



## AGENDA ITEM: 12a

### NORTH WALES FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY EXECUTIVE PANEL

24<sup>th</sup> January 2007

#### SMOKE/FIRE ALARMS IN DWELLING FIRES

**Supplementary Paper by Dawn Docx  
Assistant Chief Officer – Finance and Procurement**

#### **Purpose of Supplementary Paper**

1. To provide Members with a breakdown of smoke/fire alarm numbers according to the tenure of dwellings where fires have occurred in each unitary authority area.

#### **Introduction**

2. At the Authority's Executive Panel meeting of the 21<sup>st</sup> September 2006 members requested that a supplementary paper be included with the next scheduled quarterly Performance Monitoring report giving a breakdown of BV209(ii) (*The percentage of fires in dwellings where a smoke alarm was fitted but did not activate*) according to the number of local authority, housing association, and privately owned dwellings involved. This would assist members to determine whether any specific action could be taken to deal with the problem.



## Notes on the Breakdown of the Figures

3. Data relating to dwelling fires, both accidental and deliberate, have been included in this analysis, in accordance with BV209(ii).

Unlike the performance indicator, however, this analysis does not differentiate between smoke detectors and other means of raising the alarm of fire (e.g. heat detectors). All have been treated as the same for this report.

4. The category of 'privately owned' does not differentiate between owner-occupied or tenant-occupied, as the Service does not currently gather or hold this information.
5. Analyses have been undertaken of dwelling fires in the whole of the 2005-06 financial year, and in the first three quarters of the 2006-07 financial year.
6. Where an alarm was present and activated (BV209i), no account has been taken of whether or not the activation was responsible for successfully raising the alarm. All alarms that activated have been included.
7. The first two pages present standardised charts, showing the breakdown of each category as a percentage of the total number of dwelling fires in each unitary authority, with the actual number included in the bar labels.
8. The pages that follow present actual numbers in each unitary authority area separately, broken down according to the categories of dwellings.



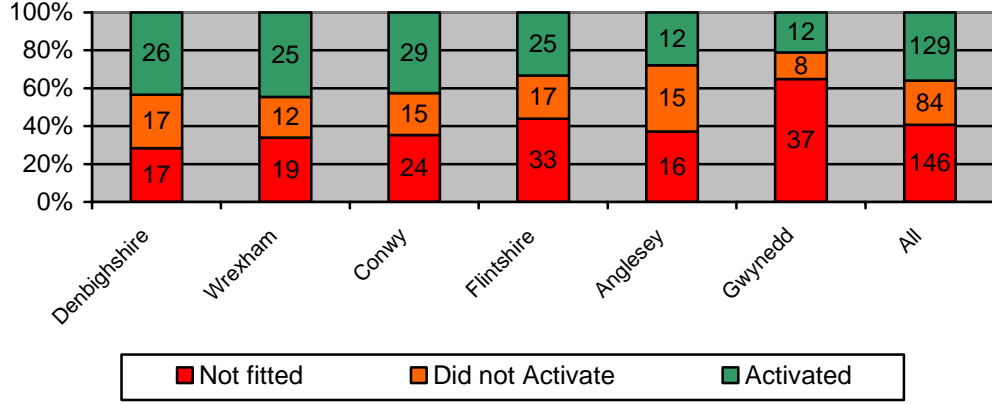
## **Analysis**

- 9.** In 2005-06, in the majority of fires in privately owned dwellings, there was no working smoke/fire alarm (in all counties). This was particularly evident in Flintshire, Wrexham and Anglesey.
- 10.** By the first three quarters of this financial year, this situation had changed in Flintshire, Wrexham and Conwy where a working smoke/fire alarm had activated in the majority of fires attended in privately owned dwellings.
- 11.** In 2005-06, in the majority of fires in local authority owned dwellings, there was a working smoke/fire alarm in all counties except Wrexham.
- 12.** By the first three quarters of this financial year, this changed in that the majority of fires in local authority owned dwellings in Wrexham also had a working smoke/fire alarm, but in Flintshire this was no longer the case.
- 13.** As for fires in dwellings run by housing associations, the actual numbers are relatively small; only in Flintshire has there been fewer incidents where a smoke/fire alarm was fitted and activated than where one was either ineffective or absent.

