

Firefighter's

SAFETY BOOKLET



Stop and Think

Your Name:

LEICESTERSHIRE
FIRE and RESCUE SERVICE

safer communities

ARSON



The word ARSON is defined by the Concise Oxford Dictionary as the act of maliciously setting fire to property

- a) Which of the following words do you think can be used instead of malicious?
b) Draw a line from the picture to each word that you think means malicious.
Use a dictionary to check.



benevolent

resourceful

malevolent

vicious

? ?

spiteful

humorous

? ?

malign

venomous

malicious

desperate

good-natured

Recent UK fire statistics show that in an average week 1,200 deliberate fires are started, 50 people are injured and 2 people die.

The cost is at least £40 million to our society per week.

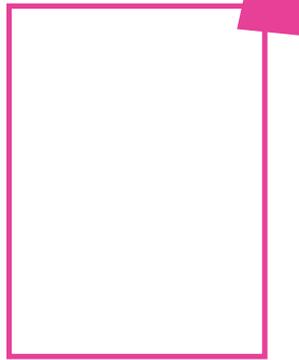
As there are 52 weeks in one year, that is a cost of $52 \times \text{£}40$ million. A total of **£2,080,000,000!!**

Remember – you and your family are part of our society. Who pays for arson in the future? YOU WILL!

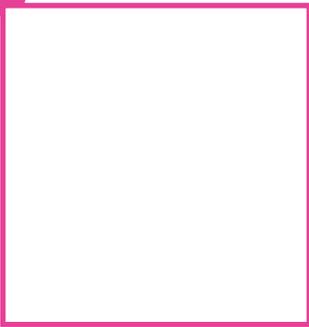
COSTS and CONSEQUENCES of Arson to Society

Although the cost of arson to society is a staggering 40 million pounds every week, it is impossible to put a price on the human suffering and upset that the deaths and injuries due to arson can cause.

Think about the many costs and consequences of arson to our society and add your own pictures and labels to the diagram below. Consider WHO may be affected by arson and HOW.



Costs and Consequences of Arson to Society



ALL THE NEWS FOR ALL THE FAMILY

Established 1875

Leicester Echo

36p

SATURDAY, JULY 24, 2010

3-FOR-2 OFFER ON LOCAL ATTRACTIONS!

SMOKE ALARM WAKES FAMILY

DAD AND KIDS FLEE ARSON TERROR

by ALEC JOHNSTON

A father and three children were rescued from their blazing Leicester home today after arsonists pushed burning paper through a letterbox.

The sleeping four were saved after a smoke alarm woke them up at dawn at their home in Sandcroft Close, New Parks.

Stuart Parker, 42, and his daughters Chloe, 9, Ellie, 4 and son Tom, 11, were all in the same bedrooms when the alarm went off.

Mr Parker looked out of the door to see flames in the hall and think smoke rising up the stairs. He opened the bedroom door shut and called the fire service, who advised him to stay in the bedrooms and seal off the rooms as best he could with quilts at the bottom of the door.

As he waited, Mr Parker banged desperately on the wall to try and attract the attention of his parents, Ted and Dorothy Parker, who lived next door.

Ted Parker, aged 76, said "We know nothing until we heard the firemen knocking down the door to reach Stuart and the children. Stuart managed to carry Ellie downstairs, and the fireman helped the two older children get out. They were badly shaken. We thought Stuart was alright, but he collapsed about an hour later and had to be rushed to the Leicester Royal Infirmary.



PHOTOGRAPH: Stuart Parker with his children (from left) Chloe, Ellie and Tom and brother Ted Parker

Mr Parker said he had run when he was responsible, adding that he had lived there 20 years without problems.

He said "I think I want to go to hospital but I just passed out when the firemen and Police interviewed me". Fire investigators said Police CID officers were at the scene this morning.

A fire official said today: "We could have been dealing with multiple fatalities on this case - without the smoke alarm it is unlikely that the family would have woken up".

Investigators suggest that lighted paper was pushed through the letterbox. That then set fire to strips of old wallpaper and a sheet that had been left in the hall while Mr Parker was celebrating.

Anyone who saw anything acting suspiciously in the area at the time is asked to urgently contact police on 0115 9552222 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.



Read the newspaper article opposite.



a) What woke the family up and saved their lives?

.....

.....

b) What fire safety advice did the fire and rescue service give to the family on the telephone?
How did this advice keep them safe?

.....

.....

.....

.....

c) Imagine that you were also in the house that night and a victim of the arson attack.

On a separate piece of paper, describe your thoughts and feelings to a journalist who interviews you later that day. Start from being woken up from a deep sleep by the smoke alarm.

Unfortunately the fire and rescue service is sometimes called out to fires and accidents that do not exist. Such hoax calls make firefighters very angry because they know from experience that hoax calls cost lives.

FOXA CALLO

Making a hoax call to the emergency services is a criminal offence and all hoax calls can be traced.

