County Durham and Darlington
Fire and Rescue Service

Wear & Tees District

Community Risk Profile

2018 – 2021

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Introduction

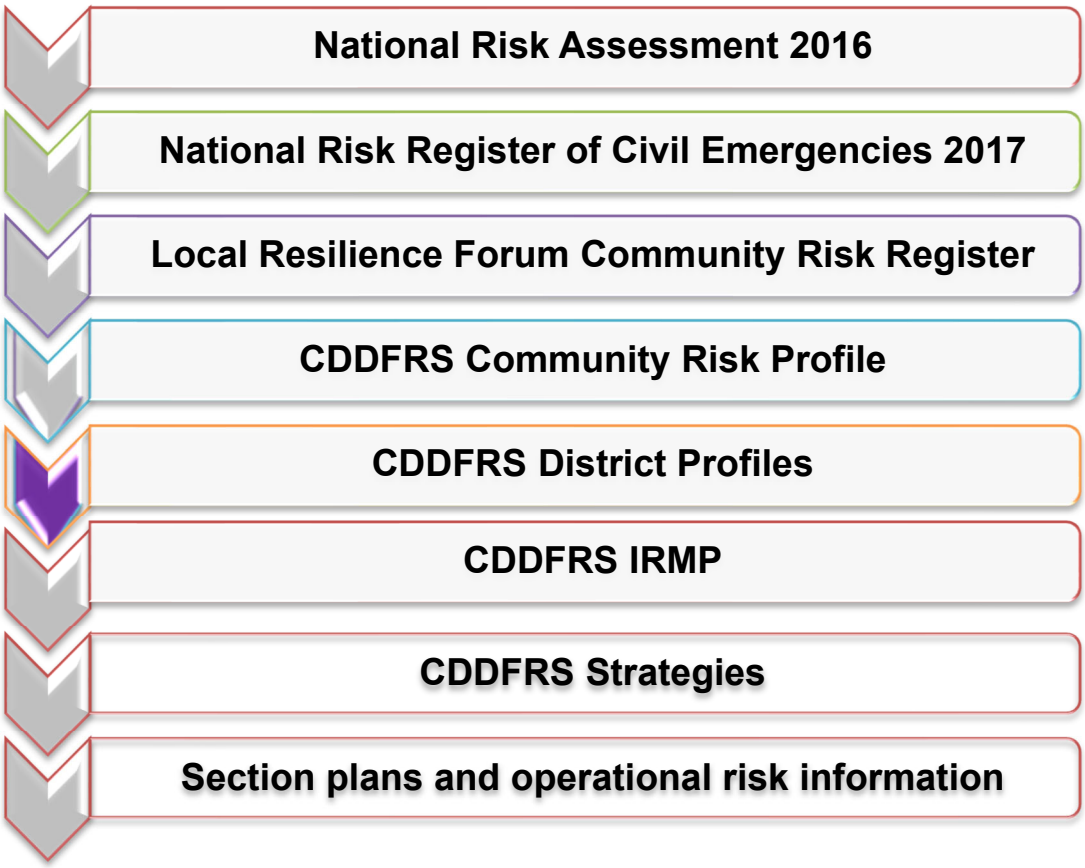
This district profile covers Bishop Auckland, Barnard Castle and Middleton in Teesdale community fire stations and sets out our approach to the risks and challenges we face, to ensure that the people who live and work in, or visit Wear and Tees, are the safest people in the safest places.

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

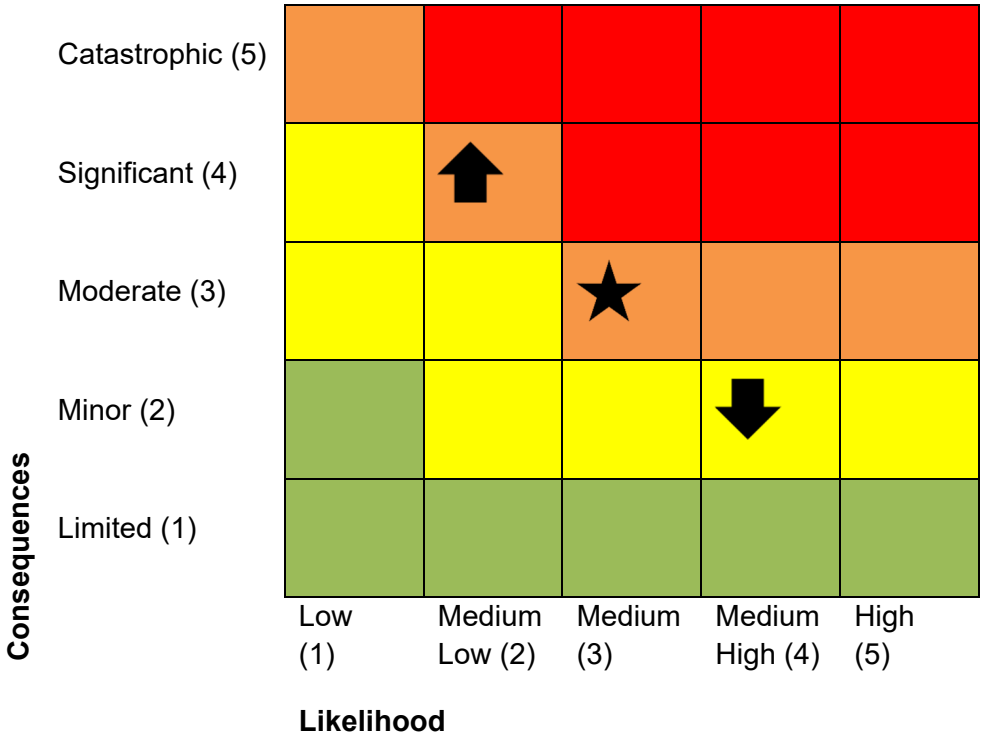
CDDFRS 'Community Risk Identification Process'



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



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:

Loss of life - this reflects the number of people killed at an incident.
Injury – this cover those requiring medical intervention resulting from an incident.
Economic impact – this includes property damage, heritage loss & 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.
Impact on wellbeing of Firefighters – this covers operational incidents
Wider impact – 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

Final risk rating for Bishop Auckland 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 Bishop Auckland.

Risk Number	Risk Type	Overall Risk Rating
		Bishop Auckland
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
15	Secondary fires	High
16	Primary fires (other than buildings)	High
18	Major public events	High
19	Heritage risks	High
14	Building collapse	Medium
17	Waste disposal site fires	Medium
20	Animals	Medium

Final risk rating for Barnard Castle 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 Barnard Castle.

