



## **EAST COWES FIRE STATION PLAN**

**2011 – 2012**

**EAST COWES FIRE STATION  
YORK AVENUE  
EAST COWES  
ISLE OF WIGHT  
PO32 6RT**



## **COMMUNITY PROFILE**

East Cowes is located at the north end of the Isle of Wight on the east bank of the estuary of the River Medina, facing the larger town of Cowes on the west bank. The two towns are linked by the Cowes Floating Bridge, a chain ferry. Local industry in East Cowes, in a similar way to Cowes, has always centred on boat building and its associated materials, later diversifying into aircraft technologies and manufacturing and it remains fairly industrialised today. Osborne House, the home of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert also has a prime location in East Cowes and attracts a huge number of visitors each year. Classical and pop concerts are held in the grounds every summer. East Cowes provides a main vehicle and foot passenger transportation link to Southampton via the Red Funnel ferry service from the Trinity Road terminal. Recent developments include a large residential development and supermarket.

## **OPERATIONAL ISSUES**

East Cowes has a number of high risk sites, where any fire incident would require a significant amount of fire and rescue resources. These include the Islands only fuel depot and power station, Osborne House which provides a heritage risk and large industrial premises occupied by GKN Aerospace, a major employer in the town. The River Medina provides marine risks as well as environmental concerns from any incidents at the fuel depot or power station.

Fire crews at East Cowes focus their training to ensure they are able to deal with incidents at these sites effectively and professionally, as well as other risk sites on the Island they may attend.

## **RISK PROFILING**

The Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service (IWFRS) is committed to 'ensuring our communities feel safer'. In order to be effective in controlling risk the IWFRS needs to understand its communities and the key risks they face. We do this by working with a number of partners to collect robust information so that we are better able to identify who and what is at higher risk.

The outcome of the system that the Service uses for community risk profiling is a mapping process that is used to show where and who is most at risk from fire and other incidents on the Island. It will also help to show the likelihood of future fires.

By identifying these locations and those groups of individuals most vulnerable we are able to target our resources effectively. This will help reduce incidents, deaths and injuries and will also provide critical information to our fire-fighters during operational incidents, thereby increasing their safety.

East Cowes Fire Station is part of the Newport Locality, which has its own plan and is based on reducing the level of risk within the locality area as shown by the risk profile. The locality plan is linked to the objectives of the Service as laid out in the Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) and the key service objective of 'Ensuring our communities feel safer'.

## WHAT IS A LOCALITY AREA?

The Service has divided the Island into two administrative areas known as localities. Each locality contains a Locality Manager, a wholetime station and a number of RDS stations supported by Station Managers. The Locality Manager is a member of the Tactical Management Team who collectively analyse the community risk profile, identify other risks and plan, monitor and prioritise risk reduction activities to be undertaken in the two localities.

