



Meeting	Performance and Resources Board	Agenda no.	8
Meeting Date	31 August 2021		
Report Authors:	WM Jon Webster / AM Chris Parker		
Presented By	ACFO Moira Bruin, Director of Operations		
Subject	Monthly Update - Fire Protection Board Building Risk Review		
Type of Report:	Information		
Action Point No.		For Publication	Yes

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

None. This report is for information.

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Building Risk Review delivery schedule has been reviewed during the last month and a new plan created ensuring that ECFRS is in a position to meet the MHCLG deadline for completion at the end of December 2021. By realigning resources and priorities within the group, we are on target to complete all in scope inspections by December 2021. To highlight progress a summary is provided below:

- From the original MHCLG spreadsheet of 197 premises we have audited 125. This leaves 72 outstanding
- From the newly identified 99 properties, we have audited 35. This leaves 64 outstanding

\*\*In scope 72 (from original list) + 12 (from additional list) = 84 in scope to be completed by December 2021.

#### BACKGROUND

Following the outcomes of the Grenfell Tower Inquiry, the NFCC instigated a Building Risk Review. The NFCC identified 182 buildings in Essex, which need to be visited and assessed. Essex was asked to report back on a confirmed inspection regime for the identified buildings from August 2020 until December 2021 (attached).

The returns submitted to the NFCC at the end of July, reflected that 22 inspections were carried out between 1 and 31 July 2021. This figure exceeds the proposed trajectory of 15 audits for July 2021.

This Building Risk Review regime is being managed by the Head of Protection and the Area Manager Protection and Prevention. The Head of Protection prepares a monthly return which is to be submitted on the 10th of each month to report on progress.

**In the table below, the “External Wall System/Audit Details” bullet point answers relate to the following questions:**

- From information available at the time, can the make-up of the External Wall System (EWS) be identified?
- If so, what is the type of cladding?
- If so, what is the type of insulation?
- How was the type of cladding system confirmed by the Responsible Person (RP)?
- What letter was issued – FSO 02 or FSO 03?

Premises name and identifying number	Location /address	External Wall System/Audit Details	Issues/Further Action	RAG	Building Type
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• ACM Rainscreen</li> <li>• None</li> <li>• EWS Engineers Report</li> <li>• FSO 03</li> </ul>		R	Residential 04 Storey
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• ACM Rainscreen</li> <li>• None</li> <li>• EWS Engineers Report</li> <li>• FSO 03</li> </ul>		R	Residential 04 Storey
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• ACM Rainscreen</li> <li>• None</li> <li>• EWS Engineers Report</li> <li>• FSO 03</li> </ul>		R	Residential 04 Storey
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• ACM Rainscreen</li> <li>• None</li> <li>• EWS Engineers Report</li> <li>• FSO 03</li> </ul>		R	Residential 04 Storey
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> </ul>		A	

				Residential 04 Storey	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cedar Wood &amp; Render</li> <li>• Phenolic Foam</li> <li>• Specialist Report</li> <li>• FSO 03</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• Cedar Wood &amp; Render</li> <li>• Phenolic Foam</li> <li>• Specialist Report</li> <li>• FSO 03</li> </ul>		A		Residential 05 Storey
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• Cedar Wood &amp; Render</li> <li>• Phenolic Foam</li> <li>• Specialist Report</li> <li>• FSO 03</li> </ul>		A		Residential 05 Storey
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• Cedar Wood &amp; Render</li> <li>• Phenolic Foam</li> <li>• Specialist Report</li> <li>• FSO 03</li> </ul>		A		Residential 05 Storey
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• None – Traditional Brick</li> <li>• None - Cavity</li> <li>• Inspecting Officer Observation</li> <li>• FSO 03</li> </ul>		G	Residential 05 Storey	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• Spandrel Panels</li> <li>• None</li> <li>• Specialist Report</li> <li>• FSO 03</li> </ul>		G	Residential 11 Storey
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• Spandrel Panels</li> <li>• None</li> <li>• Specialist Report</li> <li>• FSO 03</li> </ul>		G	Residential 06 Storey
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• Hardie Plank &amp; Brick</li> <li>• Rockwool</li> <li>• RP – Data Sheets</li> <li>• FSO 02</li> </ul>		G	Residential 03 Storey
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• Hardie Plank &amp; Brick</li> <li>• Rockwool</li> <li>• RP – Data Sheets</li> <li>• FSO 02</li> </ul>		G	Residential 03 Storey
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• Hardie Plank &amp; Brick</li> <li>• Rockwool</li> <li>• RP – Data Sheets</li> <li>• FSO 02</li> </ul>		G	Residential 03 Storey
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• Hardie Plank &amp; Brick</li> <li>• Rockwool</li> <li>• RP – Data Sheets</li> <li>• FSO 02</li> </ul>		G	Residential 03 Storey
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• Hardie Plank &amp; Brick</li> <li>• Rockwool</li> <li>• RP – Data Sheets</li> <li>• FSO 02</li> </ul>		G	Residential 03 Storey
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• Hardie Plank &amp; Brick</li> <li>• Rockwool</li> <li>• RP – Data Sheets</li> <li>• FSO 02</li> </ul>		G	Residential 03 Storey
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• Brick</li> </ul>		G	Residential 08 Storey

