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Meeting	Performance and Resources Board	Agenda Item No.	8
Meeting Date	28 July 2021		
Report Authors:	WM Jon Webster		
Presented By	ACFO Moira Bruin, Director of Operations		
Subject	Monthly Update - Fire Protection Board Building Risk Review		
Type of Report:	Information		

### RECOMMENDATIONS

None. This is an update report and should be treated as containing potentially sensitive information.

### OVERVIEW

This report provides an update on progress against the National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) Building Risk Review: August 2020 to 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 required assessments visits. Essex County Fire and Rescue Service (ECFRS) was asked to report back on a confirmed inspection regime for the identified buildings from August 2020 until December 2021.

This report details the 18 building inspections carried out from 1 June to 30 June 2021. Returns were submitted to the NFCC by 10 July 2021. This return has exceeded the proposed trajectory of 15 audits for June 2021.

This Building Risk Review regime is being managed by the Head of Protection and the Area Manager Protection and Prevention.

**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 06 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 07 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 05 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 05 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 05 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 05 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 05 Storey

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>• No</li> <li>• Brick</li> <li>• Do Not Know</li> <li>• Other</li> <li>• FSO 03</li> </ul>		A	Residential 07 Storey
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No</li> <li>• Render System</li> <li>• Do Not Know</li> <li>• Other</li> <li>• FSO 03</li> </ul>		A	Residential 07 Storey
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No</li> <li>• Render System</li> <li>• Do Not Know</li> <li>• Other</li> <li>• FSO 03</li> </ul>		A	Residential 03 Storey
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No</li> <li>• Render System</li> <li>• Do Not Know</li> <li>• Other</li> <li>• FSO 03</li> </ul>		A	Residential 07 Storey
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No</li> <li>• Brick/block &amp; wood (shiplap-small area)</li> <li>• Do Not Know</li> <li>• Visual Inspection</li> <li>• FSO 03</li> </ul>		A	Residential 04 Storey
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No</li> <li>• Brick/block &amp; wood (shiplap-small area)</li> <li>• Do Not Know</li> <li>• Visual Inspection</li> <li>• FSO 03</li> </ul>		A	Residential 04 Storey
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No</li> <li>• Brick/block &amp; wood (shiplap-small area)</li> <li>• Do Not Know</li> <li>• Visual Inspection</li> <li>• FSO 03</li> </ul>		A	Residential 04 Storey
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No</li> <li>• Brick/block &amp; wood (shiplap-small area)</li> <li>• Do Not Know</li> <li>• Visual Inspection</li> <li>• FSO 03</li> </ul>		A	Residential 06 Storey
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• wood (shiplap)</li> <li>• Foil covered PIR for part of premises. Insulation under wooden cladding unknown.</li> <li>• EWS Report – Anstey Horne</li> <li>• FSO 03</li> </ul>		A	Residential 05 Storey

Premises name and identifying number	Location /address	External Wall System/Audit Details	Issues/Further Action	RAG	Building Type
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• Brick &amp; Render</li> <li>• None</li> <li>• Fire Risk Assessment FSO 03</li> </ul>	[REDACTED]	G	Residential 16 Storey
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• None</li> <li>• None</li> <li>• Not Applicable</li> <li>• FSO 03</li> </ul>		G	Residential 16 Storey

## ISSUES

From the initial inspections conducted, on most we have been unable to ascertain the exact construction of the external wall system as the Responsible Person was unaware at the time of the visit. The NFCC reporting spreadsheet allow a response of YES/NO/DON'T KNOW in response to the question "Can the make-up of the External Wall System (EWS) be identified?".

In order to gather accurate data, we have produced a letter which is being sent out when organising the inspection to advise those responsible of what questions we will be asking. If the information is not available at the time of the inspection, further letters are being sent requesting that information be provided. All data retrieved is held on a master spreadsheet which is also shared with the Operations Department.

Premises where the material cannot be identified, but it is clearly not Aluminium Composite Material (ACM) or High Pressure Laminate (HPL) have been marked as an amber risk on the table. If ACM or HPL is present and there is no mitigation in place, it will be marked as red in the RAG column.

