

Service Targets April to October 2018

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

For further information about this report please contact Rod Hammerton, Chief Fire Officer, on 01743 260201 or Andy Johnson, Deputy Chief Fire Officer, on 01743 260196.

1 Purpose of Report

This report presents a summary of the Service's performance from April to October 2018.

2 Recommendations

The Audit and Performance Management Committee is asked to note the report.

3 Performance Review

As noted by Members when this year's targets were set, meeting them is expected to be very challenging and it looks like the fine weather we experienced this summer is possibly adding to that challenge, with a 12.4% increase in the number of incidents the Service has responded to so far this year, in comparison to last year; this includes a 38% increase during July.

Based on the performance to date, the Service is not on track to meet four of the Service's eight annual targets. This is a slight improvement on the last report to this Committee, with a reducing number of injuries to staff, since the busy summer months, indicating that the Service may also now meet this target measure. The other two targets where the Service is currently on track to meet the annual targets, continue to be those relating to the number of deliberate fires and the number of fire related deaths and serious injuries.

The eighth measure, 'Value for Money', relates to the external audit assessment of the Authority, for which the Service received an unqualified value for money conclusion and therefore this target has been achieved.

Summary comments on the performance against each measure is provided in the attached appendix and Members will also receive a presentation explaining the work that the Service undertaking in relation to Deliberate Fires.

4 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

5 Legal Comment

Section 21 of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 provides the statutory authority for the Fire Service National Framework and requires fire and rescue authorities to have regard to the Framework in carrying out their functions. Members should have due regard to the Framework and, in particular, paragraph 2.8 in relation to the publication of performance information:

‘Fire and rescue authorities must make their communities aware of how they can access comparable data and information on their performance’.

6 Initial Impact Assessment

This report contains merely statements of fact and historical data. An Initial Impact Assessment is not, therefore, required.

7 Equality Impact Assessment

There are no equality or diversity implications arising from this report. An Equality Impact Assessment is not, therefore, required.

8 Appendix

Service Targets
Summary Performance April to October 2018

9 Background Papers

There are no background papers associated with this report.

Service Targets Summary Performance April to October 2018

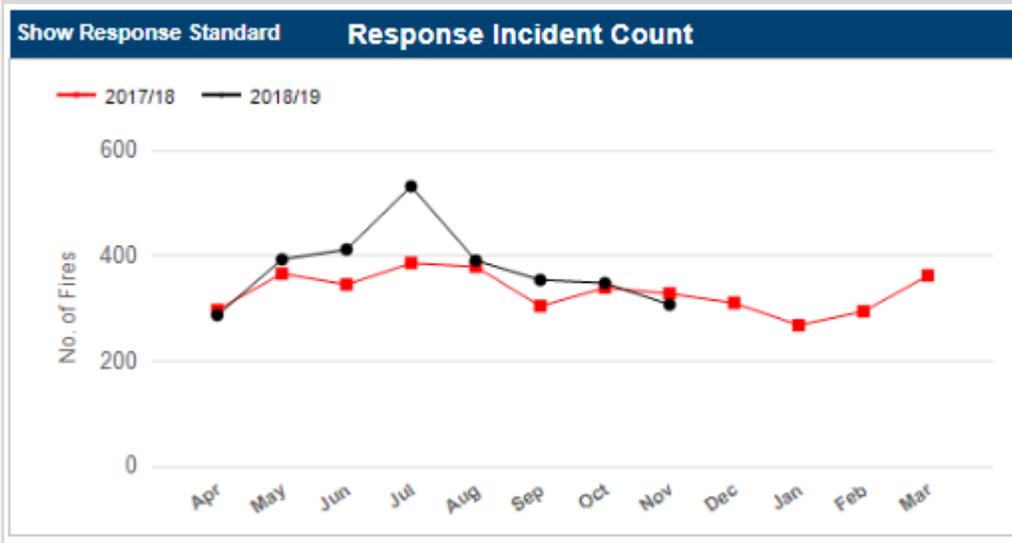
Please note that November is only a partial month in all of the graphs shown in this report.

