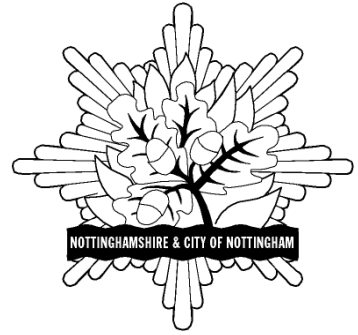


# Public Document Pack



**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE & CITY OF NOTTINGHAM FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY -  
COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**Date:** Friday, 6 October 2017      **Time:** 10.00 am

**Venue:** Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Bestwood Lodge, Arnold,  
Nottingham, NG5 8PD

**Members are requested to attend the above meeting to be held at the time, place and date mentioned to transact the following business**

M. J. Taylor

**Clerk to the Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire and Rescue Authority**

## AGENDA

### Pages

- |   |  |         |
|---|--|---------|
| 1 | <b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>   |         |
| 2 | <b>DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS</b>   |         |
| 3 | <b>MINUTES</b><br>Of the meeting held on 30 June 2017 (for confirmation) | 3 - 8   |
| 4 | <b>SERVICE DELIVERY PERFORMANCE</b><br>Report of the Chief Fire Officer  | 9 - 16  |
| 5 | <b>RISK REVIEW 2017</b><br>Report of the Chief Fire Officer              | 17 - 24 |
| 6 | <b>GRENFELL TOWER FIRE</b><br>Report of the Chief Fire Officer           | 25 - 32 |



**ANY COUNCILLOR WHO IS UNABLE TO ATTEND THE MEETING AND WISHES TO SUBMIT APOLOGIES SHOULD DO SO VIA THE PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER AT FIRE SERVICES HEADQUARTERS ON 0115 967 0880**

**IF YOU NEED ANY ADVICE ON DECLARING AN INTEREST IN ANY ITEM ABOVE, PLEASE CONTACT THE CONSTITUTIONAL SERVICES OFFICER SHOWN ON THIS AGENDA, IF POSSIBLE BEFORE THE DAY OF THE MEETING.**

Constitutional Services Officer: *Catherine Ziane-Pryor*  
*0115 8764298*  
*catherine.pryor@nottinghamcity.gov.uk*

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<http://committee.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CId=215&Year=0>





**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND CITY OF NOTTINGHAM  
FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY**

**COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES of the meeting held at Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service (NFRS)  
Headquarters, Bestwood Lodge, Arnold, Nottingham, NG5 8PD on 30 June 2017 from  
10.00 am - 11.44 am**

**Membership**

Present

Councillor Brian Grocock (Chair presiding at the meeting)  
Councillor Andrew Brown  
Councillor Patience Uloma Ifediora  
Councillor Jonathan Wheeler  
Councillor Malcolm Wood  
Councillor Jason Zadrozny

Absent

Councillor Eunice Campbell, (Substituted by Councillor Malcolm Wood)  
Councillor Nicki Brooks, (Substituted by Councillor Brian Grocock)

**Colleagues, partners and others in attendance:**

Wayne Bowcock	- Deputy Chief Fire Officer, NFRS
Richard Cropley	- Station Manager, NFRS
Dan Quinn	- Area Manager, NFRS
Nick Spicer	- Crew Manager, NFRS
James Welbourn	- Governance Officer

**1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR FOR THE MEETING**

In the absence of Councillor Eunice Campbell, it was resolved for Councillor Brian Grocock to Chair the meeting.

**2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Councillor Nicki Brooks (substituted by Councillor Brian Grocock)  
Councillor Eunice Campbell (substituted by Councillor Malcolm Wood)

**3 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

None.



#### **4 MINUTES**

The minutes from the meeting held on 24 March 2017 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair presiding at the meeting.

#### **5 SERVICE DELIVERY PERFORMANCE**

Dan Quinn, Area Manager at NFRS provided Members with an update on the performance of the Service Delivery Directorate.

The following points were highlighted:

- (a) new breathing apparatus is to be introduced over the next quarter. There will be a transition period to move from the old sets to the new;
- (b) a fire in a gym led to resources from Chesterfield being used. Resources from out of County were used due to them having the nearest available asset. Resources used are always the nearest available, irrespective of the Service and County boundaries;
- (c) when the crew are unavailable at a Retained Duty System (RDS) station the equipment is also unavailable. NFRS are looking at different crewing models to try and address this issue;

Following questions from Members, further information was provided:

- (d) a review of aerial ladder platforms has been undertaken at London Road and Mansfield Stations. With regard to high-rise buildings, Prevention and Protection teams are working closely with partners to identify any significant issues, as well as discussing the adoption of a fire tactical plan.

