

Somerset Health and Wellbeing Board

Report for 13th July 2017

Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service Updates

Lead Officer: Trudi Grant, Director of Public Health

Author: Christina Gray, Consultant in Public Health

Contact Details:

	Seen by:	Name	Date
Report Sign off	Relevant Senior Manager / Lead Office (Director Level)	Trudi Grant	5.7.17
	Cabinet Member / Portfolio Holder (if applicable)	n/a	
	Monitoring Officer (Somerset County Council)	Julian Gale	4.7.17
Summary:	<p>The Chief Officer of Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group requested that a statement is made on fire safety in the light of tragic fire and loss of life at Grenfell Tower in London.</p> <p>The attached statements from Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Services set out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A press release (14th June) setting out responsibilities of landlords, explaining the stay put policy and the approach to high rise buildings• Specific advice for landlords and the public on fire safety on standards, necessary action and further sources of information.• A update report which summarises the risk assessments and actions undertaken by Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service.		
Recommendations:	That the Health and Wellbeing Board receives and notes the Fire Safety Statements		
Reasons for Recommendations:	Health Protection is a responsibility of the Health and Wellbeing Board		
Links to Somerset Health and Wellbeing Strategy:	N/A		
Financial, Legal and HR Implications:	N/A		

Equalities Implications:	The residents who were affected by the Grenfell House fire were predominantly those from minority communities and / or experiencing health and wealth inequality. The communities lack of voice and powerlessness has been cited as a factor.
Risk Assessment:	All members and member organisations of the Health and Wellbeing Board have a duty to note and act on these statements providing by the Devon and Somerset Fire Service.

1. Background

- 1.1. The Chief Officer of Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group requested that a statement is made on fire safety in the light of tragic fire and loss of life at Grenfell Tower in London.

A number of the attached statements from Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Services are attached.

- 1.2. Key points in summary:

Fire safety legislation, (Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005), applies to a wide range of building occupancies; this includes the common areas of high rise residential premises.

The responsibility for ensuring that the requirements of the above legislation are met lies with the building owners.

Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service (DSFRS) has a duty to enforce the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005.

DSFRS have a robust, intelligence led, risk based, fire safety inspection strategy to ensure that a suitable level of compliance is achieved in all buildings (where the legislation applies), especially where the risk of loss of life is highest.

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DSFRS operational crews prepare for fires occurring in high rise buildings, by continually familiarising themselves with operational procedures and they train regularly on how to deal with fires in a high rise building.

28 high rise exercises have been carried out over the last 12 months with 2 major multi-agency exercises carried out in Plymouth. The most recent exercise involved over 100 firefighters, comprising 17 fire crews, from all over Devon and Somerset. This was carried out at the 14 storey former Civic Centre building in Plymouth.

Learning from the exercises is incorporated in planning for real events and communicated to the building managers and occupants where necessary.

For advice on fire safety provision and emergency procedures for residential building please refer to the earlier press release

2. Options considered and reasons for rejecting them

2.1. n/a

3. Consultations undertaken

3.1. n/a

4. Financial, Legal, HR and Risk Implications

4.1. n/a

5. Background papers

- 5.1.
- A press release (14th June) setting out responsibilities of landlords, explaining the stay put policy and the approach to high rise buildings
 - Specific advice for landlords and the public on fire safety on standards, necessary action and further sources of information.
 - An update report which summarises the risk assessments and actions undertaken by Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service.