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Briefing report for Devizes Area Board



Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service has grouped together neighbouring fire stations into station hubs, to work more effectively and efficiently, supporting each other to improve the service we provide.

Responding to incidents:

Your Area Board's / Locality's communities immediate emergency response will be provided by staff at these stations and where necessary additional support from staff and specialist equipment from other stations.

Prevention work:

Staff from other departments also provide the community with specialist services giving fire safety and road safety advice and interventions such as talks and visits.

Protection work:

Specialist staff provide expert knowledge, give advice and undertake enforcement action working very closely with the planning authorities to keep communities safe from fire.

In an **emergency dial 999**, for other non urgent matters you can either visit our website: www.wiltsfire.gov.uk or contact the following people:

	Manager / Department	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>email</u>			
Operational matters	Station Manager - Darren Nixon, Devizes, Melksham, Calne Station Hub	07860 345294	darren.nixon@wiltsfire.gov.uk			
Operational matters	Station Manager - Jack Nicholson, Trowbridge, Bradford, Westbury Station Hub	07809 548048	jack.nicholson@wiltsfire.gov.uk			
Operational matters	Station Manager - Jason Underwood, Amesbury, Pewsey, Ludgershall Station Hub	07515 191951	jason.underwood@wiltsfire.gov.uk			
Partnership and community engagement issues	Michael Franklin (Wiltshire Council Area)	07919 306037	mike.franklin@wiltsfire.gov.uk			
Home fire safety visits and for talks and visits	Community safety department	0800 389 7849	www.wiltsfire.gov.uk and then complete the on line request			

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Incident details for your community area

Incident Type	Detail	February, 2013	March, 2013	April, 2013	May, 2013	June, 2013	July, 2013	August, 2013	September, 2013	October, 2013	November, 2013	December, 2013	January, 2014	February, 2014
Chimney Fire		1	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	3	1
Emerg Spec Srvc Calls		0	0	0	1	2	0	2	4	0	0	0	2	0
	Advice - App/Eq not Specd	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
	Animal Rescue	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Assist Amb/Social Service	0	0	0	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Co-Responder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
	Effecting Entry	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
	Flooding	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	3	7	0
	Lift Release	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	3	0
	Making safe	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
	Person Rescue/Release	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
	RTC - Make Safe	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
	RTC - Person Trapped	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
	RTC - Services not req'd	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Spills and Leaks	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
False Alarm Good Intent		1	0	8	3	2	5	2	0	2	2	2	4	2
FDR1 Fire		2	3	5	1	3	2	7	2	4	2	2	6	0
Secondary Fire		0	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
	Fence/Lamp	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
	Grass/Heath/Railway/Tree	1	0	6	3	3	6	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
	Refuse/Container	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1

To see more detail on incidents and fire service activity in your area please go to our website and select community area (In development)

Recent Fire at Wiltshire Waste, Devizes

A large fire at Wiltshire Waste, Devizes occurred on the evening of Tuesday 28/01/14. Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service (Wiltshire FRS) crews were faced with a fire involving a very large quantity of waste material, of various types.

A tactical decision had to be made at an early stage regarding :

- Attempting to extinguish the fire, using very large quantities of water
- Allowing the fire to burn out under control

Both of these tactics were considered, and although both have advantages/disadvantages, the decision was taken, with partner agencies, (including Wiltshire Council, Environment Agency, Public Health England and the site operator) to allow it to burn out under control.

Whilst this resulted in the fire burning for over three weeks in total, it removed the risk presented by thousands of litres of contaminated fire water run off, which may have caused damaging effects to the local environment and water courses.

Offensive firefighting operations continued for two days after the initial call, at which point the incident was handed back to the site operator. However, daily inspections of the fire were

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carried out by Wiltshire FRS personnel and the site operator, to ensure that the fire was being managed effectively and as efficiently as possible. Wiltshire FRS ceased these daily inspections on 17/02/14, when the incident was deemed to no longer be a fire risk, and the site operator took back full responsibility.

Throughout this time there was continuous engagement with partner agencies over the progress of the incident.

Over recent years, fire and rescue services across the country have attended an increasing number of fires at waste management sites, consequently the Environment Agency has issued guidance for waste and recycling site operators.

The guidance clarifies the measures that waste sites must take to minimise the risk of fires and pollution. It also addresses fire prevention as the key solution for operators of waste sites, by keeping sources of ignition at least six metres away from stacks of combustible material, and introducing a regular maintenance and inspection programme.

Further information relating to this guidance and fires at waste and recycling sites can be found at Wiltshire FRS' website. (www.wiltsfire.gov.uk)

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