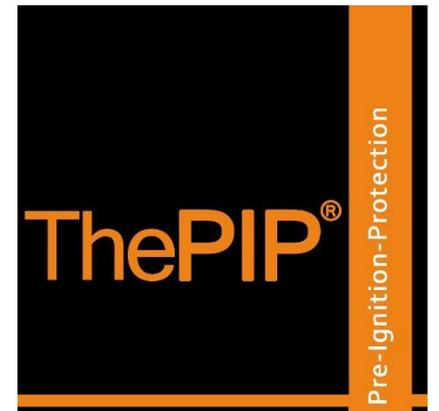


# 13A Electrical Plug & Socket Fires 2016



- This document includes some (not all) of the 13A electrical plug & socket fires that have taken place in the UK during 2016.
- Had ThePIP device been installed it is very likely that these fires could have been prevented.
- ThePIP device can be installed in consumer units, distribution boards and electrical intakes to provide Pre Ignition Protection@85°C ± 5°

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## **Boy's beloved cat rescued from blaze at family home in Tenterden**

A mother whose son's life was turned upside down when fire destroyed his bedroom wants him to enjoy a Christmas full of happy memories.

Fire crews traced the blaze to an electrical socket and she fears that work recently carried out on her bathroom, which involved wiring, could have been to blame.

Friends and family have rallied round to help as smoke and water damage have destroyed most of the family's possessions.

<http://www.kentonline.co.uk/tenterden/news/boys-beloved-cat-rescued-from-116411/>

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Electricity is a major cause of accidental fires in homes. Faulty electrics, appliances, wiring and overloaded sockets all cause around 7,000 house fires across the country every year. As part of Electrical Safety Week, Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service are reminding everyone of the dangers of overloaded sockets.

Many people have extension leads in their homes, often using 4-way bar adaptors to increase the number of appliances that you can plug into a wall socket. Although there is space on an adaptor to plug in four appliances, this does not mean it is always safe to do so. Different electrical appliances use different amounts of power.

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## Incident - Small fire in plug socket

Two appliances from Brixham were mobilised to reports of a plug socket smoking at the above location.

On arrival crews discovered a small amount of smoke from an electrical plug socket.

Crews isolated the electrics to the property using small tools, then checked to ensure it was safe using a thermal imaging camera.

<http://www.dsfire.gov.uk/news/newsdesk/IncidentDetail.cfm?IncidentID=38822&siteCategoryId=3&T1ID=26&T2ID=35>

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## Hotpoint tumble dryer 'burst into flames

A tumble dryer burst into flames after an engineer had supposedly fixed it.

The structural engineer said: "My wife came out screaming there was a fire so I ran indoors from the front garden. My house was full of big black smoke and flames were coming out the back of the unit."

He managed to pull the plug out of the wall and move the tumble dryer outside before the fire swept through his house.

He said: "It was just so hot. The plug had even melted in the socket.

<http://www.kentonline.co.uk/sheerness/news/tumble-dryer-burst-into-flames-114687/>

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## Monday 7 November, 11.02pm

Overheated heater causing plug socket to melt, Marsworth Road, Pitstone.

Two appliances and crews from Aylesbury attended. Firefighters gave advice.

<http://bucksfire.gov.uk/latest-incidents>

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## Man's escape from blazing home in Oakes

Firefighters were called to the terraced house in New Hey Road to find the man already outside. The man was treated at the scene by paramedics but did not need hospital treatment.

Fire investigators believe the cause of the blaze was an overloaded or faulty plug socket in the kitchen.

The ground floor of the house was thought to be badly damaged with smoke damage to the upstairs. Smoke had also seeped into neighbouring houses.

<http://www.examiner.co.uk/news/west-yorkshire-news/mans-escape-blazing-home-oakes-12120586>

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## Crews called to fire in electrical socket

Firefighters were called after a fire broke out in an electrical socket.

The socket caught fire shortly before 10am in Moseley Road, Hallow, near Worcester.

Two crews from Worcester attended the fire, however it was out when they arrived.

