



Ledbury Estate

Weekly newsletter: Special Edition

25 February, 2020

Major London Fire Brigade Exercise at Bromyard this week.

For several weeks now the council has been working with the London Fire Brigade to organise a major exercise using the now empty Bromyard tower block.

The exercise will take place on **Thursday, 27 February** – from around 2pm for about 90 minutes.

This a rare opportunity for firefighters to practice tackling a fire in a high rise tower block and will give them the chance to test current procedures and enhanced new procedures for Fire Safety Guidance and high rise policy.

The fire brigade will be testing a scenario that starts with the stay put guidance then leads to a mass evacuation. Actors will be on site playing residents and casualties and around 12 to 15 crews will be involved.

They will also be using smoke, but this will be coloured to distinguish it as part of the exercise.

The London Fire Brigade Commander and team will be on site from early in the morning and will remain there throughout the exercise and can answer any questions from members of the public.

Signs will also be put up around the building to let people know an exercise is taking place and the London Fire Brigade will be doing a leaflet drop to local residents.

Cllr Kieron Williams, Cabinet Member for Housing and Modernisation, said: “We know that seeing fire engines and activity around one of our towers, even if people know it is already empty, could cause concern, which is why we are making sure as many people as possible are aware the exercise will be taking place and there is nothing to worry about.

“The council has agreed to allow the exercise in the empty Bromyard block because it will be

invaluable to the London Fire Brigade to test out their procedures in as close to a real life situation as they can get.

“An opportunity like this is rare and we are pleased to be able to offer Bromyard to help firm up policy that will affect how high rise fires are dealt with across London in the future.”

Philip Morton, the Borough Commander for Southwark, said: “We are very grateful to Southwark Council and the residents and TRA at the Ledbury Estate for agreeing to let us use the tower block.

“It will be a great opportunity for our firefighters to put into practice new procedures in a realistic environment.”

As a thank you to residents on the estate, the fire brigade will be volunteering to take part in the upcoming estate fete; bringing fire appliances and staff to support the day by; and offering community safety advice.

If you have any questions or concerns about the exercise please speak to any of the housing officers based at the Ledbury TRA Hall on Pencraig Way.

You can also follow London Fire Brigade on Twitter @LFB_Southwark



