

FIRE AUTHORITY REPORT OCTOBER 2006

SERVICE DELIVERY

Mid & West Wales Area Total																								APR - SEPT		
County Command	FDR 1			Small			Chimney			Hoax			Good Intent			AFA			SSC			Total				
	04/05	05/06	06/07	04/05	05/06	06/07	04/05	05/06	06/07	04/05	05/06	06/07	04/05	05/06	06/07	04/05	05/06	06/07	04/05	05/06	06/07	04/05	05/06	06/07		
Carmarthenshire	217	111	206	259	98	307	9	10	11	16	20	23	81	67	131	203	179	275	275	227	300	1060	712	1253		
Ceredigion	124	140	111	49	75	91	12	8	9	11	21	35	32	36	47	179	218	241	129	176	133	536	674	667		
Neath & Port Talbot	335	244	292	777	405	860	3	1	1	98	49	66	185	132	204	202	158	187	184	175	237	1784	1164	1847		
Pembrokeshire	138	155	156	263	188	261	13	10	15	37	30	14	80	83	59	217	234	188	315	329	354	1063	1029	1047		
Powys	160	211	146	136	278	175	18	23	30	17	47	14	53	101	66	134	215	238	265	299	251	783	1174	920		
Swansea	510	533	415	1084	910	1239	3	3	4	99	94	105	220	257	292	509	619	567	367	439	427	2792	2855	3049		
TOTAL	1484	1394	1326	2568	1954	2933	58	55	70	278	261	257	651	676	799	1444	1623	1696	1535	1645	1702	8018	7608	8783		

	Pembrokeshire	Ceredigion	Powys	Neath/P Talbot	Swansea	Carmarthen	Brigade
No of HFSA's carried out	874	604	604	1313	744	818	4957
By Operational Personnel	874	510	590	1244	704	724	4646
By Community Safety Personnel	0	94	14	69	40	94	311
No of Smoke Alarms fitted	929	532	847	1591	1074	1129	6102
No of Programmed School Visits carried out	20	25	32	5	30	34	146
% of High Risk Premises Audited	69.49%	100.00%	47.91%	100.00%	42.15%	49.45%	66.91%
% of High Risk CO9s Audited					63.20%		
% of Building Regs completed within the time scale	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

PEMBROKESHIRE COUNTY COMMAND

OPERATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT

Incidents of interest:

Road Traffic Collisions

Pembrokeshire crews attended 62 RTCs during this two-month reporting period. In most cases the new Rescue Pumps that were recently sited in Pembrokeshire after the appliance re-fit programme were sent to these incidents. The additional rescue equipment provided on the Rescue Pumps is reported to have been effective and enabled the initial crews attending the incident to release the casualties.

Incident 16258

On 14 July on A478 road between Glandy Cross and Pentregalar, 2 cars were in a head on collision. Crews from Crymych Narberth and Haverfordwest worked to release 2 casualties trapped in their cars.

Incident 22217

On 11 August outside Total refinery Herbranston, 2 cars were in collision, 1 person died. Crews from Milford Haven released the casualties.

Incident 22224

On 11 August at Devonshire Drive Saundersfoot, 1 person was trapped inside the car and was released by crews from Tenby.

Incident 25131

On 30 August outside Folly Farm Begelly, a people carrier and a 4X4 collided

head on both drivers were trapped. A Tenby crew assisted by the crew from Haverfordwest.

Fires

A house fire at Scotchwell View Prendergast threatened a whole family after a deliberately set fire broke out in the early hours of 25 July. Crews from Haverfordwest fought a well-developed fire on both floors of the house. Thankfully on this occasion there were no casualties. The Police arrested a man who is alleged to have started this fire. A thorough fire investigation was carried out by level 1 and 2 Fire Investigators along with Police scenes of crime officers and specialists from the Forensic Service.

Crews from Crymych and Cardigan were sent to a remote farmhouse in Eglwysyrw that was on fire during the evening of 13 August. An elderly man and wife were treated for smoke inhalation at the scene. The fire is believed to have started in the kitchen.

There were many grassland fires during the holiday season, especially in the Clegyr Boia Rock area outside St David's. Several of these fires grew in size to warrant assistance from additional fire crews and the use of a water bowser to provide fire fighting water.

A deliberately set fire on the night of 8 August destroyed the roof and severely damaged much of the contents of the empty Commodore Hotel in the Old Dockyard of Pembroke Dock. This fire quickly spread through the building despite the efforts of crews from Pembroke Dock, Tenby, Milford Haven and Carmarthen. Two Turntable ladders from Haverfordwest and Morriston were used to stop the spread of fire, after firefighters had to leave the building once the roof began to collapse.

A bonfire set to burn rubbish on a Friday afternoon got out of control at the Carlsberg Tetley yard in Withybush Haverfordwest on 25 August. The fire burnt over 1000 pallets and at one time threatened to spread to the neighbouring Local Authority yard containing vehicles and gas cylinders. Crews from Haverfordwest, Milford Haven and Narberth stopped the fire spread despite having problems with an inadequate water supply.