Aim	Measure and Target	Performance to date April to October 2018	Predicted Pass: ✓ Fail: ✗																																																																
1. To be there when you need us in an emergency with a professional and well equipped team	1a. The first fire engine will arrive at an emergency incident with at least 4 firefighters within 15 minutes on 89% of occasions	87.0%	✗																																																																
	<p>Performance graph</p> <table border="1"> <caption>Response Standard Data</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Month</th> <th>2017/18</th> <th>2018/19</th> <th>Target: 89%</th> <th>2018/19 - Running Average</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>Apr</td><td>92</td><td>88</td><td>89</td><td>88</td></tr> <tr><td>May</td><td>91</td><td>84</td><td>89</td><td>86</td></tr> <tr><td>Jun</td><td>89</td><td>86</td><td>89</td><td>86</td></tr> <tr><td>Jul</td><td>90</td><td>84</td><td>89</td><td>86</td></tr> <tr><td>Aug</td><td>88</td><td>89</td><td>89</td><td>87</td></tr> <tr><td>Sep</td><td>89</td><td>89</td><td>89</td><td>87</td></tr> <tr><td>Oct</td><td>90</td><td>86</td><td>89</td><td>87</td></tr> <tr><td>Nov</td><td>90</td><td>85</td><td>89</td><td>87</td></tr> <tr><td>Dec</td><td>85</td><td></td><td>89</td><td>87</td></tr> <tr><td>Jan</td><td>90</td><td></td><td>89</td><td>87</td></tr> <tr><td>Feb</td><td>89</td><td></td><td>89</td><td>87</td></tr> <tr><td>Mar</td><td>84</td><td></td><td>89</td><td>87</td></tr> </tbody> </table>			Month	2017/18	2018/19	Target: 89%	2018/19 - Running Average	Apr	92	88	89	88	May	91	84	89	86	Jun	89	86	89	86	Jul	90	84	89	86	Aug	88	89	89	87	Sep	89	89	89	87	Oct	90	86	89	87	Nov	90	85	89	87	Dec	85		89	87	Jan	90		89	87	Feb	89		89	87	Mar	84		89
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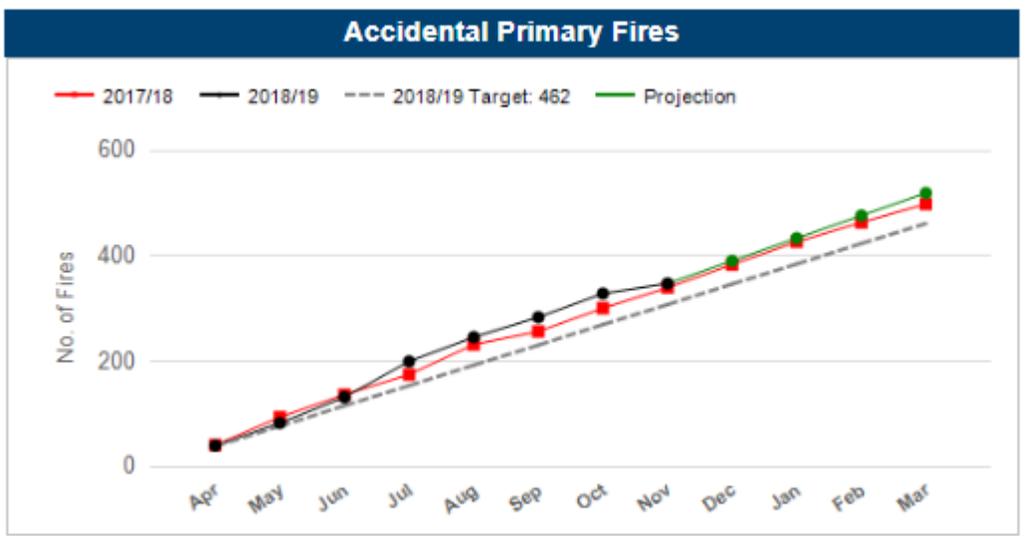
Comments

As can be seen from the graph above, performance against this indicator in October is once again lower than it was the same month last year, with the current yearly performance also 2.0% down on the target of 89%. Availability of the fire appliances has continued to be good, so this does not appear to be the reason for this lower performance.