[http://www.worcesternews.co.uk/news/14847399.Crews\\_called\\_to\\_fire\\_in\\_electrical\\_socket/](http://www.worcesternews.co.uk/news/14847399.Crews_called_to_fire_in_electrical_socket/)

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## Electrical fire breaks out at Windsor food shop

A fire crew from Slough attended an electrical fire at a food shop in Windsor.

Emergency services arrived at Rachel's of Windsor food shop in Bachelors Acre.

One of the shop's electrical freezer's plugs had caught fire and the crew were there for 40 minutes.

<http://www.windsorexpress.co.uk/news/windsor/106236/electrical-fire-breaks-out-at-windsor-food-shop.html>

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## Droitwich firefighters called out to plug socket fires

FIREFIGHTERS in Droitwich have dealt with a tree and plug socket fire this morning (Friday).

The crew from Droitwich attended a fire involving a tree on Old Coach Road, Droitwich at 8.30am.

An hour later, the crew as well as another from Bromsgrove attended a fire in a house involving a plug socket in Worcester Road, Wychbold.

[http://www.worcesternews.co.uk/news/14790212.Droitwich\\_firefighters\\_called\\_out\\_to\\_tree\\_and\\_plug\\_socket\\_fires/](http://www.worcesternews.co.uk/news/14790212.Droitwich_firefighters_called_out_to_tree_and_plug_socket_fires/)

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## Woman treated for smoke inhalation after overloaded socket causes flat fire

FIREFIGHTERS were called to Stanway after an overloaded socket caused a fire in a first floor flat.

When they arrived the fire was out but the flat was full of smoke. Station Manager Danny Partridge said: "The fire is thought to have been caused by an overloaded socket.

"We sent our hazardous area response team, a rapid response vehicle, an ambulance crew and an ambulance officer. "There were four patients assisted. Three of them sustained no injuries and were discharged at the scene.

"The fourth patient, a woman believed to be in her twenties, was treated for minor smoke inhalation and was discharged at the scene."

[http://www.gazette-news.co.uk/news/14814827.Blaze\\_caused\\_by\\_overloaded\\_socket/](http://www.gazette-news.co.uk/news/14814827.Blaze_caused_by_overloaded_socket/)

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## Fire Crews Called to Property Fire in Brynteg

Fire crews were this evening called to a fire at a property in Wrexham.

At around 4:50pm two crews from Wrexham were called to the property in Brynteg.

The fire was out on arrival and a spokesperson for North Wales Fire and Rescue Service said the extent of the damage was confined to a plug socket.

<http://www.wrexham.com/news/fire-crews-called-to-property-fire-in-brynteg-121741.html>

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## Houses evacuated following gas and electrical fire

Houses were evacuated following a fire at an Appledore property today.

Two fire engines from Bideford responded to reports of a fire at a house in Longfield in Appledore at 12.52pm. On arrival, crews confirmed there was a garage fire involving a gas main, and neighbouring properties were evacuated.

Crews set to work extinguishing the fire, caused when an electrical extension lead overheated, which spread to the gas main and a dehumidifier which was destroyed by fire.

<http://www.northdevonjournal.co.uk/8203-houses-evacuated-following-gas-and-electrical-fire-in-longfield-appledore/story-29703504-detail/story.html#iHfDksezvDGcj7i5.99>

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## House destroyed in Alexandria

Residents were evacuated in Woodlands Court on Saturday afternoon after the blaze started in a bedroom.

The shocked householder discovered flames coming from an electrical socket at around 4pm and managed to flee the house as the fire took hold. Other residents in the street had to be evacuated from their homes as firefighters were scrambled from three fire stations to tackle the blaze.

Teams in breathing apparatus entered the building to attack the blaze and a third crew was sent from Helensburgh to assist efforts to bring it under control.

The householder had discovered fire coming from electrical socket in a bedroom. Fire engulfed and completely destroyed house. No persons were injured.

