

# Fuel Stamp Scheme

## Stamp your way to a warmer home

The fuel stamp scheme is designed to help householders spread the cost of their central heating oil and solid fuel.

### How does the scheme work?

Collect a free fuel stamp collection card from any participating retailer.

Complete the name, address and telephone number section as soon as you receive the card. Stamps costing £5.00 can be purchased from any participating retailer across the district. Once purchased, place the fuel stamps onto the card in the numbered spaces.

### Can I use any fuel stamp on my collection card?

You can only use Mid Ulster District Council fuel stamps or stamps that you have previously bought through the former Cookstown, Dungannon or Magherafelt Council Schemes.

### What do I do when I need fuel?

When you need oil or coal, contact your preferred participating supplier and let them know the amount of oil or coal you require and the value of the stamps you have saved.

The card, either complete or partly complete, can then be used as payment or part payment for heating oil or solid fuel with participating suppliers.

Partly completed cards can be used towards the cost of your fuel. If you use a partly completed card, then the cost of your order should be at least to the value of the stamps you have saved to date.

It is your responsibility to agree with your chosen fuel supplier the price, delivery amount and payment method.

### Where can I purchase stamps?

Stamps can be purchased from any participating retailer. The list of participating retailers and fuel suppliers is available from Mid Ulster District Council.

T: **03000 132 132**

E: [environmentalhealth@midulstercouncil.org](mailto:environmentalhealth@midulstercouncil.org)

W: [www.midulstercouncil.org/fuelstamps](http://www.midulstercouncil.org/fuelstamps)



Comhairle Ceantair  
**Lár Uladh**  
**Mid Ulster**  
District Council

[www.midulstercouncil.org/fuelstamps](http://www.midulstercouncil.org/fuelstamps)



**make a change**  
a helping hand for your health



- Are you aged 50 or over?
- Do you live in Cookstown, Dungannon or Magherafelt?
- Are you interested in making a small change for your health and getting support to do this?

**Make A Change** is for anyone aged 50 or over who is interested in changing something they currently do to make a difference to their life. If you like the idea of getting one-to-one support to get more active or eat more healthily, **Make A Change** could be for you.

With **Make A Change**, **you don't have to do it alone**. The **Make A Change** Health Support Officer will work closely with you over a period of weeks or even months, to help you along the way.

**You decide what you want to change.**  
**We give you help to *change* it.**

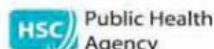
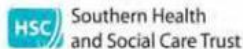
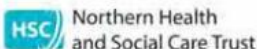
The service is confidential and **FREE** of charge.  
**Like the sound of this?**

**Then contact the Health Support Officer :**

**Email: [health.wellbeing@midulstercouncil.org](mailto:health.wellbeing@midulstercouncil.org)**

**or**

**Telephone: 03000 132 132**



**Make A Change** is a joint initiative between the partners above and is funded by the Public Health Agency.

# Mid Ulster Home Safety Scheme

Mid Ulster Home Safety Scheme helps those over 65, families with children under 5 and vulnerable adults/children avoid serious accidents within the home.

The scheme includes:

- Free Home Safety Visits
- Home Safety equipment (where criteria is met)
- Home Safety talks to groups (open to all age groups).

## Have you had your FREE Home Safety Visit?

Every year, there are thousands of accidents and injuries in our homes, from burns and scalds to trips and falls. The Mid Ulster Home Safety Scheme aims to reduce the number of accidents which happen in the home by providing information and advice.

## Can anyone apply for a FREE Home Safety Check?

If you:

Are **65 or over**, have a **child under 5** or a **vulnerable adult/child** then you are eligible for a free home safety check.

If you request a home safety check, or are referred for a check by someone like a health visitor, a Home Safety Officer will visit your home when it's convenient. It's a relaxed and informal visit, giving you an opportunity to discuss any home safety concerns you might have.

The Home Safety Officer will discuss important areas of home safety and establish what safety equipment you may need.



## Can anyone apply for Home Safety Equipment?

This scheme is primarily about the provision of home safety advice however there are some pieces of home safety equipment available where the need is identified and criteria met.

Equipment is free to anyone 65 or over. If you are in a household with children under 5, equipment is only provided free of charge if you are in receipt of certain qualifying benefits.

### These are:

- Income Support
- Job seeker's allowance (income based)
- Employment and Support Allowance (formally known as incapacity benefit)
- Working Tax Credits
- Housing Benefit
- Free School Meals

Or, if your Health Visitor or Home Safety Officer confirms that you are not able to afford safety equipment because of social or health circumstances, you may be entitled to free equipment.



## What do I need to do?

If you would like to receive a home safety visit, would like further information or to arrange a Home Safety talk for a group, simply contact your local Home Safety Officer.

