



FAB FIREWORK CAMPAIGN

Current legislation allows for public use of fireworks 16 hours a day, every single day, making it impossible for vulnerable groups to take precautions against the distress they can cause.

We are calling on MPs to support this 2020 petition regarding firework use

[Petition 319891](#)

Limit the sale and use of fireworks to organisers of licensed displays only

FAB would like to propose..... [A system whereby a licence would be required to buy and use fireworks.](#)

Licensing would result in:

ACCOUNTABILITY– The licence holder would be accountable for any undue consequences of the display. Even though the instructions on fireworks and from Government is for guidance only.

RESPONSIBILITY – The named person on the licence would be responsible for ensuring safety, and advertising dates and times..... if the date changes due to bad weather they would be responsible for readvertising.

TRACEABILITY– The fireworks would be traceable by bar codes, if they got into the wrong hands, if children were in possession, being sold in markets or on social media.

SUITABILITY— Licenses could be withdrawn if the venue is found to be unsuitable for whatever reason. Venue size,

Contrary to concern raised during the 2019 Petitions Committee Inquiry

Licensing

Will not affect the firework industry re jobs* or incomes.

Will allow charities to continue fundraising.

Is not a ban.



**Fireworks are
not fun for everyone!**

Find us on



*Mr Tom Smith of the British Pyrotechnics Association said in The Independent 4/11/19 "Fewer than 200 full-time jobs are supported by the industry as all fireworks are now imported."



FAB FIREWORK CAMPAIGN

"Surely we should be able to live in peace in our own homes and not be invaded by noise from fireworks from October to January. It's not fair on the family having the TV and radio on full blast to try and cover the noise for the animals"

Nicky Williams

RANDOM FIREWORKS are

Fireworks that are fired primarily in back gardens, where the firer has not given notice to everyone who is affected by the extreme noise coming out of the blue.

We understand that people enjoy fireworks but we at FAB feel the current legislation which allows firework use 16 hours a day 365 days a year is not balanced and equitable. We are not asking for a ban on fireworks, we are asking for a fairer system to enable vulnerable people and those with animals to have time to prepare, by knowing when fireworks can be expected.

As opposed to the 'Firework Season', which is from October to January

The RSPCA raised an action calling for change,

Councils across the country

have responded by calling for more control of firework displays.

As examples, Leeds City Council and police are looking to issue a fireworks injunction.

Thurrock and Blackburn with Darwen are considering a licensing system.

South Ayrshire support plan to ban sales to public.

Rushcliffe are considered banning displays.

West Berkshire called for all public firework displays to be advertised in advance.

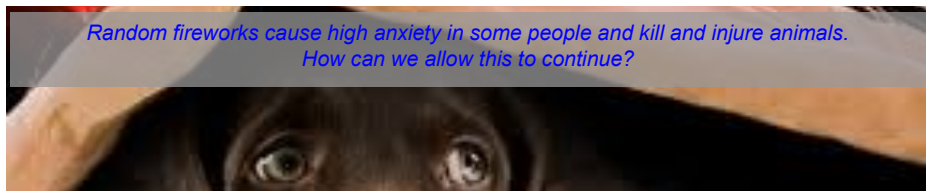
A large number of other councils are also considering what they can do to alleviate the distress, anxiety and harm caused to some people and animals.

"I am so tired of trying to adapt my life so people can blow their money up in smoke.

We have tried EVERYTHING to get through fireworks with our Collies. Last year we spent 10 days away from home in the middle of nowhere to avoid 5th November. New years eve we spent sitting on motorway services with sandwiches and a flask. This year again away for Nov 5th and decided to go away for New Year. This has cost us around £1500. When we come back in November we know we will have to cope with Diwali. I've signed all the petitions, written to councillors. MP's run out of ideas !!"

Pauline Burton

*Random fireworks cause high anxiety in some people and kill and injure animals.
How can we allow this to continue?*





FAB FIREWORK CAMPAIGN

To date 1/12/20 there are 11 open firework petitions and 166 rejected firework petitions.

Each of the 5 previous FAB firework campaign backed petitions have reached over 100k.

The 2020 petition is on 278,000 at this time.

PLEASE NOTICE

As of 27/11/20 the FAB petition is 4th out of 2485 open petitions and 8th out of 19,758 total petitions this parliament.

Gardens sizes v safety zones.