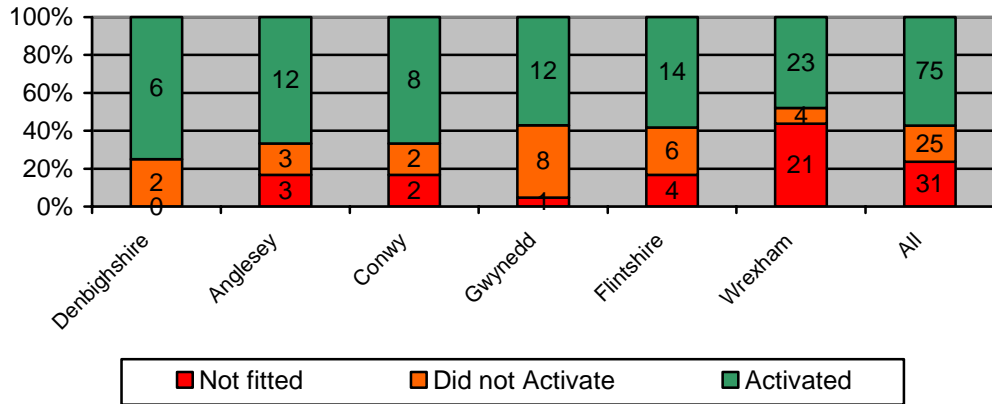


100% STANDARDISED CHARTS  
April 2005 – March 2006

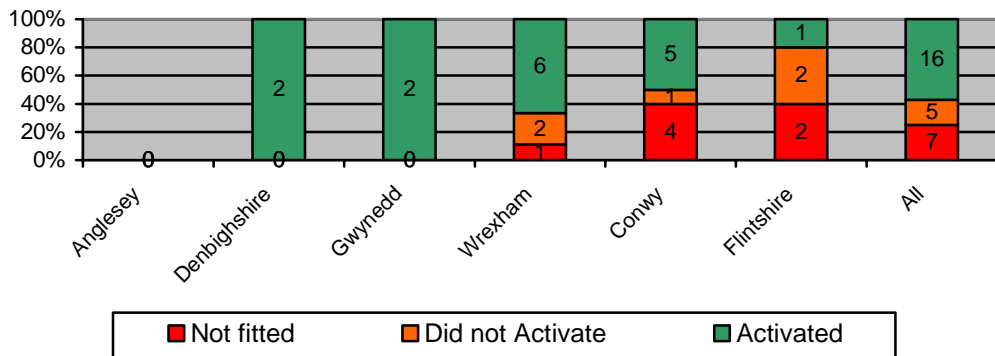
Smoke/heat/fire alarms in dwelling fires in **privately owned** dwellings



Smoke/heat/fire alarms in dwelling fires in **council run** dwellings



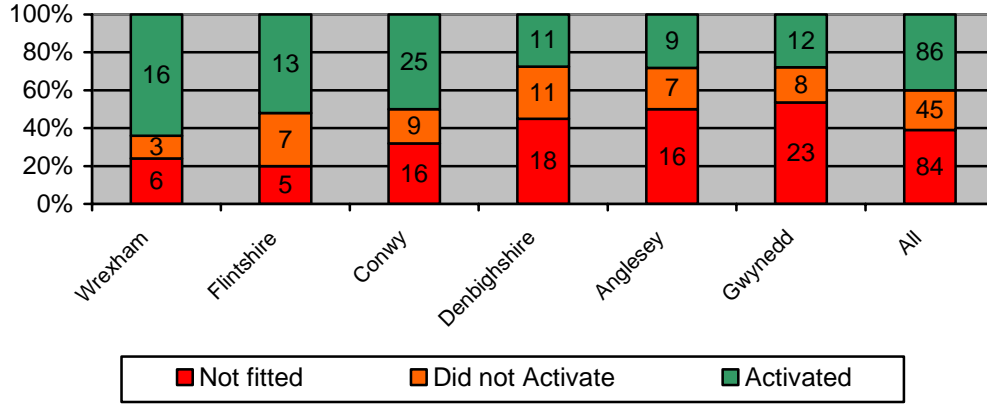
Smoke/heat/fire alarms in dwelling fires in **housing association run** dwellings



