



SCOTTISH

FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Working together for a safer Scotland

# LOCAL FIRE AND RESCUE PLAN FOR INVERCLYDE

2014-2017

Draft for Consultation

**Working together  
for a safer Scotland**

Inverclyde  
council

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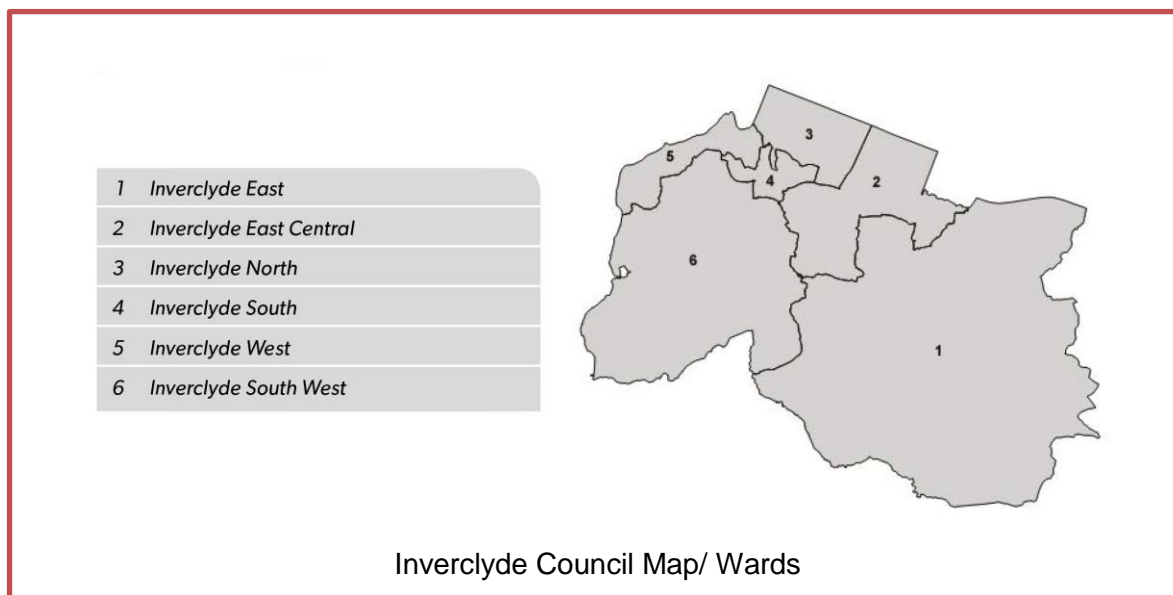
# Foreword

Welcome to the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service's (SFRS) Local Fire and Rescue Plan for the Local Authority Area of Inverclyde. This plan is the mechanism through which the aims of the SFRS's Strategic Plan 2013 – 2016 are delivered to meet the agreed needs of Inverclyde communities.

This Plan sets out the priorities and objectives for the SFRS within Inverclyde for 2014 – 2017 and allows our Local Authority partners to scrutinise the performance outcomes of those priorities. SFRS will continue to work closely with our partners in Inverclyde to ensure we are all “Working Together for a safer Scotland” through targeting risks to our communities at a local level.

The Local Fire and Rescue Plan and its associated action plans are aligned to the Community Planning Partnership structures within Inverclyde. Through partnership working we will deliver continuous improvement in our performance and effective service delivery in our area of operations.

The SFRS will continue to use data analysis techniques to identify risk and to ensure resources are allocated to the point of need within our communities. Whilst considering the strategic priorities of the SFRS we will develop local solutions to local needs and ensure equitable access to Fire and Rescue resources. Through our on-going involvement with local community safety groups in Inverclyde we will continue to develop our understanding of local needs and proactively seek out consultation opportunities with all sections of the community. Using this approach we will ensure that the service we deliver is driven by consultation in line with public expectations and helps to build strong, safe and resilient communities.



# Introduction

The Scottish Government provides an overarching vision for public services that focuses on the creation of a more successful country, with opportunities for all through a sustainable increase in economic growth.

This direction is supported by Strategic Objectives to make Scotland a wealthier & fairer, smarter, healthier, safer & stronger and greener place. Through a concordat between the Scottish Government and the Convention for Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA), the Strategic Objectives have been expanded into Local Single Outcome Agreements which include indicators and targets that provide the framework for how Local Authorities and their Community Planning partners such as the SFRS will deliver services.

The Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 provides the statutory basis for the SFRS to deliver a range of core services and functions that means whilst the service is ready to respond to fire and other emergencies, it also maintains a strong focus on prevention and protection arrangements to ensure the safety of our communities. The associated Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2013 sets the overarching strategic direction for the SFRS in the delivery of its services to the communities of Inverclyde.

*The Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 requires local plans to contain:*

- *Priorities and objectives for SFRS in connection with the carrying out of duties in the local authority's area of SFRS's functions,*
- *The reasons for selecting each of those priorities and objectives,*
- *How SFRS proposes to deliver those priorities and objectives,*
- *In so far as is reasonably practicable, outcomes by reference to which delivery of those priorities and objectives can be measured,*
- *How those priorities and objectives are expected to contribute to the delivery of any other relevant local outcomes which are identified by community planning,*
- *Such other matters relating to the carrying out of SFRS's functions in the local authority's area as SFRS thinks appropriate.*

# Strategic Assessment

A Strategic Assessment for the SFRS's activities in Scotland established the type, frequency and impact of incidents that we attend. With this assessment in place the Local Senior Officer for Inverclyde can effectively identify key priority areas for the SFRS to target its resources at a local level.

## National Assessment

The Scottish Government within their National Performance Framework have identified 16 National Outcomes they wish to achieve. Through delivery of this Local Plan the SFRS in particular will contribute to the following Outcomes:

- **National Outcome 1:** We live in a Scotland that is the most attractive place for doing business in Europe.
- **National Outcome 4:** Our young people are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens.
- **National Outcome 6:** We live longer healthier lives.
- **National Outcome 8:** We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk.
- **National Outcome 9:** We live our lives safe from crime disorder and danger.
- **National Outcome 12:** We value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations.
- **National Outcome 15:** Our people are able to maintain their independence as they get older and are able to access appropriate support when they need it.

The priorities for the SFRS have been laid out in the Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2013 with the following Strategic Aims defined within the Strategic Plan 2013-2016:

- Strategic Aim 1:** Improve safety of our communities and staff.
- Strategic Aim 2:** More Equitable Access to Fire and Rescue Services.
- Strategic Aim 3:** Improved outcomes through partnership.
- Strategic Aim 4:** Develop a culture of continuous improvement.





## Equality Assessment

On 30 April 2013, the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service published its Equality Outcomes in compliance with the Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) (Scotland) Regulations 2012. The SFRS Equality Outcomes are:

- Outcome 1:** People from all of Scotland's community groups feel confident in contacting the Fire and Rescue Service for advice and information on relevant non-emergency issues.
- Outcome 2:** Disabled, LGBT, BME, older people and people from minority faiths are aware of the services provided by the SFRS, particularly how these can be adapted to meet their own individual needs.
- Outcome 3:** People from all Scotland's community groups feel safer in their homes and on our roads.
- Outcome 4:** Establish the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service as an employer of choice for people across protected characteristics.
- Outcome 5:** Provide a positive and healthy workplace culture that welcomes, embraces and develops people from across all protected characteristics.
- Outcome 6:** People from across all communities are enabled to live lives free from hate crime, harassment and domestic abuse/violence.
- Outcome 7:** Gypsy travellers and migrant workers are safer, better informed and confident in Scottish Fire and Rescue Service engagement.



## Local Assessment

The Local Assessment addresses issues relevant to the local area. Through analysis of data, partnership working and consultation, local improvement and demand reduction plans can be developed to ensure positive outcomes and results are achieved. The key priority areas in Inverclyde that are considered in the Local Assessment and those that action plans will be developed for are:

- Local Risk Management and Preparedness
- Reduction of Accidental Dwelling Fires
- Reduction in Fire Fatalities and Casualties
- Reduction of Deliberate Fire Setting
- Reduction of Fires in Non Domestic Property
- Reduction in Casualties from Non Fire Emergencies
- Reduction of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals

