

QUARTER

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Middlesbrough District Performance April - March 2024/25



**Head of
Emergency
Response
James Hudson**
01429 874014

Middlesbrough lies in the centre of Cleveland Fire Authority area and consists of 20 local wards. It is the most densely populated and urbanised authority in Cleveland. Middlesbrough is bound by the River Tees, North Yorkshire Moors National Park and two other local authorities. The current population of this area is 148,285 living in 65,988 dwellings.

Specific risks within the district include: A19, A66, A174, Teesside Park, James Cook University Hospital, Riverside Stadium, Teesside University and Middlesbrough town centre.

Indicator	2024/25	Direction of Travel 2023/24 - 2024/25	% Change
Total Fires	1344	Increased	15%
Total Deliberate Fires	1131	Increased	13%
Deliberate Primary Fires	144	Increased	27%
Deliberate Secondary Fires	987	Increased	11%
Accidental Dwelling Fires	48	Decreased	9%
Accidental Dwelling Fire Fatalities	0	Decreased	100%
Accidental Dwelling Fire Injuries	3	Increased	200%

SAFER HOMES

- 70% Coverage across the Brigade area
- 1,776 smoke alarms fitted
- 5,177 visits completed
- 728 referrals made to external agencies for assistance

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- On 3 March 2025, Middlesbrough Blue Watch and Human Resources Advisor Anne Skillcorn attended a careers event at Breckon Hill Primary School.
- Community Liaison Officer Barry Whitton participated in a community engagement event in Middlesbrough, where he interacted with over 100 unemployed adults seeking to return to work. Barry provided information on current vacancies within the Brigade and offered career advice on various roles available within the organisation.

CURRENT AND EMERGING ISSUES

Deliberate Primary Fires

Between April 2024 and March 2025, the number of deliberate primary fires increased by 27% compared to the same period in 2023/24, rising from 113 to 144 incidents. A breakdown of key subtypes reveals that 88 incidents (61%) involved vehicles, while 20 incidents (14%) were classified as dwelling fires. The area with the highest number of incidents was Longlands and Beechwood, accounting for 40 deliberate primary fires.

Deliberate Vehicle Fires

Deliberate vehicle fires remain a significant concern in the district, with a 35% increase recorded between April 2024 and March 2025 compared to the previous year, rising from 65 to 88 incidents. The Brigade continues to work closely with Cleveland Police to monitor these incidents, identify key offenders, and detect emerging patterns.

HOTSPOT DATA

- The top 5 wards for all fire incidents between April 2024 and March 2025 accumulatively accounted for 59% of fires across the district.
- Longlands and Beechwood had the highest level of fire incidents with 173 of which 148 (86%) were deliberate.

Ward	Number of Fires
Longlands and Beechwood	173
Central	172
Berwick Hills and Pallister	168
Hemlington	142
Brambles and Thorntree	140

SERVICE INFORMATION

Safer Homes

We offer Safer Homes Visits face to face, over the phone or virtual via TEAMS/ZOOM. For more details contact 01429 874063.

Advocates

We have a team of advocates and Home Safety Officers with special training to support vulnerable adults in our community. To find out more email advocates@clevelandfire.gov.uk

Fire Education

Our fire education team work with youngsters who are at risk of starting fires to educate them about the dangers and consequences of fires. To find out more email fsi@clevelandfire.gov.uk

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE RANGE OF SERVICES WE OFFER VISIT

www.clevelandfire.gov.uk or call 01429 872311