



**Wiltshire
Fire & Rescue
Service**

Briefing report for Bradford on Avon; Trowbridge and Westbury Area Boards



Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service has grouped together neighbouring fire stations into station hubs, to work more effectively and efficiently, supporting each other to improve the service we provide.

Responding to incidents:

Your Area Board's / Locality's communities immediate emergency response will be provided by staff at these stations and where necessary additional support from staff and specialist equipment from other stations.

Prevention work:

Staff from other departments also provide the community with specialist services giving fire safety and road safety advice and interventions such as talks and visits.

Protection work:

Specialist staff provide expert knowledge, give advice and undertake enforcement action working very closely with the planning authorities to keep communities safe from fire.

In an **emergency dial 999**, for other non urgent matters you can either visit our website: www.wiltfire.gov.uk or contact the following people:

	<u>Manager / Department</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>email</u>
Operational matters	Station Manager – Andy GREEN Trowbridge, Bradford-on_Avon, Westbury Station Hub		andy.green@wiltfire.gov.uk
Partnership and community engagement issues	Michael Franklin (Wiltshire Council Area)	07919 306037	mike.franklin@wiltfire.gov.uk
Home fire safety visits and for talks and visits	Community safety department	0800 389 7849	www.wiltfire.gov.uk and then complete the on line request

Trowbridge

Crews from Trowbridge fire station were mobilized 54 times during January and February. They attended 5 Road Traffic Collisions (RTC), including over the border assistance to Somerset. One of the incidents had a seriously injured casualty.

Water R trained fire fighters saved a man who had driven into 3 foot deep flood water between Staverton and Holt, this incident received BBC Points West Coverage. A firefighter at Trowbridge is working on a project with some of our partner agencies to reduce the risk in this known flood area.

Two fire appliance pumps were sent to a serious flood affecting the electrical circuit in a house in Southwick. The flood was caused by a blocked down pipe from a flat roof, simple routine checking can prevent these often costly occurrences.

Trowbridge's Heavy Rescue Unit was mobilized four times to RTCs and to stabilise a building hit by a car.

Crews also attended two domestic fires involving ovens; including one resulting the rescue of a very luck dog. An electric hob ring had been left slightly on and set fire to some items piled on the top.

A fire in a spray paint machine was attended by two pumps.

Bradford on Avon

Crews from the station had 26 mobilisations

14 were for co responder calls in support of the Ambulance Service

1 RTC in on the Somerset border

1 Oven Fire.

Westbury

10 mobilisations

RTC into Somerset

Crews also attended two chimney fires, one in a house with a thatched roof.

Station Manager Andy GREEN
Trowbridge Fire Station

New on-call firefighters needed in Bradford on Avon

If you live or work in Bradford on Avon, and are interested in becoming an on-call firefighter, then Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service wants to hear from you!

More people are needed to provide fire cover for the town and its surrounding communities. On-call firefighters respond to a pager when a 999 call is made locally, and cover is needed at all times.

Contracted hours can vary, but on-call personnel usually make themselves available for between 48 and 120 hours per week. Between them, each fire station team will provide cover for weekdays, evenings, nights and weekends.

Bradford on Avon fire station is situated in Station Approach, and the crew drills every Monday evening, between 7pm and 9pm.

Station Manager Andy Green said: "The team at Bradford on Avon is really committed to helping the community, but we do need more people to join us, especially offering day cover. Anyone interested in being a firefighter can call in at the fire station on a Monday evening or visit our website www.wiltshire.gov.uk/workingforus"

He added: "On-call firefighters receive the same training and development as wholetime colleagues, and can be called to all sorts of emergencies, including fires, road traffic collisions, animal rescues and flooding. The pay does vary, depending on how much cover you give, but it is really rewarding to be a part of your community and be in a position to help people."

In order to be on-call, you will need to be able to respond to the fire station within five minutes or so when your pager goes off. This can be from home or work, and employers can benefit from a firefighter's training – such as first aid, manual handling, a greater understanding of health & safety in the workplace, and enhanced team spirit.

Warning given over dangers of chip pans

Last year, over half of all accidental fires in the home in England were linked to cooking. Many of these were caused by deep fat frying, and over 3,000 people are injured in these kinds of fires each year.

Deep frying requires heating a large volume of oil to extremely high temperatures. The oil can cause terrible burns, and it can go up in flames. In fact, it's an ideal fuel for a fire and, as such, it's difficult to put out. Homemade chips are great, but the safest way to deep fry is to use a thermostat controlled deep fat fryer rather than a chip pan, as the thermostat stops it from overheating - or, even better, use oven chips!"

Top tips for cooking are:

- Never fill a chip pan more than a third full of oil.
- Take care when cooking with oil - it sets alight easily.
- If the oil starts to smoke, it's too hot. Turn off the heat and leave it to cool.
- Ideally, use a thermostat controlled deep fat fryer, which can't overheat.
- Don't leave cooking unattended - a forgotten pan can lead to disaster.
- If you've consumed alcohol, don't be tempted to cook with a chip pan.
- Avoid children being in the kitchen alone when cooking on the hob.

If a pan does catch fire:

- Don't take any risks. Turn off the heat if it is safe to do so but don't try and move the pan.
- NEVER throw water over the fire - that will cause a fireball.
Don't tackle the fire yourself - get out, stay out, call 999.

Michael Franklin

Partnerships & Community Engagement Manager(Wiltshire Council area)

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