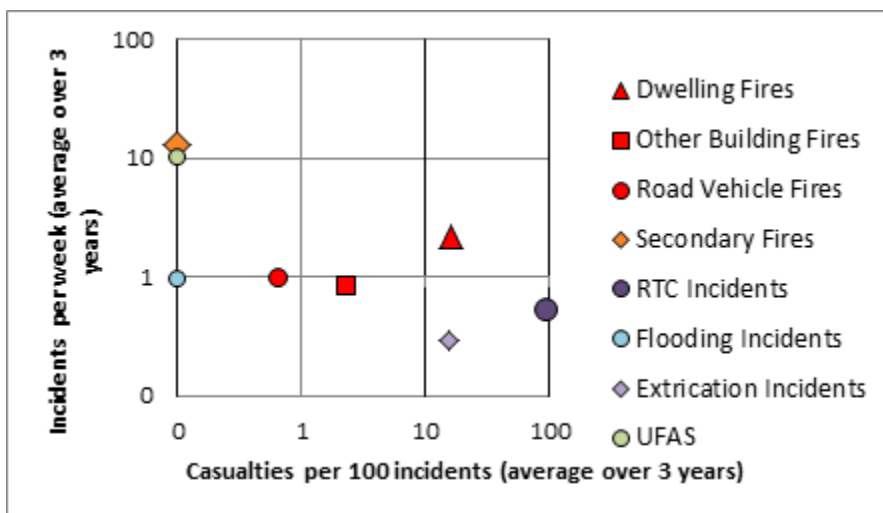
# Local Operational Assessment

Identified local key priority areas are monitored through the gathering and analysis of operational activity data.

## Local Fire and Rescue Activity

<b>3 years Incidents</b>	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	3 year average
Dwelling Fires	131	108	100	113.00
Other Building Fires	61	43	27	43.67
Road Vehicle Fires	55	52	43	50.00
Secondary Fires	899	647	510	685.33
RTC Incidents	35	29	21	28.33
Flooding Incidents	53	59	38	50.00
Extrication Incidents	20	10	16	15.33
UFAS	524	574	537	545.00

## Local Fire and Rescue Assessment Activity Grid



# Inverclyde Risk Profile

Inverclyde is located in West Central Scotland and is one of the most attractive places in Scotland to live, work and visit, with 61 square miles stretching along the bank of the River Clyde. The main towns of Greenock, Port Glasgow and Gourock sit on the Firth of Clyde. The towns provide a marked contrast to the small coastal settlements of Inverkip and Wemyss bay which lie to the south west of the area. Kilmacolm and Quarriers villages are located further inland.

In terms of life and fire risk, Inverclyde has a major hospital, a major shipping port with busy traffic, a football stadium and a vast road network.

The Local Senior Officer (LSO) is the senior fire officer for the “East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde” fire service Area.

SFRS has 3 Community Fire Stations located within Inverclyde:-

- Greenock Fire Station, Rue End Street, Greenock PA15 1HA
- Port Glasgow Fire Station, East Bay, Port Glasgow PA14 5NF
- Gourock Fire Station, George Road, Gourock PA19 1YT





# Priorities, Actions and Outcomes

## 1. Local Risk Management and Preparedness

The SFRS has a statutory duty to reduce the risks to our communities to make certain that they receive the best possible service. The management of risk within our community means:

- Identifying the risks to the community which fall within the scope of responsibility of the SFRS.
- Undertaking a process to prioritise these risks.
- Ensuring that appropriate local and national resource capability and trained Fire Service personnel are in place to address them.

### **Aligns to:**

- **Strategic Aim 1:** Improve safety of our communities and staff
- **Strategic Aim 2:** More Equitable Access to Fire and Rescue Services
- **Strategic Aim 3:** Improved outcomes through partnership
- **Strategic Aim 4:** Develop a culture of continuous improvement
- Inverclyde Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement

### **We will achieve it by:**

- Ensuring our training, staff development and equipment is fit for purpose to meet our current risk profile and adaptable to changing circumstances.
- Ensure all known risk information is obtained, communicated and tested.
- Working locally with partner organisations and agencies to ensure effective response plans are developed for identified risks.
- Fulfilling our statutory duties in relation to the Civil Contingencies Act 2009.

### **In doing so we will also add value by:**

- Keeping our staff and members of the public safe should any incident occur.
- Reducing the financial burden and disruption caused to our communities when emergencies occur.
- Proactively helping the wider community by preventing emergencies and planning to mitigate their effects when they occur.

## 2. Reduction of Accidental Dwelling Fires

Many dwelling fires start accidentally in the kitchen and are mainly caused by people who become distracted and leave cooking unattended. It is reassuring that a large number of dwellings had a working smoke detector that raised the alarm at an early stage and prevented widespread fire damage and further injury.

