

# **WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY**

**18 SEPTEMBER 2017**

## **1. RESULT OF RECENT FIRE SAFETY PROSECUTIONS**

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

RECOMMENDED

THAT the details of the fire safety prosecutions be noted.

## **2. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report is submitted to inform the Authority of the result of prosecutions under the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005.

## **3. BACKGROUND**

3.1 This section of the report relates to Mr Salvinder Singh Sangha and the prosecution which was pursued by this Authority where he was charged with a range of offences contrary to the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005. This was as a result of a serious fire on 2 July 2015 at 2A Messenger Road, Smethwick during which two people were rescued, one by ladder from the first floor. The first floor housed tenants did not have appropriate fire alarms or fire doors to their flats. Also, there was no emergency lighting.

3.2 Mr Sangha appeared at Wolverhampton Crown Court on 3 August 2017. He pleaded guilty to all the offences and was sentenced to four months' imprisonment suspended for 18 months. He was also fined £25,000 and ordered to pay all prosecution costs which totalled £10,130.

## **4. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

In preparing this report an initial Equality Impact Assessment is not required and has not been carried out because the matters contained in this report do not relate to a policy change.

5. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 imposes a duty on persons to provide assistance or information to Enforcing Authority to ensure that the Order can be effectively enforced. The Order imposes a statutory duty on Fire and Rescue Authorities to enforce the provisions of the Order.

6. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The award against the defendant covers the legal costs incurred by the Authority in preparing the relevant prosecution file. The award also compensates for officers' time spent on the case; this amounted to £3,410.

7. **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Fire Safety Files

The contact name for this report is Gary Taylor - telephone number – 0121 380 6006.

PHIL LOACH  
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER