



County Durham and Darlington
Fire and Rescue Service

PI 14 False Alarms Caused by Automatic Fire Detection Apparatus

Keith Carruthers

Director Community Risk Management

Recording of incidents

- Premises types (160 on the system)
 - Selected during the completion of the IRS report by the OIC
 - Places of entertainment
 - Retail
 - Halls of residence etc
- Cause of activation (40 on the system)
 - Selected during the completion of the IRS report by the OIC
 - Human
 - Contamination
 - System fault etc.



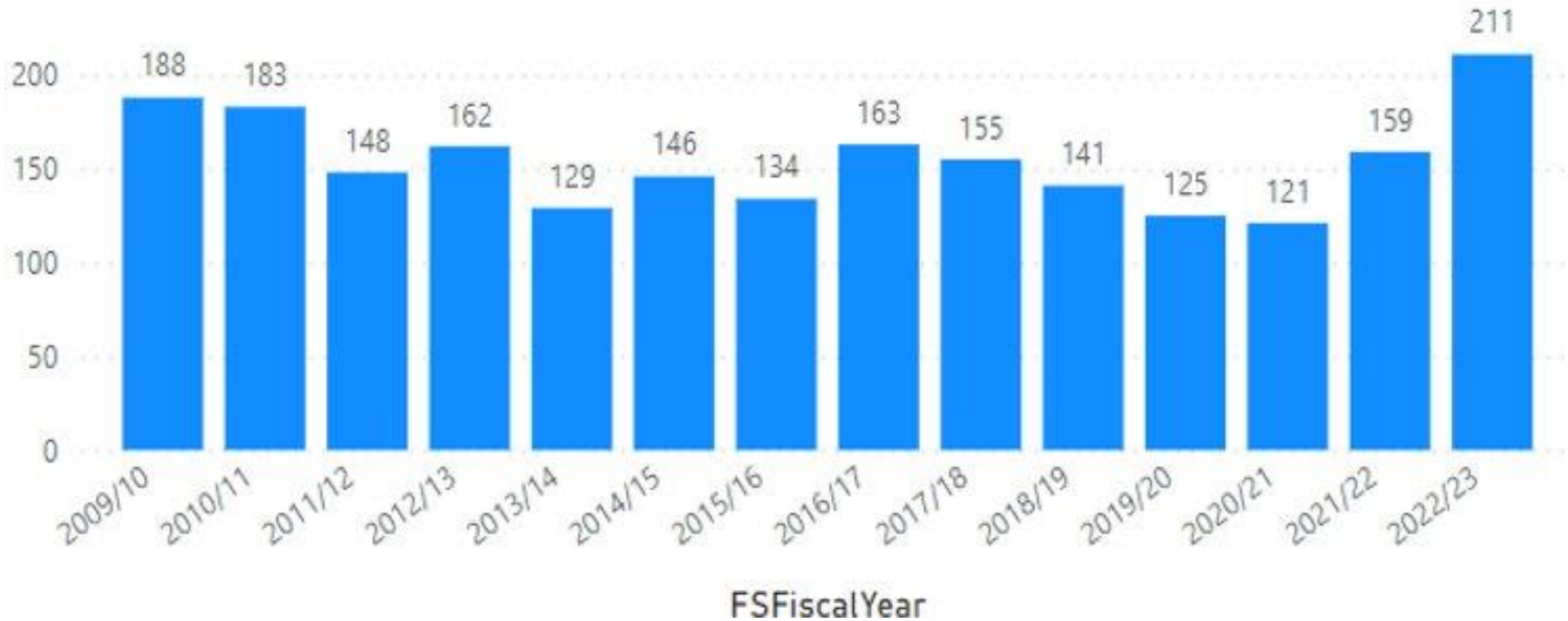
How we manage performance

- AFA Call handling
- Cost Recovery
- Alignment to local and national campaigns
- Fire Safety Audits