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/local-news/house-destroyed-alexandria-after-electrical-8818945>

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## Warning issued after extension lead causes house fire

A FIRE chief has issued a warning over the potential dangers of electrical equipment, after a house fire in Penrhyndeudraeth which was caused by overloading an extension lead.

Fire fighters from Harlech, Porthmadog and Blaenau Ffestiniog were alerted to the house fire on Church Place at 3.21pm on Sunday, 18 September.

Two sets of breathing apparatus, one hose reel jet and two thermal imaging cameras with triple extensions were used to extinguish the blaze.

The first floor suffered 100 per cent fire damage and 50 per cent smoke and water damage to the ground floor.

North Wales Fire and Rescue Service confirmed that the fire is thought to have been an electrical fault due to overloading an extension lead.

<http://www.cambriannews.co.uk/article.cfm?id=108526&headline=Warning%20issued%20after%20extension%20lead%20causes%20house%20fire%2%A7ionls=news&searchyear=2016>

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## Hero pug receives special award after saving family from fire

The award recognises ‘outstanding bravery’ and ‘heroic values of courage, compassion, character, initiative and responsibility.’

Jaxson noticed sparks coming from a plug extension – the sparks quickly turned to flames.

He started ‘persistently’ barking and his ‘irregular tone and cadence’ alerted owners Todd Lavoie and Mikaela Sebree.

‘Because of this, Jaxson’s owner rushed downstairs to figure out what was causing his dog to bark. That’s when owner, Todd Lavoie, noticed sparks from an outlet and its sole power strip,’

<http://metro.co.uk/2016/10/06/hero-pug-receives-special-award-after-saving-family-from-fire-6174490/#ixzz4MIZijPNX>

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## Commercial Building Fire in Burnley

Firefighters from Burnley attended a fire involving an electrical plug and socket.

Although the fire was out on arrival crews isolated the electrics and used a thermal imaging camera to assess the scene and ensure there were no remaining hot spots.

The incident was then left in the care of the shop management. There were no casualties.

<http://www.lancsfirerescue.org.uk/sites/lancs/Pages/incidentsearch.aspx?incidentsid=1305&yyyymm=201610&Source=%2Fsites%2Flancs%2FPages%2Fincident-search.aspx%3FYearMonth%3D201610%26Tag%3DElectrical%26Area%3DAI>

## Rabbit rescued from shed fire in Parr

FIREFIGHTERS rescued a rabbit from a fire in timber shed that then spread to a house in Parr.

Two fire engines went out to the incident on Mount Pleasant Avenue just after 12.30pm on Saturday (July 2).

Crews used high-powered hose reels to put out the fire, which also spread to windows, doors and uPVC fixtures at the rear of the house.

An investigation revealed the cause of the fire to be an overloaded extension lead.

[http://www.sthelenstar.co.uk/news/14597324.Rabbit\\_rescued\\_from\\_shed\\_fire\\_in\\_Parr/](http://www.sthelenstar.co.uk/news/14597324.Rabbit_rescued_from_shed_fire_in_Parr/)

## Woman in hospital

A WOMAN is in hospital after being found unconscious in a house fire caused by a faulty electrical item.

Fire crews in three pumps from Basingstoke arrived at the incident within six minutes of the alarm being raised at 10.57pm, after neighbours saw smoke and flames in the window of the property.

Firefighters are reminding people of the importance of unplugging electrical items, not to overload sockets, keep to one plug per socket and always ensure you use the correct fuse.

[http://www.basingstokegazette.co.uk/news/14604229.Woman\\_in\\_hospital\\_after\\_being\\_found\\_unconscious\\_in\\_house\\_fire/](http://www.basingstokegazette.co.uk/news/14604229.Woman_in_hospital_after_being_found_unconscious_in_house_fire/)

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## Plug socket catches fire at Bishopsteignton bungalow

TWO crews from Teignmouth dealt with a plug socket fire in Bishopsteignton yesterday.

A dry powder extinguisher was used to tackle the incident in a detached bungalow in Teign Close.

