

9<sup>th</sup> May 2014

Subject

**Premises Information Plate Pilot**

Brief for

**Operational Directorates Co-Ordination Board**

Author

**AC Turek****Introduction**

Following our internal review of the Lakanal fire and subsequent coroner's recommendations we identified the need for housing providers (responsible persons) and fire services to review the availability and provision of building information to crews. Premises Information Plates (PIPs) are one example of how such information can be made immediately available, in a simple, easy to understand format at little expense with low on-going maintenance. London Fire Brigade working with Local Authority partners have agreed to set up a pilot to trial the plates on high rise residential social housing.

The Premises Information Plate (PIP) has been developed as a quick visual indicator for the first crews arriving at incidents. It was designed to provide building information for high rise residential premises. The plates have proved popular and successful to date in a number of Fire and Rescue Services in various formats.

**Background**

Following a period of research to establish an outline business case, four London Borough's (Camden, Lambeth, Tower Hamlets and Wandsworth) were identified to take part in a trial where LFB would gather appropriate information and provide Premises Information Plates (PIPs) for 24 identified premises within each Borough.

Briefing and training information was provided to station based crews throughout the Summer of 2013. LFB borough teams and Local Authority housing providers identified suitable premises and began information gathering.

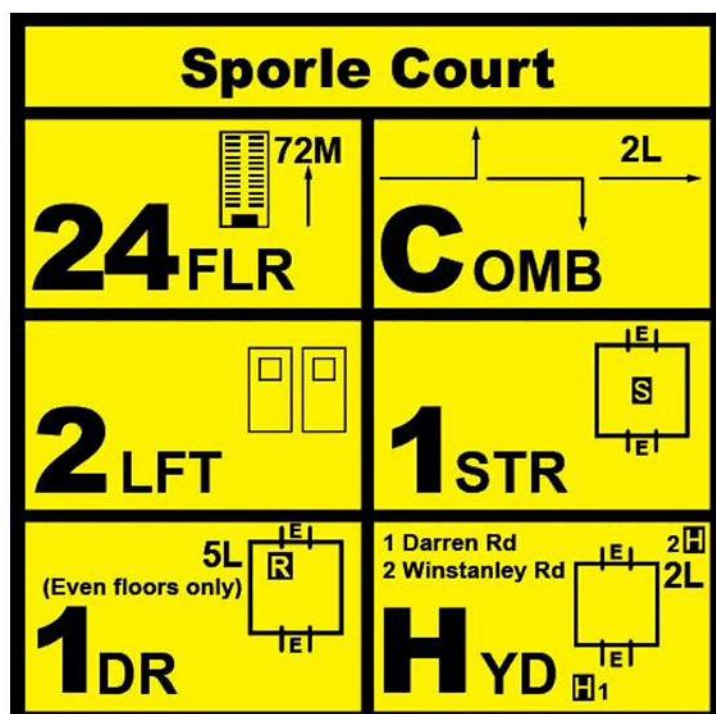
A number of additional Borough's became aware of the trial and made formal requests to be included and in Autumn 2013 it was agreed that a further five would be included (Croydon, Hackney, Hounslow, Lewisham and Southwark), each identifying twelve (12) premises for which they would fund the manufacture of the plates. An additional Borough (Haringey) has recently also been approved for inclusion (Dec 2013).

At present, all the plates have been manufactured and in excess of 100 are in place on buildings with the remainder scheduled to be installed this month by housing providers.

Fire crews are informed of the presence of a plate with other incident details at point of mobilising and images of the plates are available to them via computer terminals on fire appliances so they can pre-plan en route to incidents and print a copy, if required.

Incidents attended at premises displaying a High Rise Premises Information Plate are monitored and evaluated so feedback from crews attending can be captured and used to influence the outcomes of the pilot. Initial responses from crews to date, have been positive.

### The Information Plate format



The plate has seven boxes, which provide the following information:

- The address area
- The number of floors and height of the building
- The type of flat
  - The indicator arrow demonstrates the direction of any stairs.
  - The letters L, M or C indicates ,Level (Lev) for flats on one level, Maisonettes (Mas) would describe flats on two levels and the arrows will show the internal make up of the flats. Either in and up or in and down and Combination (Comb) for flats which can have all of the above on one floor, arrows show which may be encountered.
  - The numeral (e.g. 3L) shows the lengths of hose required to reach the furthest point of the furthest flat from the riser outlet below the floor of the fire.
- The number of lifts and the levels served
- The number of stairs
- The number and location of entrance ways
- The detail of the number of dry risers and their location and
- Hydrant location in relation to the building

### Next Steps

On completion of the pilot at the end of May this year a review will be undertaken. The review will take into account feedback from crews and housing providers to identify any changes that may be required to the format of the plates and will be subject to a final report and recommendations which will be put before London Councils and other Housing providers for consideration and adoption as the standard format to be used with the funding and maintenance of these plates being the responsibility of the owners.







