

AGENDA ITEM:

REPORT TO:	MERSEYSIDE FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY
DATE:	THURSDAY 4TH OCTOBER 2012
REPORT NO.	CFO/135/12
REPORTING OFFICER:	DEB APPLETON - DIRECTOR OF STRATEGIC PLANNING MYLES PLATT - AM PREVENTION AND PROTECTION
CONTACT OFFICER:	DEB APPLETON - DIRECTOR OF STRATEGIC PLANNING, 4402
OFFICERS CONSULTED:	JOHN FIELDING - BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE MANAGER, 4411
SUBJECT:	FIVE YEAR REVIEW OF FATALITIES IN ACCIDENTAL DWELLING FIRES

APPENDIX	A	TITLE	<u>Analysis of Fatalities in Accidental Dwelling Fires between 1st April 2011 and 31st March 2012</u>
APPENDIX	B	TITLE	<u>Analysis of Fatalities in Accidental Dwelling Fires between 2007/08 and 2011/12</u>

Purpose of Report

1. To request that Members note the recommendations of this report relating to fatalities occurring in accidental dwelling fires during the fiscal year 2011/12. The report also provides a historical analysis of fatality data providing information based on trends which can be utilised for future planning and resource allocation.

Recommendation

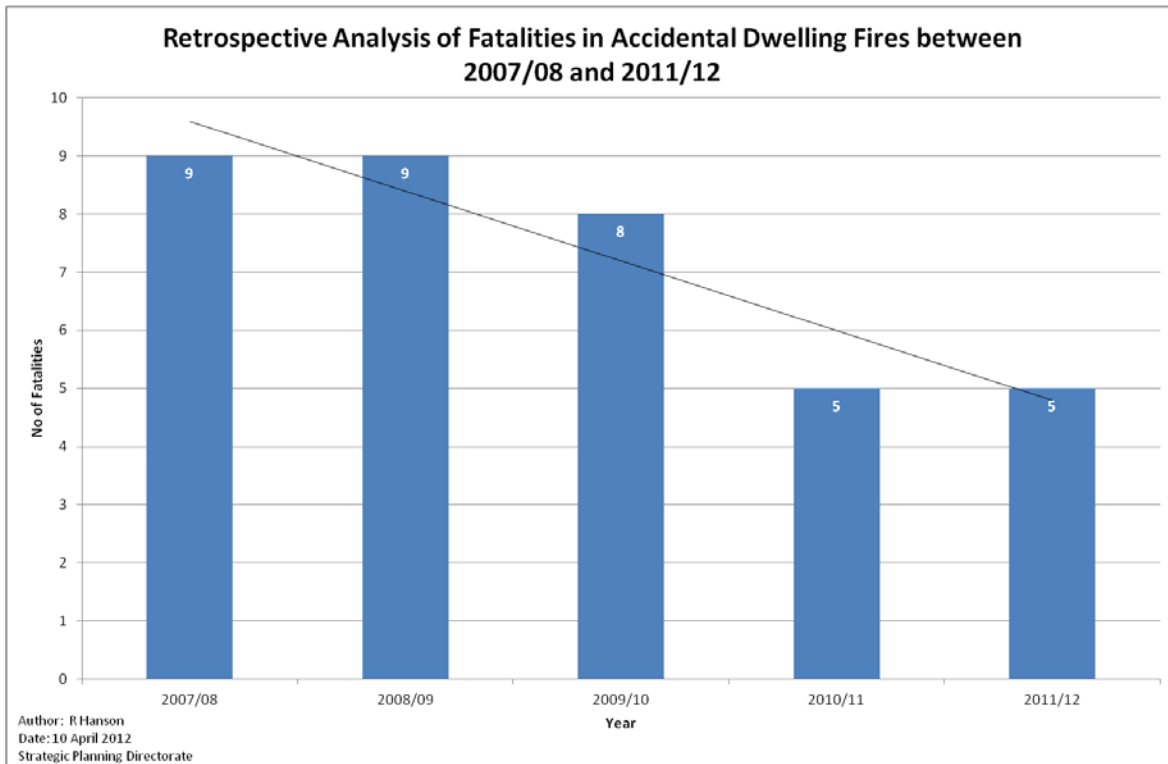
2. That Members note the contents of the report

Introduction & Background

3. The purpose of this briefing paper is to provide information regarding fatalities in accidental dwelling fires for 2011/12 and over a 5 year period. The reports (appendices A and B) provide detail regarding the demographic properties of victims, the circumstance of the fatality as well as providing further background information appertaining to factors such deprivation and social conditions.

