

SERVICE DELIVERY REPORT

		Carmarthen	Ceredigion	Neath/P Talbot	Pembroke	Powys	Swansea	Service
1	HFSC Targets	4600	1600	4150	2038	2700	5050	20138
	No of HFSCs carried out (inc Ops, CS & Ext Ag)	3188	1147	2934	1151	2250	2936	13606
	By Operational Personnel	1923	976	2713	940	2229	2854	11635
	By Community Safety Personnel	1018	27	192	202	21	76	1536
	By Outside Agencies	247	144	29	9	0	6	435
2	No of Smoke Alarms fitted	3544	993	2678	1408	2302	2550	13475
3	No of Programmed School Visits carried out	52	18	43	38	23	57	231
4	% of High Risk Premises Audited	37.03%	61.11%	46.68%	65.00%	52.50%	57.42%	51.78%
5	% of Building Regs completed within the time scale	98.45%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	99.62%

Mid & West Wales Area Total																							APR - DEC		
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	306	260	270	377	316	259	28	28	4	33	37	30	164	186	160	431	371	534	477	428	597	1816	1626	1854	
Ceredigion	165	136	112	111	114	56	22	21	6	53	38	17	63	54	43	382	351	319	242	265	234	1038	979	787	
Neath & Port Talbot	399	361	307	1014	907	540	4	4	2	93	93	79	285	306	224	287	319	296	396	400	347	2478	2390	1795	
Pembrokeshire	214	168	171	307	210	137	24	28	6	23	29	37	92	111	81	303	340	340	592	511	499	1555	1397	1271	
Powys	208	210	203	200	259	130	58	54	15	18	31	41	97	117	90	352	326	364	386	432	549	1319	1429	1392	
Swansea	614	553	530	1472	1438	1021	4	8	1	156	133	158	392	395	320	904	810	945	710	657	658	4252	3994	3633	
TOTAL	1906	1688	1593	3481	3244	2143	140	143	34	376	361	362	1093	1169	918	2659	2517	2798	2803	2693	2884	12458	11815	10732	

Please note. These figures compare the Incident Types by Station Ground for the months displayed above, and not for the full year.

CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COMMAND

OPERATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT

Fatalities

0 fire fatalities to report.

0 fatalities from Road Traffic Collisions

Incidents of Interest

A48 Dual carriageway, Eastbound, Nr Crosshands roundabout

2 December 2008 fire involving crew cab of fully laden petrol tanker. 1 main jet, 2 HRJ and Water Bowser in use. Tanker and recovery vehicle then escorted by 1 WRL and Environment Unit to Depot in Tenby.

Chivers Corner, Tanycoed, Burry Port

8 December 2008 RTC involving 2 private motor vehicles and bus. 2 persons released using hydraulic cutting equipment and conveyed to hospital by ambulance.

Nursing Home, Queen Victoria Road, Llanelli

28 December 2008 fire involving first floor bedroom, rest of premises heavily smoke logged, 4BAs 1HRJ in use. Building evacuated and residents moved to alternative accommodation. Fire investigation carried out in conjunction with Home Office forensic scientist.

