

# 70%

of house fires in our community start while people are cooking

Don't become another statistic.

- Never fill a pan more than one third full of fat or oil.
- Never leave the pan or grill unattended when the heat is switched on.
- Never put food in a chip pan if the oil begins to smoke. Turn off the heat and leave the oil to cool, otherwise it could catch fire.
- Never wear loose clothing near to cooking materials, as it could catch fire causing severe burns.
- Keep tea towels well away from cooking appliances, as they could catch fire.
- Clean hobs regularly to prevent a build up of fat.
- Drinking alcohol and cooking is a mix that can end in disaster.



**AVON**  
FIRE & RESCUE

PREVENTING PROTECTING RESPONDING

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of house fires in our community start while people are cooking

Don't become another statistic.

Avon Fire & Rescue Service can fit a FREE smoke alarm in your home.

Firefighters carry out Home Fire Safety Visits offering fire safety advice and fitting smoke detectors free of charge.

To book please call:

**0800 1693 999**

or visit [www.avonfire.gov.uk](http://www.avonfire.gov.uk)

Members of the deaf community can

text: **077 814 82627**

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



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## INVESTIGATION CRITERIA

When you investigate, use your senses and if at any time the situation does not 'feel right' then retreat from the building and make sure the fire and rescue service is called on 999.

Ensure your fire alarm procedures are followed, before you do anything else.

### How to investigate safely

- Investigate in pairs.
- Place another member of staff at the alarm panel and remain in contact (mobile phone or a short range radio).
- Gather any information from staff, or the alarm panel, to indicate where your search should be.
- When investigating observe for smoke and listen for unusual crackling noises - if it doesn't feel right get out.
- Before opening any doors, feel the door with the back of your hand, as high up the door as you can reach for signs of heat.
- If it feels wrong get out.
- At any time if you suspect or find a fire get out and call the fire and rescue service on 999.

### WE ARE HERE TO HELP

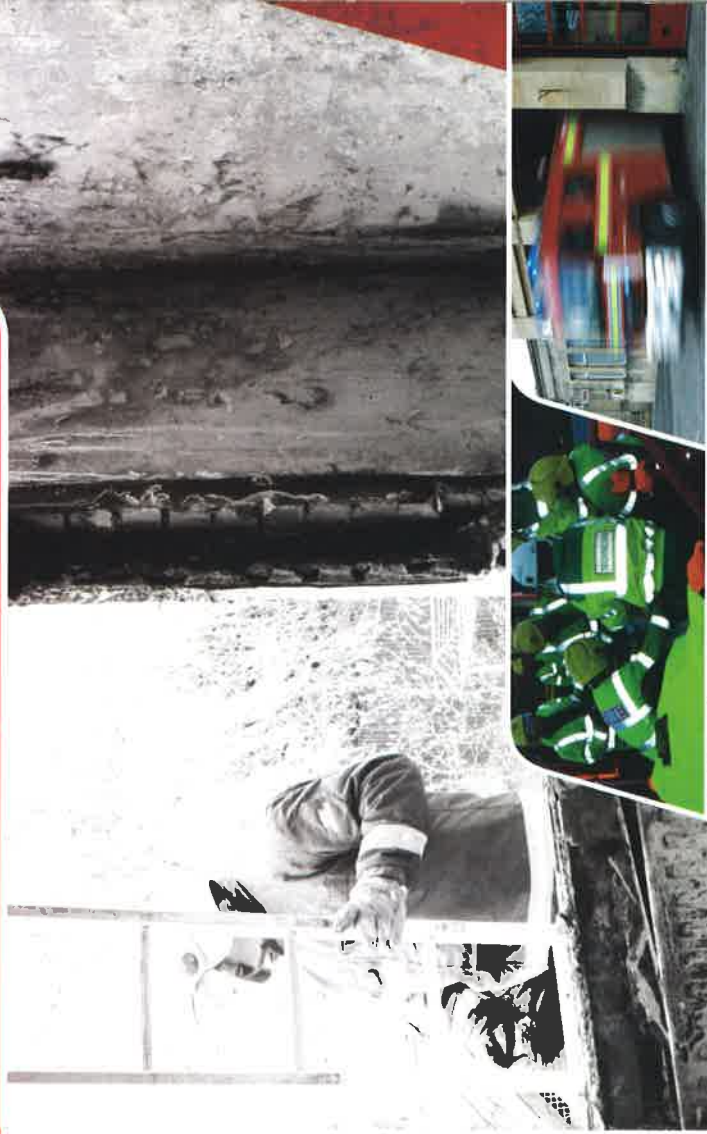
For further information, please contact Avon Fire & Rescue Service on 0117 926 2061 (extension 226) or visit [avonfire.gov.uk](http://avonfire.gov.uk)



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## PROTECTING OUR COMMUNITY



# HOW TO INVESTIGATE SAFELY



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## THE FACTS

Avon Fire & Rescue Service deals with over 32,000 calls each year - around 5,000 of these are false alarms like yours.

