

C1 Activity update

1. Operational incident
2. Building Safety prosecution

June 2025

For further information please contact:

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Operational incidents

An overview for Members on the range and types of incidents
KFRS has been involved with this year



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Type: Rescue from water

Location: Rochester

Date: March

- Person seen entering water off Rochester bridge.
- First crews in attendance in 5 mins 15 secs.
- Drone mobilised.
- Crews on shore observed casualty face down in water after approx. 11 minutes.
- Larkfield with boat attended – at scene approx. 40 mins after initial call – example of why relocating water rescue asset to Rochester are is needed (see item B2).
- Crews entered the water and conducted tethered swim rescue, recovered casualty and started CPR. Sadly, the individual was confirmed deceased.



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Type: Residential Building Fire

Location: Dover

Date: April

- Timber framed flats (16 flats damaged)
- Fire started in bin store and spread
- We used our fire survival guidance tool (PARS) to identify those at risk and manage the evacuation
- Firefighting tactics prioritised evacuation and defend in place for vulnerable occupants rather than 'chasing' the fire through the building
- 12 fire engines and 2 turntable ladders attended, along with other specialist assets. Attendance time of 1st pump = 5 mins 09 secs



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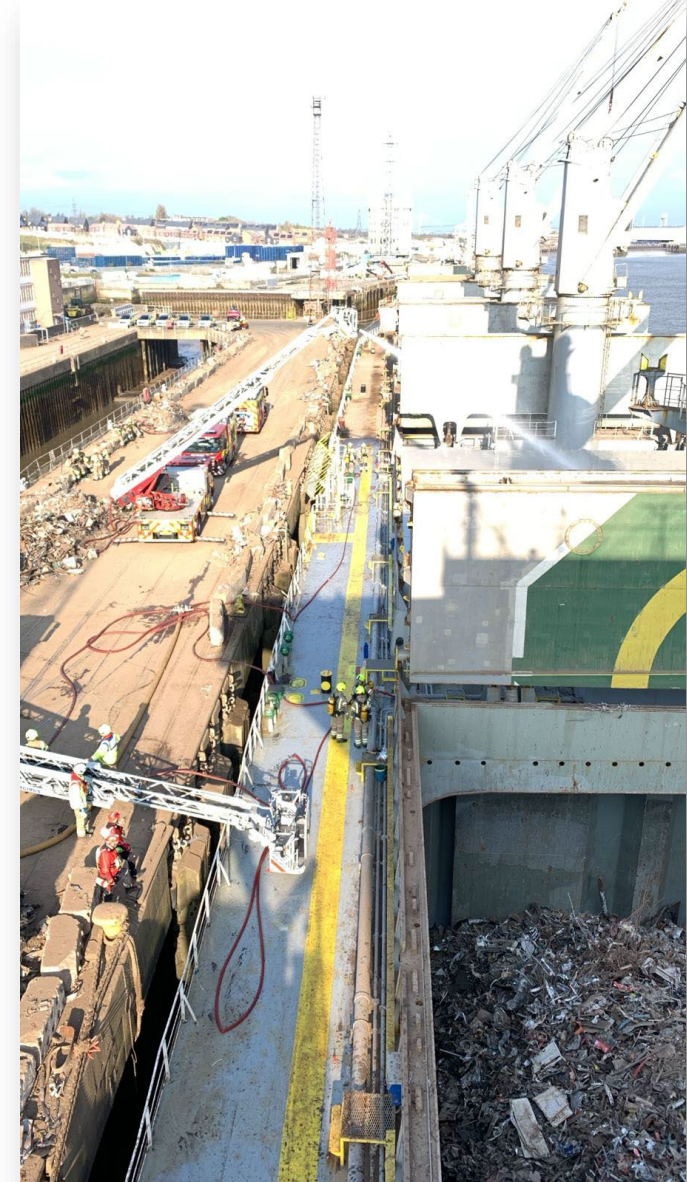
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Type: Ship fire

Location: Gravesend

Date: April

- Fire in waste on board bulk carrier ship alongside
- Crews boundary cooled
- 2000 tonnes of scrap metal offloaded
- Scrap extinguished on dockside
- Firefighting tugs attended
- Marine tactical advisors attended
- 10 fire engines, 2 turntable ladders
- Attendance time 7 mins 46 secs



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Type: Industrial building fire

Location: Charing

Date: May

- Premises used a scrap yard and workshops
- Difficult access and limited water supplies
- Used compressed air foam to:
 - limit spread
 - use water efficiently
- Cylinders were involved
- Deployed robot to reduce FF risk
- 10 fire engines, 2 bulk water carriers
- Attendance time 24 mins 28 secs – rural plan



