



Argyll and Bute

**Argyll & Bute Performance and
Scrutiny Group**

2025-26 Q3

Scrutiny Report



**SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**

Working together for a safer Scotland

**Working together
for a safer Scotland**



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Group
2025-26 Q3
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About the statistics within this report

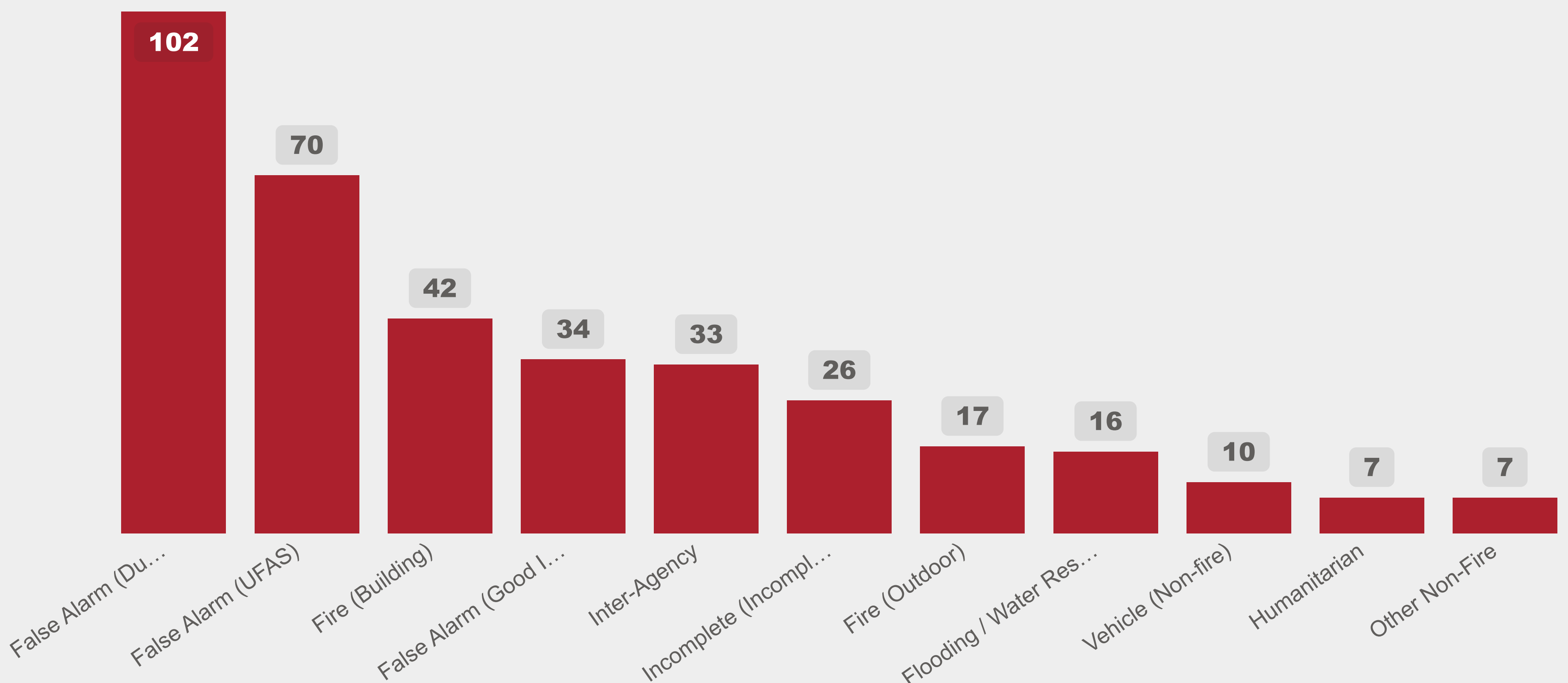
The activity totals and other statistics quoted within this report are published in the interests of transparency and openness. They are provisional in nature and subject to change as a result of ongoing quality assurance and review. Because all statistics quoted are provisional there may be a difference in the period totals quoted in our reports after local publication which result from revisions or additions to the data in our systems. The Scottish Government publishes official statistics each year which allow for comparisons to be made over longer periods of time.

1. Summary

2025-26 Q3

 <p>376 Total Incidents (Incl. Incompletes)</p>	 <p>63 Fires</p>	 <p>80 Non-Fire Incidents</p>	 <p>207 False Alarms</p>	 <p>70 UFAS</p>
 <p>24 People Rescued by Firefighters</p>	 <p>1 People Receiving First Aid or Hospital Treatment (Fires)</p>	 <p>1 Fire Fatalities</p>	 <p>15 People Receiving First Aid or Hospital Treatment (Non-Fire)</p>	 <p>2 Non-Fire Fatalities</p>
 <p>103 Home Fire Safety Visits</p>	 <p>67 Fire Safety Audits</p>			

Top 10 Incident Types



In this report, the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) shows a clear commitment to public safety through its response to a wide range of operational incidents, as outlined above.

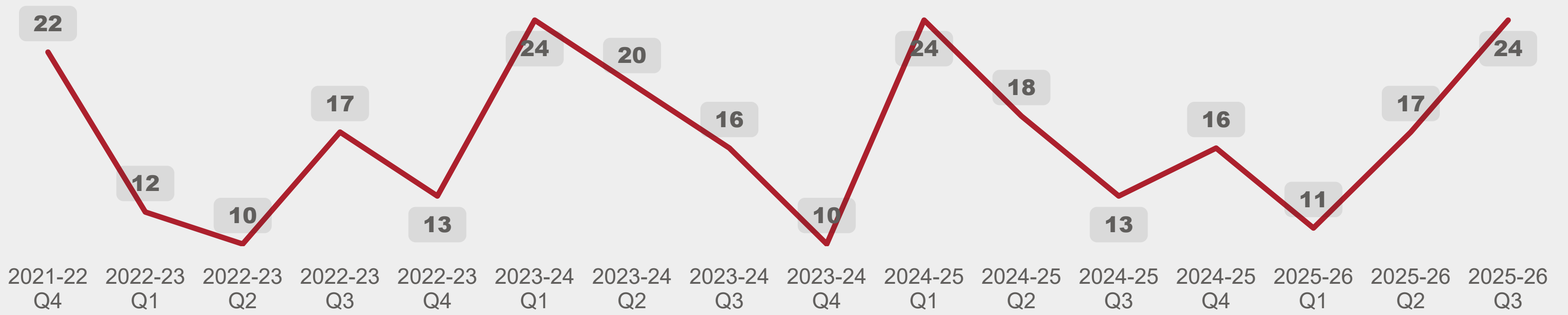
Domestic home fire safety remains a priority. Fire safety audits and community engagement initiatives continue to be proactive measures that help make your communities safer places to live, work and visit. The overall trend shows consistent management of incidents, with seasonal variations affecting activity levels. Accidental dwelling fires are monitored closely, and work to reduce deliberate fires and non fire incidents continues.

The data presented shows a coordinated approach to fire prevention and emergency response.

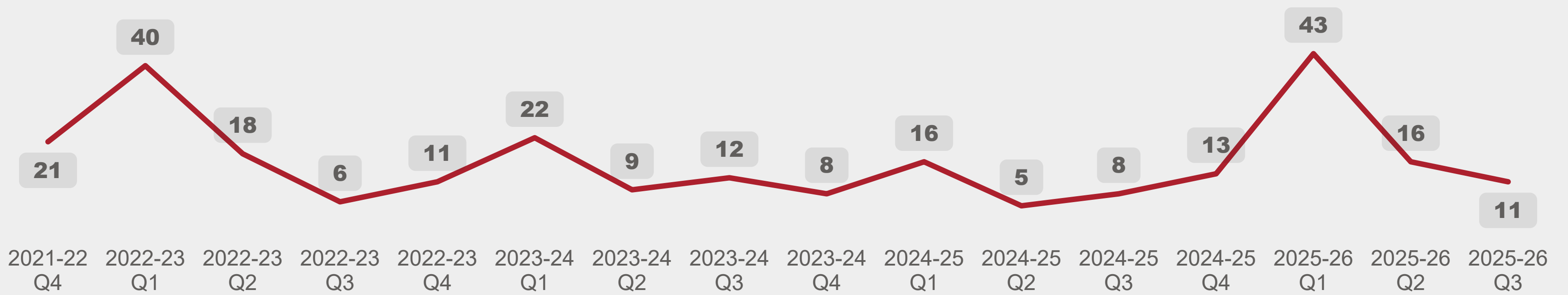
2. Trends

Previous 16 quarters (4 years)

