

County Durham and Darlington  
**Fire and Rescue Service**



**Durham District**

**Community Risk Profile**

**2018 – 2021**

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## Introduction

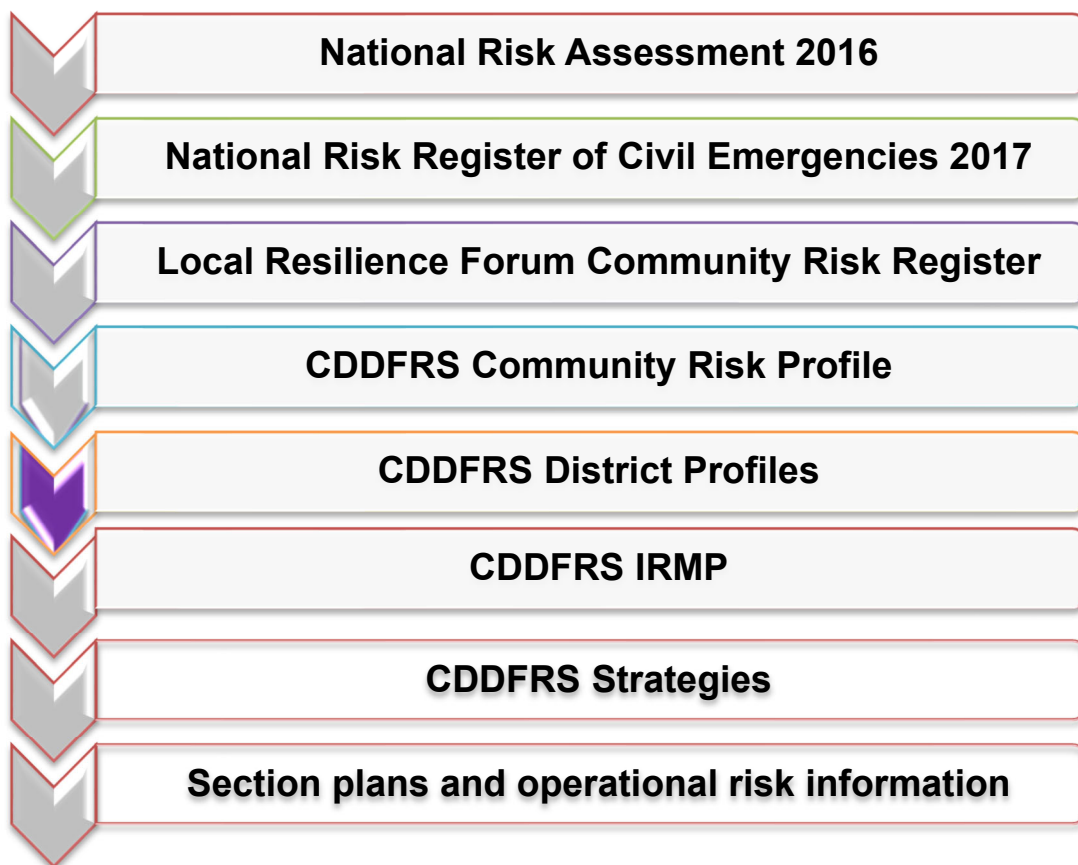
This district profile covers Durham, Spennymoor and Crook community fire stations and sets out our approach to the risks and challenges we face, to ensure that the people who live and work in, or visit Durham, are the safest people in the safest places.

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 are can be found via the following link: [County Durham and Darlington Risk Register](#)

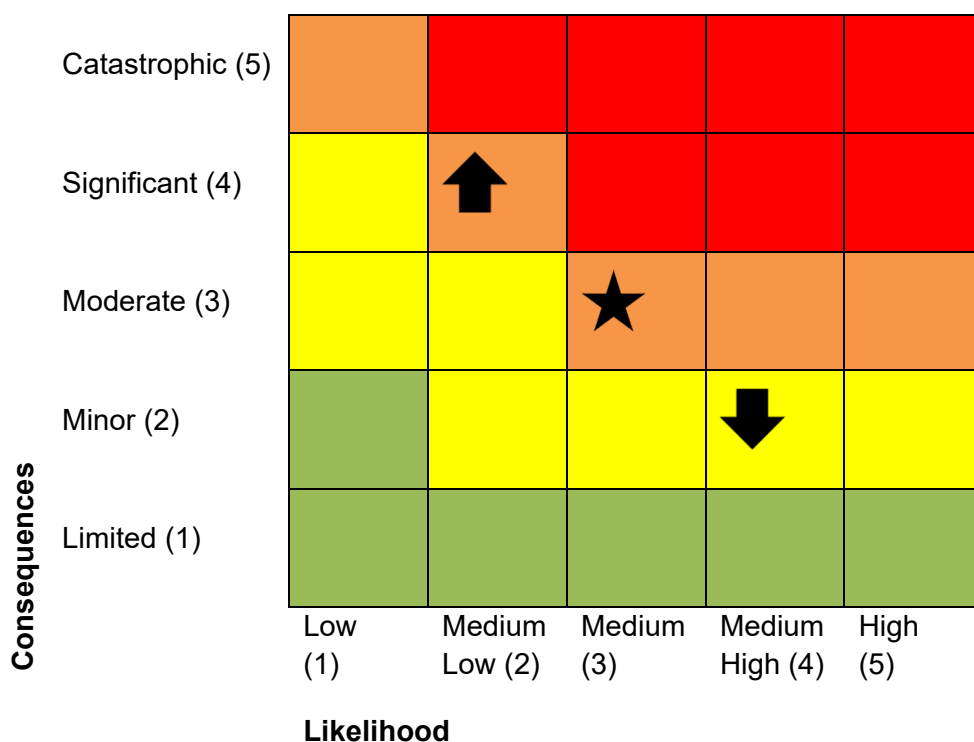
### CDDFRS 'Community Risk Identification Process'



## 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.

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 community risk profile will be used to decide how CDDFRS address the issues identified depending upon the overall risk rating.

#### Consequences (Risk):

The consequences taken into consideration alongside professional judgement will include:

<b>Loss of life</b> - this reflects the number of people killed at an incident.
<b>Injury</b> – this cover those requiring medical intervention resulting from an incident.
<b>Economic impact</b> – this includes property damage, heritage loss & business disruption.
<b>Environmental Damage</b> – this includes all types of pollution to the environment
<b>Social Disruption</b> – this includes transport, utilities, finance and communications.
<b>Psychological impact</b> – this includes public outrage and anxiety.
<b>Impact on wellbeing of Firefighters</b> – this covers operational incidents
<b>Wider impact</b> – this refers to national and international impact

The Fire and Rescue National Framework for England states that authorities are to “identify and assess the full range of foreseeable fire and rescue related risks their areas are faced with”. Therefore, the potential consequences listed above play a part in the assessment of risk. In addition, a high level of local knowledge and professional judgement is 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.**

**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 apparatus 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 an unnecessary 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: Crook

### Final risk rating for Crook Station Area

The 20 identified risks below are those identified, using the above information, local knowledge and professional judgement to be the most relevant to the Crook Station area.

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

## Executive Risk Assessment Summary: Durham

Final risk rating for Durham Station Area

The 20 identified risks below are those identified, using the above information, local knowledge and professional judgement to be the most relevant to the Durham Station area.

