



Open Report on behalf of Mark Baxter, Chief Fire Officer, Lincolnshire Fire & Rescue Service

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| Report to: | Public Protection and Communities Scrutiny Committee |
| Date: | 08 November 2022 |
| Subject: | FRS Attendance at Flooding Incidents – Annual Report on Performance |

Summary:

This report presents to the Scrutiny Committee an update on the flooding incidents that Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue (LFR) has attended since 2017, to enable Members to be aware of the risk in Lincolnshire.

This report only focuses on the demand placed on LFR operational response and does not highlight the areas that Local Lead Flood Authority are committed to for preventative measures and response activities.

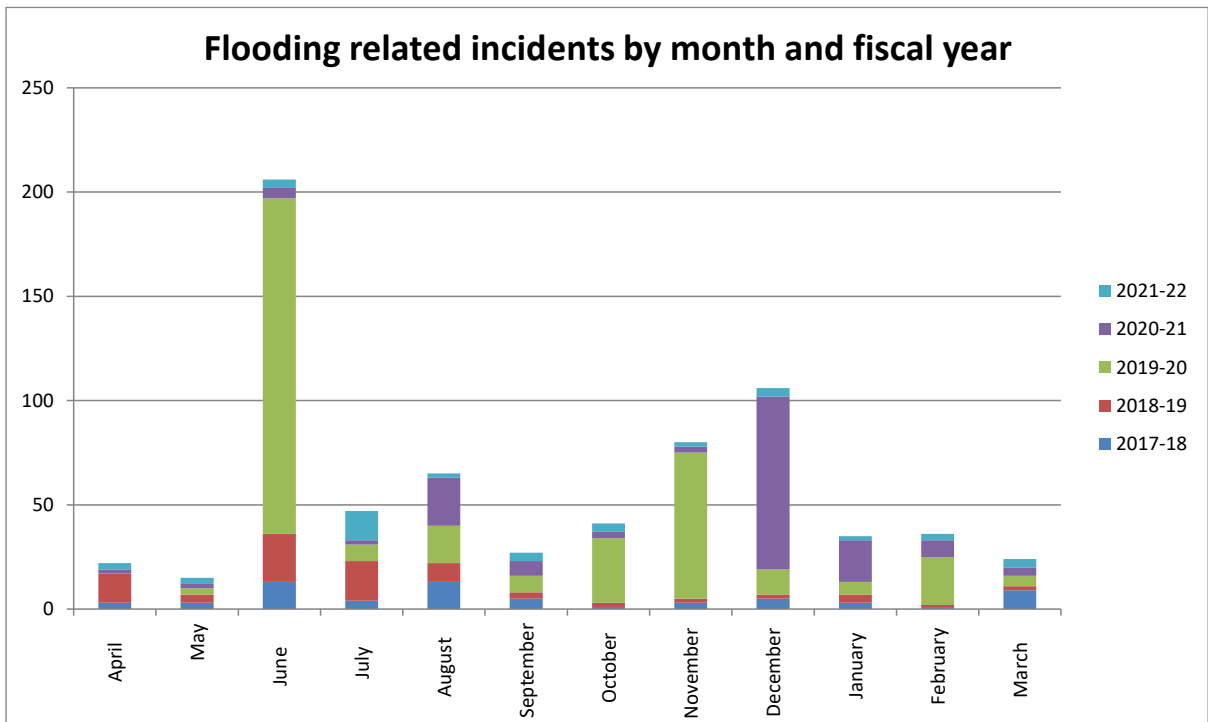
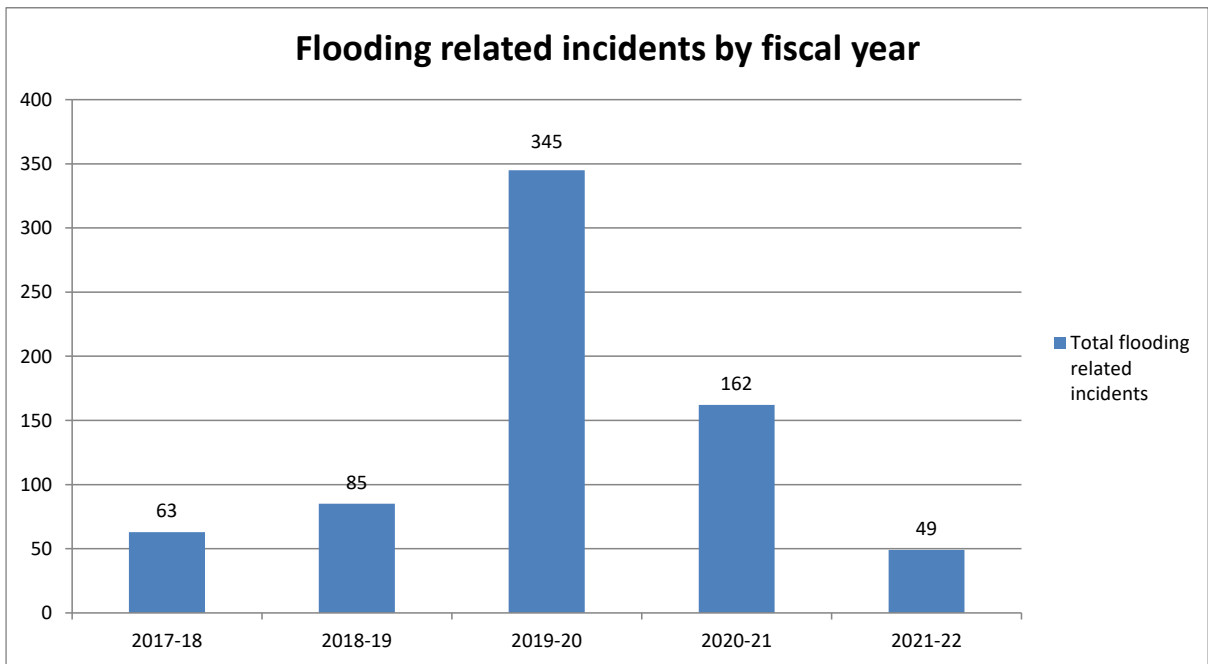
Actions Required:

