

# Do you know a VULNERABLE person?

## SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE CAN HELP

During the winter months it is obvious that many local residents will become more vulnerable because of the weather, but have you ever considered their vulnerability to fire.

In recent years it has become very obvious that many of the people who are dying or being seriously injured in house fires are dealing with other issues in their lives. We can all get caught out at certain times, particularly after a couple of drinks or when we're tired or distracted but unfortunately there are some people at a higher risk from fire every day of their life.

A vulnerable person might be unable to react to a fire or a smoke detector going off. They may also be less capable of preventing a house fire

There are many reasons or combination of factors that makes a person more vulnerable, including:

- **Drink or drug abuse or dependency**
- **Strong medication and prescription drugs**
- **Age related illness e.g. dementia, Alzheimer's**
- **Sensory impairment**
- **Mobility problems**
- **Learning difficulties**

Most of you will know someone in the community that may be vulnerable and we really need to make sure their risk from fire is reduced as much as possible.

Some vulnerable people are not known to support agencies but they will have friends, relatives, neighbours or work colleagues that are aware of their situation. YOU may be the only person that can help them; YOU may be the only person they will listen to.

If you have concerns, please contact Scottish Fire and Rescue Service on:

**01224 788758** for advice.

With their agreement, we can carry out a free Home Fire Safety Visit, making every effort to lower their risk from fire.



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Working together for a safer Scotland