**Call** 03000 132 132

**Email** [environmentalhealth@midulstercouncil.org](mailto:environmentalhealth@midulstercouncil.org)



Mid Ulster District Council  
**Information For Residents**

# Energy Efficiency Advice Service



The Energy Efficiency Advice Service is a 1-1 personal approach to manage the energy efficiency of domestic properties within Mid Ulster District Council.

## Are you, or someone you know, living in a cold or damp home?

The Energy Advisor can provide tailored support for clients including the generation of referrals to other available support schemes.

**For further information please contact Mid Ulster District Council and ask to speak to the Energy Efficiency Adviser on 03000 132 132 or email [health.wellbeing@midulster.council.org](mailto:health.wellbeing@midulster.council.org)**

## What assistance is available from your local council?

- Onward referrals for heating and insulation grants.
- Bespoke energy efficiency advice.
- Home visits to provide tailored information and support.
- Information on local oil buying clubs.
- Information on fuel/oil stamp schemes.
- Attendance at talks and events.



# FEEL BETTER



## Living with cancer? We'll help you get active

Taking part in physical activity during and after cancer treatment can play a huge part in enabling you to take back control. That's why Macmillan and Mid Ulster District Council have a project in your area called Move More to help you get and stay active at a pace that suits you.

**For more information contact the Move More  
Co-ordinator for your area on**

 **077 8868 2163**

 **movemore@midulstercouncil.org**

In partnership with



Comhairle Ceantair  
**Lár Uladh**  
**Mid Ulster**  
District Council



Northern Health  
and Social Care Trust



Southern Health  
and Social Care Trust

Macmillan Cancer Support, registered charity in England and Wales (261017), Scotland (SC039907) and the Isle of Man (604). Also operating in Northern Ireland.

**MOVE  
MORE**

**MACMILLAN  
CANCER SUPPORT**



# Mid Ulster District Council Exercise Referral Scheme **PARS**



Comhairle Ceantair  
**Lár Uladh**  
**Mid Ulster**  
District Council



Public Health  
Agency

Mid Ulster District Council Scheme in partnership with  
The Public Health Agency and Primary Health Care  
Representatives

Contact your Local Surgery or Leisure facility for more information

Maghera Leisure Centre on (028) 7954 7400  
or Dungannon Leisure Centre on (028) 8772 0370

## What is 'PARS'?

The 'PARS' Scheme is designed to aid individuals who have been identified by their Doctor, Health Professional or Medical Practitioner to take up the benefits of participating in enjoyable exercise.

As that individual, you will receive an 12 week activity programme designed specifically to your needs and will be under the guidance of Mid Ulster District Council's highly qualified Physical Activity Referral Co-ordinator.

It is a fact that taking regular exercise dramatically increases your chances of living healthier and longer. The current recommendation for physical activity is 30 minutes of moderate activity (like brisk walking) on five or more days of the week.

## Who can be referred?

You can be referred if you have one, or more, of the following conditions, or risk factors that affect your health and wellbeing.

Clients must be:

- 19 years or over
- Inactive (not currently meeting the PA guidelines of 150 minutes of moderate activity, or 75 minutes of vigorous activity per week)
- Motivated to change.

- Mild or Moderate Mental Health Conditions
- High blood pressure (Hypertension)
- High Cholesterol (Hyperlipidaemia)
- Impaired Glucose levels or Diabetes
- Arthritis, low back pain
- Family history of Heart Disease
- Musculoskeletal Conditions
- Asthma, Bronchitis or COPD
- Obese (BMI >25 and < than 40)

Ask your Doctor, Health Professional or Medical Practitioner if you are eligible for referral.





## How do I get on the Scheme?

1. Visit your Doctor's Surgery. If you are eligible, your Doctor, Health Professional or Medical Practitioner will complete a 'Medical Referral for Exercise' online form.
2. The PARS Coordinator will then contact you by telephone or letter with an appointment for your initial consultation.
3. Your initial consultation will consist of a full explanation of the scheme and a health assessment.
4. A programme will then be devised to suit your primary reason for referral.
5. Over the 12 weeks, your programme may include group activities such as using the Leisure facilities Gym, Group Classes, Walking and many more.

## How much does it cost?

### Option 1

Free  
12 x 1 hour sessions.

### Option 2

Special Reduced Membership  
£10 per month for 3 months  
Includes the 12 x 1 hour sessions plus access to fitness suite, health suite, fitness classes and swimming pool\*  
*\*dependant on facility.*

## Exercise can:

- Make you feel good
- Keep your heart strong
- Give you more energy
- Reduce blood pressure
- Help you sleep better
- Help reduce stress
- Help you manage your weight

## Physical Activity Referral Scheme

For further information about the Physical Activity Referral Scheme contact the Co-Ordinator at Maghera Leisure Centre on (028) 7954 7400 Or Dungannon Leisure Centre on (028) 8772 0370

The programme is supported by The Public Health Agency in accordance with NICE and the NQAF guidelines.

