

CARSHALTON AND CLOCKHOUSE LOCAL COMMITTEE**Questions responded to prior to Committee**

Question: Ray Liffen, Carshalton on the Hill Residents' Association

The Grenfell Tower fire exposed the lack of local authority staff in Kensington who could provide leadership and coordination when it was needed in the hours after the fire started.

If an emergency occurred in LB Sutton (fire, explosion, mass killings, whatever), would Sutton be better prepared? As we have seen, the public are very willing to help. Does Sutton have staff who could provide leadership and coordination at short notice?

Response: Chantelle Swaby, Locality Lead Officer

Sutton Council does have recently updated Rest Centre Emergency Procedures and dedicated and trained Rest Centre Managers as well as an Emergency Team, who run through emergency planning exercises throughout the year, at the various allocated rest centre buildings within Sutton. These officers would be called upon in the event of an emergency.

The procedures detail the roles and responsibilities of Sutton Rest Centre Managers, operation of a Rest Centre, and the exercise runs through how Sutton coordinates, manages and provides leadership to all those involved in an emergency, and assisting those who need immediate after care. These exercises are conducted with 'scenarios' using volunteer members of the public, and simulate how a situation would be handled by the council in the event of a local incident.

For information, Sutton Rest Centre Managers have made themselves available to provide assistance following a mutual aid request in assisting the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea with their staffing of the Rest Centres in response to the recent Grenfell Towers incident.

If you or other members of the public are interested in being part of any of our future emergency procedures exercise simulations, please do let us know as we are always happy to have as many willing participants to help us refine our procedures.

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