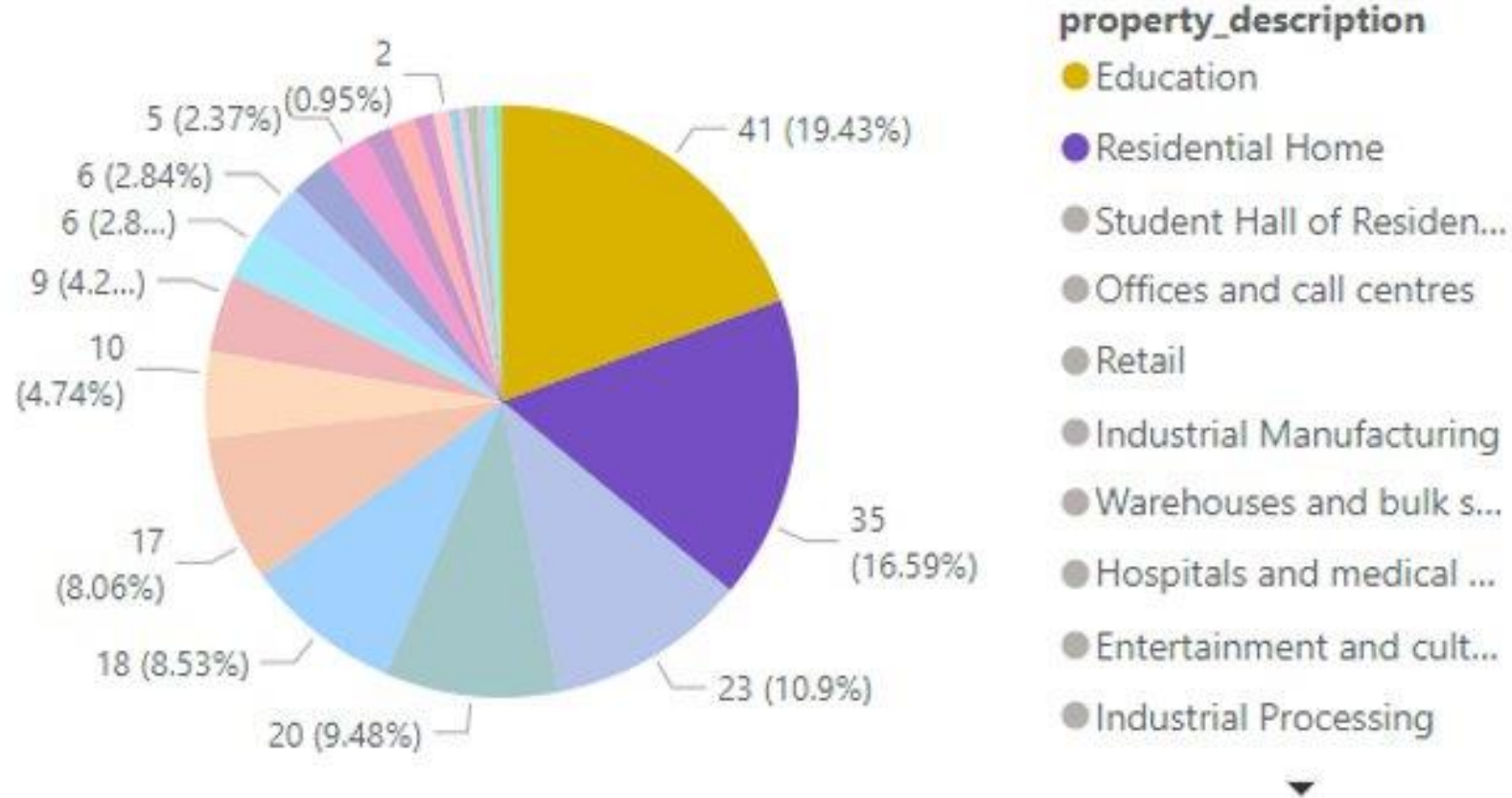


Snap shot in time

PI14 (April, May, June, July) year on year



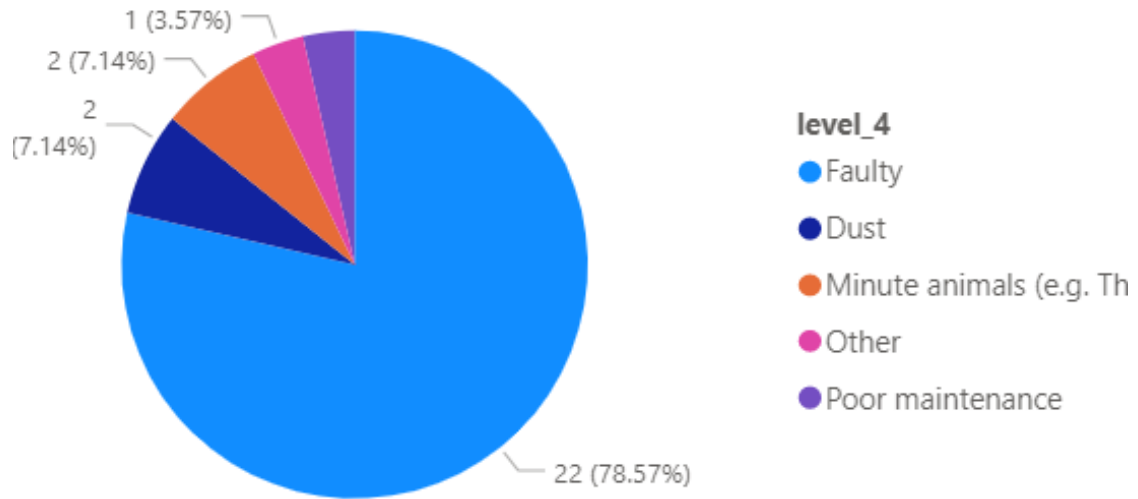
Premises types – year to July



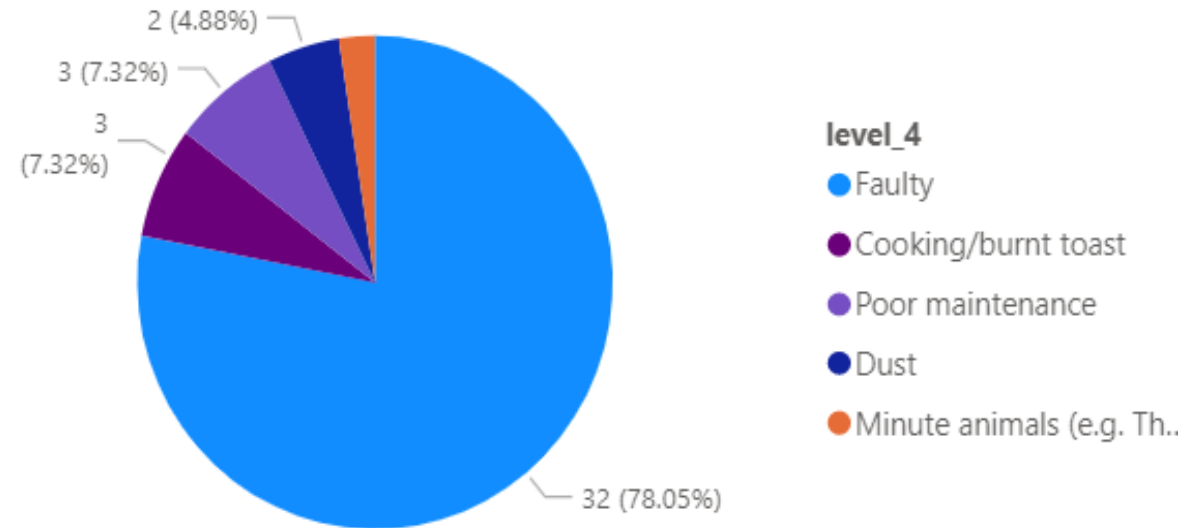