Physical activity is an essential part of a healthy lifestyle and has a positive effect on a range of medical conditions.





# Home Maintenance Service

A home maintenance worker is available for home visits to carry out security checks, small repairs or household tasks & fit a key safe to facilitate a care package or hospital discharge. This service is provided free of charge to anyone over the age of 65.

Our home maintenance worker can clean spoutings/fascia (bungalow level only & powerhose a small area to allow easy access to your home for a charge of £15/hour up to a maximum of 3 hours.

**For more information please contact  
T. 028 7963 2170**





### Power Washing Services



- Power washing and leaf blowing of essential pathways
- Cleaning of guttering/ fascia boards on bungalows.

This is a subsidised rate of just **£15 per hour (maximum of 3 hours)**. Other jobs may also be considered. Please phone us to see if we can help.

### Community Engagement

We engage with a wide range of agencies to help support older and/or vulnerable people throughout Mid Ulster. We can come along and speak to your Group or Staff to inform you about our Services.

**Contact us on 028 7963 2170 or complete our referral form at [www.agewellpartnership.org/referral-form/](http://www.agewellpartnership.org/referral-form/)**



## Contact Us

Unit 3, 80-82 Rainey St  
Magherafelt, BT45 5AJ

**We are here to help -**  
for more information please phone us

Telephone **028 7963 2170**  
Email [marie.devlin@agewellpartnership.org](mailto:marie.devlin@agewellpartnership.org)  
Web [www.agewellpartnership.org](http://www.agewellpartnership.org)



## DONATE TO MID ULSTER AGEWELL PARTNERSHIP

- Have you considered making a small donation to help us deliver more services to more people.
- We are a Social Enterprise and any profit generated will be reinvested into supporting older people within our community.

[www.agewellpartnership.org/donate](http://www.agewellpartnership.org/donate)  
Mid Ulster Agewell is a registered charity  
Charity No:- 101860



A local Partnership aimed at **improving** services for older people living in the Mid Ulster District Council Area



**Tel 028 7963 2170**  
[www.agewellpartnership.org](http://www.agewellpartnership.org)



## Who are we?

Mid Ulster Agewell is a partnership covering the Mid Ulster District council area, working together to improve services for older people in our community.



### Good Morning Telephone Call

- We provide a daily phone call (Monday-Friday) at an agreed time to anyone over the age of 50, the call is friendly and confidential.
- The phone call provides social contact, reassurance and a listening ear to ensure you or your loved ones are safe and well and can act as a reminder for appointments.
- The Good Morning Call can keep you updated with events and activities in your community and connect you into other services
  - Luncheon Clubs
  - Community Groups e.g. Arts & Crafts, Physical activities e.g. Yoga, Tai Chi, Pilates, Walking Groups and Gardening Group
  - Benefit Entitlement Checks
  - Mid Ulster District Council: Health & Wellbeing Programmes e.g. Home Accident Prevention, Make a Change towards a healthier lifestyle

## What we do

We work with the local community throughout the Mid Ulster District Council area, providing services to older people to stay independent at home for as long as possible.

### Home Maintenance Service for the over 65's

Are you 65 years old, living in the Mid Ulster District Council areas with little or no family support, then Mid Ulster Agewell may be able to help.

We can provide some FREE services to help prevent trips and falls to keep people feeling safe at home.

- We can install a Key Safe with a secure 4 digit code to enable carers to access your key so that you don't need to leave your door unlocked.
- Changing light bulbs, putting up a shelf or curtain rail, moving furniture, putting items into or out of the attic.
- We carry out basic security checks e.g. Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms and provide some other safety equipment where necessary.



Why not phone us to see if we are able to help with your odd jobs

Contact us on **028 7963 2170**



Unit 3, 80-82 Rainey St  
Magherafelt, BT45 5AJ

Telephone **028 7963 2170**

Email [marie.devlin@agewellpartnership.org](mailto:marie.devlin@agewellpartnership.org)

Web [www.agewellpartnership.org](http://www.agewellpartnership.org)

## Referral

Please complete and return to us

Name:

Age: 50-65  Over 65

Address:

Contact Telephone No.:

## Services

Please tick as required

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Good Morning Call         | <input type="checkbox"/> Power Washing Service       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Advice and/or information | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Engagement Worker |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Home Maintenance Worker   |  |

Name of person making the referral:

Job Title & Organisation (if appropriate):

Contact Telephone No.:



