DORSET & WILTSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE

Item 26/24 Appendix N

Fire Station Review

Appendix N:
Scale of Incidents

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Scale of Incidents within DWFRS

This appendix reviews the demand placed upon DWFRS for pumping appliances from incidents within the Service area to identify the frequency and scale of incidents.

This review will analyse how often incidents require one or more pumping appliances, how many incidents occur per hour, and how often this occurs and how long pumping appliances are committed to an incident.

Two time periods have been used, one based on analysis previously undertaken by the Service which covers a three-year period (1 January 2023 to 31 December 2025), and further details analysis over a five-year period (1 April 2021 to 31 March 2026) to align to data in current Fire Authority appendices.

This analysis enables a comprehensive understanding of the demands of incidents and the resilience of the Service to maintain an effective emergency response during times of incidents.

Incident Appliance Requirement Profile

Using analysis already available and undertaken by the Service, for the three years from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2025, the number of pumping appliances required per hour for DWFRS incidents was calculated. The maximum number of appliances committed in a single hour to incidents over this period was 41. This was required for one hour out of the 26,304 hours over the three-year period. A breakdown of the percentage of time over the three years that specific number of pumps have been required at DWFRS incidents per hour can be seen in Figure 1. For 94.46% of the three-year period ten or fewer appliances were committed to incidents at any one time.

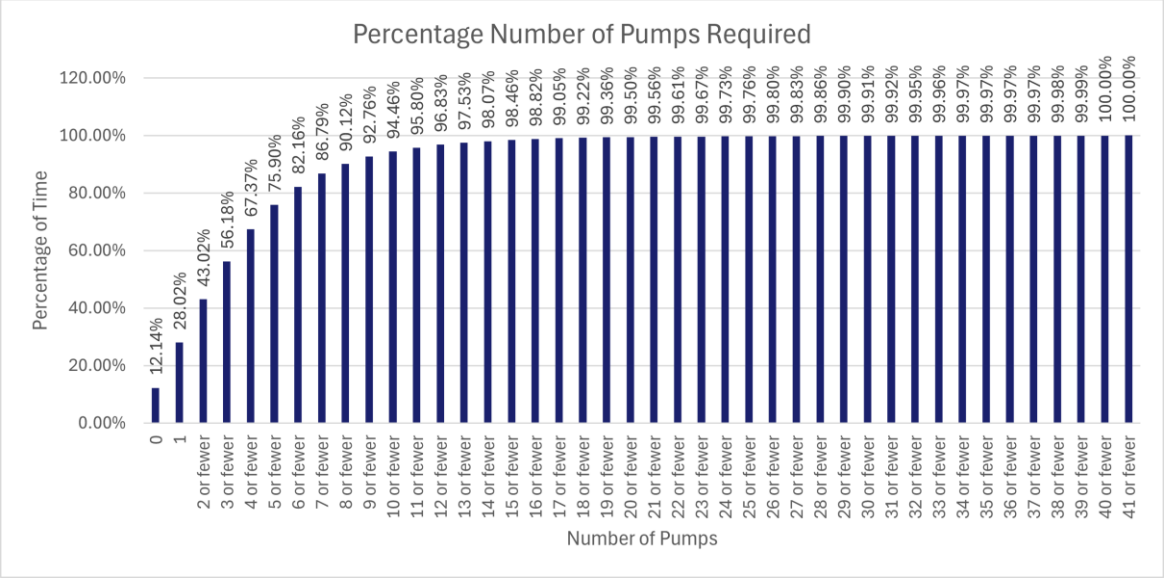

Figure 1: Percentage of time from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2025 that specific number of pumps were required at DWFRS incidents

Concurrent Demand Analysis

For the three years from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2025 the number of DWFRS incidents per hour has been calculated. The maximum number of incidents in a single hour over this period was 15. This was for one hour out of the 26,304 hours over the three-year period. A breakdown of the percentage of time over the three years that specific number of DWFRS incidents occurred per

hour can be seen in Figure 2. For 39.58% of the time one or no incidents occurred, 94.00% of the time had five or fewer incidents within the hour and 99.86% of the time had ten or fewer incidents within the hour.