## NEWPORT LOCALITY STATIONS

Newport Fire Station  
South Street  
Newport  
Isle of Wight  
PO30 1JQ

***East Cowes Fire Station***  
***York Avenue***  
***East Cowes***  
***Isle of Wight***  
***PO32 6RT***

Yarmouth Fire Station  
Station Road  
Yarmouth  
Isle of Wight  
PO41 0QT

Cowes Fire Station  
Victoria Road  
Cowes  
Isle of Wight  
PO31 7JJ

Freshwater Fire Station  
Tennyson Road  
Freshwater  
Isle of Wight  
PO40 9AG

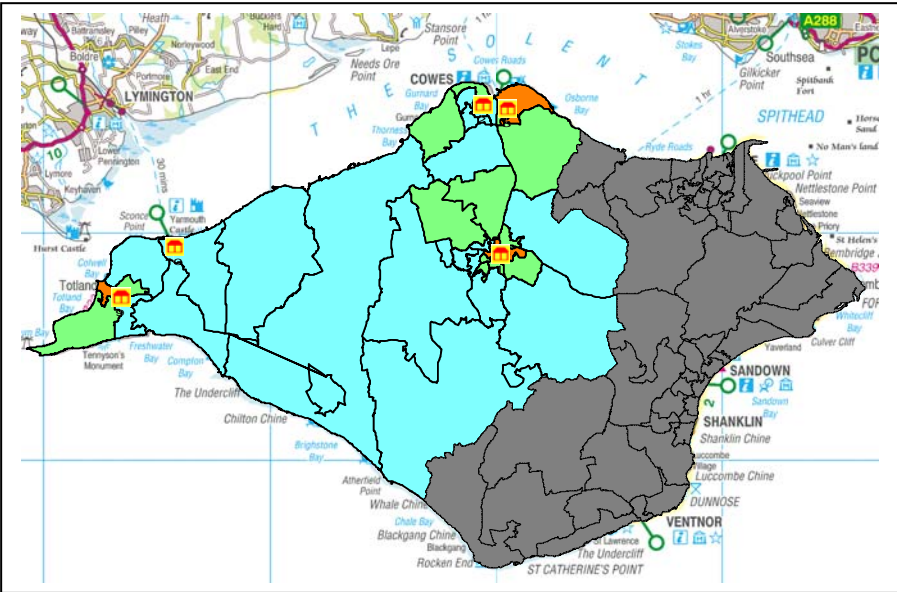
To request a Home Fire Safety Check or a Fire Safety Talk to a local community group, in any of the above station areas, please contact the Community Safety team on 533834 or email [fire.communitysafety@iow.gov.uk](mailto:fire.communitysafety@iow.gov.uk)

For Fire Safety advice for commercial buildings, in any of the above station areas, please contact the Technical Fire safety and Enforcement Team on 823184 or email [firesafety@iow.gov.uk](mailto:firesafety@iow.gov.uk).

East Cowes Fire Station has one fire engine and a foam salvage tender and is crewed by retained duty system (RDS) personnel who are called in to the station by alerter when there is a fire call. Training night at East Cowes is on a Monday.

**NEWPORT LOCALITY RISK PROFILE**

The Service calculates fire risk scores using historical fire data and a set of measures known as ‘indices of multiple deprivation’ (IMD). We present this information in geographical areas as used by local government, known as ‘super output areas’ (SOA). An average SOA contains a population of approximately 1500 people and the Island has 89 of these. Each SOA is graded against a risk band of low, medium, high or very high, according to the risk. For East Cowes Fire Station as part of the Newport Locality this is shown on the map below. Just because a SOA has a low risk score it does not mean that you may never experience a fire. Everyone can take a few simple precautions to improve safety in their home and to help with this Home Fire Safety Checks are carried out in individual properties that are most at risk, as part of Newport locality’s risk reduction activities. Risk profiling also allows the Service and each station to prioritise the risk reduction activities it carries out and to measure its performance in continuing to reduce risk.



Map Key	
Colour	Risk Score
	Low 1-34
	Med 35-55
	High 56-75
	VHigh 76-96
	SOA Boundary
	Station Location

The East Cowes Station Plan and the Newport Locality Plan will contribute towards the corporate objective of 'A Safe and Well Kept Island'. The risk reduction activities in the plan will underpin and contribute towards the Service Objective of 'Ensuring Communities Feel Safer'.

At East Cowes Fire Station the activities below will also contribute towards our Service intervention priorities of providing an effective **emergency response** and **protecting the natural and built environment**.

- The Service will provide and maintain appliances and equipment to deliver an appropriate emergency response to incidents. This will be achieved through the service fleet replacement programme and the routine servicing and maintenance of vehicles and equipment by workshops and personnel. Crews at East Cowes Fire Station will carry out checks and testing of equipment as part of our weekly routines.
- The Service will provide suitable crewing levels to maintain availability of appliances for emergency incidents. This will be achieved by maintaining minimum crewing levels in line with Service Policy. At East Cowes Fire Station, our crews' availability will be locally managed to maintain the best availability of our appliance for emergency response and to provide a more resilient service across our locality to deliver an emergency response suitable for the community risks.
- At East Cowes Fire Station we will help to promote a number of national fire safety campaigns within our station area, to highlight specific issues to our local community, that reflect our local risk.
- The Service will prepare to ensure the continuation of our core business under exceptional circumstances i.e. spate conditions. This will be achieved, with the assistance of the Newport Locality Manager and the East Cowes Station Manager, in the production of a business continuity plan for the Newport Locality and East Cowes Fire Station, in line with corporate emergency management. This plan will be tested and reviewed annually to ensure that it is effective and robust. At East Cowes Fire Station we will assist in providing resilience to our emergency response in line with these plans.
- We will also train with our own fire plans for specific natural and local risks such as forest fires and marine incidents, to ensure that we minimise the environmental impact of any incidents on our forests, heath lands, rivers and coastline.

These activities will contribute towards our Service intervention priorities of **saving lives and reducing injuries** and **delivering community prevention and protection**.