Risk Number	Risk Type	Overall Risk Rating Barnard Castle
5	Road traffic collisions (RTC's)	Very High
8	Malicious attacks/terrorist incidents	Very High
1	Dwelling fires	High
2	Other residential premises	High
4	Flooding	High
6	Hazardous materials	High
7	Industrial	High
9	Air	High
10	Water (excluding flooding)	High
13	Wildfires	High
19	Heritage risks	High
3	Non-residential premises	Medium
11	Height	Medium
14	Building collapse	Medium
15	Secondary fires	Medium
16	Primary fires (other than buildings)	Medium
17	Waste disposal site fires	Medium
18	Major public events	Medium
20	Animals	Low
12	Rail	No Rail

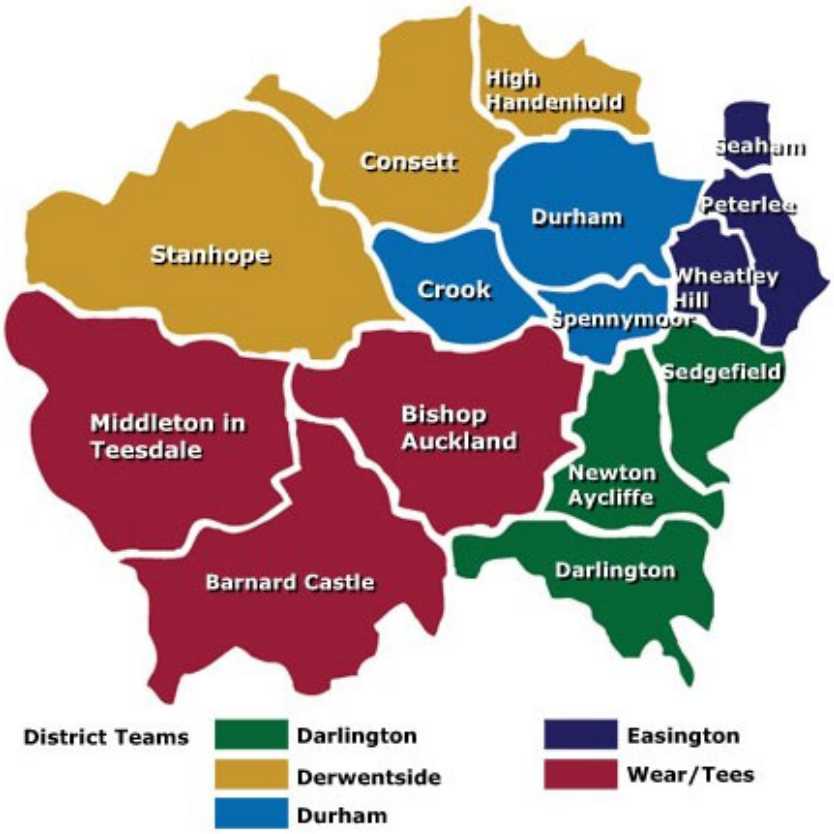
Final risk rating for Middleton in Teesdale Station Area

The 20 identified risks below are those identified, using the above information, local knowledge and professional judgement to be the most relevant to Middleton in Teesdale.

Risk Number	Risk Type	Overall Risk Rating Middleton in Teesdale
8	Malicious attacks/terrorist incidents	Very High
4	Flooding	High
6	Hazardous materials	High
7	Industrial	High
9	Air	High
10	Water (excluding flooding)	High
13	Wildfires	High
1	Dwelling fires	Medium
2	Other residential premises	Medium
3	Non-residential premises	Medium
5	Road traffic collisions (RTC's)	Medium
11	Height	Medium
14	Building collapse	Medium
15	Secondary fires	Medium
16	Primary fires (other than buildings)	Medium
17	Waste disposal site fires	Medium
18	Major public events	Medium
19	Heritage risks	Medium
20	Animals	Low
12	Rail	No Rail

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 Wear and Tees district is regarded as predominantly rural with the concentration of population in the two areas of Bishop Auckland and Barnard Castle with the smaller concentration of population in Middleton-in-Teesdale.

Bishop Auckland is a market town and civil parish in County Durham in North East England. It is located about 12 miles (19 km) northwest of Darlington and 12 miles (19 km) southwest of Durham at the confluence of the River Wear with its tributary the River Gaunless. It

has an approximate population of 24,400, living in 10,336 dwellings.

Barnard Castle is a market town within the Teesdale area with an approximate population in the station area of 5,400 residents. The residential areas of Barnard Castle are made up of private residential, local authority housing and private landlords. The surrounding villages account for an additional population of 2,600. Barnard Castle station covers a predominately rural area containing small and medium residential areas, large areas of moorland and forest and provides mutual assistance to a number of adjoining services along the A66 corridor.

Middleton-in-Teesdale is a small market town and with a population of 1,500 it is the main centre in the Upper Dale. It is situated on the north side of Teesdale between Eggleston and Newbiggin, a few miles to the north west of Barnard Castle. It is the furthest west of all the CDDFRS stations and shares borders with Barnard castle, Bishop Auckland and Stanhope as well as Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service.

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 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 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**
BASH (Bishop Auckland and Shildon)	69.8%	3	68.8%	4
Teesdale (Barnard Castle and Middleton)	10.40%	13	10.7%	13

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).