**Northern Ireland  
Fire & Rescue Service**

## PEOPLE AT RISK PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT WITH

**Mid Ulster District Council**



Comhairle Ceantair  
**Lár Uladh**  
**Mid Ulster**  
District Council



*Safer  
Together*



# Contents

1	INTRODUCTION	4
1.1	Purpose	4
1.2	People at Risk	4
1.3	Aims	4
1.4	Objectives	5
1.5	NIFRS Service	5
1.6	Mid Ulster Council's Services	6
	Home Safety Scheme	6
1.7	Referring to Agency Mid Ulster Council	9
	Home Safety Scheme	9
1.8	Fire Risk Awareness	10
1.9	Referring to Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service	10
2	RESPONSIBILITIES	11
3	PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENTS	12
3.1	Signatories	12
3.2	Public Liability	12
3.3	Termination	12
3.4	Joint Training	12
3.5	Financial Implications	13
4	REVIEW PROCESS	14
4.1	Maintaining the Version Control	14
4.2	Review the Partnership	14
5	SIGNATORIES	15
	APPENDIX 1 – Home Safety Scheme Leaflet	16
	APPENDIX 2 – Fire Risk Awareness Form	18
	APPENDIX 3 – Guidance for your Team	23
	APPENDIX 4 – Joint Evaluation	25

# VERSION CONTROL

This version control is used to maintain a record of the life of the partnership. Each time the partnership is reviewed, re-signed or amended, the version control will be updated to provide a record of evidence in accordance with the review process detailed in Section 4.

## Version Control

Version	Date Approved	Date of Review
01	** June 2023	1 Year
02	** June 2026	3 Years

---



# 1 INTRODUCTION

---

## 1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this partnership agreement is to provide help to people at risk within the community.

This agreement has been prepared by Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS) who will maintain the agreement on behalf of both organisations. The agreement remains valid until superseded by a revised agreement, mutually endorsed by each organisation or until such times as the partnership has been terminated.



## 1.2 People at Risk

We define people at risk as persons who:

- *are aged 50 or older;*
- *have a disability or impaired mobility\*;* or
- *are referred to NIFRS by a partnership agency.*

\*includes people with a health condition that would affect their ability to acknowledge and respond to an emergency in the home.

*NIFRS will also accept referrals for people who fall outside of this definition but who may also be at risk. We will review each referral on a case-by-case basis.*

## 1.3 Aims

The aims of the partnership are to:

- provide additional fire safety advice to people at risk for the mutual benefit of both organisations;
- reduce fire deaths, injuries and fires in the homes of people at risk; and
- improve partnership working for the benefit of both organisations



## 1.4 Objectives

The objectives of this partnership are to:

- help reduce the overall number of accidental fire deaths and fire-related injuries in homes in Northern Ireland;
- provide a free Home Fire Safety Check (HFSC) to every referral from the partnership agency, within 28 days from the date of the referral; and
- provide a reciprocal referral arrangement where NIFRS personnel identify people, through the course of their duty, who could be supported by services offered by Mid Ulster District Council.

## 1.5 NIFRS Service

We will offer a Home Fire Safety Check (HSFC) free of charge to *'People at Risk'* who have been referred by Mid Ulster District Council.



The HFSCs is a visit to the home to offer fire safety advice and ensure that the home is fitted with working smoke alarms.

A HFSC focuses on three areas:

- **The person** – disability, impairments, medication which impact on their ability to acknowledge and respond to an emergency in the home
- **Fire risks** – identification of obvious dangers and causes of fire
- **The person's behaviour** – do they smoke, use alcohol/drugs, do they check their smoke alarms?

We will offer fire safety advice to groups on how to stay safe in the home and share Community Information Bulletins if appropriate.

---

## 1.6 Mid Ulster Council's Services

### Home Safety Scheme

Mid Ulster Home Safety Scheme helps those over 65, families with children under 5 APPENDIX 1 – Home Safety Scheme Leaflet and vulnerable adults/children avoid serious accidents within the home.

The scheme includes:

- Free Home Safety visits
- Home Safety equipment including Carbon Monoxide Alarms (where criteria is met)
- Home Safety talks to groups (open to all age groups)

FREE Home Safety Visit;

- Every year, there are thousands of accidents and injuries in our homes, from burns and scalds to trips and falls.
- Our Home Safety Officers help to raise awareness of the dangers of blind cords and can supply blind safety devices for blinds already in your home.
- The Mid Ulster Home Safety Scheme aims to reduce the number of accidents which happen in the home by providing information and advice.

Who can apply for a home safety check?

Every year, there are thousands of accidents and injuries in our homes, from burns and scalds to trips and falls. The Mid Ulster Home Safety Scheme aims to reduce the number of accidents which happen in the home by providing information and advice.

