



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

**COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

of meeting held on **18 JANUARY 2013** at Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Bestwood Lodge from 11.00 am to 11.23 am.

**Membership**

Councillor Fielding (Chair)  
Councillor Grocock  
Councillor Hemsall  
Councillor Yates  
^ Councillor Zadrozny

Members absent are marked ^

**13 APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Zadrozny.

**14 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

No declarations of interest were made.

**15 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the last meeting held on 19 October 2012, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

## **16 ENGAGING WITH SOCIAL HOUSING PROVIDERS**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated. The report was introduced by John Buckley, Deputy Chief Fire Officer, who updated Members on the programme of engagement with Social Housing Providers.

In response to comments, the following key issues were highlighted:

- Nottingham Fire and Rescue Service's (NFRS) had originally liaised with Nottingham City Homes (NCH) in 2011 with a view to sharing incident data. Although not expected to start in earnest until the later in the year, NFRS now had a data sharing agreement in place with other housing providers such as A1 Housing;
- a higher propensity of fires was noted in social housing, however this was potentially linked to the vulnerability of those who reside in social housing;
- in addition to seeking a closer relationship with a variety of housing providers, efforts would be made to liaise with private landlords;
- following negotiations, NCH had agreed to the fitment of sprinkler systems in their properties. Following the All-Party Parliamentary Fire and Rescue Group Parliamentary Seminar, NCH agreed to retro fit sprinkler systems to Stepney Court in Aspley which would be part funded by NFRS. After further discussions, NCH had also agreed to include sprinklers in the tender for all their new build homes over the next four years;
- funding remained from the award of a Local Public Service Agreement grant in 2006/07 and would be used to support NCH in the fitment of sprinkler systems;
- clarification was being sought by the Chief Fire Officer as to whether covenants for the fitment of sprinkler systems could be applied to land. This would make the expectation explicit at the outset of any agreement;
- a shift in the perception by the public of the sprinkler system was required to both value and desire the implementation of the proposals. A demonstration of the system would be sought in Nottingham to showcase the benefits to larger social and private landlords;
- it was considered a proactive approach for a NFRS representative to liaise with tenants and residents associations and other groups in the County where it would be possible to interact with a host of agencies, including those from social and private housing.

### **RESOLVED**

- (1) that the approach being taken by Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service in engaging with Social Housing Providers be endorsed;**
- (2) that further reports be received by this Committee from the Chief Fire Officer as to the progress of the arrangements.**