

**Working together  
for a safer Scotland**



AGENDA ITEM NO. 4

**SCOTTISH  
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**

Working together for a safer Scotland

# Revised Home Fire Safety Visit Programme

**Safety. Teamwork. Respect. Innovation.**

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) is making changes to our Home Fire Safety Visit (HFSV) programme. As one of our key partners we wanted to let you know what these changes are and provide details of how your organisation can assist us to make communities safer through the delivery of this key fire safety programme.

Each year SFRS delivers over 40,000 HFSVs to homes across Scotland. These visits involve SFRS staff engaging with individuals within the home environment, to identify potential fire risks and provide advice and education.

As of January 2025, we will be delivering a more targeted visit to high-risk individuals who meet a new eligibility criterion, incorporating wider health and social care issues. This is based around factors which we know increases someone's risk of fire (fire fatality research). We have also reviewed and updated our visit content and are exploring ways to strengthen onward referrals and signposting to and from partner organisations, as we know from experience that individuals involved in fatal and serious fires are often known to partner organisations, but not SFRS.

Therefore, we want to work with organisations across Scotland to raise fire safety awareness and ensure we have information sharing processes in place to identify and engage with those most at risk.

We are engaging with our contacts within Inverclyde Council and HSCP, as well as our other partners across the Inverclyde, to ensure our continued collaboration with them as valued HFSV partners, building upon the success of our current home fire safety work. SFRS can provide training and support to your staff, and refer individuals to your organisation to access services, where appropriate.

In order for us to identify and reduce the fire risk to the most vulnerable in our communities, we have asked that our partners provide details of a nominated individual who could act as a HFSV Coordinator i.e. someone we can work with to get their organisation and practitioners on board. We will send them a copy of our Partner Guide which provides all the details required, including information on training and support. We have also sought the details of their Information Governance Officer (or equivalent) so we can share our updated Data Sharing Framework (DSF) which needs to be signed by organisations to ensure both parties are sending and receiving referrals in accordance with General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).

The current digital system that SFRS uses (known as CSET) will no longer be available to accept referrals and is being replaced by a new system which your staff will get access to once you have signed up to the new DSF.

To aid with the process and to assist with the transition we have carried out a series of information sessions, provided practitioners with an overview of the new system, how to sign up to make referrals and afforded the opportunity to ask any questions. The training was held via Microsoft teams and lasted around an hour.

Please note that our new HFSV programme will be launched in late January/February 2025. Previous methods of referring service users will no longer be available, therefore, it is important that our partner agencies who wish to become involved in the new process do so as soon as possible.

If you have any questions about our revised HFSV programme, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us at [W.ERRI.CommunityActionTeam@firescotland.gov.uk](mailto:W.ERRI.CommunityActionTeam@firescotland.gov.uk) and we look forward to continuing to work with our valued partners to improve the safety of our communities.