

4 November 2015

RESIDENTS ALL SAFE FOLLOWING FIRE

All residents were safe following a fire which broke out on Saturday 31 October at a tower block in North Kensington managed by Kensington & Chelsea Tenant Management Organisation on behalf of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.

The cause of the fire at Adair Tower on Appleford Road is being investigated by the Metropolitan Police. There were no fatalities, but 16 residents were taken to hospital suffering from the effects of smoke inhalation; they were all discharged the same day. Eight households have been temporarily rehoused, with all other residents safely returned to their homes on the same day.

Robert Black, Chief Executive of Kensington and Chelsea Tenant Management Organisation (KCTMO) paid tribute to the London Fire Brigade for rescuing 50 people from the burning block, which has 78 flats: "They did a brilliant job securing the swift evacuation all the residents who were in the building at the time. Our first priority is, as always, the safety and wellbeing of our residents and we worked closely with the fire brigade as they safely evacuated residents to a neighbouring church hall. The Church of our Lady of the Holy Souls was absolutely fantastic in the help it gave.

"We have set up a response unit in the building's foyer and we're working hard to ensure that all residents have the help and support they need. We're also working closely with the Council to ensure that those who are now in temporary accommodation have the money to buy the clothing and personal items they need, as well as all meals."

Councillor Rock Feilding-Mellen, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing at the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, added: "This must have been a very

traumatic event for all those caught up in it; thankfully the evacuation was effective and no one was seriously injured.

“The emergency services did a great job, as did KCTMO officers who were on the scene very quickly and remained throughout the day.

“We will continue to work closely with KCTMO to ensure that residents currently in temporary accommodation are able to return to their homes as soon as practicable.”