Other reasons for this decrease are being explored, but it is worth noting that the total number of incidents the Service has responded to so far this year, remains at 12.4% higher than last year, making it the highest incident count since the new Incident Recording System came into being up in 2012 (see the graph below).



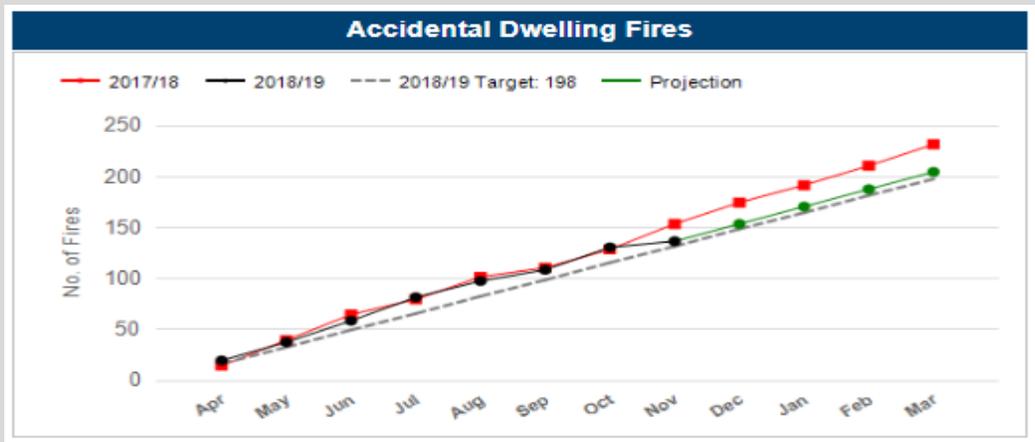
The Service is continuing to look into whether the location of the incidents it attends is significantly changing. Early indications are that, whilst the overall number of incidents in our urban areas remains much higher than in the more rural areas of the county, the gap between these areas is reducing. Members will receive more information on this as the results from this trend analysis work become available.

Aim	Measure and Target	Performance to date April to October 2018	Predicted Pass: ✓ Fail: ✗
2. To reduce the number of fires in our community	2a. All accidental fires will be reduced to not more than 462 fires during 2018/19	329	✗
	<p>Performance graph</p>  <p>Comments</p> <p>Although the 'rate of accidental fires' is now similar to last year, the increased number of all accidental fires during July continues to see the current performance being greater than last year and also approximately 59 fires over the level required to be on track to meet the annual target. The performance from previous years suggests that this is unlikely to be turned around in the remaining five months of the year.</p>		

The current performance equates to a 14% rise (42 incidents) on the average number of accidental fires experienced at this stage over the previous 4 years. However, only 17% (7 incidents) of this rise relates to fires in either domestic or business properties; accidental fires in vehicles appears to be where the greatest increase has been occurring. Whilst some of this is related to fires in agricultural vehicles, possibly as a consequence of the weather, the picture is not that simple, with a similar increase being seen in the number of fires in cars and HGV's. The Prevention Department are going to do a piece of work to try and identify any trends around the causes of these fires, which will then be able to inform on the messages that are required to go out to the right audiences.

