



Meeting	Performance and Resources Board	Agenda no.	8
Meeting Date	27 October		
Report Author:	WM Jon Webster		
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	No

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

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

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an update on progress against the National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) Building Risk Review: August 2020 to December 2021.

This reports on the 05 building inspections carried out from 01<sup>st</sup> September to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021. Returns were submitted to the NFCC by 10<sup>th</sup> October 2021. This return has not met the proposed revised trajectory of 15 audits for September 2021. The audit return this month has been impacted by both leave within the team and members of the BRR team covering leave at their local Service Delivery Point offices. However, 25 audits were undertaken last month (revised trajectory 15 audits), so on average over the last two months, the trajectory has been met and we remain on target for completion.

#### BACKGROUND

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

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.

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 we cannot identify the material 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.

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
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• None</li> <li>• Rockwool</li> <li>• Responsible Person?</li> <li>• FSO 03</li> </ul>	[Redacted]	G	Residential 05 Storey
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• Timber cladding, Spandrel panels and Render</li> <li>• Phenolic Foam</li> <li>• EWS Report by Tri-Fire</li> <li>• FSO 03</li> </ul>		G	Residential 06 Storey
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• Rockpanel FS Xtra (A2) and Marley Eternit Tectiva (A2)</li> <li>• Knauf Earthwool</li> <li>• Installation Report</li> <li>• FSO 03</li> </ul>		G	Residential 09 Storey
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• Concrete Panels. Rigid PVC decorative blanking panels where windows removed in external elevations.</li> <li>• Rockwool insulation batts applied to internal face of external walls.</li> <li>• EWS1 Form – prepared by Architect.</li> <li>• ?</li> </ul>		G	Residential 07 Storey

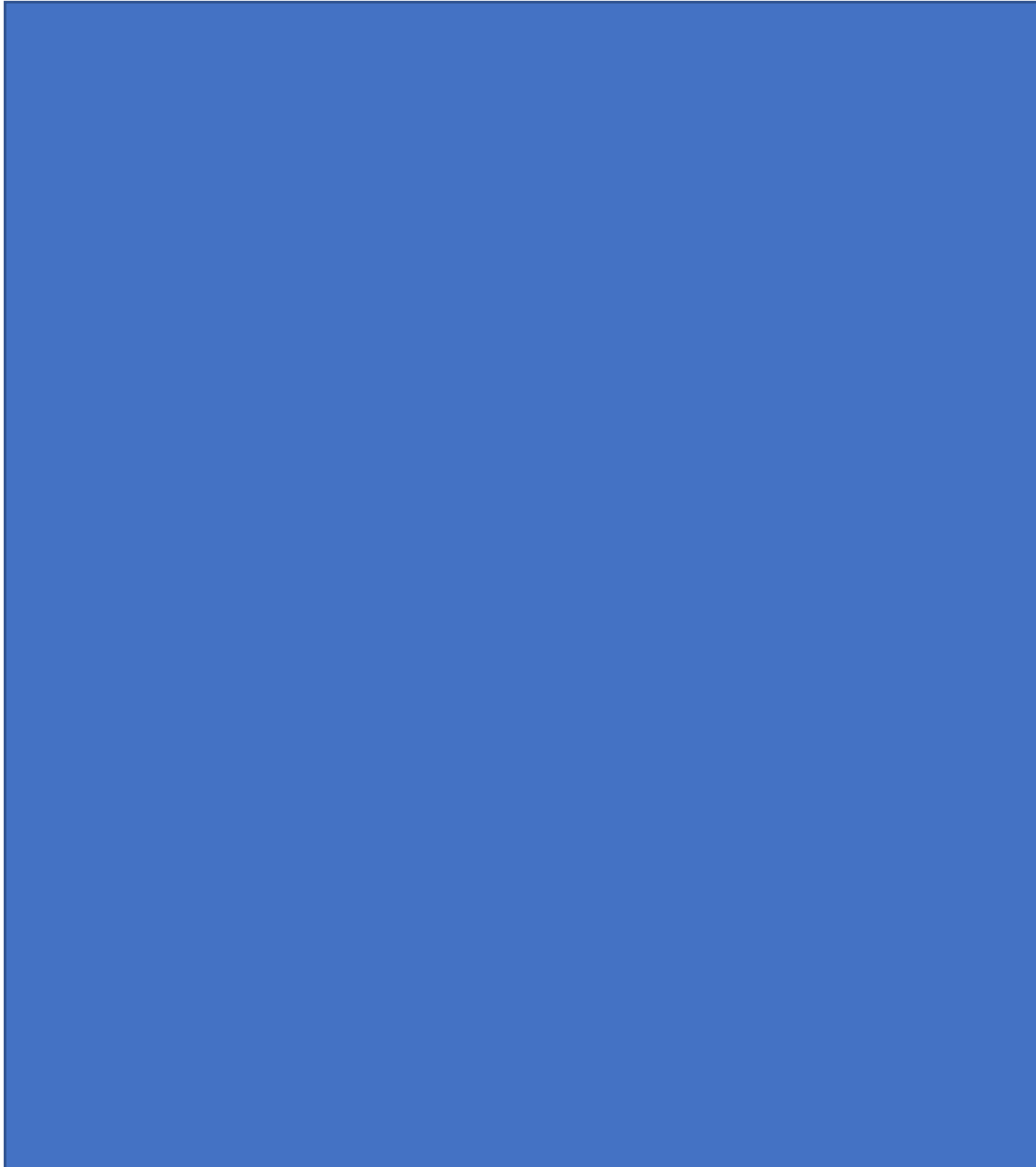
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• Concrete panel construction</li> <li>• None</li> <li>• EWS1 Form – prepared by Architect.</li> <li>• FSO 02</li> </ul>		G	Residential 12 Storey
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• Rockpanel FS Xtra (A2) and Marley Eternit Tectiva (A2)</li> <li>• Knauf Earthwool</li> <li>• Installation Report</li> <li>• FSO 03</li> </ul>		G	Residential 11 Storey