A fire spokesman said plasterboard around the socket had to be cut away to make sure the problem had been resolved. Two sets of breathing gear were worn by firefighters during the emergency

<http://www.teignmouth-today.co.uk/article.cfm?id=103730&headline=Plasterboard%20cut%20away%20after%20plug%20socket%20catches%20fire%20at%20Bishopsteignton%20bungalow&sectionIs=news&searchyear=2016>

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## 'Severe' house fire in Fullbrook Road

A HOUSE fire which has been described as 'severe' by West Midlands Fire Service was caused by overloaded sockets.

The blaze caused 20 per cent damage to the home in Fullbrook Road and 50 per cent smoke damage, which also spread to two adjoining properties shortly after 3.30pm on Tuesday, July 19.

16 firefighters in two engines and two brigade response vehicles from Walsall and West Bromwich rushed to the scene amid initial fears children were inside after flames were reported to be coming out of the rear bedroom window.

<http://www.walsalladvertiser.co.uk/8203-severe-house-fire-in-fullbrook-road-walsall-caused-by-overloaded-sockets/story-29531792-detail/story.html#d0oU3exOFMjwerKh.99>

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## Domestic Property Fire in Padiham

Initial call stated that there was a smell of burning in the property. When firefighters arrived at the scene they found that there was a domestic wall socket which had overheated.

Crews assisted in making the scene safe by isolating the electrics. They used a thermal imaging camera, and some small hand tools.

<http://www.lancsfirerescue.org.uk/sites/lancs/Pages/incidentsearch.aspx?incidentsid=1046&yyyymm=201607&Source=%2Fsites%2Fflancs%2FPages%2Fincident-search.aspx%3FYearMonth%3D201607%26Tag%3DElectrical%26Area%3DAI>

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## Incident near Scampton - police and fire at scene

Police and fire engines scrambled to an incident in a Lincolnshire village.

An eye witness said there were at least three fire engines and about three response units.

Heat damage to electrical wall socket. Fire out on arrival, inspection only. There were no injuries.

<http://www.lincolnshireecho.co.uk/incident-near-scampton-police-scene/story-29386090-detail/story.html#mTmDe16rWs4rQLpE.99>

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## **Milton Keynes firefighters called to plug socket fire**

Buckinghamshire Fire and Rescue were called to a plug socket fire last night in Milton Keynes.

At 2.32am this Monday the fire started in a plug socket on the landing of two-storey detached house, in Upton Grove, Shenley Lodge.

One appliance and crew from Great Holm and one from Bletchley attended.

<http://www.onemk.co.uk/8203-warning-milton-keynes-firefighters-called-to-plug-socket-fire-and-kitchen-fire/story-29447798-detail/story.html#MPkLvVr7CVrJXdHO.99>

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## Plug sockets warning

FIRE officers are warning people not to overload plug sockets after a fire ripped through a bedroom this afternoon.

They managed to extinguish the fire within minutes and then were on the scene for two hours ventilating the property as the blaze left parts of the house badly smoke logged - including another bedroom and the loft space.

The fire was caused by overloading a plug socket.

[http://www.theboltonnews.co.uk/news/14464736.Plug\\_sockets\\_warning\\_after\\_blaze\\_rips\\_through\\_bedroom/](http://www.theboltonnews.co.uk/news/14464736.Plug_sockets_warning_after_blaze_rips_through_bedroom/)

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## Fatal house fire

THE house fire in which a 90-year-old man died was caused by an electrical fault in the wall, an inquest has heard.

Raymond Ward, a retired mechanic, was alone in the house in Fitzjohn Close, Malton, on January 21 when a socket started to smoulder, filling the house with smoke before bursting into flames early the next morning.

Fire investigator Alan Bell told the inquest: "The most probable cause was an inherent fault within the socket," he said, adding that the source was likely within a pattress box - a container for electrical wires in the wall.

