

FIRE SAFETY GUIDANCE FOR CARAVAN SITES



Gwasanaeth Tân ac Achub
Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru

Mid and West Wales
Fire and Rescue Service

mawwfire.gov.uk

THIS FIRE SAFETY GUIDANCE NOTE IS TO INFORM YOU HOW TO MEET YOUR FIRE SAFETY RESPONSIBILITIES WITH REGARD TO THE REGULATORY REFORM (FIRE SAFETY) ORDER 2005 (RRO) WHICH APPLIES TO CARAVAN SITES AND IS ENFORCED BY THE FIRE AUTHORITY.



Responsibility for complying with the Order rests with the 'responsible person.' In a workplace, this is the employer and any other person who may have control of any part of the premises, e.g. the occupier or owner.

The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 (RRO) Article 9 of the RRO states that the Responsible Person must make a suitable and sufficient assessment of the risks to which relevant persons are exposed for the purpose of identifying the "general fire precautions" he/she needs to take to comply with the requirements and prohibitions imposed on him/her by the Order.

If you are the responsible person you must arrange for a competent person to carry out a fire risk assessment which must focus on the safety of all 'relevant persons' in case of fire. It should pay particular attention to those at special risk, such as disabled people, those you know have special needs and children, and must include consideration of any dangerous substance liable to be on the premises. Your fire risk assessment will help you identify risks that can be removed or reduced and will contribute toward the nature and extent of the general fire precautions you need to take.

GENERAL FIRE PRECAUTIONS

General fire precautions include measures such as:

1. the means of escape in case of fire;
2. the means of securing the means of escape, including fire-fighting arrangements;
3. the means for giving warning in case of fire; and
4. the management of measures 1-3 above, including staff training, fire drills and testing/ maintenance of fire-fighting equipment and fire alarms.

As part of the assessment you must ensure that an effective emergency plan is prepared. All persons affected should be made aware of the contents and be trained in the action to be taken in case of fire.

Your attention is drawn to the publication **Fire Safety Guide to Open Air Events and Venues** ISBN-13: 978 1 85112 823 5 which provides information for the responsible person about the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005.

This publication is available from Mid west wales fire and rescue website (<http://www.mawwfire.gov.uk/English/Safety/Business-Fire-Safety/Pages/Fire-Safety-Law-and-Guidance-for-Business.aspx>)

A fire risk assessment template that may be suitable for your use is available in the Business Safety section of Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service's website (www.mawwfire.gov.uk)

FIRE SAFETY ARRANGEMENTS

It would be an expected outcome of a suitable and sufficient fire risk assessment for caravan and camping sites that the following or equally effective measures should be in place:



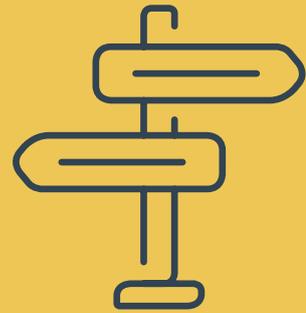
- Fire points should be established so that no caravan or site building is more than 30m from a fire point. They should be housed in a weatherproof structure, easily accessible and clearly and conspicuously marked "FIRE POINT".



- Where water standpipes are provided and there is a water supply of sufficient pressure and flow to project a jet of water approximately

5m from the nozzle, such water standpipes should be situated at each fire point. There should also be a reel that complies with British Standard 5306 Part 1, with a hose not less than 30m long, having a means of connection to a water standpipe (preferably a screw thread connection) with a water supply of sufficient pressure and terminating in a small hand control nozzle. Hoses should be housed in a box painted red and marked "HOSE REEL".

- Where standpipes are not provided but there is a water supply of sufficient pressure and flow, fire hydrants should be installed within 100m of every caravan standing. Hydrants should conform to British Standard 750. Access to hydrants and other water supplies should not be obstructed or obscured.



- Where standpipes are not provided or the water pressure or flow is not sufficient, each fire point should be provided with water extinguishers (2 x 9 litre).



- A means of raising the alarm in the event of a fire should be provided at each fire point. This could be by means of a manually operated sounder eg, metal triangle with a striker, gong or hand operated siren. The advice of the fire authority should be sought on an appropriate system.

- All alarms and fire fighting equipment should be installed, tested and maintained in working order by a competent person and be available for inspection by, or on behalf of, the enforcing authority. A logbook should be kept to record all tests and any remedial action.



- All equipment susceptible to damage by frost should be suitably protected.
- A clearly written and conspicuous notice should be provided and maintained at each fire point to indicate the action to be taken in case of fire and the location of the nearest telephone. This notice should include the following:

On discovering a fire:

1. Ensure the caravan or site building involved is evacuated
2. Raise the alarm
3. Call the fire brigade (the nearest telephone is sited)
4. Tackle the fire using the fire fighting equipment provided, if safe to do so.
5. It is in the interest of all occupiers of this site to be familiar with the above routine and the method of operating the fire alarm and fire fighting equipment.



- Long grass and vegetation should be cut at frequent and regular intervals where necessary to prevent it becoming a fire hazard to caravans, buildings or other installations on the site. Any such cuttings should be removed from the vicinity of caravans.

- The space beneath and between caravans should not be used for the storage of combustible materials.



- An immediately accessible telephone should be available on the site for calling the emergency services. A notice by the telephone should include the address of the site.