

Surrey Fire & Rescue Service Business Fire Safety

In light of the most recent government advice in relation to the Covid-19 crisis and its effect on businesses, Surrey Fire & Rescue Service has the following fire safety message for businesses:

It's vital to continue to ensure that any occupied premises within your business remains safe to those using it. This might include reviewing the Fire Risk Assessment and implementing extra control measures where necessary, for example, to take into account reduced staffing levels.

Daily/weekly/monthly fire safety checks should still be carried out in occupied premises, however the way in which these are undertaken may need to be reviewed in order to keep non-essential contact to a minimum and allow for social distancing.

Ensure your procedure for summoning the Fire Service to confirmed fires and your Emergency Action Procedures are reviewed to confirm they remain functional and valid throughout this constantly changing period.

If the premises is empty, it should be locked and secured as best as possible to prevent break-ins and arson. Fire Safety checks and tests may be suspended until the premises is reoccupied. It is important that your security provider has the most up to date contact details, in order for Automatic Fire Alarm signals to be dealt with efficiently.

Where essential maintenance is required in otherwise unoccupied premises, or routine work involves contact with other people (for example in care homes) it is suggested that the 5 step Dynamic Risk Assessment method is adopted:

- Step 1: Identify hazards, i.e. anything that may cause harm.
- Step 2: Decide who may be harmed, and how.
- Step 3: Assess the risks.
- Step 4: Implement control measures to reduce the risk to as low as possible.
- Step 5: Continually review the risk assessment.

Whilst Surrey Fire & Rescue Service has temporarily stopped undertaking routine visits and inspections, we would like to take this opportunity to reassure our residents and businesses that we will still respond to emergencies should the need arise.

To contact the emergency services in an emergency dial 999

For Business Fire Safety enquiries call 01737 733733 or email duty.fso@surreycc.gov.uk

For general enquires email sfcontactqueries@surreycc.gov.uk