters dealing with this type of incident, it also places a strain on partner agencies such as the police, EA, Public Health, Local Authorities and the site owners. There are a number of waste disposal and recycling centres across the Service area which includes a mix of both local authority owned and privately-owned sites. The local authority owned sites are often regulated by bodies such as the EA and the private sites can be managed through unclear management structures.

Number of incidents over the previous 3 years



Key demand information

Over the previous 3 years we have only attended 2 incidents but both occurring in Derwentside. The impact of these incidents on our resources related not only to equipment but also operational personnel being on scene for several hours.

Across the district individual station averages are detailed in the graph above.

Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Derwentside is:

Risk 17 Waste disposal site fires	Consett	H Handenhold	Stanhope
Likelihood	Medium Low	Medium Low	Low
Consequence	Significant	Significant	Significant
Overall assessment	High	Medium	Medium

Service Risk 18. Major public events

For the purpose of this document major events are defined as those incidents that require a significant response involving assistance from other emergency services at large scale events. In County Durham and Darlington each year there are a number of public events that attract large crowds of people into concentrated areas and this presents a significant level of risk. Examples of this include events such as Durham Pride and Stanhope agricultural show; whilst events such as Kynren, Durham Miners Gala and Lumiere can host in excess of 100,000 people. The Emirates Riverside Cricket Ground, near Chester-le-Street holds various high-profile cricket matches and music events that attract large crowds throughout the year.

These large-scale public gatherings and events have the potential to impact on local infrastructure, resources and emergency services should an incident occur, therefore, it is appropriate to include this risk within the document.

Key demand information

During the previous 3 years there have been no incidents of any significance at major events across County Durham or Darlington. Although this is the case there remains the need to ensure appropriate levels of resources are made available to support these types of events and the high consequences should an incident occur.

Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Derwentside is:

Risk 18 Major public events	Consett	H Handenhold	Stanhope
Likelihood	Low	Medium Low	Medium Low
Consequence	Significant	Significant	Significant
Overall assessment	Medium	High	High

Service Risk 19. Heritage risks

The Service area has 111 Grade 1 listed buildings and 193 Grade 2* listed buildings. Chester le Street is the home to Ankers House & St Mary and St Cuthbert's Church, which has been a place of Christian worship since 883AD, when monks from Lindisfarne bearing the body of St Cuthbert built a shrine.

Consett is home to the Empire Theatre, one of County Durham's oldest theatres and the birth place of Rowan Atkinson.

Stanhope is surrounded by moorland in the North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) – the second largest of the current 40 AONBs in England and Wales. It is also home to the Stanhope Agricultural Show founded in 1834 which is held on the second weekend of September each year.

Some examples of listed buildings from our area:

- Church of St Mary and St Cuthbert (Grade 1) UID 1120955
- Lumley Castle (Grade 1) UID 1120960
- Biddick Hall (Grade 1) UID 1120989
- Lambton Castle (Grade 2*) UID 1159138
- Beamish Museum (PELE TOWER) (grade 2*) 1159269
- Beamish Hall (Grade 2*) UID 1260862
- Shotley Hall (Grade 2*) UID 1156072
- Stanhope Castle (Grade 2*) UID 1231718

Grade I: buildings of exceptional interest.

Grade II: particularly important buildings of more than special interest.*

The destruction of any historic building represents a loss which is difficult to replace, so it is important that these buildings and their contents are protected from the damage that may result in a fire. More information on heritage risk can be found here:

<https://durham.gov.uk/conservation>

Key demand information

There have been no incidents within grade 1 or 2* listed buildings of any historical significance such as those listed above over the previous 3 years.