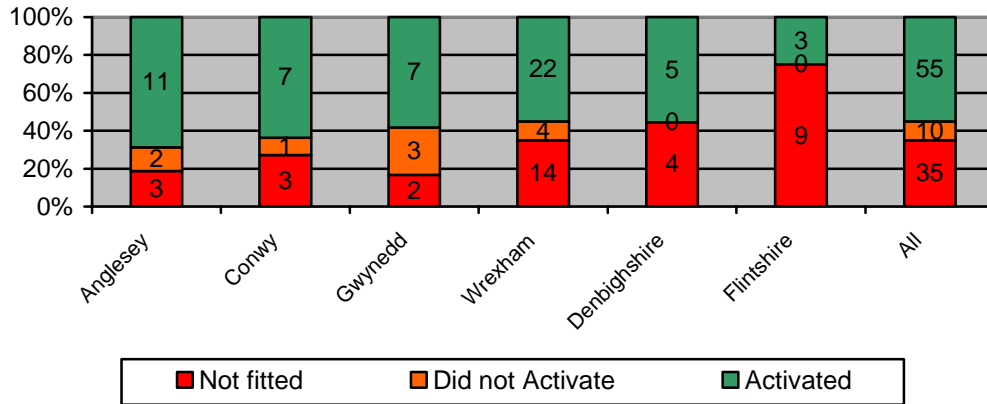


100% STANDARDISED CHARTS  
April 2006 – December 2006

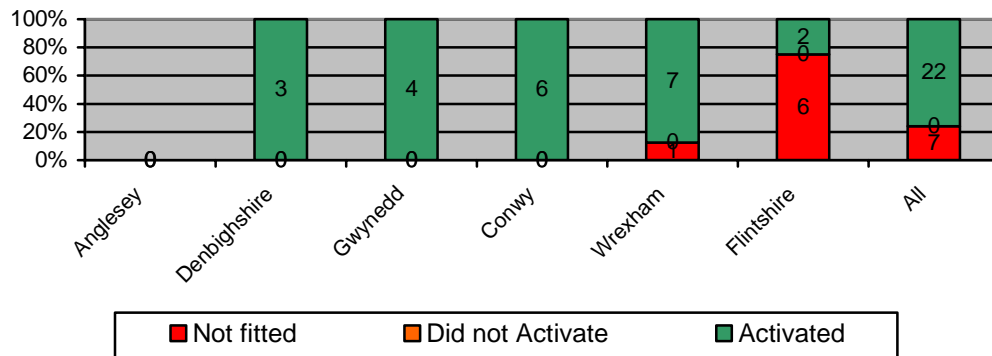
Smoke/heat/fire alarms in dwelling fires in **privately owned** dwellings



Smoke/heat/fire alarms in dwelling fires in **council** run dwellings



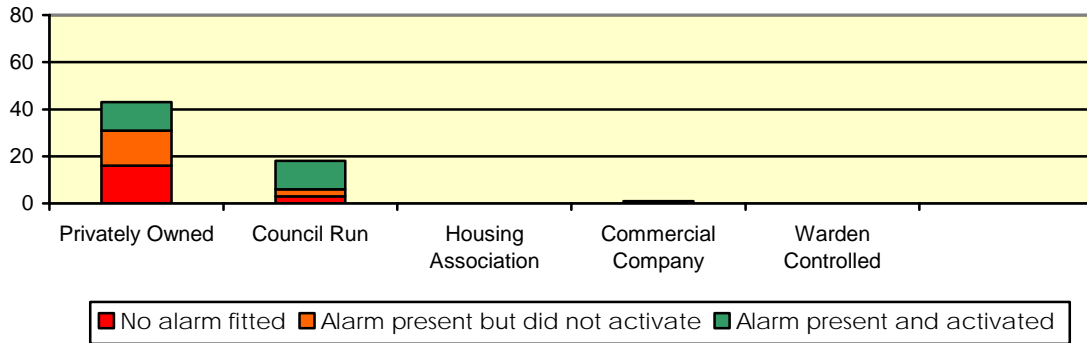
Smoke/heat/fire alarms in dwelling fires in **housing association** run dwellings