### **Aligns to:**

- **Strategic Aim 1:** Improve safety of our communities and staff
- **Strategic Aim 2:** More Equitable Access to Fire and Rescue Services
- **Strategic Aim 3:** Improved outcomes through partnership
- **Strategic Aim 4:** Develop a culture of continuous improvement
- Safer SOA Thematic Group
- Healthier SOA Thematic Group
- Alcohol & Drugs Partnership.
- Adult Protection Committee
- Greener/Environmental SOA Thematic Group

### **We will achieve it by:**

- Delivering target specific HFSVs in order to increase the number delivered to those at higher risk from fire.
- Using data analysis tools to ensure that our engagement activities are targeted at the most vulnerable groups within our communities.
- Working together with our Community Planning partners to promote fire safety in the home.
- Where appropriate we will develop an Information Sharing Protocol with Inverclyde Housing, Social Work and Community Health and Care Partnership.

**We will reduce the number of accidental dwelling fires within the community of Inverclyde during the timeframe of this plan.**

### **In doing so we will also add value by:**

- Preventing accidental fire deaths and societal loss.
- Reducing fire related injuries and hospital admissions.
- Reducing damage to housing stock.
- Reducing environmental damage from smoke and fire gases.
- Reducing losses to employers and business caused by employee injuries and associated time off work.

### 3. Reduction in Fire Casualties and Fatalities

Fire casualties tend to occur in accidental dwelling fires where factors such as alcohol or drug abuse are present or if the occupants are elderly or infirm. The lack of a working smoke detector also greatly increases the vulnerability of these individuals.

The costs associated with fire casualties are high – with potentially significant trauma to individuals, and high financial costs to health and housing partners. The Fire & Rescue Service in Inverclyde aim to target a reduction in these casualties by working with partner agencies and adopting a “known to one, known to all approach”.

#### **Aligns to:**

- **Strategic Aim 1:** Improve safety of our communities and staff
- **Strategic Aim 2:** More Equitable Access to Fire and Rescue Services
- **Strategic Aim 3:** Improved outcomes through partnership
- **Strategic Aim 4:** Develop a culture of continuous improvement
- Safer & Stronger SOA Thematic Group
- Healthier SOA Thematic Group
- Alcohol & Drugs Partnership
- Adult Protection Committee

#### **We will achieve it by:**

- Delivering target specific HFSV's in order to increase the number delivered to those at higher risk from fire.
- Using data analysis tools to ensure that our engagement activities are targeted at the most vulnerable groups within our communities.
- Working together with our Community Planning partners to promote fire safety in the home.
- Where appropriate we will develop an Information Sharing Protocol with Inverclyde Housing, Social Work and the Community Health Partnership.

**We will adopt a zero tolerance objective for both fire casualties and fire fatalities.**

#### **In doing so we will also add value by:**

- Preventing accidental fire deaths and societal loss.
- Reducing fire related injuries and hospital admissions.
- Reducing damage to housing stock.
- Reducing environmental damage from smoke and fire gases.
- Reducing losses to employers and business caused by employee injuries and associated time off work.

## 4. Reduction of Deliberate Fire Setting

Deliberate fire setting is a significant problem for the Fire & Rescue Service and is responsible for a very high number of all of the secondary fires we attend. Secondary fires are reportable fires that did not involve casualties or rescues and were attended by four or fewer appliances. The main secondary fire categories are refuse/container, grass/heath/railway and derelict building incidents.

There is a very close link between deliberately set Secondary fires and other forms of fire related anti-social behaviour. By continuing to focus our attention on deliberate fires this will reduce the burden on the Fire and Rescue Service and partner agencies.

### **Aligns to:**

- **Strategic Aim 1:** Improve safety of our communities and staff
- **Strategic Aim 2:** More Equitable Access to Fire and Rescue Services
- **Strategic Aim 3:** Improved outcomes through partnership
- **Strategic Aim 4:** Develop a culture of continuous improvement
- Safer & Stronger SOA Thematic Group
- Alcohol & Drugs Partnership
- Adult Protection Committee
- Greener/Environmental SOA Thematic Group

### **We will achieve it by:**

- Working together with our Community Planning partners to tackle fire related ASB and crime.
- Engage in a multi-agency approach to tackling deliberate fire-setting and fire related anti-social behaviour through diversionary activities and education.
- Continue to deliver fire education programmes including the successful Firereach programme which positively engages with young people.

