

**ROTHERHAM**

# SafetyWATCH

South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue

WORKING FOR A SAFER SOUTH YORKSHIRE

## WELCOME

We're pleased to present you with this edition of Safety Watch, featuring all the latest news and information from South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue.

Since the last issue at the end of 2009, we've had a great deal of positive feedback about the articles featured. Your views are always very welcome, as they help us make this newsletter as useful and relevant as possible.

In this issue you'll find a range of advice – from road safety to home fire safety, as well as information on how you can have a say in the future of South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue.

Best Wishes,



*J. Andrews*  
**Cllr Jim Andrews**  
Chair,  
South Yorkshire  
Fire Authority



*Mark Smitherman*  
**Mark Smitherman**  
Chief Fire Officer,  
South Yorkshire  
Fire & Rescue



Chip pan blazes can be devastating

## Rotherham man to the rescue in chip pan blaze drama



Firefighters visited Adrian's street following the fire to hand out fire safety advice

### Firefighters are hailing the actions of a Rotherham man after he rescued his neighbour from a chip pan blaze.

Adrian Berridge, 26, spotted flames through the kitchen window of the first floor flat on The Maltings in Canklow.

He found his neighbour crawling on the floor of the smoke-filled kitchen and pulled him to safety before extinguishing the chip pan fire with a damp towel.

Adrian said: "The flames didn't look too bad but the amount of thick black smoke was absolutely unbelievable.

"I knew how to safely put out a chip pan fire, so once I'd got the man outside I ran upstairs to get a wet towel".

Adrian's girlfriend then called 999 and fire crews and paramedics were quickly on the scene. The occupant was taken to hospital suffering from smoke inhalation.

Watch Manager Claire Duke from Rotherham station said: "Adrian displayed remarkable bravery by first rescuing his neighbour, and then extinguishing the fire.

"The safest advice is to stay out of the property once everyone is outside, but Adrian deserves to be recognised for staying calm and putting out the fire in exactly the right way."

Adrian could now be put forward for an official fire service award to recognise his actions.

For more information, or for fire safety tips and fire prevention advice, visit [www.syfire.gov.uk](http://www.syfire.gov.uk) or call **0114 253 2314**.

## Chip Pans - Safety Tips

To reduce the risk of a kitchen fire you should throw out your chip pan and replace it with a thermostatically controlled deep fat fryer.

However, if you do use a chip pan please remember these simple tips:

**NEVER** fill a chip pan more than one-third full of fat or oil.

**NEVER** leave the pan unattended when the heat is switched on.

**NEVER** put the food in the pan if the oil begins to give off smoke. Turn off the heat and leave to cool, otherwise it will catch fire.

In the event of a fire - **NEVER** throw water over the chip pan. Get Out, Stay Out and call **999**.

For more information on home fire safety log on to [www.syfire.gov.uk](http://www.syfire.gov.uk)

**Free Home Safety Check - text SAFE to 87023**

[www.syfire.gov.uk](http://www.syfire.gov.uk)

# Smoking Fire Safety Campaign Launched

**Smokers across South Yorkshire are being given specialist information in a new drive to reduce accidental house fires, after new statistics reveal more people die in fires caused by smoking than in fires with any other single cause.**

In South Yorkshire since 2005, smoking has been responsible for over 40% of all accidental house fires involving fatalities. It has led to the deaths of 6 people over the last three years.

But you can help keep the risk of fire low, by following some basic fire safety advice:

- **never smoke in bed** - it's very easy to fall asleep and allow your cigarette to set light to your bedclothes or furnishings.
- **don't smoke if you're drowsy** - especially if you're sitting in a comfortable chair or if you've been drinking or taking prescription drugs. Again, it's easy to fall asleep.
- **don't leave a lighted cigarette, pipe or cigar unattended** - they can easily overbalance and land on the carpet or other flammable material.
- **make totally sure that your butts aren't still smouldering** - wet them and empty your ashtray into a metal bin outside the house.
- **keep lighters, matches and smoking materials out of the reach of children** - you can also buy child-resistant lighters and containers for matches.



National No Smoking Day takes place on **Wednesday March 10**. For more information on ways to help you stop smoking visit [www.nosmokingday.org.uk](http://www.nosmokingday.org.uk) or contact your local fire station and ask to be referred for help through the Hot Spots Scheme.