Dealing with false alarms takes up valuable time - time that could mean the difference between life and death for someone in the community.

False alarms are also a drain on public money. They can cause complacency, reducing the effectiveness of fire safety procedures in event of a real fire, and they disrupt business - creating unwanted downtime and loss of money.

We want to work with you to prevent it happening again.



ALARM ZONE 1



## THE CAUSES







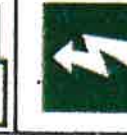



To prevent unwanted false alarms, you should consider the following common causes of them:

- > Cooking fumes - such as burnt toast
- > Steam - from shower rooms or industrial processes
- > Smoking materials - such as cigarettes and matches
- > Aerosol sprays
- > Hotwork - for example from cutting and welding
- > Dust build-up - due to poor housekeeping or by not taking preventative measures before starting dusty work
- > Incense and candles
- > Humidity and temperature changes
- > Accidental damage to a 'break glass' point
- > Testing or maintenance - without telling your alarm centre or incorrect testing procedure
- > Changes to the use, or practices, within the building



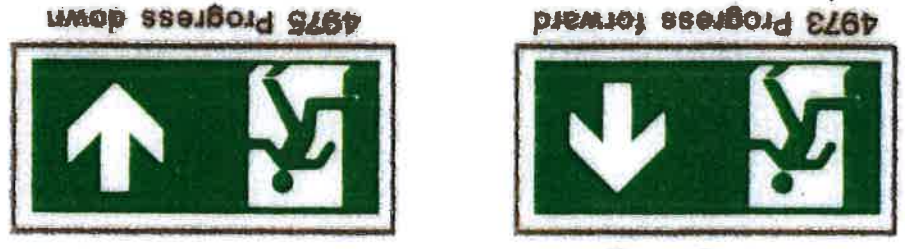


# Know your Fire Extinguisher

Symbols found on fire extinguishers & what they mean		Water	Foam spray	ABC powder	Carbon dioxide	Wet chemical
		✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
		✗	✓	✓	✓	✗
		✗	✗	✓	✗	✗
		✗	✗	✓	✓	✗
		✗	✗	✗	✗	✓

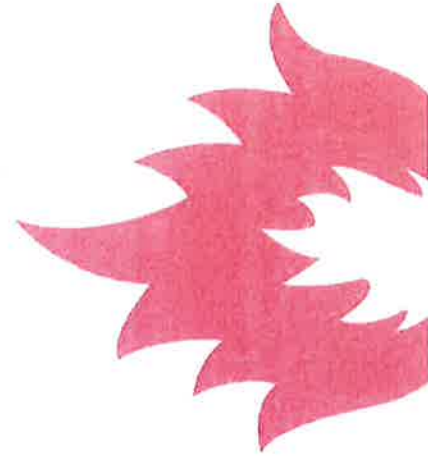
## JALITE AAA ESCAPE ROUTE SIGNS

Conforms to ISO 7010 to satisfy Fire safety legislation and directive 92/58



*Skin products containing paraffin based products, for example White Soft Paraffin, White Soft Paraffin plus 50% Liquid Paraffin or Emulsifying ointment, in contact with dressings and clothing are easily ignited with a naked flame or a cigarette.*

**Keep away from fire when using these products**



# Fire Hazard

**With  
Paraffin  
Based Skin  
Products On  
Dressings And  
Clothing**



**I**f you are being treated with a paraffin based product, for example White Soft Paraffin, White Soft Paraffin plus 50% Liquid Paraffin or Emulsifying ointment, which is covered by a dressing or clothing, there is a danger that smoking, or using a naked flame could cause your dressing or clothing to catch fire.



**To stop this happening it is very important that you do the following:**

1. Do not smoke, use naked flames (or be near people who are smoking or using naked flames) or go near to anything else which may cause a fire whilst these products are in contact with your clothes, dressing or bandages.
2. Ensure that your clothes and bedding are changed regularly (preferably daily) as the paraffin soaks into the fabrics and can potentially be a fire hazard. You should also be careful to make sure that the paraffin does not soak into chairs, seating or other furniture.
3. Tell your relatives or carers about your treatment and show them this leaflet.
4. Tell your doctor, nurse or pharmacist if you normally smoke. They will be able to offer you help and advice to stop smoking.

**Your treatment is important, but it is essential that you are kept safe when you use these products. By following the advice in this leaflet, you will help us to make sure that you are treated safely.**

**Please speak to your doctor, nurse or pharmacist if you have any questions about the information in this leaflet.**