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

- 01.10.08 Raptor at Carmarthen (Rhydygors CP School)
- 01.10.08 Home Fire Safety Check talk at Llansadwrn Reading Rooms
- 06.10.08 Face Referral at Llanelli Fire Station
- 08.10.08 Raptor at Carmarthen (Rhydygors CP School)
- 13.10.08 Public Service Course from Graig College, Llanelli at Llanelli Fire Station (Chip Pan demo, fire safety advice, RTC DVD)
- 14.10.08 Home Fire Safety Check talk to Ferryside Old Age Pensioners' Club
- 15.10.08 Raptor at Carmarthen (Rhydygors CP School)
- 17.10.08 Home Fire Safety Check publicity event at Felinfoel Co-op with Blue Watch, Llanelli
- 21.10.08 Home Fire Safety Check and RTC presentations at Neuadd y Ddraig Goch, Drefach Felindre
- 20 -24.10.08 Phoenix Course with Youth Offenders at Llanelli Fire Station
- 22.10.08 Fireworks Safety presentation at Llwynhendy
- 23.10.08 Safer Greener Cleaner Streets partnership working at Saron CP School, Fireworks Safety presentation
- 28.10.08 Multi-cultural event, Felinfoel, promoting Home Fire Safety Checks in Black and Ethnic Minority Communities
- 28-29.10.08 Young Firefighters Summer Camp at Pendine
- 30.10.08 Firework Safety Initiative at St Elli Centre, Llanelli, in conjunction with Llanelli Young Fire Fighters
- 31.10.08 Community Safety Partnership Family Day Event at National Botanical Gardens of Wales (Home Fire Safety Check promotion and Chip Pan demonstration displays)
- 03.11.08 Arson Prevention Initiative targeting businesses in Llanelli town centre and Trostre Industrial Park (leaflet drop with Llanelli Young Firefighters)
- 03.11.08 Partnership working with Age Concern in Llanfihangel yr Arth promoting Home Fire Safety Checks
- 03.11.08 Pass Plus at Ammanford Fire Station
- 04.11.08 Partnership working with Camo Mlaen at Brynamman Community Centre, Brynamman promoting Home Fire Safety Checks
- 04.11.08 Home Fire Safety Check Promotion at Llangwad District Old Age Pensioners Group at Pontergothi Memorial Hall
- 04.11.08 Face Referral at Llanelli Fire Station
- 06.11.08 Training to Careline on Home Fire Safety Checks
- 07.11.08 Station visit and Home Fire Safety Check presentation to children and parents of Ysgol Feithryn, Llangeller at Newcastle Emlyn Fire Station
- 12.11.08 Face referral at Llanelli Fire Station
- 12.11.08 Partnership working with Llwynhendy Community First Youth Group, painting the underpass in Llwynhendy
- 12.11.08 Chip pan demonstration and Home Fire Safety Check presentation to the Llanelli Homeless Project in Station Road, Llanelli

19.11.08	Fire Awareness in the Home and Road Safety presentations to the YWCA, Llanelli
24.11.08	Graig College Safety Week (chip pan demonstrations to students)
25.11.08	Home Fire Safety Check presentation to Community First, Felinfoel
25.11.08	Youth working with a Phoenix Course follow-on
25.11.08	Home Fire Safety Check presentation in the medium of Welsh at Ponthenri Hall
26.11.08	Ammanford College, RTC presentation and CSI trailer
02.12.08	Graig College Public Service Course students at Llanelli Fire Station (Fire Awareness, RTC presentation and Chip-pan demonstration)
05.12.08	Home Fire Safety Check promotion at St Barnabus Hall, Llanelli
09.12.08	Phoenix course follow-on at Smart Project, Carmarthen (RTC presentation and working with young people to produce a drink/drive poster)
11.12.08	Home Fire Safety Check promotion at Parc y Scarlets Stadium for a multi-cultural event

CEREDIGION COUNTY COMMAND

OPERATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT

Fatalities from RTC

No fatalities since last report.

Fatalities from fire

This first item relates to the tragic circumstances of a domestic dwelling fire in New Quay where an elderly gentleman lost his life to a fire which occurred in his home.

Incident Details

At 0048 hours on 18 November 2008, one male adult fatality, house fire, Lewis Terrace, New Quay.

The premises affected by fire had previously been visited by fire crews from Stn 23 New Quay in February 2006 to complete a HFSC during which smoke detection was fitted. The casualty was a relative to the current Watch Manager at New Quay and had in fact served the Carmarthenshire and Cardiganshire Fire Service himself for 30 years. On arrival, crews were faced with a significant fire which had broken through the roof, and crews attempted to enter the property to search for the casualty. Crews returned in the morning to carry out a hot fire strike of the surrounding area and even though a high proportion of properties in the area are empty during the winter months, crews were able to complete 9 HFSCs. The following days saw a detailed fire investigation completed with the collaborative working of personnel from USAR, South Wales FRS with a carbon detection dog, SOCO Dept of Dyfed Powys Police and a specialist Forensic Scientist and a report is being completed for the HM Coroner.

Incidents of Interest

On the 25 October 2008 at 0511 hours a call was received to deal with a property fire in Y Ferwig, Cardigan. The fire was confined to the kitchen and both occupants with their pet dog had managed to evacuate the premises, although the male occupant was suffering from smoke inhalation. Upon further investigation it appeared that the fire may have been started deliberately, and a joint investigation with the Police was undertaken.