[http://www.gazetteherald.co.uk/news/14484293.Fatal\\_house\\_fire\\_was\\_caused\\_by\\_an\\_electrical\\_fault\\_in\\_the\\_wall\\_inquest\\_heard/](http://www.gazetteherald.co.uk/news/14484293.Fatal_house_fire_was_caused_by_an_electrical_fault_in_the_wall_inquest_heard/)

## Harlow great-grandmother's warning after fire destroys house

Along with five family members, Patricia Savill has had to evacuate her council house in Ram Gorse in Harlow after a plug socket overheated which sparked the blaze on Sunday, May 15.

Fire crews extinguished the flames but not before furniture, decorations and electrical items, including a television and games console, were all engulfed in the blaze.

<http://www.harlowstar.co.uk/harlow-great-grandmother-8217-s-warning-destroys/story-29314382-detail/story.html#ygcjcWUYDiYE7i55.99>

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## Neighbour raises alarm as fire breaks out in house

Crews from Preston found the fire when they were called to Fishwick View, Preston, at 7.35pm today.

The property was heavily smoke-logged and the smoke had also gone into neighbouring houses.

The flooring was damaged but the flames did not spread further. A faulty electric extension lead is thought to have caused the fire.

<http://www.lep.co.uk/your-lancashire/preston/neighbour-raises-alarm-as-fire-breaks-out-in-house-1-7924072>

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## Extension lead catches fire at Telford flat

Crews were called to a fire involving an extension lead at a flat in Telford.

Firefighters were called to the first-floor flat in Charnborough Court, Oakengates, at about 5.35pm yesterday.

<http://www.shropshirestar.com/news/2016/05/20/extension-lead-catches-fire-at-telford-flat/#I94YP2M1451SDugi.99>

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## Bedsit evacuated

FIRE crews were called to tackle a blaze at a bedsit in Heaton after an extension lead overheated and caught fire.

Three fire engines from Farnworth, Horwich and Ramsbottom were called to the property.

Four of the six people who live there were in the home at the time, and were evacuated after they smelled smoke.

[http://www.sloughobserver.co.uk/news/14524735.Bedsit\\_evacuated\\_after\\_extension\\_lead\\_overheats\\_and\\_causes\\_fire/](http://www.sloughobserver.co.uk/news/14524735.Bedsit_evacuated_after_extension_lead_overheats_and_causes_fire/)

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## Building fire - Eaton Socon – Huntingdonshire

Two crews from St Neots were called to a fire on Ackerman Street in Eaton Socon. Firefighters arrived to find a fire in the bar area of the Millers Arms pub. Six firefighters wearing breathing apparatus extinguished the fire using hose reels and cleared the smoke using positive pressure ventilation fans.

One male casualty was treated at the scene for smoke inhalation and left in the care of ambulance crews.

“Our investigations found the fire started from a multi-way electrical adaptor that was running numerous appliances.

<http://www.cambsfire.gov.uk/news-and-incidents/building-fire-eaton-2022.aspx#sthash.RNLs98We.dpuf>

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## West Belfast family could have died

The fire started at a plug socket in a teenage girl's bedroom and saw her room quickly fill with smoke and flames. The young girl, believed to be around 15, burned her arm after the metal headboard on her bed was heated by the flames.

The Fire Service got a call to the fire shortly after 6am this morning. The family of two adults and six children, all under 18, managed to escape after the dog's barking alerted them that something was wrong.

<http://www.belfastlive.co.uk/news/belfast-news/six-children-escape-west-belfast-10976822>

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## Crews put out fire at Balderton home

The fire, reported at 10.12am, is believed to have been caused by a faulty plug socket.

It caused some damage to furniture and the living room but no-one was hurt in the blaze.

Two fire crews from Newark rushed to the scene and used a hose reel jet to put out the fire.

<http://newarkadvertiser.co.uk/articles/news/Crews-put-out-fire-at-Balderton-home>

## Disabled Bracknell man slams Home Group

A disabled man from Bracknell has hit out at his housing association claiming his flat almost went up in flames with him inside after a faulty plug socket overheated.

