

SERVICE DELIVERY REPORT

Mid & West Wales Area Total																							APR - SEP		
County Command	FDR 1			Small			Chimney			Hoax			Good Intent			AFA			SSC			Total			
	06/07	07/08	08/09	06/07	07/08	08/09	06/07	07/08	08/09	06/07	07/08	08/09	06/07	07/08	08/09	06/07	07/08	08/09	06/07	07/08	08/09	06/07	07/08	08/09	
Carmarthenshire	206	175	196	307	250	195	11	14	4	23	32	22	131	125	108	275	236	351	300	278	338	1253	1110	1214	
Ceredigion	110	92	60	92	98	45	9	6	6	35	28	14	47	37	32	241	227	216	133	199	156	667	687	529	
Neath & Port Talbot	291	248	199	861	713	385	1	1	2	66	61	55	204	230	168	187	210	205	237	264	219	1847	1727	1233	
Pembrokeshire	156	109	105	261	172	90	15	17	6	14	12	24	59	74	50	188	243	228	354	348	343	1047	975	846	
Powys	146	138	127	175	231	99	30	26	15	14	23	33	66	94	59	238	232	237	251	274	351	920	1018	921	
Swansea	415	371	342	1239	1194	807	4	2	1	105	93	109	292	291	212	567	551	639	427	449	455	3049	2951	2565	
TOTAL	1324	1133	1029	2935	2658	1621	70	66	34	257	249	257	799	851	629	1696	1699	1876	1702	1812	1862	8783	8468	7308	

	Carmarthen	Ceredigion	Neath/P Talbot	Pembroke	Powys	Swansea	Service
HFSC Targets	4600	1600	4150	2038	2700	5050	20138
No of HFSCs carried out (inc Ops, CS & Ext Ag)	2065	912	2021	819	1548	1864	9229
By Operational Personnel	1232	773	1885	653	1539	1795	7877
By Community Safety Personnel	687	23	115	166	9	64	1064
By Outside Agencies	146	116	21	0	0	5	288
No of Smoke Alarms fitted	2317	754	1478	945	1662	1604	8760
No of Programmed School Visits carried out	44	18	17	10	21	23	133
% of High Risk Premises Audited	22.22%	44.44%	31.91%	53.75%	22.50%	26.73%	31.98%
% of Building Regs completed within the time scale	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COMMAND

OPERATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT

Fatalities

No fire fatalities to report

Two fatalities from Road Traffic Collisions

One fatality in SSC

Incidents of Interest

Heol y Bryn, Tumble

On 1 August 2008 an RTC involving bus in collision with car and wall, one male fatality. Seats removed from single decker bus for removal of casualty, vehicle made safe.

Cefn Sidan beach, Pembrey

On the 3 August 2008 a SSC involving one male buried in the sand was extricated by Fire Service personnel in conjunction with ambulance and doctor, he was taken to hospital by air ambulance but unfortunately died.

Penallt Road, Llanelli

On the 3 October 2008 house fire, one female rescued by Fire Service personnel, total of two females conveyed to hospital by ambulance. 4 Bas in use.

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

56 Community Risk Reduction activities took place over the reporting period, some examples are listed below:

An article in the South Wales Evening Post Friday Promoting the RAPTOR course for the Back and Ethnic Minority group at Llanelli

All Wales Drink and Drugs Campaign Launch at Police Headquarters. RTC static display and presentation to delegates

'Fire Safety in the Home' Course at Carmarthen for Child Carers

Black and Ethnic Minority Raptor Day at Llanelli

Carmarthen Breath Easy Group, Johnstown talk on Home Fire Safety

Neighbourhood Watch Event at Ivy Bush Carmarthen / Home Fire Safety stand and presentation to delegates

CEREDIGION COUNTY COMMAND

OPERATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT

Fatalities from fire

No fatalities to report

One fatality from RTC attended by the Fire and Rescue Service

Incidents of Interest

On the 4 July 2008 at 2339 hours Fire Control received the first of many calls to the Tabernacle Chapel in Mill Street Aberystwyth. On the arrival of the first appliance, the fire was well developed the ground floor was well alight and had already spread to the first floor. The occupants of Mill Street, Blue Gardens and Powell Street were evacuated and a rest centre set up at the nearby RAFA club. Six appliances and an aerial appliance were required to tackle the fire with a seventh appliance in attendance to implement the Incident Command System (ICS). At its height 6 jets were used and four BA sets. SOCO and Fire Investigators have carried out a thorough investigation, and concluded that the fire was started by deliberate ignition by person or persons unknown.

