



Steph Tilling – On-Call Firefighter

# Being 'On-Call'

On-Call Firefighters – working at the heart of your community

Monday morning you tackled a burning building, Wednesday afternoon you rescued casualties from a road-traffic accident – and the rest of the week? You were a valuable staff member to your employer.

As an On-Call Firefighter your training, skills and experiences will be an asset in any career and you will be protecting your local community.

Across the country, On-Call Firefighters make up 30% of the operational Fire and Rescue Service. These ordinary men and women work

on a 'standby' basis, responding to emergency calls and are paid both an annual retainer and fees for attending training, emergencies and giving fire safety advice. They usually live or work within five minutes of their local fire station in order to respond quickly to emergency calls.

Without the help of these individuals, the protection available to your community could be affected. That's why we're currently looking for more men and women prepared to take on this role.

## **ON-CALL FIREFIGHTERS**

Working together to help  
your community





Steph Tilling – Dental Nurse

“  
It’s an exhilarating  
adrenalin buzz  
with great  
rewards”

**Steph Tilling**  
Dental Nurse and On-Call Firefighter

### WORK-LIFE BALANCE

You could be sitting at your desk one minute, then halfway up a ladder the next, and you’ll never know when the next call is going to come. For most of our On-Call Firefighters, the best part of the role is combining an exciting and rewarding contribution to their community with the challenges of their current job.

Fire and Rescue Services are committed to offering On-Call Firefighters flexible contracts and working hours to ensure a healthy work/life balance. On average you’ll be called out two or three times a week for around an hour, which makes managing both roles straight-forward for most firefighters.

As you will be helping your community, as well as learning valuable new skills, you’re likely to find that your employer is understanding. After all, your time away from work will be relatively short and the benefits you bring to your company significant.

You would get some important personal benefits too. In return for your commitment, you’ll:

- Be paid an annual retainer and call-out fees – most On-Call Firefighters earn between £5000 and £7000 per year
- Receive first aid and trauma care training
- Get risk assessment and health and safety training
- Forge important links with your community
- Have opportunities for educational and vocational qualifications

### NEXT STEPS

Your local community currently needs more On-Call Firefighters. To be eligible you must be able to travel to your fire station within five minutes of an emergency call. The role requires commitment, self-motivation and above all the desire to protect the community.

Applicants will be asked to go through a recruitment process to assess whether they have the potential to do the job. This will involve written and physical tests and an interview.

To find out more, log on to [www.communities.gov.uk/oncallfirefighters](http://www.communities.gov.uk/oncallfirefighters)

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