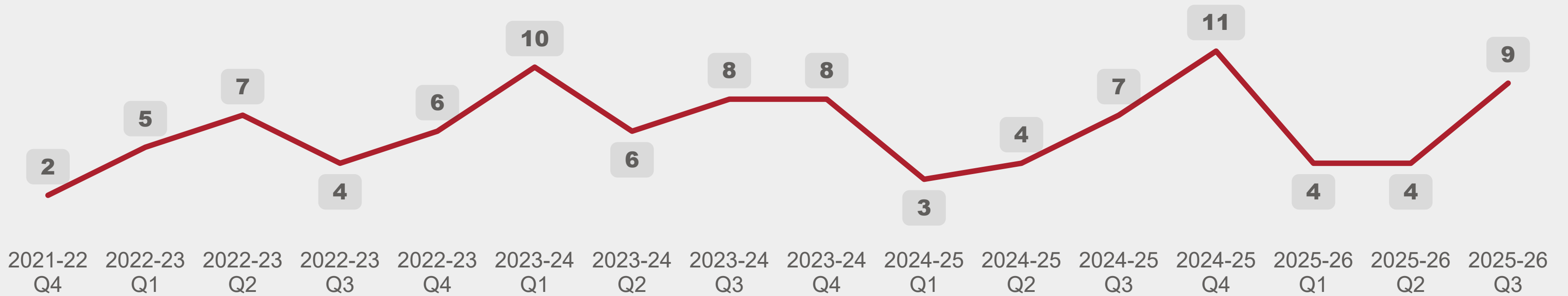
Accidental Dwelling Fires



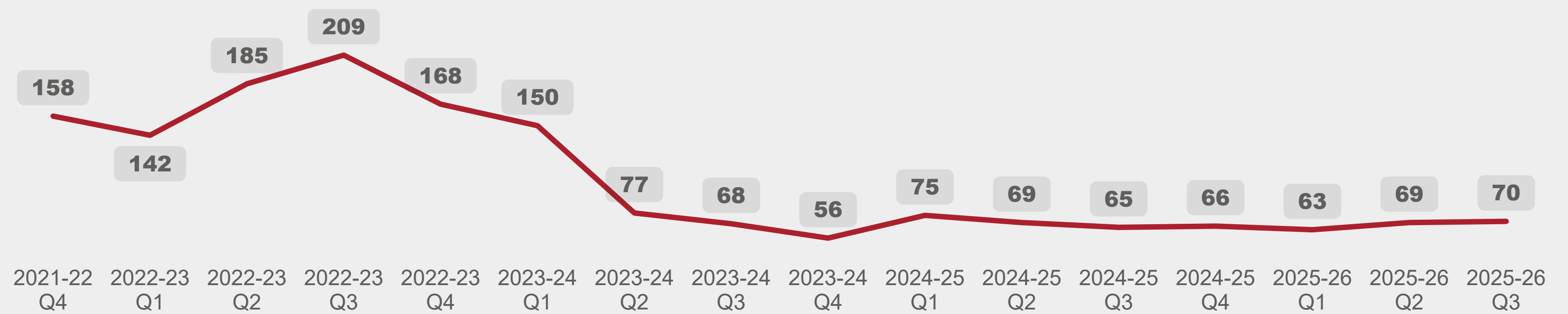
Deliberate Fires



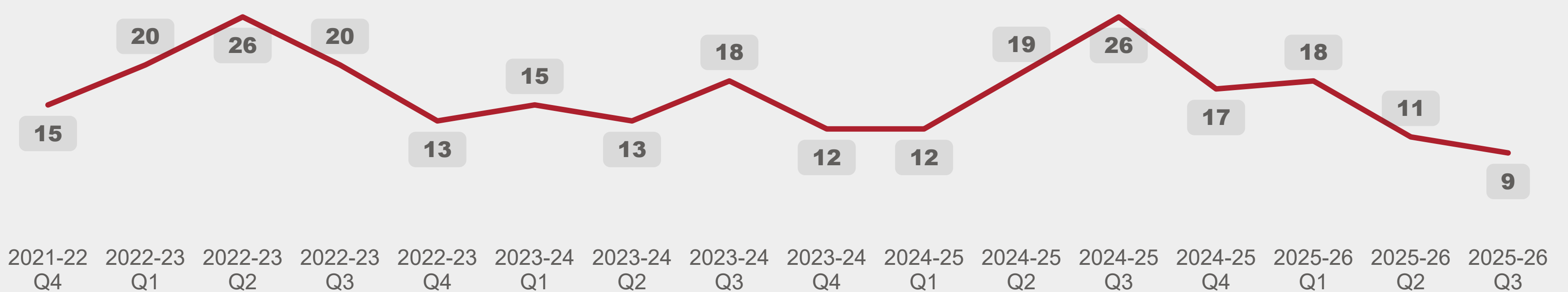
Non-Domestic Fires



Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals



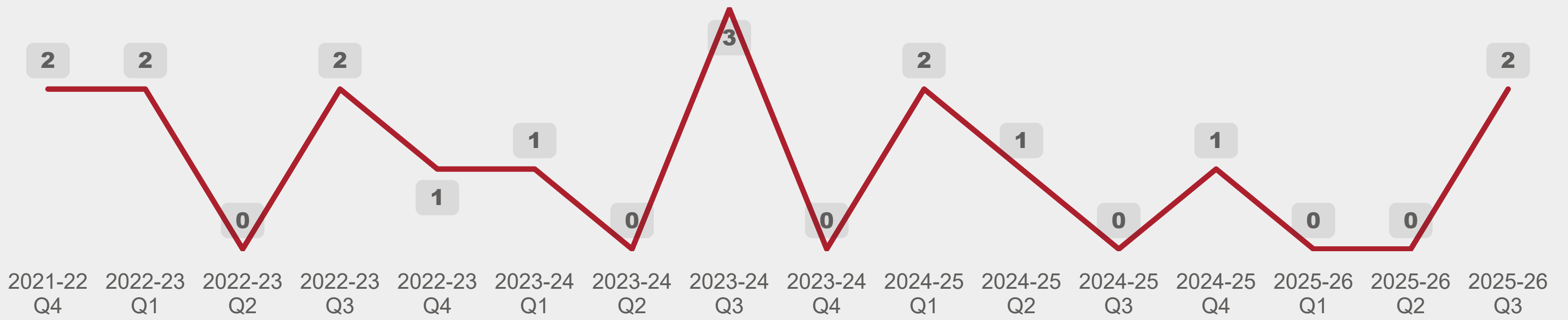
Road Traffic Collisions



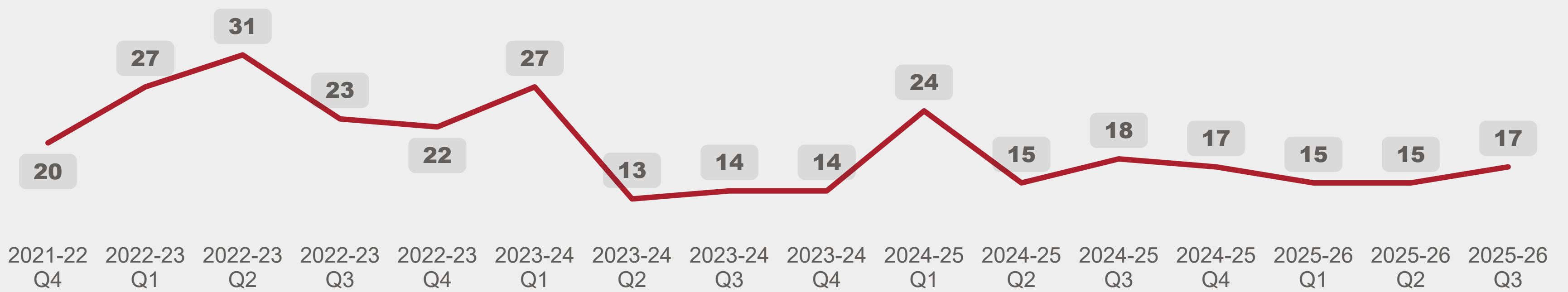
2. Trends

Previous 16 quarters (4 years)

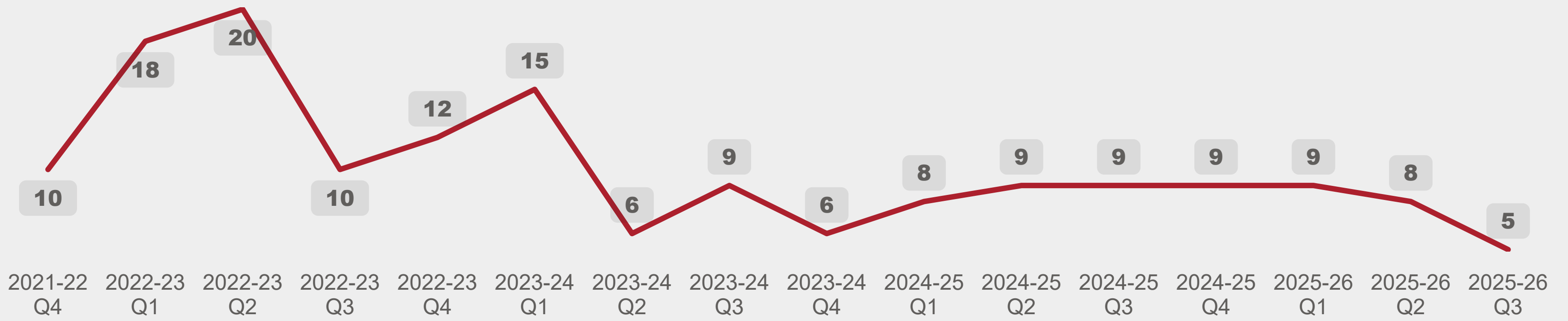
Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties



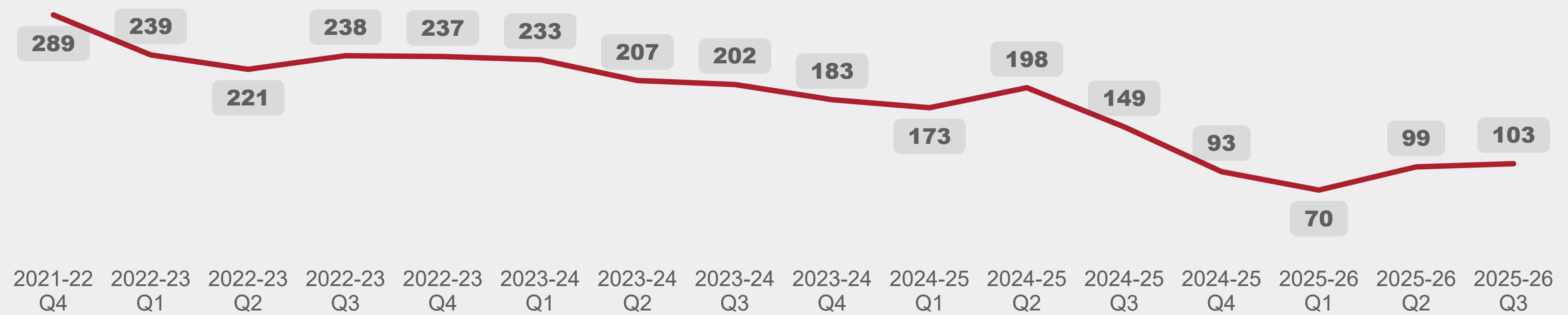
Non-Fire Casualties



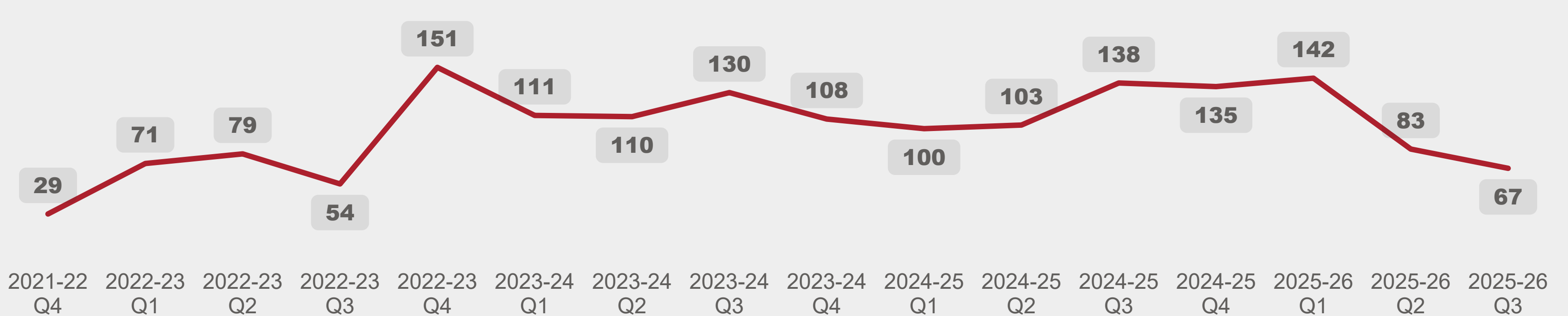
Road Traffic Collision Casualties



Home Fire Safety Visits



Fire Safety Audits



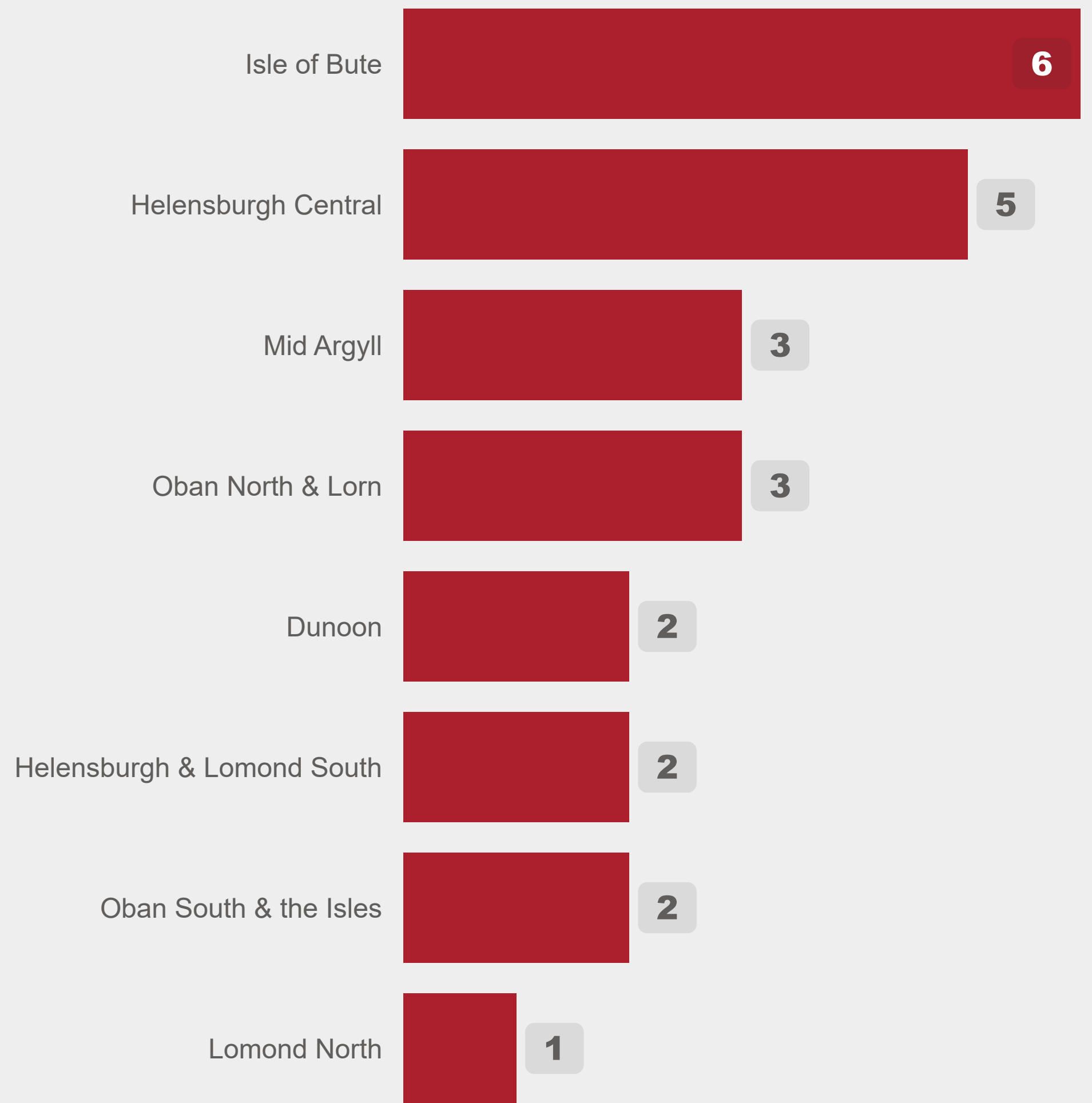
3. Accidental Dwelling Fires

2025-26 Q3

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Incidents by Ward

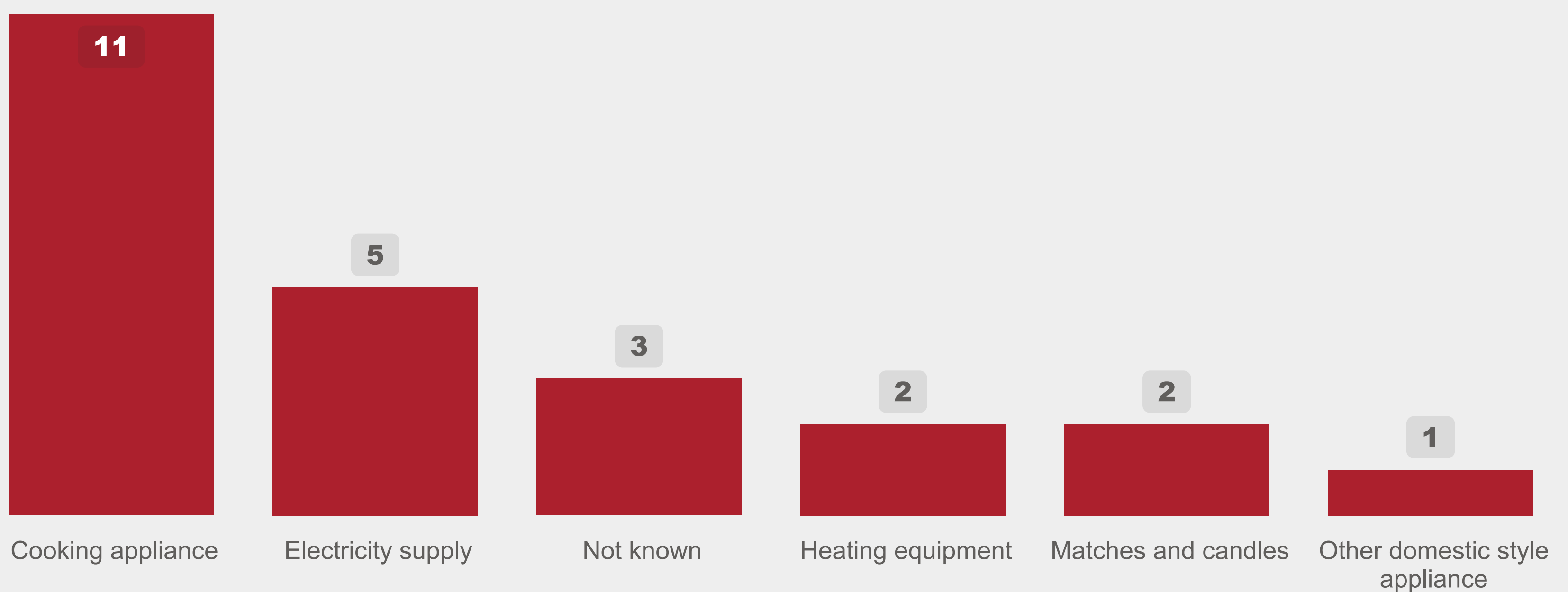


Extent of Damage	Incidents
Not applicable	9
Limited to item 1st ignited	7
Limited to room of origin	5
Affecting more than 2 floors (not whole building)	1
Roof space and other floors(s)	1
Whole building	1

24

Accidental Dwelling Fires in this period

Source of Ignition (Top 10)



SFRS is dedicated to reducing accidental dwelling fires in domestic properties across Scotland. This commitment is shown through proactive work, community engagement and continuous improvement strategies.

SFRS uses a range of measures to prevent fires before they start. One key initiative is the Home Fire Safety Visit (HFSV) program, where Community Action Teams and Operational Crews visit homes to assess fire risks and give tailored advice on fire prevention in a domestic setting. These visits often include installing smoke alarms and heat detectors to meet Scottish Government legislation, helping ensure that homes are equipped to detect fires early.

During this reporting quarter, we saw an increase in accidental dwelling fires, rising from 17 to 24 compared to the previous reporting quarter. We will continue to monitor these incidents and take action where required.

4. Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties

2025-26 Q3

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Casualties by Ward



Nature of Injury/Cause of Death	Casualties
Not known	1
Overcome by gas, smoke or toxic fumes; asphyxiation	1



Extent of Harm (Non-Fatal)



SFRS is committed to reducing accidental dwelling fire casualties across all communities in Scotland. This dedication is reflected in our comprehensive reduction strategies, community focused initiatives and ongoing efforts to improve fire safety.

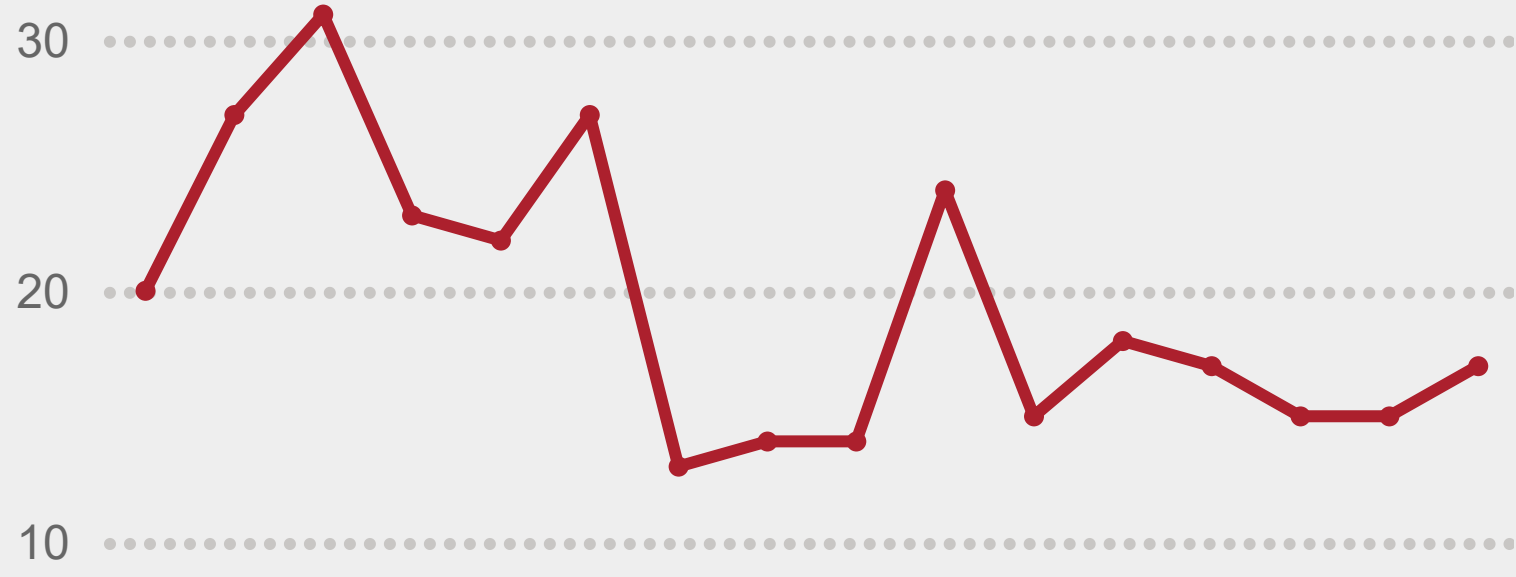
Through strategic initiatives, community engagement, a data driven approach and targeted support for vulnerable groups we strive to make every home in Scotland safer. These efforts not only save lives but also promote a strong culture of fire safety awareness and prevention within our communities.

