



# R B F & R S

## news release

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### **RBFRS JOINS FORCES WITH COUNCIL TO SUPPORT CARERS' WEEK**

Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service (RBFRS) is supporting Carers' Week (8-14 June) by teaming up with Reading Borough Council to host a series of information events.

Carers' Week is a national event which aims to raise awareness of the issues carers can face and to celebrate the invaluable contribution they make. By providing unpaid care for someone they know who is ill, frail or disabled, carers save the economy an incredible £87 billion. Despite this, many people do not identify themselves as carers and are therefore missing out on the information, advice and practical support they are entitled to.

RBFRS, along with representatives from the Council's Housing & Community Care and Financial Assessment & Benefits departments, will be holding information events from their Community Safety bus on the following dates:

<b>Monday 8 June</b>	<b>10am-4pm</b>	<b>Morrisons, Basingstoke Road</b>
<b>Thursday 11 June</b>	<b>11am-7pm</b>	<b>Near Marks &amp; Spencer, Broad Street</b>
<b>Friday 12 June</b>	<b>10am-4pm</b>	<b>Outside the Civic Centre</b>

Visitors will be able to find out about fire safety advice and information, including safety in the home and how to make a fire escape plan. They will also have the opportunity to book a free Home Fire Safety Check, which includes the installation of free ten-year battery smoke alarms where necessary. In addition, carers will be able to find out about benefits and other support they may be entitled to from the Council (Monday and Thursday only).

Matt Taylor, Community Development Worker at RBFRS, said: "We are delighted to be working in partnership with Reading Borough Council at these events. Carers do a fantastic job, which often goes unrecognised, and we want to ensure that they have all the information, advice and support they need. We hope to see many carers at the information events – there's no need for people to book, just pop along at any time during the given times."

**If you are not available on any of the dates above but would still like to book a free Home Fire Safety Check, please call freephone 0800 587 6679 or email [community.safety@rbfrs.co.uk](mailto:community.safety@rbfrs.co.uk)**

**ENDS.**

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