

# SECTION 41 MEMBER BRIEFING



**JULY 2017**

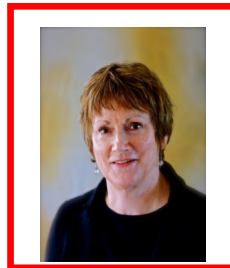
Please find below information from your  
Section 41 Member representative on South  
Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority  
Cllr Pat Haith



## FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Authority's Annual General Meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> June welcomed six new Members:

From Barnsley **Cllr Linda Burgess** (Barnsley)  
who is the Authority's new Chair &



**Cllr Malcolm Clements**



From Doncaster, **Cllr Charlie Hogarth**



And from Sheffield:



**Cllr Tony Damms**



**Cllr Chris Rosling-Josephs**



**Cllr Mohammad Maroof.**

## **Company responsible for Doncaster care home prosecuted for fire safety breach**

A Doncaster Company responsible for the running of a care home in Doncaster has been fined by the Doncaster Magistrates' Court for breaching fire safety laws.

The Old Rectory Nursing Home (Doncaster) Limited, responsible for the Old Rectory Nursing Home, Church Street, Armthorpe, pleaded guilty to a breach of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005.

Inspecting officers from South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue's business fire safety team had earlier found that the 37 bedroom care home did not have a suitable or sufficient fire risk assessment in place and in particular, provisions for the time in which staff at the home would be able to evacuate its residents in the event of a fire

The Company were fined £3,500 and ordered to pay £13,325 prosecution costs at Doncaster Magistrates Court on Tuesday (13 June).

Business Fire Safety Manager, Amy Jenkinson, speaking after the hearing, said: "All businesses must ensure that they have a suitable and sufficient risk assessment in place, which should include having effective evacuation strategies. Staff must also receive adequate safety training so they know what to do should they have to evacuate the premises. Fire safety is a key part of business management.

"South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Business Fire Safety Officers will continue to take action when businesses, large or small, do not take their fire safety responsibilities seriously and place residents, staff or the public at risk. Failure to comply with the law can, as this case has shown, result in a prosecution."

As well as working with premises to help them meet their obligations under fire safety legislation, South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue also advocates the use of sprinklers in high-risk residential settings.

For more information visit [www.syfire.gov.uk/businessadvice](http://www.syfire.gov.uk/businessadvice)

## Fire service work scheme changing lives of autistic volunteers

A fire service volunteer has gained vital life and social skills thanks to a scheme which helps people with autism.

The Autism Centre for Supported Employment, is a small charity which supports adults with autism, aspersers and learning disabilities into paid employment and work experience placements.



James Guy, from Sheffield, has been volunteering at South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue, through the scheme, since November 2016, working in the Prevention and Protection department at headquarters in Sheffield, one day a week.

His role involves scanning fire safety plans and data inputting. James learnt the process very quickly and has scanned nearly 1,000 plans over the last six months.

James, who has autism, says he loves his work at the fire service, citing feelings of value, respect and teamwork for improving his wellbeing.

James, 34, is learning and gaining new skills in a safe environment with staff that he trusts and who have the skills and training to understand and support his needs.

James Guy said; “I like to meet everybody at work and they are very friendly with me, I enjoy the scanning and feel proud that I am working for South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue.”

Sue Butler, Volunteering Co-ordinator at South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue said: “James has continued to show excellent commitment to his volunteering role and has learned a lot of new skills since starting work with us which will set him up with important employment skills which he will be able to transfer to future jobs. The team he works in are really supportive of him, and James seems to love working with them.”

South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue have seven autistic adults volunteering in many different roles throughout the service including scanning, data inputting, filing, assisting the caretaker, working the canteen and much more. If you are interested in volunteering for South Yorkshire & Fire & Rescue call 0114 253 2413.

### Reassurance given following London fire tragedy

Following the tragic fire at Grenfell Tower in London, South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue is reassuring local people about its response arrangements for high rise buildings.

Our thoughts are with everyone who has been affected by this devastating tragedy in London, as well as our colleagues in the London Fire Brigade who worked incredibly hard under very difficult circumstances.

We would like to reassure local residents that we have established processes in place for ensuring the safety of both residential blocks and commercial premises. Our Business Fire Safety officers are visiting high-rise properties across South Yorkshire to carry out safety audits and work with those responsible for those buildings to understand their obligations under current fire safety laws.

Our operational firefighters will also be reviewing their plans for dealing with high-rise incidents of this nature and we will of course respond to any national learning from the Grenfell Tower fire and adjust our plans if necessary.

Head of Prevention and Protection Steve Helps said; "It would not be appropriate for us to speculate about the cause of the fire until a full investigation has been carried out. However, what we do know is that fires of this type are rare.

"Our fire safety officers work closely with Building Control bodies, building owners and Local Authority partners on a day to day basis to ensure that new buildings, and significant alterations or refurbishments to existing buildings, meet the requirements of the appropriate Building Regulations. They also carry out fire safety audits of buildings to identify any deficiencies, and help those responsible for building safety to comply with their legal obligations."

If you have a fire safety concern about a high rise building, please contact the Fire Safety team at [tfs.cs@syfire.gov.uk](mailto:tfs.cs@syfire.gov.uk)

Anyone living in South Yorkshire can request a Home Safety Check visit from ourselves - call 0114 253 2314 or visit our [website here](#)



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Whilst viewing the meeting you can contribute comments and debate proceedings with other viewers via CoverItLive or Twitter.

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