Can anyone apply for Home Safety equipment?

This scheme is primarily about the provision of home safety advice however there are some pieces of home safety equipment available where the need is identified and criteria met.



Equipment is free to anyone 65 or over. If you are in a household with children under 5, equipment is only provided free of charge if you are in receipt of certain qualifying benefits.

These are:

- Income Support
- Jobseeker's allowance (income based)
- Employment and Support Allowance (formerly known as incapacity benefit)
- Working Tax Credits
- Housing Benefit
- Free School Meals

Or, if your Health Visitor or Home Safety Officer confirms that you are not able to afford safety equipment because of social or health circumstances, you may be entitled to free equipment.

What do I need to do?

If you would like to receive a home safety visit, would like further information or to arrange a Home Safety talk for a group, simply contact your local Home Safety Officer. Contact your local Home Safety Officer by telephoning 03000 132 132 or by emailing [Health.Wellbeing@midulstercouncil.org](mailto:Health.Wellbeing@midulstercouncil.org)

### **Age Friendly Initiative**

Mid Ulster District Council want to help improve the quality of life for older people living in the Mid Ulster area.

What does an Age Friendly area look like?

In an age-friendly community, policies, services and structures related to the physical and social environment are designed to support and enable older people to 'age actively' – that is, to live in security, enjoy good health and continue to participate fully in society.

---

An age-friendly world enables people of all ages to actively participate in community activities and treats everyone with respect, regardless of their age.

It is a place that makes it easy for older people to stay connected to people and things which are important to them.

It also helps people stay healthy and active even at the oldest ages and provides appropriate support to those who can no longer look after themselves.

### **Age Friendly Strategy and Action Plan Consultation**

We have now completed a draft Age Friendly Strategy and three-year Action Plan for the area. The strategy and action plan for 2023-2026 will work to ensure all residents in the district can live in security, enjoy good health, continue to participate fully in society and feel valued and respected – regardless of age.

The Age Friendly Strategy and Action Plan 2023-2026\* have both been developed with the support of funding from the Public Health Agency and the commitment of other partners. After wide engagement older people and partners have highlighted the priorities we need to address within the Mid Ulster District, helping shape a better Age Friendly Community.

If you would like more information:

Email our Age Friendly Coordinator or telephone 03000 132 132 to speak to Raisa.

## 1.7 Referring to Agency Mid Ulster Council

To refer someone for help from Mid Ulster Council – NIFRS staff should follow these steps:

### 1. Gain permission

- Ask the person for permission to share their details and advise that they may be referred for some support.

### 2. Complete a Home Fire Safety Visit and record the following:

- Name of the person making the referral
- Name of the occupier being referred
- Phone number of the occupier being referred
- Full address including the postcode; and the
- Reason for the referral and any additional information that may help.

### 3. District SC P&P<sup>1</sup> should review and request support by

Home Safety Scheme

- Email [Health.Wellbeing@midulstercouncil.org](mailto:Health.Wellbeing@midulstercouncil.org) or
- Call 03000 132 132

Age Friendly Initiative

- Email [raisa.donnelly@midulstercouncil.org](mailto:raisa.donnelly@midulstercouncil.org) or
- Call 03000 132 132

### 4. Updating Crews

- The SC P&P should provide updates to the crew or individual who made the referral, the update should include:
  - i. If the referral was forwarded to Mid Ulster Council or,
  - ii. If the referral was forwarded to another partner or
  - iii. If the referral was not progressed

---

<sup>1</sup> Referrals can be made by the District Commander or SC Prevention in the absence of SC P&P

---



## 1.8 Fire Risk Awareness

The Mid Ulster Council Officers in their role will visit Service Users in their own homes through completion of their duties. To assist in the process of reviewing risks that may cause or contribute to the development of fire, a Fire Awareness Form (Appendix 2) is available and is designed to act as aide memoire.

## 1.9 Referring to Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service

As a trusted partner NIFRS welcome referrals for Home Fire Safety Check for those who are within our People as Risk Groups (1.2). However, we also will accept referrals for people that you identify as a high fire risk. This can be due to the person's behaviour or signs of potential fire within a property.

To refer someone for a Home Fire Safety Check, Mid Ulster Council's staff should follow the steps outlined in Appendix 3 (Guidance for your team).

If you identify a group that may benefit from a Fire Safety talk, Mid Ulster Council staff should call: 028 8676 5936 or email

[Cookstown.District@nifrs.org](mailto:Cookstown.District@nifrs.org) for further support from our Prevention Team.