Retrospective

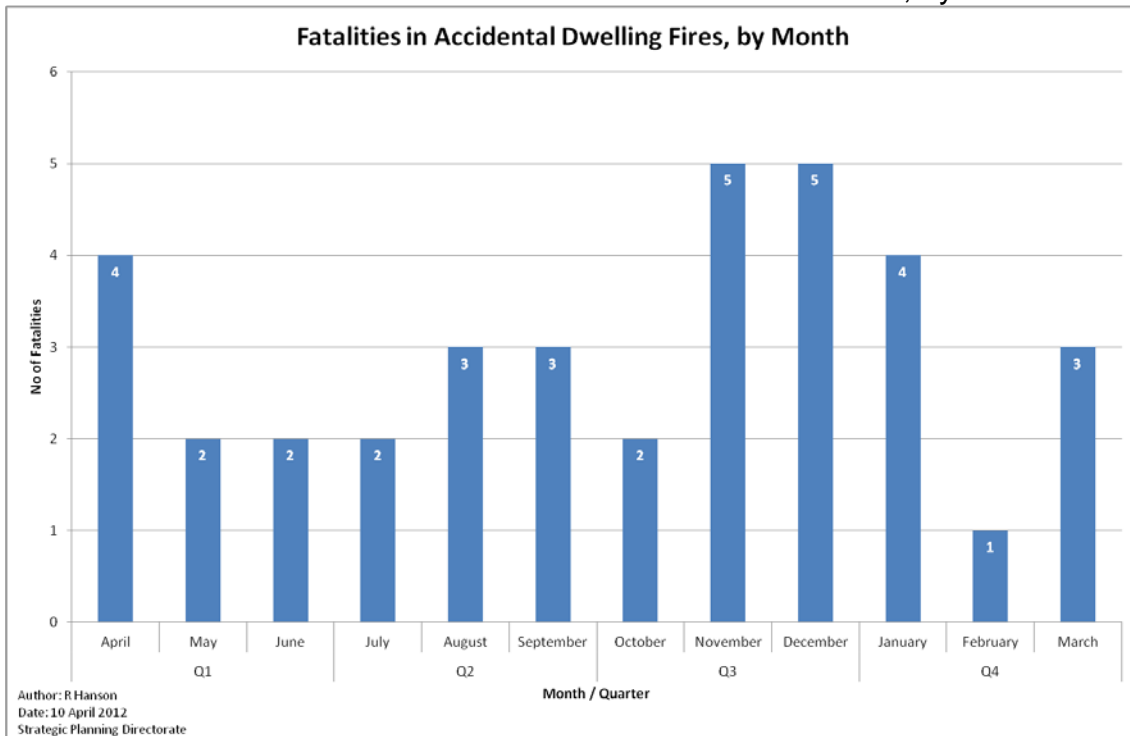
4. Chart 1: Fatalities in ADF's for the past five fiscal years (2007/08 – 2011/12)



5. Chart 1 identifies that over the 5 year retrospective there has been an overall reduction of 4 fire fatalities between 2007/08 (9 fatalities) and 2011/12 (5 fatalities). 2010/11 was previously reported as the lowest number of fatalities in Accidental Dwelling Fires attended; during 2011/12 this performance was equalled.

Temporal Analysis

6. Chart 2: Fatalities in ADF's between 2007/08 and 2011/12, by Month



7. Chart 2 highlights that the winter months of November and December accounted for the greatest number of Accidental Dwelling Fire fatalities, with 5 incidents in both November and December. Quarter 3 accounted for the greatest number of fatalities (12); by contrast the other three quarters individually total 8 fatalities each throughout the last 5 years.