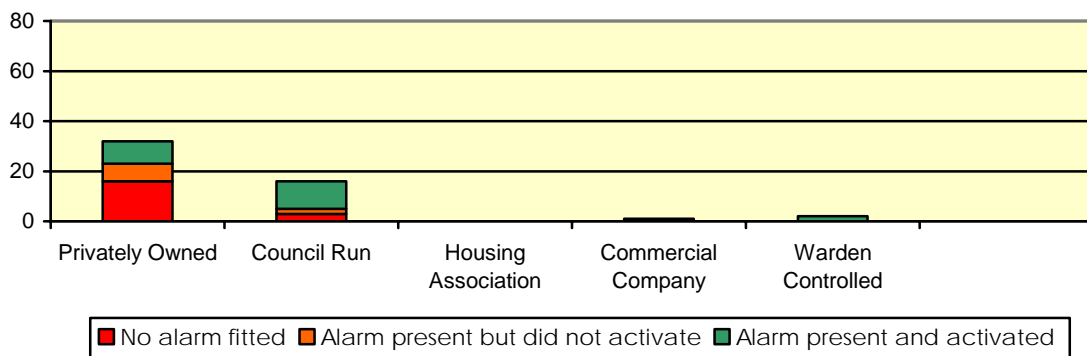


## ANGLESEY

April 2005 - March 2006  
Smoke/Fire/Heat Alarms in Dwelling Fires



April - December 2006  
Smoke/Fire/Heat Alarms in Dwelling Fires



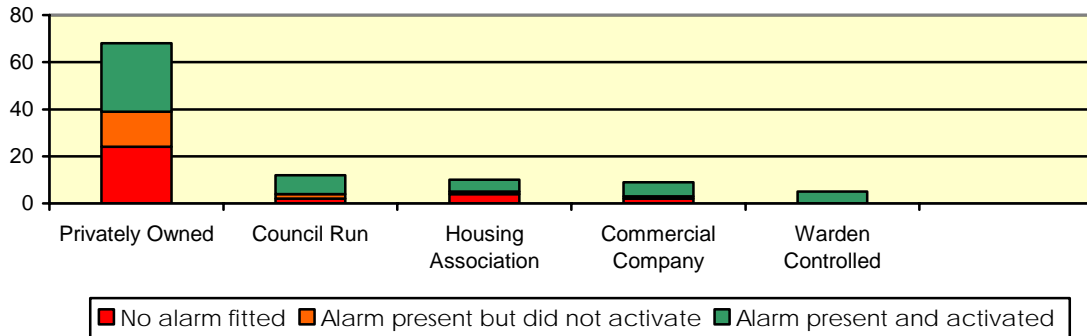
<b>April 2005 to March 2006</b>	Privately owned	Council Run	Housing Association	Commercial Company	Warden Controlled
Present and activated	12	12	0	1	0
Present but did not activate	15	3	0	0	0
No alarm present	16	3	0	0	0

<b>April 2006 to December 2006</b>	Privately owned	Council Run	Housing Association	Commercial Company	Warden Controlled
Present and activated	9	11	0	0	0
Present but did not activate	7	2	0	0	0
No alarm present	16	3	0	1	0

