



Freedom of Information request reference number: 7900.1

Date of response: 06/10/2023

## Request:

The Mount Ref 93/237112, Job number 2327524.

Please can you send me a copy of the above report under the Freedom of Information Act.

## Response:

Further to your request, please see a redacted copy of the Fire Audit. The Audit took place on the 11<sup>th</sup> August 2023. The outcome of the report was Low Risk. Personal data has been redacted in accordance with section 40 of the FOIA – Personal Information.

We have dealt with your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. For more information about this process please see the guidance we publish about making a request on our website: <a href="https://www.london-fire.gov.uk/about-us/transparency/request-information-from-us/">https://www.london-fire.gov.uk/about-us/transparency/request-information-from-us/</a>

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## Fire Safety Audit Report

Audit Information

Audited By
Audit Completed 11 August 2023

Location summary

 File No
 93/237112

 UPRN
 100023627463

 Building Name
 The Mount

 Address
 THE MOUNT

BROOMFIELD ROAD BEXLEYHEATH DA6 7PE

Borough Bexley

Use D - Purpose Built Flats>=4 floors

Responsible Team FSR Greenwich & Bexley

Station Ground E28 - Bexley

Site Risk Score 4.50

Total Floors 4 Basement floors 1

Estimated number of sleeping 30

Special Features

Additional detail Off street level on three floors. Basement level leads to garden area and

road behind.

Premises Description Purpose built block of flats over four floors of brick and concrete

construction with tiled roof. Firefighter entrance three floors with

basement level below making four total.

Fourteen flats, with four flats per floor. Two flats in the basement level.

Dwellings open directly onto the single staircase. No lifts are installed at the premises. There is one ground floor entrance/exit and two exits on

the basement floor.

There is a open air car park at the rear of the premises.

Exterior Wall Cladding N/A
Exterior Wall Insulation N/A

Cladding/Insulation details confirmed by NOT CONFIRMED

Environmental Risks NONE

Features assisting fire spread NONE

Site Reinspection date

Heritage Building No
Balconies present? No
Gas Supply present? Unknown
Petroleum redevelopment? No
Known firesetting in area? No

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Site lone worker risk No.

## Property Detail (DEFAULT PROPERTY)

Occupier Contact Default Property

Address THE MOUNT

BROOMFIELD ROAD BEXLEYHEATH DA6 7PE

Responsible team FSD SOUTH-LEW-GREEN-BEX

Occupancy Type Sole Occupier

Property Use D - Purpose Built Flats>=4 floors
Valuation Office R3 - Flats/Mais 4 Flrs and over PB

Original Risk Score 4.50

Reinspection Date N/A (SAMPLE)
Last Inspection 9 May 2023

Total Capacity 0
Maximum number of people 20-100
Property Size for use Very Small

1400m2 to 3000m2

Environmental Risks NONE
Occupant Mobility Average
Fire Loading Average

Additional detail

Specific lone worker risk No.

Primary Authority Partnership N/A

## Protection Data (SHARED)

Fire Protection & Warning Adequate
Unwanted fire signals count 0
AFD remote monitoring No
Smoke ventilation Natural
Covers MOE/Common areas? Yes
Sprinklers Installed? No
Access for fire-fighting Average
Water supplies Average

**Special Features**# Fire fighting shafts 0
Engineered solution? No
Trade off measures? No

Evacuation type Defend in place -Stay Put

History of fires?

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#### Contacts

#### Occupier

Name Default Property
Address THE MOUNT

BROOMFIELD ROAD BEXLEYHEATH DA6 7PE

## **Managing Agent**

Name PMUK (Residential Block and Estate Management)

Position The Company Secretary

Address PMUK (Residential Block and Estate Management)

The Base

Dartford Business Park

Victoria Road Kent DA1 5FS

Telephone Email

#### Other relevant contact

Name PMUK (Residential Block and Estate Management)
Person

Position Property Manager Address The Base

Dartford Business Park

Victoria Road Dartford Kent DA1 5FS

Telephone Email

## Enforcement history

#### Infringements

Type Art30 Enforcement

Date 12 August 2020

Prohibition/Restriction date N/A

Prosecution Date N/A

## Articles

#### Article 9 - Risk assessment

#### SAFETY CRITICAL Safety Evaluation

Low Risk

Verbal Advice Given

### Observations

The fire risk assessment had just been completed and also included a programme of works to review flat front doors even though the premises does not come under high rise. However, when reviewing the risk assessment and attending site with the fire risk assessor it was deemed not suitable and sufficient at the time of inspection. This was due to items not being highlighted under a fire action plan or significant findings these included such items as storage in riser cupboards not being controlled reviewed or monitored and wooden batten in riser cupboards to make a fire break, however, causing issues such as gaps and fire loading within the riser cupboards.