At approximately 1000 hours on the 26 October 2008 a call was received to assist an elderly person trapped on the 1st floor of her home. The heavy rain and high level of the River Ystwyth had contributed to around 18 inches of water flooding the ground floor of the person's property. The lady was trapped on the 1st floor and crews proceeded to rescue the lady utilising an ambulance chair. The chapel was also flooded but the vast amount of water and close proximity of a very high river Ystwyth made pumping a non starter. This is an example of one call from what amounted to a very busy weekend of flooding which included the use of the invaluable High Volume Pumping unit from Ammanford at Aberystwyth.

On 5 December 2008 during the stages of the Wales Rally GB there was an RTC involving one rally car and one private road vehicle approx 3 miles onto rally stage 4 route near Ponterwyd. 3 casualties were involved 2 of which were in the competing rally car. All persons suffered injuries; rally rescue team extricated the trapped navigator from vehicle using a roof removal technique prior to arrival of Service personnel. Fire Service personnel assisted air ambulance crew and paramedics in casualty stabilisation.

On 22 November 2008 an initial call was received to deal with a property fire at Glanymor apartments, Aberporth. Crews from Cardigan and Newcastle Emlyn attended; however, it soon became apparent that the incident was being treated as suspicious by the police, who were already in attendance. There were obvious signs of forced entry and the fire was confined to an area around the bed and window sill. Neighbours had extinguished the fire prior to arrival of the Fire Service using dry powder extinguishers. A joint Fire Investigation was completed with SOCO the following morning and the investigation is ongoing.

At 0458 hours crews were mobilised to a fire incident at Volac International, Felinfach, Lampeter. The immediate concern was for the large amounts of LISPS used in the construction of the building. It became apparent that a previous fire had occurred in a light fitting around 12 hours earlier. Staff had extinguished the fire using a carbon dioxide extinguisher but the Fire Service was not called. It appears that an area of smouldering had been missed during the clean up and a small smouldering fire had then travelled into the insulating material within the cavity of the panels. It is fortunate that there was detection within the void which activated upon detection of the smoke at 04.54hrs. A follow on workplace inspection has now been completed by the LFS Department.

At 1832 hours on 17 December 2008 crews from Lampeter and Tregaron were called to a road traffic collision involving two motor cars, one casualty trapped in the

driver's seat and one casualty released prior to arrival of Fire Service. Crews were involved in releasing the driver using the hydraulic rescue equipment to remove the roof of the vehicle and relocated the dashboard. Crews worked well with paramedics to release the casualty and assist in his extrication utilising a spine board. The casualty was then conveyed to hospital by ambulance.

At 2244 hours on 22 December 2008 crews from New Quay and Aberaeron were called to a road traffic collision involving one motor car which had collided with a tree on the B4342 at Gilfachreda. Two casualties were trapped in the rear of the vehicle and two casualties had been released prior to arrival of Fire Service. Crews were involved in releasing the rear passengers using the hydraulic rescue equipment to remove the B post and create side access space. Crews worked well with paramedics to release the rear near side casualty who was severely trapped by his foot between the vehicle and a car battery being carried in the rear foot well. The extrication proved particularly difficult due to the close proximity of the foot and the extent of the wreckage which had wrapped around the leg. The casualties were then conveyed to hospital by ambulance.

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

Items of Interest

Watch Manager David Pugh worked with the University of Wales Aberystwyth to deliver over 8 hours of fire safety awareness talks to around 5000 students at the start of term, together they ensured a 98% turn out for the talks during Fresher's week.

Ceredigion Command are again working closely with UWA to reduce unwanted fire signals at their sites, a new proposal for on site investigation has been agreed by both parties and has now been implemented at the start of the New Year. This should see numerous FRS hours being released for further community risk reduction work around Aberystwyth.

Representatives from all six Commands of MAWWFRS attended a FEDEX/BRAKE Road Safety Academy at Caerphilly. During this day they received training to deliver Road Safety Presentations to groups of young drivers. One of the participants at this event, Watch Manager David Pugh, of Ceredigion Command, has combined this training with our CSI Cymru Crashed Car Presentation to deliver a hard hitting Road Safety Event to one of our greatest 'at risk' group, 17-25 year old drivers. This group despite representing only 8% of the driving population is involved in excess of 30% of road traffic collisions. In fact so successful have David's presentations become that FEDEX/BRAKE have awarded him the status of 'Platinum Graduate' for his outstanding contribution to Community Road Safety.