- The Service will work with a number of partners to collect robust information so that we are better able to identify who and what is at higher risk. Our community risk profiling system will identify the locations and those groups of individuals most at risk from fire and other incidents on the Island. This will enable the Service to target its resources effectively and help reduce incidents,

- At East Cowes Fire Station we will provide fire safety education through community fire safety activities such as fire safety badge work with cubs and brownies, scouts and guides and by organised visits to the fire station. Also, as a result of post-incident procedures, we will install and test smoke alarms before leaving the scene of some domestic fires, where the home is seen to be particularly vulnerable. A priority referral will then be made to the Community Safety Team, for a full Home Fire Safety Check (HFSC) to be carried out.
- The Service will monitor any Coroners Reports in the form of Rule 43 letters, following national, regional or local incidents and take action to identify any premises which present similar risks within the East Cowes station area and will ensure that local training is carried out in compliance with any Coroners recommendations.

These activities will ensure all East Cowes personnel are fit, competent and capable of carrying out the tasks the Service expects of us and will contribute towards our Service objective of having a **competent and healthy workforce** and **delivering efficient and effective services**.

- At East Cowes Fire Station we will carry out suitable, planned, supervised and structured training to ensure that we have the correct skills and equipment to deal safely, effectively and efficiently with all incidents.
- The Service will ensure all of our personnel receive health monitoring in line with Service Policy. This will be achieved through Occupational Health appointments arranged through Human Resources.
- At East Cowes Fire Station we will minimise risks to our personnel in the workplace. This will be achieved by instructing all personnel in safe systems of work, providing suitable PPE and the supervision of activities by the Junior Officers and the Station Manager.
- We will carry out visits, under Section 7(2) (d) of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004, to the highest risk commercial premises and heritage buildings in our East Cowes Station area. This is to familiarise ourselves with the specific risks at each premises so that we can carry out appropriate training, in line with the fire plan, to ensure that we have the correct skills and equipment to deal with incidents at our highest risk premises.
- Section 7(2) (d) visits will also help raise our awareness of structural features and fire strategies, helping to reduce the impact of any fire incidents on the building and the environment and reducing the risk to us as fire-fighters, attending an operational incident at the premises.

## **SUMMARY OF HOW THE INTERVENTION PRIORITIES SUPPORT THE IWFRS BALANCED SCORECARD OBJECTIVES**

### **COMMUNITY**

Our community safety activities with young people will improve awareness and understanding and help prevent accidental fires occurring. We will achieve improved prevention through education. Less fires and road traffic collisions occurring will ensure that communities feel safer and help to save lives and reduce injuries.

Training to deal with our highest risks will help us to minimise the impact of any fire incidents on our buildings and our environment, safeguarding our natural and built heritage and ensuring that our communities feel safer.

### **PEOPLE**

Planned and structured training will help ensure that our workforce is effective and efficient. Safe systems of work and appropriate PPE will help reduce accidents and injuries in the workplace. Health monitoring of our personnel will assist in maintaining a healthier workforce. Training our personnel to prepare for the risks posed by operational incidents at their highest risk premises will ensure that our workforce delivers a service to meet the needs of the community.

### **PROCESS**

We will develop a robust and effective understanding of community risks enhanced by shared information from our partners. Training to deal with our highest local risks will help us to minimise the impact of emergency incidents and provide a service suitable for the community risks. We will provide and maintain suitable appliances and equipment to deliver an appropriate emergency response to incidents. Our crews will be managed locally to maintain and deliver an effective and timely emergency response. Business continuity plans will be put in place to ensure the continuation of an effective emergency response under exceptional circumstances.

