



# Professional Association of Self-Caterers UK

## PASC UK SHORT NEWSLETTER

### 19 September 2023 Issue 179

This week's contents.

- [Commentary](#)
- [Chair on leave, how coverage works](#)
- [PASC UK Webinar and Meetings programme for September 2023](#)
- [Support Self-Catering Lobbying in England](#)
- [Vital England Survey to Complete](#)
- [Petition your MP in England](#)
- [Support Self-Catering Lobbying in Wales](#)
- [Vital Wales Survey to Complete](#)
- [Petition your MS in Wales](#)
- [Fire Guidance \*\*Where to find it?\*\*](#)
- [Resetting Your Password for the Members Area of the PASC UK website.](#)
- [Support Lobbying by Joining PASC UK](#)
- [Disclaimer](#)

#### COMMENTARY

Please note that Alistair will be away from this Friday morning, the 15<sup>th</sup> September, and will return to the office on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September. How cover will work for Members is detailed below.

We have made a change to the webinar programme below. Firstly, anyone can now attend the two fire webinars on the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> September.

There are two reasons for this, some struggled to join the Visit England Webex, so this opens up an opportunity for them to hear what is happening and ask questions, and secondly AirBnB put the briefest piece of fire information out yesterday, and we have been flooded with questions, from operators who simply had no idea of what is going on.

If these fill up, we will run some more. Please bear in mind that we can only answer fire queries from paid up Members.

Please can those of you in England and Wales, please take part in the surveys and petitions if you have not done so already, numbers are slowing, and we need to maintain momentum.

Any questions please let us know. Best regards

Alistair

## **CHAIR ON LEAVE, HOW COVERAGE WORKS**

There will be emergency phone and email cover for Members next week, and a short Newsletter update will also be delivered to all.

Email should still be sent to [chair@pascuk.co.uk](mailto:chair@pascuk.co.uk) and the out of office email will give details of how the email will be attended to.

On working days between Friday the 15<sup>th</sup> September to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September there is the following Emergency Number for MEMBERS ONLY PLEASE. This will be answered by Louise who will check your Membership. This number will only operate for that period.

Emergency Number 07496 409207

If you need to email about a password reset, or a query with Membership, please email Justin at [admin@pascuk.co.uk](mailto:admin@pascuk.co.uk)

Outstanding emails and phone messages to the Chair will be answered on his return.

Thanks for your consideration and support with this.

## **PASC UK WEBINAR PROGRAMME FOR SEPTEMBER 2023**

We are running a series of Fire Webinars with Visit England, the Home Office and with local DMO's (Destination Marketing Organisations, e.g., Visit Cornwall, Visit Cumbria) during this period. More information will be available next week as we organise the schedule.

This Week there will be a Fire Webinars held in Conjunction with Visit England and the Home Office

These will be on:

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September at 1100

**These are free to attend. We were unable to get the links to these prior to the deadline of sending the Newsletter, so will send out a separate notice on these with links.**

Host: Visit England: Janet Uttley

Guest Speaker: Matthew Armer, Head of Fire Policy at the Home Office

Guest Speaker: Paul Bray GFireE, Fire Safety Consultant and Fire Risk Assessor

Guest Speaker: Alistair Handyside, Chair PASC UK

The following week, there are two further Fire Webinars in support of Visit Cornwall, Visit Devon, Visit Somerset, Visit Dorset, destination Plymouth, English Riviera and Visit Exmoor.

When registering for these you will need to add which DMO you are a Member.

## **TWO FREE FIRE WEBINARS FOR ALL SELF-CATERING BUSINESSES**

## FREE FIRE WEBINARS

### 1/ Tuesday 26 September at 1100

This free fire webinar is applicable to anyone who has a self-catering business. From the 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2023 everyone who lets even a room must have a written Fire Risk Assessment by law. Fire Risk Assessments should follow the Government Guidance provided by the Home Office.

This webinar will cover..... what has changed, what this means to you as a business, how you can find all the necessary free information to help you complete your Fire Risk Assessment and much more. It will be followed by a Q&A.

The following will be presenting and answering your questions.

