



Notifiable Fire Report

From	
LFB Fire Investigator:	Barry Kent
	Fire Investigation Team, Dowgate
Telephone Number:	

Brigade Incident No: 66250101

Date/time of first call: Friday 30 April 2010 18:46

Location: FLAT 64, GRENFELL TOWER, GRENFELL ROAD, LONDON, W11 1TG

Local authority area: Kensington & Chelsea

Type of property: Purpose Built Flats/Maisonettes - 10 or more storeys

Use of property: Residential use

Detailed property use: Housing Association dwelling

Was there a fire alarm system: Yes Effect of alarm system: Yes, but did not raise alarm

Did Fire Safety Officer attend: Yes If so, name: SM Martin Redmond

Possible fire safety deficiencies: No Further report for LFB to follow: No

Photos available for LFB use: Yes

Structural damage: No Structural fire safety precaution failure: Yes

Number of persons rescued:	0
Number of persons injured:	3
Number of fire fatalities:	0
Number of non-fire fatalities:	0
Number of fatalities, not known if fire related:	0

Brief Description of Fire:

Called to fire at a 20 storey block of flats with basement. A Community Centre used the ground floor to the fourth floor, with residential flats on all other floors. Fire was at Flat 64 on the 6th floor.

Occupant of Flat 64 had an argument earlier in the day. Two persons were believed to knock on the door of Flat 64 approximately 5 minutes before the fire was discovered. The occupant did not answer the door as he believed the callers to be the men he had argued with earlier. The occupant went the toilet and noticed a crackling sound coming from the front door. He inspected the area and could see a fire at the door. He called the LFB. There were eight calls received to this incident.

Approximately 60 persons evacuated the premises as a result of the fire.

The resident of neighbouring Flat 65 smelt burning and went to check her premises. She noticed smoke entering her flat from the front door. She opened her front door and saw a fire involving bags of recycling that had been moved against the front door Flat 64. She extinguished the fire using a garden hose.

Four appliances attended. The 1st LFB attendance evacuated the fire floor and extinguished the fire fully using a jet. 3 persons received a precautionary check up from the LAS due to potential smoke inhalation. All were released without further treatment.

Investigation found that both Flat 65 and Flat 66 had placed some recycling bags in to the lift lobby prior to collection. They contained old clothes, paper and cardboard. These had then been moved by person/s unknown to the front door of Flat 64. There were no accidental ignition sources found in the area of origin.

Area was checked for the presence of accelerants using the GasTec. No reading was recorded for accelerants.

Most likely cause is the deliberate application of an unknown naked flame to the recycling bags. The fire spread from the bags to the front door of Flat 64.

Smoke detection in the common parts did actuate and assisted in raising the alarm.

During the investigation the following Fire Safety concerns were noted

1. The smoke extraction system was not functioning correctly. Smoke was spread to floors 7, 12, 13, 15, 17, 18, 19, and 20. This caused a number of occupants on these floors reporting to the Brigade that they were trapped in their flats.
2. Crews also found that there was an issue with the fire lift not responding when requested. This slowed their response to the fire floor.

This report sent to the following by email:

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Circulation instructions for Area Team:

1. Station Manager at North Kensington Fire Station if not listed above

2. Team Leader for Kensington & Chelsea

13 Old Court, Kensington High Street, London, W8 4PL Fax:

3. Kensington & Chelsea Building Control Office

If either structural damage or structural fire safety precaution failure is 'Yes'

Department of Building Control, R343 Town Hall, Horton Street, London. W8 7NX

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Fax: [REDACTED]

4. Kensington & Chelsea Environmental Health Office

If detailed property use indicates a house in multiple occupation (HMO)

37 Pembroke Road, W8 6PW

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Fax: [REDACTED]

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