Risk Number	Risk Type	Overall Risk Rating
1	Dwelling fires	Very High
2	Other residential premises	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
8	Malicious attacks/ terrorist incidents	Very High
9	Air	Very High
7	Industrial	High
10	Water (excluding flooding)	High
11	Height	High
12	Rail	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
13	Wildfires	Medium
17	Waste disposal site fires	Medium
20	Animals	Low



## Executive Risk Assessment Summary: Spennymoor

Final risk rating for Spennymoor Station Area

The 20 identified risks below are those identified, using the above information, local knowledge and professional judgement to be the most relevant to the Spennymoor Station area.

Risk Number	Risk Type	Overall Risk Rating
1	Dwelling fires	Very High
3	Non-residential premises	Very High
4	Flooding	Very High
5	Road traffic collisions (RTC's)	Very High
8	Malicious attacks/ terrorist incidents	Very High
9	Air	Very High
2	Other residential premises	High
6	Hazardous materials	High
7	Industrial	High
12	Rail	High
15	Secondary fires	High
16	Primary fires (other than buildings)	High
10	Water (excluding flooding)	Medium
11	Height	Medium
13	Wildfires	Medium
14	Building collapse	Medium
17	Waste disposal site fires	Medium
18	Major public events	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 the other 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 Durham covers some 124 square miles of County Durham. The population of the District is circa 156,000 and is mostly concentrated into the three major centres of Durham city, Spennymoor and Crook.

The District was formerly dependent upon coal mining but in more recent times a more diverse economy has been created. Though regarded as predominantly rural; the area varies in character from remote and sparsely populated areas, to the densely populated area of Durham city.

**Durham Station** area covers 61 square miles with a population of 88,000. Durham is a historic city and the county town of County Durham. The city lies on the River Wear with the designated World Heritage Site of Durham Cathedral and the adjacent 11th-century Durham Castle. Durham is a University city with a transient student population. Durham has three HM Prisons that are located close to the city centre.

**Spennymoor Station** area covers 26 square miles with a population of 43,000. Spennymoor is a town that stands above the Wear Valley south of Durham.

**Crook Station** area covers 37 square miles with a population of 25,000. Crook is a historic market town. Located a couple of miles north of the River Wear,

### 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 81<sup>st</sup>. This means that County Durham falls in the 30% most area deprived 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 2010		ID 2015	
	% of the population in the top 30% most deprived LSOAs	Rank	% of the population in the top 30% most deprived LSOAs	Rank
3 Towns AAP	59.6%	4	39.6%	7
Spennymoor AAP	39.1%	8	48.6%	5
Durham AAP	13.8%	12	13.5%	12
Mid Durham AAP	28.8%	11	24.4%	10

*Indices of Deprivation 2015, Durham County Council*

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, which 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).

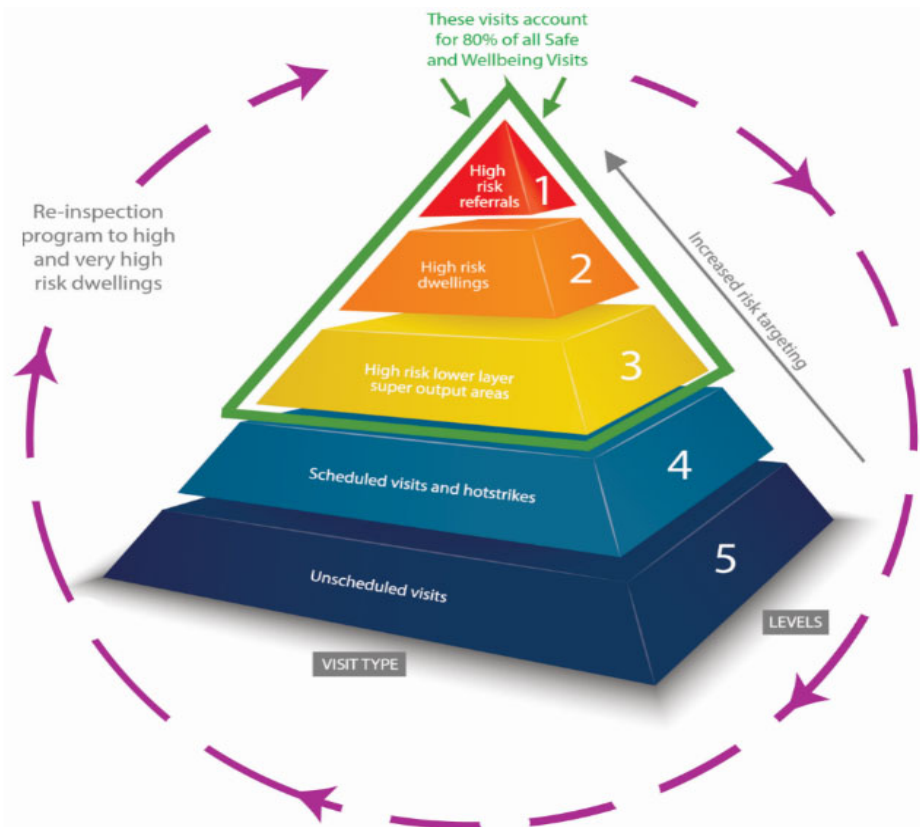
The importance of these wider determinants of health inequalities is well established it is very clear that health inequalities are the result of complex interactions caused by a number of factors

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.

## Service Risk 1. Dwelling Fires

### Dwelling Fire Risk Identification Pyramid

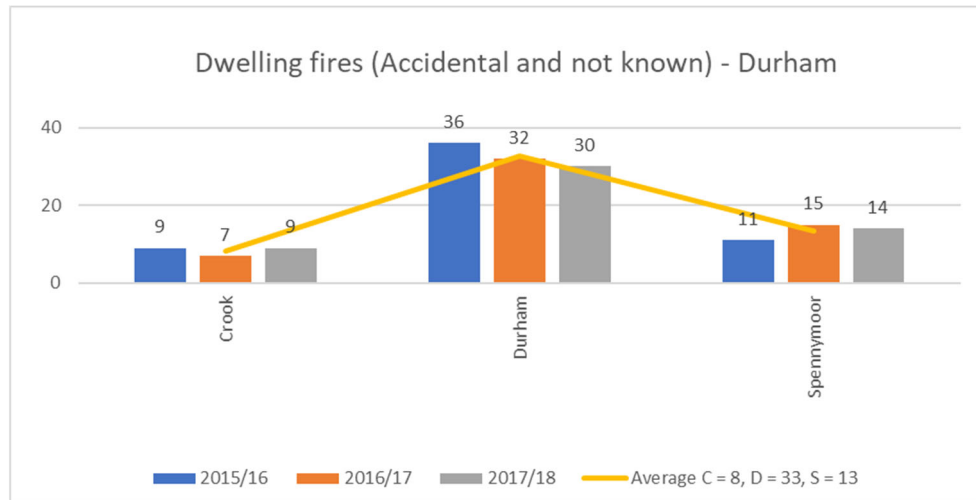
To help tackle dwelling fires, all dwellings identified as being high or very high risk, following a SWV or partnership referral, will fall into a reinspection cycle. Properties within this will be revisited within a pre-determined time period. Removal from the reinspection process will only occur if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