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

Community Safety

The first Young Firefighters branch in Pembrokeshire held its passing out parade for the 12 students from the communities of Pembroke and Pembroke Dock. On Sunday 6 August a display was given of the skills gained by the students to an audience of proud parents, elected members of the Fire Authority and local councillors. The Deputy Chief Fire Officer inspected the parade and presented certificates of achievement to the students.

Home Fire Safety Audits.

Since April 2006 over 815 homes in Pembrokeshire have been visited by Fire Service personnel to carry out a Home Fire Safety Audit (HFSA). Over 800 smoke alarms have been fitted in these homes free of charge under the Welsh Assembly Government supported scheme to have homes in Wales protected by working smoke alarms.

A new partnership was agreed with the teams in Pembrokeshire County Council who visit the homes of vulnerable disabled adults and children. These teams of carers and social workers visit the homes of about 2500 persons in all locations in Pembrokeshire. Under the partnership, Fire Service personnel will train the care and social workers about fire hazards and how to refer householders who have fire safety problems to the Community Safety staff in Haverfordwest. Once a referral is made to the Fire Service, a HFSA is arranged and any remedial measures completed.

At the Pembrokeshire Agricultural Show held at Withybush between 15 and 17 August, Community Safety staff prepared a competition for children visiting the Fire Service Display unit. The competition asked the children to spot hazards in the home and equipment used by the Fire Service in return for a gift bag of a pen and safety leaflets. Several hundred children visited the display each day and took part in the competition. At the show there was the launch of the Pembrokeshire road safety group display. The display uses a crashed vehicle and a mangled dummy to represent the consequences of careless driving by young men. The Road Safety Group is a partnership of Pembrokeshire County Council, Dyfed Powys Police and the Fire Service. The partnership intends to target young men aged between 17 and 25 years as being the most likely victim of road collisions. The crashed vehicle display will be used throughout the county in forthcoming months to attempt to show young people why they should be more careful when driving.

SWANSEA COUNTY COMMAND

OPERATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT

Incidents of Interest:

Incident Number 14320 - 01/07/06

Two appliances attended a house on fire with persons reported at Townhill, Swansea. Four fire fighters wearing breathing apparatus entered the ground floor of the property, which was heavily smoke-logged and extinguished the fire using a hose-reel jet. One male casualty was rescued from the property by firefighters and treated for smoke inhalation at the scene. A positive pressure ventilation fan was then used to clear the property of smoke residue.

Incident Number: 16042 -13/07/06

A road traffic collision involving two private motor vehicles occurred outside of the prison on Oystermouth Road at around 6pm in the evening causing severe disruption to rush-hour traffic. Two fire appliances and a Rescue Tender were mobilised to the incident. One male casualty trapped by the accident had to be extricated from his vehicle by Service personnel using hydraulic cutting equipment from each appliance plus equipment from the Rescue Tender.

Incident Number: 23317 - 18/08/06

Two fire appliances and a turntable ladder attended an early morning third floor flat on fire with persons reported in a house of multiple occupation (HMO) at Mount Pleasant, Swansea. Two firefighters wearing breathing apparatus entered the flat with a hose-reel jet, extinguished the fire and rescued a male casualty who was

treated for smoke-inhalation by Ambulance service personnel at the scene.

Incident Number: 25445 - 02/09/06

Following an early morning automatic fire alarm actuation, two fire appliances attended premises at the Winchwen Industrial Estate. On arrival crews were confronted with a commercial van that had been deliberately parked next to the rear doors of the property and set on fire. The fire spread into the premises comprising a building of multiple units measuring some 60m x 20m and used for the storage of legal documents. Four firefighters wearing breathing apparatus fought the blaze using two hose-reel jets and thermal imaging cameras.

Incident Number: 24563 – 27/08/06

Two appliances attended an early morning kitchen fire at Brynmill. Seven firefighters wearing breathing apparatus fought the fire in the rear kitchen that was eventually extinguished using one hose-reel jet.

Conditions inside the property were extremely 'congested' and made searching for the fire extremely difficult. One elderly male casualty was treated for the effects of smoke inhalation and conveyed to hospital by Ambulance for further treatment.

Incident Number: 23669 - 20/08/06

The Service was notified of a female pouring petrol over her kitchen floor whilst she had children in the property. Two appliances were mobilised to the incident at Waunarlwydd with instructions to approach silently i.e. no two-tone horns. The Police subsequently dealt with the incident, no fire ensued and Service personnel were involved in clearing away the petrol using absorbent granules.

Incident Number: 29180 - 28/09/06

One fire appliance plus a rescue tender attended a call to an elderly gentleman whose foot had become trapped between a car park wall and his car at the car park to the rear of Richmond Flats, Richmond Court, Swansea. Personnel subsequently released him car using both high and low pressure lifting bags from the rescue tender. Once released the gentleman was conveyed to hospital by Ambulance.