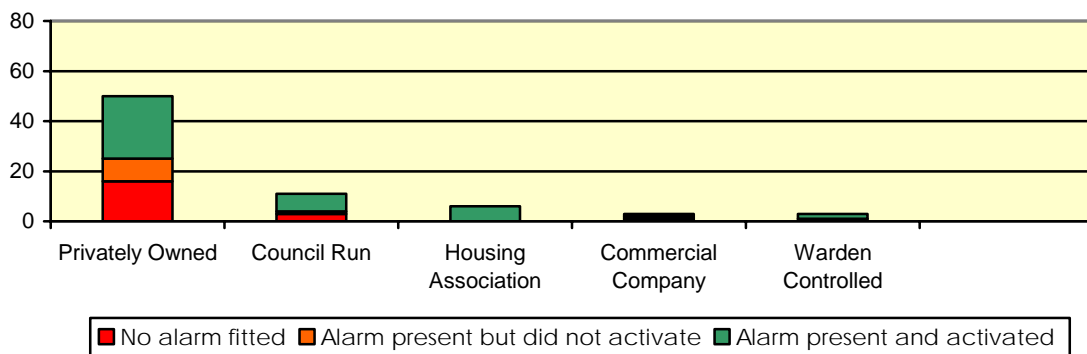


## CONWY

### April 2005 - March 2006 Smoke/Fire/Heat Alarms in Dwelling Fires



### April - December 2006 Smoke/Fire/Heat Alarms in Dwelling Fires



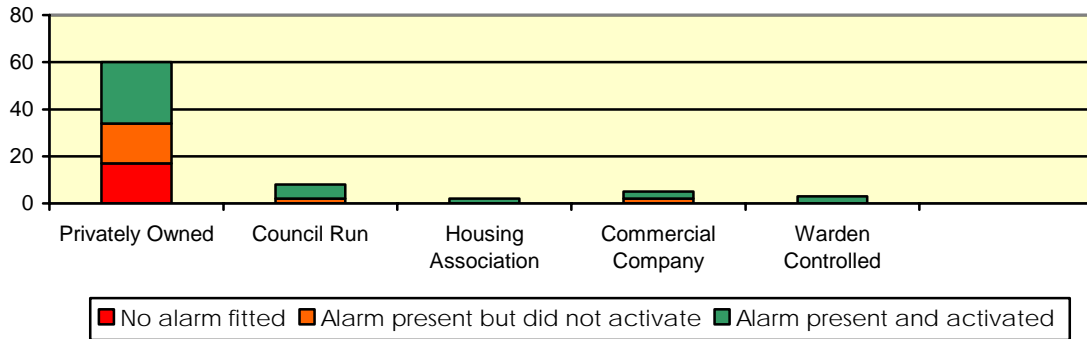
<b>April 2005 to March 2006</b>	Privately owned	Council Run	Housing Association	Commercial Company	Warden Controlled
Present and activated	29	8	5	6	5
Present but did not activate	15	2	1	1	0
No alarm present	24	2	4	2	0

<b>April 2006 to December 2006</b>	Privately owned	Council Run	Housing Association	Commercial Company	Warden Controlled
Present and activated	25	7	6	1	2
Present but did not activate	9	1	0	1	1
No alarm present	16	3	0	1	0

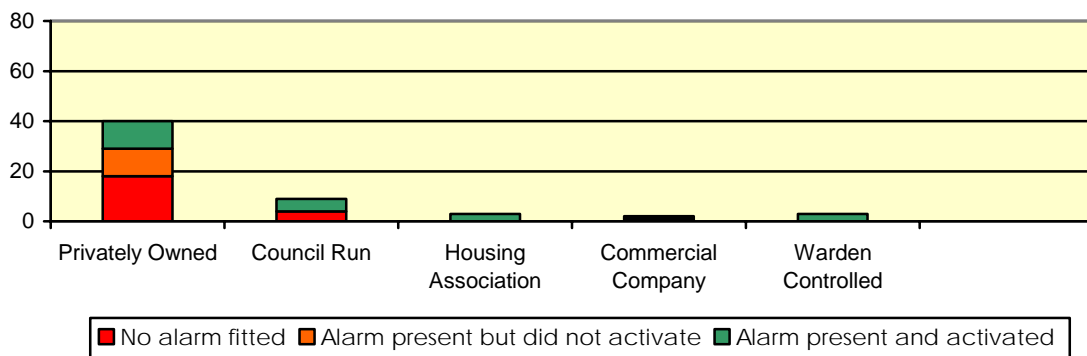


## DENBIGHSHIRE

April 2005 - March 2006  
Smoke/Fire/Heat Alarms in Dwelling Fires



April - December 2006  
Smoke/Fire/Heat Alarms in Dwelling Fires



April 2005 to March 2006	Privately owned	Council Run	Housing Association	Commercial Company	Warden Controlled
Present and activated	26	6	2	3	3
Present but did not activate	17	2	0	2	0
No alarm present	17	0	0	0	0

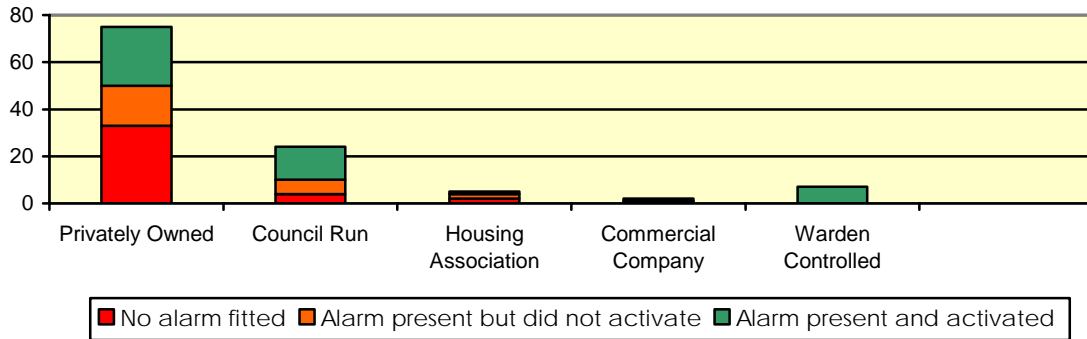
April 2006 to December 2006	Privately owned	Council Run	Housing Association	Commercial Company	Warden Controlled
Present and activated	11	5	3	1	3
Present but did not activate	11	0	0	0	0
No alarm present	18	4	0	1	0