Members of the Public Protection and Communities Scrutiny Committee are invited to consider the contents of this report, and comment on the Fire Service's approach to supporting the local communities.

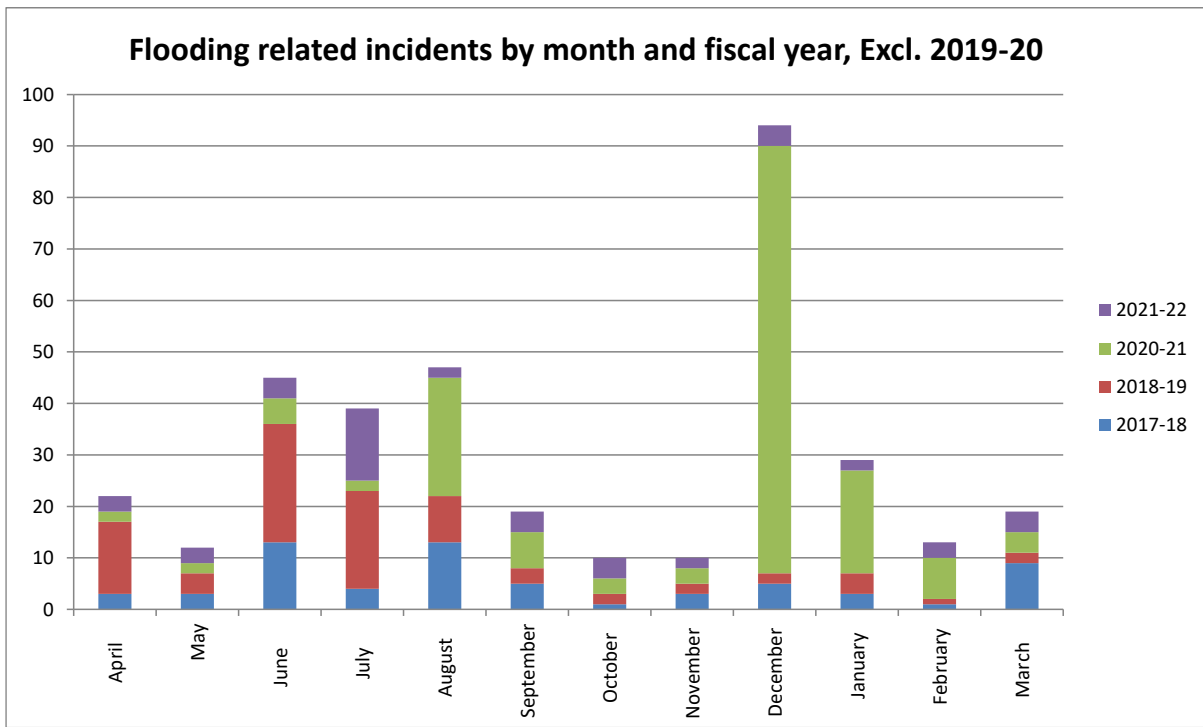
1. Flooding Analysis 2017/18 – 2021/22

The number of flooding related incidents, with the exception of 2019-20, has been relatively constant, with numbers of incidents fluctuating between 49 and 162, and with an average of 90 per year (over those 4 comparable years).

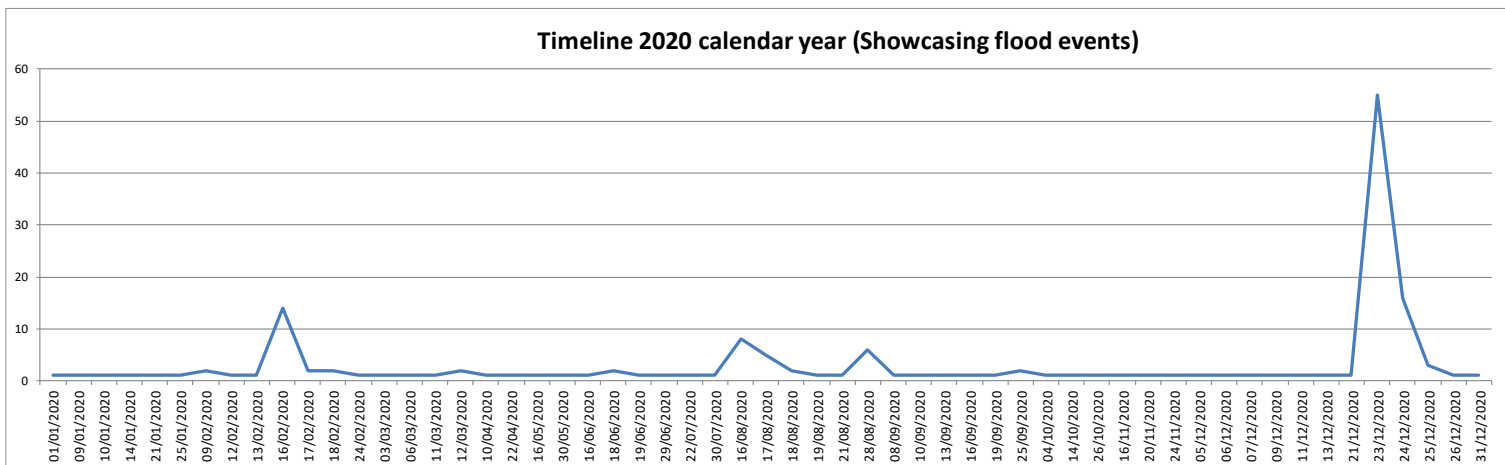
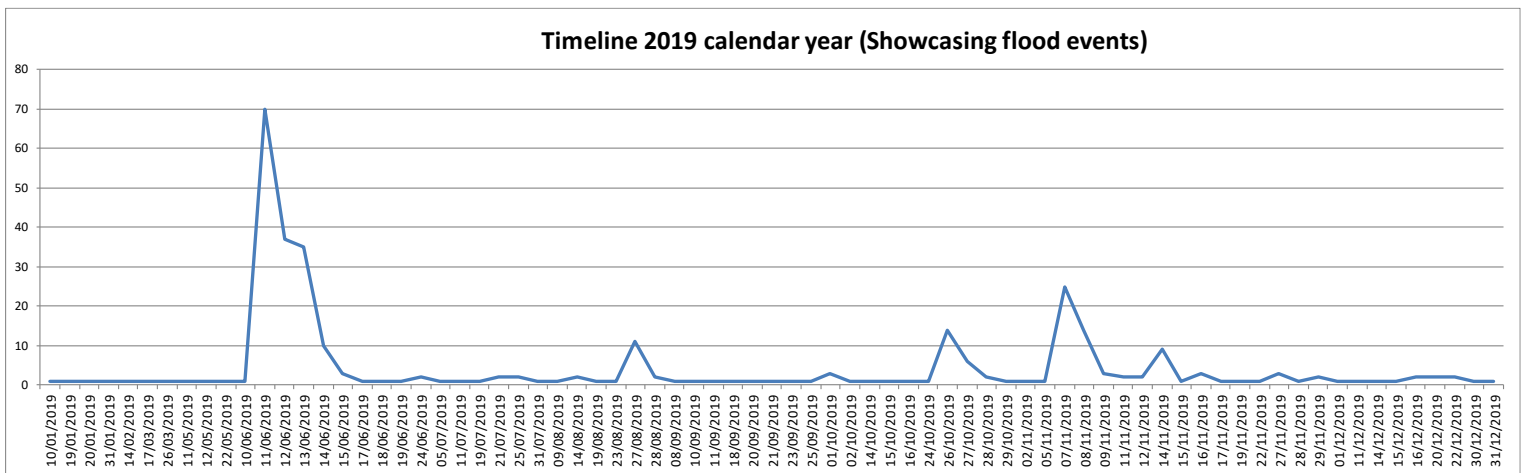
The weather events of June 2019 resulting in the Wainfleet flooding event far surpassed the average. In December 2020, 83 flooding related incidents occurred, with 71 of those being within a 24-hour period on 23rd/24th December, this was again weather related. Without that particular flooding event then the number of incidents for the 2020-21 year would be approximately 80 which is more closely aligned to the averages of the 4 years, not including the 2019-20 year. The following charts demonstrate the difference over the years, and the particular months of activity.