## RESOURCE

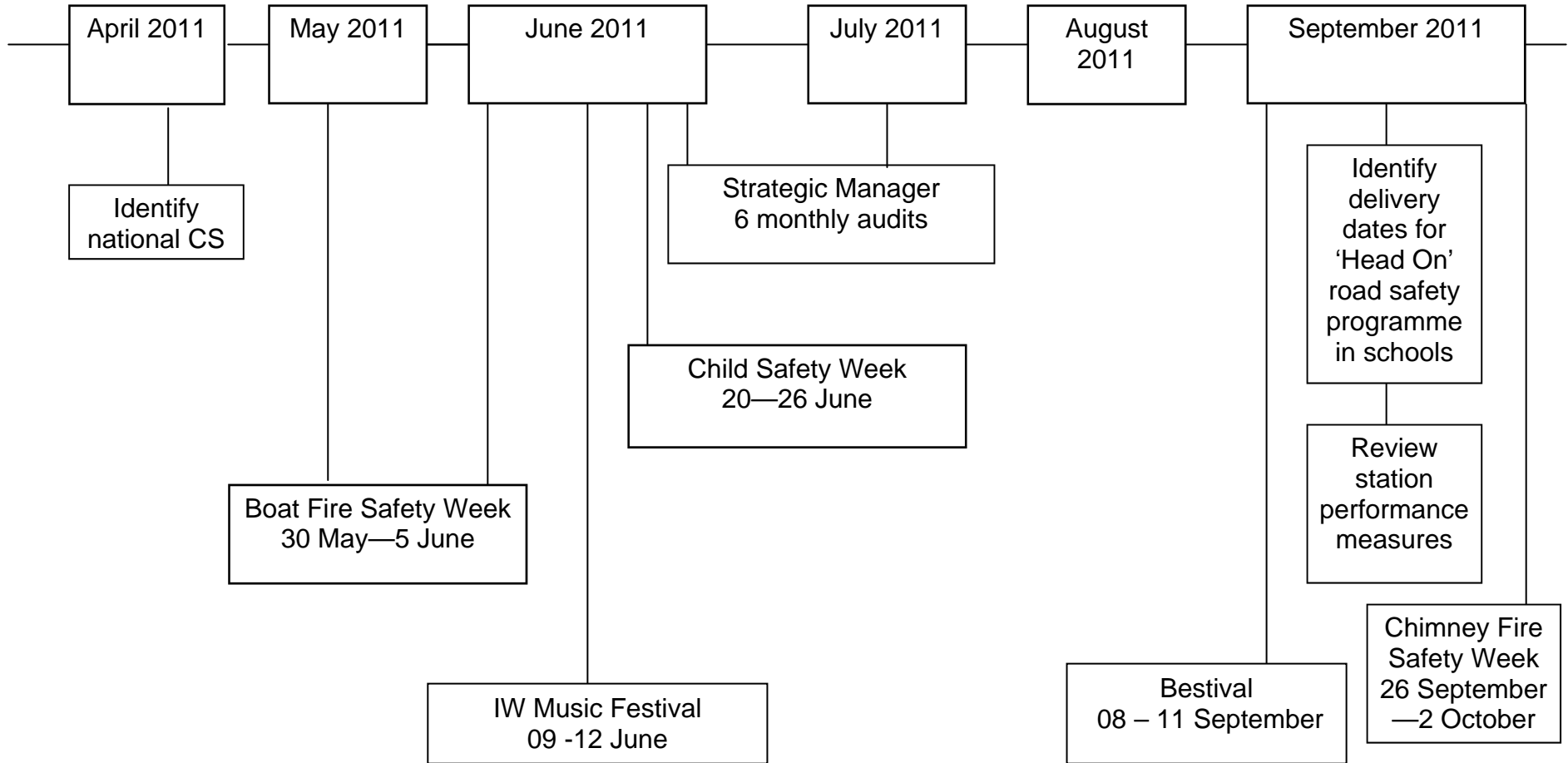
We will develop a robust and effective understanding of community risks enhanced by shared information from our partners. Planned and structured training will help ensure that our workforce is effective and efficient and able to minimise the impact of emergency incidents. Providing and maintaining suitable appliances and equipment to deliver an appropriate emergency response to incidents and managing our crews locally will maintain and deliver an effective and timely emergency response. Having business continuity plans in place will ensure resilience and the continuation of an effective emergency response under exceptional circumstances.

