



**DORSET & WILTSHIRE  
FIRE AND RESCUE**

## **DORSET & WILTSHIRE FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE**

### **WILTSHIRE AREA BOARD REPORT**

#### **Community Safety Plan**

DWFRS Community Safety Plan can be found on the DWFRS website;  
<http://www.dwfire.org.uk/community-safety-plan/>

#### **Prevention**

We are committed to making a real difference to the lives of people in Dorset and Wiltshire. Our aim is to reduce the level of risk and harm to our communities from fire, targeting those most at risk. We do this primarily through our Safe and Well visits.

A Safe and Well visit is **FREE** and normally lasts about one hour covering topics such as:

- Using electricity safely
- Cooking safely
- Making an escape plan
- What to do if there is a fire
- Keeping children safe
- Good practice – night time routine and other points relevant to you
- Identifying and discussing any further support the occupier may need

Are you or anyone you know:-

- Over the age of 65?
- Need a smoke detector?
- Have a long-term health condition?
- Suffer from poor hearing or sight loss?
- Would you struggle to escape in the event of a fire?

If you can answer yes to more than one of these questions, then please call us on 0800 038 2323 or visit <https://www.dwfire.org.uk/safety/safe-and-well-visits/>



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## Protection

On-going interaction by Protection Team members with Local Authorities, Private landlords and tenants regarding fire safety-related matters: external cladding systems; fire detection and warning systems; fire resisting doors (& self-closers); combustibility/fire resistance of construction materials; commercial and residential sprinklers systems and water-mist suppression systems

### **General Enquiries**

If you have a general fire safety enquiry regarding commercial property, please email [fire.safety@dwfire.org.uk](mailto:fire.safety@dwfire.org.uk) and the Fire Safety Team will respond in office hours.

### **Fire Safety Complaint**

If you wish to tell us about fire safety risks in commercial premises, such as locked or blocked fire exits, you have three options:

- You can email the fire safety department at [enforcement@dwfire.org.uk](mailto:enforcement@dwfire.org.uk)
- Call 01722 69 1717 during office hours (9am-5pm).
- Call our Service Control Centre on 0306 799 0019 out of office hours (5pm-9am)

## On Call Recruitment

Have you always wondered if you could join the fire service, but haven't had the opportunity to find out more? Have you found yourself seeking your next challenge, keen to give back to the local community or wanting to learn new skills including leadership and teamwork? Then becoming an on-call firefighter is for you.

As a paid position, on-call firefighters commit anywhere between 40 to 120 hours per week, during which time they must be able to respond to the station immediately.

Many have 'normal' jobs during the day, then upon their return home make themselves available overnight or during the weekends. Some of our crew respond from their workplaces during the day, and we are very grateful to their employers for releasing them to perform their vital duties.

Anyone over 18 years old can apply (although you can also apply once you are 17½) you must be able to respond and attend the fire station within 5-8 minutes, you have a good standard of physical fitness (i.e. you are generally active), and you must have the right to work in the UK.

Further information on becoming an On Call Firefighter can be found at [www.dwfire.org.uk/working-for-us/on-call-firefighters/](http://www.dwfire.org.uk/working-for-us/on-call-firefighters/) or should you have any questions, you can call **01722 691444**.



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## **Recent News & Events**

### **Signposting information for witnesses following incidents**

The road safety team at Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service have overseen a project producing signposting information for members of the public who witness, but are not directly involved in, an incident.

Experiencing something as unexpected as a fire, a collision, or any other form of rescue can be difficult, particularly in instances where suffering or loss of life have been witnessed. Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service's own firefighters experience this difficulty on a daily basis and appreciate the impact the trauma an incident can have on wellbeing.

More information about where to find support or guidance at <https://www.dwfire.org.uk/about-us/what-we-do/help-following-an-incident/>

### **Working with Age UK**

The Service has entered a formal partnership with Age UK in North, South and West Dorset (NSWD) to provide additional support to elderly and vulnerable residents in these areas.

Under the agreement, we will train staff at Age UK NSW on our Safe & Well programme, so they can help to identify vulnerable people at greater risk of fire and make referrals for a home visit.

Andy Woods, Safe & Well Team Leader for Research and Partnerships, said: "I am looking forward to meeting and training all Age UK NSW staff on our Safe & Well programme, enabling them to spot the signs, hazards and risk factors associated with fire, and enabling them to make a referral to us. Our hope is that this new partnership will be both successful and productive in the future."

Alongside this joint working, the Service's various safety messages will be made available to Age UK NSW for sharing through their different channels, and the charity will be utilising the community rooms at local fire stations once Covid restrictions ease. A virtual agreement signing ceremony was held last month.



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## Shared and rented accommodation



People living in rented or shared accommodation are seven times more likely to have a fire than someone living in a home they own.

### **Landlords' obligations**

If you live in privately rented accommodation, your landlord has to meet certain safety obligations under the law. This includes making sure all gas and electric appliances are safe and in good working order.

The Fire Kills campaign has produced a leaflet on [Fire Safety In Shared or Rented Accommodation](#).

## Be Water Aware



Do you and the children in your care know what to do if they fall into water unexpectedly? Do they know what to do if they are swimming or playing in water and find themselves out of depth or scared? Do they know what to do if they see someone else scared in the water?

There is a plethora of 'be water aware' information available on our website, please visit:-

<https://www.dwfire.org.uk/education/be-water-aware/>



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## Demand

Total Fire Calls for Melksham Fire Station for period April – May 2021:-

Category	Total Incidents
No. of False Alarms	21 - (no trends identified)
No. of Fires	1 - Chimney 1 – Electrical installation 8 – Small fires in open 1 – Derelict building 5 – small domestic fires
No. of Road Traffic Collisions and other Emergencies	1 – Rescue from height 7 – Gain access 3 – Assist Ambulance 2 – Co- responder 1 – Small animal rescue 3 – Lock in (persons) 2 – Dangerous structures 1 - RTC
<b>Total</b>	<b>56</b>

### Local Incidents of Note

There were no incidents of note within the reporting period.

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