

## **SCHEME INFORMATION**

The project offers services to children, young people, their families and any agency that might be involved where there is concern about a child or young person with firesetting behaviour. There are 3 levels of intervention:

## The Home Visit

The Safe Programme

This is for the families of children who are setting fires or playing with matches/lighters in or near their own homes. We visit the home and involve the whole family in the process of making themselves safer from fire, regardless how that fire may be caused. Advice is given in three core areas, prevention, detection and escape.

The visit focuses on the child and encourages them to participate in basic home fire safety. The attending officers will try to ensure that the child becomes aware of the speed at which fire and smoke can spread and who is a risk from these dangers. Depending on the age of the child and the nature of the fire setting there may be discussion around Arson.

When appropriate the officer will conclude the visit by trying to elicit an agreement from the child not to repeat their fire setting behaviour. There will be a 3 month follow up telephone call to the family. In most cases there is no further fire play, in rare cases where behaviour has continued a referral to other programmes can be made. This is a 4-session education programme for children and young people who have been lighting fires at home or out in the community, they may have had attention from the Police already. The sessions are carried out at the nearest Fire Station with the person who referred the child.

Each session lasts approximately one hour. Young people will learn about the Fire Service and the wideranging devastating consequences of deliberate fire setting. On completing the 4 sessions the young person will have an opportunity to meet Firefighters, have a Station tour and they will receive a certificate for their achievement. The Firesafe Programme

This a 10 session programme which uses the principles of cognitive behavioural therapy to address fire setting behaviour.

We offer this programme to young people who have been charged with Arson or other fire crime. Referrals are usually made by Youth Offending Services and the programme can be written into a Court Order.

Other agencies can also refer and a young person can become involved voluntarily. The sessions are carried out at the nearest Fire Station and the person who refers or other appropriate adult needs to attend with the young person. Each session will last around an hour.

On completion of the programme the young person will get the opportunity to meet Firefighters, have a station tour and they will receive a Certificate for their achievement.

*For further information on any of the above programmes please contact: F.I.S. TEAM*, Community Safety, Forest View Business Park, Llantrisant, CF72 8LX Tel: 01443 232407/2436 • Fax: 01443 232418 • Email: fis@southwales-fire.gov.uk

