



R B F & R S

news release

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BONFIRE NIGHT SUMMARY

Berkshire firefighters received 20 bonfire-related calls on Bonfire Night, the majority of which were well-intentioned false alarms or several calls relating to the same incident.

Thirteen calls related to the Reading area, four to Slough, two to Bracknell and one to Maidenhead. No casualties were reported.

Community safety manager for Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service, Paul Jacques, said: "It is encouraging that people seem to have taken on board the messages about being careful and enjoying their bonfire night celebrations safely. We hope that those who may be waiting until the weekend to celebrate will choose to visit an organised firework and bonfire display.

"However, we did have to attend a couple of bonfires which could potentially have got out of hand. If you are planning an event at home, please remember:

Don't stack your bonfire too high
Don't site it near a shed, hedge, your or a neighbour's home or anything flammable
NEVER use petrol or other accelerants – it's a recipe for disaster
Don't try and burn household rubbish, furniture or tyres – the fumes could be toxic

"People can help us by following this advice as although we will always attend if necessary, it is far better to be safe than sorry."

ENDS.