## 2 RESPONSIBILITIES

---

The responsibilities of the signatories will be to:

- Explain to staff how to implement the partnership agreement, this can be supported by the 'Guidance for your Team' document provided by NIFRS (Appendix 3).
- Provide support to ensure each organisation understands;
  - The process for referring to the other Service, and
  - The circumstances that should initiate referral.
- On signing, publicise the partnership through a local joint press release and media launch;
- Publicise and signpost staff to the partnership agreement to raise awareness within each organisation;
- Review and re-sign the partnership in accordance with the review process;
- Maintain accurate records to help understand how effective the partnership is, and ensure data protection protocols are followed when processing data.



## 3 PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENTS

---

### 3.1 Signatories

Before signing the partnership, the signatories must seek approval from their respective organisation to be the signatory to the agreement and, thereafter, be responsible for maintaining and coordinating the implementation of the partnership.



### 3.2 Public Liability

Organisations are required to confirm the existence of public liability insurance or, alternatively, that arrangements are in place to deal with public liability on a self-insured basis.

### 3.3 Termination

This agreement is not intended to be restrictive or legally binding on either party. Either party, subject to 30 days' notice of such an intention, may terminate the agreement.

On termination, each signatory is to ensure their respective partnership register is amended to reflect that the partnership has been terminated and include the date of termination.

### 3.4 Joint Training

Each signatory, or their nominated representative, may make arrangements to facilitate joint training to raise awareness of the partnership. The framework for the





training will be the document titled 'Guidance for your Team' (Appendix 3) and the training must describe any local arrangement for processing referrals.

### **3.5 Financial Implications**

It is the intention of this partnership that it will impose no costs on the other partner and that all expenses incurred will be regarded as normal daily business by both partners to this agreement.



## 4 REVIEW PROCESS

---

### 4.1 Maintaining the Version Control

The signatory for NIFRS will maintain the document and update it every time an amendment or review is undertaken as follows:



- 1 Amend the version number on the front cover.
- 2 Amend the version date on the front cover.
- 3 Add a new line to the version control to detail that the review has taken place or any amendments made.
- 4 Amend version number and date in the footer at the bottom of the pages.
- 5 Arrange for the document to be informally re-signed.
- 6 Scan the document and send a pdf to the partner signatory.
- 7 Signatories are to arrange for the new version to replace any other version held by their respective organisation and for any partnership register to be updated accordingly.

### 4.2 Review the Partnership

After the first year of partnership being first signed, the NIFRS will arrange for a joint evaluation using an Outcome Based Accountability template (Appendix 4). If the evaluation demonstrates that the partnership is meeting both organisations expectations, it will be renewed.

The partnership will then be reviewed every three years to confirm both organisations expectation are being met.

## 5 SIGNATORIES

---

Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service	Organisations Name
Martin Corr - Station Commander Prevention & Protection	Ryan Black - Director of Communities and Place
Cookstown District Headquarters NIFRS 36 Chapel Street, Cookstown BT80 8QD T 028 8676 5936 ext 206 M 075 5741 4184 Email martin.corr@nifrs.org	Mid Ulster District Council, Burn Road, Cookstown BT80 8DT T 03000 132 132 M ** Email Ryan.Black@midulstercouncil.org
Signed on behalf of Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service	Signed on behalf of Mid Ulster District Council
Date: **/06/23	Date: **/06/23

# APPENDIX 1 – Home Safety Scheme Leaflet



## Mid Ulster

### Home Safety Scheme

Mid Ulster Home Safety Scheme helps those over 65, families with children under 5 and vulnerable adults/children avoid serious accidents within the home. The scheme includes:

- Free Home Safety Visits
- Home Safety equipment (where criteria is met) • Home Safety talks to
- groups (open to all age groups).

#### Have you had your **FREE Home Safety Visit?**

Every year, there are thousands of accidents and injuries in our homes, from burns and scalds to trips and falls. The Mid Ulster Home Safety Scheme aims to reduce the number of accidents which happen in the home by providing information and advice.

#### Can anyone apply for a **FREE Home Safety Check?**

If you:

Are **65 or over**, have a **child under 5** or a **vulnerable adult/child** then you are eligible for a free home safety check.

If you request a home safety check, or are referred for a check by someone like a health visitor, a Health & Wellbeing Officer will visit your home

when it's convenient. It's a relaxed and informal visit, giving you an opportunity to discuss any home safety concerns you might have.

The Health & Wellbeing Officer will discuss important areas of home safety and establish what safety equipment you may need.



Comhairle Ceantair  
**Lár Uladh**  
**Mid Ulster**  
District Council



## Can anyone apply for Home Safety Equipment?

This scheme is primarily about the provision of home safety advice however there are some pieces of home safety equipment available where the need is identified and criteria met.

Equipment is free to anyone 65 or over. If you are in a household with children under 5, equipment is only provided free of charge if you are in receipt of certain qualifying benefits.