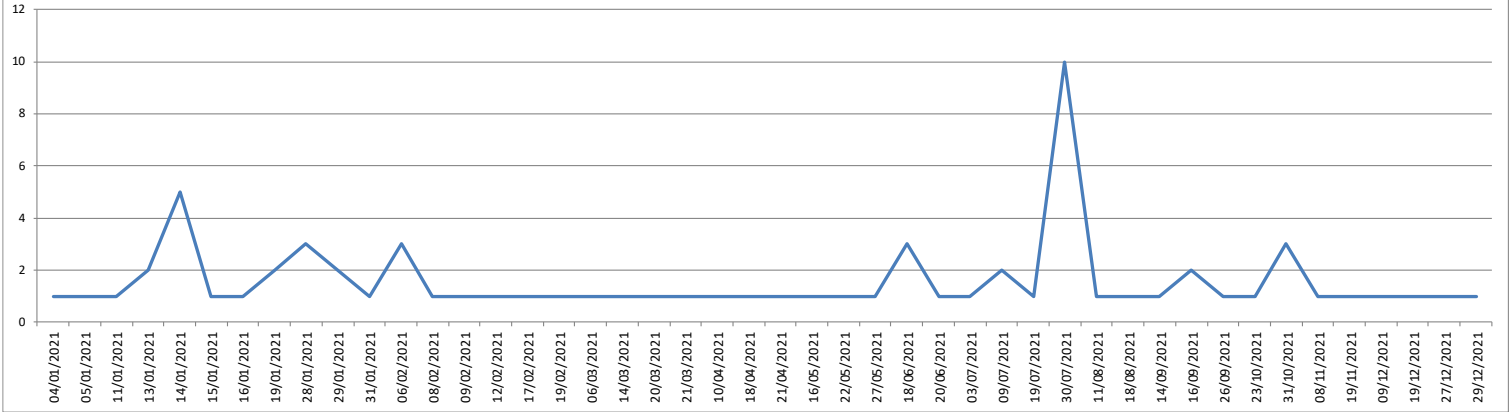
Notably mid-summer months and mid-winter months are the consistent months where calls to flooding occur. The following chart has taken out the 2019-20 data, as we know this was an unusual year, to ensure this trend is not overtly influenced.



The following line charts demonstrate the timeline of flooding events over the 2019, 2020 and 2021 calendar years.

