



RACHEL NOLAN MP

Member for Ipswich

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Free fire safety check-up for your home

Ipswich residents can have their home checked for free by local firefighters to help them safeguard their homes and families against fire dangers.

Member for Ipswich Rachel Nolan said Operation Safehome, run by the Queensland Fire and Rescue Service, was like a free check-up for the home, giving householders valuable safety advice and peace of mind.

She said now was an ideal time for Ipswich residents to get their homes checked as the approaching Winter months always meant a rise in the number of house fires.

“Residents can book in for an Operation Safehome check and firefighters will visit their home and conduct a full safety check, to help them eliminate risks and ensure that their home really is a safe environment,” Ms Nolan said.

“As part of Operation Safehome, firefighters check each room for common fire hazards such as damaged electrical cords, overloaded power points, blocked exits, candles or heaters close to curtains and flammable liquids stored incorrectly.

“Firefighters will also offer advice on positioning and maintenance of smoke alarms, developing home evacuation plans and other household precautions such as fire blankets.”

Ms Nolan said Operation Safehome is a free service, so the price is right for every household budget.

“History proves that being prepared can save lives, as there is an almost zero fatality rate for people who have their homes fitted with working smoke alarms.

“Anytime is a good time to rethink fire safety in your home.”

The Queensland Fire and Rescue Service conducted more than 5000 Operation Safehome visits during the 2002-03 financial year. In the same period more than 4200 alarms were installed by firefighters.

Ms Nolan said householders only need to call 1800 815 080 to arrange an Operation Safehome visit by firefighters. For more information on fire safety log on to www.fire.qld.gov.au