

AGENDA ITEM 6

WILTSHIRE FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE UPDATE REPORT

Fire & Rescue response to the Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Area Board area is primarily provided by Cricklade and Wootton Bassett fire stations. However, the area is closely supported by nearby stations such as Malmesbury, Calne, Chippenham and of course Westlea and Swindon.

One of the Wiltshire F&RS main strategies to reduce the instances of accident dwelling fires, associated fire deaths and injuries is to carry out targeted Home Safety Checks (HSC). During the period 01/04/08 – 31/01/09 a total of 296 HSCs have been carried out by Wilts F&RS staff and our partner agency The Bobby Van.

Incidents attended in January by Fire Station

Type of incident	Cricklade	Wootton Bassett
Road Traffic Collisions (persons trapped)	2	0
Deliberate Fires	1	0
Accidental Fires	0	3
Co-responding for GW Ambulance	1	13

We have seen an increase in chimney fires across the whole of the North Wiltshire area between 1011008 and 310109 compared with the same period 2007/2008. This could be attributed to open fires and wood burning stoves being fashionable nowadays. However, the economic downturn could also be another factor, where people are looking for alternatives to alleviate the high costs of gas and electricity.

We have issued press releases through various local media routes to highlight the importance of getting chimneys swept regularly and about general routine maintenance.

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