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Automatic Fire Alarms:

Our response

Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service responded to nearly 1,050 calls to Automatic Fire Alarms (AFAs) in 2015/16.

Just over 1% of these calls required any firefighting actions. The rest were caused by either a faulty system or accidental activation, e.g. as a result of cooking fumes.

AFAs cost businesses time and money diverting firefighters from genuine emergencies and other duties. They also place road users and pedestrians at risk as fire engines respond at speed on blue lights.

We are committed to reducing the number of false alarms we attend so from April 1st 2017 the way we respond to AFAs has changed.

This booklet explains the process that Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service follows. It is important that you read this information and consider how it might affect your school or business. It is also important to update your fire risk assessment to reflect these changes.

www.cheshirefire.gov.uk

We **WILL** respond to an Automatic Fire Alarm if:

- Somebody calls us to confirm that the alarm is sounding because there is a fire, in other words it is not a false alarm.
- The alarm is sounding at premises where there could be people sleeping such as hospitals, care homes, hotels, hostels, domestic homes and halls of residence.
- The alarm is sounding at a very high risk industrial site or high-rise premises.

We **WON'T** respond to an Automatic Fire Alarm:

- In a non-sleeping premises unless the alarm has been backed up by a call confirming that there is a fire.