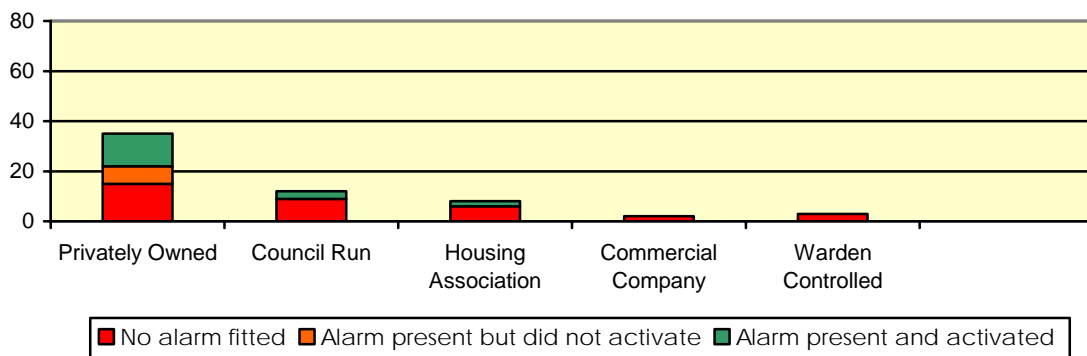


## FLINTSHIRE

April 2005 - March 2006  
Smoke/Fire/Heat Alarms in Dwelling Fires



April - December 2006  
Smoke/Fire/Heat Alarms in Dwelling Fires



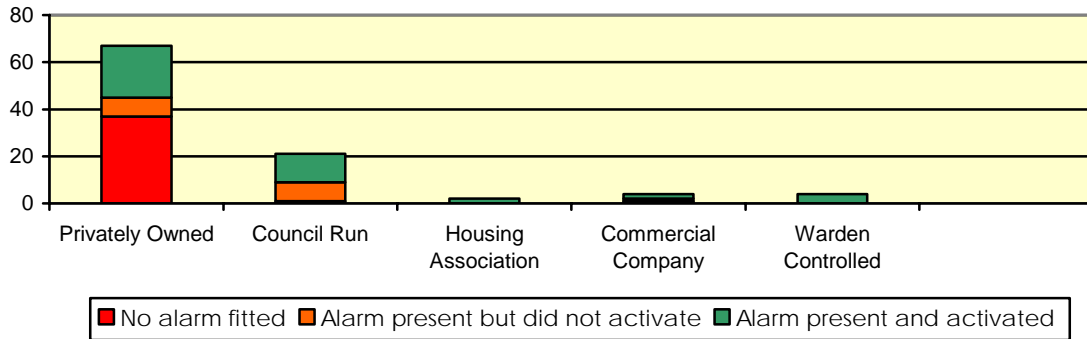
April 2005 to March 2006	Privately owned	Council Run	Housing Association	Commercial Company	Warden Controlled
Present and activated	25	14	1	1	7
Present but did not activate	17	6	2	0	0
No alarm present	33	4	2	1	0

April 2006 to December 2006	Privately owned	Council Run	Housing Association	Commercial Company	Warden Controlled
Present and activated	13	3	2	0	0
Present but did not activate	7	0	0	0	0
No alarm present	5	9	6	2	3