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Article 9 (continued)

#### **FAILURE**

#### Article 9(1) FRA not suitable or sufficient

At the time of the audit the fire risk assessment for your premises was not suitable and sufficient. It was found that there were items not being highlighted under a fire action plan or significant findings within the fire risk assessment. Such as items being stored in riser cupboards by residents and this not being controlled reviewed or monitored.

Wooden batten in riser cupboards to make a fire break. However, causing issues such as gaps to fire doors and fire loading within the riser cupboards.

#### REMEDY

The fire risk assessment should be reviewed, with specific consideration given to The significant findings and action plan of the risk assessment.

The riser cupboards for excess residential storage and fire loading.

#### Article 11 - Fire Safety Arrangements

SAFETY CRITICAL Safety Evaluation Low Risk

Verbal Advice Given

#### Observations

Although PMUK and the fire risk assessor on site with me were able to show the efforts that have been made in the block since the last visit with the updated fire action notices and the flat front door surveys being rolled out and completed as well with the maintenance and servicing of all emergency lighting in the premises. It was found that some deficiencies still need addressing such as updating and reviewing the fire risk assessment to highlight issues found with residents storing items within the riser cupboards this was not being monitored, reviewed or controlled and this was causing significant risk of fire loading items in this areas. It was also highlighted that compartmentation issues that have previously been raised within the riser cupboards in the basement level have not been addressed or reviewed. Wooden battering which originally was to be used as a fire break was causing issues with gaps and fire loading within the riser cupboard, the riser cupboard doors also require reviewing to make sure they meet the minimum BS.

#### **FAILURE**

#### Article 11 FS arrangements not maintained

At the time of the audit your preventative and protective measures had not been planned, organised, controlled monitored or reviewed where required. It was found that a review of the fire risk assessment was needed to highlight issues found with residents storing items within the riser cupboards and address how this was not being monitored, reviewed or controlled and this was causing significant risk of fire loading items in this areas.

Also highlighting compartmentation issues that have previously been raised within the riser cupboards in the basement level have not been addressed or reviewed such as Wooden battering which originally was to be used as a fire break was causing issues with gaps and fire loading within the riser cupboard. The riser cupboard doors also require reviewing to make sure they meet the correct minimum British Standard.

#### REMEDY

Arrangements identified as not suitably addressed must be effectively planned, organised, controlled, monitored or reviewed.

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#### Article 13 - Detection and warning

SAFETY CRITICAL

Observations

Safety Evaluation Broadly Compliant

Purpose built block of flats with a stay put fire strategy so no fire alarm detector and sounders installed in the common parts of the building.

#### Article 14 - Emergency routes and exits

## SAFETY CRITICAL

#### Observations

Safety Evaluation Broadly Compliant

At the time of the audit all common areas walked were free and clear of any obstructions and this was seen to be well managed. I recognise from previous audits that the flat front doors are notional fire doors and would not meet todays standards and a previous notification of deficiencies was served requiring the doors to be checked. Although at the time of the audit the doors had not been reviewed or changed. The fire risk assessor who was on site was just starting his programmed work in which to review all fire doors and have these assessed and reviewed as per the new fire safety (England) regulations 2022. Although the premises is not a high rise building PMUK have recognised the need to have the doors checked for any potential remediation works and have instructed this action in the form of a full door survey and programmed works to follow. Therefore reasonable efforts are being made considering fire doors within the premises.

#### Article 15 - Procedures for serious and imminent danger and for danger areas

## SAFETY CRITICAL

#### Observations

Safety Evaluation Broadly Compliant Fire action notices were clear and visible throughout. They referred to the correct stay put strategy for the premises. There is no common parts alarm system fitted in this purpose built block of flats.

## Article 17 - Maintenance

## SAFETY CRITICAL

#### Observations

Safety Evaluation Broadly Compliant

As highlighted in article 14. All fire doors in the premises are currently being reviewed and a programme of works created to address issues. Therefore reasonable efforts are being made considering fire doors within the premises.

#### Article 21 - Training

#### SAFETY CRITICAL

#### Observations

Safety Evaluation Broadly Compliant

PMUK staff are proficiently trained to manage their blocks and this will include fire safety training which is periodically kept up to date. The premises does not

have onsite staff.

## Article 8 - General fire precautions

## Safety Evaluation

#### Observations

Broadly Compliant

I have discussed with PMUK that it was raised on the fire risk assessment that the loft area was unable to be accessed or commented on for voids, gaps in

compartmentation etc.

PMUK have addressed this and this will be having a survey and be reported on.