The third Princes Trust Team Programme for Ceredigion based at Aberystwyth has been completed successfully and another Programme based at Cardigan Fire Station is due to begin in the New Year.

Crews in the Command have been busy along with David Pugh in promoting Brake Road Safety Week which took place during week of 10th November. A police officer

was located in a strategic position to identify any drivers not wearing seat belts or using a mobile phone whilst driving. The police officer then stopped the vehicle and offered the motorist the option of a fixed penalty notice or the opportunity to engage with the FRS via a hard hitting DVD based presentation regarding the consequences of the motorist's actions. The scheme aimed at educating rather than prosecuting saw the majority of offenders choose the presentation route.

The Command is trialling a Raptor Course for 12 weeks, a series of 2 hour sessions to include fire safety in the home, RTC reduction, water safety and team building etc to be held in Lampeter Fire Station for 12 young persons who attend the Pupil Referral Units in Ceredigion.

Arson initiatives and firesetter programmes are on going within command and visual incentives with a fire safety message in the form of footballs were recently introduced to young people in the Penparcau area of Aberystwyth.

Cllr Paul James (Fire Authority Member) joined with crews of Aberystwyth in distributing Christmas baubles with appropriate safety messages reminding the public to stay safe at Christmas. An article and photograph was put in the Cambrian News and also on the Service's web site.

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY COMMAND

OPERATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT

Training

The Command has successfully completed an audit of the operational skills and qualifications held by its personnel. This process has enabled us to make an accurate assessment of the commands skills needs and has identified key areas for attention. As a result, we have been able to reallocate resources to address key issues and better meet identified training needs.

Many of the training issues identified have been of a risk critical nature and as such have had to be addressed as a matter of urgency. By re-allocating resources and greatly increasing activity levels we have been able to address critical areas of training and greatly reduce risk to command personnel and the organisation. From October 1st - December 31st, Command personnel have attended over 170 off watch training days this represents a 30% increase in planned training activities.

Effective training is based on accurately assessing risk and implementing planning systems that address identified risk. The recent review has shown that the planning of training at station level has not fully addressed risk areas and that a structured approach to planning station training was urgently required. The management team have successfully developed and introduced a system that accurately assesses operational risks present within stations areas and enables training to be forecasted and planned up to 3 years ahead. This process of identifying the risk profile of a station is fully auditable and has been developed in consultation with the Service's Health and Safety Department.

The system is currently undergoing trials at all stations and is scheduled to go live on

April 1st as part of the 2009 -10 command business year.

Incidents of interest

On Friday 17 October a double decker bus came into contact with a low railway bridge at Dwr Y Felin, Cadoxton, Neath. The collision resulted in the upper level of the bus being almost completely ripped off, fortunately the collision did not result in any injuries the upper level being empty at the time.

On Monday 3 November Fire Control mobilised appliances to the report of a fire at the Lamb & Flag public house in Glynneath. Crews were met by a rapidly developing fire in this well known local landmark that very quickly involved the entire 2nd floor and roof space. Crews from Glynneath, Seven Sisters, Abercrave and Neath as well as an aerial appliance from Morrision fought the blaze for over 4 hours. Unfortunately the building was extensively damaged with the 2nd floor and roof suffering the most damage.

Bonfire night, traditionally one of the busiest nights of the year for the Fire Service was reasonably quiet across the command this year. Appliances attended 15 calls on bonfire night itself all secondary fires and in most cases no action needed to be taken as the fires and spectators were well supervised. No injuries were reported. Undoubtedly the efforts made by our community based preventative work and the work carried out by our partner groups has greatly contributed to making the public safer and reducing the number of incidents requiring a Fire Service attendance.

Flooding

Sunday 9 November 2009 brought torrential rain to many parts of Mid & West Wales. Within Neath & Port Talbot Command Service personnel attended 19 incidents of flooding between 1800 and 2000 hours, most of these involved the flooding of houses as a result of blocked drains. Personnel were mostly involved in unblocking drains and preventing further water entering properties.

