



## DORSET & WILTSHIRE FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

### WILTSHIRE AREA BOARD REPORT

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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 60 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/](http://www.dwfire.org.uk/working-for-us/on-call-firefighters/) or should you have any questions, you can call **01722 691444**.



## **Recent News & Events**

### **Local man says thank you after firefighters save his life**



A man whose life was saved by Malmesbury firefighters has been to the fire station to thank them.

Ray Gilson, 75, had been at the town's football club on 7 November for a skittle match when he collapsed, banging his head on a pool table as he fell.

The fire crew were on station for their weekly drill night when a member of the public came in and asked for help. A team of six immediately went to the clubhouse and found Ray to be not breathing and unresponsive.

After starting CPR and using their defibrillator to administer four shocks, the crew successfully restarted Ray's heart and, by the time South Western Ambulance Service took him to hospital, he was conscious and starting to respond to the crew.

After 10 days at Bristol Heart Institute, Ray was able to return to his home in Sutton Benger and is now making a good recovery.

On Monday (19 December), Ray visited Malmesbury fire station to give his personal thanks to Watch Manager Chris Harvey, Crew Manager Jamie Johnstone, and Firefighters Bret Gardiner, Alex Hughes, Neil Risby and Jae Wright.

Mr Gilson said: "The fire service saved my life. I know how lucky I was that they were at the station that evening doing training. I wouldn't have been here if they weren't there that night."



## **DWFRS celebrates after Deputy Chief Fire Officer is recognised in New Year Honours List**



Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service is celebrating with Deputy Chief Fire Officer (DCFO) Derek James today, after he was recognised with a King's Fire Service Medal (KFSM) in the 2023 New Year Honours List.

DCFO James has been recognised for his outstanding leadership and commitment to serving the communities of Dorset & Wiltshire. Derek was instrumental in the formation of Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service and Authority in 2016. Derek's vision helped protect frontline services, while achieving savings of over £8m per year and subsequently securing high ratings from government Inspectors.

## **Driving in adverse conditions**



The best way to be safe in extremely bad weather is to avoid driving at all. However, that's not always possible. In addition, bad weather can be unpredictable and it's common to get caught out while on the road.

For further information, please visit: -

<https://www.dwfire.org.uk/education/road-safety/driving-in-adverse-conditions/>



## **Flooding**



Over recent years, we have seen more and more properties affected by flooding during periods of significant rain.

Flooding can be caused by rivers and watercourses overflowing; it can also be caused by drains and culverts being

unable to cope with excess surface water on the roads. Everyone whose home is at risk of flooding should have a plan of what to do if the worst happens.

Please note, the fire and rescue service may not always be able to help in the event of a flood. While your property may be flooded, there has to be a certain level of water before we can pump it away, and we have to be able to pump it somewhere without it having a detrimental effect elsewhere. This often means waiting until the rain has stopped or the river level has fallen.

As such, a fire crew will not automatically be sent; depending on the volume of calls, we may be able to send an officer to assess the situation and, if they feel that we can assist, they will call for a fire crew. The fire service can only help in certain situations, such as if there is risk to life, or water is affecting electrics, leading to a risk of fire. Please only call 999 if these risks exist.

For further information, please visit: - <https://www.dwfire.org.uk/safety/flooding/>

## **Energy saving tips**



There are various ways to save energy around the home, and every penny counts with the costs of gas and electricity going up as they are. There's lots of advice online about ways to reduce your energy usage – such

as [www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/energy-at-home](http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/energy-at-home)

Please also visit <https://www.dwfire.org.uk/safety/save-safely/energy-saving-tips/> for further information and ideas.



## **Demand**

Total Fire Calls for Malmesbury Fire Station for period;- Oct, Nov, Dec 22 (Q3) = 15

<b>Category</b>	<b>Total Incidents</b>
Deliberate Fires	2
Accidental Dwelling Fires	0
AFA Domestic	1
AFA Non Domestic	5
RTC	1
<b>Total</b>	

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