



DEVON &
SOMERSET
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE



Save Safely

Working in partnership to support vulnerable households through the cost of living crisis



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Objectives

- Tips to identify and support vulnerable households through the cost of living crisis
- Understand the fire safety risks of staying warm this winter
- How we and your local fire and rescue service helps vulnerable tenants





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What we do and why



You are a really important part of the work we do.



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What we know about victims of fire

- Fires are more likely to start in the homes of the **most vulnerable**.
- 58% of fire deaths were people who live alone and over 65.
- Every six days, someone in the UK will die from a fire started by a cigarette.
- Fire damage can be devastating both physically and psychologically.





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Fire risk factors

What do you think are the factors that make a person high-risk?

- living alone
- alcohol abuse
- medication and drugs
- smoking
- poor mental health
- limited mobility
- poor housekeeping
- **fuel poverty**



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Top fire risks this winter

1. Unsafe heating practices

- Most fires caused by heaters are caused by sitting too close to them, placing heaters near curtains and furniture, or using them to dry washing.
- Never, ever, use BBQs, camping stoves or patio heaters for heat indoors. These are designed for use outdoors in well-ventilated areas. They pose both a fire risk but also there is a risk of carbon monoxide poisoning.





2. Moisturising creams (emollients) increase fire risk - avoid close contact with naked flames and heaters if using emollients





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2. Cost cutting measures that increase fire risk

What cost cutting measures that can increase fire risk are pictured below?





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How we collaborate with partners to help vulnerable tenants

Home safety visits

- advise on fire risks
- create an escape plan
- provide free smoke alarms

The visit usually takes around 45 minutes and is completely free of charge.





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Take away



Do you know anyone who would benefit from help from the fire service?



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How you can support

1. Look out for fire risks in people's homes and signpost them to us.

Speak to the person
Contact us

Call **0800 0502 999**

Email **firekills@dsfire.gov.uk** OR

Online **dsfire.gov.uk**

Visit the website of your
local fire and rescue
service

2. Share our fire safety messages this winter **#SaveSafely**



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Thank you – any questions?