- Matthew Armer: Head of Fire Policy at the Home Office
- Pail Bray GFireE: Fire Safety Consultant and Fire Risk Assessor
- Alistair Handyside: Chair, PASC UK

To register for this meeting, click on the link below, where it will ask for your business name and which DMO area you are from.

[https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_oRli1w8jSASbSfaX4QCsYw](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_oRli1w8jSASbSfaX4QCsYw)

Once registered you will receive a link confirming your place at the webinar.

Or .....

## FREE FIRE WEBINARS

### 2/ Wednesday 27 September at 1100

This free fire webinar is applicable to anyone who has a self-catering business. From the 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2023 everyone who lets even a room must have a written Fire Risk Assessment by law. Fire Risk Assessments should follow the Government Guidance provided by the Home Office.

This webinar will cover..... what has changed, what this means to you as a business, how you can find all the necessary free information to help you complete your Fire Risk Assessment and much more. It will be followed by a Q&A.

The following will be presenting and answering your questions.

- Matthew Armer: Head of Fire Policy at the Home Office
- Pail Bray GFireE: Fire Safety Consultant and Fire Risk Assessor
- Alistair Handyside: Chair, PASC UK

To register for this meeting, click on the link below, where it will ask for your business name and which DMO area you are from.

[https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_6VLS3G7uQBiwLoamDTXQHQ](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_6VLS3G7uQBiwLoamDTXQHQ)

Further Fire Webinars will be announced shortly.

Previous webinars and meetings can be viewed on the PASC UK Website at:

<https://www.pascuk.co.uk/webinars/> Members only recordings are in the Members area.

## VITAL ENGLAND SURVEY FOR YOU TO TAKE PART IN

**TOTAL 1190 at 0700 Tuesday 12 September. Need to push this over 1,400 asap please.**

Here is the first step for you to take to help protect our sector in England, through the Great British Holiday campaign. This short survey, it will take no more than two minutes of your time, is a vital basis for data gathering for our campaign.

We want to show that the sector is not a 'come lately' addition to the scene, solely responsible for the housing crisis. We want to show the local economic value of the sector, and to debunk various myths. The survey is anonymous, and it is vital that as many of you as possible, **and there are thousands of you reading this, actually click on the link and participate.** We will share updates each week.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/B59L2ZT>

## **PETITIONING ENGLISH MP'S**

**1027 at 0700 Tuesday 19 September. Need to push this over 1,500 asap please.**

Please support the work that we are doing, alongside the wider self-catering sector under the collective banner of the Great British Holiday, to ensure that the Westminster Government implements a robust enough Statutory Registration scheme that weeds out the 'bad actors' and provides accurate data to make good policy decisions, BEFORE making any further changes to planning. After clicking on the link, all you need to do is enter your postcode, your MP will come up, you enter your address and press send.

You are able to modify the letter should you wish to.

Link here: <https://www.greatbritishholiday.org/help-our-campaign/>

## **VITAL WALES SURVEY FOR YOU TO TAKE PART IN**

**TOTAL 1430 at 0700 Tuesday 19 September. We have launched Phase Two of 'Review 182'**

Huge support for this from operators in Wales, and well supported by other organisations in the Visitor Economy there too. Still more responses needed.

If you have not yet completed the survey, please do so here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/M8HNPLD>

## **PETITIONING WELSH MS'S**

**TOTAL 2586 at 0700 Tuesday 19 September. We need to pass 3,000 asap please.**

Please support the work that we are doing, alongside the wider Visitor Economy Sector in Wales under the collective banner of Review 182, to ensure that the Welsh Government agrees to meet to discuss reviewing the 182 day threshold and to discuss further exemptions from Council Tax premiums. After clicking on the link, all you need to do is enter your postcode, your MS will come up, you enter your address and press send.

You are able to modify the letter should you wish to. <https://pascuk.eaction.online/182Wales>

## **FIRE GUIDANCE WHERE TO FIND IT ALL?**

Previous updates can be found in the recent newsletters, so just a summary of all the papers available today. Just the new FAQ's above.