Location Analysis

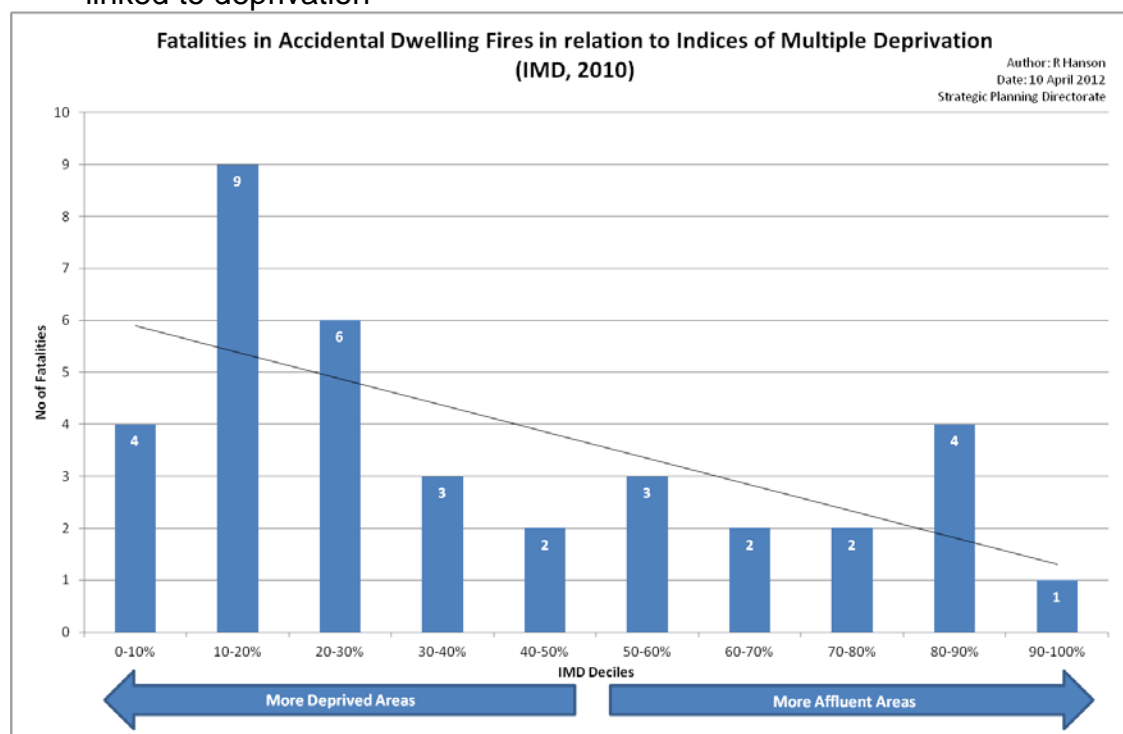
8. Table 1: Fatalities by district between 2007/08 and 2011/12 (with incidents per 100,000 population)

District	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	Total
Knowsley	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	2 (1.3)	1 (0.7)	0 (0.0)	3 (2.0)
Liverpool	4 (0.9)	5 (1.1)	1 (0.2)	1 (0.2)	2 (0.4)	13 (2.9)
Sefton	2 (0.7)	2 (0.7)	1 (0.4)	0 (0.0)	1 (0.4)	6 (2.2)
St Helens	1 (0.6)	0 (0.0)	1 (0.6)	2 (1.1)	0 (0.0)	4 (2.3)
Wirral	2 (0.6)	2 (0.6)	3 (1.0)	1 (1.0)	2 (0.6)	10 (3.2)
Merseyside Total	9 (0.7)	9 (0.7)	8 (0.6)	5 (0.4)	5 (0.4)	36 (2.7)

9. When analysed by incidents per 100,000 population, Wirral was the district where the greatest number of Accidental Dwelling Fire deaths occurred (3.2 deaths per 100,000 population). This was closely followed by Liverpool which has an estimated 2.9 deaths per 100,000 population. Knowsley witnessed 3 Accidental Dwelling Fires deaths (2.0 deaths per 100,000 population) making it the district at least risk between 2007/08 and 2011/12.

Deprivation Analysis

10. Chart 3: Fatalities in Accidental Dwelling Fires between 2007/08 and 2011/12 linked to deprivation



11. The trend-line in Chart 3 identifies that fatalities in Accidental Dwelling Fires tend to occur in the more deprived areas of Merseyside. It is shown that the 40% most

affluent areas of Merseyside (60%-100% deciles combined) accounted for 25% (9) of total fatalities over the last 5 fiscal years. By comparison the 40% most deprived areas of Merseyside (0%-40% deciles combined) witnessed 61% (22) of overall fire fatality incidents.

Demographic Analysis

Table 2: Gender of fatalities in Accidental Dwelling Fires between 2007/08 and 2011/12

Year	Female	Male	Total
2007/08	7	2	9
2008/09	7	2	9
2009/10	4	4	8
2010/11	3	2	5
2011/12	1	4	5
Total	22	14	36

12. Table 2 identifies that more females (22, 61% of the total) have died as a result of Accidental Dwelling Fires incidents than males (14, 39% of the total). This trend was mainly due to the large numbers of female fatalities during the years 2007/08 and 2008/09 with 7 incidents each (5 fatalities more than males in both years). This disparity began to level out in 2009/10 when there were 4 fatalities. However in 2011/12, there was a rise in male fatalities, with 4 compared to 1 female fatality.