### These are:

- Income Support
- Job seeker's allowance (income based )
- Employment and Support Allowance (formally known as incapacity benefit)
- Working Tax Credits
- Housing Benefit
- Free School Meals
- Universal Credit

Or, if your Health Visitor or Health & Wellbeing Officer confirms that you are not able to afford safety equipment because of social or health circumstances, you may be entitled to free equipment.



## What do I need to do?

If you would like to receive a home safety visit, would like further information or to arrange a Home Safety talk for a group, simply contact your local Health & Wellbeing Officer.

**Call** 03000 132 132

**Email** [health.wellbeing@midulstercouncil.org](mailto:health.wellbeing@midulstercouncil.org)

## APPENDIX 2 – Fire Risk Awareness Form

<b>Name of Service User</b>	
<b>DOB</b>	
<b>Telephone No.</b>	
<b>Address</b>	
<b>Postcode</b>	

In order to be able to identify and manage fire risk, it is important to consider the behaviour and the environment of the service user. The Red Flag Indicators shown below will assist when using the Northern Ireland Single Assessment Tool (NISAT) and serve as a prompt when considering fire risk. By considering the questions below you will be able to:

- identify behaviour, health, lifestyle and environmental risks;
- understand how and why these risks increase vulnerability;
- understand fire risk assessments;
- make a referral to Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS) for a home safety visit/talk for service users that are at risk and vulnerable to accidental fires in the home;
- incorporate the recommendations of the home fire safety check/joint visit into care and support planning and review process; and
- understand the resources available to mitigate risk and vulnerability to fire.

If the response to any of the red flag indicators is Yes, consider highlighting the risk in the NISAT.

Risk Identification	Red flag indicators:	Response
Smoke Alarm	Is there a smoke detector missing from any level (floor) within the property?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Is there a smoke detector missing where a person with mobility/capacity issues may spend the majority of their time e.g. living room, bedroom?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Candles	Are candles left too close to curtains or other items that could catch fire, including clothing and/or within easy reach of children or pets?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

Risk Identification	Red flag indicators:	Response
Smoking	Is there evidence of smoking in bed?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Are there carelessly discarded cigarettes, matches present or overflowing ashtrays?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Any signs/issues around secret smoking?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Are there signs of burns on the carpet, furniture, bedding or clothing?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Open fires	Is the fire guard missing or not used?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Are coal, logs and fire lighters unsuitably stored?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Electrical appliances	Are there any signs of damaged, overloaded sockets within the property?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Are any electrical cables running under rugs or furniture?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Are there combustibles such as clothing or newspapers placed too close to an electrical appliance?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Does the individual use an electric blanket?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Are there any square block adapters / extension leads in the home?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Does anyone leave any of the following electrical items plugged in at night? Laptop / Games Console / Mobile Phone Charger / E-Cigarette / Plug-in Air Freshener	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Are there known faulty electrical appliances within the property?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Portable Heaters	Are portable heaters such as fan heaters, ceramic heaters, gas heaters, paraffin heaters used in the home?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Does the plug for the heater share an electrical extension block?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

Risk Identification	Red flag indicators:	Response
Cooking	Is there anything that could burn easily next to your cooker or hob?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Does anyone who cooks in the home leave cooking unattended?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Is there a build-up of excess grease or fat in the oven or grill?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Does anyone cook under the influence of alcohol, drugs and prescription drugs that make you feel drowsy?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Does anyone in your home use a traditional chip pan?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Emollient creams	Are emollient creams used?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Airflow mattresses	Does the service user have an airflow mattress in place and smoke in bed?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Dementia	If the individual has dementia, does it affect their ability to recognise and respond appropriately in the event of fire?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Is there evidence of previous cooking related fire incidents?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Is there an open fire in the property?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Are there any objects/materials left on or around the hob?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Mental ill health	Does the person have a diagnosed condition that requires medication?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Does the medication or any of its side effects inhibit the person's ability to recognise and respond appropriately in the event of a fire?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Does the individual exhibit fire setting behaviours?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Hoarding behaviours	Does the individual have hoarding behaviours? Are escape routes blocked by the hoard?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Does the content of the hoard include hazardous or highly flammable materials?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Is the hoard located close to ignition sources such as gas fires or cookers?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>