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

Community Safety

Home Fire Safety Audits

To assist in the prevention of domestic fires, Swansea Command is continuing to actively promote Free Home Fire Safety Audits (H.F.S.A.). From 1st April 2006 to 30th September 2006 we as a Command have delivered 1074 H.F.S.A.'s, with 140 refusals.

Hot Strike

Following any domestic property fire that the Service attends, the operational crew will aim to deliver a Hot Strike campaign. If they are unable to do this they will inform the Swansea Community Safety Department who will deliver this. This type of campaign allows us to talk to people after a high profile incident when they can

actually see the dangers of fire.

The Command attended fifty six domestic property fires within this reporting period, with the resultant number of 'Hot Strikes' carried out.

Arson Reduction

To protect identified at risk families, the Community Safety Team, in conjunction with the Swansea Bay Arson Reduction Team, will conduct Home Fire Safety Audits of the families homes and, as an additional arson protection measure, will fit fire resistant letterbox protection. This prevents ignited flammable materials entering the property via the letterbox. From 1st April, eight such protection devices have been fitted.

Working with young children and young people

Youth Groups

From 1st April seventeen Youth Groups dealing with issues such as Arson, Home Safety and RTC Reduction have participated in intervention programmes or visits from the Community Safety Team. These include both YFF crews at Morriston, the completion of one Phoenix Course, the first Fire School, which is a half day intervention programme carried out over several weeks, three Autocrime and two Fire Setting interventions, a visit to the Brownies. These resulted in 2670 young people receiving fire awareness education by the Community Safety Team.

Schools Education Programme

We have a dedicated Schools Education Advisor and, during this reporting period, she has attended thirty nine schools delivering the message of fire safety and cultural awareness issues in line with the National Curriculum.

Chip Pan Demonstrations

During this financial year, the Community Safety Team has carried out twenty six chip pan demonstrations. These have been conducted for the following audiences, Age Concern, the Phoenix Course and families, one in Singleton Park and two within Swansea City Centre, and the Hafod fun day which has resulted in eight hundred and fourteen members of the public witnessing the effects of attempting to extinguish a chip pan fire using water.

Safety Squad

The Swansea Bay Arson Reduction Team has introduced a scheme called Safety Squad, which is designed to reduce or eliminate the risk of arson to school premises. This is being achieved by training the pupils of the schools in arson reduction identification and elimination methods, all of which are recorded on an arson reduction inspection pro-forma.

To date sixty eight schools are now part of the Safety Squad initiative.

Road Traffic Collision (RTC) Reduction

The Command is actively trying to reduce the number of RTC's and their impact on society. We are working in partnership with several organisations to achieve this goal, one of which is with the City & County of Swansea Road Safety Department, in providing an Impact vehicle to dramatically show the consequences of an RTC and the injuries that can be received by the occupants of the vehicles.

The vehicle has now been delivered along with the mannequins and wound patches, and it made its successful debut at the National Eisteddfod.

Further displays are planned for the Daniel James school, and to coincide with National Road Safety Week (Brake), in partnership with the Swansea City Council Road Safety Department and Police, the Impact Vehicle will be displayed in Wind Street and Tycoch College, and again at the Legal Road Cruise planned in Clydach 26th November.

Eisteddfod

This year's Eisteddfod held within Swansea Command at Felindre, between 5 and 12 August 2006. The Command, on behalf of Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service, organised the event including a Community Safety stand, which incorporated all 3 Welsh Fire and Rescue Services, FireBrake Wales and had a two pronged theme of Home Fire Safety Audits and Road Traffic Collision Reduction. The RTC reduction impact vehicle made its debut at the event and made a huge impact with the public giving a graphic visual demonstration of the effects of a RTC from several perspectives.

Young Mothers Sure Start

The Command Community Safety Department in partnership with Sure Start has designed courses to give young mothers life skills, which include home safety. Two courses have been run during the reporting period aimed at Fire safety in The Home, a total of twelve young mothers have attended the courses. As the courses have proved to be particularly successful, work is now underway to extend access to the course to all parents.

Fire Safe Courses

A course designed to address child behavioural problems, which include firesetting, has been implemented within the command. This is a course consisting of ten one and a half-hour sessions with the child and parent. Six sessions have been completed to date.

COMMAND ORGANISATION

Phased Alerting

The implementation of phased alerting at Reynoldston Fire station has resulted in a more efficient use of resources. The new system only alerts 5 personnel for co-responder calls, instead of the full compliment of the station, i.e. 14 persons. Only 2 persons are required to crew the co-responder appliance and the alerting of 5 personnel gives a generous safety margin in terms of numbers needed and numbers alerted.

This results in a better work life balance for personnel and more effective use of financial resources.

Organisational Command Structure Changes

To enable a greater managerial support to departments, in particular the Fire Safety Inspection and Enforcement and the Community Safety department, the Managerial structure has now changed. The two departments will now be governed by a Station Manager (Scale B) who will oversee the overall performance of the departments. This manager will be assisted by two Station Managers (Scale A) These managers will be office managers, responsible for the day to day activities of the departments.