On the 28 July 2008 crews from Aberystwyth and Machynlleth attended a house fire at Tynllidiart Bontgoch which had spread to the next door holiday home. 3 appliances attended and on arrival the house was well alight and fire through the roof. Crews were able to stop the fire spreading substantially to next door. The occupier suffered burns to

his face and smoke inhalation and was taken to hospital by ambulance.

On the 29 August 2008 at 1249 hours rescue pumps from Aberaeron and New Quay were called to a road traffic collision at the Ship Inn, Pennant involving a car which had collided with a building, causing serious structural damage. Crews were engaged in making vehicle safe and traffic duties whilst waiting the arrival of the local authority to take charge of the scene and make the building safe.

On the 8 September 2008 at 1929 hours a call was received to a person requiring rescue from a second storey scaffold at High Street, St Dogmaels, Cardigan. Crews were initially involved in stabilising the casualty along with the ambulance service, but due to the person's fragile state it was deemed necessary to utilise the Service's specialist rope rescue team. The casualty was monitored and remained in a comfortable position whilst the specialist team set up equipment ready for a detailed and precise lowering action to ground level at which point the ambulance personnel took the lead.

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

Items of Interest

The second Princes Trust Team Programme for Ceredigion based at Cardigan has been completed successfully and another Programme based at Aberystwyth started on the 15 September. Roy Evans a retained firefighter at Cardigan Fire Station will again act as Team Leader for the course. Funding was obtained from the Welsh Assembly Community Safety Grant.

Another successful Phoenix course has been completed at Lampeter Fire Station where nine young persons successfully completed the course.

Following a successful bid under the Small Arson Grant a course was held in Tregaron with six school children to develop their awareness and impact of deliberate fire setting on the environment in an effort to reduce the number of deliberate grass fires in the Tregaron areas. This course was run in partnership with the Youth Offending Team and a further course is planned for Cardigan.

The Command has hosted three Pass Plus Cymru courses and has been involved in a three day Megadrive held at Aberporth and held a RTC awareness course in the College of Further Education in Aberystwyth.

Arson initiatives have taken place following the Tabernacle Chapel fire, Spartacus shop and grass fires in the Gaufron area of Aberystwyth, which resulted in the provision of CCTV and a number of warning notices, which should reduce the incidence of deliberate fire raising of gorse and grassland. Following the Tabernacle Chapel fire four young persons had been referred to the Command to undertake the Firesafe programme.

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY COMMAND

The Service recently appointed a new County Commander, Group Manager Steve Mclinden and Assistant County Commander Operations and Training, Station Manager

Rob Quin.

OPERATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT

Incidents of interest

Cilmaengwyn Road, Cilmaengwyn, Pontardawe

On the 27 August 2008 at 0342 hours, crews from Pontardawe and Morryston attended a fire in an Indian Takeaway. The fire was located in the basement which was used as living accommodation. The initial attendance of two water tenders was increased to three by the Watch Manager in charge and the incident extinguished with the use of 2 hose reel jets and 4 breathing apparatus wearers.

The circumstances surrounding ignition were suspicious and warranted further investigation as the cause could not be determined and there were some signs to indicate that arson may have been responsible. To assess whether accelerants such as petrol or paraffin had been used to assist the ignition and development of the fire, the Incident Commander requested assistance from South Wales Fire and Rescue Service in the form of a specially trained arson dog able to identify whether petrochemicals are present even after combustion has taken place. The dog did his job well and detected two possible areas suspected as having petrol residue. The investigation is ongoing.

Monkton Cruising & Sailing Club, Earlswood, Briton Ferry

On the 27 August 2008 at 1602 hours, crews from Port Talbot and Neath were mobilised to a report of a yacht on fire at the Monkton Cruising and Sailing Club at Briton Ferry. On arrival they discovered a serious fire in the cabin and accommodation space of a 27 ft sailing yacht. The yacht was in dry dock undergoing repairs when the fire broke out, accidental ignition being the cause. The crews tackled the fire using foam delivered by 2 hose reel jets and 1 main jet, the water to produce the foam being supplied from the dock / marina. Unfortunately the fire was well established on arrival and despite it being quickly brought under control the fire damage to the vessel was severe.

