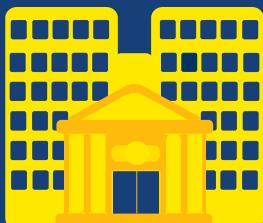




MERSEYSIDE  
FIRE & RESCUE  
SERVICE

# Safer Business: DON'T LEAVE IT **OPEN** TO FIRE.



Information & advice to  
reduce deliberate fires  
at your business.



## Deliberate fires

Arson is the most common cause of fires in retail premises, but most arson attacks are actually unplanned and opportunist crime.

Follow our advice to help protect your business.

## Good housekeeping

- Waste is a potential fuel source for fire. Ensure that waste management is covered in your business Fire Risk Assessment
- Waste should be in a secure area, away from buildings and not accessible through perimeter fencing
- Skips, recycling containers and bins should be kept away from building eaves or canopies
- Entrances and exits should be clear at all times
- Keep external areas clear and tidy so intruders are visible and there is less to interest opportunists
- Plan ahead for busy periods when you have more stock or waste materials.



Did you know  
**86%**  
of businesses that have a fire never recover from it?

## Protect your premises

- Make perimeters secure and consider installing security lighting and CCTV (to support a prosecution it needs to be 4 megapixels and 1080p resolution)
- Consider installing anti-arson letterboxes on entry doors
- Have a clear signing-in and out procedure for staff and visitors
- Report vandalism and anti-social behaviour that may lead to fire-setting
- Remember to change security codes regularly, especially when staff leave the organisation.

## Involve & inform your staff

- Staff are your biggest asset - a vigilant workforce can protect your business
- Have a clear process for opening and closing premises to ensure the site is secure
- Ensure staff know about fire prevention and have a process to report concerns.



**CrimeStoppers.**  
**0800 555111**  
100% anonymous. Always.

Make sure your premises are regularly checked to ensure that the security of the building is not compromised and identify any attempts of arson. If you have information relating to arson, you should report it to CrimeStoppers.

# **Business Fire Safety: Need to know essentials**

**If you own, manage or operate a business, you have a legal duty to ensure you and your staff know what to do to prevent a fire in the workplace, and how to escape if a fire does break out:**



All businesses need a competent person to undertake a fire risk assessment which will then inform them of what they need to do next



Properly manage ignition sources and combustibles - 'No fuel - No fire'. Follow our 'Good Housekeeping' advice in this leaflet



Train your staff, make sure they understand how to evacuate the building and how to raise the alarm. Check your fire alarm is working correctly and carry out regular drills.



Put appropriate arrangements in place to maintain and manage things like emergency lighting systems or ventilation - they are all there to help people escape. Make sure firefighting equipment is well maintained and staff know how to use it safely.

Think about business continuity - Follow our 'Protect your premises' advice and consider storing data offsite and have suppression systems to protect premises (sprinklers etc).

**Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service switchboard**

**0151 296 4000**

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Violence  
Reduction  
Partnership

**Working together to tackle Arson**