## OUTPUTS

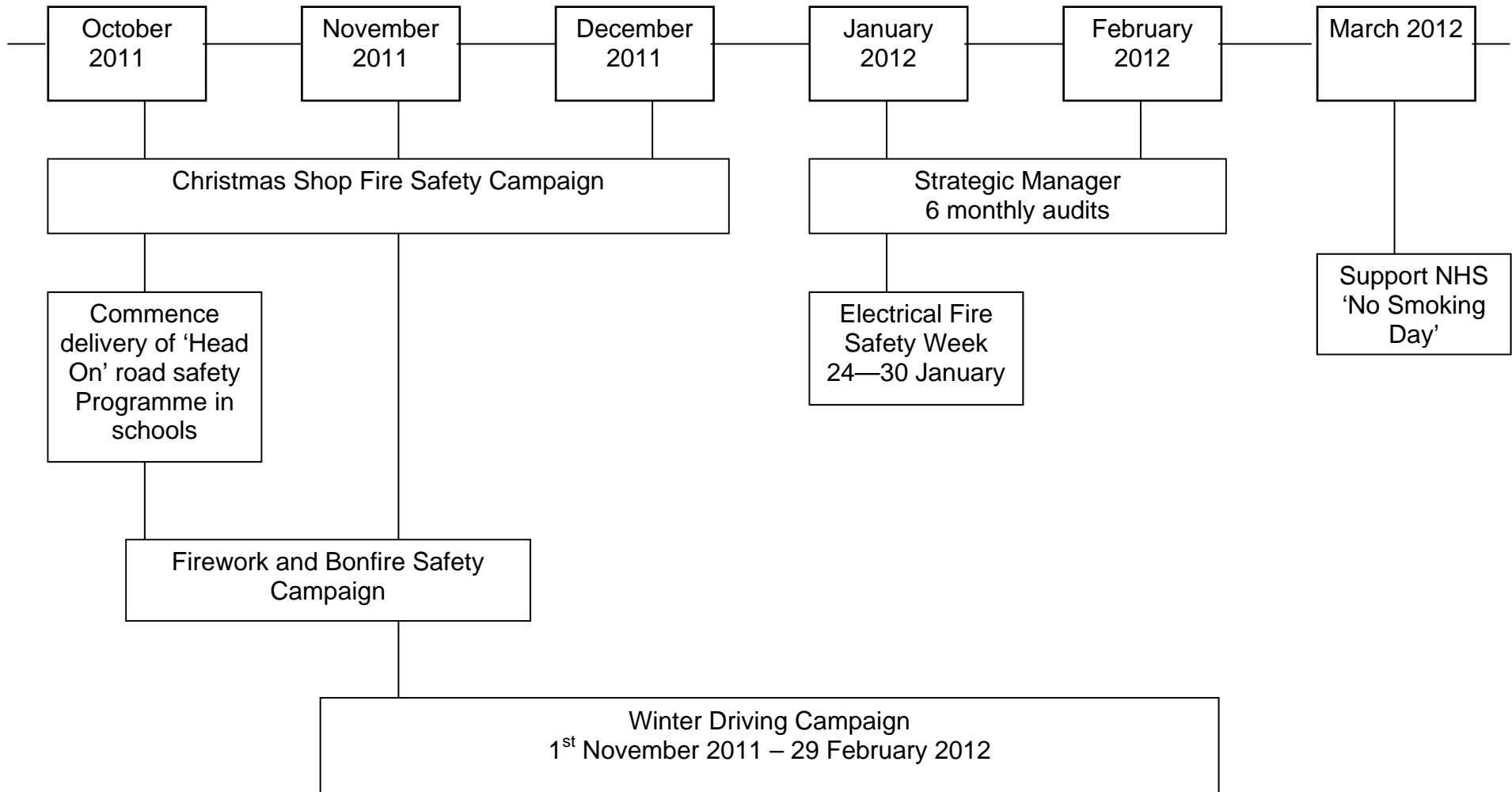
- We will deliver an effective and timely emergency response to incidents.
- We will carry out 7(2)(d) visits of our highest risk commercial premises
- We will train to deal with emergency incidents involving our highest risks, to minimise the impact on our communities built and natural environment and to improve the safety and effectiveness of our operational personnel.
- We will promote selected national fire safety campaigns.
- We will test and train against business continuity plans to ensure a resilient service under spate conditions.



## Community Risk Reduction Timeline 2011/12



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**EAST COWES STATION PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

	Target	Total	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
% of calls when turnout time was achieved – RDS (6 minutes)	80%	84.8%	75.0%	100%	100%	33.3%	83.3%	100%	87.5%	100%				
% of time pump was on the run - RDS	85%	87.6%	90.1%	98.1%	95.1%	90.3%	91.5%	86.8%	75.3%	73.3%				
Number of days lost to sickness - RDS	185 (1.4 days pp/pm)	28	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
% of PDR's completed - RDS	100%													
Utility usage														
Gas			69	57	-	-	-116?	0	0					
Electric		2971	460	573	-	-	686	537	715					
Oil	N/A													
Water		CANT	READ	METER										

The following figures are the total number of each risk reduction activity completed by the station.

	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
7(2)(d) visits to high risk premises												
Number of community safety events completed												