Risk assessment

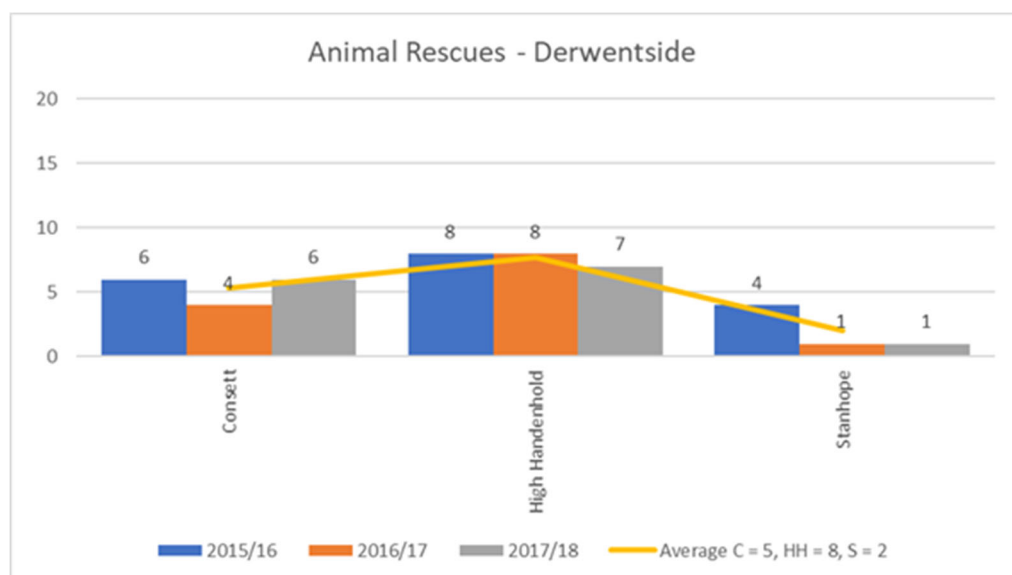
The risk to residents of Derwentside is:

Risk 19 Heritage risks	Consett	H Handenhold	Stanhope
Likelihood	Medium Low	Medium Low	Low
Consequence	Significant	Significant	Significant
Overall assessment	High	High	Medium

Service Risk 20. Animals

For many years' firefighters have responded to a variety of incidents involving pets, livestock and wild animals. Animals in distress can pose a serious risk to the public, staff from other agencies and to firefighters. There is also an element of risk to members of the public from serious injury should they decide to attempt an animal rescue themselves. As a predominantly rural area, CDDFRS inevitably responds to incidents where a range of animals are in distress and therefore have a range of resources available to deal with this risk including a specialist animal rescue provision based at Bishop Auckland.

Number of incidents over the previous 3 years



Key demand information

Over the previous 3 years we attended an average of 15 animal rescues per year. This equates to 153 in total. We saw an increase of 10 incidents in 2017/18 compared to the previous year with Derwentside District responsible for the highest number of incidents attended year on year.

There are a large range of types of animals involved in these incidents, from domestic animals (which account for over 50% of all incidents) to a mix of wild animals and livestock accounting for the remaining 50%.

Across the district individual station averages are detailed in the graph above.

Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Derwentside is:

Risk 20 Animals	Consett	H Handenhold	Stanhope
Likelihood	Low	Low	Medium Low
Consequence	Significant	Significant	Significant
Overall assessment	Low	Low	Low

Managing the Risks

What are we going to do?

As a district we want to continue to drive down the number of deaths, injuries and incidents to as low as possible, targeting those people and properties who we believe are more vulnerable to risk.

We also recognise the economic, social and environmental benefits of reducing domestic and non-domestic property fires and associated injuries.

We understand there are differences in the profiles of people and places who could be more vulnerable to death or injury and we will focus on key patterns, trends and associated factors to ensure our teams deliver local safety advice specific to their area through safe and wellbeing visits, fire safety audits and education where required.

How we are going to do it

We are supported by business fire safety and fire investigators who will identify patterns and trends of local, regional and national incidents so we can develop localised action plans aimed at reducing the number of reoccurrences through prevention and protection activities.

We will continue to use the service business information and intelligence systems to analyse past incident data and also assess emerging risks to assist us in ensuring that we are delivering our prevention and protection work where it is needed most. We will continue to deliver safe & wellbeing visits and fire safety audits effectively utilising our available capacity to deliver these activities to those higher risk people and properties.