Also under consideration is the issue of access for aerial ladder platforms in certain areas of the County. Wayne Bowcock has recently chaired the Serious Risk Event Review, which asked for more statistical work on this issue. As a first step, crews will need to identify whether or not the aerial platform is suitable for different calls;

- (e) NFRS have access to modelling software that allows the identification of buildings over a certain height. This was used, in conjunction with Nottingham City Council (NCC) to identify every building in Nottingham over 18 metres in height. As a result, NCC has written to every building owner or occupier to recommend to them that they carry out a review of their fire risk assessment and take any necessary actions. NFRS can follow up this action with physical visits to sites;
- (f) the Chair of the National Fire Chief's Council has met with permanent secretaries. There is a meeting in the week beginning 3 July with all Chief Executives and senior officers from the respective District Councils, both the universities and the College;
- (g) schools have got quite specific fire safety management plans and they practice evacuation at regular intervals. Schools can generally evacuate quickly, with the possible exception of boarding schools who have the problem of 'sleeping risk' (boarding pupils);



- (h) Wayne Bowcock will write to Academy schools to ensure they are included in any discussions surrounding fire safety;
- (i) a 'special service call' refers to any call that doesn't fit within the scope of a regular fire call. These special calls could be rescuing animals, road traffic incidents or other types of incident not involving fires directly;
- (j) the incident recording system available to NFRS breaks down whether accidental dwelling fires are in public or private sector buildings.

**RESOLVED to note the contents of the report.**

## **6 RETAINED DUTY SYSTEM SUPPORT**

Wayne Bowcock, Deputy Chief Fire Officer at NFRS updated Members on the governance arrangements for the support of Retained Duty System (RDS) staff.

The following points were highlighted:

- (a) there is a significant effort towards keeping retained staff. Currently at NFRS, there are 257 RDS staff employed; the majority of this number have employment elsewhere and give cover in their spare time. Historically there have been problems with daytime cover; one of the Group Managers at NFRS chairs a task group looking into this nationally;
- (b) the pay structure and remuneration systems for retained staff haven't been adequately modernised, which can lead to problems with keeping staff, this is being considered nationally;
- (c) over the last two decades the training requirements for retained staff have increased, and the technical nature of the job has become more complex;
- (d) a permanently established body, headed up by an NFRS Group Manager who works nationally has been started to look at issues affecting recruitment and retention;

Following questions from Members, further information was provided:

- (e) a new approach to recruitment is being taken at Misterton Fire Station to try and target individuals that could come and help NFRS. It can be difficult in areas like Misterton to attract retained staff as the old industries that provided shift work, which previously enabled individuals to offer their services to NFRS, are no longer as prevalent;
- (f) training students from Nottingham as retained firefighters is risky, as they will probably leave the city after they have finished their studies. However, the benefit is a fresh and youthful impetus into the workforce, along with the possibility of those individuals staying within the Fire Service, albeit in different parts of the country to Nottinghamshire;



- (g) the 'on-call review' has been running for over two years. It has increased the number of retained staff being brought into the Service; however, there have been more leavers. Managers who lead the retained sections come together on a quarterly basis.

Overall the approach has been successful, but has plateaued recently, which is why the sustainable model approach has been put forward.

**RESOLVED to note the contents of the report and endorse the Service's approach to governance and support for Retained Duty System staff.**

## **7 SAFE AND WELL PROJECT UPDATE**

Richard Cropley, Station Manager at NFRS updated Members on the progress of the safe and well project.

The following information was highlighted:

- (a) 'safe and well' started out as a piece of work recognising that fire and rescue across the UK were seeing over a million people in their homes over the course of a year;
- (b) there is information sharing with NHS partners. There are service level agreements and a Memorandum of Understanding in place to make sure that information is shared securely;
- (c) NFRS is believed to be the only fire service in the country performing their safe and well check electronically. There are somewhere in the region of 5000 home safety checks over the course of the year;
- (d) three large stakeholder events have been held and were attended by over 80 partners. This has been effective in guiding NFRS on what they can provide to people in their homes;
- (e) the blood donor service have wanted to use fire stations; NFRS have talked to health partners about making this a wider health clinic. This is potentially an opportunity to speak to people who know vulnerable people in the community;
- (f) other areas that fire officer could collaborate with health partners with are:
  - Falls prevention
  - Psychoactive substances
  - Beating bowel cancer
  - Stopping smoking
  - Mental health
  - Warmer homes;
- (g) the safe and well project is the second biggest the service is undertaking currently, at an estimated cost of £68,000. There has been a successful bid for £10,000 for technology; the opportunity exists to submit further bids to a transformation fund to develop Safe and Well, NFRS will work with Public Health England to access appropriate funding.



**RESOLVED to note the contents of the report and continue to endorse the development of 'fire as a health asset' and specifically the safe and well project.**

## **8 WORKING WITH RURAL COMMUNITIES**

Nick Spicer, Crew Manager at NFRS updated Members of the Community Safety Committee on the prevention work which is taking place within the rural communities of Nottinghamshire.

The following points were highlighted:

- (a) 80% of Nottinghamshire is classed as being rural, with over 600 farms. If a member of the rural community is affected by rural crime they can feel isolated and vulnerable;
- (b) the Police and Crime Plan 2013-18 has identified that the north of the county is affected by rural crime. In 2016 there was an increase of 12.1% of rural crime reporting;
- (c) an arson reduction checklist is trialling in Edwinstowe in July; talking to farmers will be a key part of this;
- (d) Operation Decelerate looks at reducing road traffic collisions on rural roads. NFRS may get involved with education of drivers in conjunction with the Police. Nottinghamshire County Road Safety Partnership is also involved with this;
- (e) the Rural Community Safety Guide is similar to a guide produced by Lancashire Fire and Rescue, and will provide best practice advice, and safety measures for rural residents on a range of topics;
- (f) Police in Nottinghamshire have expressed a real interest in the introduction of a rural intervention vehicle.