## Key demand information – Accidental dwelling fires (ADFs)

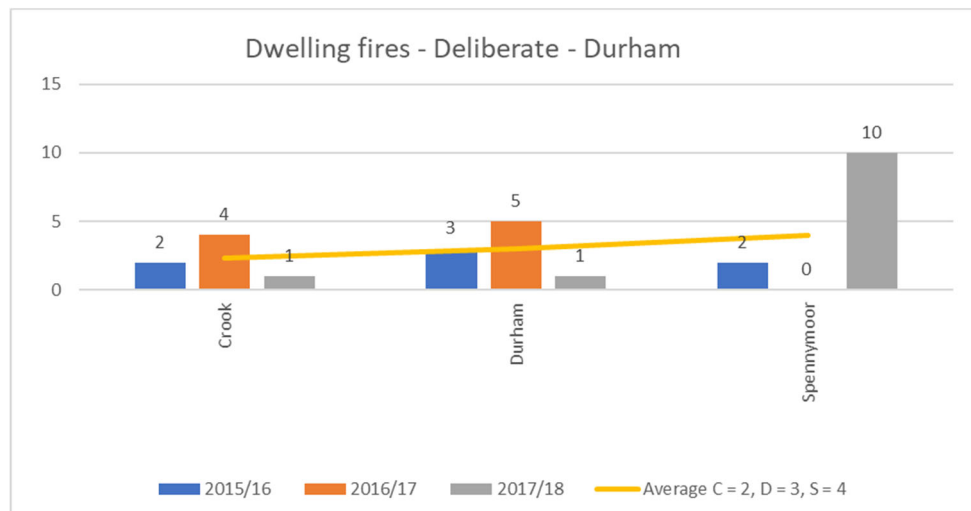
Over the previous 3 years we attended 163 incidents of this type across the district, individual station averages are detailed in the graph above. In total we attended 8 incidents within Crook, 33 incidents within Durham and 13 incidents within Spennymoor station areas. Over half of all accidental dwelling 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 injuries due to individuals attempting to tackle the fire.

To reduce the number of accidental dwelling fires within the district area, we will monitor trends, carry out safe and wellbeing visits, educate and target vulnerable, high risk properties within all station areas.

We will adopt baseline minimum numbers of safe & wellbeing visits / fire safety audits for the district. These have been determined by looking across a range of factors to determine levels for prevention and protection activity. We will effectively utilise our available capacity to deliver these activities to protect those higher risk people and properties.

Safe & wellbeing visits are our vehicle to achieving reductions in accidental dwelling fires and associated injuries. We will also look at the number of accidental dwelling fires occurring across the district and provide a proportionate number of safe and wellbeing visits in line with the identified baseline numbers. We will continue to use the service business information and intelligence systems to determine those people and or properties with the greatest vulnerabilities or who are a higher risk and work closely with the Community Risk Management (CRM) and Communication teams to determine the most effective way of developing local plans to provide specific education to make homes and communities safer

## Number of deliberate dwelling fire incidents over the previous 3 years



### Key demand information – Deliberate dwelling fires

Over the previous 3 years we attended 28 incidents of this type across the district, individual station averages are detailed in the graph above. In total we attended 2 incidents within Crook, 3 incidents within Durham and 4 incidents within Spennymoor station areas. The level of deprivation and overall crime rates in Durham district 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.

### Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Durham District is:

Risk 1 Dwelling Fires	Crook	Durham	Spennymoor
Likelihood	Medium	Medium High	Medium High
Consequence	Significant	Significant	Significant
Overall assessment	<b>Very High</b>	<b>Very High</b>	<b>Very High</b>

The overall risk assessment for Durham district is based on the combined number of incidents for accidental and deliberate fires

## 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 therefore 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 posed from 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 which is explained further in our [Community Risk Profile](#) document

### Business Identification Process





## Understanding the business fire safety identification process

**Risk Based Inspection Programme** – The 3-year programme involves inspections by the central team and operational crews which include elements of risk-based themes to identify premises types or localities in which to focus. The focus of these audits change depending on intelligence gathered from profiling of previous years fire incidents in non-domestic properties as well as national trends.

**Post Fire Audits** – Post fire audits are carried out following a fire in a non-domestic premise to both ascertain if any legal action should be taken against the Responsible Person as well as being an opportunity to give advice to the occupants to prevent future fires occurring and to make the premises safer.

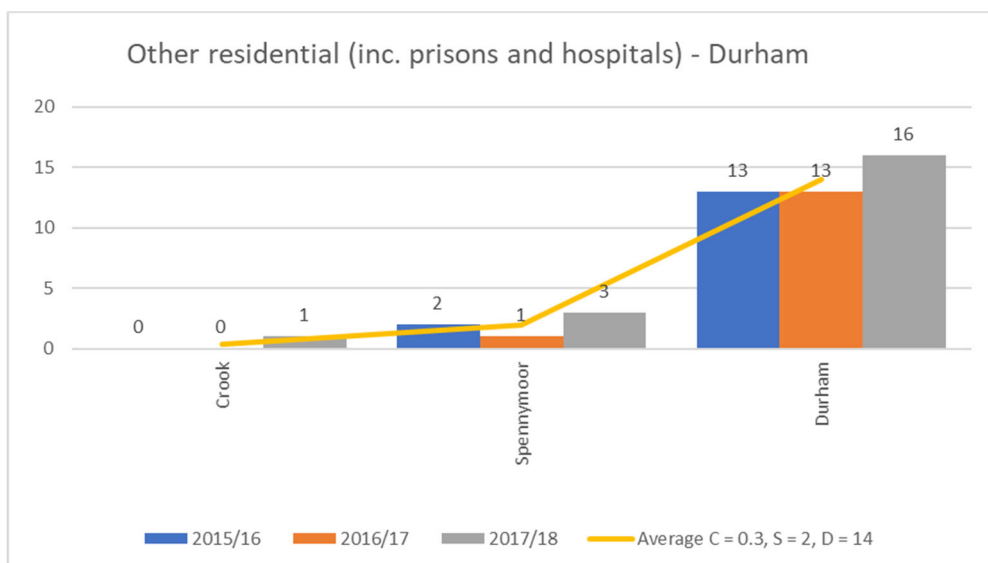
**Statutory Applications** – UK FRS are a statutory consultee for both Building Regulations applications and Licensing applications. These applications may trigger an audit if the premises in question has not received a recent visit or if the changes to the building or the use to which the building is to be used are substantial.

**Complaints and Enquiries** – There are occasions where members of the public complain to CDDFRS in regard to the fire safety of a building or the management of a premises with relation to fire safety. All complaints are investigated within 24 hours of being reported. Complainants are contacted if they wish to receive feedback following the investigation and can remain anonymous if requested. People will also contact CDDFRS for good will advice or to request an audit of their premises.

**New Premises Identification** – Operational crews are utilised to carry out data gathering within their station areas to establish new businesses and to ensure they are entered onto the reinspection programme. Themes are set to cover risks which become evident through past fire profiling and national trends. Premises can also be cross mapped to ensure they are within CFRMIS and on the reinspection programme. Crews feedback intelligence to the central fire safety team on new properties they find when carrying out duties in the community.

