**Thames Valley Police (TVP) Threat of Arson (TOA) Guidance**

When any TVP officer is made aware of a Threat of Arson (either whilst on scene or during a slow time enquiry), they are requested to contact Thames Valley Fire Control Service (TVFCS) on **0118 3589333** so that arrangements can be made for Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service (RBFRS) to conduct a Threat of Arson Safe and Well visit. Ask to speak to the Berkshire Duty Officer. RBFRS is committed to attend these requests within 48 hours. During office hours you can directly contact the Safeguarding Manager Liz Warren on 07585 991621 or email [warrene@rbfrs.co.uk](mailto:warrene@rbfrs.co.uk). Please call Liz first to make her aware that you are sending a referral and to ensure that she is not on leave.

The Officer in Charge (OIC) should make the call themselves or if they are on scene, TVP Control Room will make the call on their behalf if operationally not appropriate.

TVFCS staff will give the TVP officer on scene, or the OIC investigating the Threat of Arson, the contact details of the Berkshire Duty Officer to make arrangements for the visit. This conversation must be had with regards to ascertaining any risk to FRS staff attending the location for the Threat of Arson Safe and Well visit.

The Berkshire Duty Officer will then request that you complete and email to them the Threat of Arson Referral Form before you go off duty. For compliance under GDPR/Data Protection this completed form must NOT be sent to TVFCS but emailed securely to the Duty Officer’s individual email address so that information is not shared inappropriately. The FRS attending will then update the OIC with the outcome of the visit so that you can record it.

**What is a Threat of Arson Safe and Well Visit?**

Residents should always be advised that no particular target hardening element will guarantee that their home will be safe from an arson attack and they should always be alert to potential threats. However, carrying out a FREE Threat of Arson Safe and Well Visit may help to reduce risk and to keep them safe by adding extra safety provision.

A Threat of Arson Safe and Well Visit will add extra precautions into the home using a variety of risk specific measures which can be utilised when a Threat of Arson has been made against a person or their property:

* Providing and installing free 10-year smoke alarms. Particular emphasis is given to fitting additional alarms near to external doors
* Giving lifesaving advice in the event of a fire in the home
* Giving practical advice on identifying fire hazards in the home
* Fitting an arson proof letterbox where necessary. If an arson proof letterbox does not fit the size or design of the letter box, then an extra fire retardant throw can be provided to place on the floor of the front door
* Providing fire retardant sprays, throws and bedding where necessary
* Detailing and discussing bespoke escape plans with the occupier. This may include evaluating and checking which windows are suitable for escape use
* Assessing the property both internally and externally with a view to reducing the potential for fire.

**Further Safe and Well Information**

If the victim requires further information or declines a Threat of Arson Safe and Well Visit, please signpost them to the following:

[www.rbfrs.co.uk](http://www.rbfrs.co.uk)

https://www.rbfrs.co.uk/your-safety/safety-at-home/home-fire-safety-check/

Please note, do not use these referral routes for a Threat of Arson.

It is important to also inform RBFRS of any victim who has declined the offer of a Threat of Arson Safe and Well Visit. By recording this we can add a flash message to our system under this address.

For all Safe and Well Visits that do not involve a threat of risk of arson please email [safeandwell@rbfrs.co.uk](mailto:safeandwell@rbfrs.co.uk).