Cause of activations – Education

(This year to July)

2021/2022

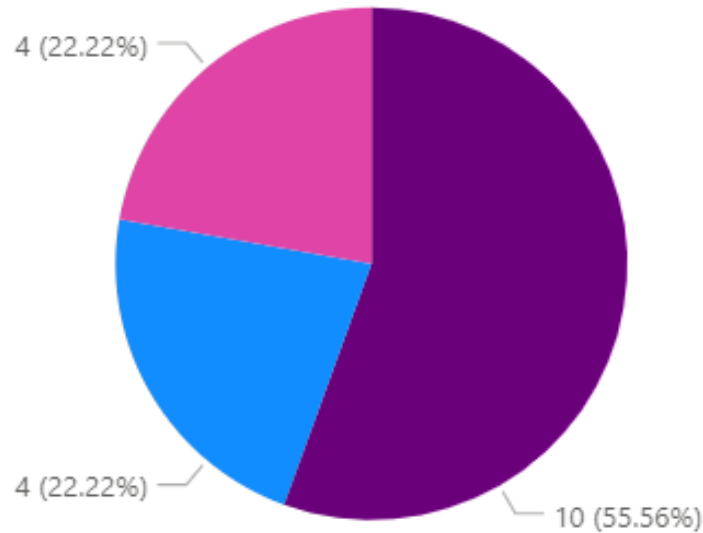


2022/2023



Cause of activations – Residential Care Homes (This year to July)