Command Exercises

Exercise White Cloud 15 July 2008

Vale Inco is one of a number of Comah (Control of Major Accident Hazards) sites within Mid and West Wales which are regulated by the Comah Regulations 1999. As part of these regulations Vale Inco are required to stage regular exercises in order to test their on-site plan and the response of the emergency services. As part of this protocol an exercise (named Exercise White Cloud) was held on Tuesday 15 July 2008. This exercise simulated an uncontrolled leakage of hydrogen gas from the large hydrogen holders within the Inco site and tested the response of on-site personnel and Fire and Rescue crews. A total of four fire appliances and a chemical incident unit were mobilised from various local stations along with specialist officers. Following the incident a full debrief was held which allowed learning points to be discussed in order to shape future best practice.

Exercise Wheelchair

On the 3 September 2008 an exercise was arranged at Neath Port Talbot Hospital, Baglan, Port Talbot. The aim of the exercise was to test evacuation procedures of an

identified ward within the hospital for hospital staff and to test firefighting search and rescue procedures for Fire Service personnel.

Exercises of this nature are of extreme importance to both the Health Service and the Fire and Rescue Service, as it identifies both positives and negatives with regard to our procedures. Exercises of this nature also assist each organisation in understanding what is expected of each other. Due to the success, further exercises are being programmed for the future.

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

Community Safety

PHOENIX

NPT Command continues to run their own independent courses, catering for young people and children, designed to reduce fire risk and fire crime through education, and improve the opportunities for developing life skills by building on the core values of the Fire Service. Phoenix is an exciting opportunity for 13-17 year olds, to work with the Fire Service taking part in a variety of physical and mental challenges that help build self-esteem, develop leadership, improve communication skills and increase motivation as a stepping stone to future success. The course caters for several organisations namely:

Youth Inclusion Programmes (YIP), Youth Offending Teams (YOT), Alternative curriculum's (AC), Local Education Authority (LEA) and Communities First are just some examples. The course runs Monday to Friday and is intensive both in its content and supervision. There are nine courses business planned this year. To date seven courses have been completed.

Careers Wales

In July NPTCC hosted ten year 11 pupils from Cefn Saeson and Cwrt Sart Comprehensive schools. These young people attended a Phoenix course at Port Talbot Fire Station and, owing to the success of this event; Careers Wales have requested that we continue to run the course on an annual basis. In subsequent years it is envisaged to involve the other comprehensive schools within the Borough.

YOT

The Youth Offending Fire Officer (YOFO) continues to attend the Youth Offending Team (YOT), making him available for referrals and other questions relating to the Fire Service and the reduction of arson, auto-crime and fire setting. Since April nine referrals have been catered for by the YOFO with a zero re-offending rate achieved for like offences.

A review of the Service Level Agreement between MAWWFRS and YOT has resulted in the continuation of the above programme.

Crash Scene Incident (CSI)

Crash Scene Incident is an all-Wales initiative being implemented by Neath Port Talbot and Swansea road safety teams in partnership with the emergency services. It's aimed at reducing the number of collisions involving young drivers on our roads. The initiative involves visiting schools and colleges throughout the area and warning young people

about the perils of dangerous driving, through issues such as drink-driving, inappropriate speed and peer pressure.

Pass Plus

Pass Plus is a training scheme for new drivers between the ages of 17 and 25 all courses in NPTCC are delivered from the Community Link room at Port Talbot Fire Station. The courses run for approximately two hours with the Fire and Rescue Service having input to each session addressing Road Traffic Collisions. The course covers six modules which are: town driving, all weather driving, driving out of town, night driving, driving on dual carriageways and motorway driving. To date NPTCC have run six courses addressing 76 young people. There are ten courses business planned this year.

Sensory Support (Adapted Smoke Alarm)

A Service Level Agreement (SLA) between NPTCC and the Sensory Support Team, based at Darcy Industrial Village, has been in place since 2004.

The vast majority of requests to install adapted smoke alarms for those who are deaf or hard of hearing are generated by our partner agencies; e.g. the Sensory Support Team, Care and Repair, and Age Concern. Via email, traditional post, or telephone, the Community Safety Department receives the details of the person who is believed to be in need of the adapted alarms. Subsequent to the receipt of this information personnel from the department will attend the address provided and, with the exception of SST referrals, assess whether the occupant is in need of an adapted alarm. With rare exceptions it is indeed appropriate to install such an alarm a process carried out at the initial visit. If adapted alarms are not deemed necessary then ordinary smoke alarms can be installed.