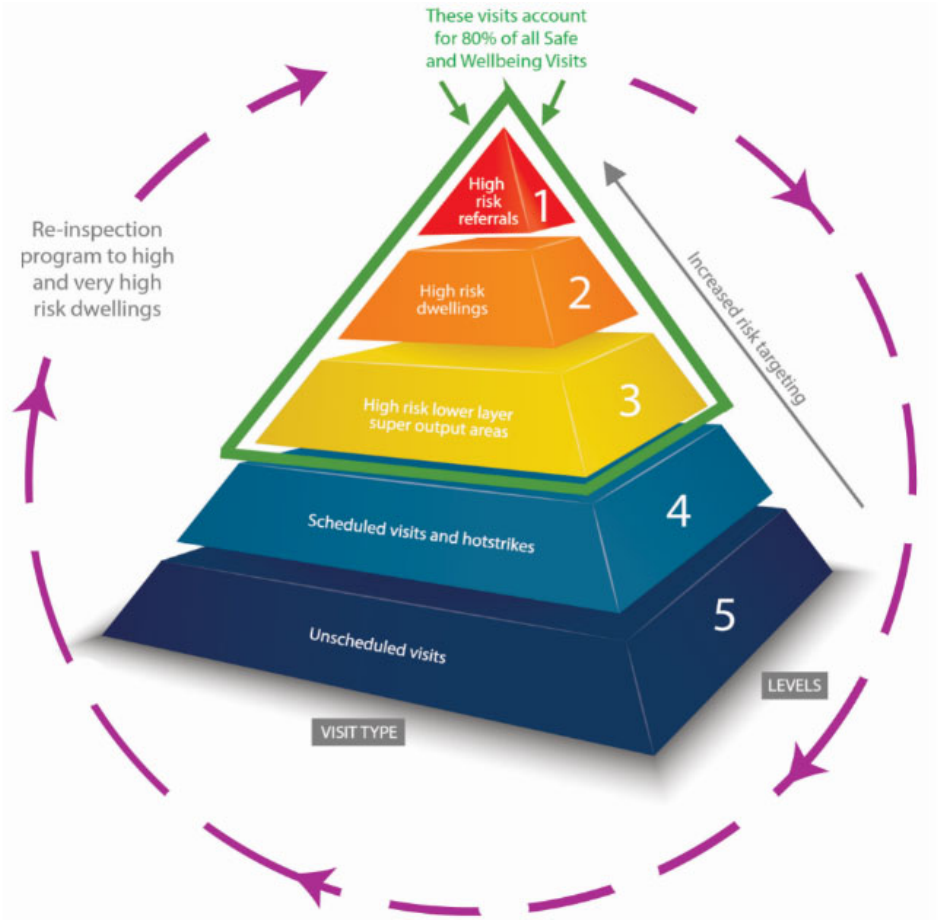
The importance of these wider determinants of health inequalities is well established it is very clear that health inequalities are the result of complex interactions caused by a number of factors.

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

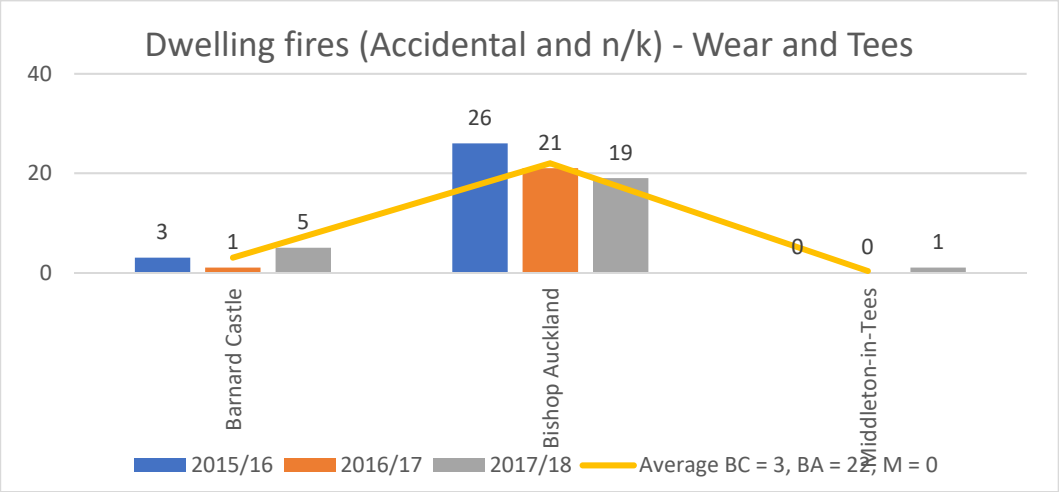
To help tackle dwelling fires, all dwellings identified as being high or very high risk, following an SWV or partnership referral, will fall into a reinspection cycle. Properties within this will be revisited within a pre-determined time period. Removal from the reinspection process will only occur if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



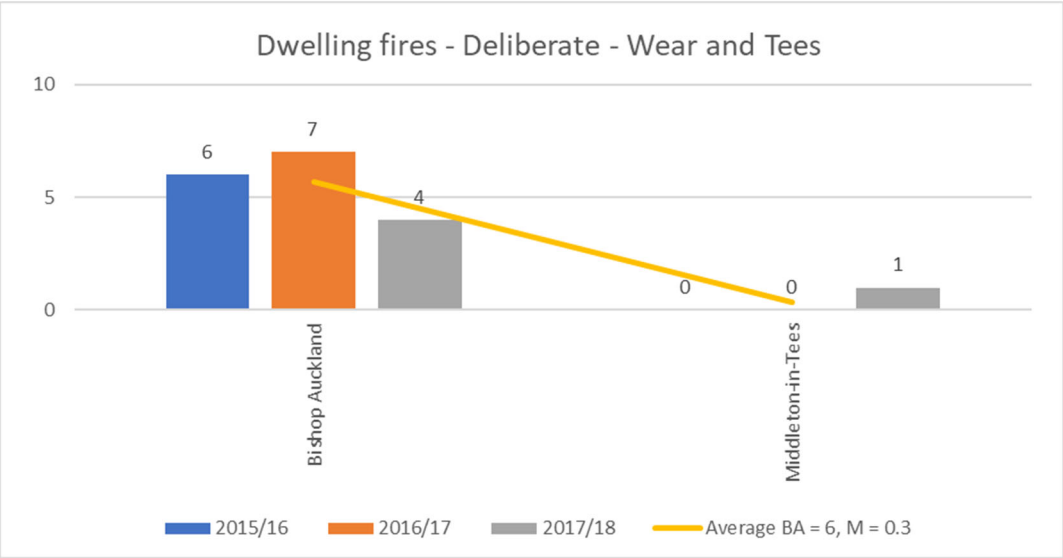
Key demand information – Accidental dwelling fires (ADFs)

Over the previous 3 years we attended an average of 25 incidents of this type across the district, individual station averages are detailed in the graph above. Over half of all accidental dwelling fires (ADFs) occurred in the kitchen, followed by the living room and bedroom 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 injury due to individuals attempting to tackle the fire. In Bishop Auckland the main wards of focus include Bishop Auckland Town, Dene Valley, Henknowle, Woodhouse Close and Thickley.

Although Barnard Castle saw a slight increase in dwelling fire incidents in 2017/18, they do not show commonality between cause, location or type of resident and therefore crews will focus their fire prevention work based on social data and those identified as being more vulnerable.

Middleton in Teesdale has only had 1 dwelling fire in the last 3 years and crews will concentrate their fire prevention work based on social data and those identified as being more vulnerable as well as outlying areas where response times may increase due to travel distances.

