



Performance Advisory Group (PAG)

Monday 17 July 2017 Board Room 4th floor Barnet House

Main Meeting 6:30pm until 8:30pm

Present:

John Davies	(JD)	Chair Person
Angela Shine	(AS)	Member
Adanna Oji	(AO)	Member
Norah Fallon	(NF)	Member
Aruna Bhatt	(AB)	Vice Chair
Maxwell Doku	(MD)	Member
Hazel Mensah	(HM)	Member
Amlan Ghoshal	(AG)	Member
Aletah Drake	(AD)	Member
Deborah Beckford	(DB)	Community Engagement Officer
Steve Leader	(SL)	Borough Commander LFB
Gerard Naughton	(GN)	Head of Business Support
David Hann	(DH)	Assistant Director of Operations
Angela Purcell	(AP)	Barnet Homes Resident Broad Member

Item	Title	Action
1	Apologies and welcome Apologies received from Elizabeth Fitzgerald. Introductions were made around the table	
2	Minute Approval All agreed the minutes were a true reflection.	Minutes to be published on website
3.	Matters arising DB No matters arising	
4.	Fire Safety Update	Action DB to send out copy of signed agreement to members
4.1	SL introduced himself to the group and then explained about the jointed up work between the LFB and BH. He said that approximately 18 months ago an agreement was drawn up and signed to define the working relationship. He said that BH were very good at following the LFB	

	recommendations and this had forged a good working relationship	
4.2	<p>By working together improvements have been made</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • False alarms have been reduced as BH have a programme in place to ensure all alarm systems are checked regularly • The shutting down of lifts by the LFB due to them being stuck has reduced due to the regular checking and maintenance programme • Sharing of information (within data protection guidelines) have improved • LFB informing BH when there has been an incident in one of our properties in case further involvement with the residents is required • Working with BH to identify our vulnerable residents so that a Fire Safety Advice home visit can be carried out • Working with the fire safety officer for day-to-day advice and guidance • Giving talks to BH contractors and front line staff on fire safety, how to identify a potential hazard and how to make a referral to the LFB • LFB have set up their own 'vulnerable persons' register and they are in the process of reviewing and revisiting the people on the list 	
4.3	<p>Following a general discussion questions were raised</p> <p>Q. Has the LFB come up against any challenges working with BH?</p> <p>A. SL replied no the working relationship between the LFB and BH was very good</p> <p>Q. How many properties within BH stock have hard wired fire alarms</p> <p>A. DH said he was not sure of the exact number of the top of his head but would find out and feed back to the group. SL said that the alarms fitted by the LFB were fitted with batteries that had a 10 year life span that made a dreadful noise when they needed replacing; he also said that some batteries could not be removed from the alarms. Thus stopping residents removing them rendering the alarm disabled and not worth having in place. SL also said that the LFB provide and fit alarms for residents who are hard of hearing.</p>	Action DB to remind DH to supply this information
5	Cladding Update	
5.1	GN gave the group an update on the action that BH had taken in regards our tower blocks following on from the Grenfell fire	Action DB to put a copy of the report in drop-box
5.2	Some questions were asked concerning the safety of the blocks and they seemed to be real concern about leaseholders and in particular sub-	

	<p>letting. This came about from the information concerning Grenfell and the fact that it was still unclear how many residents lost their lives in the fire as there was no accurate information on who and how many people were living there.</p>	
5.3	<p>We do get information on residents if it is a 'Right to buy' sale. However if the property is sold on this is where we don't automatically get information. It was felt by members of the group that BH should insist on getting this information, but GN said this could only come about by a change in government legislation – to let the landlord know how many residents were living in a property. A suggestion was made that we could start a voluntary register.</p> <p>Unfortunately some landlords would be reluctant to give out this information as they might be avoiding paying tax on their full rental income and these days there were more properties with multiple occupations.</p>	
6	<p>Fire Safety Review</p>	
6.1	<p>DH explained that he was working on a review of fire safety within BH that had to be reported to the Housing Committee meeting this October. BH have set up a project team to undertake the review and to develop a proposal. DH said he would like to take in the views of the group to incorporate into the proposal and a general discussion then took place.</p>	
6.2	<p>Suggestions from members for items to consider as part of the fire safety review project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signage in buildings- a. to ensure it is clear to emergency services staff which floor they are on and b. that the fire action plan for the block is clear and displayed on notice boards • How BH can be aware of who lives in the property- especially leaseholders and properties which are sub-let by leaseholders • Review how BH can encourage leaseholders to ensure their flats are safe and what action BH can take to enforce this • Review the frequency of testing items such as communal fire alarms and emergency lighting systems • Review type of fire door fitted to dwellings as concern the door closures make them difficult for residents to open • Review the fire training/information provided to residents to include a. signs in communal areas b. hold a fire safety hub c. Review information provided to residents at point of tenancy sign-up d. send updated information with rent statements and leasehold service charges 	
6.3	<p>As we ran out of time members were going to consider the suggestions after the meeting and let DH know if they thought of anymore areas</p>	<p>Action DB to send out list to members and remind them to send in ideas</p>

	<p>Members Up Date</p> <p>MD attended the Barnet star awards for schools in the borough, he said he had a very enjoyable time – the awards were sponsored by the PAG RH FTAF</p> <p>A.O.B.</p> <p>DB showed the members the information sheet that members would be completing at the event on Saturday</p> <p>DB explained that Derek Rust would like members to assist in the naming of our new build blocks, as they had before</p> <p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>Monday 4 September 6.30-8.30pm Board room 4th floor Barnet House</p>	<p>Action DB to send out the LFB free phone number to members</p> <p>Action DB to send out guide lines to members on new names</p>
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