Below is a list of annual statistics covering the last five years:

2004-05	48 adapted alarms fitted
2005-06	59 adapted alarms fitted
2006-07	94 adapted alarms fitted
2007-08	71 adapted alarms fitted
2008-09	29 adapted alarms fitted for business year to date.

Total fitted being 301 adapted alarms.

Chip Pan Demonstrations

The Command attended two incidents involving Chip Pans within the last ten days. One in Margret Street, Blaengwynfi on 5 October, and the other in Carmarthen House flats, in Bevin Avenue on 13 October. Both incidents involved sever damage to the properties and rescue to the occupants. As a result of these incidents we have arranged, with Communities First, high profile chip pan demonstrations within these communities, to highlight the dangers of leaving chip pans unattended especially when under the influence. We hope to generate additional Home Fire Safety Checks within these areas.

Crucial Crew

Crucial Crew is designed to raise awareness of crime prevention and personal safety issues for children as they make the transition from primary to secondary school.

In Neath Port Talbot the event has drawn increasing numbers each year and since 2002

it has been held for two weeks to meet the demand. Every primary school Year 6 in Neath Port Talbot is now invited to attend each year.

This year, Crucial Crew was held at Afan Lido Sports Centre, Port Talbot. Almost 2,000 pupils (aged 10/11) attended from junior and primary schools across the County Borough.

Each agency provides an interactive set where the children spend ten minutes learning how to tackle dangers and gaining valuable advice such as what action to take in the event of a fire, how to react to bullying and how to stay safe on the roads are just some examples.

PEMBROKESHIRE COUNTY COMMAND

OPERATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT

Incidents of interest

On Saturday 26 July a reminder of the dangers inherent in agriculture came in a call to release a farmer from underneath a large hay bale at Boulston, Haverfordwest. Crews from Haverfordwest worked with lifting equipment after stabilising the hay bale that weighed over one tonne, to remove the hay bale. The farmer was taken by ambulance to hospital.

On Monday 29 July at Panteg, Fishguard a large fire broke out in a hay barn. The need for water brought five pumps from Fishguard, St David's, Milford Haven and Haverfordwest. Crews were supported by the farmer who used tractors to remove the large stock of hay. The fire was not started deliberately, but took several hours to extinguish.

A potentially serious incident aboard the Isle of Innishmore ferry occurred in the early hours of Wednesday 30 July. The ferry was approaching the Pembrokeshire coast when a fire broke out in a boiler, sited inside the engine room. The ship's fire-fighting team made the first attack on the fire and were later assisted by fire crews from Pembroke Dock, Milford Haven and Haverfordwest, once the ferry had docked. There were over 300 persons on board at the time of the fire. The liaison between the ship's crew and the Fire Service worked well and showed the effectiveness of recent training exercises.

On Friday 8 August a worker collapsed on top of a 60 metre high LNG storage tank at Dragon LNG Waterston. Crews from Milford Haven and Haverfordwest responded to support the Ambulance crews in returning the casualty to ground level. The urgency of the rescue lessened once it was disclosed that the casualty had died of a suspected heart attack. The lessons learned in previous exercises to recover casualties from the roof of an LNG tank were put to good use.

At 1600 hours on Wednesday 6 August the skills of Milford Haven crews were tested by a call to rescue a canoeist from the mud banks at Llanstadwell. Crews used the recently provided mud mats to reach the casualty and the Rescue One boat to return the canoeist to land.

A medical emergency prompted a response to the Chevron Refinery on Tuesday 19 August. Crews from Pembroke Dock, Haverfordwest and Tenby were sent to deal with a leak of hydrofluoric acid. The call was from the Ambulance Service to a report of four casualties overcome by fumes. The emergency response was downgraded once it became clear that the casualties were in need of a check-up and not rescue. The liaison with the Chevron Fire Team enabled a swift re-categorisation of this incident to reduce a further impact on road safety by more Fire Service vehicles driving in emergency conditions.

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

Community Safety

The Community Safety team were present at the Pembrokeshire County Show, where, despite the wet weather, some 40,000 people attended the show for each of the three days. The team were able to present home fire safety information to the show visitors with an extra emphasis on farm fire safety, in particular the safe burning of grassland in the spring.