Measure and Target	Performance to date April to October 2018	Predicted Pass: ✓ Fail: ✗
2b. Accidental dwelling fires (ADF) to be reduced to not more than 198 during 2018/19	131	✗

Performance graph

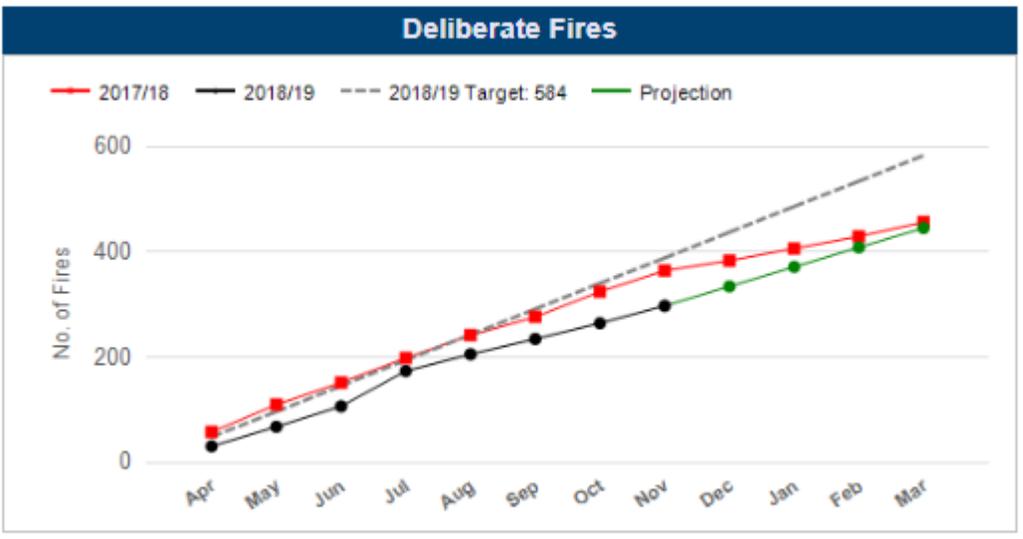


Comments

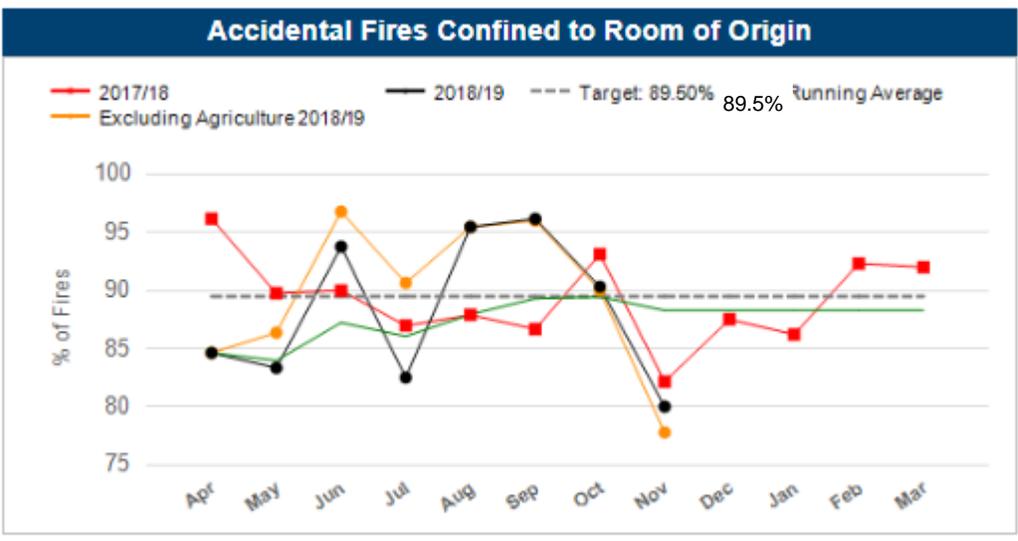
Although the performance to the end of October continues to be on track with the same period last year (129 in 2017/18) the number of dwelling fires is slightly higher than would be expected if the Service is going to meet the annual target for this measure (approximately 15 fires over the expected target).