**Continuous Reinspection Programme** – The continuous reinspection programme is managed within CFRMIS. It uses embedded risk ratings and compliance levels of premises to schedule jobs in response to the risk level following a fire safety audit and the completion of an ABC audit form. As a result, the reinspection frequency for a premises is shorter where the risk to occupants is greater and the potential loss or risk to the community, at a local or national level is taken into account as the score is weighted to reflect this. Our current frequency of audits range between 12 months and 12 years depending on the risk rating.

## Number of incidents over the previous 3 years



## Key demand information

Over the previous 3 years we attended 49 fires in other residential premises across the district, individual station averages are detailed in the graph above. Most incidents attended by CDDFRS were to prisons, which fall within the Crown Premises Fire Inspection Group jurisdiction. Durham has three prisons located within its station area these are HMP Durham, HMP Low Newton and HMP Frankland. The Service attend 42 incidents within these prisons with a yearly average of 14 incidents. Other than prisons, properties such as hospitals, care and residential homes have encountered a low 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.

## Risk assessment

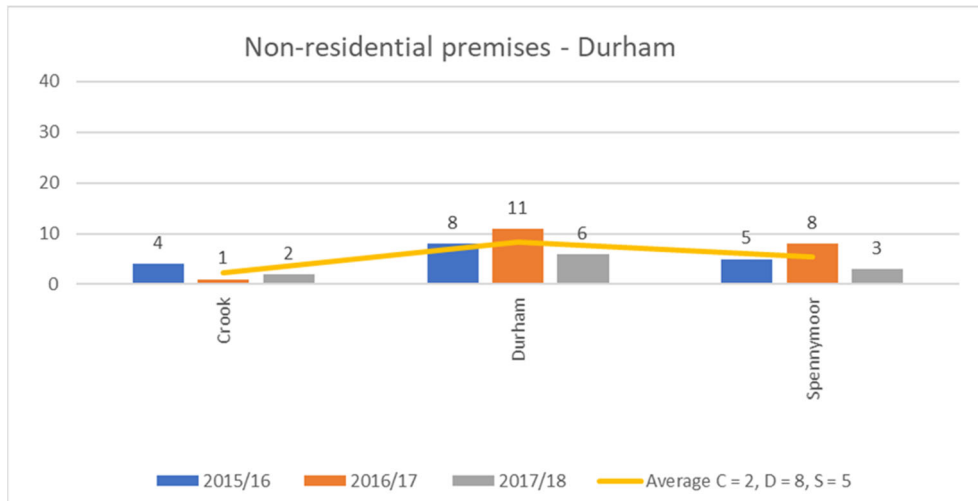
The risk to residents of Durham district is:

Risk 2 Other residential premises	Crook	Durham	Spennymoor
Likelihood	Medium Low	High	Medium Low
Consequence	Significant	Significant	Significant
Overall assessment	High	Very High	High

### 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 48 incidents of this type (excluding prisons and hospitals) across the district, individual station averages are detailed in the graph above. In total we attended 2 incidents within Crook, 8 incidents within Durham and 5 incidents within Spennymoor station areas. 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. In terms of prominent locations, there are no specific locations identified.

#### Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Durham district is:

Risk 3 Non-residential premises	Crook	Durham	Spennymoor
Likelihood	Medium	Medium High	Medium High
Consequence	Significant	Significant	Significant
Overall assessment	Very High	Very High	Very High

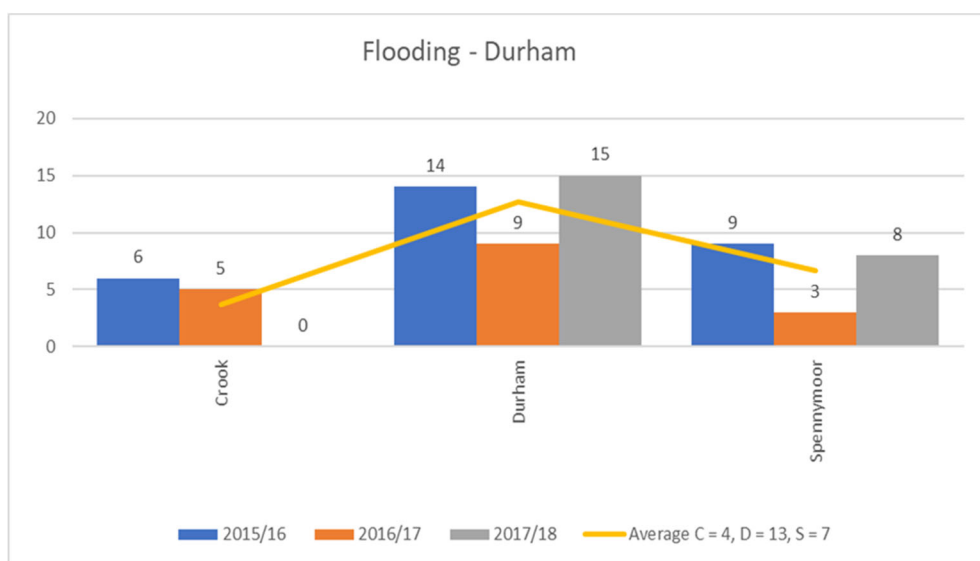
## Service Risk 4. Flooding

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 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.

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 69 flooding incidents across the district, individual station averages are detailed in the graph above. When looking at the location of flooding incidents, Durham and Crook have seen an increase. Although during the 15/16 year there were some severe weather incidents which were responsible for flooding there were several other incidents related to burst pipes and domestic flooding from within properties. The main property type involved in the flooding incidents were dwellings followed by highways, road surfaces, pavements and Nursing/Care facilities.

### Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Durham district is:

Risk 4 Flooding	Crook	Durham	Spennymoor
Likelihood	Low	Medium High	Medium High
Consequence	Catastrophic	Catastrophic	Catastrophic
Overall assessment	High	Very High	Very High

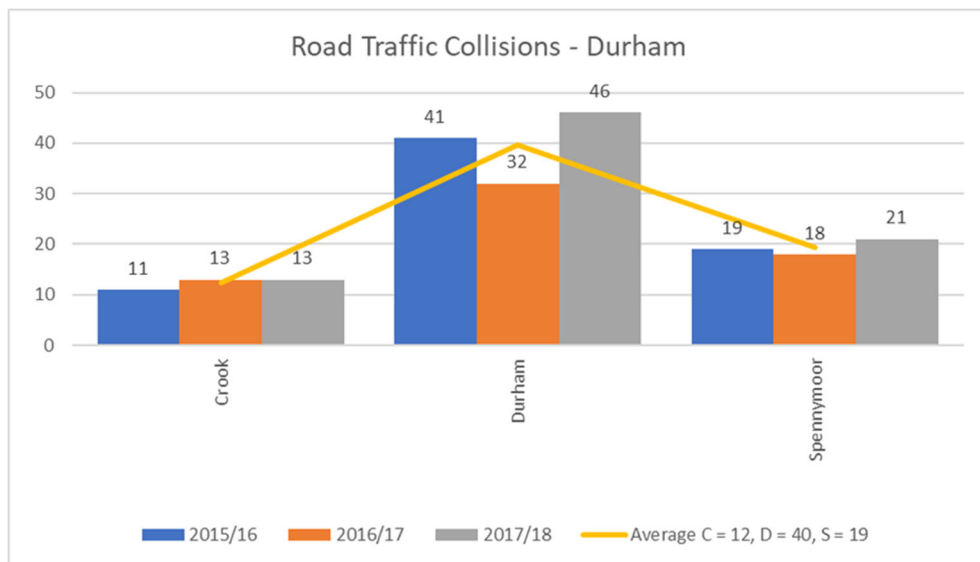
## Service Risk 5. Road traffic collisions (RTCs)

Nationally, RTCs are the most frequently attended non-fire incident 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 214 incidents across the district, individual station averages are detailed in the graph above. In total we attended 12 incidents within Crook, 40 incidents within Durham and 19 incidents within Spennymoor station areas. Of the 214 RTCs within the Durham district area 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, offering medical assistance and releasing of individuals where there was no requirement for an extrication to take place.