Shortly after midnight on the 22 December Fire Control received a call to report of an out of control fire involving an industrial wood burner. Initially crews from Neath and Pontardawe were mobilised but this initial response was increased to 3 pumps when a further call to Control stated that the initial fire now involved a barn and that the fire was spreading from the barn to an adjoining farm house. The additional appliance was mobilised to assist with water supplies as the officer in charge suspected that a lack of available water could hamper firefighting operations. On arrival crews discovered a well developed fire involving a large barn and also the roof spaces of two adjoining private dwellings. Additional appliances were called for and attacked the fires with the resources available. Through extremely hard work and professionalism the attending crews managed to confine the fire to a relatively small section of the roofs of both dwellings. Their prompt action undoubtedly saved the properties from extensive damage.

Command Exercises

Exercise Green Cloud 19 November 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 Green Cloud) was held on Wednesday 19 November 2008. This exercise simulated an uncontrolled leakage of ammonia gas from the number 2 storage tank within the Inco site and tested the response of on-site personnel and Fire and Rescue crews. A total of 4 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.

The Command is now preparing to run further risk specific exercises throughout the final quarter to ensure the commands continued operational preparedness.

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

COMMUNITY SAFETY

Phoenix Scheme

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 7 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 himself 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)

Statistically, young drivers are the most at risk on our roads. They are more likely to kill or injure themselves, their passengers and other road users in crashes. They often have a tendency to drive too quickly and overestimate their driving ability, and can be vulnerable to peer pressure and risk taking. As such Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service, in an active partnership with the Neath Port Talbot Road Safety team, have pioneered a hard-hitting programme called "Crash Scene Incident" (CSI).

The programme is delivered to all secondary schools and colleges within the borough, targeting students from Year 11 upwards. It comprises of a lecture, utilising real-life footage and CGI re-enactments of crash incidents, centered on issues such as speeding, mobile phone use whilst driving and drink-driving. To further reinforce the road safety message a real crashed car is used, complete with mannequins displaying typical injuries, to illustrate to the young people the importance of staying safe on our roads.

Since its inception the Service has been informed by the heads of the educational establishments visited that the programme has had a very positive and genuine impact upon the young people who have taken part.

Pass Plus

Pass Plus is a training scheme for new drivers between the ages of 17 - 25, all courses in NPTCC are delivered from the Community Link room at Port Talbot Fire Station, the courses run for approximately 2 hours with the Fire and Rescue Service having input to each session addressing Road Traffic Collisions. The course covers 6 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 6 courses addressing 76 young people. There are 10 courses planned for this business 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 either email, traditional post, or the 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	86 adapted alarms fitted for business year to date.

Schools Liaison Officer's Role within Neath Port Talbot Command

There are a total of 83 schools within the Command area. 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 nature of the education programme is to educate the young people as to the dangers of fire, prevention, detection, and escaping fire situations. To form links and partnerships with the schools and the young people within the command area, thereby utilising education to assist in the reduction of fires, injuries and fatalities.

The schools programme commenced in September 2008/09, with delivery to 48 schools to date.

Mail-safe letterbox bags

Arson is an increasing problem. Each year over 100,000 arson attacks are committed, more than 28 000 buildings are targeted each year in the UK, and that number is rising. The letterbox is the most vulnerable area of a building that is always open, providing an arsonist direct and easy access. By fitting a Mail-safe letterbox bag it will successfully contain an arson attack and will provide significant protection against a serious fire developing. To date NPTC have supplied and fitted 36 of these bags in domestic properties housing vulnerable people. An increase of over 100% compared to the 07/08.

PEMBROKESHIRE COUNTY COMMAND

OPERATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT

Incidents of Interest

In the early hours of Friday 19 September the Murco Oil Refinery at Milford Haven, requested assistance to support their operations to deal with a leakage of LPG from a storage area. In line with revised mobilising procedures one pump from Milford Haven attended. New mobilising arrangements have been agreed between the Service and all petrochemical sites including the new LNG sites. The arrangements mean that for minor incidents that are dealt with by refinery staff, the Fire Service are alerted to send a response. This arrangement replaces previous orders that had many fire engines travelled at emergency speed only to be stood down on arrival. The new arrangement builds confidence between the refineries and the Service to send only the resources needed and to cut down on unnecessary emergency

driving. Naturally for serious incidents at any petrochemical plant the appropriate weight of response is sent.