Aerial Rescue Pump

The County Commander is currently reviewing the best location to place the new ARP. The review will focus on the best fit in terms of training availability and accessibility. A number of proposals have already been put forward through consultations with staff, and further work will be carried out when further information regarding the training commitments and crewing strategies is made available.

Personal Development Opportunities

To widen the number and type of development opportunities available to individuals, the Commander has instigated a system whereby personnel can migrate between departments, as and when the departmental strengths are sufficient to allow personnel to move to another for a short period. This will allow personnel to experience the work of other departments, and in the case of low operational activity departments, allow maintenance of operational competency.

FIRE SAFETY INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT DEPARTMENT

All officers have been trained in the new procedures and policies that have been enacted as part of the Regulatory Reform order. Officers have been actively informing stakeholders of the effects of the changes in a bid to assist Business and Commerce to adapt to the new rules.

As previously reported work on the SA1 development is continuing to create much work for the fire safety officers and some notable premises have now been completed, namely the Vue cinema.

The department has maintained its excellent record of completing 100% of all building regulation consultations within the target time scale. Furthermore 100% of licensing applications have been acknowledged and responded to within the target time scales.

Staff from the Fire Safety Inspection and enforcement department also supplemented the Community Safety Staff at the National Eisteddfod.

Staff assisted in delivering the RTC reduction Impact Vehicle display, educating the public in the dangers of driving at speed and the importance of correct seat belt and child car safety seat use.

CEREDIGION COUNTY COMMAND

Incidents of Interest:

Penparcau, Aberystwyth

Aberystwyth station was mobilised at 1100 to a housing estate in Penparcau. A male had barricaded himself in to the bedroom of his former girlfriend's house and had poured petrol throughout the ground floor and was threatening to kill himself. On arrival, crews discreetly deployed fire fighting equipment and advised the police on the potential consequences if he was to light the petrol. A number of houses were evacuated whilst trained negotiators succeeded in resolving the situation.

Penrhiwllan, New Quay

A frail elderly person stumbled and fell back against an electric fire, becoming

impaled onto a decorative spike on the front of the fire. Crews from Llandysul and New Quay attended and used a pedal cutter to remove the spike. The casualty was then conveyed to hospital by ambulance.

Joppa, Llanrhystud

A call was received on the 9th September 2006 at 1550 hours to 'pallets on fire outside premises'. On arrival of the first appliance, the building was found to be well alight and the Officer in Charge made pumps three. The premises were used as a saw mill and coal yard and were made up of three large adjoining sheds. On arrival, one shed was well alight and had breached the boundary wall between the other sheds. Initially, two jets were used and a water shuttle was set up with three pumps and further water was supplied from a LPP set in to a nearby stream. Four BAs and two jets were used to tackle the fire with a further two jets used to cool down the sawdust and debris removed from the shed using a mechanical excavator. The fire was contained to the shed of origin. The last appliance left the premises at 2243 hours.

Picton Terrace, New Quay

A call was received at 1437 hours on the 28th September 2006 to Picton Terrace, New Quay. A tanker delivering Kerosene heating oil had sustained a tank coupling failure, causing approximately 300 gallons of oil to be spilled onto the roadway. The oil entered the surface water drainage system and discharged onto the local beach. The crews from New Quay, Aberaeron and Llanelli's Environmental Unit attended and attempted to isolate the leak and prevent the oil from affecting the surrounding area, using environmental spill packs carried on appliances. Residents in the vicinity were relocated away from the fumes of the spilt material. Ceredigion County Council and the Environment Agency were involved in the cleanup following the incident.

Trefenter, Llangwryfron

A call was received on the 12th October 2006 at 1502 hours. On arrival, crews from Aberystwyth and Aberaeron were met with a well-developed fire involving, primarily, the ground floor of the premises. Two crews of two Breathing Apparatus wearers were committed and extinguished the fire with high pressure hose reels. The aerial appliance was used to remove burned fascia boards and to expose the roof void to check for fire spread. A third Breathing Apparatus crew were committed to ventilate the upper floor of the premises. The occupier of the property arrived and behaved inappropriately and police officers were called to control the situation. Fire investigation was carried out and crews removed fire debris and damped down remaining sections of the premises.

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

Phoenix/Respect Courses

The pilot Phoenix/Respect course for Ceredigion Command was undertaken at Aberystwyth Fire Station on the 14th – 18th August 2006. Six students successfully completed the course. Initial feedback from students and the Youth Offending Team staff that supported the course indicate that the course was of great benefit to the young people. The course is for 13-17 year olds and the objectives are to increase self-esteem, self-confidence, leadership & communication skills. The course runs Monday to Friday with a pass-out parade on the Friday. The next course is planned for January 2007.

Crucial Crew

Community Safety staff attended Ceredigion's Crucial Crew on 25th – 29th September with the kitchen fire demonstration unit. Over 980 pupils aged 7-11 attended the event to receive safety messages from various agencies.

Aberystwyth University Freshers

Six talks over three days were given to over 3,000 freshers during freshers week to educate them on fire safety. The wholetime crews also attended the Freshers Fair to give out home fire safety audit information.

999 Day

Tregaron Fire Station personnel attended a 999 day in Tregaron that was also attended by the Police, Ambulance and Coastguard Services. Tregaron crews promoted Home Fire Safety Audits, gave two chip pan fire demonstrations and displayed RTC reduction material. In excess of 120 children and parents attended the day.

Chip Pan Fire Demonstrations

Lampeter crews attended Lampeter Food Festival and gave 4 chip pan fire demonstrations. Aberaeron crews attended Aberaeron Seafood Festival and gave 2 chip pan fire demonstrations. Aberystwyth retained crews attended the RNLI open day and gave 3 chip pan demonstrations. New Quay crews gave 1 demonstration at a community centre open day.

Community Safety Talks

The Community Safety Department have been busy generating Home Fire Safety Audit requests from target communities. Talks have been given to various organisations such as a hard of hearing group, WI groups and day centres.

Home Fire Safety Audits

Home Fire Safety Audits are on target. The Community Safety Department and stations are concentrating on targeting at-risk communities and vulnerable persons.

RTC Reduction

The Command, working in partnership with Dyfed Powys Police, ran several young drivers awareness courses. A course held in June at Aberystwyth was attended by 15 young drivers. In July, courses were held for Ceredigion Training which were attended by 28 young persons. Another 24 young people attended courses in August, September and October. Speeding, how it kills, and anti-social driving, including drink driving, are the main points being emphasised on the course. Fire and Police staff gives a valuable insight on the many aspects of dangerous driving.

Young Firefighters

Preparations are currently underway to start a YFF Branch in Aberystwyth in early 2007.

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY COMMAND

This report details the service delivery provisions for stations within the Neath Port Talbot County Command for the reporting period April 2006- September 2006.

The report specifically relates to the Community Risk Reduction and Operational Risk Management Activity.

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

Home Fire Safety Audits Running total April 06 – September 06.

Stations are actively undertaking Home Fire Safety Audits in the areas targeted in the respective stations 2006/2007 Business plans. The Stations are also continuing to undertake requests for audits that are made through partnership organisations.

COMMUNITY SAFETY

PHOENIX

NPT Command now continues to run their own independent courses, catering for Youth Inclusion Programs (YIP), Youth Offending Teams (YOT), Alternative curriculum's (AC), Local Education Authority (LEA) and other youth organisations. The aim of the course is to work and invest in young people for their benefit and in turn the wider community, targeting 13-17 year olds. The objectives of the course are to increase self-esteem, self-confidence, leadership & communication skills and to improve motivation. The course runs from Monday to Friday and is intensive both in its content and supervision. To date NPTCC have run 5 courses with a further 5 scheduled. MAWWFRS are now an accredited centre for Oxford Cambridge Recognition level one (OCR). A pilot scheme is to commence within NPTCC in November 06, targeting referrals from the LEA. To achieve the OCR accreditation, the young people must attend the Phoenix 5-day intense course plus an additional one-day per week over a six week period.

YOT

The Youth Offending Fire Officer (YOFO) continues to attend the Youth Offending Team (YOT) offices 2 days per week, making himself available for referrals and other questions relating to the Fire Service and the reduction of arson, auto-crime and fire setting.

MAWWFRS support for the YOT and their initiatives of 8 hours per week is consistently met and often exceeded. Young people from the YOT are also referred onto the Phoenix course.

Forest School

A Forest school has been operating in the borough since September 2003 and offers an alternative curriculum to young people aged 14-18 years who may be described as non-achievers or a disruptive influence due to lack of interest in mainstream education. The school runs for a duration of 10 weeks, one day per week. One officer from the Community Safety Department within the NPTCC has undergone a three day intensive leadership course which enables the Officer to assist Forest School Leaders. Three courses are scheduled this year with a commitment from NPTCC to support all courses. To date one course has been completed and second ongoing.

Schools Liaison Officer's Role within Neath Port Talbot Command

Within the command area are a total of 86 schools. Every single school will receive at least one visit per annum from the Schools Officer. Infants, Junior and Primary, as well as Secondary schools are all targeted.

The specific age groups that are targeted are as follows:

Key Stage 1 (ages 5 to 7) – Infant Schools

Key Stage 2 (ages 9 to 10) – Junior and Primary Schools

Key Stage 3 (ages 11 to 13) – Secondary and Comprehensive Schools

Key Stage 4 (ages 14 – 16) – Secondary and Comprehensive Schools

The purpose of programme is to educate the young people about the dangers of fire, prevention, detection, and how to escape from fire situations. The programme thereby not only assists the Comand in creating links and partnerships with the schools and young people but will also assist in the reduction of fires, injuries and fatalities.