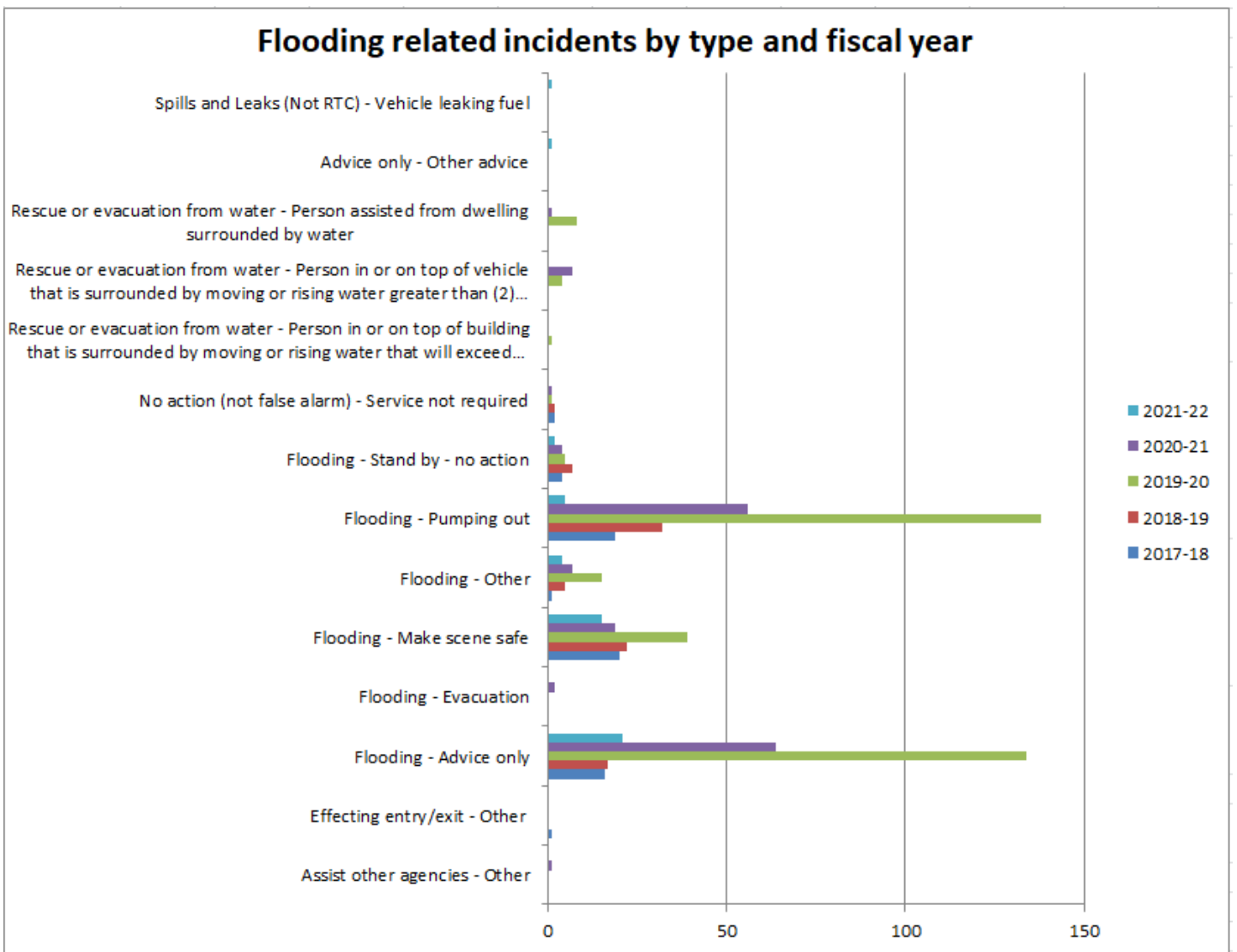


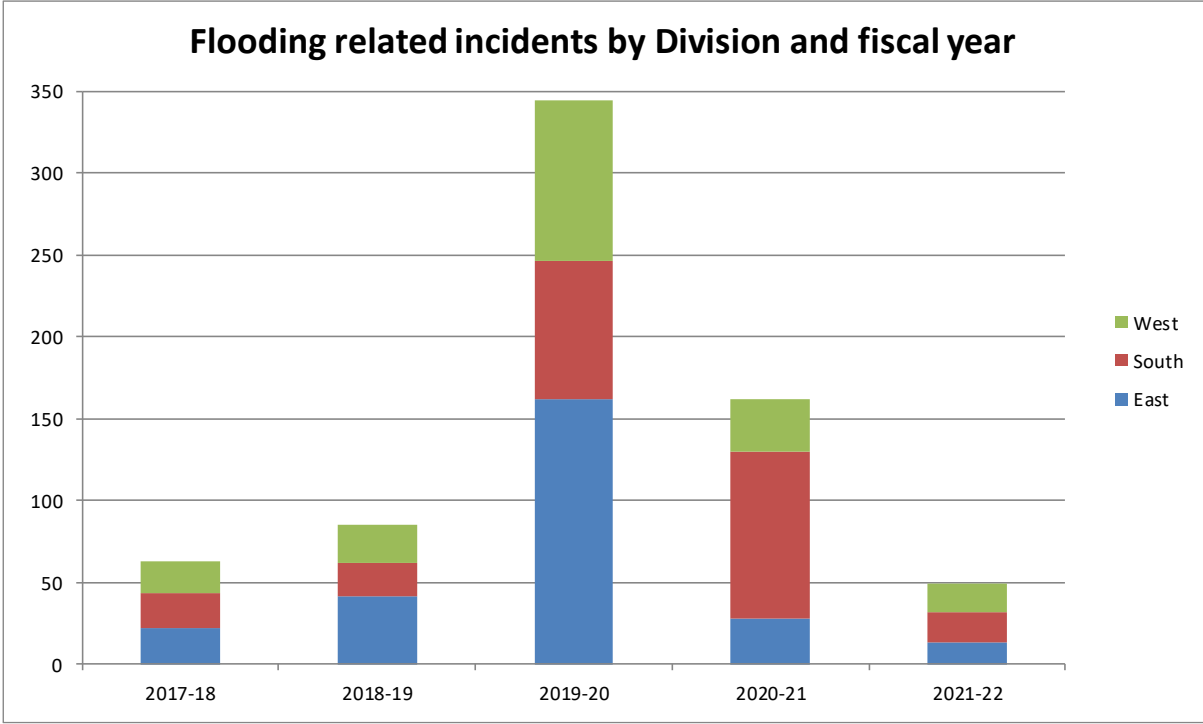
Timeline 2021 calendar year (Showcasing flood events)



Type of flooding incidents, by the outcome of the incident is shown below.

