

COST OF LIVING SUPPORT

With the rising cost of living making this a challenging time for many, we want to make sure residents across Hampshire and Isle of Wight know how to keep themselves, their loved ones and their homes safe from fire.

We need the support of our valued and trusted partners to help us reach and support the most vulnerable members of our community who may be in fuel hardship.

Our five Cs: carbon monoxide, cooking, clothing, candles, chimneys, highlight home fire safety risks that people may be taking as they respond to increased living costs.

HOW WE CAN HELP - SAFE AND WELL VISITS

We're now offering Safe and Well home fire safety visits to even more members of our communities to help protect them and their homes from fire at this challenging time.

During a Safe and Well visit we will:

- **Identify any potential fire risks** and discuss with the occupier how they can prevent or reduce the risk
- **Ensure occupants have working smoke alarms**, install where necessary, and advise on maintenance and testing
- **Ensure occupants have carbon monoxide detectors**, where needed, install if necessary and discuss the dangers
- **Help put together a household escape plan** and identify any mobility issues that may impede an evacuation
- **Issue fire retardant bedding, furniture throws and nightwear** where needed
- **Give basic advice** on topics such as falls prevention and smoking



WHO DO WE VISIT?

- Those you're concerned might be struggling with fuel hardship
- Ages 65 and over
- Evidence of fire risk concerns - e.g. burn marks on bedding and furniture
- Signs of hoarding
- Signs of unsafe cooking practices
- Hearing impairments - might not hear a smoke detector sounding
- Cognitive impairments that would impact their response and ability to evacuate
- Mobility impairments that would impact their ability to evacuate
- Anyone who is substance or alcohol dependant

THE 5 Cs



Carbon Monoxide

Do you know it's your landlord's job to make sure a carbon monoxide alarm is fitted in your home?



Cooking

Barbecues and camping stoves are unsafe to use indoors and put you at risk of carbon monoxide poisoning



Chimneys

Get yours swept and checked professionally if you're planning to light an open fire this winter



Clothing

Beware where you dry clothes. Clothes can get caught on electric heaters and burn



Candles

Keep lit candles away from curtains and bedding and be sure to blow out when you leave the room

Look out for these signs that may indicate someone you meet is struggling with fuel costs:

- Living primarily in one room,
- Using plug-in heaters, or other alternative heating arrangements;
- Increased use of candles or alternative source of lighting;
- Concerns over cooking

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT US

If you're concerned somebody is in fuel hardship, displaying unsafe practices in their home (think 5 Cs), or meets the other criteria for a home fire safety visit, we need your help so we can get in touch and support them.

 **Make a referral on our website** - be sure to include as much detail as possible, including that this is a fuel hardship referral in the comments box

 023 8062 6751

 community.firesafety@hantsfire.gov.uk

If you can, speak to the individual first about Safe and Well so they're not surprised to hear from us and know help is on the way.

Thank you for playing your part to help us to support our community during these challenging times.



**Hampshire
& Isle of Wight**
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE



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LIVING**