Produce a poster, targeted at children, to put in telephone kiosks. The poster must clearly explain the dangers of making a hoax call and would stop them from doing so.



THINK!!!

Most accidents are due to carelessness.
Here's an example of a bad house fire:



Lighter left where young child can play with it



Windows locked and no-one can find the keys



No battery in the smoke alarm

A family is trapped in a fire in their home



A young child scared and hides in the wardrobe



A man falls asleep whilst smoking

A working smoke alarm will give the family warning of the fire and more time to get out.

Now can you imagine a serious road accident? Here are three possible scenarios:

- 1) A girl is knocked down by a car while she's on her mobile phone.
- 2) A cyclist hits his head hard on the pavement when a van knocks him off his bike.
- 3) A passenger is hurt in a car crash.

Now look at the example of the house fire above. Choose one of the road accident examples and write it in a small circle in the middle of a piece of paper. Then, in bigger circles around it, draw or write all the things that made it more likely that:

- 1) The accident would happen
- 2) The injuries would be serious

Getting Around

SAFELY



1. Sasha wants to cycle from her house in Basingham Avenue to the station. Green Lanes is too busy for her to cycle on, but it has a wide pavement. Norton Road has humps to slow the traffic down, and a cycle lane. Plan the safest route for Sasha to get to the station.
2. Sasha's younger brother walks to school. Plan his safest route.

Did you know?

- Last year LFRS attended at least two serious road traffic collisions every day.
- Traffic is the biggest single killer of 12-16 year olds.
- Over half of all road accidents involving children happen during the hour before or after school.

NEWS! NEWS! NEWS!

1 RACIST ARSON ATTACK ON LEICESTER MOSQUE

A fire started deliberately in a mosque in the centre of Leicester caused £80,000 of damage. Locks on the main doors of the mosque were broken and the intruders used petrol to set fire to the entrance hall.

Firefighters wearing breathing apparatus battled for more than 3 hours to bring the blaze under control. One firefighter was seriously injured when part of the ceiling collapsed on him; his condition today is described as 'critical'.

A community leader for the mosque said "Sadly, our prayers are often interrupted by a group of men who run in and chant racist remarks. Last week one of them threatened to start a fire. The mosque is a place of prayer and peace. The whole community is upset by the fire".

3 SACKED SHOP WORKER TAKES REVENGE

A 29 year old woman was today starting a six year prison sentence for the crime of arson.

Sarah Williams had been sacked from Kwik-Save earlier this year for stealing money. In court, Miss Williams admitted to setting fire to the store because she was angry with her supervisor and wanted to get her own back.

A detailed forensic investigation by fire safety officers produced conclusive evidence that the fire had been started deliberately by Miss Williams.

The fire caused nearly £5,000 worth of damage and lost stock. However fire crews saved the premises thanks to prompt action.

2 TWO YOUTHS HELD AFTER BLAZE AT CYCLE SHOP

Two youths were arrested on suspicion of arson after fire swept through two floors of the Charnwood Cycles premises in the early hours of yesterday morning.

Three fire crews rushed to the scene to find the building well alight about 4.00am. This latest incident follows a recent break in at the shop in which a £2,500 cycle was stolen among other items.

Following the break in, extra security measures were installed and it is believed that when those involved in yesterday's incident could not break into the shop, they decided to set fire to it instead.

At least 50 cycles were damaged in the blaze, with some frames twisting and melting in the heat.

Two 15 year old boys were arrested yesterday afternoon and were detained for questioning.

ARSONISTS COST SCHOOL £60,000

Arsonists are being blamed for the fire at a Loughborough school, which caused £60,000 worth of damage as three classrooms were completely destroyed.

Police and Fire Investigation Officers were called to the scene after the blaze ripped through the temporary wooden classrooms.

A press officer told us "Clear glass was found underneath burnt out debris inside the classroom". This means it smashed before the fire was started. Textbooks, video resources and pupils exam work were all lost in the fire.

Be A FIRE DETECTIVE

In groups, read the newspaper articles on page 7

Why do you think each fire was started?

Use the table below to record the information and write down your ideas about each article.

Look through local newspapers for any articles about fires that have been started deliberately, or the cause is described as suspicious. Add the information to your table.

ARTICLE	DETAILS OF FIRE	DAMAGE / CONSEQUENCES	WHY DO YOU THINK THE FIRE WAS STARTED?



Did you know?

The maximum sentence for the crime of arson is **LIFE IMPRISONMENT!**

Effects of **DRUGS** and **ALCOHOL**



Do you know the answers to these two facts?

1) Most accidental fires in the home are caused by:

- A) **unattended cooking** B) **electrical fault** C) **unattended candles**

2) The most common cause of fatal accidental fires in the home is:

- A) **smouldering cigarettes** B) **electrical fault** C) **unattended cooking**

However in many cases the real cause of these fires is the use of drugs or alcohol.