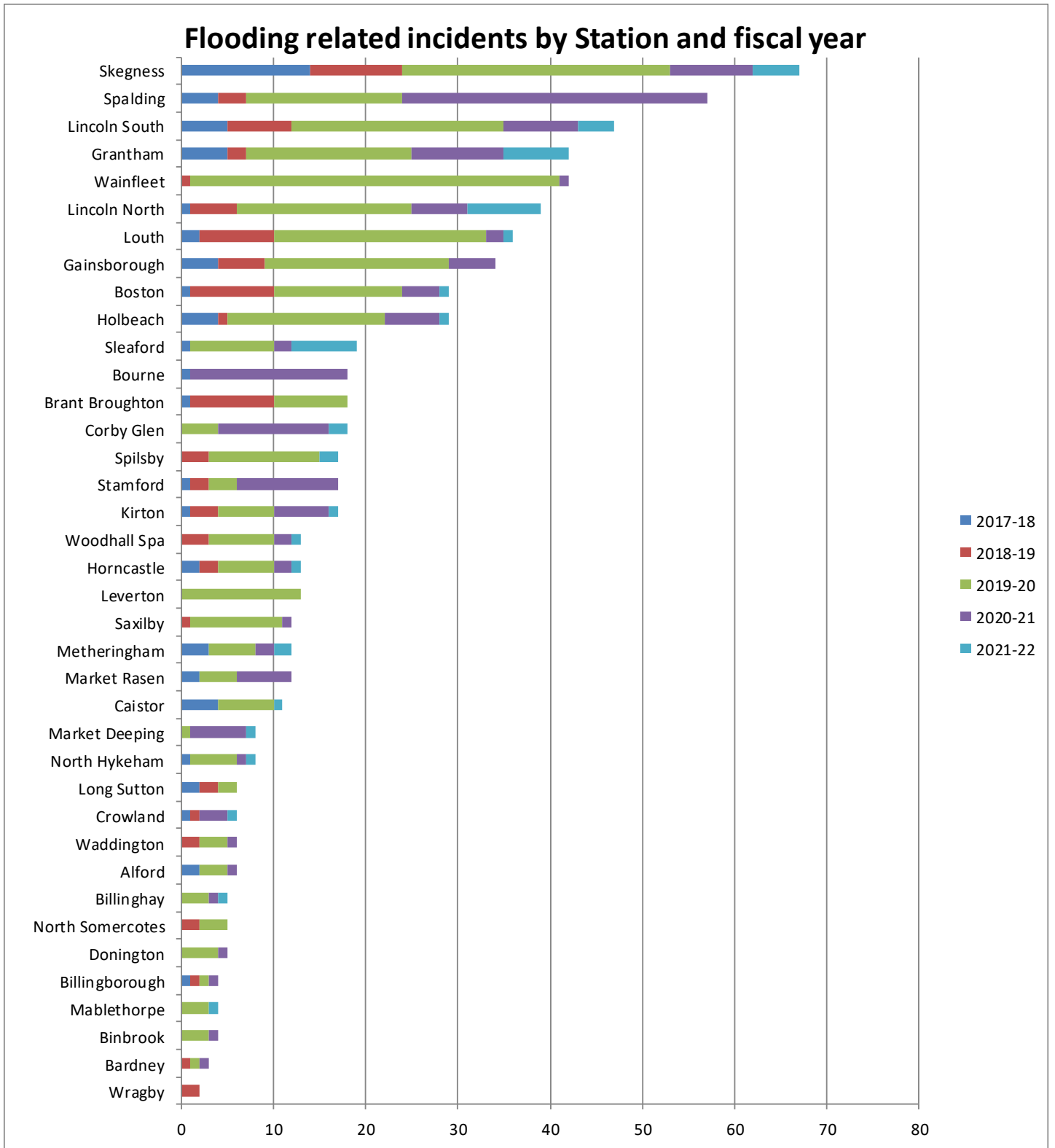
Flooding related incidents by type and fiscal year





Number of incidents by LFR station ground, sorted descending shown below.

Note: 8 of the 9 wholtime (WT) stations have the most demand in terms of flooding incidents in their area. The exception is the inclusion of Wainfleet. Sleaford is the remaining WT station that does not feature in the most demand areas.



Appliance mobilisations to flooding incidents can be seen below. Please note that not all incidents will be attended by an appliance or specialist resources; a number will be attended solely by an officer which can be evidenced in the chart giving the breakdown of incidents by the outcome. These would be included in any of the types which include: *No action* (not false alarm), *Flooding – Standby no action*, or *Flooding – advice only*.

| Resource Type | 2017-18 | 2018-19 | 2019-20 | 2020-21 | 2021-22 | Grand Total |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|-----------|-------------|
| Car + Boat | | | | 5 | | 5 |
| FloodPump | | | 13 | 8 | | 21 |
| Pump | 43 | 65 | 447 | 201 | 32 | 788 |
| USAR | | | | 1 | | 1 |
| Rescue support unit | | | 5 | 3 | | 8 |
| High volume pump | | 1 | 4 | 4 | | 9 |
| Water carrier | | | 5 | 1 | | 6 |
| Technical rescue unit (Incl. boat) | | | 22 | 16 | | 38 |
| Welfare unit | | | 1 | | | 1 |
| Command support unit | | | | 1 | | 1 |
| High volume hose layer | | | | 3 | | 3 |
| Grand Total | 43 | 66 | 497 | 243 | 32 | 881 |

2. Conclusion

This report highlights the continued commitment Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue has, to responding to flood related incidents. It shows that the demand on Fire and Rescue is still present and requires the appropriate skills and equipment to support Lincolnshire County Council is mitigating the risks to our communities.

It is recognised that preparedness for significant flooding events is vital to ensure Fire and Rescue, alongside all partner agencies, have the ability to respond to ‘high demand’ events. It is not possible to predict when these events will occur, but there is relative confidence that they will continue.

3. Consultation

a) Risks and Impact Analysis

N/A

4. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Spencer Creek, (T) Area Manager Response, Lincolnshire Fire & Rescue Service, who can be contacted on 07785516664 or Spencer.Creek@lincoln.fire-uk.org.

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