



**DEVON &
SOMERSET**
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

Protect your business from fire

75% of businesses do not recover from a serious fire

Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service are trying to reduce the risk of fire in all residential and commercial properties. This is an increasingly important issue, as fire authorities no longer issue fire certificates and those previously in force have no legal status. The emphasis is now on individual businesses to manage any fire risk in their premises.

Each year people die or are seriously injured as a result of fires at work. Besides loss of life, fire costs UK businesses millions of pounds, from damage to property, loss of business, fines, compensation claims and insurance premiums.

The cost of fire damage now stands at a record level according to research published by the ABI (Association of British Insurers). In the first half of 2009, insurers paid out £639 million - £3.6 million every day - for damage caused by fires. This is the highest half yearly figure ever, and follows on from last year's record high level of fire claim costs.

Don't become a statistic act now and protect your business from fire

The enclosed leaflets have been included to help you protect your business from fire and comply with the Fire Safety legislation. They explain how you can manage your fire risks as well as deciding what general fire precautions you need to take.

Prevention is better than cure

The average cost of a fire in a commercial building is £58,100. Fire prevention is key to a safe working environment. Once you have completed a **fire risk assessment** and possible dangers have been identified you must minimise them immediately. Failure to do so could result in prosecution or worse; a fire could destroy your business.

For further information on Fire Risk Assessment (FRA) and how to comply with The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 go to www.communities.gov.uk/fire/ or www.dsfire.gov.uk

Alternatively you can ring our fire safety helpline for advice and guidance on 01392 872288 (note: The Service does not do your Fire Risk Assessment for you).