



DORSET & WILTSHIRE FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

AREA BOARD REPORT SEPTEMBER '21

Community Safety Plan

DWFRS Community Safety Plan can be found on the DWFRS website;
<http://www.dwfire.org.uk/community-safety-plan/>

Prevention

We are committed to making a real difference to the lives of people in Dorset and Wiltshire. Our aim is to reduce the level of risk and harm to our communities from fire, targeting those most at risk. We do this primarily through our Safe and Well visits.

A Safe and Well visit is **FREE** and normally lasts about one hour covering topics such as:

- Using electricity safely
- Cooking safely
- Making an escape plan
- What to do if there is a fire
- Keeping children safe
- Good practice – night time routine and other points relevant to you
- Identifying and discussing any further support the occupier may need

Are you or anyone you know:-

- Over the age of 65?
- Need a smoke detector?
- Have a long-term health condition?
- Suffer from poor hearing or sight loss?
- Would you struggle to escape in the event of a fire?

If you can answer yes to more than one of these questions, then please call us on 0800 038 2323 or visit <https://www.dwfire.org.uk/safety/safe-and-well-visits/>



Protection

On-going interaction by Protection Team members with Local Authorities, Private landlords and tenants regarding fire safety-related matters: external cladding systems; fire detection and warning systems; fire resisting doors (& self-closers); combustibility/fire resistance of construction materials; commercial and residential sprinklers systems and water-mist suppression systems

General Enquiries

If you have a general fire safety enquiry regarding commercial property, please email fire.safety@dwfire.org.uk and the Fire Safety Team will respond in office hours.

Fire Safety Complaint

If you wish to tell us about fire safety risks in commercial premises, such as locked or blocked fire exits, you have three options:

- You can email the fire safety department at enforcement@dwfire.org.uk
- Call 01722 69 1717 during office hours (9am-5pm).
- Call our Service Control Centre on 0306 799 0019 out of office hours (5pm-9am)

On Call Recruitment

Have you always wondered if you could join the fire service, but haven't had the opportunity to find out more? Have you found yourself seeking your next challenge, keen to give back to the local community or wanting to learn new skills including leadership and teamwork? Then becoming an on-call firefighter is for you.

As a paid position, on-call firefighters commit anywhere between 40 to 120 hours per week, during which time they must be able to respond to the station immediately.

Many have 'normal' jobs during the day, then upon their return home make themselves available overnight or during the weekends. Some of our crew respond from their workplaces during the day, and we are very grateful to their employers for releasing them to perform their vital duties.

Anyone over 18 years old can apply (although you can also apply once you are 17½) you must be able to respond and attend the fire station within 5-8 minutes, you have a good standard of physical fitness (i.e. you are generally active), and you must have the right to work in the UK.

Further information on becoming an On Call Firefighter can be found at www.dwfire.org.uk/working-for-us/on-call-firefighters/ or should you have any questions, you can call **01722 691444**.



Recent News & Events

Student accommodation



#WelcomeToLifeAtUni

There are things you can do to improve your safety and security as a student, especially if you're moving into new accommodation.

Every year, around 350 18-24 year olds are injured in accidental house fires started by cigarettes, smoking materials and cooking. Therefore, you need to make sure that you're familiar with the basics of fire and gas safety, as well as home and personal security.

By taking a few sensible precautions, you can help protect yourself from injury – or worse:

For more information please visit:-

<https://www.dwfire.org.uk/safer-housing/student-accomodation/>

Get sweeping for Chimney Fire Safety

Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service (DWFRS) again supported the national Chimney Fire Safety Week, which ran this year from 30 August until 5 September.

Organised by HETAS – the Heating Equipment Testing and Approvals Scheme – as part of the Government's Fire Kills campaign, the awareness week calls for homeowners to act responsibly and get their chimneys swept by an approved sweep. This prevents chimney damage, and, in worst cases, household fires.

Due to the increasing trend of installing solid fuel fires, we are seeing our attendance at such incidents start to increase. A few simple steps in preventing the build-up of soot from catching fire will greatly reduce the need for the fire service to attend such incidents

For more top tips for staying fire safe at home, please visit www.dwfire.org.uk/safety-at-home.



HM Government

Let's keep life moving.

FRESH AIR TESTING FACE COVERINGS APP HANDWASHING

gov.uk/coronavirus



Be one of us



Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service exists to make life safer for people. To do this, we need a dedicated, professional team of Operational and Corporate staff with a diverse range of skills, knowledge and expertise.

We rely on our staff to help us achieve our priorities and objectives, and we aim to develop and maintain a healthy, safe, well-trained workforce which is representative of our community.

We acknowledge that our workforce does not yet represent the communities we serve. In order to broaden our representation, we need to ensure that members of our community have an opportunity to understand our Service, what we do, our values and our culture. We use positive action approaches to help better inform our communities on how we operate and the careers available within the fire Service.

For further explanation on positive action and other aspects of what we do, please visit:-

<https://www.dwfire.org.uk/working-for-us/be-one-of-us/>

Safety outdoors



Fire safety doesn't stop when you leave the house. We want you to keep safe when spending time outside. With more people taking to camping, caravanning, barbecuing and general outdoor leisure, always consider the fire risks.

Why not check out the Fire Kills campaign leaflet on [Fire Safety Outdoors](#) – lots of handy advice!



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Total movements for **Salisbury** Fire Station for period 16th May – 3rd Sept 21:-

Category	Total Incidents
No. of False Alarms	127
No. of Fires	71
No. of Road Traffic Collisions and other Emergencies	103
Total	301

Total movements for **Wilton** Fire Station for period 16th May – 3rd Sept 21:-

Category	Total Incidents
No. of False Alarms	18
No. of Fires	19
No. of Road Traffic Collisions and other Emergencies	36
Total	73

Total movements for **Amesbury** Fire Station for period 16th May – 3rd Sept 21:-

Category	Total Incidents
No. of False Alarms	20
No. of Fires	10
No. of Road Traffic Collisions and other Emergencies	8
Total	*38

* It must be noted that although the figures for Amesbury seem low, at least a further 40 incidents were attended by crews from surrounding stations when Amesbury were not available due to insufficient crew members



Local Incidents of Note *(Images courtesy of Salisbury Journal and Wiltshire Today)*

Since my last report, we have attended a number of fires in properties which have attracted interest from the media. All of these incidents, although stressful to the home owners, were successfully dealt with and no major injuries sustained.

One such incident was a fire in a communal stairwell within a block of residential flats in the Friary and we are working closely with our partners in Wiltshire Council to ensure that these areas which are covered by the Regulatory Reform Order for fire safety are maintained to a high standard and safe to use by those who reside in the properties.

The cause of this incident has been put down to arson and is currently under police investigation.



We have also attended a significant number of agricultural fires due to increased humidity and hot weather. Many of these fires have occurred naturally and are not deemed to be a cause of arson, however these types of fires prove immensely costly for the farmer and also require a large response from the fire service to deal with.



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