**We will reduce the number of deliberate fires within the community of Inverclyde during the timeframe of this plan.**

### **In doing so we will also add value by:**

- Reducing fire related injuries and hospital admissions.
- Reducing damage to housing stock and associated assets.
- Reducing damage to commercial & industrial buildings.
- Reducing environmental damage from smoke and fire gases.
- Reducing losses to business caused by fire.

## 5. Reduction of Fires in Non Domestic Properties

Many workplaces and business premises are classed as “Relevant Premises” and come under the scope of the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005.

Sleeping risks are seen as a particularly high fire risk since most fatal fires occur at night when people are less vigilant and at their most vulnerable. Residential care homes, student accommodation and non self-contained sheltered housing make up the greatest proportion of these risks within the Inverclyde area.

### **Aligns to:**

- **Strategic Aim 1:** Improve safety of our communities and staff
- **Strategic Aim 2:** More Equitable Access to Fire and Rescue Services
- **Strategic Aim 3:** Improved outcomes through partnership
- **Strategic Aim 4:** Develop a culture of continuous improvement
- Safer & Stronger SOA Thematic Group
- Greener/Environmental SOA Thematic Group

### **We will achieve it by:**

- Regular Fire Audits by Fire Safety Enforcement Officers using a risk based approach.
- Further developing partnerships with local non self-contained sheltered housing providers to offer advice and guidance for managers and new residents.
- Ensuring Community Education is undertaken at appropriate times throughout the year with our student community and work with the licensing department to ensure all multiple occupation houses meet the required standards in relation to Fire Safety.

**We will reduce the number of fires in non-domestic properties within the community of Inverclyde during the timeframe of this plan.**

### **In doing so we will also add value by:**

- Preventing accidental fire deaths and societal loss.
- Reducing fire related injuries and hospital admissions.
- Reducing damage to housing stock and associated assets.
- Reducing damage to commercial & industrial buildings.
- Reducing environmental damage from smoke and fire gases.
- Reducing losses to employers and business caused by fire.

## 6. Reduction in Casualties from Non Fire Emergencies

A central part of the SFRS's role is responding to non-fire emergencies such as Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs), other rescue situations and flooding. Operational Firefighters are trained to a high standard and have at their disposal the most modern equipment for extricating people in rescue situations and administering first aid to casualties.

Any death or serious injury on the roads in Inverclyde must be considered unacceptable. Many incidents could be prevented with the provision of road safety advice. Considerable effort is made by many agencies in Inverclyde aimed at making our roads safe. The Fire and Rescue Service has a role to play in complimenting that work and we will participate in a partnership approach which will provide an educational programme within Inverclyde schools aimed at young people with both practical and classroom sessions to enforce messages of road safety, driver awareness and the consequences of dangerous driving.

### **Aligns to:**

- **Strategic Aim 1:** Improve safety of our communities and staff
- **Strategic Aim 2:** More Equitable Access to Fire and Rescue Services
- **Strategic Aim 3:** Improved outcomes through partnership
- **Strategic Aim 4:** Develop a culture of continuous improvement
- Community Care, Health and Wellbeing Board
- Go Safe, Scotland's Road Safety Framework to 2020, "It's Everyone's Responsibility" is the Strategic document which drives Road Safety in Scotland.

### **We will achieve it by:**

- Reducing road traffic related injuries and hospital admissions.
- Reduction of associated loss to business and employers due to injury consequences.
- Minimise road traffic disruption.
- Minimise business losses due to road traffic disruption.

**We will reduce the number of casualties from non-fire emergencies within the community of Inverclyde during the timeframe of this plan.**

### **In doing so we will also add value by:**

- As part of the schools' education programme in Inverclyde all S5 and S6 pupils are provided with the "Cut it Out" educational programme to enhance their knowledge of the dangers of driving without due care and attention.
- Reducing the number of hospital admissions, and the associated costs to the NHS and other organisations due to RTC related injuries.

## 7. Reduction of Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) are those occasions when an automated fire alarm activates and results in a mobilisation of Fire and Rescue service resources and when the reason for that alarm turns out to be something other than a fire emergency.

Other types of false alarm include malicious 999 calls and emergency calls made when a person genuinely believes that an emergency has occurred which requires the attendance of the Fire and Rescue service, and that belief subsequently turns out to be unfounded.