Number of deliberate dwelling fire incidents over the previous 3 years



Key demand information – Deliberate dwelling fires

Over the previous 3 years we attended an average of 6 incidents of this type across the district, individual station averages are detailed in the graph above. The level of deprivation and overall crime rates in Wear and Tees and specifically Bishop Auckland area 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 Wear & Tees is:

Risk 1. Dwelling fires	Bishop Auckland	Barnard Castle	Middleton
Likelihood	Medium High	Medium Low	Low
Consequence	Significant	Significant	Significant
Overall assessment	**Very High**	**High**	**Medium**

The overall risk assessment for Wear and Tees is based on the combined number of incidents for accidental and deliberate fires.

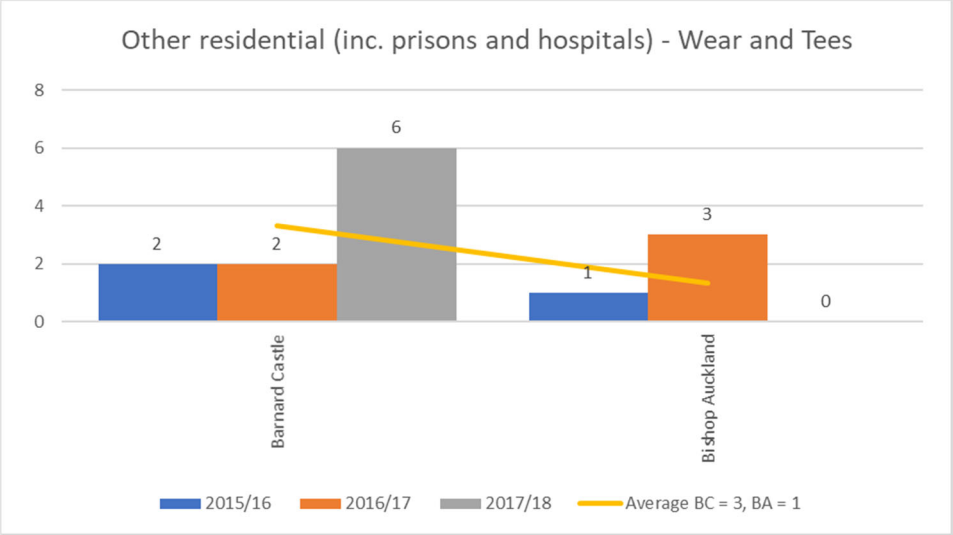
Service Risk 2. Other residential premises

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 from these premises. There is the potential for a high number of fires to occur in these premises, 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

Number of incidents over the previous 3 years



Key demand information

Over the previous 3 years we attended an average of 5 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. Other than prisons, properties such as hospitals, care and residential homes have also encountered a high 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. The high proportion of incidents for Barnard Castle correlates with the service picture, with Deerbolt Young Offenders Institute being responsible for the majority of incidents, while Bishop Auckland incidents involved care homes and properties for vulnerable persons.

Middleton in Teesdale have no care homes and therefore have had no incidents of this type.

Risk assessment

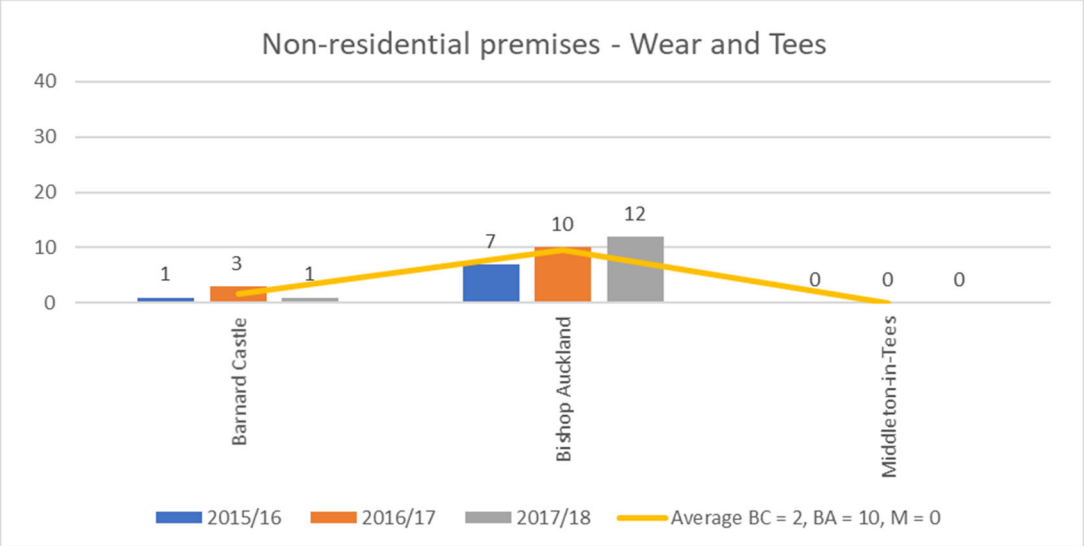
The risk to residents of Wear & Tees is:

Risk 2. Other residential premises	Bishop Auckland	Barnard Castle	Middleton
Likelihood	Medium low	Medium low	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 11 fires in non-residential premises across the district, individual station averages are detailed in the graph above. In total we attended 34 incidents of this type (excluding prisons and hospitals) within the last 3 years. We have seen a slight increase in the number of incidents we are attending year on year. For this category sheds, garages and agricultural buildings are all common property types that we have responded to within this area.

Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Wear & Tees is:

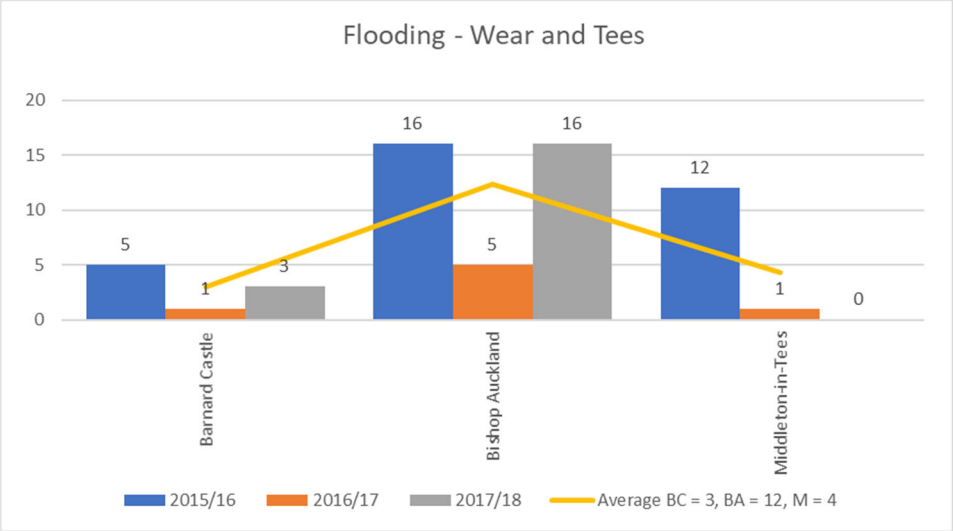
Risk 3. Non-residential premises	Bishop Auckland	Barnard Castle	Middleton
Likelihood	Medium High	Low	Low
Consequence	Significant	Significant	Significant
Overall assessment	**Very High**	**Medium**	**Medium**

