

### **Reduced Home Safety Visits**

As a result of COVID-19 Coronavirus, we have temporarily changed how we deliver our Home Safety Visits to the community in Devon and Somerset.

Until further notice, Home Safety Visits will only be carried out by a Home Safety Technician in the following circumstances:

- Where a significant high risk of fire has been identified by a referring partner agency or concerned relative/ friend and the property has no working smoke detector.
- Where a threat of arson has been made to a person or property and we have received a police referral.
- To replace a beeping alarm where this cannot be safely silenced or removed by the occupier of the property.

If you require a Home Safety Visit and your situation meets the criteria listed above, please call our Home Safety Team on 0800 0502 999. In all other instances, we will provide fire safety advice over the telephone.

These changes are temporary and reflect instructions from central government aimed at reducing the spread of COVID-19 Coronavirus.

### **Bonfires Fire Safety Message – *please share our message***

We've attended a number of incidents involving bonfires in the last two weeks. Help protect our emergency services by avoiding having bonfires.

By having a bonfire, you put yourself and others at more risk of fire and put extra demands on our crews.

Try composting your garden waste instead or wait until recycling centres are open again.

If you are having a bonfire, please follow our safety guidance;

<http://www.dsfire.gov.uk/YourSafety/SafetyInTheHome/Bonfires/>

Please tell us if you are having one by calling our non-emergency number 0333 399 0014. Don't call 999 unless it is an emergency.

If your neighbour is having bonfires that cause a nuisance, please check to see that they are following the government guidelines. Please don't contact the fire service to report a nuisance bonfire, only contact the fire service in the event of an emergency. Your local council website will provide information about the law and how to report nuisance bonfires.