



NFCC
National Fire
Chiefs Council

Fire Kills Campaign

Monthly Briefing Pack

November 2023 – Electrical Fire Safety

Top tip



Don't overload

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1. Introduction

Welcome to the monthly briefing pack for November, covering electrical fire safety. This information pack provides details of national activity that may support local fire and rescue services in their local delivery and has been developed and collated by the Home Office Fire Kills team together with the National Fire Chiefs Council.

Fire Kills portal

The Fire Kills Portal hosts all the Fire Kills artwork. There is one shared login for all fire and rescue services to access the [Fire Kills Portal](#). For anyone in a local fire and rescue service who wishes to access the Fire Kills material, please use the following login details.

Personal Light Electric Vehicles

New resources to support fire safety messaging around Personal Light Electric Vehicles (i.e. e-scooters, e-bikes etc) have been created and were shared last month. The Fire Kills team and the NFCC has worked in partnership to develop these resources that focus on safe use, storage and charging of e-bikes and e-scooters in the home. London Fire Brigade offered the #ChargeSafe materials, which have been adopted and slightly adapted into the Fire Kills style for national use.

These materials are available on the Fire Kills Portal [here](#), where you can also download and use complementary resources created by the Office for Product Safety and Standards. Fire safety advice is also now available on the FireEngland.uk site, [here](#).



Fire Kills distribution list

These briefing packs, as well as notifications of campaign opportunities, new materials and resources, are sent to over 200 recipients across all fire and rescue services in England. If you would like to review who in your FRS receives these updates and/or update the list to ensure it goes to all those who would like them, please email [James Webb](#).

Feedback

We hope that these packs support local initiatives and would welcome any feedback on areas for improvement, where we could do more and anything else that you think will be beneficial to fire and rescue services. If you have any feedback or questions on the packs or the campaign more generally, please contact [James Webb](#).

Press templates and social media posts

We usually include template press releases and social media posts within these packs. However, as the plans for the main events taking place in November are not yet complete, these are not ready for sharing.

These will be sent with the additional material on each as soon as they're available.

2. Electrical fire safety messages

Electrical fire safety messages can cut across electrical distribution, faulty appliances and wiring and even misuse of electrical equipment. This highlights the need for tailoring messages and activity to relevant audiences. Having sufficient fire detection equipment and escape plans remains of high importance.

- **Check that your electrical products have not been recalled**

[Product Recall – Acting on product safety \(campaign.gov.uk\)](https://www.campaign.gov.uk)

- **Make sure you register your electrical appliances** so that you are the first to know of any safety repairs or recalls. You can do this through the manufacturers' websites, or through the register my appliance website:

www.registermyappliance.org.uk

- **Don't overload plug sockets**

An extension lead or adaptor will have a limit to how many amps it can take so, to help reduce the risk of fire, be careful not to overload them. Try to keep to one plug per socket.

- **Keep electrical appliances clean and in good working order**

Look out for fuses that blow, circuit-breakers that trip for no obvious reason and flickering lights to prevent appliances triggering a fire.

- **Regularly check for frayed or worn cables and wires**

Check to see if the cable is fastened securely to the plug and check the socket for scorch marks. You should always carry out these checks before you use an appliance.

- **Switch off appliances at the socket when not in use**

This helps to reduce the risk of fire. Switch off appliances when you go to bed or when you go out unless they are designed to be left on, like freezers.

- **Buy your electrical chargers from a reputable source**

Many imported chargers do not satisfy UK safety regulations and can cause serious electric shock, injury or fire

- **Get Out, Stay Out, Call 999**

Never use water on an electrical fire and don't take any risks with your safety. Pull the plug out or switch the power off if it is safe to do so. Get out, stay out and call 999.



- **Residual Current Device**

Encourage homeowners to fit and use RCD protection, if they do not already have it. An RCD (residual current device) is a life-saving device which is designed to prevent you from getting a fatal electric shock if you touch something live, such as a bare wire. It provides a level of protection that ordinary fuses or circuit-breakers cannot provide. RCD protection is particularly important when using electrical equipment outdoors.

3. Key Dates

There are a few awareness weeks taking place in November 2023, which you may wish to get involved in to promote relevant fire safety messages.

3.1 Bonfire Night

The Office of Product Safety and Standards (OPSS) produced a new Fireworks safety campaign in 2021 and resources were made available to local fire and rescue services.

The campaign materials, which includes posters, leaflets and social media images can be found online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/staying-safe-with-fireworks>.

3.2 Electrical Fire Safety Week

The Fire Kills campaign is working with Electrical Safety First (ESF) to develop plans for this year's Electrical Fire Safety Week (EFSW), which is scheduled to run from 13 to 19 November. More information will be sent round once plans are finalised, in good time to support local engagement activity.

4. National Resources

Fire Kills Portal

The Fire Kills Campaign [Portal](#) hosts all the artwork and Fire Kills material and is available to all fire and rescue practitioners.

There is a single login for you to access the Portal (not for public sharing):

Please contact [James Webb](#) if you have any queries.

Fire Kills Campaign

Here you will find all the material for Fire Kills campaign. Check out the "Fire Kills Showcase" to see our pick of the best. Don't forget to check the "Monthly Communications Briefing" area regularly for all the new stuff.



Archive



Awareness Days and Weeks



Brand



Cost of living fire safety campaign



Covid-19 Fire Prevention Resources



Fillers



Fireworks assets



Industrial Action



Kids



Leaflets



Monthly assets



Personal Light Electric Vehicles



Photos & Icons



Posters



Social



Translated resources

StayWise

The online emergency services educational resources platform, StayWise, has a wide range of lesson plans, interactive games, activities and other resources to promote fire safety – and other safety messages – to children and young people. Many resources link to the other areas of the curriculum, allowing fire safety messages to be relayed as part of maths, English and science lessons, for example. Visit and promote the site – www.staywise.co.uk.



Online home fire safety check tool

The NFCC tool has been developed to complement the in-person home fire safety visits. It allows for a self-assessment of a household's fire safety, taking into account the individual circumstances and providing person-centred, tailored advice. The tool has also proven very useful in identifying those people more vulnerable to fire and in securing referrals for in-person visits. The tool is now referred to on Fire Kills literature and the FireEngland.uk website.

For more information on how your fire and rescue service can get more from the tool, please get in touch with [James Webb](#).



Welcome to the online home fire safety check

This easy-to-follow home fire safety check has been developed through a partnership between the National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC), Fire Kills and Safelincs. It will take you through your home one room at a time and the simple questions will help you spot fire risks as you go around your home.

The tool will offer tips and advice on the steps you can take to reduce those risks. At the end, you will receive a personalised fire safety action plan to help keep you and your household safe from fire.



Top tip

Fit smoke alarms



Top tip

Plan your escape route



Top tip

Get out, stay out and call 999

5. Draft social media posts

Electrical Fire Safety Week

These will be circulated separately together with the EFSW information and resources in due course.

Fireworks

These can be found in the OPSS Fireworks safety campaign pages, available here - <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/my-safety-fireworks> .