Over this reporting period, there was sadly one fatal accidental dwelling fire casualty recorded. We will continue to focus our efforts on prevention and community safety to reduce the risk of further incidents.

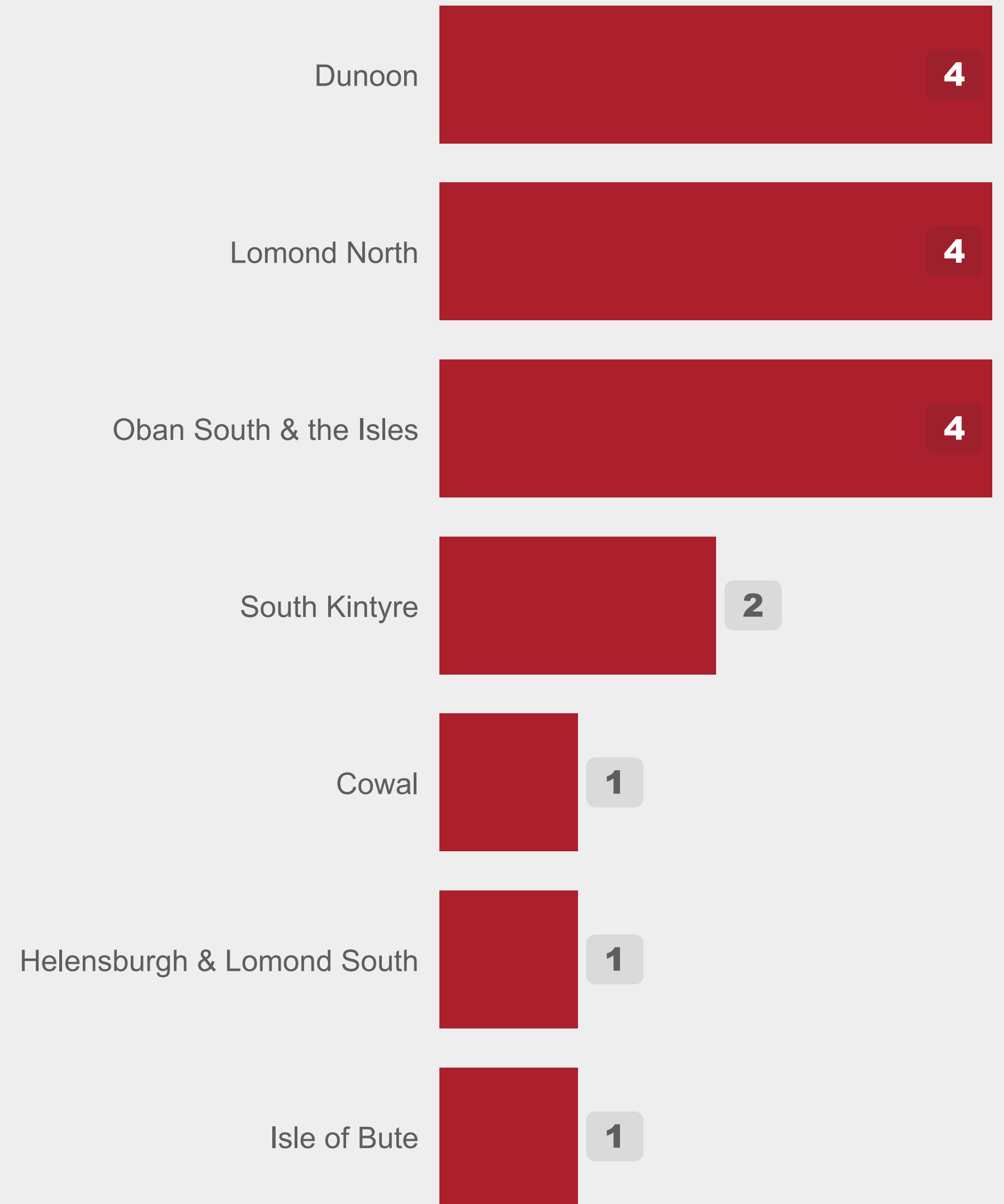
5. Non-Fire Casualties

2025-26 Q3

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Casualties by Ward



Nature of Injury/Cause of Death	Casualties
Back / Neck injury (spinal)	5
Chest / Abdominal injury	2
Not known	2
Other medical condition	2
Bruising	1
Chest pain / Heart condition / Cardiac arrest	1
Fracture	1
Head injury	1
Hypothermia	1
Other physical injury	1

15

Non-Fatal Casualties

2

Fatal Casualties

23

People Rescued by Firefighters

Extent of Harm (Non-Fatal)



First Aid Given at Scene



Hospital Slight Injuries

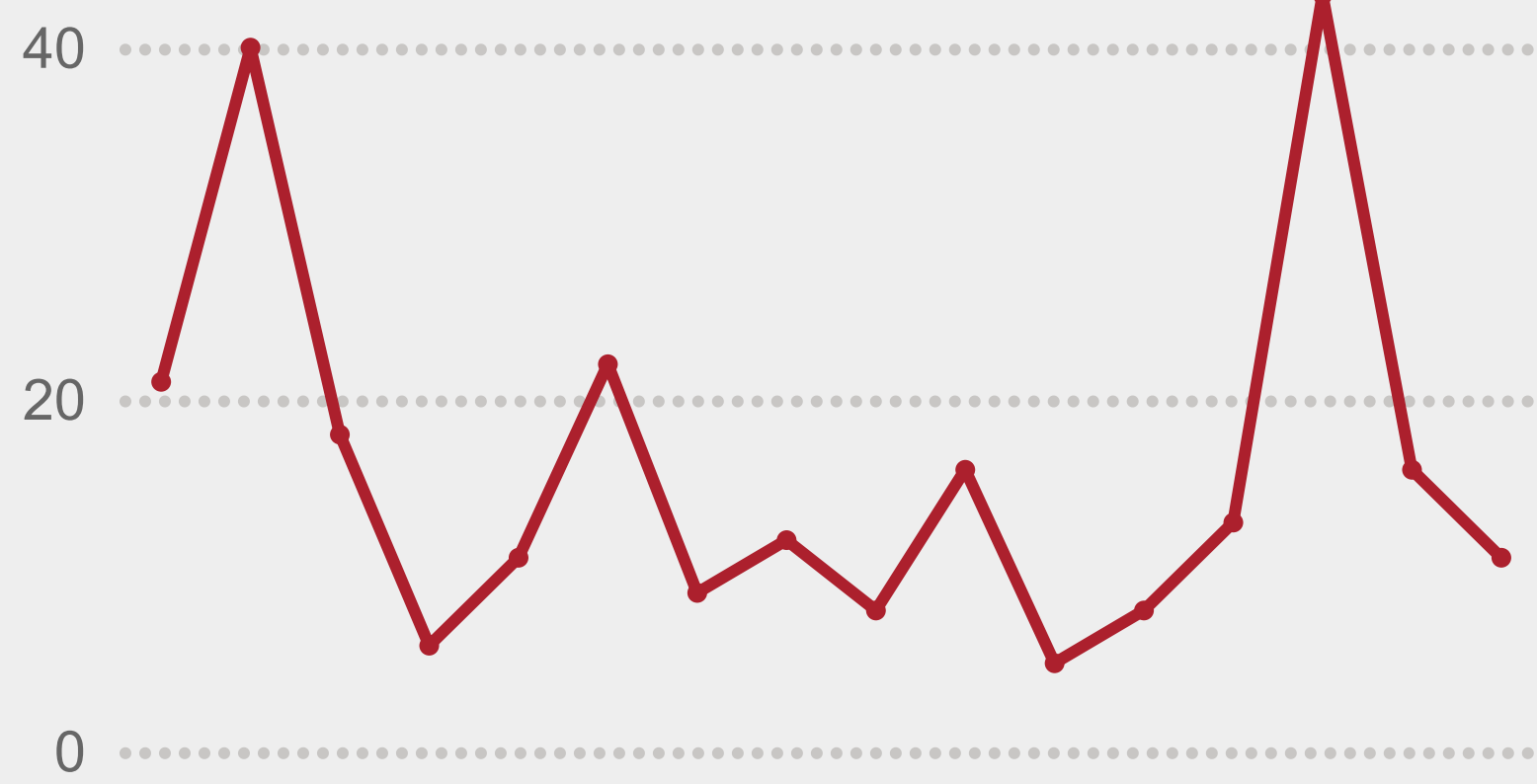


Hospital Serious Injuries

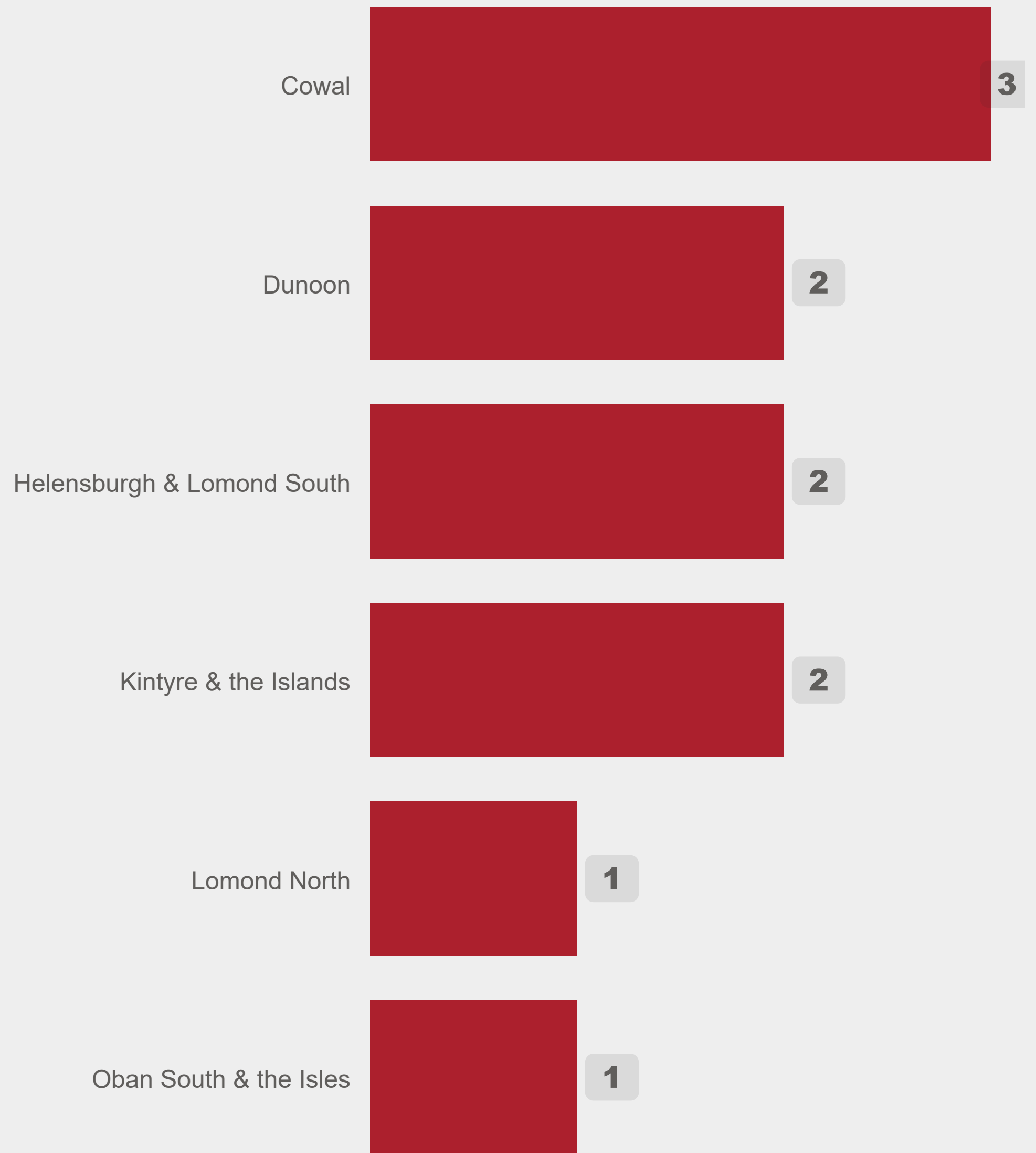
During this reporting period, we responded to a range of non fire related incidents, including road traffic collisions (RTCs), water rescues and other specialist operations. These incidents highlight the diverse nature of our work and the vital role we play in supporting public safety beyond traditional fire related emergencies.