A Phoenix course was provided for nine young people at Pembroke Dock and was followed by a presentation of fire-fighting skills by the newly recruited Young Firefighters of Pembroke Dock. They have replaced some of the first group of Young Firefighters who started in the summer of 2006. Firefighter Paul Dyson has been crucial in leading the group of Young Firefighter instructors to set up this branch and for maintaining the interest and enthusiasm of the young people.

POWYS COUNTY COMMAND

OPERATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT

Fatalities from Road Traffic Collisions

Four fatalities in this reporting period

On 11 September 2008 at Caersws, Newtown, 2 fatalities occurred when two private motor vehicles collided at the junction of B4568 and B4569.

On 14 September 2008 on the A44 near Llangurig, one motorcyclist died following a collision with a Large Goods Vehicle.

On 21 September 2008 on the A470 at Carno, one motorcyclist died following a collision with a private motor vehicle.

Incidents of interest

On 25 August 2008 at Heol Giedd, Ystradgynlais, one male casualty had fallen 15 ft down a river bank. He was rescued by FRS personnel using Level 2 Line Rescue Equipment. The boat from Swansea was mobilised to the incident but could not be launched due to the steep sides of the river bank.

On 26 August 2008, two appliances from Powys (Llanfyllin and Welshpool) were mobilised to a six pump fire at Osbaston House, Maes Brook, Kinnerley, Shropshire. The crews from Powys assisted the Shropshire crews in tackling the blaze.

On 4 September at Manafon, Llanfair Caereinion, one male was trapped in his car by flood water following an attempt to cross a ford. He was rescued by RAF Helicopter from the roof of his car following attempts by FRS personnel who were unable to secure a line to the vehicle due to its dangerous proximity.

On 3 October 2008 at Aberllefenni, Machynlleth, a remote farmhouse was involved in a serious fire that caused the roof and all floors to collapse. As the occupier was missing, preparations were undertaken to stabilise the structure and search the rubble once the fire had been extinguished. The USAR team were mobilised and also a rescue dog team. Whilst the rescue dog was exercising in the nearby wood prior to undertaking its search duties, the dog discovered the occupier of the property wandering around and the search operation was called off.

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

Community Safety (CS) work carried out by Powys Fire Stations and CS Department Personnel 18 June – 10 Oct 2008.

Schools Programme

The programme is up and running again after the summer break with six Primary and two High Schools visited. In addition 133 pupils from twelve primary schools in Montgomeryshire attended a Crucial Crew event in Oswestry. Community Safety staff also attended Careers Days at two High Schools explaining their roles in the Fire Service.

Youth Work

In July thirty youngsters attended a 'Firefighter for a Day' event at Newtown Fire Station where they experienced hose running, ladder drills and Search and Rescue activities.

Two teenagers started the ten week 'Firesafe' course aimed at youngsters with fire setting behavioural problems. A younger child received the FACE programme.

Community Fire Safety Talks and Station Visits

Crews carried out five Fire Safety talks to various groups and hosted four station visits.

Chip Pan Fire Demonstrations

There were five Chip Pan Fire demonstrations held at fire stations and open days. An additional six Open Days at schools and fetes were attended by fire crews.

Royal Welsh Show

All three Welsh Fire and Rescue Services attended this year's Royal Welsh Show. Goody bags were handed over to over 1000 children who completed a Fire Safety Quiz at the Firebrake stand whilst parents were offered free Home Fire Safety Checks. The Service's Play Fire Engine took pride of place outside the marquee alongside the RTC Display.

Electric Blanket Testing

The second Electric Blanket Testing event took place at Brecon Fire Station on 24 September.

SWANSEA COUNTY COMMAND

OPERATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT

One Fatality from fire
Four fatalities from RTC
Two fatalities from other

Carlton Terrace Mount Pleasant, Swansea

On 3 July 2008 a fire confined to ground floor lounge of two storey and basement property. One male rescued by BA crew, one male led to safety, three females escaped prior to arrival. One elderly male removed to hospital suffering severe burns and smoke inhalation (fatality) – 6 BA 2 HRJ 1 MJ, TIC + PPV fan in use. Appliances from Gorseinon, Morriston and Swansea Central attended.

Portmead Avenue, Blaenymaes Swansea

On 2 August 2008 SSC entry gained to person behind door – assist Ambulance one female fatality.

Fatalities Other

By the College, in Nature Reserve, Pantycelyn Road, Townhill, Swansea

On 3 June 2008 one male body recovered from woodland using Level III line rescue team, with assistance from Swansea Central and Morriston.