Risk Identification	Red flag indicators:	Response
Medical oxygen	Is there medical oxygen in the property?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Are there additional oxygen cylinders stored within the property?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Does the person smoke?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Visual impairment	Does the individual have a visual impairment?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Are potential escape routes blocked?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Hearing impairment	Does the individual have a hearing impairment?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Is the smoke detector appropriate for the individual, i.e. does it have a strobe vibrating pad?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Drugs and alcohol use	Are there indicators of excessive consumption of alcohol?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Are there indicators of substance use?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Would either affect the individual's ability to recognise and respond appropriately in the event of a fire?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Prescription medication	Does medication affect the individual's ability to recognise and respond appropriately in the event of fire?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Physical Impairment/Limited Mobility/	Does mobility impairment mean that the individual would be slow to evacuate the property in the event of fire, e.g. wheelchair, walking frame?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Will the person require specialist teams where equipment is needed to exit the property in the event of a fire, e.g. dependent or bariatric?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Reduced Manual Dexterity	Does the individual have reduced manual dexterity?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

What to do next	
Has use of assisted technology been considered?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Does the assessed individual/carer consent to proposed actions?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Non-consent to intervention (any capacity issues/concerns?)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>A multi-professional/agency approach has been taken to ensure all support/information has been given</b></p> <p>After reviewing the Red Flag Indicators, consider the following options</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Home Fire Safety Check by Northern Ireland Fire &amp; Rescue Service (NIFRS)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Joint visit with NIFRS</p>	

Risk Identified	Action (Continue on separate sheet if necessary)

<b>Name</b>		<b>Signed:</b>	
<b>Office Name &amp; Telephone Number</b>			
<b>Name of any other person present</b>			

# APPENDIX 3 – Guidance for your Team

---

## Background

Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS) has signed a Partnership Agreement with your agency. For simplicity we use the term 'agency', though your organisation may well use a different term.

The purpose of the partnership is to provide additional assistance to people at risk from fire for the mutual benefit of both agencies. After providing a referral to NIFRS, we will carry out a free Home Fire Safety Check (HFSC), which is a visit to the home to offer advice to reduce the risk of fire and ensure that the home is fitted with a working smoke alarm.

We will spend time with the occupier and help them to feel safe in their home.

## People at risk

We define people at risk as persons who:

- are aged 50 or older;
- have a disability or impaired mobility\*; or
- are referred to NIFRS by a partnership agency.

\*includes people with a health condition that would impact on their ability to acknowledge and respond to an emergency in the home.

NIFRS will also accept referrals for people who fall outside of this definition but who may also be at risk. Each referral will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

## Who do we want you to refer?

NIFRS wants you to refer anyone who you think may be at a greater risk from fire.

Examples include those who:

- do not have a working smoke alarm
- have a history of fires
- are not careful with smoking materials
- have scorch marks on bedding, clothing, or carpets
- leave cooking unattended
- have large quantities of loose papers or stored items in their rooms; or
- use candles close to combustibles.

## Making a referral

**Step 1** - Prior to making a referral to NIFRS, permission must be gained from the occupier to pass on their details and please check the records held by your agency to confirm that a referral has not already been made within the previous 12 months. An additional visit within 12 months would be possible if it has been determined that the risk has increased due to a change in circumstances.

**Step 2** - Then check you have the 6 pieces of information we require. These are the:

1. name of the person sending the referral
2. name of the partnership agency
- 3 name of the occupier being referred
- 4 phone number of the occupier being referred
- 5 full address of the home including postcode and the
- 6 reason for the referral and any additional information that may help us.

**Step 3** - Your agency may well have a local procedure to process referrals. If so, follow that procedure as your next step.

**Step 4** - Provide the 6 pieces of information to NIFRS using one of the following methods:

- via NIFRS Website at: Home Fire Safety Check - Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service ([nifrs.org](http://nifrs.org))
- by phone call to: 028 8676 5936 (Monday – Friday 9am – 5pm) or,
- email [Cookstown.District@nifrs.org](mailto:Cookstown.District@nifrs.org)

### What happens next?

We will make contact with the occupier to arrange a suitable time to visit and we aim to complete all referrals within 28 days, subject to operational commitments.

Periodically, we will carry out surveys to monitor our performance and we will use sampling to make contact with those who have received a Home Fire Safety Check. We use this feedback to establish that our service is at a high standard and identify how we can improve this further.



# APPENDIX 4 – Joint Evaluation

---

Evaluation Period: (Annual or Three year)

## Quantitative Review – NIFRS

- How many referrals were received:
- How many HFSCs were completed:
- How many requests were made for Fire Safety talks:
- How many Fire Safety Talks were provided:

## Quantitative Review – Partner

- How many referrals were received:
- How many interventions were completed:

## Qualitative Review?

Following a meeting with the partner summarise how effective the partnership has been for both parties.

## Do we continue?

Consider the information collated with the Partner and confirm if the partnership should be renewed or terminated. Rationale for both outcomes should be noted.

## Connect with us



028 90310360



Prevention@nifrs.org



www.nifrs.org



@NIFRSOFFICIAL



@NIFRSOFFICIAL

*Safer  
Together*

*Safer  
Together*