Sadly, two of these incidents involved fatal casualties. Our crews were primarily mobilised to assist partner agencies, including Police Scotland and the Scottish Ambulance Service. These tragic events underscore the importance of our continued collaboration with partner agencies to provide the best possible response during challenging and often life critical situations.

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Incidents by Ward

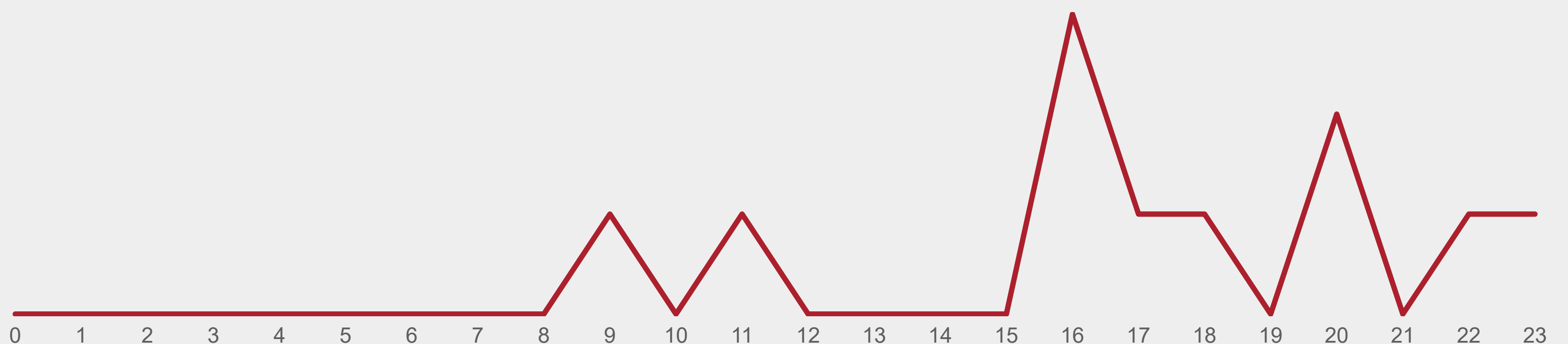


Property Type	Incident
Grassland, woodland and crops	4
Refuse	2
Non Residential	1
Other outdoors (including land)	1
Outdoor equipment and machinery	1
Outdoor structures	1
Road Vehicle	1

11

Deliberate Fires in this period

Hour of Day



We are committed to reducing deliberate fire-setting due to the risks it poses to people, property, and the environment. These incidents divert resources from real emergencies. To achieve this, we use the following strategies:

Community Engagement: Awareness sessions in Argyll and Bute schools, focused on children and young people providing safety focused engagements.

Partnership Working: Working with Police Scotland, Community Wardens, and local schools.

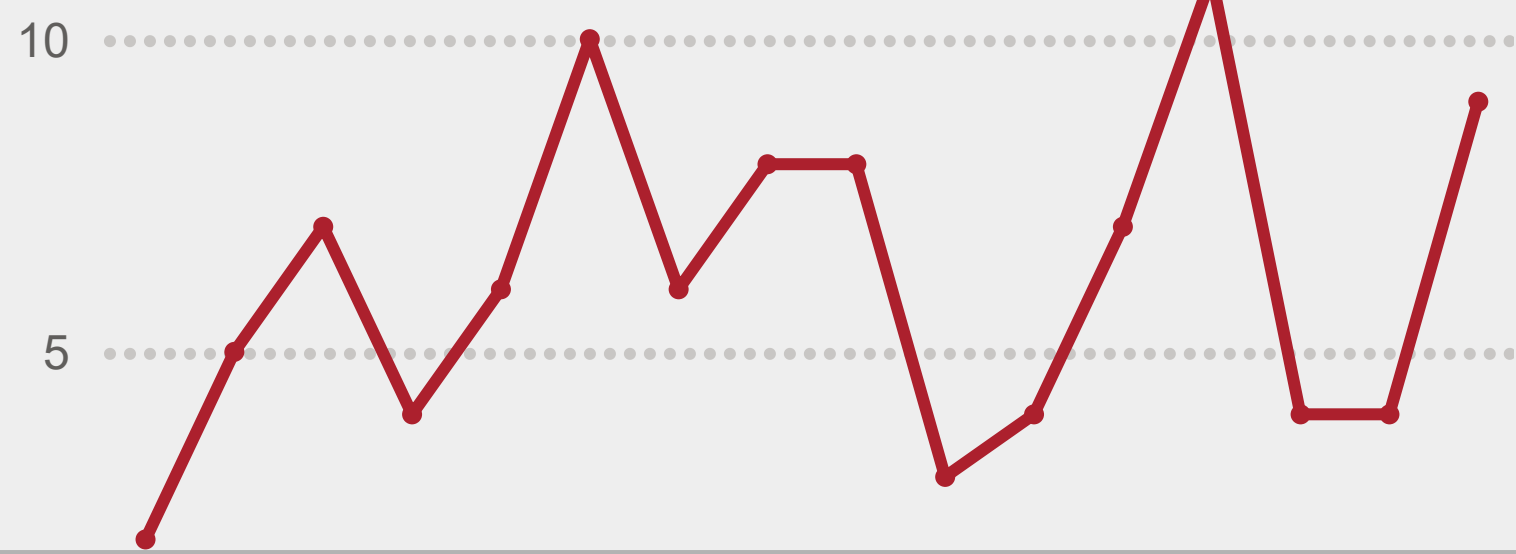
Reporting: Encouraging the public to report suspicious activity or rubbish build-up.

Over this recording period we have seen a decline from 16 operational incidents to 11.

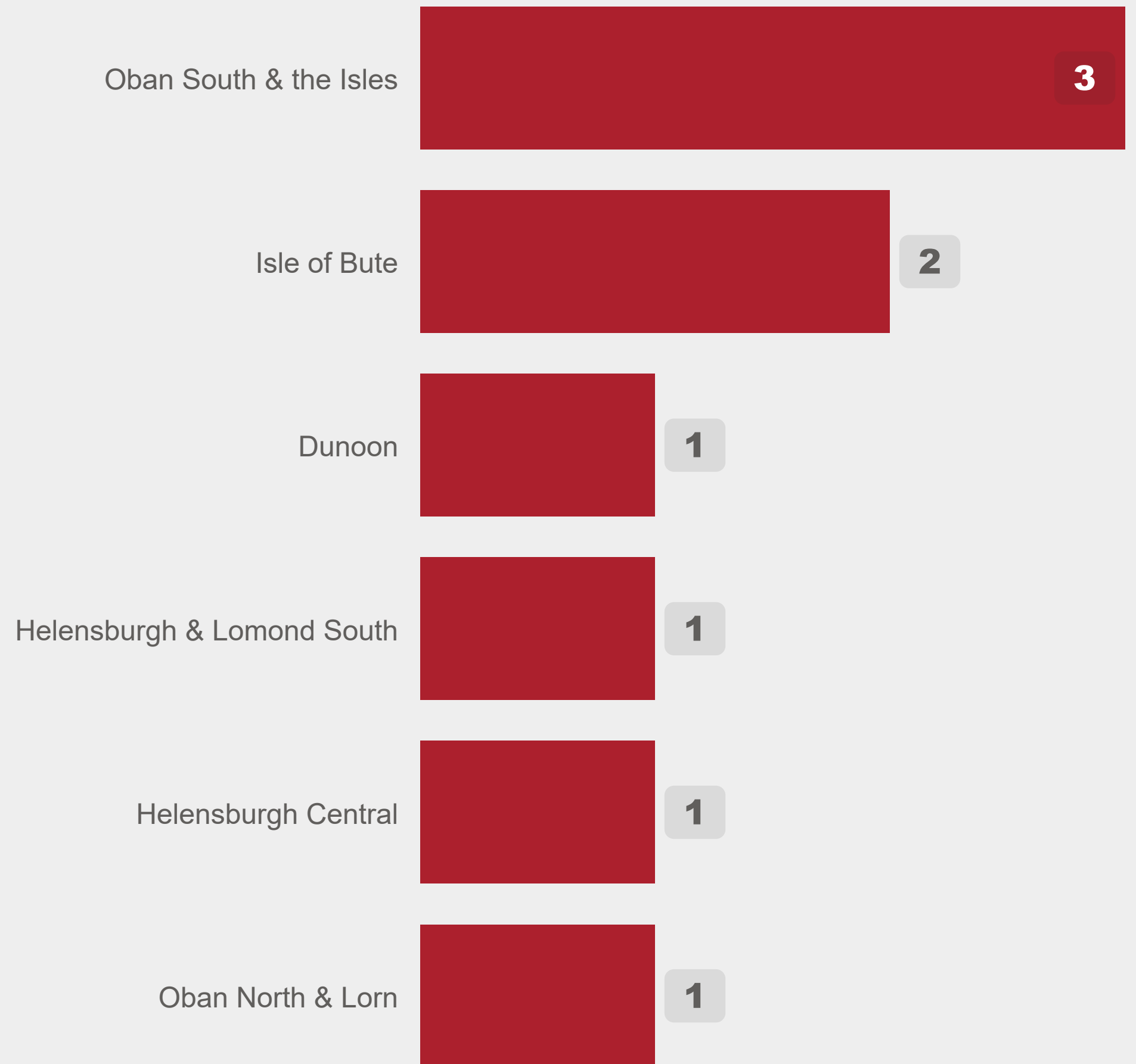
7. Non-Domestic Fires

2025-26 Q3

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Incidents by Ward



Top 15 Property Types

Property Type	Incidents
Food and Drink	2
Offices and call centres	2
Boarding House/B&B other	1
Other buildings/use not known	1
Public Utilities	1
Religious	1
Sheltered Housing - not self contained	1



