

## Appendix A Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service

### Report to AM Platt

**REPORTING OFFICER:** WM Martin (Protection SHQ)

**SUBJECT:** Risk Based Response to Unwanted Fire Signals, Current Response Case Studies.

**DATE:** 21<sup>st</sup> November 2011

#### Introduction

Using the parameters set by the proposed change in Response to Automatic Fire Alarms the following premises have been identified, to analyse how the changes in Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service (MFRS) policy will impact on both the premise and MFRS.

MFRS received 5460 unwanted fire signals UwFS to the year ending 21<sup>st</sup> November 2012

<b>FSEC</b>	<b>No. UwFS</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Brief Description</b>
02 01	661	12.1	Hospitals and Prisons
02 02	340	6.2	Elderly Persons, children's, mentally handicapped homes
02 03	22	0.4	HiMO's
02 04	275	5.0	High Rise Premises
02 05	25	0.5	Hostels
02 06	64	1.2	Hotels, B+B's, Guest Houses
02 07	149	2.7	Houses converted to flats
02 08	1494	27.4	All other sleeping – sheltered housing, flats under 4 storey
02 09	171	3.1	University, colleges
02 10	167	3.1	Public buildings – libraries, museums, courts, art galleries
02 11	197	3.6	Licensed Premises
02 12	453	8.3	Schools – inc occupational training centres
02 13	384	7.0	Shops – inc. Petrol Stations
02 14	272	5.0	Other premises open to public – Stadia, halls, cinemas etc
02 15	369	6.8	Factories/Warehouses
02 16	319	5.8	Offices
02 17	99	1.8	Other workplaces
<b>Total</b>	<b>5460</b>	<b>100%</b>	

Analysis of the figures in the table above show the largest group for UwFS signals is FSEC group 02 08 – Other sleeping accommodation, which includes sheltered housing and purpose built flats under 4 storeys.

Further analysis of this sub group shows that Sheltered Housing was responsible for 954 calls, which equates to 64% of all UwFS.

Of a total of 131 sheltered housing schemes which recorded UwFS within this period, 10 schemes (detailed below) were responsible for 21% of all calls.

## Sheltered Housing

Whilst Sheltered Housing schemes provide accommodation for vulnerable members of our society the lack of management procedures across the sector generates excessive levels of UwFS.

In the year to 21<sup>st</sup> November 2012 Sheltered Housing schemes generated **954** UwFS, resulting in **1908** appliances responding and accounted for **17.5%** of all UwFS.

Within the sector the premises with the largest volume of UwFS are;

Ashton Park	20	(2)	Liverpool
Bedford Court	18	(2)	Wirral
Roger Arden Court	29	(4)	Sefton
Finch Court	22	(0)	Wirral
Hector Peterson Court	18	(0)	Liverpool
28-34 Derwent Road	20	(1)	Liverpool
Reeve Court Village	30	(5)	St. Helens
Meadow Court	15	(2)	Liverpool
Brian Cummins Court	18, and	(0)	Sefton
The Orchards	14	(0)	Sefton

-which accounted for **204** UwFS, the mobilisation of **408** appliances and 21% of all UwFS within the sheltered housing sector.

Figures in Brackets are fires reported at the premises. Of the 16 incidents, 14 were food left unattended, 1 carelessly discarded cigarette and a plumber setting fire to a wall stud whilst soldering.

## Hospitals and other Health Service premises

The next largest sub group responsible for UwFS; is 02 01 Hospital, Healthcare and Prisons with a total of 12% of all calls.

MFRS received **690** calls for assistance from all medical institutions across the county in the past 12 months, equating to **12.1%** of all UwFS.

Of these calls, 660 (**95.7%**) were Unwanted Fire Signals (UwFS), generating 1895 fire appliance mobilisations.

Of the remaining 28 calls;

23 (82%) were extinguished prior to the arrival of the service,  
3 incidents required intervention by use of a fire extinguisher,  
1 incident required 'cutting away and damping down', fire caused by contractors on site, and  
1 recorded as Arson by use of accelerant requiring service intervention.

Consequently, of all the 690 calls only 5 required MFRS firefighting intervention, which equates to 0.7%.

### **Aintree Hospital (specific)**

Aintree Hospital recorded **209** calls for assistance, 30.3% of all calls to all Health Care premises in Merseyside.

Of those calls 203 (97.1%) were UwFS the remaining six incidents were extinguished prior to the arrival of the Fire Service therefore not requiring any service intervention.

MFRS mobilised **627** appliances to the incidents at Aintree Hospital, of which **609** appliances responded to UwFS

### **Care Homes**

Whilst most Care Homes appear to have procedures in place to deal with UwFS there are a few premises that seem to be struggling to manage their systems.

Across the sector, Care Homes generated **96** calls last year, resulting in 192 appliance mobilisations, which equates to **1.75%** of all UwFS.

Within this figure, six premises were responsible for generating almost half (48%) of all calls. They were;

Park Haven	13	Sefton
Autumn Lodge	9	Liverpool
Garden Lodge	7	Liverpool
Kyffin Taylor	6	Sefton
Linksvieiw	5	Liverpool
Queens Court Hospice	6	Sefton

None of the above premises recorded any incidents where the Fire Service provided assistance within the period.

### **Premises without Accommodation**

FSEC codes 02 09 – 02 17 relate to all other premises other than sleeping accommodation. These sub categories were responsible for **2431 (44.5%)** unwanted fire signals and 4862 appliance mobilisations within the year to 21<sup>st</sup> November 2012.

Within the same period, MFRS responded to **381** incidents within the same 02 09 – 02 17 categories where Vision Boss recorded them as fires. Of these 381 incidents the call source indicates only **62 (16.3%)** were received from Fire Alarm Monitoring Organisations (FAMO), the remaining **83.7%** via the '999' system or police.