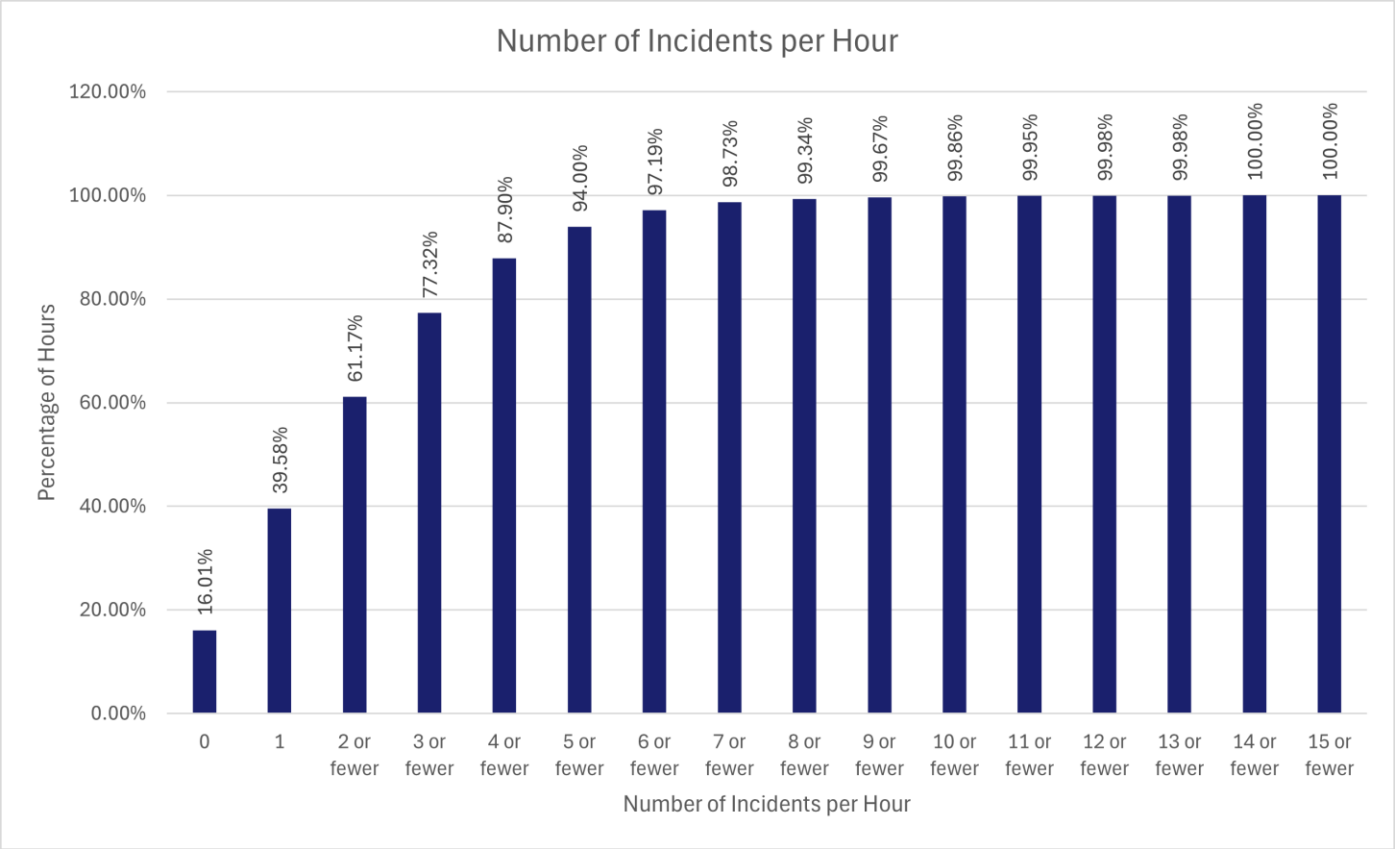

Figure 2: Percentage of time number of DWFRS incident occurred from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2025

Analysis of 10+ Appliance Incidents

For the five years from 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2026, aligning with data in other appendices, the total number of pumps which arrived on scene at each DWFRS incidents has been calculated. The maximum number of pumps which arrived on scene to a single incident over this period was 158. A breakdown of the percentage of time over the five years that specific number of pumps were on scene at DWFRS incidents per hour can be seen in Figure 3. Over the five-year period 77.21% of incidents only required a single pumping appliance, whilst 89.87% required one or two pumping appliances and 95.57% required five or fewer pumping appliances over the course of the whole incident. Over the five-year period there were 120 incidents requiring more than ten appliances on scene (93 of these required ten to 19 pumping appliances).