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 and Tees run 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 an average of 20 flooding incidents across the district, individual station averages are detailed in the graph above. When looking at the location of flooding incidents, Wear & Tees and Durham Districts have seen quite a significant 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 Wear & Tees is:

Risk 4. Flooding	Bishop Auckland	Barnard Castle	Middleton
Likelihood	Medium High	Low	Low
Consequence	Catastrophic	Catastrophic	Catastrophic
Overall assessment	**Very High**	**High**	**High**

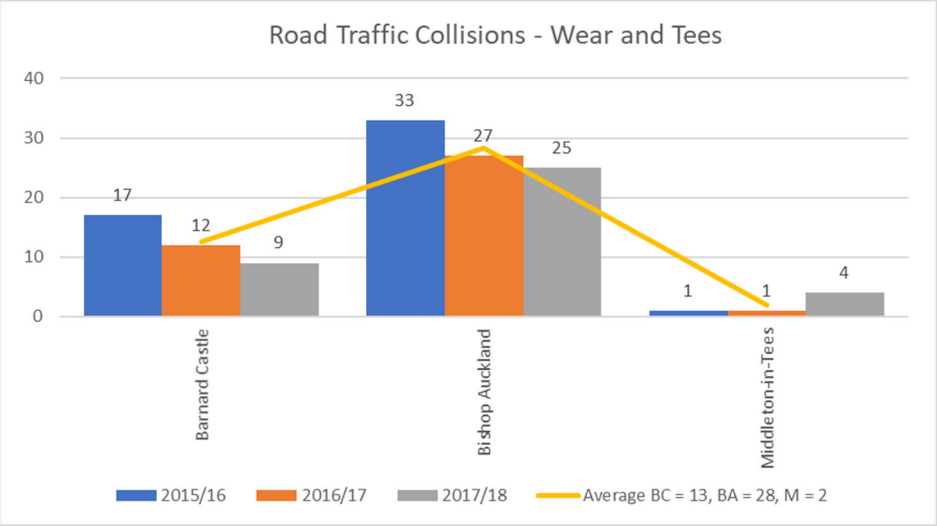
Service Risk 5. Road traffic collisions (RTCs)

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); A68, A66 and A686, 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 43 RTCs in total across the district, individual station averages are detailed in the graph above. Of the 987 RTCs CDDFRS were requested to attend over the last 3 years 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.

Regarding incident locations there is a fairly even split in terms of where the RTCs have occurred. Bishop Auckland has a number of A roads which pass through the station area as well as a substantial number of rural highways which link smaller villages to the main town.

Barnard Castle also has a number of A roads such as the A688 and A67 in addition to the cross Pennine A66 to which it responds and works closely with crews from North Yorkshire and Cumbria.

Middleton in Teasdale's station area covers a network of smaller rural roads and have experienced fewer incidents.

Bishop Auckland station also hosts the Specialist Rescue Vehicle (SRU) which responds to serious RTCs countywide.

Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Wear & Tees is:

Risk 5. RTCs	Bishop Auckland	Barnard Castle	Middleton
Likelihood	Medium High	Medium High	Low
Consequence	Significant	Significant	Significant
Overall assessment	**Very High**	**Very High**	**Medium**

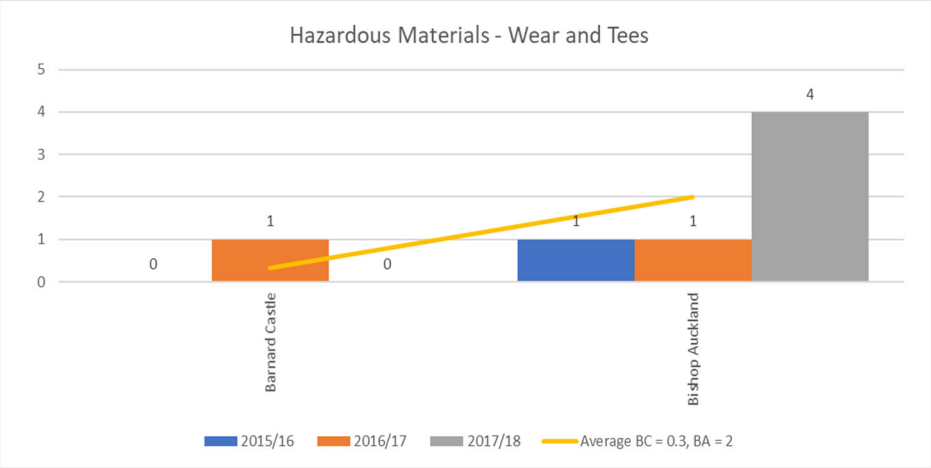
Service Risk 6. Hazardous Materials

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. Within the Wear and Tees district area companies such as Glaxosmithkline, PPG Industries, Lartington water treatment works along with smaller industrial sites and farms, especially in some of the more rural locations to the west of the Service area could require a response to a hazardous materials type incident.

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 Wear & Tees crews have attended an average of 2 hazardous material incidents across the district, individual station averages are detailed in the graph above. Bishop Auckland saw a rise in in Hazardous materials related incident 2 of which related to carbon monoxide in domestic dwelling and 2 others involving spills on road surfaces.

