

WEST MIDLANDS FIRE SERVICE

Making West Midlands Safer-Providing a quality service to create safer and stronger communities.

Below are examples of how we reduce risk to the community:

Home Safety Checks is a free service to anyone within the West Midlands which involves local firefighters giving advice on fire safety within the home and fitting **FREE** smoke alarms where necessary. This results in increased awareness of safety in the home and increased protection against fire and injury. To book a free Home Safety Check please call free phone 0800 389 5525 or visit our website www.wmfs.net

Keep Your Business/Keep Your School in Business is the provision of a **FREE** one stop Fire/Police service guide assisting businesses and schools by providing education and awareness to reduce arson, fire and other crime related incidents-please visit the website www.wmarsontaskforce.gov.uk/kybib.

Diversionsary activities are provided which help to reduce anti-social behaviour, increase awareness of home and personal safety and improve confidence.

Springvale Steelers Social Club - The West Midlands Fire Service are keen to engage with the local community and the Springvale Steelers Social Club initiative provides the Fire Service with valuable Prevention Based Activities [PBA] advertising space at a venue attended by those most at risk; the elderly, those with young families, people with impairments and disability and smoking households. The advertising of PBA initiatives is not only on the clubs football kit but also displayed within the site at various locations, not only attended by footballers but also people taking part in bowls, bingo and other social events. This partnership enables the Fire Service to integrate within the community and encourage social cohesion. The area is an area of deprivation and requires Fire Service involvement in reducing the number of fires we attend. By being able to advertise the Home Fire Safety Check facility and having guaranteed space for promoting various other initiatives throughout the year it is expected that the number of incidents currently attend would decrease-we will be monitoring the initiatives progress over the coming year.

Choices for year 9 - This program is delivered to all secondary schools within the Wolverhampton Education authority aimed at year 9.The delivery is in partnership with West Midlands Police and A & E Wolverhampton New Cross Hospital. All schools are informed of the program that is run out from April the 19th to the 30th. The first 10 to reply are timetabled in for the 2 week program that consists of a 4hr input and workshops. This is all based on the reduction of injuries in RTC, ASB (joy riding) and seatbelt safety. A total of 2000 students are reached in the 2weeks, with the support of this team.

Dr Bike - These programs are delivered by trained fire Fighters and staff from the road Safety Team. These programs give the opportunity for any young person to attend the Fire Station and bring their bike along to be checked for road safety. This involves minor repairs such as cable replacement and brake blocks. All costs are met by the Wolverhampton Road Safety dept. The two events to date have handled 75 bike repairs.

Fire Program 29th to the 1st April - This program was delivered for 'Re-Entry Bilston' and was a Lottery Funded program Re-entry contacted the Fire service

regarding support for the young students who are in full time education, but are on a modified time table. Due to the organisation being charity based, the Lottery was able to deliver this program to 15 students under the family learning program. The Re Entry organisation has shown further interest in a second FIRE program to run out at a later date.

Fire Program Wolverhampton ASB Unit - This program was delivered for the partnership between the Fire Service and the Wolverhampton ASB unit. The students have been placed on the program through a referral program and an interview board. The interview board is made up of the Fire Service, Wolverhampton Homes and the ASB Unit. From this group a selection of young people are put forward for selection to see who will benefit the most from the FIRE program, a total of 15 students are then put on the program. Some of the students from this program are now getting further support from the mentoring program that is run alongside the FIRE programs funded by the ASAB unit.

Mentoring - The mentoring program is now in progress and is being delivered to young people who have been referred from the ASB unit from Wolverhampton.

For more details please visit our website www.wmfs.net or contact the Wolverhampton Local Area Liaison Officer, Wolverhampton Fire Safety Centre, Retreat Street, Wolverhampton WV3 0RG. Telephone 0121-380-6272.