Even very small amounts of alcohol and other drugs make people more careless, forgetful and clumsy. They have slower reactions and they are more likely to take risks, or behave in ways which may be harmful to themselves or others.

The following are some typical incidents which firefighters have to attend

- 1) Think about how the use of drugs or alcohol may have contributed to each of these incidents.
- 2) Write or discuss a short description of what you think may have happened.

Saturday 1:00am Road traffic collision - young man knocked down by a car



Answers
1) A) unattended cooking
2) A) smouldering cigarettes

Friday 11:30pm Students kitchen burnt out - cause: a chip pan fire

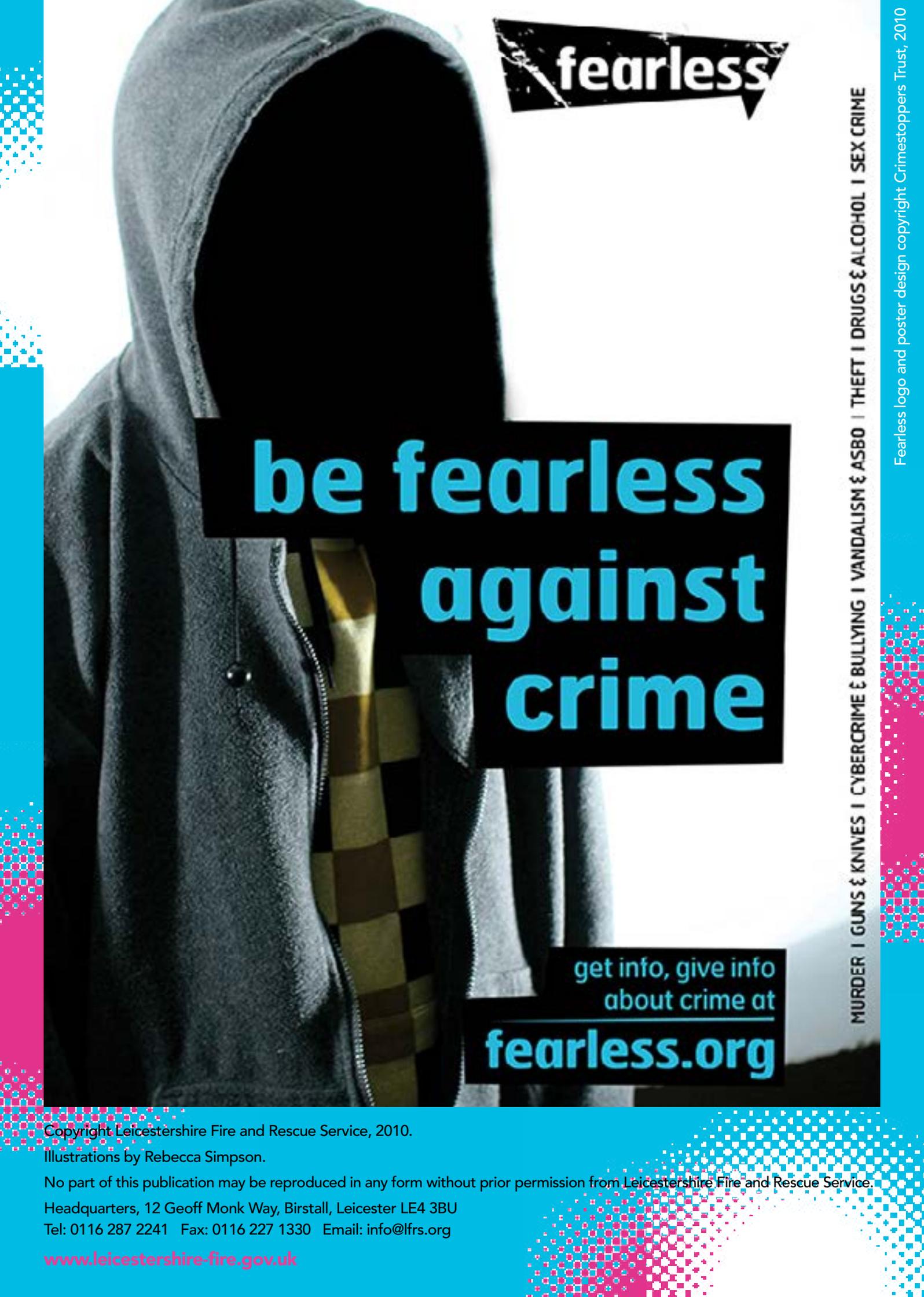


Sunday 3:00am Fatality - single male in bedroom - probable cause: a cigarette dropping onto duvet



Wednesday 8:00pm Deliberate fire in a bin in the park





fearless

**be fearless
against
crime**

get info, give info
about crime at
fearless.org

MURDER | GUNS & KNIVES | CYBERCRIME & BULLYING | VANDALISM & ASBO | THEFT | DRUGS & ALCOHOL | SEX CRIME

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