9 (100.0%)

- Accidental
- Deliberate

9

Non-Domestic Fires in this period

Extent of Damage

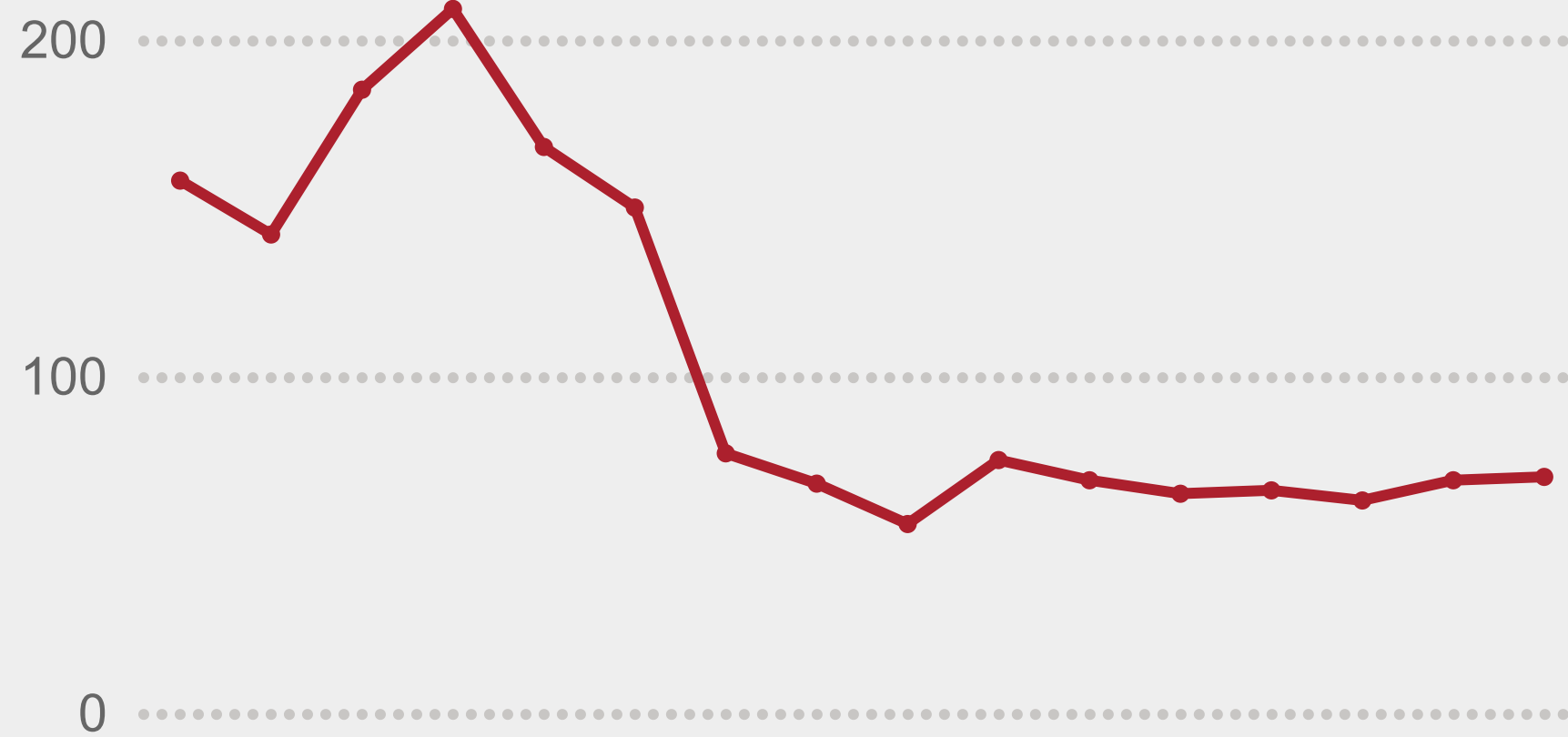


We are dedicated to reducing non-domestic fires, recognising the significant impact these incidents can have on local businesses, public buildings, and the wider community. Non-domestic fires can lead to substantial economic losses, disrupt services, and pose serious risks to public safety. Our local Fire Safety Enforcement (FSE) team acts as the enforcing authority for fire safety legislation in non-domestic premises. This includes regular inspections and ensuring compliance with fire safety regulations. The enforcement team also provides support and education to duty holders, including building owners, managers, and staff, to help them comply with current legislation. Over this reporting period, non-domestic fire activity increased from 4 to 9 incidents. We will continue to closely monitor this trend and take any necessary action as required.

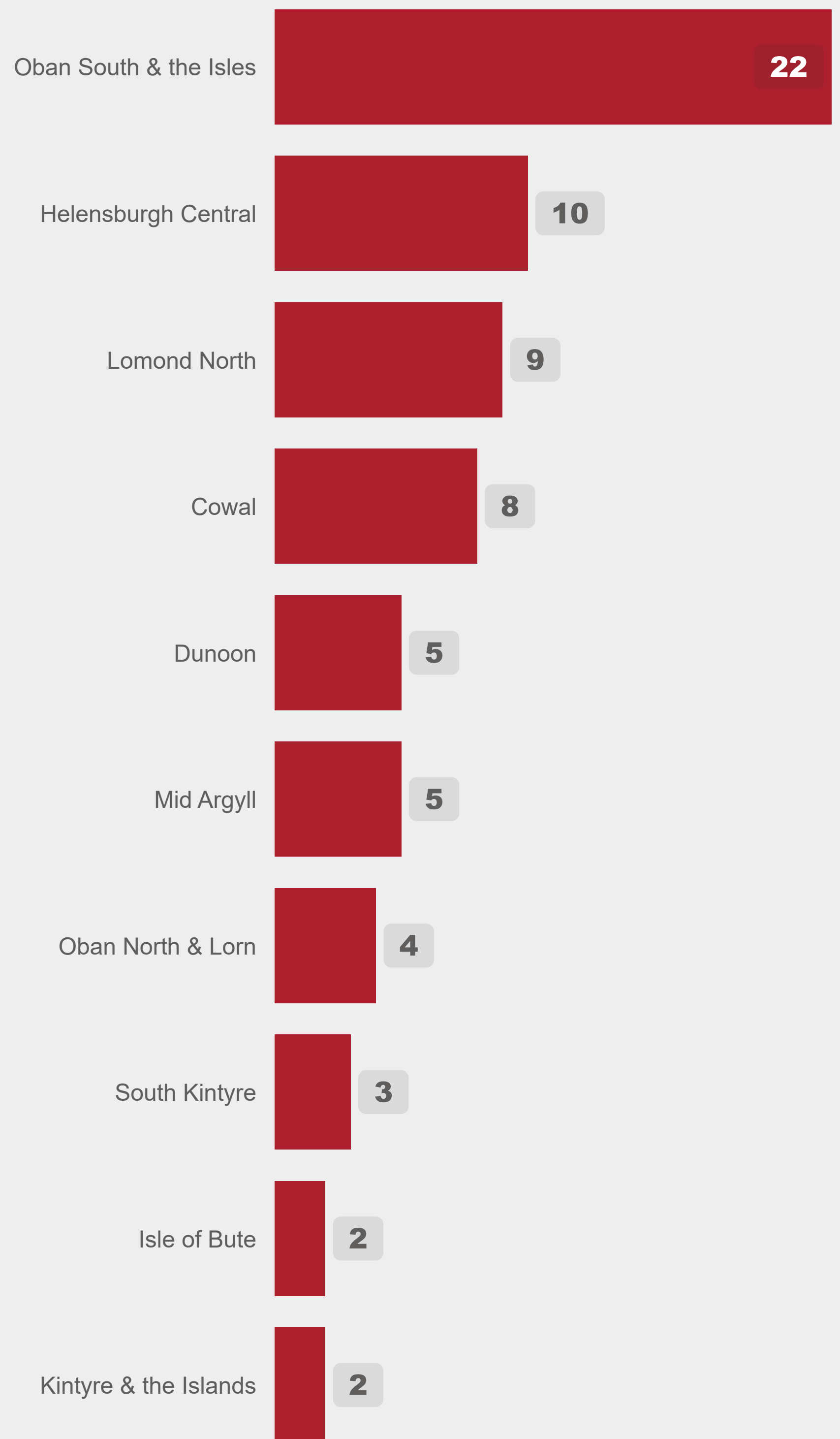
8. Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals

2025-26 Q3

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Incidents by Ward



Top 15 Property Types

Property Type	Incidents
Hotel/motel	24
Residential Home	16
Hospitals and medical care	9
Other Residential Home	5
Retail	4
Education	3
Other holiday residence (cottage, flat, chalet)	3
Sheltered Housing - not self contained	2
Boarding House/B&B other	1
Nurses'/Doctors' accommodation	1
Offices and call centres	1
Sporting venues	1

70

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals in this period

SFRS introduced a revised policy aimed at reducing Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS). This forms part of our wider commitment to improving community safety and making effective use of resources across Scotland.

