

Appendix A – Email to staff

Subject: Smoke alarm

Could you please include this in the 'Reading Out book' so crews are aware of the situation:

We have been made aware of an incident in Humberside Fire and Rescue Service where there was a fire involving a smoke alarm, similar to the ones we fit. It is believed to be an isolated incident.

However, it has been picked up by the national media which may mean you are asked about it by the public when you are in the community.

We have not had any fires involving smoke alarms here in Greater Manchester.

Humberside and the smoke alarm manufacturer Fire Angel are carrying out an investigation and we are in contact with them.

If you need to speak to someone about it, please contact Steve Twinn or Tony Lander.

Appendix B – Fire Angel statement

Fire Angel ST-620 Thermoptek smoke alarm

Always refer to the user manual available for download on the Support section of this website.

Where an ST-620 is installed on a ceiling and is not emitting a low battery / fault warning it should be left in situ.

Where an ST-620 emits a low battery / fault warning the alarm should be carefully removed. The alarm should shortly cease sounding the low battery / fault warning, after which the alarm should then be disposed of in-line with instructions set out in the user manual.

As a precaution if the ST-620 is damaged or dropped, the alarm should be removed from the building. Once the alarm has been removed from the building contact Fire Angel Technical Support on 0800 141 2561 or technicalsupport@fireangel.co.uk

Additionally, even if an ST-620 has been carefully removed from the ceiling and the low battery/ fault warning continues to sound, under no circumstances attempt to break open the alarm, disable the alarm or remove the battery from the alarm. The alarm should be removed from the building to prevent unnecessary nuisance to residents. Once the alarm has been removed from the building contact Fire Angel Technical Support on 0800 141 2561 or technicalsupport@fireangel.co.uk

If you have any specific queries, please contact Fire Angel Technical Support on 0800 141 2561 or technicalsupport@fireangel.co.uk

If you receive calls from members of the public about this, they can call our Contact Centre free on 0800 555 815

Appendix C - News Flash 10th November

GMFRS yesterday met with the smoke alarm manufacturer Fire Angel to discuss the recent incidents involving four fires in the UK involving the Fire Angel ST 620 smoke alarms.

These fires have all taken place since January this year. None were in Greater Manchester.

Bureau Veritas (an independent test laboratory for forensic fire investigation) is carrying out an independent investigation on behalf of the Chief Fire Officers Association. This is still ongoing but they have informed us that the smoke alarms involved were all damaged before the fire.

There have been 1.5 million smoke alarms of this model installed in the UK, so these fires are being treated as isolated cases. In Greater Manchester we have fitted over 100,000 of them and none of them have been involved in a fire.

They have, however, saved lives and homes and we will support the continued use of smoke alarms.

Fire Angel has issued some additional guidance on their website about the ST620 alarm.

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