



# Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service

preventing • protecting • responding

## **National Strategy to keep older people safer**

Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS), on behalf of the Chief Fire Officer's Association (CFOA), is leading on the development of a new national strategy to keep older people safer from the risk of death and injury as a result of fire in their homes.

Under the guidance of Peter Dartford, Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive of Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service a group has been brought together from across the full spectrum of caring agencies, including representatives from Age Concern to develop the strategy so that Fire & Rescue Services across the UK can benefit from guidance designed to assist them in preparing to meet the changing needs of the people they serve.

The result of the work will be a strategy to assist Fire & Rescue Services to prevent older people falling victim to fire, by directing efforts towards earlier and targeted intervention methods, providing information and advice, improving and maintaining the awareness of the dangers that fire poses; particularly to those with a mental or physical disability or sensory impairment and those who care for them. It is anticipated that a draft strategy will be produced by late summer 2010.

Supporting the development of the strategy are representatives from the community with a wide spectrum of backgrounds. Their role is to act as a critical friend during the development of the strategy. The community representatives provide an external perspective on the work being carried out to ensure that the strategy can provide for the people that it is intended to support.

**Age Concern Waltham Forest will publish the draft strategy on this website so that you can respond – so look out for it later in the year.**