Middleton have experienced no incidents of this nature and Barnard Castle only 1 in the last 3 years. Last year

Risk assessment

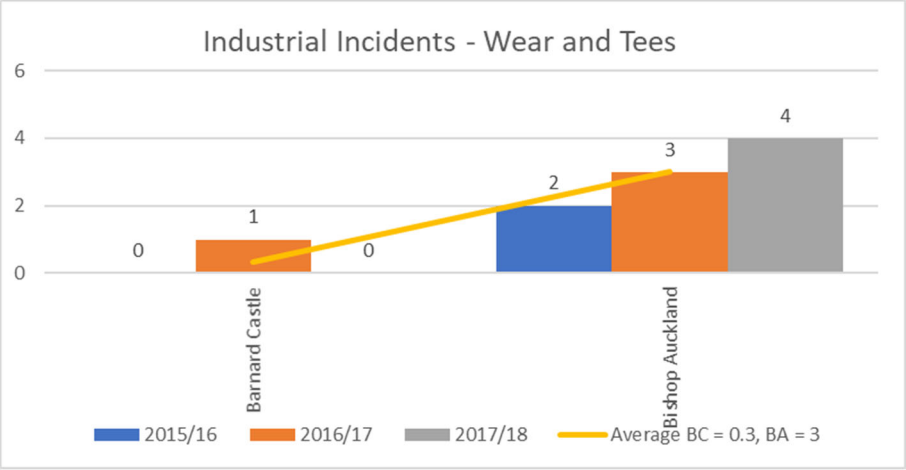
The risk to residents of Wear & Tees is:

Risk 6. Hazardous material	Bishop Auckland	Barnard Castle	Middleton
Likelihood	Medium	Low	Low
Consequence	Catastrophic	Catastrophic	Catastrophic
Overall assessment	**Very High**	**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 Wear and Tees crews attended 10 incidents in total across the district, individual station averages are detailed in the graph above, the majority of which were in Bishop Auckland and only 1 in Barnard Castle and none in Middleton in Teesdale. A number of these were caused by poor housekeeping issues and 1 by malicious ignition. Types of premises involved included chemical manufacturing, timber products and small industrial units.

Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Wear & Tees is:

Risk 7. Industrial	Bishop Auckland	Barnard Castle	Middleton
Likelihood	Medium low	Low	Low
Consequence	Catastrophic	Catastrophic	Catastrophic
Overall assessment	**Very 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 County Durham & Darlington is:

Risk 8. Malicious attacks/terrorist incidents	Bishop Auckland	Barnard Castle	Middleton
Likelihood	Medium Low	Medium Low	Medium Low
Consequence	Catastrophic	Catastrophic	Catastrophic
Overall assessment	**Very High**	**Very High**	**Very 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.

There are also a number of other smaller scale airfields located within the County with smaller scale aircrafts and parachute companies operating out of these facilities, however there are no such premises within the Wear & Tees area and as a result of this there has been no recorded incidents within the district in the last 3 years and therefore the risk to residents of Wear & Tees is reduced.

Number of incidents over the previous 3 years

No recorded incidents in the last 3 years

Key demand information

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

Risk assessment

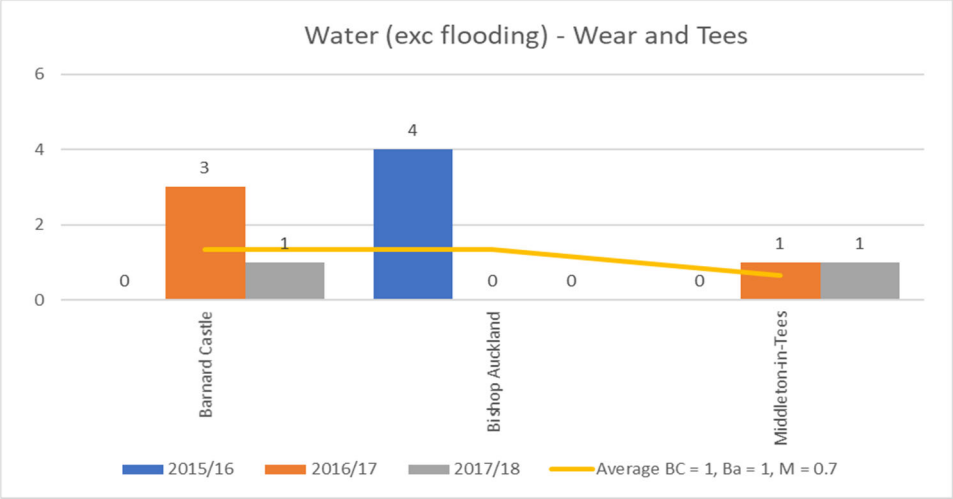
The risk to residents of Wear & Tees is:

Risk 9. Air	Bishop Auckland	Barnard Castle	Middleton
Likelihood	Low	Low	Low
Consequence	Catastrophic	Catastrophic	Catastrophic
Overall assessment	**High**	**High**	**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 an average of 2 water rescue related incidents across the district, individual station averages are detailed in the graph above. 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.

Bishop Auckland and Barnard Castle make up the bulk of the incidents for the District, but demand is low. Bishop Auckland station maintains a swift water recue capability which responds to incidents service wide as well as providing a national response. The district area has a number of water risks within it including the river Tees, Wear and Greta.

Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Wear & Tees is:

Risk 10. Water (exc flooding)	Bishop Auckland	Barnard Castle	Middleton
Likelihood	Medium	Medium	Medium
Consequence	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
Overall assessment	**High**	**High**	**High**

Service Risk 11. Height

Nationally, FRSs 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 an average of 4 height rescue related incidents across the district, individual station averages are detailed in the graph above, all of which have occurred in the Bishop Auckland station area. This relates favourably with other districts as it is a slight decrease when compared to other areas. While the risks in the district are numerous, demand is relatively low. Specific risks within wear & Tees include the viaduct in Bishop Auckland where there is a specific response plan along with the uncertainty of old unrecorded mine shafts in the Dales areas.

Risk assessment

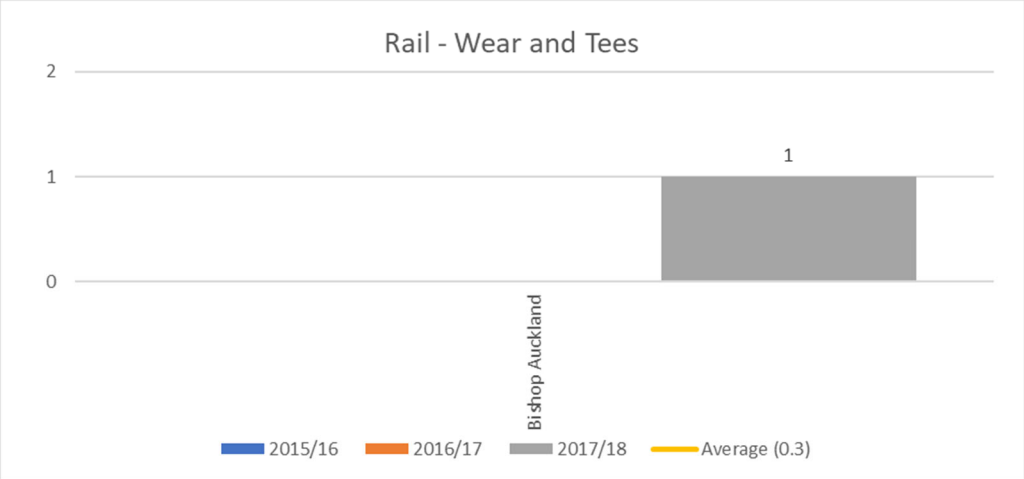
The risk to residents of Wear & Tees is:

