

Calne Area Board - Report 20th March 2018

Budget approved

At their meeting on 9th February 2018, Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority approved a budget of £54.526 million for 2018-19.

Within the recommendation was the requirement to increase council tax with a 4p per week increase for Band D properties in Bournemouth, Dorset, Poole, Swindon and Wiltshire – an annual fire precept of £72.70 for the Fire and Rescue Service within the council tax for the year starting on 1 April 2018.

Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service's commitment to keeping communities safe, with what is one of the lowest operating budgets in the country, includes increasing its level of prevention and protection activity, which has led to the fire & rescue Service nationally driving down the number of fires over the past ten years by 50%.

Chief Fire Officer Ben Ansell said: "Members have approved a fire precept Band D that is still well below the national average, and we also this year received another large funding reduction, as the Government has granted us 5.8% less than last year. Despite that, we are investing even more in our on-call firefighters, who are so essential to maintaining fire cover in our predominantly rural areas.

Adverse weather

The weekend of 2nd/3rd March saw heavy snow across the Service area. The Fire and Rescue Service were kept busy as part of a multi-agency response to the conditions primarily focussed on ensuring those affected received assistance as appropriate. This included using our 4x4 vehicles to access persons stuck in their vehicles and to assist essential transportation of individuals to hospital, etc.

Response

Total Incidents attended by DWFRS for Calne Area; 01/01/18 – 28/02/18.

DWFRS have responded to 30 incidents on Calne's station ground between the dates above categorised in the table below.

The 5 fires included 3 chimneys.

Category	Total Incidents
False Alarm	16
Fire	5
Special Service	9
Total	30



Community Engagement

Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service provides a free service called a Safe and Well visit. We will visit a person's home by appointment and discuss any safety issues in the home. We will also have a conversation about improving an individual's health and well-being.

If you or someone you know need a smoke alarm, some advice or are worried about what to do in an emergency, contact us for a free Safe and Well visit;

<http://www.dwfire.org.uk/safety/safe-and-well-visits/>

Community Safety Plan

DWFRS Community Safety Plan 2016 – 2020 outlines our plans for the future. It explains the diverse services we provide and how we plan to improve and deliver them over the four-year period. The plan can be found on the DWFRS website <http://www.dwfire.org.uk/community-safety-plan/>

Ade Hurren

Station Manager, North Wiltshire.

Email: ade.hurren@dwfire.org.uk

Tel: 01722 691206 | Mobile: 07739 899635