DORSET & WILTSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE

Item 26/24 Appendix E

Fire Station Review

Appendix E:
Seasonal Variation

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Contents

Introduction

Across our community engagement seasonal variations have been raised. This appendix considers the seasonal variations of incidents and mobilisations across a five-year period between 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2026.

Seasonal Variation

Number of Incidents by Season

The number of incidents, split by season, which occurred within each station area, between 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2026, can be seen in **Error! Reference source not found.**.

Number of Incidents in Station Area by Season over Five Years 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2026				
Station	**Winter (Dec-Feb)**	**Spring (Mar-May)**	**Summer (Jun-Aug)**	**Autumn (Sep-Nov)**
Bradford on Avon	163 (26%)	150 (24%)	168 (27%)	147 (23%)
Charmouth	51 (25%)	46 (22%)	59 (28%)	52 (25%)
Cranborne	27 (22%)	34 (28%)	40 (33%)	21 (17%)
Hamworthy	395 (24%)	401 (24%)	506 (30%)	377 (22%)
Maiden Newton	51 (22%)	37 (16%)	72 (32%)	68 (30%)
Mere	78 (24%)	92 (27%)	95 (27%)	82 (24%)
Ramsbury	44 (24%	42 (23%)	57 (31%)	43 (23%)
Wilton	99 (21%)	102 (22%)	162 (35%)	103 (22%)

Table 1: Number of incidents, split by season, between 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2026 within each station area. The percentages mark the percentage of incidents per season of the total number of incidents in the station area over the five year period

Table 1 demonstrates a low increase in incident activity across the summer season for most station areas under review and three have a moderate increase; however, the distribution of incidents remains broadly consistent across each season.

Number of Mobilisations by Season

The number of mobilisations of the eight review station's pumping appliances to Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service (DWFRS) incidents, split by season, between 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2026, can be seen in Table 2.

Number of Mobilisations of Pumping Appliance by Season over Five Years 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2026				
Station	**Winter (Dec-Feb)**	**Spring (Mar-May)**	**Summer (Jun-Aug)**	**Autumn (Sep-Nov)**
Bradford on Avon	132	121	137	126
Charmouth	68	58	106	69
Cranborne	27	33	39	27
Hamworthy	153	165	170	123
Maiden Newton	37	41	42	42
Mere	67	70	97	84
Ramsbury	15	4	17	10
Wilton	123	155	212	166

Table 2: Number of mobilisations of the station pumping appliance to DWFRS incidents, split by season, between 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2026

The increase in number of mobilisations seen at some stations during summer months e.g. at Wilton there were an additional 46 mobilisations over five years (approximately 9 per year over the three summer months) versus autumn mobilisations. Not all of these mobilisation resulted in the appliance being on scene.

Response Times by Season

The average first appliance response time, split by season, to incidents which occurred within each station area, between 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2026, can be seen in Table 4. This is an average of all times from when the call is received to the appliance arriving on scene.

Please note that these incidents may have been attended by any appliance not just that of the station ground under review.

Average First Appliance Response Time to Incidents in Station Area by Season over Five Years 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2026				
Station Area	**Winter (Dec-Feb)**	**Spring (Mar-May)**	**Summer (Jun-Aug)**	**Autumn (Sep-Nov)**
Bradford on Avon	13:16	12:31	13:09	13:10
Charmouth	12:35	12:32	12:13	10:46
Cranborne	13:59	16:29	15:46	14:22
Hamworthy	8:42	8:38	8:34	8:18
Maiden Newton	17:28	14:55	16:03	15:44
Mere	14:36	13:29	13:04	12:44
Ramsbury	16:40	16:55	17:42	17:22
Wilton	13:07	12:56	13:18	12:37

Table 3: Average first appliance response times, split by season, between 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2026

The average second appliance response time, split by season, to incidents which occurred within each station area, between 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2026, can be seen in Table 4. This table details the second appliance response time, split by season over a five-year period.

Please note that these incidents may have been attended by any appliance not just that of the station ground under review.

Average Second Appliance Response Time to Incidents in Station Area by Season over Five Years 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2026				
Station Area	**Winter (Dec-Feb)**	**Spring (Mar-May)**	**Summer (Jun-Aug)**	**Autumn (Sep-Nov)**
Bradford on Avon	17:00	16:51	17:52	17:30
Charmouth	16:24	16:40	17:44	16:56
Cranborne	19:21	19:15	19:17	20:52
Hamworthy	10:58	11:42	12:46	10:55
Maiden Newton	20:14	21:15	20:50	21:50
Mere	17:50	17:24	21:11	15:10
Ramsbury	19:39	18:13	19:22	20:55
Wilton	15:59	17:28	18:31	17:20

Table 4: Average second appliance response times, split by season, between 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2026

Please note: The majority (77.21%) of incidents only require one pumping appliance. Therefore, there are fewer incidents recorded in the second appliance data which may lead to higher fluctuations to response times especially for those appliances that have lower call volumes.

Summary

The number of incidents in the station area of the eight stations under review show some seasonal variation, which is in line with the Service variations seen.

Over the five-year period attendance times are relatively consistent for all stations. Whilst we must take into account a variety of factors that may influence this, the general trend provided suggests that no large seasonal variability is evident over the period.

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