**RESOLVED to note the contents of the report and the ongoing work and development of collaboration between Fire, Police and partners, targeting the safety of rural communities.**

## **9 FIRE PROTECTION PROJECT UPDATE**

Wayne Bowcock, Deputy Chief Fire Officer at NFRS updated Members on two of the current projects being managed by the Fire Protection Team. These are:

- The use of operational crews to carry out hazard spotting activities in non-domestic premises, and;
- The use of a predictive incident risk scoring database to influence the service's risk based audit programme for non-domestic premises.

The following points were highlighted:

- (a) the responsibility for buildings' compliance with fire legislation shifted in 2005 from the fire service to the building owner/occupier they need to be fully responsible for safety standards and need a suitable risk assessment in place. If NFRS consider there to be



deficiencies in these standards, they can investigate, give advice, and potentially prosecute;

- (b) the opportunity to understand layouts of buildings is useful for any future events that may happen at those buildings;
- (c) operational crews are proposed to be used to carry out low level audits, and would gather risk information to support tactical plans;

Following questions from Members, further information was provided:

- (d) the fire service cannot go into the private areas of a suspected house of multiple occupancy (HMO). However, the local authorities do have some enforcement powers with environmental health; NFRS do not have any enforcement powers beyond communal areas;
- (e) NFRS were involved with the Police in investigating people trafficking and modern slavery. As a result, crews are being trained on how to deal with these issues and give advice to residents affected.

**RESOLVED to support the increased use of operational crews in the reduction of risk in non-domestic premises.**





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# **SERVICE DELIVERY PERFORMANCE**

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

**Date:** 06 October 2017

**Purpose of Report:**

To provide Members with an update on the performance of the Service Delivery Directorate.

## **CONTACT OFFICER**

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Deputy Chief Fire Officer

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**Media Enquiries  
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(0115) 967 0880 therese.easom@notts-fire.gov.uk



## **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 The Service gathers data on a range of performance covering response and prevention activity, absence management and availability.
- 1.2 As the Service works towards a performance culture and builds the processes to capture the data required, in order to produce a quarterly performance report against key performance indicators (KPI), it has been agreed that the Head of Service Delivery reports performance on a quarterly basis. This will evolve and develop over the coming months as new data sets become available and KPI's are agreed with the Strategic Leadership Team.
- 1.3 This report is based on performance data between 1 April 2017 and 30 June 2017.
- 1.4 The June 2017 Community Safety Committee meeting performance report covered data from 1 February to 30 April 2017. There is an overlap of data in this report in order to bring the quarterly reports in line with both the calendar and financial years.

## **2. REPORT**

- 2.1 A total of 2987 incidents were attended by Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service (NFRS) between 1 April 2017 and 30 June 2017, which is an increase of 467 incidents during the same months in the previous year. The information below shows that this increase is due to secondary deliberate fires and emergency first responding incidents. The Following incidents were attended during this period:
  - 131 accidental dwelling fires; decrease of 2 compared to the same period in 2016
  - 380 deliberate secondary fires; increase of 124 compared to the same period in 2016
  - Zero fire fatalities; decrease of 4 compared to the same period in 2016
  - 871 special service calls (SSC) including 120 road traffic collisions (RTCs) a decrease in 13 RTC's compared to the same period in 2016.
  - 292 emergency first responding incidents assisting East Midlands Ambulance Service (EMAS) as part of an ongoing trail.

### **RETAINED DUTY SYSTEM AVAILABILITY**

- 2.2 Service Delivery has developed systems to capture data on retained duty system (RDS) availability. RDS availability is recorded within the Systel



system, the service is working to develop this data into a format which is more useable as management information.

- 2.3 Members should note that the RDS availability during the period of this report (Appendix A) shows 87.2% availability, with each section averaging 1779 hours of availability over quarter one. Seven out of the sixteen sections performed above 90%, with the highest level of availability being Warsop with 97.3%.
- 2.4 RDS availability continues to be improved across sections and should be celebrated as continued success, not only as a Service but by local RDS sections. As data continues to be gathered and analysed, Service Delivery will continue to work closely with District Managers, Human Resources and RDS Managers to implement areas for further improvement around availability through recruitment, retention and development to support the RDS.

## **OPERATIONAL ASSURANCE**

- 2.5 Operational assurance performance data was collated between 1 April 2017 and 30 June 2017. During this period a total of 99 incidents of interest were attended.
- 2.6 NFRS attended the following incidents of interest between 1 April 2017 and 30 June 2017.
- Crews attended thirty-four fires resulting in:
    - Ten people, one dog and ten cats rescued;
    - Three people led to safety;
    - There were no fire fatalities within NFRS during this reporting period;
    - However, eighteen canaries were recorded as fatalities at one incident;
    - Fourteen Fire Casualties (non-fatal).
  - Crews attended forty-five Road Traffic Collisions (RTC) between 1 April 2017 and 30 June 2017 resulting in:
    - NFRS extricated fifty members of the public;
    - There were three RTC fatalities.
  - There were five animal rescue incidents, including ten animals rescued from fires.
  - The period of this report recorded six HAZMAT incidents, resulting in one fatality.
  - Seven incidents required a multi-appliance attendance (five or more appliances). These are identified below:



- Fire involving a house of three floors in a block of six houses, two people and two cats rescued. Resources from Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service supported this incident with the use of their aerial ladder platform and support pump from Chesterfield.
- Single storey building fire 20m x 20m used as a garage. LPG cylinders involved.
- Three storey unoccupied school, fire located in the first floor.
- Building of three floors 150m x 75m used as a Hospital. Fire located on first floor medical ward.
- Fire involving two houses and three vehicles. Resources from Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service supported this incident with the use of their aerial ladder platform and support pump.
- House Fire, persons reported – house severely damaged by fire.
- Operational crews completed fifty debrief returns during the reporting period, all following incidents to support organisational learning.

