



Press Release

From **Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service** and **Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Authority**

Making Derbyshire Safer

28 SEPTEMBER 2017

GRENFELL TOWER FIRE ON 14 JUNE 2017

DERBYSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY'S SUPPORT FOR THE PUBLIC INQUIRY AND INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF BUILDING REGULATIONS AND FIRE SAFETY

At today's meeting of the Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Authority*, the Authority acknowledged the Government's response in quickly establishing the Public Inquiry into the catastrophic fire at Grenfell Tower in West London on the 14 June 2017 and welcomed an independent review of Building Regulations and fire safety.

The Authority endorsed the work of its Chief Fire Officer/Chief Executive, Terry McDermott - as national lead for Automatic Water Suppression Systems for the National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) and as Chair of the National Fire Sprinkler Network, in providing authoritative information on the benefits of sprinkler systems and how sprinklers can play a significant role in saving life and property from the devastating effects of fire.

Speaking following the meeting, Chair of the Fire and Rescue Authority, Councillor Kevin Buttery said: "Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Authority requests that the Government considers, along with the findings of the Public Inquiry, all recommendations the Review makes in respect of prioritising the development and implementation of a more robust regulatory system to ensure buildings are safe and remain safe.

"The Authority has long recognised the lifesaving benefits of sprinkler systems and as such plays a key leadership role in promoting a better understanding of the benefits of sprinklers as part of a core commitment to reducing the impact of fire on people, property and the environment in Derbyshire.

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Terry McDermott MA
Chief Fire Officer / Chief Executive



“The Authority also welcomes the additional £1.5million funding provided by the Government for essential mental health support to the Emergency Services through MIND’s Blue Light Programme.

“I am confident that I will have the continued support of my colleagues on the Fire and Rescue Authority and also the support and professionalism of an outstanding workforce across the whole of Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service to continue to deliver an excellent fire and rescue service, not only working to Make Derbyshire Safer, but also as a driving force in fire safety nationally.”

Chief Fire Officer /Chief Executive Terry McDermott said: “Extensive data analysis from 2,294 real incidents shows that sprinklers are highly reliable and effective at saving lives and also reducing the damage to property and the environment. They work as intended in 94% of cases and control or extinguish fires in 99% of cases.

“This research highlights the effectiveness of sprinklers and underlines why I will continue to work with both internal and external ‘Key Influencers’ to introduce standards and legislation that will safeguard people and the community from the threat of fire.”

*The Fire and Rescue Authority is the public body which manages Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service and is made up of elected Members from Derby City Council and Derbyshire County Council. A full list of Councillors making up the 2017/18 Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Authority is available on www.derbys-fire.gov.uk

For more information about Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Authority visit www.derbys-fire.gov.uk

For more information about the Think Sprinkler campaign visit <http://www.derbys-fire.gov.uk/campaigns/think-sprinkler/>

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