### **Aligns to:**

- **Strategic Aim 1:** Improve safety of our communities and staff
- **Strategic Aim 2:** More Equitable Access to Fire and Rescue Services
- **Strategic Aim 3:** Improved outcomes through partnership
- **Strategic Aim 4:** Develop a culture of continuous improvement
- Safer SOA Thematic Group

### **We will achieve it by:**

- Working with owners and occupiers of commercial premises at a local level to provide advice and guidance in the reduction of unwanted fire alarm signals.
- Ensuring buildings with high instances of unwanted fire alarm signals comply with the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 and evaluate whether they have suitable and sufficient fire safety management procedures in place.
- Delivery of initiatives aimed at reducing the number of malicious calls to the Fire and Rescue will continue to be carried out through youth engagement and educational programs.

**We will reduce the number of unwanted fire alarm signals within the community of Inverclyde during the timeframe of this plan.**

### **In doing so we will also add value by:**

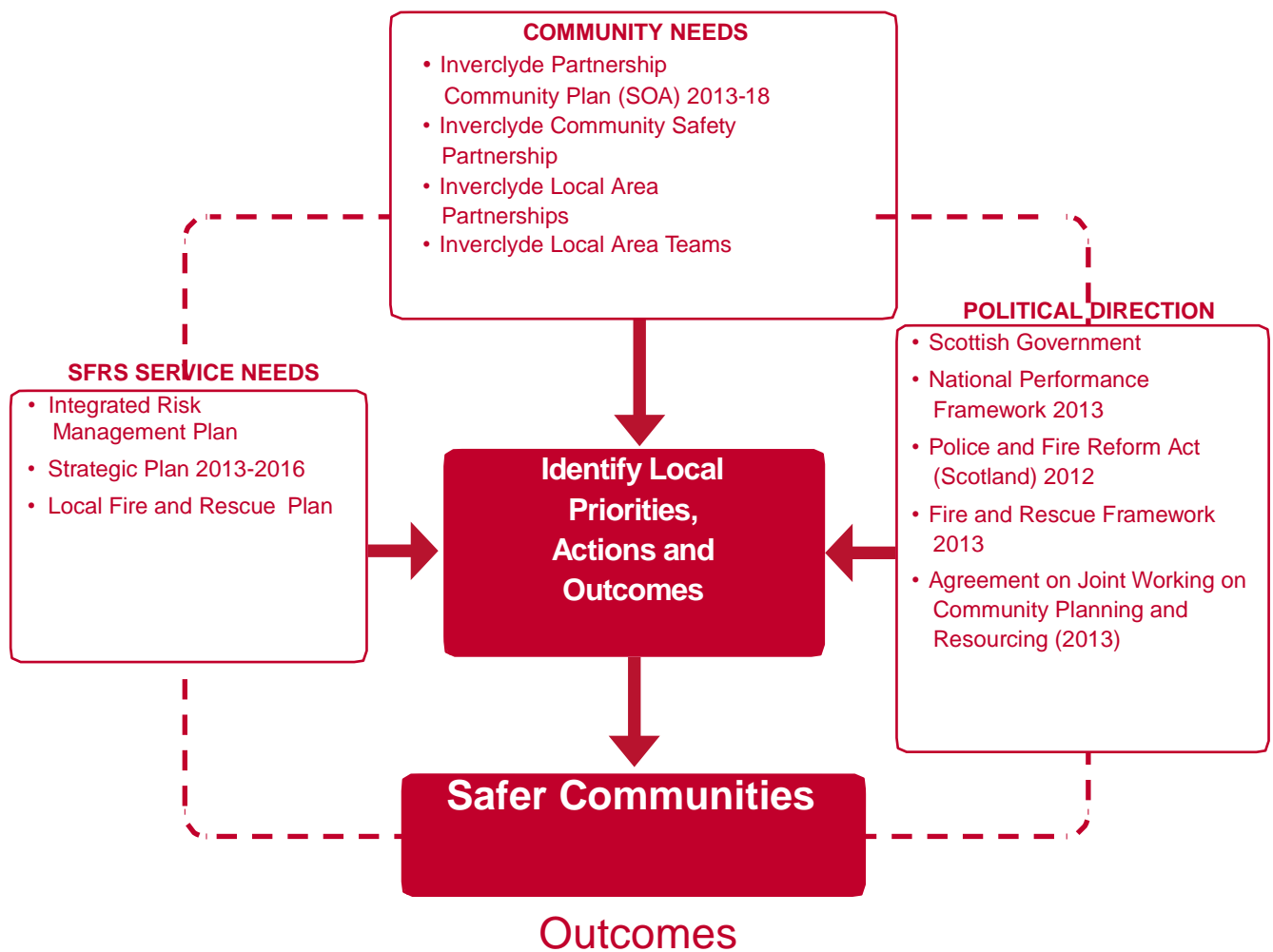
- Reduction in ASB and crime.
- Reducing road risk by reducing blue light journeys.
- Minimising disruption in business, education, leisure and other establishments which have UFAS.