## Staying Safe On The Roads

**Last year South Yorkshire firefighters attended over one thousand road traffic collisions, often involving drivers or passengers who needed to be cut from crashed vehicles.**

Helping to reduce deaths and injuries on the roads is one of South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue's key priorities. You can help to keep the roads safe by following these simple road safety tips:

### Never Drink Drive

If you drive at twice the legal alcohol limit you are at least 30 times more likely to cause a road crash, than a driver who hasn't been drinking.

Remember - there is no foolproof way of staying under the limit. The only safe option is not to drink any alcohol if you plan to drive.

Remember - drive to arrive. Don't take risks such as breaking the speed limit just because you may be a few minutes late for a meeting.

### Be Aware Of Conditions

Changes in the weather conditions or in the road lay-out present unexpected hazards for drivers.

Remember - always clear snow and ice from all windows and mirrors before travelling to ensure you have good visibility.

### Take Breaks

Driver sleepiness is estimated to account for around one fifth of accidents on major roads.

Remember - take a 15 minute break every two hours of driving, get a good night's sleep before setting out and share driving where possible on longer journeys.

### Check Your Vehicle

Vehicle maintenance is very important. Tyres should have plenty of tread and be at the right pressure.

Check that your brakes are working well. Lights and windscreen wipers should work properly. Make sure you have plenty of screen wash and add anti-freeze to the radiator.

### Driving For Work

It is estimated that around 200 road deaths and serious injuries each week involve someone using their car for business purposes.



# 'Our Future – Your Service'

*Did you have a view on the firefighters' strike? Is your local fire station important to you? Do you want to have your say on your fire and rescue service?*

If so, make sure you take part in a major South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue (SYFR) consultation exercise this spring.

## What is it?

SYFR, like most public sector organisations, is likely to experience significant funding cuts over the next few years. This will mean we have to try to keep on delivering our services to the same standards as we do now, but with less money. This consultation document will pose questions about what is important, and how we should prioritise the way we work.

## Why consult?

These issues might be about the future of our organisation – but they are also about the future of the service we provide to you as a taxpayer. The recent strikes over firefighter shift times have shown how SYFR issues can be very emotive. If the future cuts in our funding are of the scale we expect, we will soon have to take tough decisions on issues that could be just as sensitive as firefighter shift times. Therefore it is important we allow our staff and the public we serve to have their say.

## How do I get involved?

A consultation document will be available soon. To be involved in having your say, simply do one of the following:

Text **FIRE** to 87023

E-mail us: [press@syfire.gov.uk](mailto:press@syfire.gov.uk)

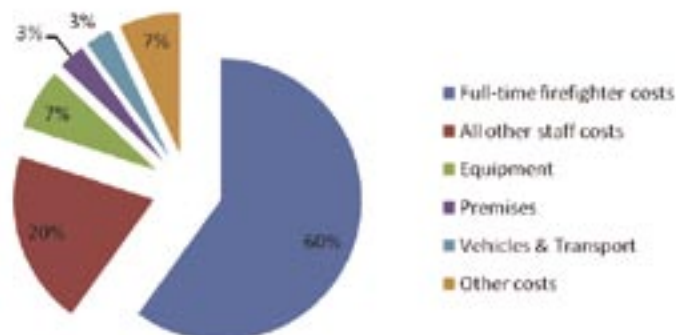
Write to: **Consultation, South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue,**  
**197 Eyre Street, Sheffield, S1 3FG**



## Where your money goes

South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue's projected estimate for 2009/10 is to spend £60.4 million. More than £36m of this sum comes from Government grants. Most of the rest comes from the fire-related element of Council Tax bills from around the county.

The table on the right shows that around 60% (£36m) of our expenditure is on salaries and related expenses of full-time firefighters. Around another £12m is spent on other staff, including part-time firefighters, 999 control room staff and support staff. We only spend around £12m on non salary-related items, such as vehicles, firefighting equipment and building maintenance.



# Your Fire & Rescue Authority

South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue is governed by its ruling Authority. Twelve Councillors are nominated to serve on the Authority from the county's four districts.