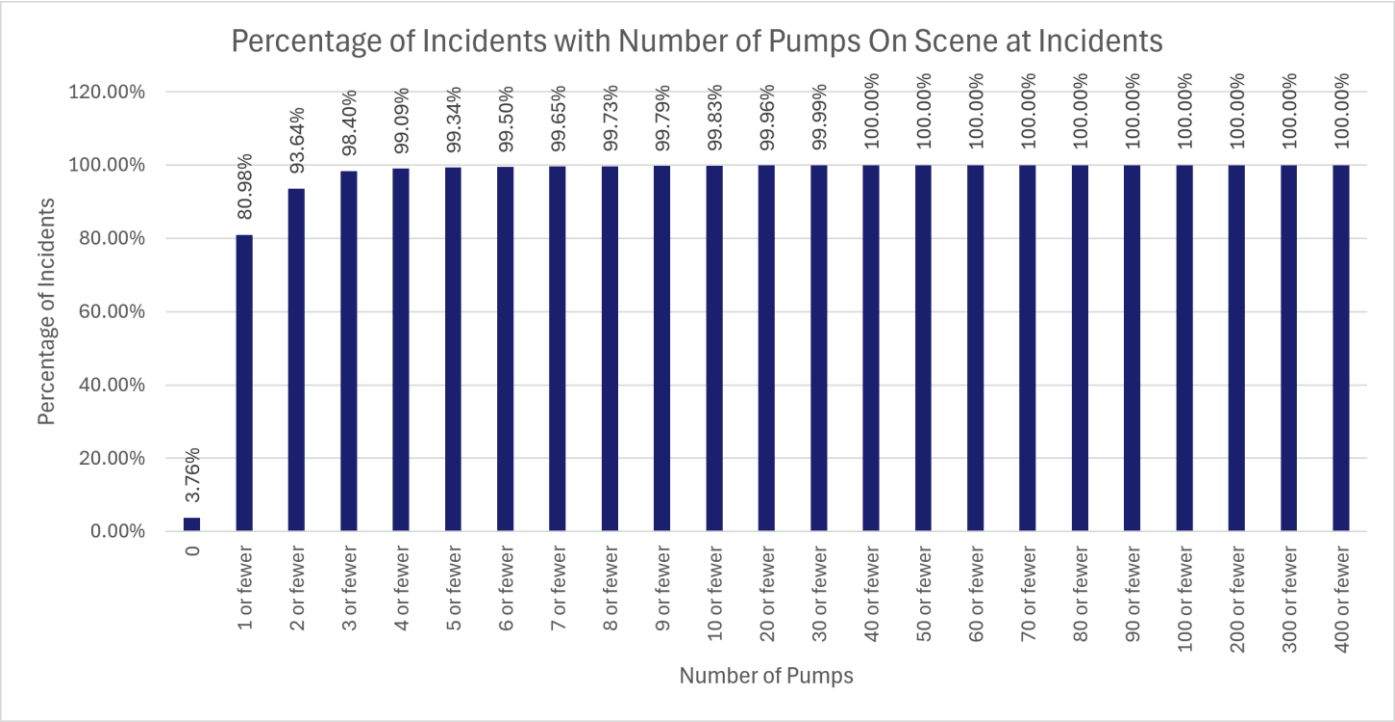

Figure 3: Percentage of DWFRS incidents from 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2026 with specific number of pumps were on scene

Incident Duration Analysis

For the five years from 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2026, aligning with data in other appendices, the length of each pumps committed time when on scene at DWFRS incidents has been calculated. The longest a pump was committed was between 48 and 72 hours, this occurred on one occasion over the five-year period. A breakdown of the percentage of pumping appliance committed time over the five years can be seen in Figure 4. Over the five-year period pumping appliances were committed for less than one hour for 72.31% of the time, and less than three hours for 95.55% of the time. Pumping appliances were committed for three to ten hours 4.31% of the time, and 0.12% of the time for more than ten hours.