# Achieving Local Outcomes

## Achieving Safer Communities in Inverclyde

*Following a process of identifying local risks within Inverclyde, priority actions to address them and expected outcomes have been set within this plan. Local risks were identified following considerations of political direction set by the Scottish Government, community needs identified through consultation and the operational resources and capacity of the SFRS.*



Measured against published Single Outcome Agreement, Community Safety and Local Fire Plan Objectives, and scrutinised by the Board of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Inverclyde Council.

## Review

To ensure this Local Plan remains flexible to emerging local or national priorities a review may be carried out at any time but it will be reviewed at least once in its life time. A review may also be carried out if the Scottish Minister directs it or if a new Strategic Plan is approved.

Following a review the Local Senior Officer may revise the Plan.

## Contact us

### Feedback

If you have something you would like to share with us, you can get in touch in a number of ways:

- Use the feedback form on our website to send an email - [www.firescotland.gov.uk](http://www.firescotland.gov.uk)
- Contact your local community fire station - details are listed on our website or in your local telephone directory.
- Contact (LSO) Area Headquarters on 01505 356620
- Write to us at the address at the bottom of this page.

We are fully committed to continually improving the service we provide to our communities and recognise that to achieve this goal we must listen and respond to the views of the public.

We use all feedback we receive to monitor our performance and incorporate this information into our planning and governance processes in order to continually improve our service.

We are proud to say that the majority of the feedback we receive is positive, and we are keen to hear examples of good practice and quality service delivery that exemplifies the standards of care that we strive to provide for the communities of Scotland.

In instances where our standards of service are questioned, we welcome the opportunity to investigate the circumstances, and are committed to correcting any lapses and using the learning outcomes to improve our future service delivery.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE A COPY OF THIS DOCUMENT IN A DIFFERENT FORMAT OR  
A VERSION IN ANOTHER LANGUAGE, PLEASE CONTACT:

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, West Service Delivery Area HQ, Bothwell Road, Hamilton  
ML3 0EA Tel 01698 300999 Fax 01698 338444  
or alternatively visit our website [www.firescotland.gov.uk](http://www.firescotland.gov.uk)

## Glossary of Terms

Accidental:	caused by accident or carelessness. Includes fires which accidentally get out of control.
Casualty:	consists of persons requiring medical treatment beyond first aid given at the scene of the incident. Those sent to hospital or advised to see a doctor for a check-up or observation (whether or not they actually do). People sent to hospital or advised to see a doctor as a precaution, having no obvious injury, are recorded as 'precautionary check-ups'. Casualty figures do not include fatalities.
Deliberate:	covers fire where deliberate ignition is suspected.
False Automatic Fire Alarm:	is defined as an event in which the Fire and Rescue Service believes they are called to a reportable fire and then find there is no such incident. These can be Malicious, of Good Intent or caused by Apparatus. The False Fire Alarms recorded for our indicator are those caused by Apparatus, as these constitute a significant majority of False Fire Alarm incidents.
Fatality:	a casualty whose death is attributed to a fire is counted as a fatality even if the death occurred later. Fatalities associated with Other Incidents can include attendance to assist Police or Ambulance colleagues when a person has been found who has committed suicide, for example. Often there is little we can do as a Service to influence this particular figure.
Primary Fires:	includes all fires in buildings, vehicles and most outdoor structures or any fire involving casualties, rescues or fire attended by five or more pumping appliances.
Secondary Fires:	these cover the majority of outdoor fires including grassland and refuse fires unless they involve casualties or rescues, property loss or if five or more appliances attend. They include fires in derelict buildings but not chimney fires.



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