Incidents of Interest

Gower Rd, Killay, Swansea

On 3 June 2008 Rescue Tender from Morriston returning from an incident came across two male youths in need of medical assistance following incident relating to large gang of youths in the area carrying knives and baseball bats, attacking people. Fire Service involved in giving first aid and providing scene fend off. One casualty conveyed to hospital by ambulance.

Old Swalec Building, off Bryn Road, Pontarddulais

On 23 June 2008 derelict building make pumps four, appliances from Pontarddulais, Gorseinon, Llanelli and Morriston attended.

Kilvey Hill, Swansea

On 25 June 2008 grass fire no action - Fire Service attended Kilvey Hill grass fire – police advised that there were a gang of thirty youths in the area who had stoned a police car and were causing a nuisance, this was after the funeral of the young boy who died in the incident at Frederick Place, Swansea Central attended but the fire had died down and withdrew from the scene – Fire Service stayed at a safe distance.

Ravenhill Road Fforestfach, Swansea

On 13 July 2008 fire involving 2 x 33000 volt transformers, 2 ground monitors, 3 large jets, 2 foam jets, 8 BA's in use.

Cwmbath Road, Waunarllywyd, Swansea

On 14 July 2008 RTC involving head on collision two male persons extricated from vehicles, confirmed later as fatalities.

B4291 Glais to Birchgrove, Swansea

On 19 July 2008 RTC involving two vehicles – three persons trapped including one fatality – two persons extricated using hydraulic cutting equipment.

Dyffryn Close, Enterprise Zone, Swansea

On 23 July 2008 fire involving two motor vehicles spread to two adjacent buildings. Make pumps 4, main jet, 2 hrj, 10 bas, tic & 2 tics in use. Low risk asbestos in cement sheeting involved in fire. Appliances from Morriston, Swansea Central and Neath attended

Operational Training

The Command has taken part in four RTC Inter-Agency exercises with the Welsh Ambulance Trust at the Earlswood training facility. These exercises were to assist trainee Emergency Medical Technicians as part of their initial training.

Also on the 8 October the Command exercised at Bishopston Comprehensive School to test one of the strategic hydrants within Swansea, as there is a known water pressure issue at this location. The exercise was successful and utilised the High Volume Pump from Ammanford, which is part of the New Dimensions equipment within the Service.

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION**Legislative Fire Safety**

Meetings have been held with three Swansea City Council (SSC) Departments aimed at forging a closer and more integrated working relationship with the Authority's officers.

SSC's Health & Safety (H&S) Department have supplied us with a comprehensive list of their properties with e-mail and telephone contact details of H&S team members who will be informed of any planned fire safety inspections and/or audits and invited to attend the inspection as observers only. The intention of this initiative is to speed up the resolution of any highlighted fire safety problems such as management issues, premises defects, training deficiencies, alarm systems faults etc.

Separate meetings with SSC's Housing and Licensing Departments were held to discuss each enforcement Authority's perception of 'risk' plus enforcement and prohibition protocols under each others respective legislation. Both meetings were facilitated by Station Manager Rob Martin (Fire Safety Training Officer) who has facilitated such meetings in virtually all unitary authorities across the Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service area. The meetings provided all parties with greater clarity of each others roles and operating parameters whilst highlighting barriers in current legislation.

Fire Safety Personnel

The department's establishment is at full strength. Station Manager Ashley Lye has recently been deemed competent as a specialist inspecting officer bringing the total number of competent officers up to five with a further five still 'in-development'. As officers become more proficient in their role the numbers of inspections and audits etc will increase. However, due to training and development needs it is likely to be another eighteen months before the remaining five members of the department are deemed competent in role.

Community Safety

The department has been involved in another very successful Crucial Crew event held this year in the Brangwyn Hall, Swansea. 2740 pupils from schools from all over Swansea attended for one day's training delivered by nineteen agencies. The event lasted 12 days with one day set aside for Welsh language schools. The Fire Service's chosen theme was 'fire safety in the home' and feedback from organisers, teachers and pupils shows that our delivery was extremely well received by all.

Awards

The Community Safety Department was the winning entry in the Firebrake Wales Achievement Awards: Community category for our ongoing Grass and Forestry Fire Reduction Campaign. A joint entry by the Legislative Fire Safety Department and Swansea University won the Business Category Award for partnership work in reducing unwanted fire signals in the University campus.

Members of the department were presented with awards at the Firebrake stand in Welsh National Eisteddfod recently held in Cardiff.