



R B F & R S

news release

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RBFRS AND COUNCIL TEAM UP TO SUPPORT CARERS' WEEK

Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service (RBFRS) is supporting Carers' Week (14-20 June) by hosting an information event in partnership with Reading Borough Council (RBC).

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. The theme for this year's event is 'a life of my own', highlighting the importance of supporting carers and how many carers miss out on things most people take for granted.

RBFRS Community Safety staff and representatives from RBC's Housing & Community Care and Financial Assessments & Benefits teams will be holding the information event from their Community Safety vehicle on **Broad Street (near Marks & Spencer) on Friday 18 June from 10am – 4pm.**

Visitors will be able to find out more about fire safety issues, including how to prevent a fire in the home and how to make a potentially lifesaving fire escape plan. Carers will also have the opportunity to book a free Home Fire Safety Check, during which RBFRS staff will visit them in their own homes at a pre-arranged time, check the home thoroughly and give advice on how to keep themselves safe from fire and other hazards. Free ten-year battery smoke alarms will also be installed where necessary.

In addition, carers will be able to find out about benefits and other support they may be entitled to from the Council.

Selina Sheikh, RBFRS Community Safety Co-ordinator for Reading, said: "The aim of the event is to make sure that carers aren't missing out on any of the services and benefits they may be entitled to. We hope lots of people will come and see us on the day to find out about reducing the risk of fire in the home and book their free Home Fire Safety Check. There's no need to make an appointment, just pop along any time between 10am and 4pm."

ENDS.