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> <li>• Engineer's Report</li> <li>• FSO 02</li> </ul>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• Brick &amp; Render</li> <li>• Rockwool</li> <li>• Inspecting Officer Observation</li> <li>• FSO 02</li> </ul>		G	Residential 04 Storey
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• Brick &amp; Render</li> <li>• Rockwool</li> <li>• Inspecting Officer Observation</li> <li>• FSO 02</li> </ul>		G	Residential 04 Storey
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• Brick &amp; Render</li> <li>• Rockwool</li> <li>• Inspecting Officer Observation</li> <li>• FSO 02</li> </ul>		G	Residential 04 Storey
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• None</li> <li>• None</li> <li>• Not Applicable</li> <li>• FSO 02</li> </ul>		G	Residential 08 Storey

## OPTIONS AND ANALYSIS

Essex County Fire and Rescue Service were not on track with the trajectory agreed with the NFCC. A review of the delivery plan and realignment of resources has put the organisation in a stronger position to meet the deadline set by MHCLG. Submissions will continue to be made to the NFCC on the 10<sup>th</sup> of each Month until December 2021 and update reports will continue to be submitted to SLT and P&R board for monitoring and awareness.

The NFCC originally identified 182 premises for ECFRS to investigate. ECFRS records initially identified 15 premises in addition to the 182 that should be examined, bringing the initial total to 197 premises.

As the Building Risk Review is being undertaken, additional buildings are being identified that will require an audit. It has been agreed that as a general rule, newly identified premises will be audited once the initial 197 have been audited. There are currently 99 premises on this list of which 35 have been audited as a priority (was 59 premises in total on the list last month).

- As of end of July 2021, the total number of buildings to be audited as part of the Building Risk Review stands at 296
- As of the end of July 2021, 160 audits have been completed. There are 136 audits to complete: 72 from the original list of 197 premises and 64 from the list of 99 premises
- 84 of these buildings across both lists are in scope and will be prioritised for completion before December 2021

The benefits of the new delivery plan can already be seen, with a total of 23 audits completed in July. This is a significant improvement when compared to earlier this year. (12 audits in April, 15 audits in May).

#### **RISKS AND MITIGATIONS**

- There is a risk that competent staff for are unavailable due to sickness. Mitigation – more staff have now been trained to undertake these audits increasing resilience
- Capacity within the BRR inspection team to meet original target. Mitigation – Support will now be given by Protection Teams within the Commands to increase capacity

#### **LINKS TO FIRE AND RESCUE PLAN**

- Prevention, protection, and response
- Make best use of our resources

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Surge funding has been received by ECFRS to enable additional targeted assessment to be carried out.

#### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

The Fire and Rescue National Framework for England lays down a priority for fire and rescue authorities to make appropriate provision for fire protection and prevention activities.

#### **STAFFING IMPLICATIONS**

Realignment of resources within the team to complete this work will impact on delivery in other areas such as the RBIP. To mitigate this, a plan for increasing future resource within the team is currently being developed. This will utilise uplift grant funds and include upskilling all operational WMs & CMs and upskilling existing team members giving them enhanced qualifications. Recruitment of staff to fill vacant posts is already underway.

#### **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

This report is not anticipated to have an impact on any of the following protected groups as defined within the Equality Act 2010:

Race	x	Religion or belief	x
Sex	x	Gender reassignment	x
Age	x	Pregnancy & maternity	x

Disability	x	Marriage and Civil Partnership	x
Sexual orientation	x		

#### **HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

Individual assessments of each of the 182 buildings identified by the NFCC will enable any issues to be identified and addressed which will improve any potential risks to the Health and Safety of occupants and crews responding to incidents.

#### **CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT**

The workforce and representative bodies have been engaged.

#### **FUTURE PLANS**

To ensure that the group is able to react in an efficient way to future demand significant investment is being placed on increasing capacity and upskilling operational staff across the service.

#### **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS AND APPENDICES**

None.