### **Recent additional Fire Papers**

1/ Fire FAQ's pt 2

2/ England Fire Regs Summary

3/ Wales Fire Regs Summary

These are short docs that summarize the current situation with Fire Regs in self-catering in England and Wales. They signpost you to all the regulations, the Government produces Guidance, the additional PASC UK papers and more.

They can be found here: [https://www.pascuk.co.uk/fire\\_checks\\_and\\_safety/](https://www.pascuk.co.uk/fire_checks_and_safety/)

If you are looking for information on why the regs are now law in England, and coming in Wales, or what a Responsible person is, please refer to recent Newsletters.

<https://www.pascuk.co.uk/newsletters/>

You can also find lots of information here: [https://www.pascuk.co.uk/fire\\_checks\\_and\\_safety/](https://www.pascuk.co.uk/fire_checks_and_safety/)

### **Main Home Office Papers**

#### **Home Office Guidance on Making your small paying guest accommodation safe from fire 2023**

This paper covers small units, without open plan downstairs, not more than four bedrooms, sleeping no more than twelve in two storey buildings.

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1147723/A\\_guide\\_to\\_making\\_your\\_small\\_paying-guest-accommodation\\_safe\\_from\\_fire.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1147723/A_guide_to_making_your_small_paying-guest-accommodation_safe_from_fire.pdf)

#### **Fire Safety Risk Assessment Sleeping Accommodation**

This paper goes some way to helping with larger properties, but is an old paper, published in 2006 and is currently being updated by the Home Office. Earliest date expected is around the end of the year.

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/422192/9281\\_Sleeping\\_Accommodation\\_v2.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/422192/9281_Sleeping_Accommodation_v2.pdf)

### **Additional PASC UK Supporting Papers**

To help owners navigate through this, and to supplement the Government Papers mentioned above, we have commissioned three initial papers from our Fire expert, Paul Bray, GFireE, Fire Safety Consultant.

The papers are number 1,2 and 3. They can be found here: <https://www.pascuk.co.uk/reports/> and also here: [https://www.pascuk.co.uk/fire\\_checks\\_and\\_safety/](https://www.pascuk.co.uk/fire_checks_and_safety/)

#### **Paper One: The Regulatory Reform Fire Safety Order 2005**

This is a background paper explaining the legal background of the Fire Regs and the Fire Regs.

#### **Paper 2: Additional Notes to the Home Office Guidance on Making your small paying guest accommodation safe from fire 2023**

This paper provides additional notes to use in conjunction with the Home Office Guidance on Making your small paying guest accommodation safe from fire paper.

#### **Paper 3: Applying the Sleeping Risk Guide to existing holiday accommodation**

This paper provides the first paper on providing additional information for larger properties.

### **These have been followed by....**

#### **Fire Checks at Changeover, Routine maintenance and Testing V1**

This provide a guide to fire checks at changeover, and a testing regime.

#### **How to find a Competent Fire Risk Assessor?**

This provides the websites where you can find authorised fire experts.

#### **Updated Fire Risk Assessment**

Suitable for use with the 'Small' guide from the Home Office and Welsh Fire, with the addition of a 'Review Date' box.

#### **Train as a Competent Fire Risk Assessor**

Lots of request about how to become a Competent Fire Risk Assessor. This is probably only feasible and of interest to those with multiple properties or agencies.

#### **Additional Fire Safety Notices (without What3Words)**

We have produced some further Fire Safety Notices without a space at the bottom for What3Words. We really do recommend that you include creating a What3Words reference for your property as the vast majority of emergency services all over the country use it.

#### **What3 Words explained**

What3Words is and how to use it.

#### **FAQ's**

We have published the first two sets of FAQ's, the most commonly asked fire questions. This will be regularly updated and when updates are made they will also appear in the newsletter.

