

## **TIDWORTH AREA BOARD REPORT FOR AUGUST 2018**

### **Community Engagement**

The Fire Service continue to offer Safe & Well visits to residents and if you or someone you know is in need a working smoke alarm to be fitted or needs some fire safety advice in the home or are just worried about what to do in an emergency then you can contact us at; <http://www.dwfire.org.uk/safety/safe-and-well-visits/>

We will arrange for one of our trained advisors or fire crews to pop round and discuss your requirements and needs, give you some top tips for fire safety within the home and if you meet our criteria for free smoke alarm installation we will also do that during the visit.

Ludgershall Fire Station has a proactive Facebook account and I would encourage everyone to follow the station by searching for Ludgershall fire station on Facebook. The page is updated to show incidents the station have attended, training sessions and community events where crews will be attending.

### **Reducing your risk of fire**

At this time of year we see an increase in fires involving chimneys. Chimney fires can develop into roof fires in the right conditions with devastating effects. This is especially true with thatched roof properties.

To reduce your risk of a chimney fire we recommend:

- Ensuring any works carried out are by a registered professional
- Sweep your chimney at least twice a year – in autumn and early spring
- Keep your chimney in good working order, for example by fitting a bird guard to prevent birds nesting in the flue.

Chimneys should be swept :

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

When your fire is alight, check the loft space occasionally to make sure no smoke is leaking into the roof space from cracked joints or defective brickwork.

For more chimney fire safety visit:

<http://www.dwfire.org.uk/safety/safety-at-home/chimney-safety>

For more information on Thatch fire safety visit:

<http://www.dwfire.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/DWFire-Thatched-Living.pdf>

## Response

### **Total Emergency Calls for Ludgershall Fire station: 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2018- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sep 2018**

| Category        | Callsign | Total Incidents |
|-----------------|----------|-----------------|
| False Alarm     | 36P1     | 3               |
| Fire            | 36P1     | 6               |
| Other           | 36P1     | 0               |
| Special Service | 36P1     | 5               |
| 4 x 4 pump      | 36M2     | 7               |
| <b>Total</b>    |          | <b>21</b>       |

**Other** – This can be a movement to another fire station to provide fire cover during an ongoing incident.

### **Availability of On-Call appliance 36P1:**

| Appliance   | Day (06:00 - 18:00) | Night (18:00 - 06:00) | Total         |
|-------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| <b>36P1</b> | <b>60.76%</b>       | <b>74.5%</b>          | <b>67.63%</b> |

The reduced figures during the day are attributed to possible course attendance as part of a Firefighters requirement to maintain competence, personnel taking annual leave or due to fulltime work commitments where individuals work outside of the town and cannot supply us cover.

## On-Call Recruitment

As the Availability table shows, crewing of your appliance falls below our ideal expectations of 100%. We continue to strive and improve on the number of personnel at each station through our recruitment process so we can improve the amount of hours our appliances are available for call outs.

The local appliances are only available to attend calls due to the commitment given by those who live and work within your community.

If you are able to give some of your time or know someone who may be interested in joining our 'On-call' teams then why not pop into Ludgershall Fire Station on a Wednesday evening between 7pm and 9pm. Crews are not volunteers but are paid a salary to train and respond to emergency calls.

Check out our website : [www.dwfire.org.uk](http://www.dwfire.org.uk) for more information or contact us on our recruitment hotline : 01722 691444



### **Recent Notable Incidents**

Ludgershall have attended multiple road traffic collisions within the reporting period, thankfully there have been no major injuries. DWFRS urges drivers to drive safely at all times, within the speed limits and always give the road your full attention.

### **Community Safety Plan**

Our Community Safety Plan is our vision until 2022 and can be found on the DWFRS website; <http://www.dwfire.org.uk/community-safety-plan/>

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