Risk 11. Height	Bishop Auckland	Barnard Castle	Middleton
Likelihood	Medium	Low	Low
Consequence	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
Overall assessment	**High**	**Medium**	**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

The data for rail related incidents in Wear & Tees is extremely low, attending an average of only 0.3 incidents over the last 3 years across the district, individual station averages are detailed in the graph above. There are a number of rail related risks in the area which include the Bishop Auckland to Darlington branch line and the Shildon tunnel for which there is a specific incident plan although demand is low.

Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Wear & Tees is:

Risk 12. Rail	Bishop Auckland	Barnard Castle	Middleton
Likelihood	Medium Low	Insignificant	Insignificant
Consequence	Significant	Insignificant	Insignificant
Overall assessment	**High**	**No rail**	**No rail**

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.

Number of incidents over the previous 3 years

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

No wildfire related incidents for the Wear & Tees District over the last 3 years.

Key demand information

Service wide, although compared to other national wildfire incidents all those occurring in CDDFRS 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. Within the criteria set for this element of risk the main areas of concern for the Wear & Tees area include Hamsterley Forest and wide areas of managed estates in the Dales areas of Barnard Castle and Middleton in Teesdale. Pre prepared incident plans have been formulated to enable the service to manage the risk in the event of an incident occurring and crews in the Wear & Tees district have specialist equipment and training to deal with incidents of this type.

Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Wear & Tees is:

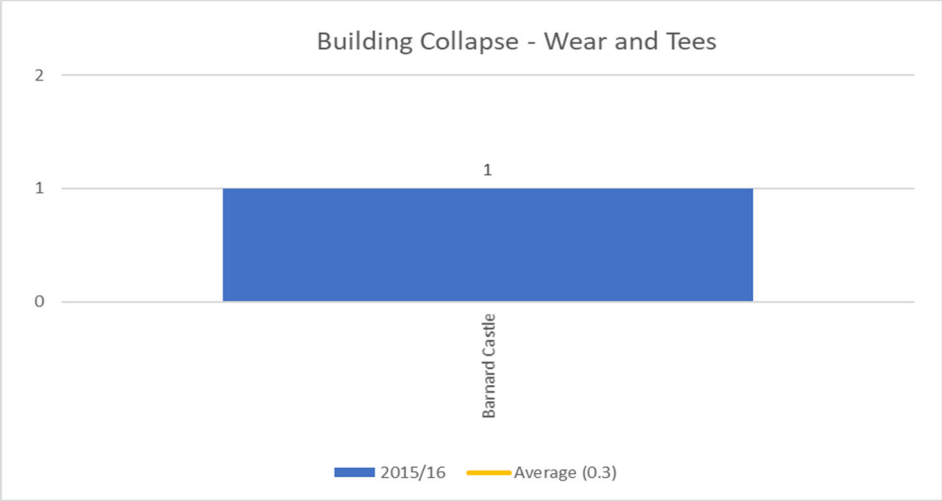
Risk 13. Wildfires	Bishop Auckland	Barnard Castle	Middleton
Likelihood	Medium Low	Medium Low	Medium Low
Consequence	Significant	Significant	Significant
Overall assessment	**High**	**High**	**High**

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 an average of 0.3 incidents relating to building collapse across the district, individual station averages are detailed in the graph above, this compares to 15 incidents in total for the whole of CDDFRS. While incidents are low for Wear & Tees a specialist rescue vehicle based at Bishop Auckland station provides a response to the whole county to assist with incidents of this type.

Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Wear & Tees is:

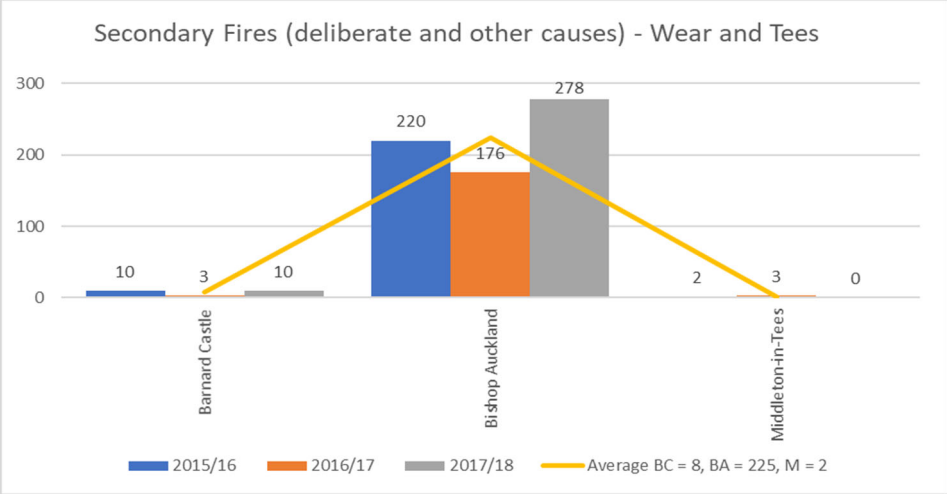
Risk 14. Building collapse	Bishop Auckland	Barnard Castle	Middleton
Likelihood	Low	Low	Low
Consequence	Significant	Significant	Significant
Overall assessment	**Medium**	**Medium**	**Medium**

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 an average of 234 fires of deliberate and unknown cause across the district, individual station averages are detailed in the graph above. The majority of these incidents occurred in the Bishop Auckland, with the ward areas of West Auckland, Byerley, Cockton Hill, Bishop Auckland town centre and Dene Valley accounting for the majority of these. 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.

Barnard Castle and Middleton in Teesdale experience fewer incidents of this type due to there being fewer areas of depravation and therefore the overall assessment of risk is lower.

Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Wear & Tees is:

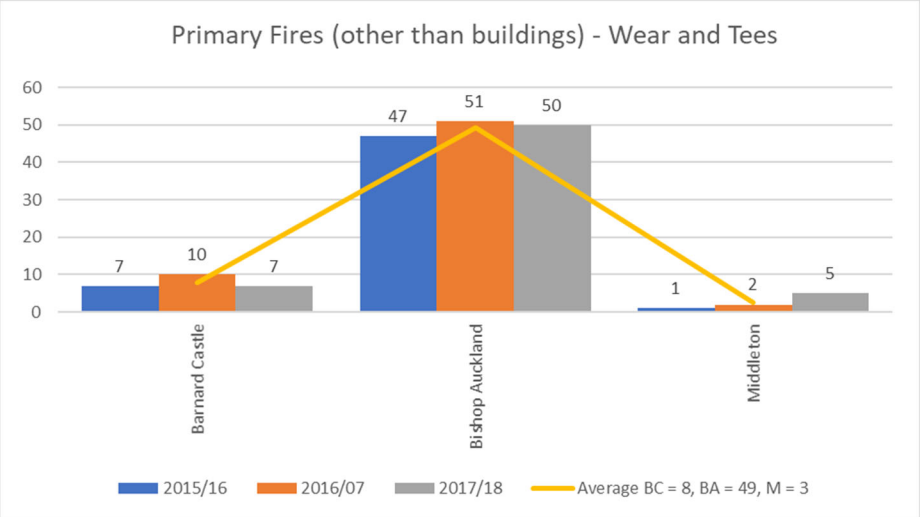
Risk 15. Secondary fires	Bishop Auckland	Barnard Castle	Middleton
Likelihood	High	Medium low	Low
Consequence	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
Overall assessment	**High**	**Medium**	**Medium**

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 an average of 60 primary fires that did not involve buildings, individual station averages are detailed in the graph above. The main ward areas for activity include Bishop Auckland Town, West Auckland and Thickley, with incident types covering things like vehicle fires, crops and shed fires and mainly of a deliberate nature.

Barnard Castle and Middleton in Teesdale experience fewer incidents of this type due to there being fewer areas of depravation and therefore the overall assessment of risk is lower.

Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Wear & Tees is:

Risk 16. Primary fires	Bishop Auckland	Barnard Castle	Middleton
Likelihood	High	Medium low	Low
Consequence	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
Overall assessment	**High**	**Medium**	**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 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

There have been no incidents in relation to this risk over the last 3 years.

Key demand information

Over the previous 3 years there has been no incidents of this type in Wear & Tees although the risk is present. The impact of these incidents on our resources related not only to equipment but also operational personnel being on scene for several hours.

Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Wear & Tees is:

Risk 17. Waste disposal site fires	Bishop Auckland	Barnard Castle	Middleton
Likelihood	Low	Low	Low
Consequence	Significant	Significant	Significant
Overall assessment	**Medium**	**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 Skylive 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. The main risk of this type in the Wear & Tees area is the Kynren event but pre planning and crew visits ensure that are aware of safety procedures in the event of a in occurring.

Risk assessment

The risk to residents of Wear & Tees is:

Risk 18. Major public events	Bishop Auckland	Barnard Castle	Middleton
Likelihood	Medium Low	Low	Low
Consequence	Significant	Significant	Significant
Overall assessment	**High**	**Medium**	**Medium**

Service Risk 19. Heritage risks

The Service area has 111 Grade 1 listed buildings and 193 Grade 2* listed buildings.

Bishop Auckland Castle is around 900yrs old and stands in the centre of the town and is surrounded by park land, there are also numerous buildings which form part of the Castle estate of grade 1 or 2 listing.

Barnard Castle - Bowes museum stands in its own grounds and has a nationally renowned art collection. The building itself was built in the 19thC and host regular events drawing people in from all over the world.

Middleton in Teesdale – Has a rich and diverse natural environment and history, once known as the capital of upper Teesdale and a main centre for lead mining it is probably now better known for its beautiful waterfalls and wild fells.
Some examples of listed buildings from our area:

- Auckland Castle Raby Castle
- Bowes Museum
- Witton Castle
- Bishop Auckland Town Hall
- Escomb Church

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 Wear & Tees is:

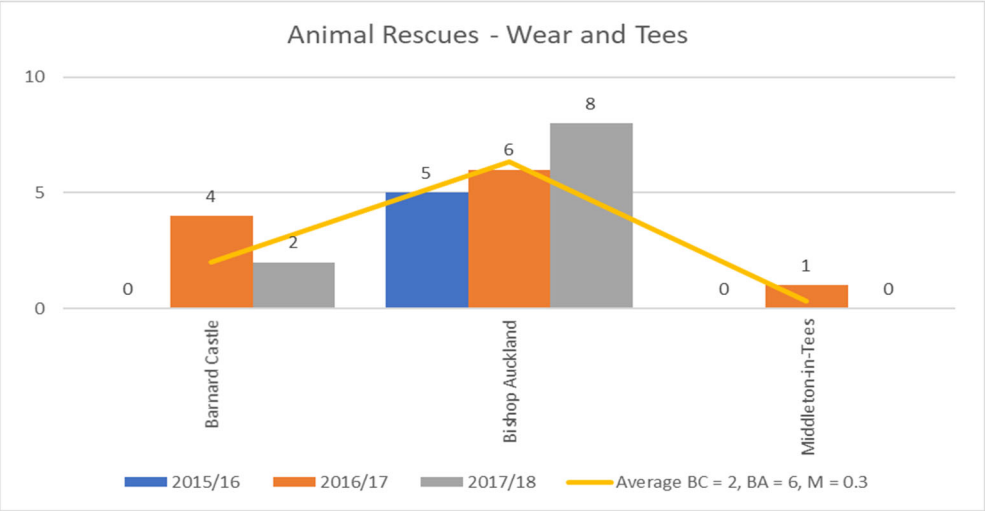
Risk 19. Heritage risks	Bishop Auckland	Barnard Castle	Middleton
Likelihood	Medium Low	Medium Low	Low
Consequence	Significant	Significant	Significant
Overall assessment	**High**	**High**	**Medium**

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 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 an average of 8 animal rescues per year across the district, individual station averages are detailed in the graph above, however crews at Bishop Auckland have specific animal rescue training and equipment and provide a service wide response to all areas of the county and cross border. The service as a whole has attended 153 incidents in total and the specialist response at Bishop Auckland have attended many of these.

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%.

The rural demographic of the Wear and Tees district means that incidents involving animal rescue is always possible.

Risk assessment:

Risk 20. Animals	Bishop Auckland	Barnard Castle	Middleton
Likelihood	Medium low	Low	Low
Consequence	Minor	Minor	Minor
Overall assessment	**Medium**	**Low**	**Low**