Durham district has two major road systems the A1M and the A167 running north to south through the county. Regarding incident locations there is a fairly even split in terms of where the RTCs have occurred. Although this is the case, Durham districts have seen an increase in the number they attended during 2017/18 compared to previous years.

We have access to Traffic & Accident Data Unit (TADU) information which is taken from the Capita Innovations Road Traffic Accident System (CIRTAS)

Where appropriate we will identify accident hotspots and work with partners to determine innovative ways to support the reduction of RTC's across the district area.

The district will also support the service in local and national safety campaigns e.g. Road Safety Week.

To reduce the number of incidents within our district, we will also target new and inexperienced drivers through education by attending schools and colleges.

### Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Durham district is:

<b>Risk 5 Road traffic collisions (RTCs)</b>	<b>Crook</b>	<b>Durham</b>	<b>Spennymoor</b>
<b>Likelihood</b>	Medium High	Medium High	High
<b>Consequence</b>	Significant	Significant	Significant
<b>Overall assessment</b>	<b>Very High</b>	<b>Very High</b>	<b>Very High</b>

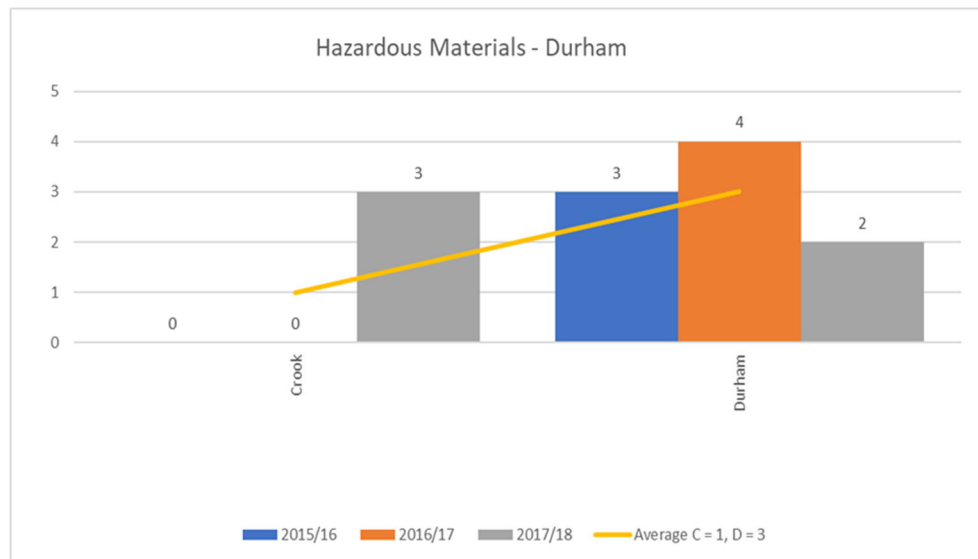
### Service Risk 6. Hazardous Materials

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

There are a number of other associated risks that pose a risk from hazardous materials with some examples being COMAH sites and a multitude of other industrial sites, 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 12 hazardous material incidents across the district, individual station averages are detailed in the graph above. Of these incidents almost 50% related to dwellings. Durham District had no incidents in the Spennymoor area over the 3-year period while Durham had an average of 3 hazardous material incidents, of these incidents almost 50% related to dwellings.

### Risk assessment

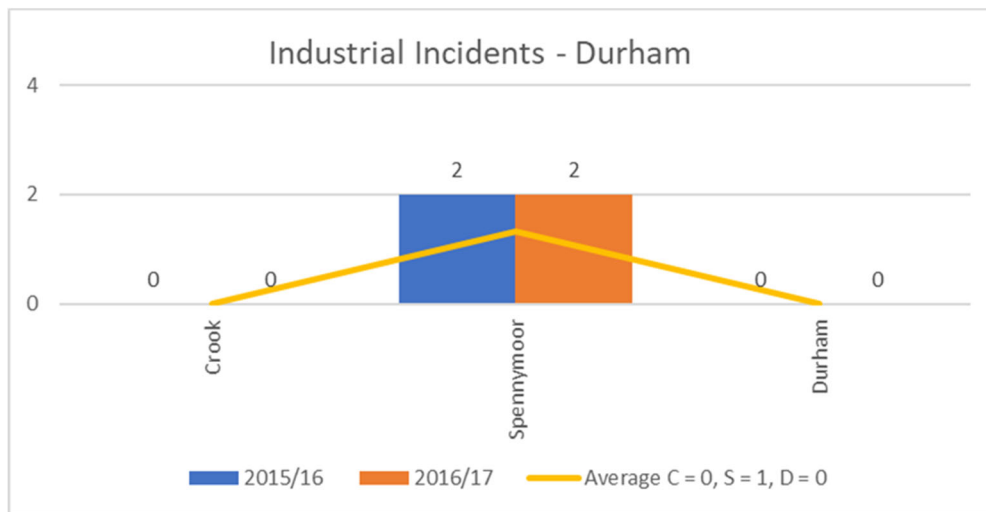
The risk to residents of Durham district is:

Risk 6. Hazardous Materials	Crook	Durham	Spennymoor
Likelihood	Low	Medium	Low
Consequence	Catastrophic	Catastrophic	Catastrophic
Overall assessment	High	Very High	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 and/or 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 we attended 4 incidents in total, 2 of which were primary fires with 2 relating to special service calls, individual station averages are detailed in the graph above. 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 and recycling.

### Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Durham district is:

Risk 7.Industrial	Crook	Durham	Spennymoor
Likelihood	Low	Low	Low
Consequence	Catastrophic	Catastrophic	Catastrophic
Overall assessment	High	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 MTFA 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 Durham district is:

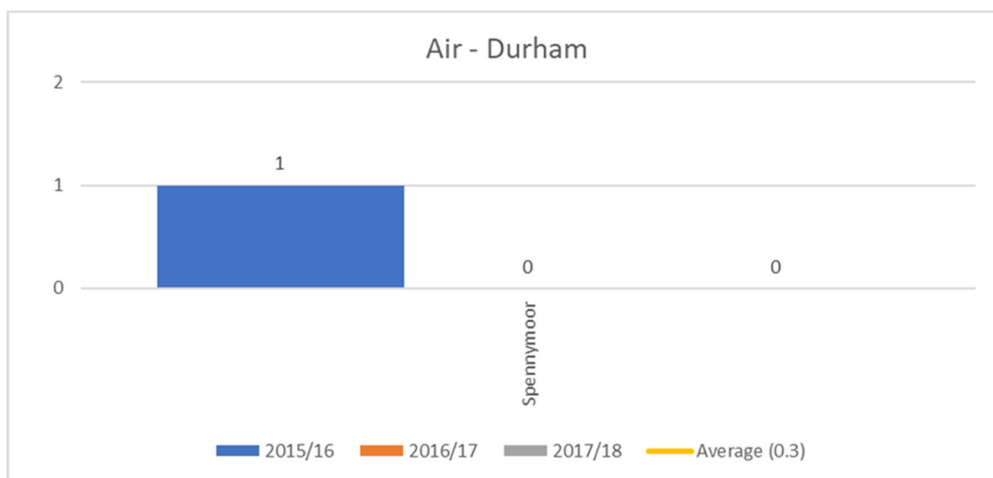
<b>Risk 8. Malicious attacks/ terrorist incidents</b>	<b>Crook</b>	<b>Durham</b>	<b>Spennymoor</b>
<b>Likelihood</b>	Medium Low	Medium High	Medium High
<b>Consequence</b>	Catastrophic	Significant	Significant
<b>Overall assessment</b>	<b>Very High</b>	<b>Very High</b>	<b>Very High</b>

## 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.

There are also a number of other smaller scale airfields located at around the County with the smaller scale aircrafts and parachute companies operating out of these facilities.

### Number of incidents over the previous 3 years



### Key demand information

There have been 1 incident of this nature over the previous 3 years this was a light aircraft in the Spennymoor station area.

### Risk assessment

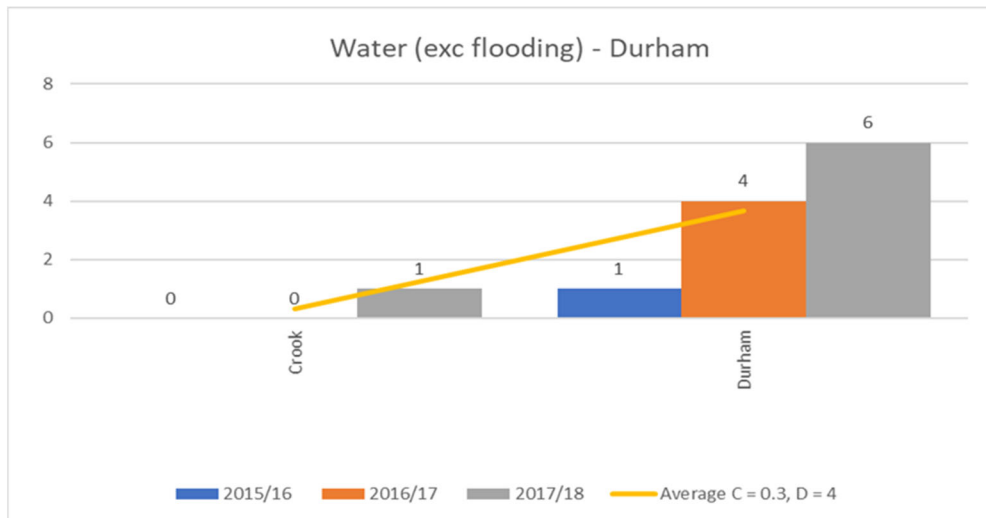
The risk to residents of Durham district is:

Risk 9.Air	Crook	Durham	Spennymoor
Likelihood	Medium Low	Medium Low	Medium Low
Consequence	Catastrophic	Catastrophic	Catastrophic
Overall assessment	Very High	Very High	Very High

## Service Risk 10. Water (excluding flooding)

There are a number of 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 a number of lakes, reservoirs and other water bodies across the Service area that pose risks to the community. CDDFRS continue to prepare for water rescue incidents on a daily basis 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 12 water rescue incidents across the district, individual station averages are detailed in the graph above. Eleven of these incidents were in Durham's station area, the main type of incidents we attended involved the rescue of people from rivers within Durham city centre.

Due to the increase in water rescue incidents around the River Wear and the potential risks of carrying out rescues from height while over water, the Service has taken the decision to increase the level of water rescue training to all Durham station personnel and upgrade their response capabilities as a Water Rescue Unit being able to deploy throughout the Service area.

### Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Durham district is:

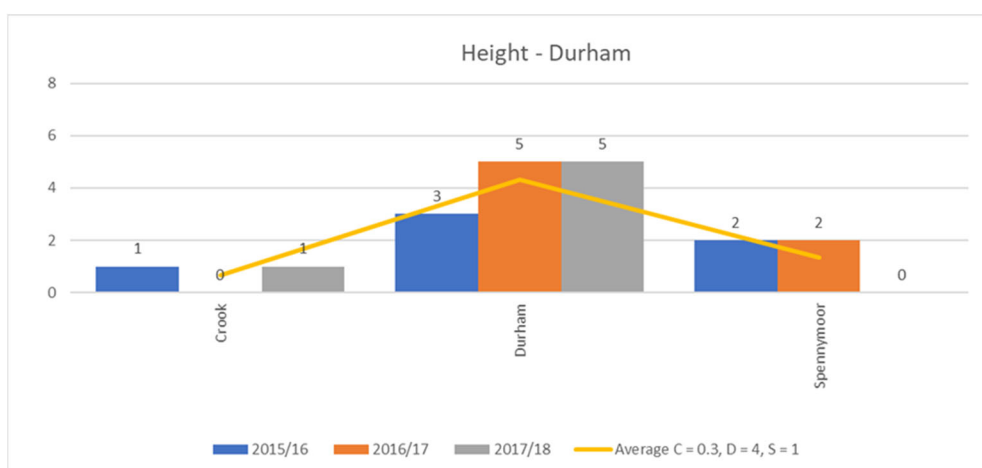
Risk 10. Water (excluding flooding)	Crook	Durham	Spennymoor
Likelihood	Low	High	Low
Consequence	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
Overall assessment	Medium	High	Medium

## Service Risk 11.Height

Nationally, FRs respond to a wide range of incidents at height involving 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 19 incidents of this type across the district, individual station averages are detailed in the graph above. In total we attended 1 incident within Crook, 4 incidents within Durham and 1 incident within Spennymoor station areas, of these, 50% of the rescues from height were from buildings and 25% from bridges, with the remainder being made up of rescues from steep ground. The majority of those rescued were persons of which 25% were suicide attempts.

### Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Durham district is:

Risk 11. Height	Crook	Durham	Spennymoor
Likelihood	Low	Medium	Low
Consequence	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
Overall assessment	Medium	High	Medium

## Service Risk 12. Rail

Incidents on the railways can pose significant risks to the community. 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 else 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 these 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 no rail incidents.

Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Durham district is:

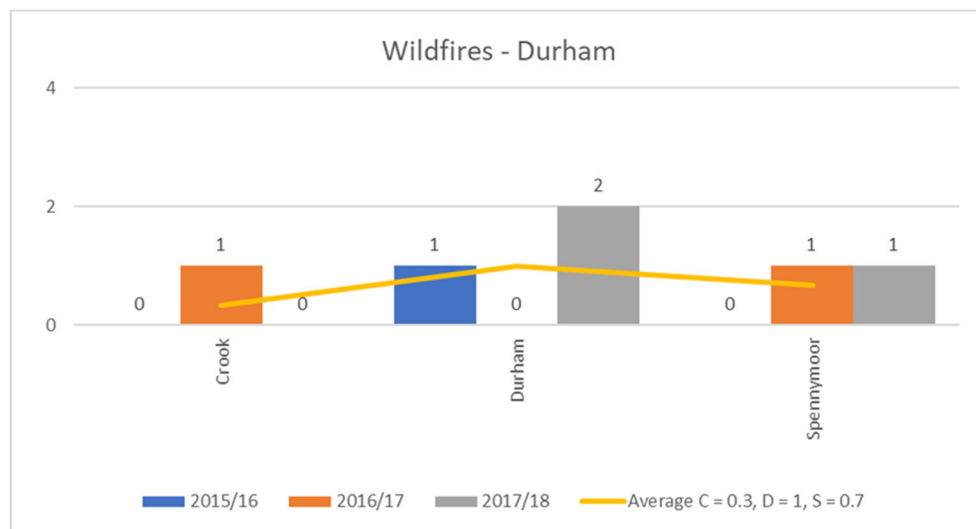
<b>Risk 12. Rail</b>	<b>Crook</b>	<b>Durham</b>	<b>Spennymoor</b>
<b>Likelihood</b>	Low	Medium Low	Medium Low
<b>Consequence</b>	Significant	Significant	Significant
<b>Overall assessment</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>High</b>

## Service Risk 13. Wildfires

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

For the purpose of this risk assessment, wildfires will be classed as incidents which covered more than 10,000m<sup>2</sup> 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.

### Number of incidents over the previous 3 years



### Key demand information

Although compared to other national wildfire incidents all the ones occurring in our area have been relatively small, 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, individual station averages are detailed in the graph above. Within the criteria set for this element of risk the main areas of concern are stacked/baled crop and scrubland.

### Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Durham district is:

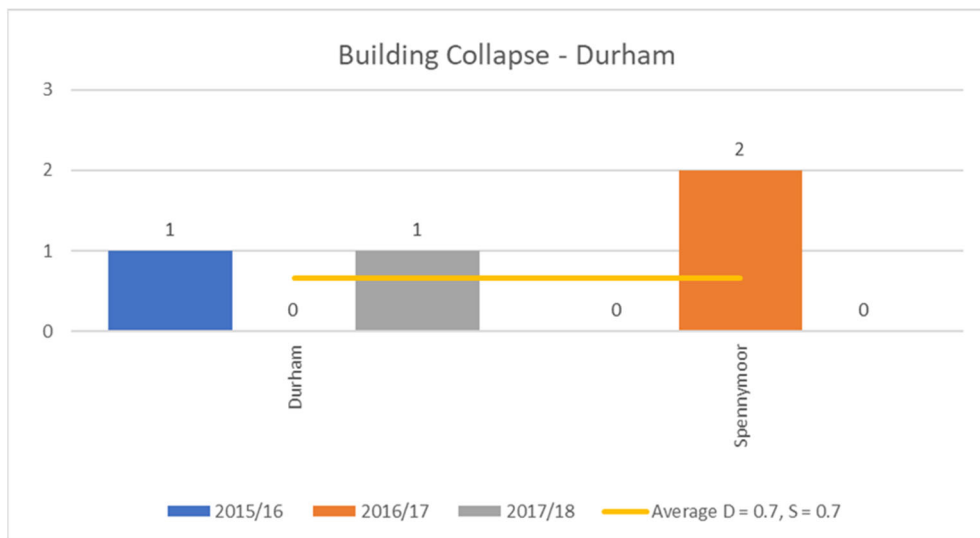
Risk 13. Wildfires	Crook	Durham	Spennymoor
Likelihood	Medium Low	Low	Low
Consequence	Significant	Significant	Significant
Overall assessment	High	Med	Med

## Service Risk 14. Building collapse

When a building collapse occurs, there is the potential for a number of persons to be: killed or seriously injured; trapped or be 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 occupation rates, there will of course remain the possibility of fatalities or serious casualties.

Due to the makeup and 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 4 incidents relating to building collapse across the district, individual station averages are detailed in the graph above. We attended 2 incidents within Durham and 2 incidents within Spennymoor station areas. The main incident types include partial collapse of a roof, chimneys and more recent incidents involving a car crashing into a property.

### Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Durham district is:

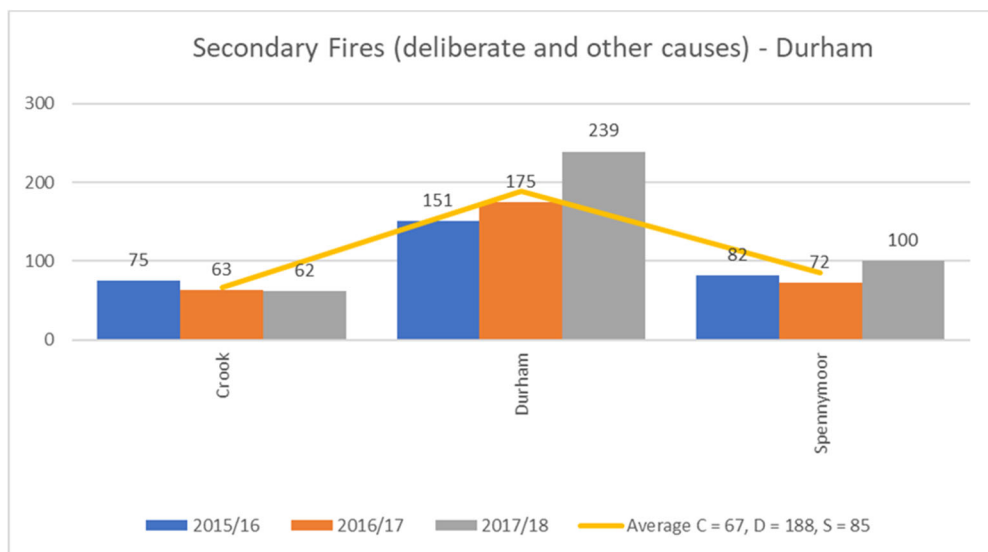
Risk 14. Building collapse	Crook	Durham	Spennymoor
Likelihood	Low	Medium Low	Low
Consequence	Significant	Significant	Significant
Overall assessment	Medium	High	Medium

## Service Risk 15. Secondary fires

This type of incident incorporates fires with no casualties, rescues or valuable property loss. These include 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 1019 secondary fires of deliberate and unknown cause across the district, individual station averages are detailed in the graph above. On average we attended 67 incidents within Crook, 188 incidents within Durham and 85 incidents within Spennymoor station areas. 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, the majority occurred between the hours of 16:00 and 22:00 and the months of April to August.

We understand that we need to work in partnership to deliver better outcomes and results for the communities we serve. We will work closely with our Community Risk Management, Fire Investigation (FI) and Communications teams as well as with the Police and Local Authorities to both support the identification of incident patterns and trends and also develop localised multi agency action plans designed to reduce the number of deliberate fires in the area.

We will identify the most prevalent deliberate fire types and those areas worst affected through the use of the service business information and intelligence systems.

