



Warminster Area Board Report, 2nd November 2017

Chimney Fires

As Autumn and Winter approach our focus moves to Chimney Fires.

A clean chimney can help prevent fires and structural damage to your property. Regular cleaning of your chimney or flue will eliminate the build-up of soot and clear obstructions such as bird or animal nests, leaves and debris.

It is not enough to use a vacuum cleaner and you should make sure that your chimney or flue is inspected regularly.

Chimneys should be swept:

- At least once a year when using smokeless fuels
- At least once a year when using bituminous coal
- Every three months when burning wood
- Once a year when using oil
- Once a year when using gas

The following safety advice should always be followed when lighting an open fire or wood burning stove:

- Don't use flammable liquids such as petrol or paraffin to light your fire.
- Don't burn excessive amounts of paper or rubbish.
- Don't overload the fire with fuel.

When the fire is alight, check the loft space occasionally to make sure there is no smoke leaking from cracks, defective brickwork or mortar joints.

Fireworks

Moving into November we turn our attention to the safe use of Fireworks. If you are putting on a home display you should follow some simple steps to make sure that everyone has a good time without getting hurt:

- Plan your firework display to make it safe and enjoyable.
- Keep fireworks in a closed box and use them one at a time.
- Read and follow the instructions on each firework, using a torch if necessary
- Light the firework at arm's length with a taper and stand well back.
- Keep naked flames, including cigarettes, away from fireworks.
- Never return to a firework once it has been lit.
- Don't put fireworks in pockets and never throw them.
- Direct any rocket fireworks well away from spectators.
- Never use paraffin or petrol on a bonfire.



- Make sure that the fire is out and surroundings are made safe before leaving.

UK law says you must not set off or throw fireworks (including sparklers) in the street or other public places. You must not set off fireworks between 11pm and 7am, except for: Bonfire Night, when the cut off is midnight. New Year's Eve, Diwali and Chinese New Year, when the cut off is 1am.

'Safe and Well' and 'Health and Well-Being'

The Service is looking to work with the Group to supply information on vulnerable households through our software programme '**Pinpoint**'. This will identify the high risk premises, within the Warminster Community Area, and allow both the Service and local groups to engage in joint working and information sharing in order to protect the most vulnerable members of our community.

Response

Incidents

August 2017

Category	Warminster
False Alarm	12
Fire	1
RTC	2
Other	0
Total	15

September 2017

Category	Warminster
False Alarm	10
Fire	4
RTC	2
Other	2
Total	18



Availability of RDS appliances %

August 2017	Appliance	Day (06:00 - 18:00)	Night (18:00 - 06:00)	Total
% Available	KT45P1 Warminster	99.7%	100.0%	99.9%
% Available	KT45P2 Warminster	45.2%	64.8%	55.0%

September 2017	Appliance	Day (06:00 - 18:00)	Night (18:00 - 06:00)	Total
% Available	KT45P1 Warminster	99.2%	100.0%	99.6%
% Available	KT45P2 Warminster	70.6%	78.3%	74.4%

On-Call Recruitment

The “Difficult Hours” for On-Call cover tends to be 0700 to 1800hrs weekdays, and weekends from 1800hrs Friday until 1800 hours Sunday.

Community Engagement Work

Natasha Viljoen is the Safe and Well Advisor that covers this area, as well as Warminster. Please contact her, natasha.viljoen@dwfire.org.uk to arrange for her to talk to your group or an individual visit.

A Safe and Well visit is available and is **FREE** and normally last 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 you may need if necessary

If you own/occupy a thatch property, are living alone, have a young family, are over 65 or a smoker please get in contact with us. We want to help make you safer in your own home. If you or someone you know has mobility or sight and hearing impairments please suggest a Safe and Well visit.

Visit <http://www.dwfire.org.uk/news/new-name-new-contact-details-same-service/> to book one.

Darren Nixon
District Commander Warminster, Mere & Tisbury
Email: darren.nixon@dwfire.org.uk
Tel: 01722 691238
Mobile: 07860 345294