## **EXERCISE PLANNING**

2.8 A revised Exercise Planning Procedure has been introduced for exercises to be undertaken from April 2017. The themes to be covered are:

- Fire fighting in high-rise buildings;
- Fire fighting in basements;
- Use of breathing apparatus (BA), particularly BA command and control;
- Incident command system.

2.9 Eight exercises have been planned during Quarter 1, including two basement scenarios, two exercises in high rise buildings, one confined space exercise and three exercises testing breathing apparatus procedures.

## **3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

## **4. HUMAN RESOURCES AND LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS**

During the period of this report twenty-five RDS trainee firefighters have commenced training at NFRS Service Delivery Training Centre. Twelve are scheduled to complete their training in early August 2017 and thirteen are scheduled for completion in November 2017.



## **5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

An equality impact assessment has not been undertaken because the information contained in this report does not relate to a change in policy or procedure.

## **6. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

There are no crime and disorders implications arising from this report.

## **7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

An effective performance culture ensures that the Service is focussing on key objectives as set by the Fire and Rescue Authority. This ensures that Members are able to apply effective scrutiny to be satisfied that statutory obligations are being met.

## **8. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

An effective performance culture and regime ensures that the Service focuses on key objectives which contribute to the management of strategic and corporate risks. Robust performance information and analysis supports effective decision making and efficient use of resources.

## **9. COLLABORATION IMPLICATIONS**

Service Delivery is currently conducting a review of which appliances attend incidents, identifying any opportunities to work closer with other fire and rescue services in an effort to maximise efficiency and to provide the highest level of service to the public.

## **10. RECOMMENDATIONS**

That Members note the contents of the report.

## **11. BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR INSPECTION (OTHER THAN PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS)**

None.

John Buckley  
**CHIEF FIRE OFFICER**



# APPENDIX A

## RETAINED DUTY SYSTEM AVAILABILITY DATA BY STATION

STATION	Available (no. of hours and %)		Unavailable Insufficient Crew (no. of hours and %)		Unavailable No Officer in Charge (no. of hours and %)		Unavailable No Driver (no. of hours and %)		Unavailable More Than 1 Variable (no. of hours and %)	
02 Blidworth	1995.75	91.4%	95.75	4.5%	90.5	4.1%	0	0%	0	0%
05 Ashfield	1884.5	86.3%	175.5	8.04%	76.5	3.51%	16	0.73%	31.5	1.44%
07 Warsop	2125.5	97.3%	58.5	2.68%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
08 Worksop	1972	90.3%	63	2.88%	80.5	3.7%	33.5	1.53%	35	1.6%
10 Harworth	2011	92.1%	47	2.15%	93.5	4.28%	0	0%	32	1.47%
11 Misterton	1500	68.7%	491	22.48%	42	1.92%	0	0%	151	6.91%
12 Retford	1977.5	90.5%	169.25	7.75%	9.5	0.44%	0	0%	27.75	1.27%
13 Tuxford	1785.5	81.8%	162.5	7.44%	90	4.12%	17	0.78%	129	5.91%



STATION	Available (no. of hours and %)		Unavailable Insufficient Crew (no. of hours and %)		Unavailable No Officer in Charge (no. of hours and %)		Unavailable No Driver (no. of hours and %)		Unavailable More Than 1 Variable (no. of hours and %)	
<b>14 Southwell</b>	1615	74%	60.5	2.77%	197.25	9.03%	116	5.31%	195.25	8.94%
<b>15 Collingham</b>	1831.75	84%	44.75	2.05%	103.25	4.73%	12.5	0.57%	191.75	8.78%
<b>16 Newark</b>	1920.5	88%	27.5	1.3%	116.5	5.33%	34	1.56%	85.5	3.91%
<b>17 Bingham</b>	1861.75	85%	166	7.6%	77	3.53%	67.25	3.1%	12	0.55%
<b>23 Stapleford</b>	1908	87%	266	12.18%	10	0.46%	0	0%	0	0%
<b>24 Eastwood</b>	1618.25	74%	81.75	3.74%	142.25	6.51%	116.5	5.33%	225.25	10.31%
<b>25 Hucknall</b>	1970.75	90%	107	4.9%	66.75	3.01%	3.5	0.16%	37	1.7%
<b>28 East Leake</b>	2040.75	93%	92.5	4.24%	49,25	2.26%	1.5	0.07%	0	0%



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# **RISK REVIEW 2017**

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

**Date:** 06 October 2017

**Purpose of Report:**

To update Members on the review of new and existing site specific information on operational risks within Nottinghamshire.