This is something rarely questioned, but gardens on newer estates are unlikely to be big enough for Cat 3 (25m) fireworks...SOME not even for Cat 2. (15m)

SUITABILITY

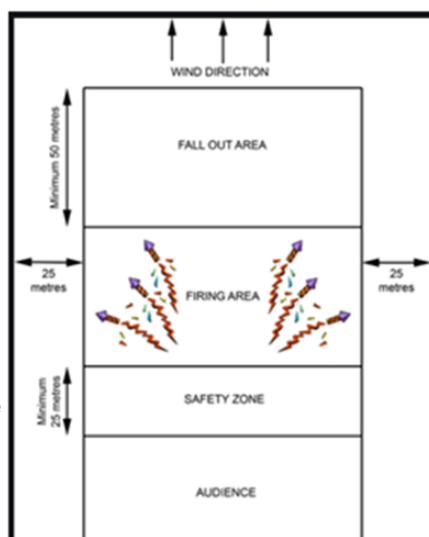
Research commissioned by estate agents Foxtons found that the average British garden is **15-metres** long.

In reality most new housing estates have gardens much smaller, some **7m x 10m**. In a recent straw poll only one garden in 20 was long and wide enough to allow proper safety distances. (8 were less than 20m long (42%), only one 20m+ long and wide.)

It should be noted that NO CHECKS are made by sellers as to the suitability of the firing site.

If there were an incident it would be very difficult to prove that the fireworks used were too powerful for the venue/garden

Unless purchase was under licence and recorded



This example shows 25m distances. Even when changed to 8m or 15m it shows that many gardens will be too small for safety.

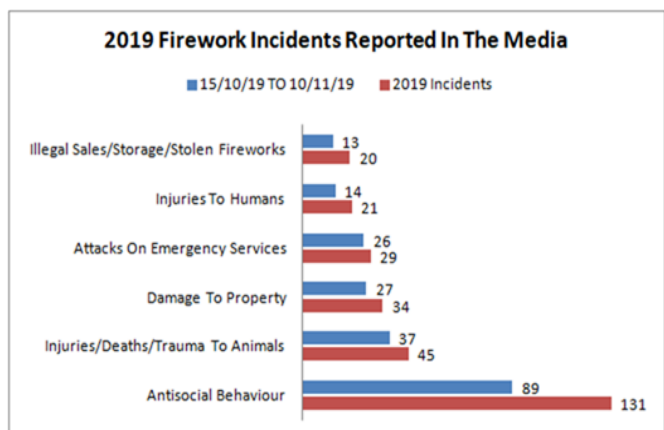
*Random fireworks cause intense reactions in some veterans with PTSD
How can we allow this to continue?*



FAB FIREWORK CAMPAIGN

•Here we show

- Media reports collected during 2019 (RED)
- Media reports collected during seasonal sales period (BLUE)
- This shows a high percentage of incidents occur during the 27 day period.



It should be noted that this represents a cursory perusal of the media by one group and is not a complete picture.

We searched for media reports concerning firework incidents and requested FOIs from the relevant police force for the corresponding period. The results show that, for those forces able to provide the data, the **media reports are just the tip of the iceberg.**

In 2019 — 242 total incidents were picked up from media reports.

72% during the SEASONAL SALES period 15/10/19 to 10/11/19

But that was a drop in the ocean.....

The FOI that was sent to Lancashire police came back with **15 pages of incidents @ circa 33 per page =**

495 incidents The request we made was this:

“Please supply details of any firework incidents reported between **21/10/19 and 06/11/19**” - **which is 17 days**

Just 2 WEEKS during seasonal sales,

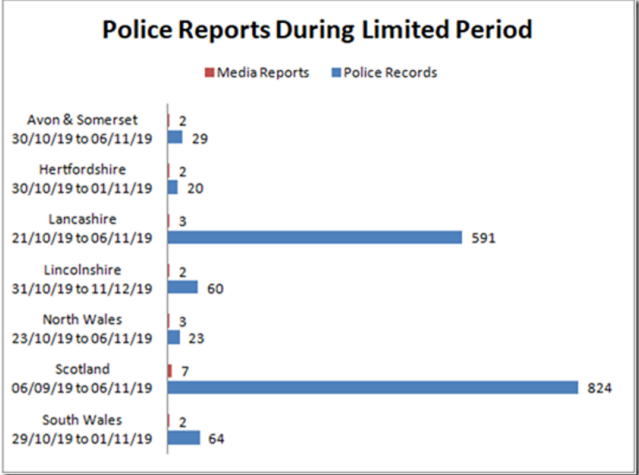
when anyone can purchase fireworks.