## PROGRESSION

ECFRS is currently not on track with the trajectory agreed with the NFCC. By maintaining the current approach to the project, the Service will not meet BRR project delivery targets of December 2021.

To summarise, the project slippage is down to capacity/ staffing numbers, and that additional properties in scope also need to be completed by December 2021. These were not factored into the original delivery plan.

In response to these findings, a review has been initiated by the AM Prevention/Protection to gain an understanding of the current position and put a plan in place to get the project back on track, ensuring the organisation meets the NFCC deadline. The protection team has identified a number of solutions that are now being progressed (Appendix 1). An update on each will follow in the August report.

Summary of Current Position:

In total 137 audits have been completed

- 121 from original list of 197 premises
- 16 from the 'additional' list

Therefore, there are:

- 76 to complete from the original list
- 43 to complete from the 'additional' list (12 of these currently being worked on)
- **Total of 119 to complete (76+43) (see note re 'additional' premises for context)**

Additional list

*'These are properties which have been highlighted in addition to the list provided initially by MHCLG.*

*It is not clear at present how many of these properties fall into the scope of the BRR (6 storeys or above, 18m or above).*

*Any of these additional properties which fall into scope will need to be completed by the end of the project date, (end Dec '21); work is currently underway to ascertain the total number of additional properties which do fall into scope'.*

**ENFORCEMENT**

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REMEDATION (Premises to date)

PREMISES	ECFRS UPRN	BUILDING TYPE	NOTES	FSO27 ISSUED	FSO 57 ISSUED	NOTES
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## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

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

## EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

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

<i>Race</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>Religion or belief</i>	<i>N</i>
<i>Sex</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>Gender reassignment</i>	<i>N</i>
<i>Age</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>Pregnancy &amp; maternity</i>	<i>N</i>
<i>Disability</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>Marriage and Civil Partnership</i>	<i>N</i>
<i>Sexual orientation</i>	<i>N</i>		

## WORKFORCE ENGAGEMENT

Workforce and rep bodies have been engaged.

## 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.

## HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

Individual assessments of each of the 256 buildings identified by the NFCC and additionally by the Protection Team will enable any issues to be identified and addressed. This will improve any potential risks to the Health and Safety of occupants and crews responding to incidents.

**Current Actions:**

- Ascertain total number of properties left to inspect, including those of the 'additional' list which fall into scope for completion by project end date. *Underway*
- Allocate a portion of the remaining properties to the Area Inspecting Officers (Those qualified to inspect High Risk premises) and supply training from the BRR team to enable understanding of the BRR inspection question set.  
*Discussed with BRR team and Areas. Planning in progress.*

**Benefit:** BRR High Risk Properties being inspected also go towards RBIP targets

**Risk:** Capacity within Areas to carry out existing and statutory work.

- Move (two) qualified Officers across to the BRR from the areas

**Benefit:** BRR High Risk Properties being inspected also go towards RBIP targets

**Risk:** Capacity within Areas to carry out existing statutory work.

- Increase working hours of existing BRR team

**Benefit:** additional capacity to carry out inspections

**Risk:** One officer is split between BRR and Area, so would affect capacity in Area.

**Risk:** Budget – abatement costs (potential capacity within BRR budget to cover)

Existing BRR team:

1 x Full time I.O.

1 x I.O. – 3 days BRR, 2 days Area

1 x I.O. – 2 days (Returning retiree)

(2-day Officer is a returning Inspecting Officer following retirement. They work 2 days currently. We could offer additional days, but the Service may have to cover abatement should the I.O. be willing to increase hours)

- Recruitment campaign for full or part time fully qualified competent and 'in date' inspecting officers (Not fixed term). To cover both BRR work and work within areas.  
**Benefit:** Additional capacity to meet targets of the BRR and also RBIP.  
**Benefit:** Forward planning to cover future retirements  
**Benefit:** Additional qualified capacity within area to carry out statutory work and High Risk audits.  
**Risk:** Budget – Uplift funding and BRR funding will not cover long term posts  
**Risk –** Additional line manager responsibilities