Feel free to cut out and keep this list of Fire & Rescue Authority members:



## Barnsley



**Cllr Alice Cave**  
cllralicecave@barnsley.gov.uk



**Cllr Jim Andrews**  
cllrjamesandrews@barnsley.gov.uk

## Doncaster



**Cllr Ken Knight**  
ken.knight@doncaster.gov.uk



**Cllr Georgina Mullis**  
georgina.mullis@doncaster.gov.uk



**Cllr Susan Phillips**  
sue.phillips@doncaster.gov.uk

## Rotherham



**Cllr Paul Lakin**  
paul.lakin@rotherham.gov.uk



**Cllr Fred Wright**  
fred.wright@rotherham.gov.uk

## Sheffield



**Cllr Joan Barton**  
joan.barton@sheffield.gov.uk



**Cllr Jane Bird**  
jane.bird@sheffield.gov.uk



**Cllr Peter Rippon**  
peter.rippon@sheffield.gov.uk



**Cllr Paul Scriven**  
paul.scriven@sheffield.gov.uk



**Cllr Patricia White**  
patricia.white@sheffield.gov.uk

## Contact Us

If you need to contact South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue, here is a list of useful contact numbers to ensure you find the right person to assist you.

**Home Safety Checks/  
Smoke Alarms**  
T: 0114 253 2314  
Or text FREE to 87023

**Main Switchboard, Headquarters**  
T: 0114 272 7202  
F: 0114 253 2266

**Customer Care Line**  
T: 0114 253 2209

**Fire Safety & Legislation  
Advice for Businesses  
Sheffield:**  
T: 0114 253 2499

**Barnsley:**  
T: 01226 282222

**Rotherham:**  
T: 0114 253 2822

**Doncaster:**  
T: 0114 253 2803

**Business Training Courses**  
T: 0114 253 2986

**Recruitment Hotline**  
T: 0114 253 2226

**Website**  
www.syfire.gov.uk

### Our Partners

**South Yorkshire Police**  
www.southyorks.police.uk

Every community has a safer neighbourhood team, where police officers work with other local organisations, such as the council and South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue, to deal with local concerns. To find yours visit [www.southyorks.police.uk](http://www.southyorks.police.uk) and type in your postcode or call our non-emergency phone number: 0114 220 2020

### Local Authorities

**Barnsley MBC**  
www.barnsley.gov.uk  
T: 01226 775656 (24/7) or  
T: 01226 770770  
(8am to 6pm Mon to Fri)

- Social Services  
Emergency Duty Team  
T: 0844 984 1800

- Berneslai Homes Repairs Hotline  
T: 01226 787878

**Doncaster MBC**  
www.doncaster.gov.uk  
T: 01302 736000

**Rotherham MBC**  
www.rotherham.gov.uk  
T: 01709 382121

- Council Tax and  
Benefit Entitlement:  
T: 01709 336006

**Sheffield City Council**  
www.sheffield.gov.uk  
T: 0114 272 6444

- Housing Benefits/Council Tax  
T: 0114 273 6777

- Streetforce/Veolia  
T: 0114 273 4567

### Health

**NHS Direct**  
www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk offers  
confidential health advice and  
information - 0845 46 47

Primary care trusts decide how best to spend NHS money in your area with the aim of providing better health and healthcare. They buy all health services - from GP practices, dental practices, opticians, pharmacists, hospital trusts, mental health care providers, independent and voluntary sector providers - and while they don't directly run any of the services, they are responsible for how well they perform.

**NHS Barnsley**  
www.barnsley.nhs.uk  
T: 01226 730000

**NHS Doncaster**  
www.doncasterpct.nhs.uk  
T: 01302 565656

**NHS Rotherham**  
www.rotherhampct.nhs.uk  
T: 01709 302000

- Rotherham Health Advice Centre  
T: 01709 423030

- Rotherham Community  
Health Centre  
T: 01709 423000

- Rotherham Stop Smoking Service  
T: 01709 422444

**NHS Sheffield**  
www.sheffield.nhs.uk

Sheffield's NHS Walk-in services for minor illnesses and injuries, 365 days a year, open 8am-8pm. For more details visit: [www.sheffield.nhs.uk/walk-in](http://www.sheffield.nhs.uk/walk-in)

- NHS Sheffield Patient Advice  
and Liaison Service (PALS):  
T: 0800 085 7539

- Sheffield Dental helpline -  
to help you find an NHS Dentist:  
T: 0114 271 1050

- NHS Sheffield Stop  
Smoking Service:  
T: 0800 068 4490