## **CONTACT OFFICER**

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## **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 In 2012, the Chief Fire and Rescue Advisor (CRFA) in partnership with the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) published operational guidance for fire and rescue services (FRS) for operational risk information. The availability of relevant and timely information is recognised as critical to the successful management of all operational incidents attended by any FRS.
- 1.2 Operational risk information provides robust yet flexible guidance on developing and maintaining a consistent approach to managing, processing and using strategic and tactical operational risk information that can be adapted to the nature, scale and requirements of the individual FRS.
- 1.3 The purpose of the guidance is to provide a consistency of approach that forms the basis for common operational practices, supporting interoperability between FRSs and other emergency responders. These common principles, practices and procedures are intended to support the development of safe systems of work on the incident ground and to enhance national resilience.
- 1.4 Fire and Rescue Authorities (FRA) have a responsibility for the health, safety and welfare of their employees. This runs parallel to a responsibility to mitigate the risk from fire (and other emergencies) to the community and to the society that it serves, and the environment within which it operates.
- 1.5 As part of these responsibilities, the FRA must have in place appropriate policies and procedures to address the issues concerned in achieving these objectives and, through training and development, to provide appropriate knowledge, skills and understanding to enable its employees to operate safely.
- 1.6 To assist the FRS to meet their statutory duties and responsibilities in relation to operational risk information, the guidance published in 2012 introduced a model approach, entitled Provision of Operational Risk Information System (PORIS).
- 1.7 PORIS provides a strategic framework that is compatible with other relevant data and information systems such as the Incident Recording System, generic risk assessments, fire safety data, and security guidance. The model provides a common methodology and approach to managing the identification, gathering, analysis, provision, audit and review of operational data, whilst allowing individual FRSs the flexibility to integrate its processes into their own systems.
- 1.8 In 2015, PORIS was introduced and implemented within Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service (NFRS), which included training for crews, a new way of storing risk information and a rationalisation of existing risk information held by the Service.



## 2. REPORT

- 2.1 Identifying and managing risk is central to the role and responsibility of the FRS, whether this is risk to its employees, the environment in which it operates, or the society that it serves. The gathering, providing, sharing, maintaining and protecting of operational risk information is an important and significant challenge for the FRA.
- 2.2 Since 2015, NFRS has embarked on a programme of collecting site specific risk information (SSRI), with the purpose of achieving the following strategic objectives:
- The prevention of injury and ill health of firefighters and other emergency responders;
  - Management and mitigation of risks in the community;
  - Continual improvement in the provision of accurate, relevant and timely operational information;
  - Compliance with the legal duties placed upon the FRA in relation to operational risk information;
  - Audit and review of operational risk information.
- 2.3 Staff identify risk premises through a variety of routes:
- Knowledge of a premises change of use;
  - An awareness of a new-build development;
  - Information provided by the protection department (FP) or other FRS departments;
  - Attendance at an operational incident.
- 2.4 Once potential SSRI premises have been identified and initial information about the hazards associated with the risk gathered, districts prioritise potentially high risk premises.
- 2.5 The PORIS categories into which a premise may fall are:
- Category 1: premises offers very low or no risk
  - Category 2: premises offers low to medium levels of risk
  - Category 3: premises offers medium to high risk
  - Category 4: premises presents high levels of risk
  - Category 5: premises requires a comprehensive multi-agency plan.
- 2.6 Generic risk assessments and standard procedures are adequate to control the risks associated with category 1 and 2 premises. NFRS therefore focusses on category 3, 4 and 5 within its risk based information gathering, review and training programme.



2.7 Typical premises that fall within a Category 3 risk include:

- Industrial units with hazardous processes;
- Heritage buildings;
- Sites of scientific interest;
- Buildings where design/construction may cause operational difficulties;
- Environmental loss;
- Historical buildings;
- Crown premises;
- Courts;
- Biohazard storage;
- Chemical storage.

2.8 Typical sites that will fall within a Category 4 risk include:

- Lower tier COMAH (Control of Major Accident Hazards) sites;
- Explosive storage sites;
- Large hospitals;
- Large heritage sites;
- Sports stadiums;
- Major shopping centres;
- Prisons and Secure premises.

2.9 Typically sites that fall within category 5 will be subject to a multi-agency response which will be planned for as part of the Nottinghamshire Local Resilience Forum (LRF).

2.10 NFRS has an internal process for the collation of information through a network of station based SSRI coordinators.

2.11 The NFRS PORIS approach is quality assured by staff within the operational assurance team.

2.12 The internal quality assurance process identified that some of the SSRI information currently held within NFRS requires review. This review has now been started.

2.13 Following the tragic fire at Grenfell Tower in London, NFRS also established a Serious Event Review Group (SERG) which has requested that all 'high rise' SSRI information held is reviewed and updated if necessary.

2.14 As a consequence, the Service has commenced a review of all its existing category 3 and category 4 risk information. In addition, a programme of activity has commenced to identify any risks (highlighted in 2.7 and 2.8) which may not already have a SSRI record. This work has commenced with immediate effect and it has been set as a Service priority. Phase one of this work is for the risk review to be completed before the end of the 2017. Identification of new premises requiring SSRI records will form part of phase two work commencing in January 2018.