We will use past incident data analysis and share intelligence to assist us to prioritise and ensure that we are targeting our resources to those areas most at risk and balanced against our other prevention and protection activities



The service has an agreed partnership protocol for dealing with deliberate fires. The top 30% of the worst affected areas are considered on a monthly basis. During this monthly review a look back over the previous three months data is carried out. These incidents are then sub divided into 10% tiers and managed through an escalation process:

### Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Durham district is:

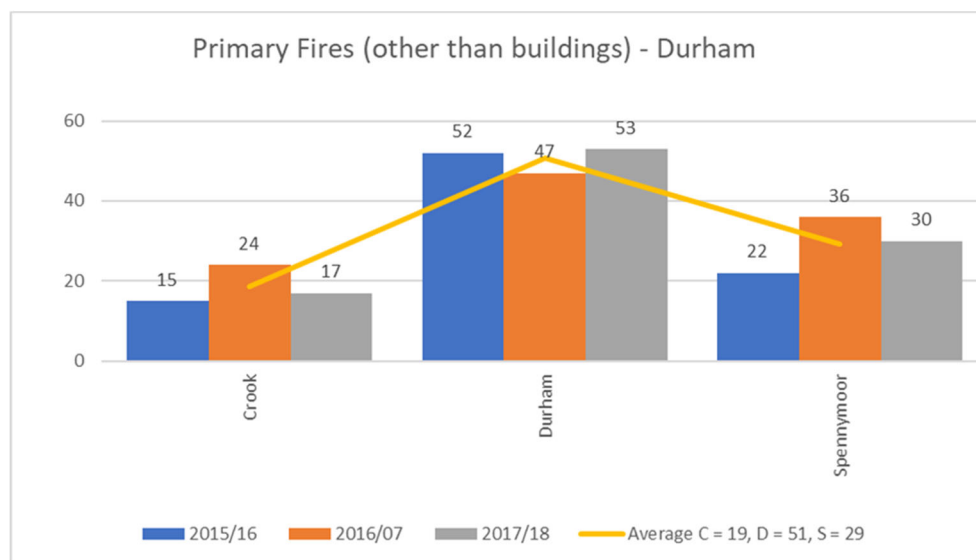
<b>Risk 15. Secondary Fires</b>	<b>Crook</b>	<b>Durham</b>	<b>Spennymoor</b>
<b>Likelihood</b>	High	High	High
<b>Consequence</b>	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
<b>Overall assessment</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>High</b>

## Service Risk 16. Primary fires (other than buildings)

Primary fires 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 296 primary fires that did not involve buildings, individual station averages are detailed in the graph above. On average we attended 19 incidents within Crook, 51 incidents within Durham and 29 incidents within Spennymoor station areas. The majority of incidents were deliberate road vehicle fires with garden sheds, grassland, woodland and crops making up the remaining incidents.

### Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Durham district is:

Risk 16. Primary fires (other than buildings)	Crook	Durham	Spennymoor
Likelihood	High	High	High
Consequence	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
Overall assessment	High	High	High

## 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 authorities-owned and privately-owned sites. The local authorities-owned sites are often regulated by regulatory bodies such as the EA and the private sites are regularly managed through unclear management structures.

Number of incidents over the previous 3 years

Key demand information

Over the previous 3 years we attended no fires within waste disposal sites.

Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Durham district is:

<b>Risk 17. Waste disposal site fires</b>	<b>Crook</b>	<b>Durham</b>	<b>Spennymoor</b>
<b>Likelihood</b>	Low	Low	Low
<b>Consequence</b>	Significant	Significant	Significant
<b>Overall assessment</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Medium</b>

## 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 Skyline Airshow both of which host in excess of 20,000 people 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 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 Durham district is:

Risk 18. Major public events	Crook	Durham	Spennymoor
Likelihood	Low	Medium Low	Low
Consequence	Significant	Significant	Significant
Overall assessment	Medium	High	Medium

## Service Risk 19. Heritage risks

The Service area has 111 Grade I listed buildings and 193 Grade II\* listed buildings.

Durham City has a very high number of Grade I and Grade II listed buildings with historical significance. Durham Cathedral and Durham Castle were inscribed by UNESCO as World Heritage Site. These also surrounds 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.

Crook is the gate way into the Wear Valley and 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.

Some examples of listed buildings from our area:

- Durham Cathedral URN 200003219991 (Grade I)
- Ushaw College URN 10014550802 (Grade I)
- Brancepeth Castle & Barbican Armoury URN 200003220490 (Grade I)
- The Chorister School URN 200003217537 (Grade I)
- Durham Castle URN 200003214856 (Grade I)
- Whitworth Hall Hotel URN 200003647027 (Grade II)

*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 I or II\* listed buildings of any historical significance such as those listed above over the previous 3 years.

### Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Durham district is:

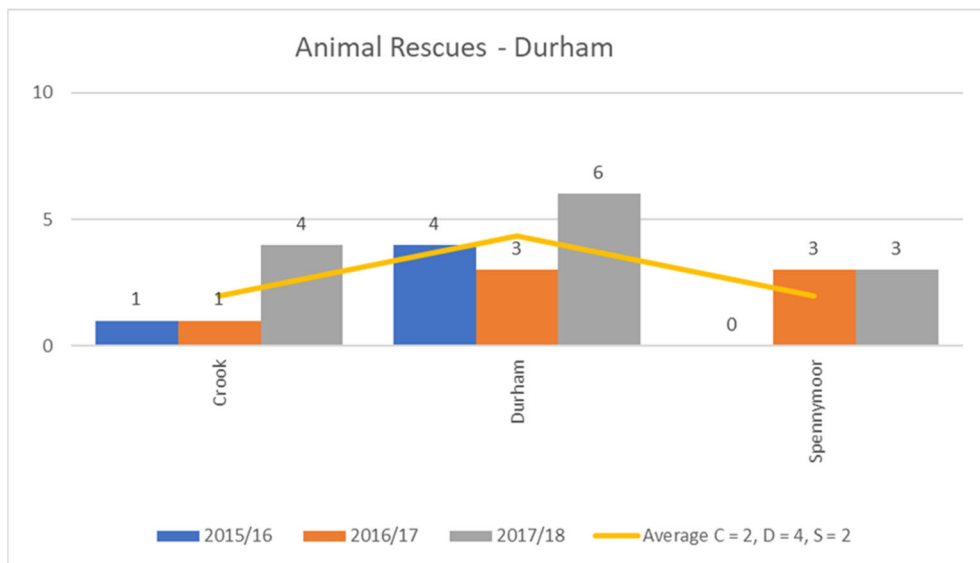
Risk 19. Heritage risks	Crook	Durham	Spennymoor
Likelihood	Low	Medium Low	Low
Consequence	Significant	Significant	Significant
Overall assessment	Medium	High	Medium

## 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 potential 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 respond 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 29 animal rescues across the district, individual station averages are detailed in the graph above. On average we attended 2 incidents within Crook, 4 incidents within Durham and 2 incidents within Spennymoor station areas. Durham station area is 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%.

### Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Durham district is:

Risk 20. Animals	Crook	Durham	Spennymoor
Likelihood	Low	Low	Low
Consequence	Minor	Minor	Minor
Overall assessment	Low	Low	Low