



## 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 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/](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

### Pumpkins, Bonfires and Fireworks



Win a VIP trip to a fire station and younger children be fire safe this Halloween and Bonfire Night.

The fun of Halloween and Bonfire night will soon be here, but while having fun it is important that the whole family know how to stay safe, and what to do if there is an accident.

Help younger children understand how they can help keep themselves safe from harm by visiting our Halloween and Bonfire Night Staying Safe resource:-

<https://www.dwfire.org.uk/education/pumpkins-bonfires-and-fireworks/>

### Road Safety Roadshow Live again with Arval UK's support

'Safe Drive Stay Alive' roadshow has returned to the schools of Wiltshire to ensure its life-saving messages still reach young people.

Covid-19 meant the flagship road safety programme, which is aimed at Year 11-13 students had to be delivered digitally. Now that restrictions have lifted, schools once again have the option to view the presentation live.

Safe Drive Stay Alive held its first live Wiltshire roadshow on 30 September at the Royal Wootton Bassett Academy, and more have been held and booked for schools across the county throughout the academic year.

The relaunch of the roadshow wouldn't be possible without the help and kind support from Arval UK.



Our firefighters are holding a number of car washes this weekend (30-31 October) in aid of the [Fire Fighters Charity](#).

## Firefighters save house in Melksham amid plea for new recruits

Assistant Chief Fire Officer Andy Cole said: "Firefighters did a great job of saving the house involved in this incident. This fire occurred about 150m from Melksham Fire Station but unfortunately, due to lack of available firefighters, Melksham was not available to attend.

He added: "We have and continue to try to recruit on-call firefighters across Dorset and Wiltshire, this type of incident shows exactly why we need these new recruits. Whilst we will always make sure a fire engine responds to an incident when it is needed, in this case it took firefighters from Trowbridge 11 minutes from the call to arrive, if Melksham had been available, this response time could have been cut dramatically."

On-call firefighters are **paid members of staff** who respond to their local station when they are required to attend incidents and help their local community. They receive the same levels of training and support as their full time colleagues. We are particularly interested in hearing from females or those from underrepresented groups. If you are interested in becoming an on-call firefighter, please find out more on our website <https://www.dwfire.org.uk/working-for-us/on-call-firefighters/>



## First SPECTRA course held

Previously known as Salamander in the North and SPARC in the South, our personal development courses are now being delivered under the banner of SPECTRA.

The first course was held in Swindon and culminated with a passout parade on 6 October where Deputy Lieutenants of Wiltshire, Shirley Ludford and Claire Garret, and the High Sheriff of Wiltshire, Sir Charles Hobhouse Bt, helped to celebrate the learners' achievements.

SPECTRA courses can be delivered for young people and adults, and can be tailored to meet a certain cohort or commissioner's needs. For more information, please visit [www.dwfire.org.uk/SPECTRA](http://www.dwfire.org.uk/SPECTRA)





## Demand

Total Fire Calls for Melksham Fire Station for period 1<sup>st</sup> September – 1 December 2021-

| Category   | Total Incidents   |
|--|---|
| No. of False Alarms                                  | 31  |
| No. of Fires   | Kitchen – 1<br>Open, small – 3<br>Car – 1<br>Post box – 1<br>Garage – 1<br>Domestic – 1<br>Electrical - 1 |
| No. of Road Traffic Collisions and other Emergencies | Co-Responder – 2<br>Gain access – 6<br>Release of person – 1<br>Assist other agency – 1<br>RTC - 2        |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>52</b>   |

### Local Incidents of Note

There have been no local incidents of note

**David Geddes**

**Station Manager**

**Email: David.geddes@dwfire.org.uk**

**Mobile: 07826 532607**