- 2.15 Periodic audit is a useful means to enable a deeper and more critical appraisal of the elements of the operational risk information system. This audit should determine whether the system has been properly implemented and maintained. In addition, it is a proactive approach to confirm if NFRS is effective in meeting the organisation's policy and objectives.
- 2.16 The results of the audit will be reviewed to support continual improvement. The service will share the outcomes of the review with regional partners to ensure that they are aware of any risk NFRS sites may represent. In addition, we will seek an independent third party sample audit and validation to ensure NFRS has a robust review programme.

### **3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

### **4. HUMAN RESOURCES AND LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 As part of the risk review, all SSRI coordinators will receive refresher training completed on station by the operational assurance department and will be funded through existing Service Delivery budgets.
- 4.2 SSRI coordinators will cascade this training to operational crews during normal working hours and therefore there will be no additional learning and development or funding implications. There will however be a knock-on impact to other work whilst this task is prioritised.
- 4.3 This updated operational risk information will be used to influence and shape training and exercises to ensure that operational personnel can develop their skills in using the information in the operational environment.

### **5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

An equality impact assessment has not been undertaken because the information contained in this report does not relate to a change in policy or procedure.

### **6. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

There are no crime and disorders implications arising from this report.

### **7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 The responsibility to conduct a review of risk is specifically identified in a number of different elements of legislation, including: The Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004, and the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999.



- 7.2 Section 7(2)d of the Fire and Rescue Services Act, places a responsibility on the FRA to make arrangements for obtaining information needed for that purpose. Sections 8(2)d, and 9(3)d place a similar responsibility on the FRA in respect of road accidents and other emergencies.
- 7.3 There is also a range of other legislation that places responsibilities on FRAs in respect of the collection, use, storage and sharing of data. These include:
- The Fire and Rescue Services (Emergencies) (England) Order 2007;
  - Civil Contingencies Act 2004;
  - The Civil Contingencies Act 2004 (Contingency Planning) Regulations 2005;
  - Corporate Manslaughter and Corporate Homicide Act 2007;
  - Health and Safety at Work Act 1974;
  - Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999;
  - Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005;
  - Data Protection Act 2014;
  - The Freedom of Information Act 2000.
- 7.4 In support of these legislative responsibilities, The Fire and Rescue National Framework places a requirement on all FRAs to have in place effective arrangements for gathering risk information and making it readily available to operational crews. These arrangements should include an effective audit and review system to ensure that the information is current.

## **8. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1 The management of health and safety at work is key to maintaining firefighter and public safety. SSRI is a method of pre-planning through knowledge, training and exercising to ensure that risks can be managed and control measures introduced to maximise firefighter safety and public protection.
- 8.2 The importance of using a harmonised approach is highlighted by the need to ensure that operational risk information can be shared and understood across FRSs in England and other parts of the United Kingdom. This is increasingly important due to the ongoing integration of operational response and through the continuing expansion of blue light interoperability to support mutual aid and national resilience capabilities.

## **9. COLLABORATION IMPLICATIONS**

Service Delivery is currently conducting a review of which appliances attend incidents, identifying any opportunities to work closer with other FRS to maximise efficiency and to provide the highest level of service to the public. The risk review will support this process of collaboration.



## **10. RECOMMENDATIONS**

That Members note the contents of the report.

## **11. BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR INSPECTION (OTHER THAN PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS)**

None

John Buckley  
**CHIEF FIRE OFFICER**



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**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**  
**Fire & Rescue Service**  
*Creating Safer Communities*

Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham  
Fire and Rescue Authority  
Community Safety Committee

# **GRENFELL TOWER FIRE**

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

**Date:** 06 October 2017

**Purpose of Report:**

To update Members on the work that has been carried out by the Service following the tragic fire at the Grenfell Tower Block, North Kensington.

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## **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 Grenfell Tower in Kensington, North West London, is a 24-storey housing block that was built in the 1970s and contains 129 flats. A fire at the tower started in the early hours of Wednesday 14 June 2017 and spread quickly. Currently there are 80+ people confirmed missing presumed dead. The fire started in a fridge-freezer in a fourth floor flat, the growth of the fire is believed to have been accelerated by the building's exterior cladding. At its height over 250 firefighters were tackling the blaze and carried out approximately 65 rescues.
- 1.2 There is an ongoing fire investigation being carried out by officers from the London Fire Brigade with a separate criminal investigation being carried out by the Metropolitan Police. The Government has announced a public enquiry into the fire which will report directly to the Prime Minister. The purpose of the enquiry is to discover what happened at Grenfell Tower and to make recommendations to prevent a similar tragedy happening again.
- 1.3 The National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) is taking the main coordinating role for information coming from the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) and other Government departments and for communicating that information to fire and rescue services (FRSs). The main communication method has been in the form of daily situation reports (SITREP) generated by the NFCC, these are designed to seek and share information and to enable an accurate picture of the current situation to be developed and shared.
- 1.4 The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 (RRO) is the main fire safety legislation fire and rescue authorities are responsible for enforcing. The Order is designed to provide a minimum fire safety standard in all non-domestic premises. In practical terms, in tall residential buildings such as Grenfell the RRO applies only to the common areas of the building and as such the residents' flats themselves are not regulated by the FRSs. There are other complimentary regulations, enforced by others, that can be used to enforce fire safety in these buildings, which includes the Housing Act 2004 and health and safety legislation.
- 1.5 The designated responsible person (RP) is the individual with the responsibility for ensuring compliance with the RRO, in residential tall buildings this is any person having control to some extent or the owner. Those persons designated as the RP or a person acting on their behalf, are required to carry out certain fire safety duties which include ensuring the general fire precautions are satisfactory and conducting a suitable and sufficient fire risk assessment.
- 1.6 The Fire Protection department takes a risk based approach when determining the annual fire safety audit programme. The emphasis and focus of the audit programme is based upon the Chief Fire Officers Association guidance. Premises which present the highest risk, will be inspected on a



