



Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service

Wiltshire and Swindon Fire Authority

Agenda Item No.08b

Report for Corsham Area Board

Fires

We saw an increase in the number of accidental fires that we attended during the months of November and December 2009 within the Boards area. There were 6 incidents of this type which included 5 dwelling fires. 3 of these involved chimney fires, with the remaining 2 involving a wooden item being left on the top of a cooker hob and the other being a flat fire that was initially started by smoking materials. The remaining incident involved an industrial oven.

We did see a decrease in the number of deliberate fires we attended during the same period. All 3 incidents involved vehicles being destroyed or severely damaged by fire.

Injuries

No individuals have been injured through any fire related incident that we have attended during November or December.

RTCs

We have attended 3 Road Traffic Collisions within the Boards area. Year 11 students from The Corsham School attended our Safe Drive Stay Alive Road Show at The Olympiad in November.

Community Safety

Community Fire Safety Activities are continuing to focus on Chimney Fire Safety following an increase in calls to chimney fires last winter. People with open fires, wood stoves and flame effect gas fires are encouraged to get their chimneys swept and flues checked regularly. We are also reminding the public about the dangers of seasonal weather including snow, ice and flood on the road and to stay off of frozen rivers and lakes. With reference to the incidents that we have recently attended it would seem opportune to remind individuals to fully extinguish and cool their cigarettes before placing them in a kitchen bin and to store smoking materials safely and out of reach of children.

It is also important not to place items on the hob of a cooker, even if it is only intended to be for a short time. It is easy to get distracted allowing a fire to occur.

The Home Office website called the 'Fire Gateway' through which we receive or process many of our requests for Home Fire Safety Checks is closing on 22nd January 2010.

Therefore from 22nd January 2010 there will be a link placed on our Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service website. This will link people to forms they can fill in whilst on line requesting a Home Fire Safety Check, Community Event visit and School visit or talk.

For further information please visit www.direct.gov.uk/firekills