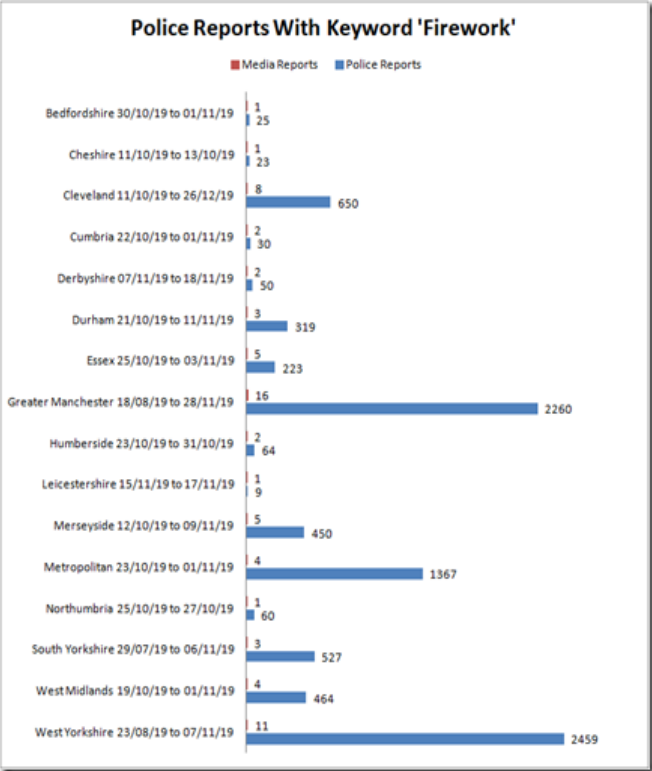


FAB FIREWORK CAMPAIGN

It is encouraging that these 7 police forces have a specific way of logging firework incidents and are therefore able to provide the requested data.



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In response to Freedom of Information requests these police forces were only able to search for the keyword ‘fireworks’.



RANDOM FIREWORKS CAUSE MISERY, EVERY YEAR, TO THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE
How can we allow this to continue?



FAB FIREWORK CAMPAIGN

These are some of the organizations recognising the FAB firework campaign issues

BVA Senior Vice President Daniella Dos Santos said: “The loud noises and bright flashes from fireworks can be extremely traumatic for animals, from dogs, cats and rabbits to livestock, horses, wildlife and zoo animals. 3.6 million dogs are affected by fireworks” Debris and remnants of fireworks can also pose a risk to the health and welfare of livestock and wildlife.

Catherine Kinane, Medical Director at Combat Stress, said:
“We see a higher rate of distress in veterans accessing our services at this time of year. Not only is this time of year challenging because of the grief surrounding Armistice, but the sound and sudden unexpected bangs of fireworks can be reminders of frontline combat where they were exposed to the horrors of war in service to this country.

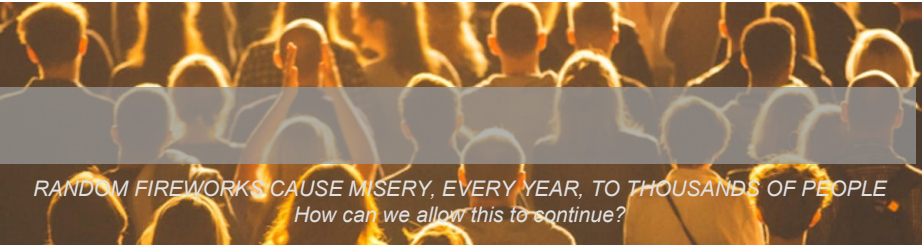
Former Rochdale Mayor Ian Duckworth has renewed calls to ban all fireworks except for licenced displays.

Chief Constable Andy Rhodes said, "There are a few petitions doing the rounds to ban public sale of fireworks which would mean only organised displays -I'm signing any I find. Enough is enough."

Fire Brigade Union have also jumped on board to back the public service leaders saying they are seeing more people in senior positions wanting them banned.

Plastic surgeons have called for a ban on the sale of fireworks after bonfire night injuries in Glasgow trebled. Twenty-seven people were treated in hospital in Greater Glasgow and Clyde in the days around November 5, compared with nine last year. That is the highest figure since 2008.

South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner, “The time is overdue for Parliament to look seriously at what is happening more frequently on Bonfire Night.”



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