more frequent basis. Those premises considered to be lower risk will be inspected primarily in response to complaints, following incidents or on a random basis to verify their lower risk classification and to confirm that the responsible persons are complying with their statutory duty to comply with the requirements of the RRO.

## **2. REPORT**

- 2.1 In the immediate aftermath of the Grenfell Tower fire a number of cross government meetings were held to coordinate the wider response to the incident and to manage the immediate actions that would be generated from across Government departments for local authorities, FRSs and other agencies.
- 2.2 In the days following the incident DCLG had generated a national list of over 400 buildings where they believed aluminium composite materials (ACM) had been used in the external cladding of these buildings, as was identified as used in the recent refurbishment of Grenfell Tower. At the same time DCLG had also sent out a letter to all Local Authorities and other registered providers of social housing asking them to identify whether any cladding panels used in new build or refurbishment were ACM. In the initial list of 400 buildings there were no buildings within Nottinghamshire identified as having ACM cladding.
- 2.3 The NFCC was tasked with coordinating the FRSs response to the incident, which included tasking individual Services to carry out RRO fire safety audits on buildings identified through DCLG's data collecting exercise. The NFCC administered through the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Service started to send out requests for audits to be carried out in the first week following the fire.
- 2.4 The NFCC started to send out daily SITREPs on 26 June, these included details of the number of audits completed nationally by FRSs. Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service (NFRS) received the first request for an audit to be carried out on 3 July. Since this first request a further three requests for audits by NFRS have been generated from the NFCC. Further requests for audits have been received from numerous sources (Nottingham City Homes, NHS sites across the county, Nottingham City Council etc.). As a consequence of the Grenfell Tower fire, NFRS will have carried out over 60 audits of tall buildings with the majority of those coming out as broadly compliant against the RRO.
- 2.5 The single largest request for action came from Nottingham City Council who had produced a list of over 500 buildings that they had classified as tall buildings. The list was reviewed by NFRS's Fire Protection team and using a variation of the existing risk based audit programme methodology:
  - Height and occupancy of the building;
  - Presence of sprinklers;
  - Cladding present;



- ACM cladding confirmed;
- NCC priority rating.

The Service determined that buildings of a heightened risk would be audited by the Service, medium risk would be reviewed as part of NFRS's ongoing risk based audit programme. The remaining buildings came out as low risk and would be written to by the Service reminding them of their responsibilities under the RRO.

- 2.6 DCLG has used the British Research Establishment (BRE) and other suitably qualified companies to carry out large scale testing of cladding systems on tall buildings to better understand how the different types of ACM panels behave, with two different types of insulation in a fire. The outside cladding systems require intrusive tests and as such the Service has had no part in carrying out the tests on cladding other than identifying in the NFCC audit returns that a building does have cladding.
- 2.7 As well as the request for FRSs to carry out audits on potential ACM cladded buildings, the NFCC SITREPs also contain a situational overview, a specific situation update, additional information and requests for specific information from FRSs. A chronology started by the Service to record Service specific inputs and outputs since the Grenfell Tower fire shows that over 100 SITREPs have been received from the NFCC.
- 2.8 The individual requests for information and tasks contained within these SITREPs have had a considerable impact on the capacity of the Fire Protection team to carry on with business as usual. With this in mind, the decision was taken to re-prioritise the annual risk based audit programme to ensure that the tall buildings identified by NCC were prioritised. This approach will continue until the increase in work activity associated with the outcomes of the Grenfell Tower fire have subsided. The Fire Protection team continue to deal with complaints and post fire inspections as a priority.
- 2.9 One of the initial actions that the Service took was to convene a Serious Event Review Group (SERG), with a focus on coordinating the Service response to the local and national impact of the Grenfell Tower fire. The SERG is also tasked with considering all future outcomes from a regulatory, firefighter safety and operational assurance perspective which includes a review of pre-determined attendance standards at tall buildings. It is intended that the SERG will reduce duplication of effort in reaching an understanding of Grenfell Tower fire, make efficient use of the skills and knowledge of colleagues within the Service and elsewhere, and assist the development of service improvements.
- 2.10 Public reassurance has been a Service priority since the incident and NFRS is continuing to support partners in the City and County to help them make their residents safer, and to ensure businesses are compliant with the relevant legislation. The Fire Protection and Fire Prevention departments have carried out joint visits to tall buildings managed by social housing providers in the interests of providing public reassurance. The Service also convened a strategic briefing of other local authorities and tall building owners to



coordinate the different strands of information that were coming from Central Government to ensure that a consistent approach and public safety message was provided to all communities.

