

CHECK ALL ASPECTS OF SAFETY IN THE HOME

Free safety checks to help reduce the risk of a fire or other emergency in your home are available from Buckinghamshire Fire & Rescue Service.

Free smoke alarms are fitted where required, and firefighters will also help you find out more about other useful local services if you are interested.

The checks take about 30 minutes each, depending on the size of the house, and are usually carried out by firefighters. The householder needs to be present to answer a few questions.

Firefighters will offer fire safety advice, based on any potential fire risks that they may have identified during the check, and answer questions.

They will then fit as many smoke alarms as they think necessary. Buckinghamshire Fire & Rescue Service currently fits British Standard smoke alarms with a sealed battery that should last 10 years in normal use.

Community safety manager Terry Ridgley said: "When fires break out, smoke alarms provide a vital early warning sign. If the fire happens at night, they are often your only warning." Here are Terry's top tips to ensure you and your family stay safe from fire:

Fit and maintain a smoke alarm: You should have one on each level of your home and test it weekly. The ideal position is on the ceiling, in the middle of a room, or in the hallway and landing. Test it weekly.

Make sure you and your family know the quickest way out in the event of fire. Consider an alternative route in case your usual one is blocked.

In the event of a fire, get out, stay out and call 999: Don't delay for valuables, and don't investigate or try to tackle the fire. Use a mobile, a neighbour's phone or a phone box to call 999



If someone needs to be rescued wait safely outside for the firefighters who have the equipment and training to do it. Never go back in.

When you visit relatives or friends, look out for safety hazards in the home. Offer to help test their alarm and plan escape routes together.

This will slow down the spread of fire.

Four key safety messages - Fit smoke alarms; Test them every week; Plan an escape route; Get out, stay out and call 999.

To book one of these free checks, ring 01296 744477

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The Milton Keynes Neighbourhood Watch Association is about helping to reduce crime, helping to reduce the opportunity for crime and helping to reduce the fear of crime throughout Milton Keynes and surrounding areas. It is also about building community spirit by bringing people closer together with common goals through watch schemes.



INTERESTED in joining?

Then please either write to: Helen Sharratt, Watch Liaison Officer, Wolverton Police Station, Stratford Road, Wolverton, Bucks, MK12 5LX or phone her on 01908 324626 or Email her at helen.sharratt@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

WEB SITE – www.mknhw.org

Have a look at our web site for lots of safety tips, dates when we are at the Community Kiosk at Centre MK where you can talk to us and buy personal alarms, link for discount security, free community messaging sign up, kids stuff and much more.

NEW!! On the website click **News** to see the latest monthly update from your neighbourhood police team. You will be able to see details of the progress being made on set priorities, significant arrests, crime figures and information about 'Have Your Say' meetings.

Why not join us and help keep an eye out up your street!

Participation and membership is FREE

Working together to make Milton Keynes a better and safer place to live

WHERE ARE YOU MOST AT RISK