
Police, Fire & Crime Panel – Public Question

Questions Posed:

Information on access arrangements for sheltered or assisted living sites in case of emergencies, to be shared with the panel.

Panel Member: panel

Question Date: February 2023

Commissioner Response:

Under the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 the onus is on the Responsible Person (usually the premises manager) to provide adequate plans in case of emergency; part of which would include access arrangements for Fire & Rescue Services. This can be done in a number of ways but the recommendation in specialist housing guidance would be the use of a (Secure Information Box, located in an accessible area to operational firefighters and containing information on access arrangements, plans and information about particularly vulnerable residents who may need assistance to escape.

This information is further supported by operational fire crews carrying out familiarisation visits under section 7.2.D of the Fire & Rescue Service Act, part of which would focus on access arrangements with information made accessible to all crews should be it be required in an emergency. Information regarding access can also be stored on Staffordshire and West Midlands Fire Control's mobilisation system and be made available to crews at the point they are mobilised to an incident.

Contact Officer

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