These can all be found at [https://www.pascuk.co.uk/fire\\_checks\\_and\\_safety/](https://www.pascuk.co.uk/fire_checks_and_safety/)

## Next Steps

In addition, PASC UK **will be providing the following over the coming weeks.**

- Further Papers and Webinars (See Webinar Programme) **(Underway)**
- Regular updates on mitigation measures for buildings outside the **Home Office Guidance on Making your small paying guest accommodation safe from fire 2023 (Underway)**
- Work with Home Office and Fire Experts to come up with reasonable and proportionate mitigations for those with properties outside the **Home Office Guidance on Making your small paying guest accommodation safe from fire 2023. (Underway)**
- Prepare a case study of a Fire Risk Assessment (FRA) of our own property for Members, this will include a FRA covering our large, ten-bedroom, three storey property with open plan kitchens. **(Underway)**
- More will be added over the coming weeks

Members questions are welcome on any issues that they have with their Fire Risk Assessments, and we will answer as best we can. We are not ourselves fire safety experts and will do our best to try and offer solutions or signposts to solutions. We are afraid that we cannot answer non-Members questions on fire issues.

## RESETTING YOUR PASSWORD FOR THE PASC UK MEMBERS AREA

You are able to check your account details and download any of the 25 Members only PASC UK papers. The full list of the PASC UK Members Papers is detailed below.

### Anticipated questions:

#### 1/ How do I log in?

On the main PASC website you will see a link in the top right-hand corner called "Member Login". Click this link and enter your email address and password. Once logged in you will be in the members area.

#### 2/ I can't find my password.

Click on the "Member login" link on the far right of the menu on our website and click the "forgot password" link which is in blue text just below the "log in" button. Enter your email address in the field and click "request password reset" button.

### 3/ Who do I contact if I cannot get in?

If you are having difficulty, please email [admin@pascuk.co.uk](mailto:admin@pascuk.co.uk) and Justin will investigate for you.

### 4/ My username doesn't match my email address, does it matter?

No, it doesn't, usually your username would be your email address, but through address changes and mistyping, some don't match up. However, the only place those are used is in the login field, all correspondence will go to your usual email address. Unfortunately, it isn't possible to change the username once it has been set.

## NEWSLETTER INDEX (WHERE TO FIND PREVIOUS INFORMATION)

All previous content is indexed and can be found on the 2022/23 Index on the Newsletter page. Look for PASC UK Index 2022/23. This will be updated weekly.

<https://www.pascuk.co.uk/newsletters/>

## SUPPORT LOBBYING BY JOINING PASC UK

There is a huge amount of work and lobbying to do to help support you all in the self-catering sector. We don't ask very often, however, if we are to fight on so many fronts, we simply need more funds. There are thousands of you that have had the benefit of this newsletter and the lobbying done on behalf of the sector.

We are now asking that as many of you as possible join PASC UK. The fight is on so many fronts, and we get much better results when we engage proper legal advice and proper PR firms to assist with campaigns. Memberships to other organisations that provide common lobbying, information feeds and support also cost many thousands of pounds a year.

Membership fees are as follows: All per annum.

- Single cottage £70
- 2 – 4 Units £125
- 5 – 10 Units £200
- 11 + Units £300

For companies like cleaning firms, or industry support companies, Trade Membership is £200, and you will get a listing in the Trade Directory on the new website.

Members get telephone support and priority email support.

You can join here, simple form, takes 2 mins, and you'll get an invoice, payable by BACS or Credit Card. Just click on this link to go to the joining page: <https://www.pascuk.co.uk/join-pasc-uk/>

Wishing each and every one of you all the best.

Best regards



Alistair Handyside MBE  
Executive Chair  
The Professional Association of Self-Caterers UK  
[www.pascuk.co.uk](http://www.pascuk.co.uk)  
[chair@pascuk.co.uk](mailto:chair@pascuk.co.uk)  
07771 678028



## DISCLAIMER

*The content of this newsletter does not constitute legal advice. PASC UK are not legally qualified and make no representation or warranty of any kind regarding the completeness, accuracy, adequacy, availability, validity, reliability and suitability of the information contained herein. Any reliance you place on such material is therefore strictly at your own risk and PASC UK will not be liable for any losses/damages you suffer as a result of your reliance.*

If you wish to unsubscribe, please respond saying 'unsubscribe' in the subject line. Thanks