



Press Release

Press release from **Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service** and **Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Authority**
Making Derbyshire Safer

22 JUNE 2018

SIGNING OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH RYKNELD HOMES

Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service (DFRS) is proud to announce the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Rykneld Homes that will improve home fire safety for all Rykneld Home's customers.

Rykneld Homes is responsible for the management, of almost 8,000 properties on behalf of North East Derbyshire District Council and also manages 71 of their own properties and build around 50 new homes per year.

The MOU, which was signed today by representatives from DFRS and Rykneld Homes, will help identify potential fire risks and reduce fire related incidents in those properties.

The two organisations have worked together in the past to promote fire safety in the home and this new partnership further strengthens that relationship.

The MOU will promote further collaborative working by:

- Sharing data on high risk properties, such as those with vulnerable tenants.
- Carrying out Safe and Well Checks for all new and existing tenants who are judged to be vulnerable.
- Sharing data on fire incidents.
- Supporting the installation of sprinkler systems to new homes
- Meeting regularly to discuss fire safety in Rykneld Home's properties.

email: enquiries@derbys-fire.gov.uk
www.derbys-fire.gov.uk

Terry McDermott MA
Chief Fire Officer / Chief Executive



Lorraine Shaw, Managing Director of Rykneld Homes, said: “We take fire safety very seriously at Rykneld Homes and welcome the opportunity to continue our successful partnership work with Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service.

“By sharing information and supporting vulnerable tenants we hope to reduce the risk of an incident happening – making our homes and communities safer for everyone.”

Fire Protection Group Manager, Steve Wells from Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service, said “The MOU underlines the continued partnership the Service has with Rykneld Homes and shows the commitment from both organisations in implementing fire prevention initiatives that reduce the risk of fire in the home and protects those most vulnerable to fire.”

The Memorandum of Understanding between Rykneld Homes and Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service is a non- contractual agreement with the ultimate objective of improving fire safety for all Rykneld Home customers. It is a framework built around collaborative working at a local level and will better enable compliance with respective Fire Safety legislation.

The MOU was signed at the Rykneld Homes Board Meeting held on 21 June 2018.



Pictured L-R: Nigel Barker – Chair of the Board, Rykneld Homes, Steve Wells – Group Manager, Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service.



Pictured L-R: Niall Clark – Director of Property Services and Development, Rykneld Homes (standing), Nigel Barker – Chair of the Board, Rykneld Homes (seated), Steve Wells – Group Manager, Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service (seated), Matt Hardy – Health and safety Manager, Rykneld Homes (standing).

THINK SPRINKLER

Rykneld Homes has already used funding from Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service to jointly deliver the installation of sprinkler systems to a number of new homes.

As part of the Service's 'Think Sprinkler Campaign', DFRS invites all local authorities and housing providers to bid for match funding to fit sprinkler systems in their properties.

ENDS