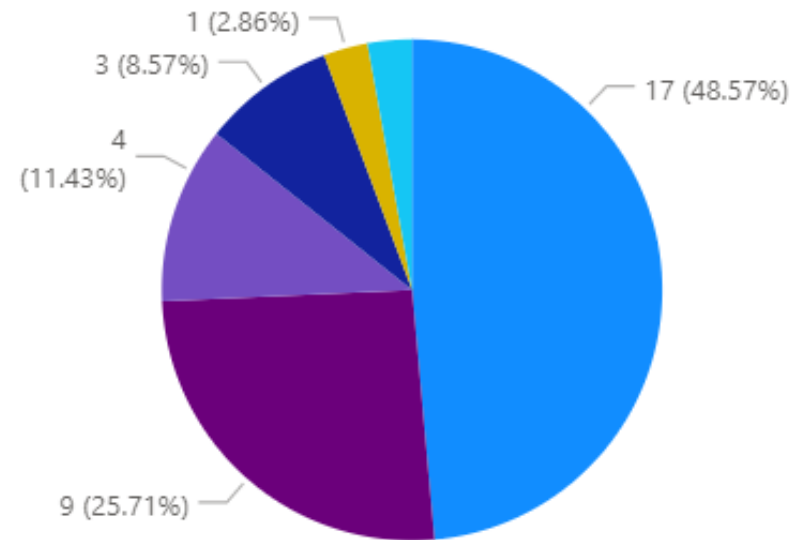
2021/2022



level_4

- Cooking/burnt toast
- Faulty
- Other

2022/2023



level_4

- Faulty
- Cooking/burnt toast
- Poor maintenance
- Dust
- Chemicals/aerosols
- Smoking



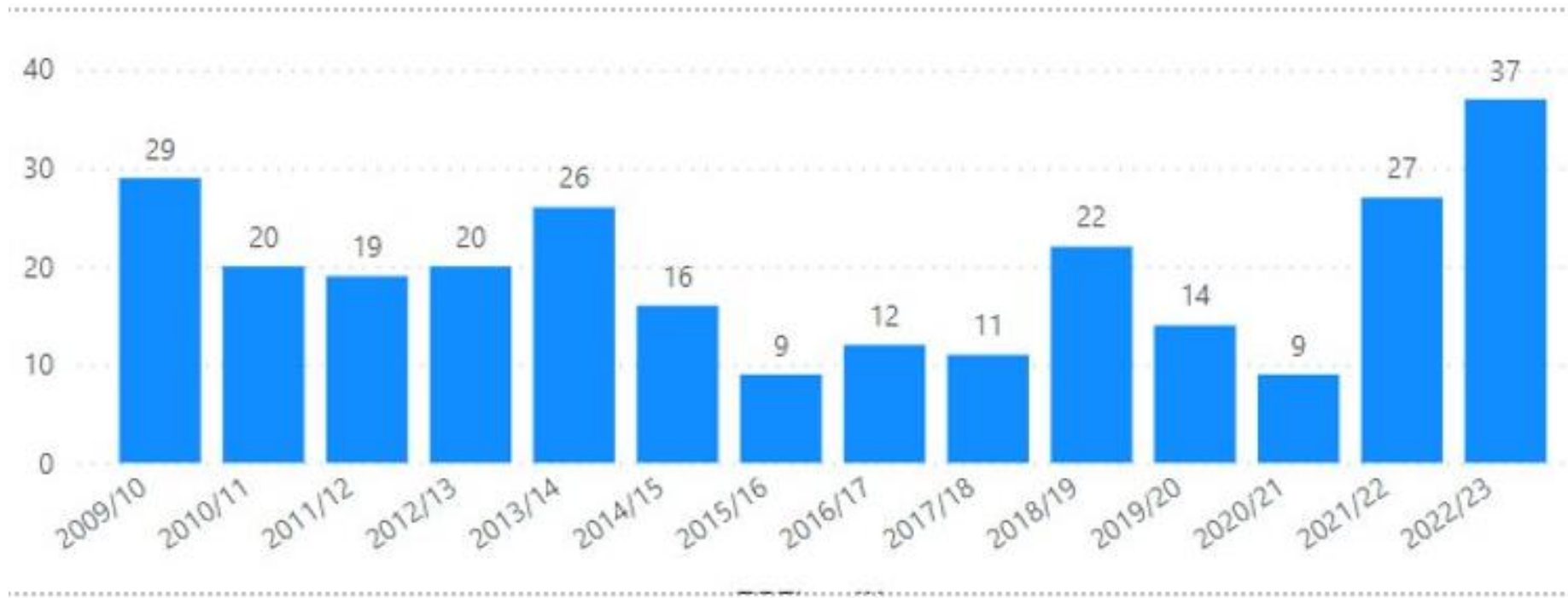
Areas of focus

- In Educational premises
 - 78% of the activations were due to faults on the system
- In Residential Care Homes
 - 60% were either faults on the system or poor maintenance; and
 - 26% were cooking/ burnt toast



Across all Premises Types

We can see that cooking/ burnt toast has been increasing significantly since 2020/21 for the months of (Apr, May, Jun, Jul)



Planned Actions

Faults in Educational Establishments

▶▶▶ Mail Shot

▶▶▶ Communication messages

Planned Actions

Faults in Care Homes



Mail Shot



Theme audits on Care Homes

Planned Actions

- Explore opportunities to enhance the current procedure for handling of Automatic Fire Alarms:
- Business Liaison forums
- Student Accommodation





Thanks and any questions



County Durham and Darlington
Fire and Rescue Service

