



# Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service

Wiltshire and Swindon Fire Authority

## Report for Devizes Area Board – March 2011

### Fires

WFRS attended 10 accidental fires in the Boards area during the months of January and February 2011. These incidents involve 6 chimneys, a rubbish bin, a car, a gas oven because of unattended cooking and a bonfire.

We were also called to attend 1 deliberate fire over the same period involving a commercial vehicle. WFRS continues to liaise with other agencies to reduce deliberate fire setting.

### Injuries

No individuals have been injured through any fire related incident that we have attended during January and February 2011.

### RTC'S

We have attended 3 Road Traffic Collisions within the Boards area.

### Community Safety

#### Use Spring cleaning to make your home safer!

Entering the month of March heralds the start of Spring cleaning for many, and Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service is emphasising the importance of keeping your home tidy and therefore safer from fire.

Group Manager Perry Payne, from the community safety department, said: "If there is a lot of rubbish in or around the property, a fire could spread much more quickly. Equally, hoarding items near doors and windows could make it harder to escape if fire breaks out in your home. We're asking people to think about fire safety when they tackle their Spring cleaning - it could save a life."

Follow this simple advice:

- Never empty cigarettes or other smoking materials into bins in the house. Empty them into a separate metal container with a lid and preferably place outside.
- In the house, make sure your escape route through external doors is not blocked.
- Close all doors before going to bed at night.
- Never burn rubbish on an open fire in the home and always have a fireguard in place.
- Try and keep combustible rubbish away from the property and out-buildings - if it catches fire or is set alight, it could spread.

Group Manager Payne added: "We all have a part to play in helping to create a cleaner and safer environment. Our experience as firefighters tells us that, all too often, fires could have been prevented and we want to stop them starting in the first place."

For a range of advice on fire safety in the home, and information about home fire safety checks, visit [www.wiltsfire.gov.uk](http://www.wiltsfire.gov.uk)