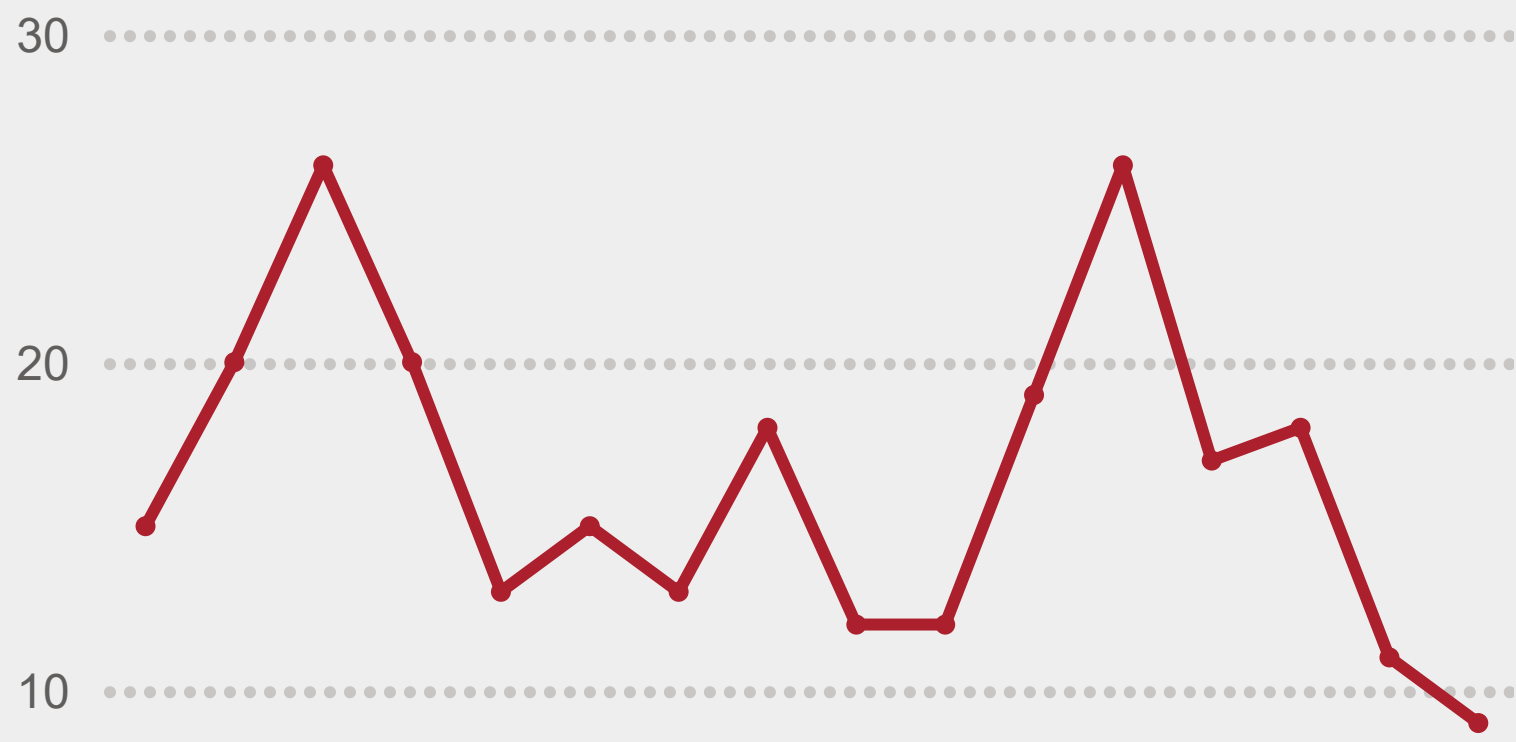
UFAS are false alarms triggered by automatic fire alarm systems. These can result from accidental activation of manual call points, cooking fumes, dust or poor maintenance. Each UFAS incident diverts fire crews from genuine emergencies, creating unnecessary demand on resources and the potential for delays in responding to real fires.

Since the introduction of this revised policy, we have continued to see a reduction in UFAS incidents. This positive trend is reflected in the data presented in this report.

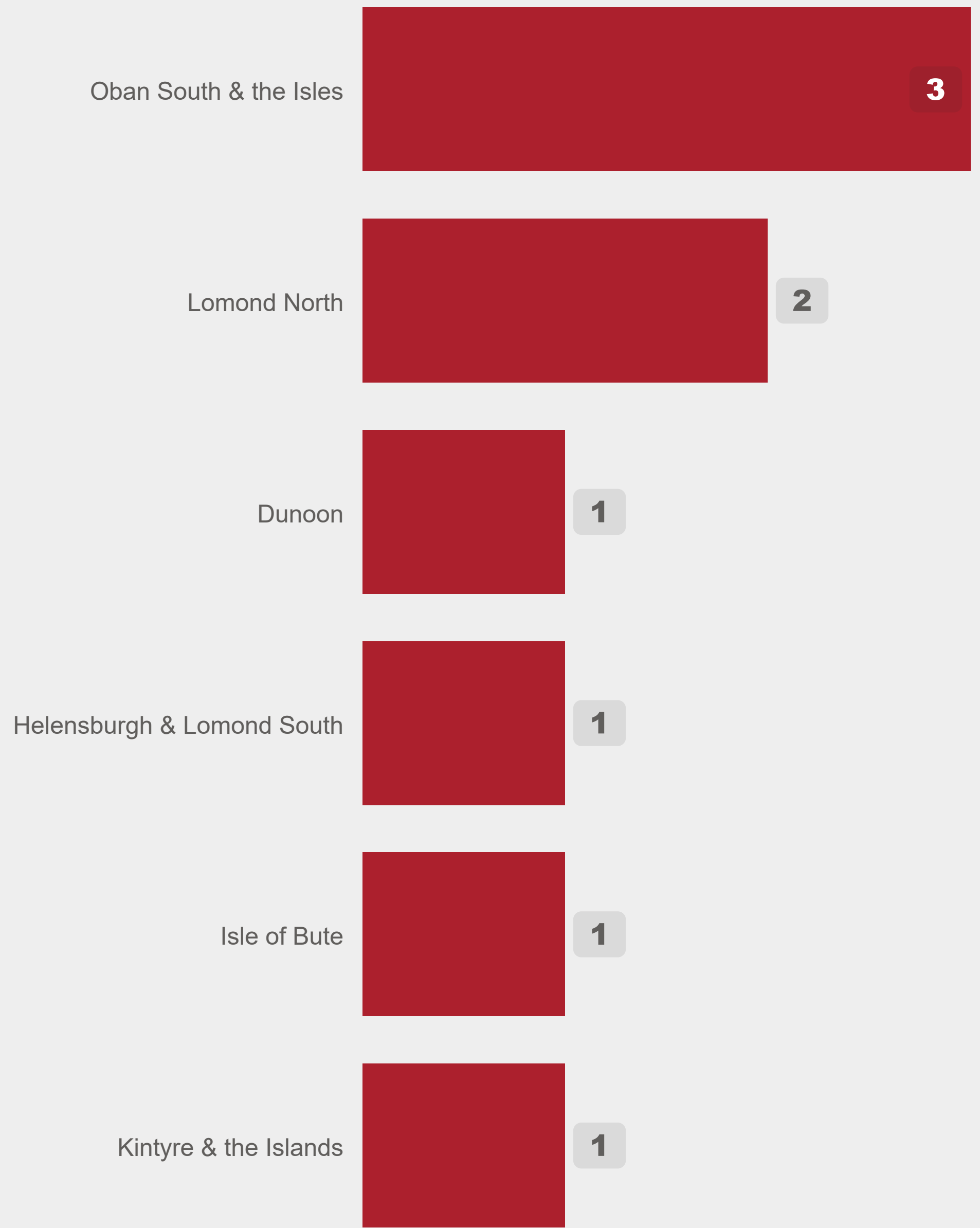
9. Road Traffic Collisions

2025-26 Q3

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Incidents by Ward



9

Road Traffic Collisions in this period

Property Type	Incidents
Car	8
Van	1

Incident Type	Incidents
Vehicle (Non-fire)	9

5

Non-Fatal Casualties

0

Fatal Casualties

6

People Rescued by Firefighters

Extent of Harm (Non-Fatal)



0

First Aid Given at Scene



5

Hospital Slight Injuries



0

Hospital Serious Injuries

We are committed to reducing the number of Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs) across Scotland's road network. We recognise the devastating impact these incidents can have on individuals, families and local communities. We have implemented a range of strategies and initiatives focused on prevention and effective response. We work closely with Police Scotland and attend the L Division Road Safety Governance Group on a quarterly basis. These meetings bring together key partners to identify new and existing risks and coordinate joint road safety strategies across Argyll and Bute. In partnership with Police Scotland, we continue to hold a series of road safety hub events at our community fire stations in Campbeltown, Oban, Dunoon and Lochgilphead Joint Campus. Further details can be found on page 13 of this report. During this reporting period, total incident numbers have reduced from 11 to 9.