REMEDIATION UPDATE





**ENFORCEMENT UPDATE:**



**OPTIONS AND ANALYSIS**

The current projection for completion of the BRR remains on target. No additional resources are required based on current predictions.

## RISKS AND MITIGATIONS

Essex County Fire and Rescue Service are not on track with the trajectory agreed with the NFCC. 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. Of the original 197 premises, only 56 remain to be audited.

As the Building Risk Review is being undertaken, additional buildings are being identified that will require auditing. As of August 2021, there is a total of an additional 113 premises identified of which 50 have now been audited.

Following confirmation from the NFCC, there is a requirement to also audit any "in scope" premises i.e. 18 metres or over in height, from this additional list of premises by December 2021. 12 of the remaining 63 remaining premises on this additional list fall into this category.

\*\*Therefore, to complete the Building Risk Review, a total of 68 audits remain to be completed by December 2021 (56 from the original list of 197 premises and 12 from the additional list of 113 premises)\*\*.

To achieve the 68 audits by the end of December 2021, additional help will be provided by other Diploma Level 4 qualified Inspecting Officers within the County, who will be completing audits in October and November 2021. To ensure continuity is achieved, a training morning was provided on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at Kelvedon Park for the Inspecting Officers to receive specific input relating to the Building Risk Review, prior to them being assigned and undertaking audits.

## LINKS TO FIRE AND RESCUE PLAN

Prevention, Protection Response.

- Work more closely with developers, building control professionals, building owners, businesses and planning teams to identify and reduce risk
- Ensure we have a systematic, transparent, well targeted and effective fire safety inspection regime

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

'Surge funding' has been received by ECFRS to enable additional targeted assessment to be carried out. This is covered in a separate paper.

## 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

Workforce and Representative Bodies have been engaged.

## EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

We have considered whether individuals with protected characteristics will be disadvantaged as a consequence of the actions being taken. Due regard has also

been given to whether there is impact on each of the following protected groups as defined within the Equality Act 2010:

Race	N	Religion or belief	N
Sex	N	Gender reassignment	N
Age	N	Pregnancy & maternity	N
Disability	N	Marriage and Civil Partnership	N
Sexual orientation	N		

If an impact on one group or more is anticipated, a full People Impact Assessment must be completed. Please also look to add other comments to ensure that a review has been properly considered as part of this report process.

None identified at this stage.

#### **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**

Workforce and Representative Bodies have been engaged.

#### **FUTURE PLANS**

On Completion of the BRR, resources will be redeployed back into the wider FP team.

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

N/A