From 2006 MAWWFRS will be delivering the new key stage 1 “Tanni” which is part of the all Wales Fire and Rescue Service education strategy.

Since the commencement of the term beginning September 2006 the schools delivery statistics are as follows;

School visits completed: Infant Schools; 2 completed.

Primary Schools; 4 completed.

Comprehensives; 24 visits to 4 schools completed.

School visits booked: Infant Schools; 4 booked.

(up to December 2006)

Primary Schools; 13 booked.

Comprehensives; 34 visits booked.

The above statistics indicate that the problems of gaining access to some of the comprehensive schools in the area have been overcome this academic year.

Fire Safety Legislation Regulatory Reform Order 2005

The Regulatory Reform Order 2005 (RRO) came into force on the 1st October 2006. Personnel in the Community Safety Legislative Department received guidance and instruction during the preceding months of this milestone in UK Fire Safety. This preparation ensured service delivery continued uninterrupted, whilst our working methodology and administration processes were amended over a two week period to enable us to implement the legal requirements of this new legislation.

Valley Strategy Meetings

Throughout the month of October Neath Port Talbot Officers have attended a series of local meetings that have been held throughout the Borough.

Following the publication of the Authorities “Valley Strategy” document which had previously undergone extensive consultation with its main Community Plan Partners, the meetings were designed to move the process forward by discussing how individual partners and organisations in conjunction with the local communities could meet the objectives set out in the strategy document.

Whilst the Neath Port Talbot Community Plan remains the overarching strategic

plan for the county borough, the programmes and objectives set out in the Valley Strategy document will assist in the application of specific themes and targets to the valleys.

Margam Show August 26th & 27th

Deaths and injuries from road collisions are a blight on our communities and fire fighters have become increasingly skilled and professional in utilising the sophisticated rescue equipment that they carry to effect rescues. At the Margam Show this year, a number of demonstrations were carried out in the central arena. when personnel demonstrated the complex skills required to rescue an injured person from road traffic collisions.

Pontardawe Fire Station

Rural Farm Initiative:

Fire crews at Pontardawe have actively engaged on a new rural risk reduction initiative. Farms in the Pontardawe and surrounding area have been identified as high risk to fire. Crews have been accessing the farms of the area, using the Transit 4X4 appliance to carry out HFSA. The initiative has gathered momentum as the message is passed from farm to farm. Demand for the service is strong and resources are being directed to satisfy the need when available.

Cwmllynfell Community Initiative

Fire crews have recently engaged with the Pensioners Group at Cwmllynfell to drive home the Community Safety message. An informative talk on safety in the home has resulted a list of names being submitted requesting a HFSA. Crews are working to satisfy these targeted needs in the valley community.

A meeting with the very successful Neighbourhood Watch committee at Cwmllynfell has resulted in Street Wardens taking the community safety message back to their individual streets. It is intended that this process will generate a demand for our community safety services across the Cwmllynfell and surrounding areas.

Arson Reduction Team

The Arson Reduction team has been employed to assist fire crews with an ongoing arson problem at Pontardawe. Particular attention is drawn to redundant education stock, which causes a serious problem across the NPT and indeed Swansea area. The concern here is that disused school fires can lead to escalation directed at our valuable existing school stock.

Glynneath Fire Station

Arson Reduction Team

Fire crews are working with Neighbourhood Policing units and PCSO's at Glynneath to defuse an arson risk at the Old Welfare Ground. A disused building is attracting the wrong sort of attention from local youths and every effort is being made to secure the building.

Port Talbot Fire Station

Deployment of mass decontamination dis-robing vehicle

The New Dimensions Programme is a significant part of the government's Civil Contingencies Capability Programme and its aim is to enhance the UK's preparedness and resilience by improving the capability of the UK Fire & Rescue Service to respond to major and catastrophic incidents.

As a result various vehicles and modules are being strategically placed throughout the Fire & Rescue Services of England and Wales to give maximum coverage to the country. One such vehicle and module has been deployed at Port Talbot Fire Station, a MAN Prime Mover and a Mass Decontamination Disrobing Module.

This capability provides a large number of dis-robe packs for those persons requiring decontamination and they are designed to preserve the privacy of those involved. Individuals would be able to remove their contaminated clothing utilising one of the robes provided prior to decontamination. Approximately 80% of the contaminant will be dispensed with when clothing is discarded and bagged. Following a shower process, re-robe packs would be issued.

Driver Training and familiarisation of the vehicle has commenced with manual handling and operative training programmed in the coming months, it is envisaged that training will be completed by the end of the year.

Cymmer

Joint Training Exercise - 4 October 2006

On the 4 October 2006 Cymmer Fire Station took part in a Joint Training Exercise with the Ambulance Service at the local Earlswood Training Centre. Paramedics joined Firefighters in dealing with a simulated Road Traffic Collision and the exercise involved the use of live casualties who were trapped in the vehicles. The aim of the exercise was to safely release all casualties using the accepted service procedures but to do so in terms of identified medical need. This was achieved through effective communication between both services giving both services a better understanding of the procedures and protocols of each of the organisations.

