

## **MARLBOROUGH AREA BOARD REPORT FOR DECEMBER AND JANUARY 2019**

### **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.

Marlborough and Ramsbury Fire Stations have proactive Twitter accounts and I would encourage everyone to follow the station by searching for Marlborough or Ramsbury fire station on Twitter. The page is updated to show incidents the station has 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>

Test your smoke alarm – we are running a #Testit Tuesday campaign to remind people to check their smoke alarms every Tuesday. It takes seconds to push the button and make sure this vital piece of kit is working.

### Response

#### **Total Emergency Calls for Marlborough Fire station; 1/12/2018 – 26/01/2019**

Category	Callsign	Total Incidents
False Alarm	55P1	13
Fire	55P1	3
Other	55P1	
Special Service	55P1	6
P2	55P1	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>23</b>

#### **Availability of On-Call appliance 55P1:**

Appliance	Day	Night	Total
55P1	94.11%	99.47%	96.79%

#### **Total Emergency Calls for Ramsbury Fire station; 1/12/2018 – 26/01/2019**

Category	Callsign	Total Incidents
False Alarm	53P1	
Fire	53P1	
Other	53P1	
Special Service	53P1	1
Water Carrier	53P1	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>2</b>

#### **Availability of On-Call appliance 53P1:**

Appliance	Day	Night	Total
53P1	19.64%	88.66%	54.15%



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 appliances 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 increase the number 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 one of the stations on a Monday 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

### **Recruitment Drive**

A red banner with white text and graphics. The main text reads 'RECRUITING NOW!' in large, bold, white capital letters. Below this, there are three icons: a phone, a globe, and a person. Next to the phone icon is the number '01722 691444'. Next to the globe icon is the website 'dwfire.org.uk'. Next to the person icon is the text 'Or pop in on our training evening'. To the right of these icons is the Dorset &amp; Wiltshire Fire and Rescue logo. Below the logo is the text 'DORSET &amp; WILTSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE'. At the bottom left of the banner, there is a white box containing the text 'PASSIONATE ABOUT CHANGING &amp; SAVING LIVES' in red and black.

To capture a greater number of people who are eligible to respond to Ramsbury fire station, we have enlarged the responding area to include Aldbourne. This may mean a slight delay in the Ramsbury fire engine responding to an incident, but as a Service we feel it is better than having an appliance come from Swindon, Hungerford or beyond.

The On-Call Support Officer for the area assisted by the Watch Manager of Ramsbury are carrying out a PR and recruitment campaign in Aldbourne and the surrounding area.

If you live in Aldbourne please spread the word and check out our Facebook and Twitter pages for further recruitment events.



## National Recruitment Campaign

### National support for new on-call campaign

DWFRS has been supporting the National Fire Chiefs Council's national campaign encouraging people to become on-call firefighters.

The 'Need More' awareness week ran from 7 January, supported by a national website - [www.oncallfire.uk](http://www.oncallfire.uk)

The branding and marketing campaign was developed by the NFCC On-Call Steering Group, in response to the Home Office asking 'why does the fire service find it so hard to recruit retained firefighters?'

A report funded by the Home Office found that the general public doesn't know what a 'retained firefighter' is, as the term is not widely understood outside the realms of the fire and rescue service and doesn't really describe what the role involves.

On-call is a term used in other sectors, so is more likely to be understood. The research project explored the use of different terms in some depth, and all FRSs are now encouraged to use 'on-call' for external facing communications.

The new website links enquiries to each individual FRS, while also providing data and analytics on who is applying and which areas may need further recruitment support going forward.

It also gives advice to employers about how having on-call firefighters within their business can bring advantages. These include health & safety and medical response training, as well as developing situational awareness, leadership skills and the ability to work under pressure.

The NFCC is currently working up an employers' guide, which will be released in the coming months. A firefighter fitness guide has already been produced and can be found at [www.dwfire.org.uk/needmore-campaign](http://www.dwfire.org.uk/needmore-campaign)

Advertising resources were developed by Hampshire FRS, and were used across social media. Further promotional material will be produced through 2019, and DWFRS is looking to organise a local recruitment campaign later in the year.



## 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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