



**DORSET & WILTSHIRE
FIRE AND RESCUE**

DORSET & WILTSHIRE FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

PEWSEY AREA BOARD REPORT 02/09/19

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/>



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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

Barbecues



Barbecues are great when the sun is shining and you have friends and family to visit, but they do carry a fire risk.

- Always position the barbecue on a level site, away from wooden fencing, sheds and hedges.
- Don't place the barbecue on dry grass or vegetation.
- Use firelighters or barbecue fuel to light the coals – NEVER use petrol or paraffin.
- Keep children and pets well away from the cooking area and never leave the barbecue unattended.
- Be careful when grilling fatty foods, as the fat can cause the coals to flare up.
- Don't move the barbecue until it is completely cool, and make sure any remaining charcoal is cold before disposing of it carefully. Ideally use water to damp down the ashes.
- If using a disposable barbecue, make sure it is completely cold before disposal.
- NEVER dispose of hot barbecue ashes in plastic rubbish bins as this can easily start a fire.
- Always have a bucket of water or garden hose to hand in case a barbecue gets out of hand.
- Make sure the controls and cylinder valves of a gas barbecue are turned off before you change the cylinder, which should be done in a well-ventilated area. Always check the connections for leaks.
- Store gas cylinders outside and protect them from direct sunlight and frost.
- Make sure your gas barbecue is correctly serviced and that all joints are tightened, safe and secure.
- Never use a barbecue indoors or inside a tent, as they produce potentially lethal carbon monoxide.



Heath fires and countryside safety



When you are out and about enjoying the countryside, there are some things you can do in order to protect our beautiful surroundings and keep you safe.

Large wildfires are thankfully rare but, when they do occur, they can be very serious and affect large areas of the countryside. They also take a great deal of resources to bring under control, which impacts the availability of appliances for property fires and other emergencies.

The Upton Heath fire in Dorset in 2011, for example, damaged approximately 250 acres of the heath and required the mobilisation of 30 fire engines and 11 Land Rovers.

Wildfires can ravish the local wildlife, destroying ecosystems in a matter of hours that have taken years to build up. If a wildfire encroaches upon farmland, then crops and farm buildings can be consumed, and homes that border heathland can also be at risk.

At their worst, wildfires can cause death or injury to people. A developed wildfire creates its own wind, which drives it at speeds faster than people can get out of its way.

Steps you can take to avoid starting a wildfire:

- Avoid open fires in the countryside. If you must have a fire, make sure that you're in a designated safe area.
- Put out cigarettes and other smoking materials properly before you leave your vehicle.
- Do not throw cigarette ends out of your vehicle. They could start a fire and destroy surrounding countryside.
- Don't leave bottles or glass in woodlands, as sunlight shining through the glass can cause a fire to start. Take the items home or put them in a waste or recycling bin.
- If you see a fire in the countryside, report it immediately. Do not try to tackle a fire yourself; usually they can't be put out with a bucket of water. Please call the fire service and leave the area as soon as possible.



- Ensure that you know your location or a landmark so you can direct the fire service.

Response

Total Fire Calls for Pewsey Fire Station for period: July and August 2019

Category	Total Incidents
No. of False Alarms	7
No. of Fires	14
No. of Road Traffic Collisions and other Emergencies	8
No. Of Medical emergencies	
Total	29

Incidents of Note

Paraglider stuck in tree – 12th August





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Parachutist on roof – 7th July



RTC, Milton Lilbourne – 21st August





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Field Fire, Collingbourne Ducis – 26th August



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