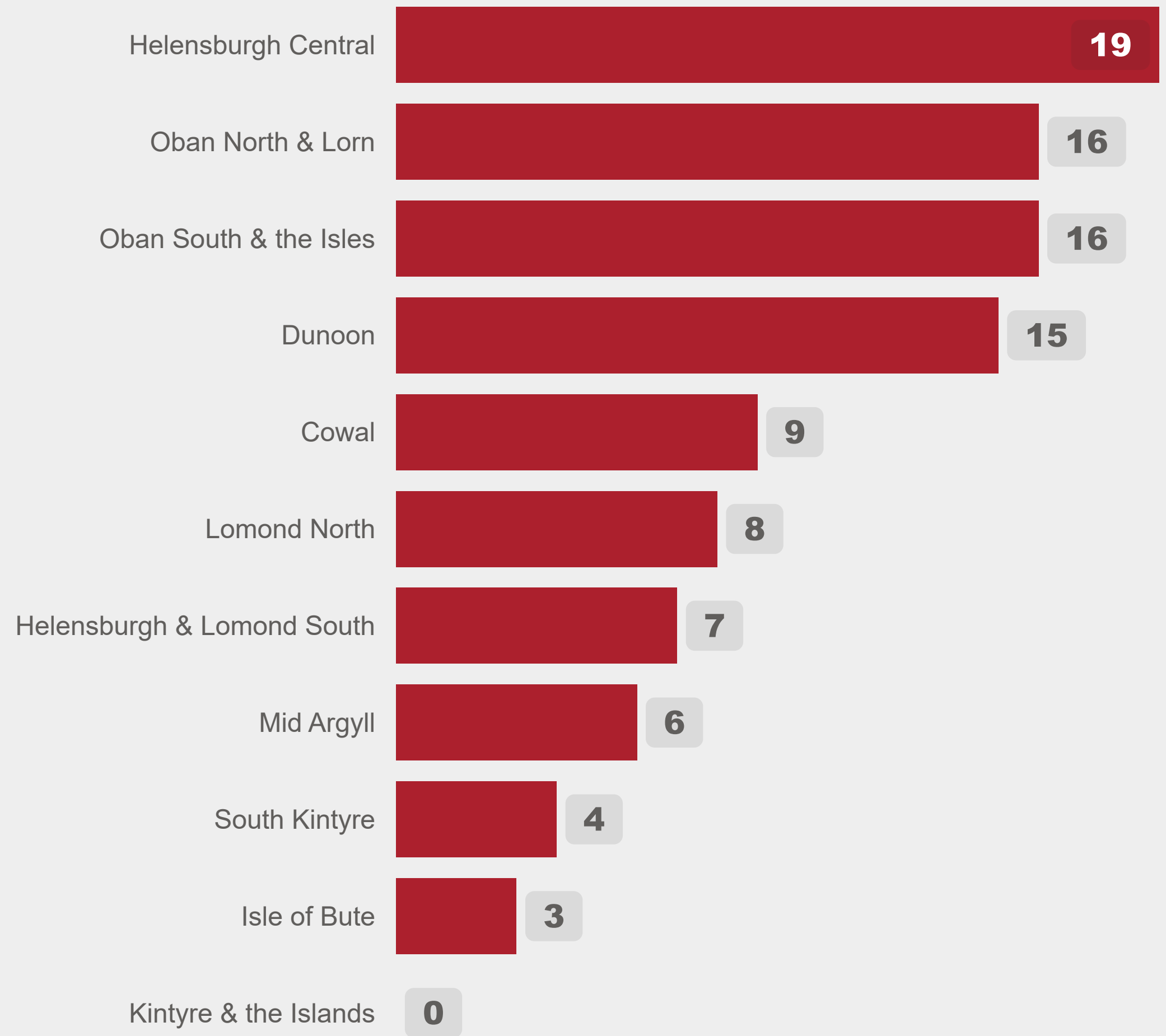
10. Home Fire Safety Visits

2025-26 Q3

103

**Home Fire
Safety Visits**

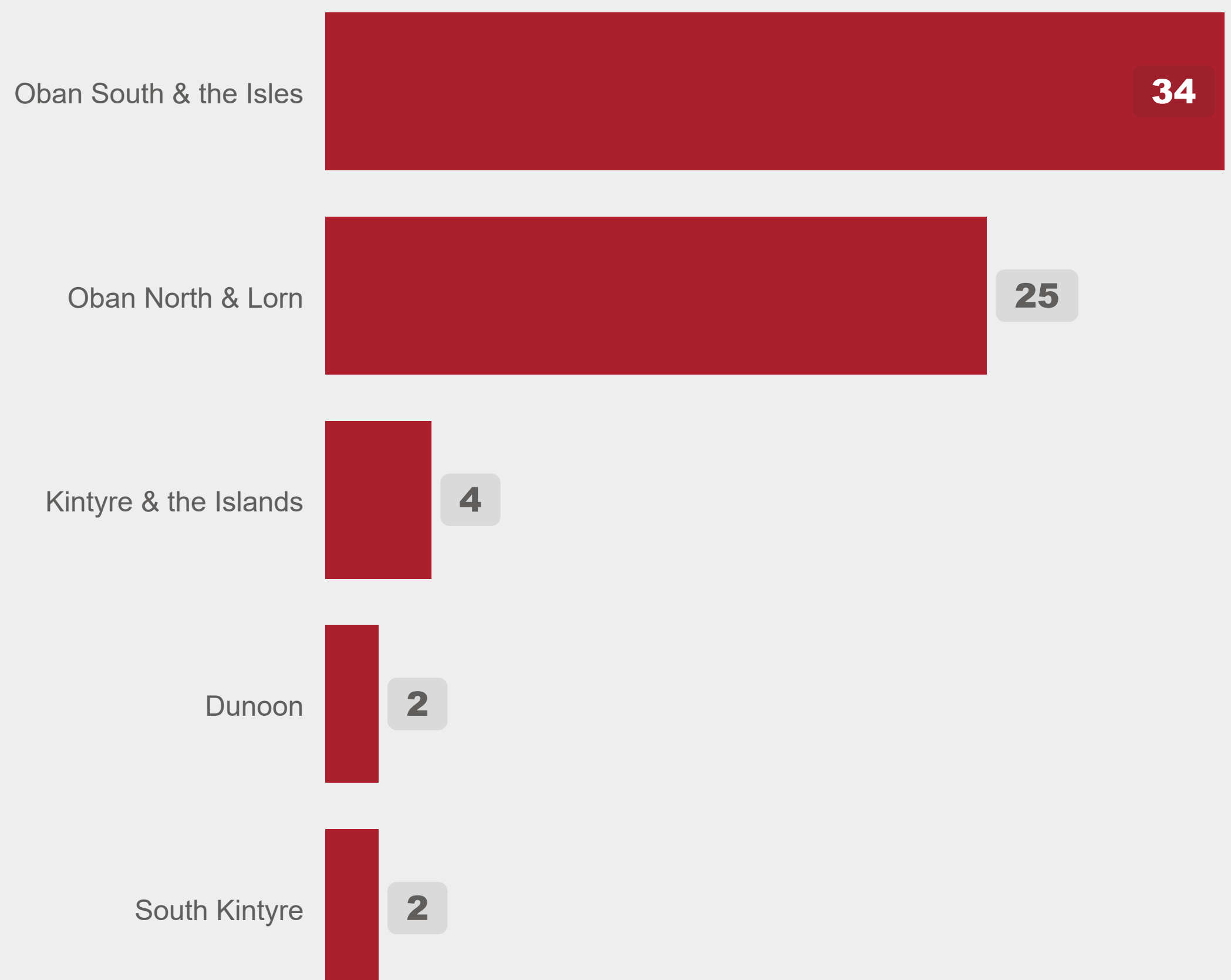
HFSVs by Ward



11. Fire Safety Enforcement

Job Type	Count
Audit	67
Short Post Fire Audit	2
Specific Visit	1

Audits by Ward



The SFRS has implemented a new referral pathway for Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSVs) to enhance community safety and provide better support to vulnerable individuals. The revised HFSV programme takes a targeted approach, focusing on high risk individuals who meet specific eligibility criteria linked to known fire risk factors.

We continue to audit non domestic properties to check compliance with fire safety legislation and identify any risks. These audits help duty holders maintain suitable measures to prevent fires and protect people within their premises.

Community Safety Campaigns/ Safety Messaging

Bonfire/Firework safety

In the lead up to 5 November, our Community Action Team and operational crews delivered bonfire/firework safety presentations in all Argyll and Bute secondary schools. The sessions covered the risks linked to bonfires and fireworks and highlighted how young people can stay safe during this busy period.

Pupils engaged well and asked useful questions, and staff welcomed the support in reinforcing key safety messages ahead of Bonfire Night. Thank you to everyone involved for helping promote safer choices in our communities.

Road Safety Hub Events Update

As we approached the darker nights, these sessions offered safety advice on driving at night. In partnership with Police Scotland and IAM RoadSmart, SFRS hosted Road Safety Hub night driving safety events on 22 and 25 November at fire stations in Campbeltown, Oban, Dunoon and Lochgilphead High Joint Campus.

These free events aimed to raise awareness of road safety and provided practical advice to reduce the risk of collisions. We thank everyone who attended and supported these sessions.

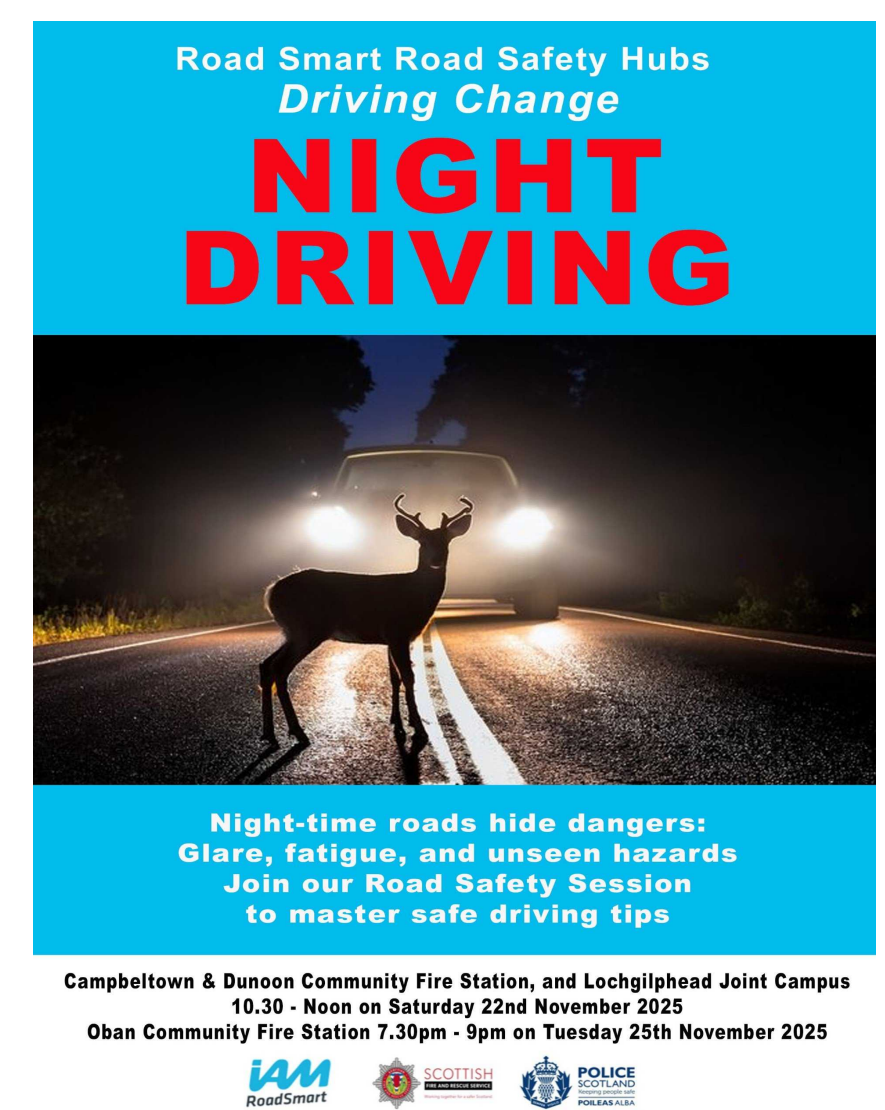
Christmas Gift Appeal

The SFRS Christmas Gift Appeal, delivered in partnership with Home Start, was a success this year. Thanks to the generosity of the public, a large number of toys and gifts were collected, ensuring that local children and families received much needed support over the festive period.

Home Fire Safety Visit

We launched a new referral process for Home Fire Safety Visits, designed to better identify and support individuals at higher risk. This update introduces a streamlined digital referral system and improves collaboration through a new data sharing framework.

The final phase for partner access will be available soon, with further updates to follow. To support the roll out, SFRS will be providing ongoing training and guidance to partner organisations, ensuring they can use the new system effectively. These improvements reflect our continued commitment to enhancing fire safety and reducing fire related incidents across Scotland.



13. Glossary of Terms

Term - What it means

ADF

Accidental Dwelling Fire.

HFSV

Home Fire Safety Visit.

PDIR

Post Domestic Incident Response, a term used to indicate actions taken following attendance at a fire or other incident in the home. PDIRs include amongst things the offer of a free follow up home fire safety visit.

RTC

Road Traffic Collision.

Special Service

Calls to incidents which are not fires or false alarms such as RTCs, rescues, flooding, incidents involving hazardous materials or the provision of assistance to other agencies.

UFAS

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals. When an automatic fire detection and alarm system is activated as a result of anything other than an actual fire the activation is classed as a false alarm. If an attendance is made to such an event by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, then the event is recorded as an UFAS incident.

UFAS Policy Change

In response to COVID, on the 6th May 2020, the SFRS decided to send 1 pump to UFAS premises that did not have their own Predetermined attendance (PDA).

As of 1st July 2023, the COVID interim 1 pump response was ended and a new UFAS policy was implemented.

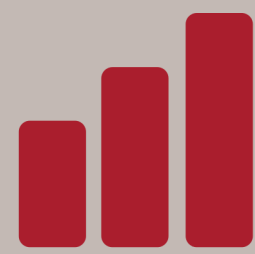
The new policy is to call challenge all UFAS incidents with the intention of non-attendance. Hospitals, care homes, and sleeping risk premises are all exempt and receive either 2 pumps or their premise specific PDA.



SCOTTISH

FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

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INTELLIGENCE**

Design, figures and charts by the Business Intelligence team.