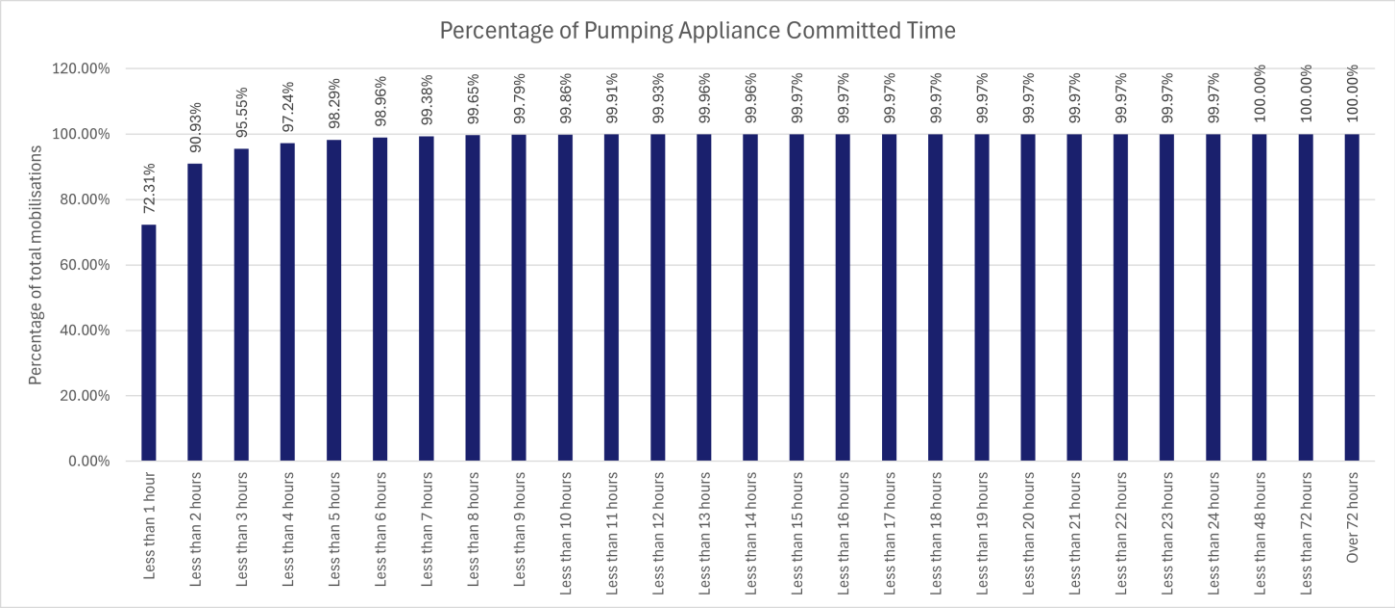

Figure 4: Percentage of committed time of pumping appliances from 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2026

Extreme Demand Analysis Summary

During the period 1 Jan 2023 to 31 Dec 2025, the most pumping appliances required was 41 pumping appliances for one hour. This was during the Holt Heath Major Incident during 2025 and occurred just once. 41 pumping appliances represents 59.42% of DWFRS total pumping appliances based on 69 pumping appliances within DWFRS. In the event of the closure of eight stations, reducing from 69 to 61 pumping appliances within DWFRS, 41 pumping appliances would represent 67.21% of total pumping appliance capability within the Service. It is important to note that not all 69 pumping appliances were available at the time of needing 41 pumping appliances.

For 94.46% of the time, ten or fewer pumping appliances were committed to incidents at any one time.

Of the 26,304 hours between 1 Jan 2023 to 31 Dec 2025, the maximum number of incidents in one hour was 15, this occurred once. 39.58% of the time, one or no incidents occurred.

During the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2026, the maximum number of pumping appliances to arrive on scene at a single incident was 158. During this period, 77.21% of all incidents required a single pumping appliance attendance only.

For the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2026, the longest a pumping appliance was committed to an incident was between 48 and 72 hours, this occurred once during the review period. For 72.31% of the time, pumping appliances were committed to an incident for less than one hour.

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