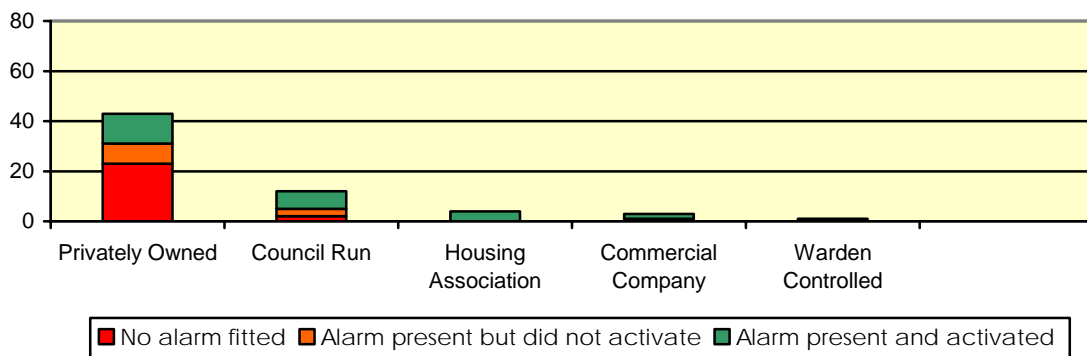


## GWYNEDD

April 2005 - March 2006  
Smoke/Fire/Heat Alarms in Dwelling Fires



April - December 2006  
Smoke/Fire/Heat Alarms in Dwelling Fires

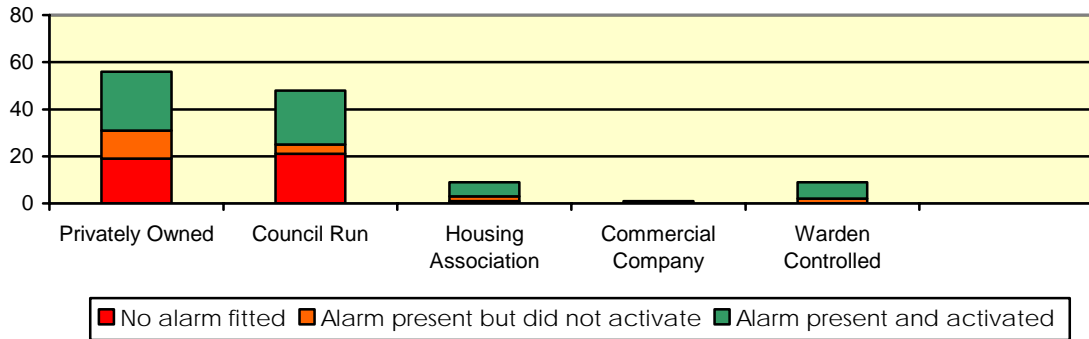


April 2005 to March 2006	Privately owned	Council Run	Housing Association	Commercial Company	Warden Controlled
Present and activated	12	12	2	2	4
Present but did not activate	8	8	0	1	0
No alarm present	37	1	0	1	0

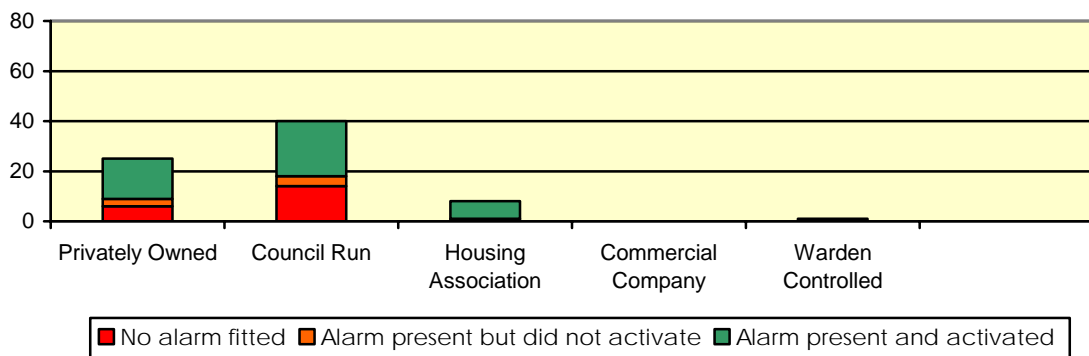
April 2006 to December 2006	Privately owned	Council Run	Housing Association	Commercial Company	Warden Controlled
Present and activated	12	7	4	2	1
Present but did not activate	8	3	0	0	0
No alarm present	23	2	0	1	0

## WREXHAM

April 2005 - March 2006  
Smoke/Fire/Heat Alarms in Dwelling Fires



April - December 2006  
Smoke/Fire/Heat Alarms in Dwelling Fires



April 2005 to March 2006	Privately owned	Council Run	Housing Association	Commercial Company	Warden Controlled
Present and activated	25	23	6	1	7
Present but did not activate	12	4	2	0	2
No alarm present	19	21	1	0	0

April 2006 to December 2006	Privately owned	Council Run	Housing Association	Commercial Company	Warden Controlled
Present and activated	16	22	7	0	1
Present but did not activate	3	4	0	0	0
No alarm present	6	14	1	0	0