On Saturday 20 September a deliberate fire was started in a derelict garage on Victoria Road, Milford Haven. Fire crews from Milford Haven dealt with the fire, then liaised with the Police who arrested three youths who were suspected as starting the fire. In following up this fire, Station Manager Hancock followed several actions to resolve the problem of this derelict building being open for vandals to start fires and to seek the co-operation of the building owner to remove combustible items from the building.

At 1438 hours on Monday 27 October a fire broke out in a flat above Woolworths in Tenby. The fire was started deliberately and the occupier of the flat had to be rescued by Tenby fire crews from the roof of the building. In a demanding operation, crews used 10 breathing apparatus sets and a turntable ladder to deal with the event. The fire investigation team was able to provide good quality forensic evidence to assist the Police investigation.

During the early hours of Friday 12 December, a fire broke out in a residential caravan at the Hells Angel club in Old Hakin Road, Haverfordwest. In this case the fire involved a 2000litre LPG tank and had threatened to spread to the main building. Crews from Haverfordwest extinguished the fire and found the origin of the fire in a glass tank that held large boa-constrictors.

The heavy rains during the night of Friday 12 December caused significant flooding in St Davids and Fishguard areas. It also caused an electrical short circuit in the derelict nightclub in High Street, Haverfordwest that caused a fire to start in the early hours of Saturday, threatening the building and adjoining properties. Crews from Haverfordwest and Milford Haven responded. They had to take care not to be injured by the hazards within a derelict building, but they were successful in putting out the fire and enabling the High Street to be opened for trading in the run up to Christmas, by liaising with the Police and County Council to secure and make the building safe.

During the reporting period there were 34 co-responder calls to Crymych and Narberth crews to deal with a variety of medical emergencies. There were also 17 Road Traffic Collisions that were dealt with Pembrokeshire crews including one fatality at North Court Farm, Haverfordwest on 12 November.

POWYS COUNTY COMMAND

OPERATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT

Fire Fatalities

There was one fire fatality in this reporting period.

On 23 December 08 at Tygrin, Foel, Llanfair Caereinion, Police were called to a house where the male occupier had not been seen for a number of days. His body was discovered in an upstairs room and there was evidence that a fire had occurred in the building. An investigation was undertaken jointly between the FRS and Police

and it initially appears that the deceased had died due to the effects of the fire.

Fatalities from Road Traffic Collisions

There were 2 fatalities in this reporting period;

On 15 November 2008 at Welshpool, the driver of a light goods vehicle died following a collision. The driver was known to some of the crew and the Service Chaplain, Gereint Hughes attended the Welshpool Fire Station following the incident.

On 16 January 2009 on the A470 near Nant Ddu Lodge Hotel, one casualty died and another two were taken to hospital following a two car collision. One vehicle caught fire following the crash.

Other Fatalities

There was one other fatality in this reporting period.

On 15 November 2008 on a stretch of the River Wye near Hay on Wye, crews were called to assist the rescue of a male teenager canoeist who had got into difficulties in the water. On arrival, the youth had been recovered and personnel assisted the Ambulance Service with CPR. They later recovered the canoe using the Service boat.

Incidents of interest

On 22 October 2008 near Llanfyllin, crews responded to a private motor vehicle that had left the road and came to rest in a precarious position over a steep embankment. Level 2 and 3 Line Rescue Equipment was mobilised and personnel were able to secure and stabilise the vehicle whilst waiting for the arrival of a Sea King Helicopter to take the casualty to hospital.

In November and December, a series of four barn fires occurred in the Montgomery area which led to speculation that an arsonist was responsible for the cause of these fires.

The local population became fearful of a continued campaign. Fire Officers, together with Police Officers visited numerous farms in the area in order to give advice and reassure the community that all was being done to protect them. Personnel received advice from the Arson Reduction Team in Morryston and local crews visited a number of farms to conduct temperature tests of hay stored in barns. The situation seems to have now declined.

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

Schools Programme

The programme is on target with nine Primary and four High Schools visited. Community Safety staff also attended Careers Days at five High Schools explaining their roles in the Fire Service. Four High Schools had RTC lessons involving the 'Crashed Car' demonstration vehicle.