- 2.11 Internal and external communications have been managed by the Corporate Communications team. The consistent theme in all communications has been that the Service is taking a balanced and proportionate approach in managing the outcomes of the Grenfell Tower fire. Initial requests for information came in many forms including the media, freedom of information requests and members of the public with general enquiries around their safety in tall buildings. The level of requests for information peaked in the first few weeks following the Grenfell Tower fire, the level of requests has now fallen back to a level that would normally be received by the Service.
- 2.12 The validity of the 'Stay Put' evacuation policy has been called in to question following the Grenfell Tower fire. The 'Stay Put' policy is individual to each tall building and is predicated on the fire engineering solutions within the building being maintained to the required standard. The fire engineering solutions are linked to the basic requirement for escape routes and flats to be protected for a minimum of 60 minutes. The 'Stay Put' policy also relies on some basic guidance to residents being made available prior to any incident of fire:
- If a fire occurs in a flat, the occupants should alert others inside the flat, make their way out of the building and call the fire service;
  - If a fire starts in any of the shared areas (staircase, corridors etc.) anyone in these areas should make their way out of the building and call the fire service;
  - All residents not directly affected by a fire would be expected to 'stay put' and remain in their flat unless:
    - a. Smoke or heat affects their flat; or
    - b. They are told to leave by the fire and rescue service.
  - It is not implied that if people wish to leave the building they should be prevented from doing so. Nor does this preclude those evacuating a flat that is on fire, from alerting their neighbours so that they can also escape if they feel threatened.
- 2.13 NFRS control room personnel have been briefed to confirm the correct context and use of the 'Stay Put' policy when they are called to give fire survival guidance to residents of tall buildings in the instance of a fire in their building. The national approach to the 'Stay Put' policy is being reviewed as part of the independent public enquiry.
- 2.14 Sir Martin Moore-Bick has been appointed to Chair the Public enquiry into the circumstances surrounding the fire at Grenfell Tower. The terms of reference (ToR) for the enquiry are broad as would be expected. As well as looking at the technical fire safety and fire investigation issue the enquiry will seek to examine social housing policy and also the relationship between the residents of Grenfell Tower and the local authority.



2.15 The NFCC, in consultation with FRSSs, has contributed to the ToR of the enquiry and have proposed a number of areas that should be examined as part of the enquiry, these include:

- A review of the building regulations and associated guidance;
- The role of Building Control and Approved Inspectors;
- The relationship between the Housing Act 2004 and the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005;
- Reviewing the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005;
- Firefighting equipment and fixed installations in high rise premises (sprinklers);
- Competency of Fire Risk Assessors;
- Competency the construction industry to understand and apply appropriate fire safety measures when constructing or refurbishing a building;
- Suitability of tests for materials used in building construction, and in this case for high-rise buildings;
- 'Stay Put' evacuation strategy;
- The role other Category 1 and 2 responders within the Civil Contingencies Act, in both the response and recovery phases of the incident;
- The (Construction Design and Management) Regulations 2015;
- Review of DCLG Fire Safety Guides;
- Product recall – white goods;
- How the fire service is organised to provide the 999 operational response to fires in high rise buildings.

2.16 The initial outcomes of the enquiry are due to be presented to the Government in the spring of 2018. The Service will continue to monitor the situation and act to address issues as they arise. Some of the outcomes of the enquiry are likely to have a direct impact on service delivery including response, prevention and fire protection functions. A further report to the Fire Authority will follow once the implications of the enquiry are known.

### **3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct financial implications arising from the contents of this report. Dependant on the outcomes of the public enquiry there could be financial implications associated with those outcomes.

### **4. HUMAN RESOURCES AND LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct human resources or learning and development implications associated with this report. Dependant on the outcomes of the public enquiry there could be implications associated with those outcomes.



## **5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

An equality impact assessment has not been undertaken because the contents of this report are not concerned with Service policy or procedures.

## **6. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

There are no specific crime and disorder implications arising from this report.

## **7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

The Fire and Rescue Authority are the primary enforcing authority for the enforcement of the RRO. Close monitoring of developments coming out of the Grenfell Tower fire and the public enquiry are vital for the Authority to discharge its functions under the RRO.

## **8. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1 There could be a corporate risk if the Service were not to continue to engage with the various Government departments and agencies that are dealing with the outfall of the Grenfell Tower fire.
- 8.2 The SERG and Fire Protection Management Team has revised the risk based audit programme in response to the Grenfell Tower Fire in line with both Central Government and the NFCC guidance. In the short term this impacted on the capacity of the Fire Protection team. However, Members can be assured that the Service remains focused on those non-domestic buildings that pose the greatest risk to residents and communities.

## **9. COLLABORATION IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 The Service is collaborating with the other Services from across the region by sharing best practice in dealing with the outcomes for FRSs from the Grenfell Tower fire. This includes working practices, tactical management of the issue and the development of the NFCC position statement on Building Regulations and associated guidance.
- 9.2 The Service has also collaborated with local councils and social housing providers at all levels across the service to ensure consistent and suitable information was made available to all those that have a responsibility for the management of residential tall buildings.



**10. RECOMMENDATIONS**

That Members note the contents of the report.

**11. BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR INSPECTION (OTHER THAN PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS)**

None.

John Buckley  
**CHIEF FIRE OFFICER**