At a station level, we are seeing improved performance in the Tweedale and Telford Central areas, where the significant amount of work we are undertaking with our partners is clearly having benefit.

However, areas such as Oswestry, Market Drayton and Craven Arms continue to be challenging, with the number of domestic fires experienced so far this year, being similar to that experienced in the whole of last year. This demonstrates that the areas identified in the ADF Strategy, introduced last year, continue to be the right target areas, but identifying how our work can impact on the specific issues in each these areas still has some way to go.

Measure and Target	Performance to date April to October 2018	Predicted Pass: ✓ Fail: ✗
2c. Deliberate fires will be reduced to not more than 584 fires during 2018/19	265	✓
<p>Performance graph</p>  <p>Comments</p> <p>The Service continues to be on course to meet this annual target (approximately 76 fires below the expected position at this time in the year). This continues the trend towards significant improvement on the same period last year, where we had responded to 325 deliberate fires.</p> <p>Members will receive a presentation, at this meeting, which outlines the detail contained in the Service's Arson Plan and the excellent work going into reducing the impact from arson in the county.</p>		

Aim	Measure and Target	Performance to date April to October 2018	Predicted Pass: ✓ Fail: ✗
3. To reduce the number of fire related deaths and serious injuries	3a. Fire related deaths and serious injuries in the community will be reduced to not more than 17 during 2018/19	5	✓
	<p>Comments</p> <p>The Service continues to be on track to meet this year's annual target.</p> <p>However, since the last report there have been two fire incidents resulting in fatalities; a 92 year old gentleman in a property near Craven Arms and a 59 year old gentleman in Park Lane, Woodside. Although the cause of death has not yet been confirmed by the Coroner, in either of these tragic incidents, as usual the Service has already carried out significant community safety initiatives within those local areas. It has also launched 'Significant Event Investigations' into both incidents, to ensure that all possible learning, both from a prevention and a response point of view, is being learnt.</p>		
	3b. Injuries sustained to staff through firefighting will be reduced to not more than 22 injuries during 2018/19	13	✓
	<p>Comments</p> <p>Having seen a reduction in the number of injuries sustained by staff since the busy summer months, there is a possibility that the Service may meet this challenging target, although this will depend on any severe weather between now and March, not resulting in increased slips, trips and falls, which continues to be one of the main causes of accidents.</p> <p>With such small numbers of injuries, it is difficult to identify any specific trends. However, every incident is used to inform on how our current practices and processes can be improved. This is achieved through active reporting, monitoring and implementing action following an investigation.</p>		

Aim	Measure and Target	Performance to date April to October 2018	Predicted Pass: ✓ Fail: ✗
4. To deliver a fire and rescue service, which provides value for money for our community now and into the future	4a. Fire and heat damage emanating from accidental fires in domestic dwellings and regulated business will be confined to the room of origin on not less than 89.5% of occasions during 2018/19	89.1%	✗
	<p>Performance graph</p>  <p>Comments</p> <p>The Service is currently only 0.4% below the 89.5% annual target. As can be seen in the graph, this measure is subject to significant variation, between each month and each year, and is also subject to a significant negative contribution from fires in agricultural buildings, which has been a significant issue during the hotter summer.</p>		

<p>With this year's warmer weather resulting in an earlier harvest and also in lower yields from that harvest, it does appear that we saw the spike in agricultural fires during July (which in previous years has continued through to September). This is supporting the improvement we have seen over the last few months and could possibly even result in the Service ultimately meeting its annual target.</p>		
<p>4b. To obtain an unqualified Value for Money (VFM) conclusion from External Audit</p>	<p>Achieved in September 2018</p>	<p>✓</p>
<p>Comments</p> <p>The Service received an unqualified value for money conclusion and therefore this target has been achieved.</p>		