Youth Work

Two teenagers completed the ten week 'Firesafe' course aimed at youngsters with firesetting behavioural problems. Two younger children received the FACE programme.

Community Fire Safety Talks and Station Visits

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

Careers/Industry Days

Fire crews and Community Safety staff attended Careers Days at a total of six High Schools to explain their roles in the FRS and give advice about careers in the FRS.

Phoenix

A two day follow up event was completed at Welshpool Fire Station staffed by Community Safety Staff, Specialist Youth Team from Morriston and volunteer Retained personnel from Welshpool station.

Electric Blanket Testing

Electric Blanket testing events took place at the Miners Welfare Hall in Ystradgynlais and at Welshpool Fire Station.

SWANSEA COUNTY COMMAND

OPERATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT

Fatalities from fire – None

Fatalities from RTC - None

Fatalities from other – One

Fatalities Other

On 2 August 2008 at 15:49 Portmead, Avenue, Swansea – SSC FS gained entry to property one person code blue behind door. Swansea Central.

Incidents of Interest

On 2 August 2008 at 13:06 Brynaeron Court, Dunvant, Swansea, SSC assist Ambulance. FS assisted with CPR of casualty, removed window of property to extricate person. CM Davies travelled to hospital in Ambulance assisting Ambulance crew with CPR.

On 23 August 2008 at 20:20 Mill Street, Gowerton, Swansea – SSC RTC involving 3 cars. 3 casualties removed to hospital with 1 person extricated by FS using Hydraulic cutting equipment. Gorseinon, Swansea West, Morriston

On 4 September 2008 at 12:13 Morfydd Street, Morriston, Swansea – SSC, 200 Lts of diesel spilt from LGV ruptured fuel tank. FS used absorbent granules to absorb spill. The spill continued all the way to Beaufort Rd Industrial Estate Morriston, Swansea Central, Llanelli.

On 10 October 2008 at 17:10 LC2, Oystermouth Road, Swansea Level 3 Line Rescue used to remove female with possible spinal injuries from water slide. Swansea Central, Morriston, Rope Rescue Team. Rope Rescue Team also used at least 3 other occasions during reporting period.

On 27 October 2008 at 19:47 Crofty Industrial Estate, Penclawdd, Swansea, fire involving industrial unit used as furniture shop, destroyed by fire. MPP's 6, TTL and WRC Swansea West, Gorseinon, Swansea Central, Morriston, Reynoldston, Llanelli, Pontarddulais, Morriston, Tumble.

On 30 October 2008 at 19:54 15 Elmgrove, West Cross, Swansea. 1 bariatric patient 30-50 stone removed from property and assisted Amb crew to A&E. Patient was trapped between bed and wall. Swansea West + Central

On 29 December 2008 at 12:40 Greenwood PI, Portmead, Swansea fire in bedroom of house started by 5yr old child, 4 BA's 2 HRJ. Swansea Central + West.

