



## Royal Wootton Bassett & Cricklade Area Board Report

This report is for the period 01.11.11- 30.11.11

### Activities:

<b>FIRES</b>	
Accidental Fires attended	3
Deliberate Fires attended	1
<b>Total Fires</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>No of Co-responding calls(for ambulance service)</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>No of Road Traffic Collisions attended</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>No of fire related deaths</b>	<b>NIL</b>
<b>No of fire related injuries</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>No of Home Fire Safety visits</b>	<b>14</b>

### FREE HOME FIRE SAFETY VISITS:

We offer to carry out free Home Fire Safety visits and supply and fit free smoke alarms to any of the following members of our community:

- Over 65;
- Households with children under 5;
- Residents with life limiting mental or physical conditions;
- Households where adults have never worked;
- Those who live in caravans, boats or mobile homes;
- Thatched properties

**Simply telephone 0800 389 7849 to book your free Home Fire Safety visit**

## Accidental Domestic Dwelling Fires Update

*Financial year to date April 2011- September 2011*

Across the Wilts FRS area there have been 186 accidental dwelling fires during the above period. 43 of those fire where chimney fires.

Of all the accidental dwelling fires...

- 47% occurred during 3pm and 9pm
- 67% occurred in a house with single occupancy
- 43% were caused by adults (18-64)
- 25% were caused by elderly (65 plus)
  
- 68% started in the kitchen
- 7% started in the bedroom
  
- 59% of incidents had a smoke alarm system present
- 17% had no smoke alarm system present

### Chimney Fires:

With the statistic concerning the level of chimney fires that we have dealt with since April I again provide the following information:

Chimneys for wood burning fires should be swept every three months when in use. If you burn smokeless fuels or bituminous coal, the chimney should be cleaned at least once a year. An annual clean is sufficient for oil and gas fires.

Other safety tips include:

- Have the chimney properly swept – using a vacuum cleaner alone is not sufficient.
- Make sure your fire receives enough air to allow the fuel to burn properly.
- Only burn suitable fuels.
- Do not overload the grate or appliance.
- Maintain your appliance in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- Use a fire or spark guard to prevent accidental fires.
- Inspect your chimney breast, particularly in the roof space. Make sure that it is sound and that the sparks or fumes cannot escape through cracks or broken bricks.
- Make sure you are not at risk from carbon monoxide poisoning by having appliances installed and serviced by competent engineers. Fit a carbon monoxide detector and never block air bricks, vents or flues.
- Extinguish the fire before going to bed or leaving the house

**For further information on home fire safety, visit [www.wiltsfire.gov.uk](http://www.wiltsfire.gov.uk)**

Michael R Franklin

Partnerships & Community Engagement Manager

December 2011

