

CHESHIRE FIRE AUTHORITY

MEETING OF: PERFORMANCE AND OVERVIEW COMMITTEE
DATE: 6TH SEPTEMBER 2017
REPORT OF: HEAD OF PROTECTION AND ORGANISATIONAL
PERFORMANCE
AUTHOR: MARK ABRAM

SUBJECT: HIGH-RISE UPDATE

Purpose of Report

1. This report provides an update on the work that the Service has conducted in relation to high-rise accommodation since the tragic fire at Grenfell Tower on the 14th of June 2017.

Recommended that:

- [1] the report be noted.

Background

2. Following the fire at Grenfell Tower numerous meetings were convened with representatives from most departments to assess the impact on the high-rise premises in Cheshire East, Cheshire West and Chester, Halton and Warrington (the Service Area).
3. The National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) set up a workstream for co-ordinating activity and issues Situational Reports (SITREPS) on a daily basis to task fire and rescue services and coordinate responses in order to provide government with a national picture.

Information

4. The high-rise briefing (Appendix A) details the work that staff have undertaken and provides information on the cladding systems for the 21 residential high-rise tower blocks in the Service Area.

Financial implications

5. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Legal implications

6. Staff have powers to inspect and enforce fire safety legislation in the common parts of high-rise accommodation and work closely with colleagues from the Unitary Authorities who enforce housing legislation within the residential flats.

7. It is likely that the review of legislation that the Government has ordered following the Grenfell tragedy will look closely at the existing allocation of responsibilities between fire and rescue services and local authorities.

Equality and Diversity implications

8. The legislation regarding fire safety covers all persons who may reside or legally be on the premises, therefore there are no equality or diversity implications.

Environmental implications

9. There are no environmental concerns associated with this report.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS: NONE**

APPENDIX A – HIGH-RISE BRIEFING JULY 2017