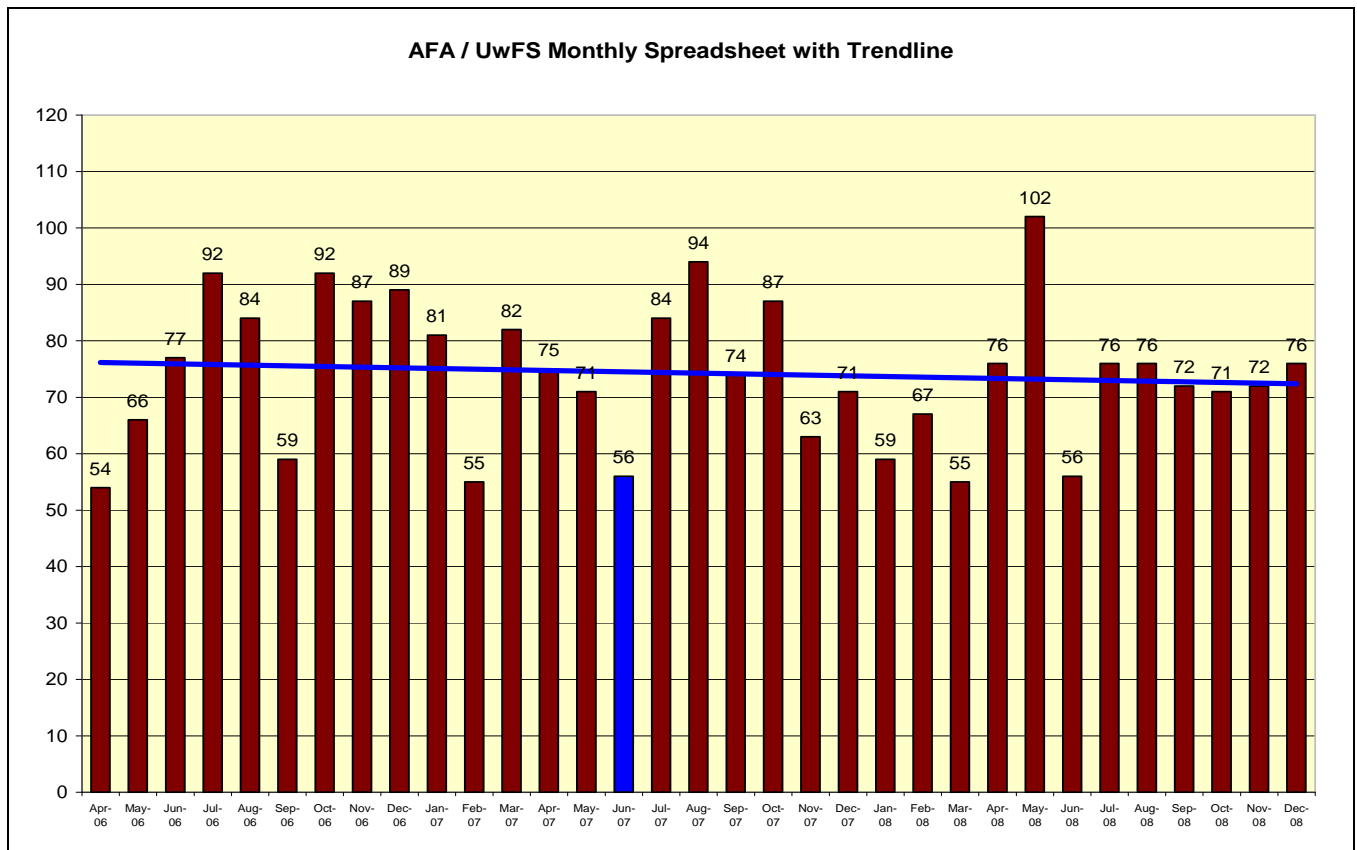
Operational Premises Risk Information Gathering

In the light of recent incidents such as the Warwickshire Tragedy, the Command has focused on re-evaluating the information held on premises within the Swansea Area, to ensure that the information held on each identified risk premises is sufficient and up to date. To enable this work to be completed a temporary Watch Manager has been employed to oversee and carry out the work. 185 out of 250 risk premises have been re-inspected, with all Special High risks completed, and only 16 left of the 91 High Risks. There are 38 Medium Risks, with 17 outstanding and Low risks have 31 left to do out of 104, out of the 250 inspections required in October 08 there are 65 outstanding which will be completed by the end of March 09. This will significantly reduce the operational risks to Firefighters in the Swansea Command area.

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

Legislative Fire Safety

The Department's ongoing initiative to reduce the number of unwanted fire signals generated within the Swansea Command area appears to be successful. Statistical analysis for the year ending December 2008 shows the number of calls has fallen with a predicted reduction of 179 calls on the previous year. Furthermore analysis of figures from April-06 shows a reduction over the period of approximately 8%. Importantly the trend is downwards.



(The blue column indicates when the initiative commenced)

Automatic fire alarm incidents within the Command are closely monitored for trends and are proactively addressed by all members of the Fire Safety Department. As an example; peaks shown on the above graph are now being attributed to 'teething problems' with new fire detection system most notably in May 2008 with Swansea University.

Community Safety

The Department has been proactive in delivering the schools education programme which is on target for completion by June/July 2009. Road safety programmes are ongoing with another 8 'Pass Plus Cymru' theory courses scheduled up until September 2009. Since September 2006 a total of 405 people aged 17-25 have received training via this Welsh Assembly funded programme which is co-ordinated by the Swansea Road Safety team and jointly delivered by a former South Wales Police traffic sergeant and a member of our Community Safety Department.