Table 3: Age and Gender of victims in Accidental Dwelling Fires 2007/08 – 2011/12

Age Group	Gender	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	Total
25-29	Female	0	2	0	0	0	2
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0
30-34	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0
35-39	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Male	0	0	1	0	0	1
40-44	Female	0	1	0	0	0	1
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0
45-49	Female	2	0	1	0	0	3
	Male	0	0	0	0	1	1
50-54	Female	2	1	0	0	0	3
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0
55-59	Female	0	0	1	2	0	3
	Male	0	0	1	0	0	1
60-64	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Male	1	0	1	0	0	2
65-69	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Male	1	0	0	0	0	1
70-74	Female	0	1	0	0	0	1
	Male	0	0	0	1	0	1
75-79	Female	0	0	1	0	0	1
	Male	0	0	1	0	2	3
80-84	Female	2	1	0	0	1	4
	Male	0	1	0	0	1	2
85+	Female	1	1	1	1	0	4
	Male	0	1	0	1	0	2
Total		9	9	8	5	5	36

13. Table 3 breaks down five years of fatality data, by age and gender; identifying that in both of the “80-84” and “85+” age groups – female victims have been the most numerous. Furthermore, according to the table, females between the ages of 45 and 59 are at risk due to a total of 9 fatalities between these ages over the 5 years analysed.
14. When analysing the male demographic, there have only been 3 fatalities below the age of 60 in the past 5 years. These deaths have occurred in the age groups 35-39, 45-49 and 55-59.

Comparison to Road Traffic Collision Fatalities

Table 3: Comparison of fatalities in Accidental Dwelling Fires to Road Traffic Collisions¹ (including fatalities per 1000 incidents)

Year	Fatality in ADF	Fatality in RTC
2008/09	9 (6.9)	17 (23.4)
2009/10	8 (6.2)	13 (20.0)
2010/11	5 (4.2)	11 (19.8)
2011/12	5 (4.2)	5 (9.9)
Total	27 (5.4)	46 (18.9)

15. Table 3 compares the overall number of fire fatalities in Accidental Dwelling Fires to deaths as a result of a Road Traffic Collision (RTC). The table identifies that between 2008/09 and 2011/12 the count of fatalities under both categories has fallen consistently, so much so that there was parity between the incident two types during 2011/12.
16. As a general trend there are greater numbers of RTC fatalities than that of Accidental Dwelling Fires, this is especially true when comparing fatalities per 1,000 incidents. Using this technique it is clear that MF&RS **proportionally** attend between two to three times more Road Traffic Collision fatalities than that of Accidental Dwelling Fire Fatalities.

Equality & Diversity Implications

17. The report identifies victims from Accidental Dwelling Fires between 2007/08 and 2011/12. The report identifies that the people at greatest risk over that period are females above the age of 75 - living in deprived areas. The report identifies that regardless of gender, people above the age of 75 are disproportionately at higher risk from being the victim of an Accidental Dwelling Fire. As such MF&RS are working to target these individuals using customer insight and data sharing protocols as well as local intelligence to target these individuals at greatest risk.

Staff Implications

18. The report is for information purposes only.

Legal Implications

¹ Please note the figures for RTC fatalities are limited to fatalities to which MF&RS have ATTENDED ONLY

19. There are no legal implications relating to this report,

Financial Implications & Value for Money

20. There are no cost implications associated with this report. Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority wants to ensure that the services provided offer the best value for money possible within the constraints of current budget cuts and is currently reviewing both the emergency response and fire prevention aspects of service delivery.

Risk Management, Health & Safety, and Environmental Implications

21. The report has no Risk Management, Health & Safety or Environmental Implications

Contribution to **Our Mission – To Achieve; Safer Stronger Communities – Safe Effective Firefighters**

22. The purpose of this report is to provide a risk profile of people who are at greatest risk from an Accidental Dwelling Fire Fatality. The report identifies that regardless of gender people above the age of 75 are disproportionately at higher risk from being a victim. As such MF&RS can use this report to illustrate through interventions like HFSC and data sharing there have been reductions in fires and that more work is still required to target the greatest at risk.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

***Glossary of Terms**

Please list any acronyms used within this Report and appendices, including their meaning.

IIT – Incident Investigation Team

MFRS – Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service

ADF – Accidental Dwelling Fire

HFSC – Home Fire Safety Check

ONS – Office for National Statistics

CLG – Department for Communities and Local Government

IMD – Indices of Multiple Deprivation

CIRP – Customer Insight Risk Profile

ESA – Employment and Support Allowance

RSL – Registered Social Landlord

BVPI – Best Value Performance Indicator

LPI – Local Performance Indicator

NI – National indicator

PCT – Primary Care Trust

RTC – Road Traffic Collision