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## Article 10 - Principles of prevention to be applied

Safety Evaluation Observations

Not Applicable None

## Article 12 - Elimination or reduction of risks from dangerous substances

Safety Evaluation Observations

Not Applicable None

#### Article 13 - Fire Fighting Equipment

Safety Evaluation Observations

Not Applicable None

# Article 16 - Measures for dealing with dangerous substances affecting general fire precautions

Safety Evaluation Observations

Not Applicable None

## Article 18 - Safety assistance

Safety Evaluation Observations

Not Applicable None

## Article 19 - Provision of information to employees

Safety Evaluation Observations

Not Applicable None

## Article 20 - Provision of information to employers and the self employed from outside undertakings

Safety Evaluation Observations

Not Applicable None

## Article 22 - Co-operation and co-ordination

Safety Evaluation Observations

Not Applicable None

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## Article 23 - General duties of employees at work

Safety Evaluation Observations

Not Applicable None

## Article 37 - Fire fighters switches for luminous tube signs

Safety Evaluation Observations

Not Applicable None

## Article 38 - Maintenance of measures provided for protection of fire fighters

SAFETY CRITICAL Observations

Safety Evaluation

Broadly Compliant

None

#### Article 24 - Power to make regulations

Safety Evaluation Observations

Not Applicable None

## Article 27 - Powers of inspectors

Safety Evaluation Observations

Not Applicable None

## Article 29 - Current alterations notices

Safety Evaluation Observations

Not Applicable None

## Article 30 - Current enforcement notices

Safety Evaluation Observations

Not Applicable None

## Article 31 - Current prohibition notices

Safety Evaluation Observations

Not Applicable None

## Article 32 - Offences

Safety Evaluation Observations

Not Applicable None

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# Overall safety standard

Low Risk

## Management compliance level

Management Compliance Level 1 - Well above average

Initial Expectation Verbal action

Considered EMM? Yes

Confirmed Action Verbal action

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#### **Audit Conclusion**

#### Date audit carried out

09/5/2023

#### Time of audit

2pm

#### Reason for audit;

Follow up visit regarding concerns from resident and previous notices served on property.

#### Conclusion

I informed PMUK of my findings and the enforcement process which we adhere too. I advised on remedial works that can be done to correct some of these issues identified. This has been followed up with an email and phone conversations confirming the areas identified and acknowledging that the building was Low Risk with verbal advice given.

#### Extent of premises audited

100% of common areas.

#### Justification of audit outcome

Prior to the audit I was able to complete the necessary research using Farynor, imapping, IMS, Companies house and primary authority. I was able to get in touch with the managing agents of the premises. They were able to provide me with information for the building. PMUK, manages this building. I was in touch with a property manager for PMUK who was able to send me all relevant documentation and the fire risk assessment before completing my audit. I did meet with the fire risk assessor on site at the time of my audit. The audit was to be carried out in three parts. First was an inspection of all available records and information gathering. The second part of the audit was to carry out a full premises inspection. The third part of the audit was to carry out a conclusion.

At the time of the audit there was evidence that the fire risk assessment was not suitable and sufficient for the premises. This was due to items not being highlighted under a fire action plan or significant findings these included such items as storage in riser cupboards not being controlled reviewed or monitored and wooden batten in riser cupboards to make a fire break, however, causing issues such as gaps and fire loading within the riser cupboards.

It is evidenced within the Fire risk assessment that records are available to reflect the application of the emergency plan in place for the premises which is Defend and Stay Put.

The second part of the audit was to carry out a full premises inspection.

I was able to audit all of the common parts of the premises.

I was able to sample some flat front doors as the fire risk assessor at the time of the audit was starting to complete some programmed fire door surveys which also includes flat front doors. Issues have been identified with some flat front doors that

require addressing. This has been followed up with letters to the residents.

Issues identified at the time of the audit:

- · Fire risk assessment not suitable and sufficient and requires reviewing of significant findings and action plan.
- . Loft area to be surveyed and accessed for suitability.
- . All fire doors within the premises to be checked and reviewed by a competent person.

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I advised PMUK to have a fire door survey of the premises completed and any remedial works completed. This was already starting to take place and a suitable programmed, controlled and monitored set of actions are in place.

My overall score reflects this and that issues were being addressed while on site.

## Verbal Advice Given

Advice given on article(s) 9, 11

Verbal advice given can be seen in articles 9 and 11.

#### Other Authorities to notify

None

## **Weeks to Complete Work**

N/A

## Specific instructions for Admin to Action

None

## Compliance calculation & signature

Compliance Level 1 - Well above average

Property Risk Group E - High Rise Residential Building (HRRB specific)

 Life Risk
 -5

 Actual Risk Score
 4.33

 Risk Score
 4.25

## Audit Timings

Audit Duration	Travel Time	Post Audit Processing Duration
90	45	310