Dean Brewer, of Mill Green, says he was looking at some paperwork just before midnight on Sunday, March 6 when a socket in his lounge overheated and began smoking.

He called the Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service and it swiftly dispatched crews from Ascot and Bracknell fire stations.

<http://www.getreading.co.uk/news/reading-berkshire-news/disabled-bracknell-man-slams-home-11006683>

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## Electric socket warning following bedroom fire

FIREFIGHTERS are warning people about the dangers of overloading electrical sockets following a house fire in County Durham.

Two fire engines were called to The Pentlands, in Chilton, following reports that a semi-detached house was on fire.

When they arrived a first-floor bedroom was well alight, said a spokeswoman from Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service.

[http://www.thenorthernecho.co.uk/news/14385101.Electric\\_socket\\_warning\\_following\\_bedroom\\_fire\\_in\\_Chilton/](http://www.thenorthernecho.co.uk/news/14385101.Electric_socket_warning_following_bedroom_fire_in_Chilton/)

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## Electrical Fire

Two fire appliances from Newquay Community Fire Station were mobilised to a report of an electrical fire.

The fire was out on their arrival and the fire crew ensured that the electricity supply was isolated. A thermal imaging camera was also used to check for further damage.

<https://db.cornwall.gov.uk/fbnews/info/details.asp?ID=25900>

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## House fire

In attendance: 2 x Clacton

Crews were called to a fire in a bedroom of a single storey chalet. Firefighters wearing breathing apparatus used one hose reel jet to extinguish the fire by 14:53hrs.

A family of three have been made homeless following this incident. The Red Cross Victim Support unit attended this incident to provide the family with immediate welfare assistance.

The fire was caused by an overloaded socket which had several extension leads plugged into it.

<http://www.essex-fire.gov.uk/incidents/i5573/>

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## Bad parking delays Fire Brigade

A first floor bedroom was left severely damaged by the fire, the remainder of the first floor was severely smoke damaged and the ground floor was slightly damaged by smoke. Crews also used small tools and a thermal imaging camera to make sure the fire was fully extinguished.

The cause of the fire is thought to be the overloading of electrical sockets.

<http://www.kingsbridgetoday.co.uk/article.cfm?id=102145&headline=Bad%20parking%20delays%20fire%20brigade%20reaching%20house%20blaze%20in%20Kingsbridge&sectionIs=news&searchyear=2016>

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## Fire involving an electric socket in Blackburn

Two fire engines from Blackburn fire station attended a fire involving an electric socket on The Crescent.

Firefighters used two breathing apparatus, one hose reel, a tool box and a positive pressure ventilation unit to extinguish the fire and clear the property of smoke.

No injuries or rescues were reported at crews were at the scene for 90 minutes.

<http://www.lancsfirerescue.org.uk/sites/lancs/Pages/incidentsearch.aspx?incidentsid=295&yyyymm=201602&Source=%2Fsites%2Flancs%2FPages%2Fincident-search.aspx%3FYearMonth%3D201602%26Tag%3DElectrical%26Area%3DAI>

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## Fire at house in Great Harwood

Firefighters from Great Harwood and Blackburn responded to a 999 call reporting a fire involving an electrical socket in a first floor bedroom.

The fire in the socket had burnt out and firefighters used a portable fan to extract the smoke.

<http://www.lancsfirerescue.org.uk/sites/lancs/Pages/incidentsearch.aspx?incidentsid=237&yyyymm=201602&Source=%2Fsites%2Fflancs%2FPages%2Fincident-search.aspx%3FYearMonth%3D201602%26Tag%3DElectrical%26Area%3DAI>

## Severe house fire in Tamworth

Crews from Tamworth, Lichfield, Barton-under-Needwood and Chase Terrace attended the incident at the two storey terraced property on Ludgate yesterday.

The blaze broke out in a bedroom and quickly spread to the whole of the first floor.

A single wall socket was being used to power three extension leads into which a number of electrical items including a television, hi-fi system, DVD player, computer and Playstation were plugged.

<http://www.staffordshirefire.gov.uk/3765.asp>

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