



# GET YOUR HOME READY FOR WINTER...

## Stay warm, Stay safe, Be prepared!

Carmarthenshire County Council's Property Services team typically deal with around 1,000 cold weather-related incidents each winter, most of which can be avoided with some simple preparations to protect homes and buildings.

### PREPARE OUTSIDE AREAS

- Check your roof for loose or missing tiles, and ensure TV aerials are secure
- Check that external safety lights are in good working order
- Clear pathways and check that handrails are secure

### STAY WARM

- Make sure your insulation is up to scratch – lag pipes and water tanks wherever possible
- Check for draughts around doors and windows – arrange for repairs if needed, or use draught excluders
- Check and 'bleed' radiators to release air from the central heating system

### STAY SAFE

- Make sure your boilers and other gas or solid-fuel appliances are serviced
- Make sure smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms are in full working order

### BE PREPARED

- Show every capable person how to shut off the water, electricity and gas supplies should the need arise
- Keep a list of useful numbers handy in case of emergency – including your plumber, gas installer, electrician

### PREVENT, OR DEAL WITH, FROZEN PIPES

- To stop pipes freezing when nobody's home leave internal doors, even the kitchen sink cupboard open and the central heating on low
- Shut off all outside taps and drain standing water to prevent pipes from bursting
- Use kitchen salt and warm water to unblock frozen drains

If you are a council tenant and have a home repair to report, call Carmarthenshire Direct on 01267 234567. If you need out-of-hours help in an emergency, call 01558 824283.

@CarmsCouncil #StayWarmStaySafe