

LANCASHIRE COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY

Meeting to be held on Monday 19 December 2016

EARLY DAY MOTION 468 – SCRAPPING OF SCHOOL SPRINKLERS (Appendix 1 refers)

Contact for further information:

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Executive Summary

We have been notified of an Early Day Motion (EDM) currently seeking support in the House of Commons with regards to Building Bulletin 100: design for fire safety in schools and the removal of the expectation that automatic fire suppression systems (sprinklers) will be fitted to all but the lowest risk new schools. We consider that such a move could compromise the safety of children, staff, local communities and firefighters. The Chairman of the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority and the Chief Fire Officer have therefore written to local MPs on behalf of the Authority (attached as Appendix 1).

Recommendation

That the Authority note the Chairman and Chief Fire Officer's letter and add support where appropriate.

Background

- Early day motion 468 SCRAPPING SCHOOL SPRINKLERS
- Session: 2016-17
- Date tabled: 14.09.2016

That this House deplores the decision to scrap the expectation that sprinklers will be installed in all new school buildings except for low risk schools; believes that such a retrograde measure could compromise the safety of children, staff, local communities and firefighters; recognises that sprinkler systems help ensure swift evacuation from fires; notes that sprinklers have helped save 17 schools from major fire damage; further notes that the average cost of a large school fire is now £2.8 million; and calls on the Government to reintroduce these vital requirements forthwith.

Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service (LFRS) Protection Officers are proactive in mitigation of fire safety risks within schools and on all building regulation consultations and LFRS strongly recommends the installation of sprinkler systems.

Business Risk:

None

Environmental Impact:

None

Equality and Diversity implications:

None

Financial Implications:

None

HR Implications:

None

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact
Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate:		