Other Events

Throughout the summer months 14 high profile, high audience events in all areas of Neath Port Talbot Command have been targeted with Chip Pan demonstrations as 70% of injuries from fire in the home are cooking related.

P01 Neath- Neath Carnival, Tonna Carnival & Briton Ferry Festival.

P02 Glynneath – Glynneath Carnival, Resolven Carnival

P03 Cymmer- Glyncorwg Ponds,

P04 Port Talbot – Margam Show, Aberavon Beach Festival & Startwell/Surestart Open Day

P05 Seven Sisters- Banwen Carnival & Seven Sisters Carnival.

P06 Pontardawe – Pontardawe Festival & Comm First Fete Ystalyfera.

POWYS COUNTY COMMAND

OPERATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT

Fire Fatalities:

No fire fatalities occurred during this reporting period.

Other Fatalities:

Incident No 13959

On 29 June 2006 one male fatality occurred on the A470 at Pontybat Crossroads between Brecon and Llyswen

Incident No 14077

On 30 June 2006 an elderly female body was recovered from the river Wye in Rhayader.

Incident No 15032

On 6 July 2006 a man died when his car was involved in a collision with a Ministry of Defence (Army) Landrover on the A40 outside the Glanusk Estate near Crickhowell.

Incident No 18697

On 25 July 2006 a male teenage youth died whilst swimming in the river Wye adjacent to the Royal Welsh Showground.

Incident No 22407

On 13 August 2006 two male adults died in a 2 vehicle RTC outside Nant Ddu Lodge on the A470 Brecon to Merthyr road.

Incident No 24330

On 25 August 2006 one male died in an RTC near Penstrowed Garage on the A489 from Newtown to Caersws.

Fire Rescues: None

Incidents of interest:

Special Service Calls

Incident No 12825

On 20 June 06 the Llanidloes boat was utilised to rescue a male from the River Severn in Llanidloes. He had fallen from a rope bridge at the outdoor centre and had suffered a broken leg.

Incident No 20465

On 2 August 2006 Llandrindod Wells crews were mobilised to rescue a child who had fallen inside a haystack. The stack was the height of a 2 storey building.

Incident No 25495

On 2 September 2006 three appliances from Brecon and Talgarth were mobilised to Sennybridge Show. A marquee measuring had collapsed due to high winds. The crews evacuated all other marquees and made safe.

Incident No 27477

On 16 September 2006 Llanfyllin and Newtown were mobilised to Llanrhaeadr ym Mochnant when a male fell down the 'Pistyll Falls'. The falls are the highest in Wales. The casualty was suffering from the onset of hypothermia.

Incident No 27674

On 18 September 2006 crews from Newtown and the boat from Llanidloes were mobilised when a private vehicle crashed into the canal near Abermule. One male was rescued by FS personnel.

Animal Rescues

Incident No 12393

On 17 June 2006 appliances from Newtown, Welshpool and Llanidloes rescued a cow from the Severn using the Llanidloes boat and lines.

Incident 25217

On 31 August 2006 Llandrindod Wells crews made a forced entry in order to rescue a dog and a budgerigar from a smoke logged premises. The fire was caused by cooking left unattended.

Others

Powys FRS attended a total of 51 Co-responder incidents in the county during the reporting period.

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

CFS Work Carried out by Powys Fire Station and CFS Dept Personnel June 20th – September 30th 2006.

Home Fire Safety Audits

A total of 498 Home Fire Safety Checks were carried out during the reporting period.

Schools Programme

Following the appointment of 2 part time Community Safety Assistants on May 2nd, the Schools Programme has made good progress. As well as visits to 25 schools, the assistants have contributed to 4 Crucial Crew days and become involved in the HFSA programme.

Partnership working

Royal Welsh Agricultural Show – All three Welsh Fire and Rescue Services were present at the Show in July. All contributed to the generation of HFSA referrals and supported each other during the four days to create a real team effort. The Powys Road Safety Partnership was well represented by talks revolving around the crashed cars/motorbike display. The Community Safety venue was once again arranged by SM Graham Jackson who did an excellent job in co-ordinating all the agencies and liaising with the Show Ground staff that resulted in a well managed and informative event for members of the public to appreciate. MAWWFRS personnel also provided fire cover for the show and attended three incidents, one which included the recovery of a male teenage fatality from the river adjacent to the showground.

New Partnership – A new partnership with the Probation Service has been set up enabling large numbers of rural properties being leafleted re Home Fire Safety Checks.

Keep Safe and Well Day – The second Keep Safe & Well event of the year took place at Machynlleth Leisure Centre on 31st July.

Community Fire Safety Talks

Community Safety Dept and Station personnel delivered talks to 3 groups. The emphasis, as well as being about fire safety, was firmly on HFSA request generation.

Chip Pan Fire Demonstrations

The good weather made it possible to carry out more Chip Pan Fire Demonstrations and a total of six were completed. Fire Safety advice was also issued at these demonstrations.

Community Safety Partnership

Road Safety Partnership

Motorbike Safety – FRS personnel and Powys Road Safety Officers attended a Biker meeting at Crossgates. Whilst the youngsters were difficult to engage the older members were aware of risks. A profile of those involved in accidents were one-third locally based one-third from South Wales and one-third from the West Midlands.

GM Richard Fry recently attended a 'Bike Safe' Course arranged by Dyfed Powys Police. An article was put into local press to promote the course.

Accident Roadside Posters – FRS personnel recently attended a community forum in East Radnor where Accident Roadside Posters were seen to give a positive message. However, the Trunk Road Agency class these as unauthorised signs and efforts are being made to find another way of highlighting the safety message by using posters instead of signs as part of next year's road safety campaign.

CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COMMAND

OPERATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT

Fatalities

0 fire fatality to report.
6 Special Service Call

Incidents of Interest:

Calsonic Factory Llanelli -16th June 2006

Fire in paint mixing plant, paint spray booth and small section of roof involved.

New Dock Stars Rugby Club, St Georges, Trostre Road, Llanelli

On 13th July 2006 MP3 fire involving kitchen of rugby club 10x30m heavily smoke logged. One fire casualty treated at the scene by Ambulance.

A48 Eastbound Carriageway Crosshands Roundabout

On 14th July 2006 RTC involving 1 vehicle, 1 fatality; vehicle made safe by Fire Safety personnel, casualty removed by Fire Service using hydraulic cutting equipment.

A484, Kidwelly Bypass

On 26th July 2006 an RTC involving 2 vehicles and one motorcycle; 2 motorcyclist fatalities. 1 casualty from each vehicle treated by ambulance assisted by Fire Service Personnel.

Nursing Home, Queen Street, Llanelli

On 17th August 2006 a fire on first floor in airing cupboard. Premises smoke logged. 14 residents 3 bed bound to be relocated by social services.

Road between Pentrecagal and woollen Mill

On 18th August 2006 an RTC involving 1 car and 1 motorcycle. 1 fatality

A40 Bancyfelin Turnoff, near St Clears

On 9th September 2006 RTC involving 2 vehicles, 4 persons released prior to arrival of Fire service – 1 fatality.

A4138 between Dafen and Hendy

On 6th October 2006 SSC – RTC 1 motor vehicle, 1 male fatality

Cartref Annwyl Fan, Colonel Road, Bettws

On 10th October 2006 a fire involving tumble dryer in basement laundry of nursing home – 13 residents evacuated to safe area in building- 6 treated by Ambulance at scene.

Glyn Moch Flats, Ammanford

On 14th October 2006 SSC- RTC involving HGV lorry, light goods van and 1 private motor vehicle. 1 female severely trapped and released using cutting equipment. 2 infants with Ambulance.

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

CFS Activities

Fire Safety Talks:-

Communities First Healthy Living Day's
Tai Hafan Family Centre, Drefach
Tumble O.A.P's
Betws Family Centre
Llanybyther Family Centre
Pencader Family Centre
Y.W.C.A. Llanelli
Pontarothi O.A.P's
Carmarthen Foster Carers
Ysgol Gyfun Newcastle Emlyn
Ysgol Y Dderwen Palyscheme

Crucial Crew – Treforest Safety Zone (Communities first)
- Carmarthenshire Learning Difficulties (Showground)

Megadrive – Ammanford Comprehensive School

Urdd Appeal – Llanpumpsaint Park

Impact Road Safety Talk– Kidwelly (Stn Anniversary)
- United Counties Show
- Carmarthen Outreach Project
- Newcastle Emlyn Show
- TA Barracks, Carmarthen
- Llwynhendy Education Centre
- Llandovery Town Centre (Motorcyclist)

Chip Pan Display – Llandysul Food Festival
- Llandovery
- Newcastle Emlyn Show
- Ysgol Gyfan Newcastle Emlyn
- Pontarothi O.A.P's
- Llanedi Carnival, Llanelli

Face Referral – Capel Hendre, Ammanford

Brownies (F/S Badge) – Pontyates Brownies.

F/S Training (Carers) – CCTA Llanelli
- CCTA Ammanford
- Tumble Fire Station

Publicity Events – Welsh Game Fair (Gelli Aur)
- Royal Welsh Show
- United Counties Show
- Drefach/ Felindre Carnival

September

Radio Interview – DS Jones – Home Fire Safety Checks
- Young Fire Fighters Llanelli

2 X visits (Llanelli)

Pass Plus Cymru (Road Safety Education/ Awareness)

Keep Well This Winter Campaigns – St Clears
- Kidwelly
- Llandovery

Multi Agency Advice Evening for Portuguese Community.

Mega Drive Event – Carmarthen Showground
Medal Presentation – Impact Road Safety unit