Type: Scrap fire

Location: Gravesend

Date: May

- 20,000 tonnes of scrap metal
- Suspect fire started with lithium-ion battery
- Use of site plant to break up stack
- High volume pump supplied water from Thames
- Firefighting tug funded through site insurance
- 4 days of firefighting and monitoring
- Managed environmental impact
- Attendance time 7 mins 51 secs



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Building Safety prosecution

Miller Food & Wine, Maidstone



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Background to case

Alleged fire safety concern

An alleged fire safety concern was received regarding potential offences committed following an air conditioning unit being cut into a door which is in close proximity to the neighboring buildings, which include the 600 year old timber framed pub next door.

Premises details:

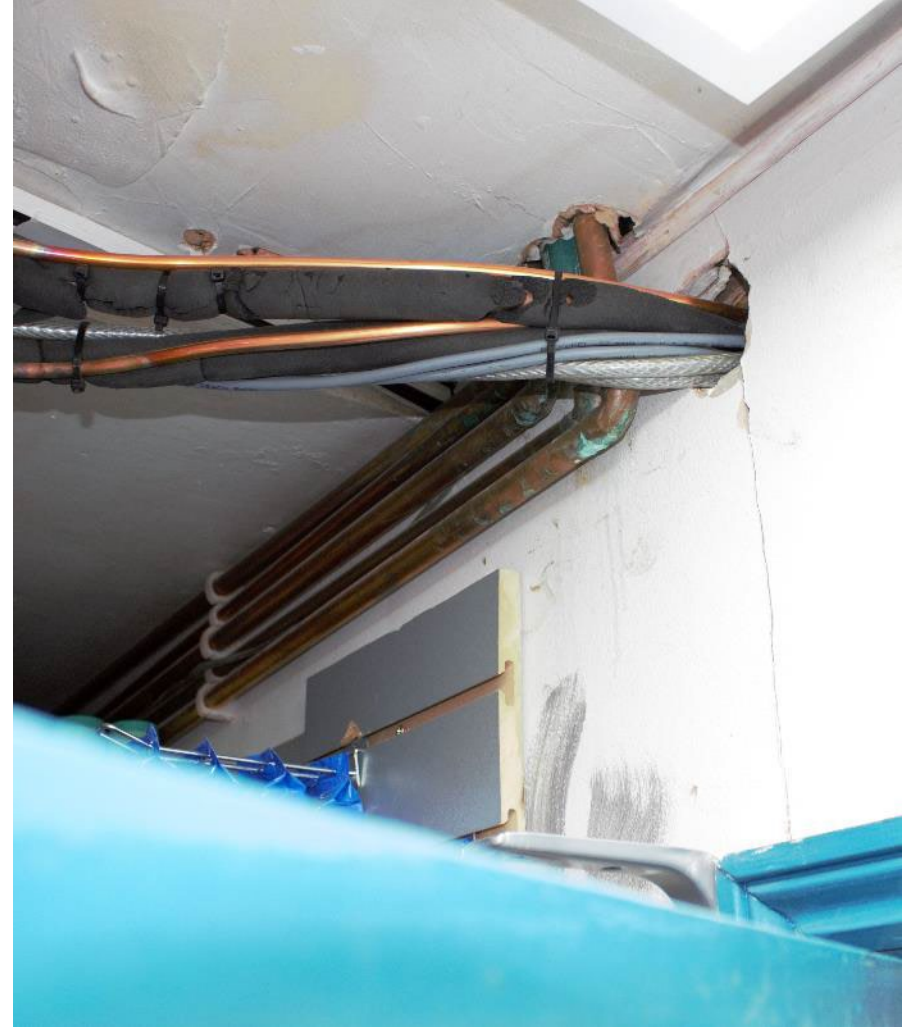
- A four-storey shop restaurant known as *Miller Food & Wine*.



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Pictures



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Notice served

- A Prohibition Notice was served on 18 March 2022.
- The notice restricted the use:
 - i. *The Basement, First Floor and Second Floor for the purposes of living and sleeping.*



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Concerns identified

10 Articles of the Fire Safety Order found to be deficient in which progressed the case to prosecution.

- Lack of sufficient detection throughout the basement, first and second floor of accommodation.
- Extended travel distance, lack of Fire Separation and compartmentation in the escape routes.
- Escape routes were compromised by storage and washing lines.
- Subsequently, Sleeping was still occurring on the upper floors on follow up visits, which the original Prohibition Notice restricted.



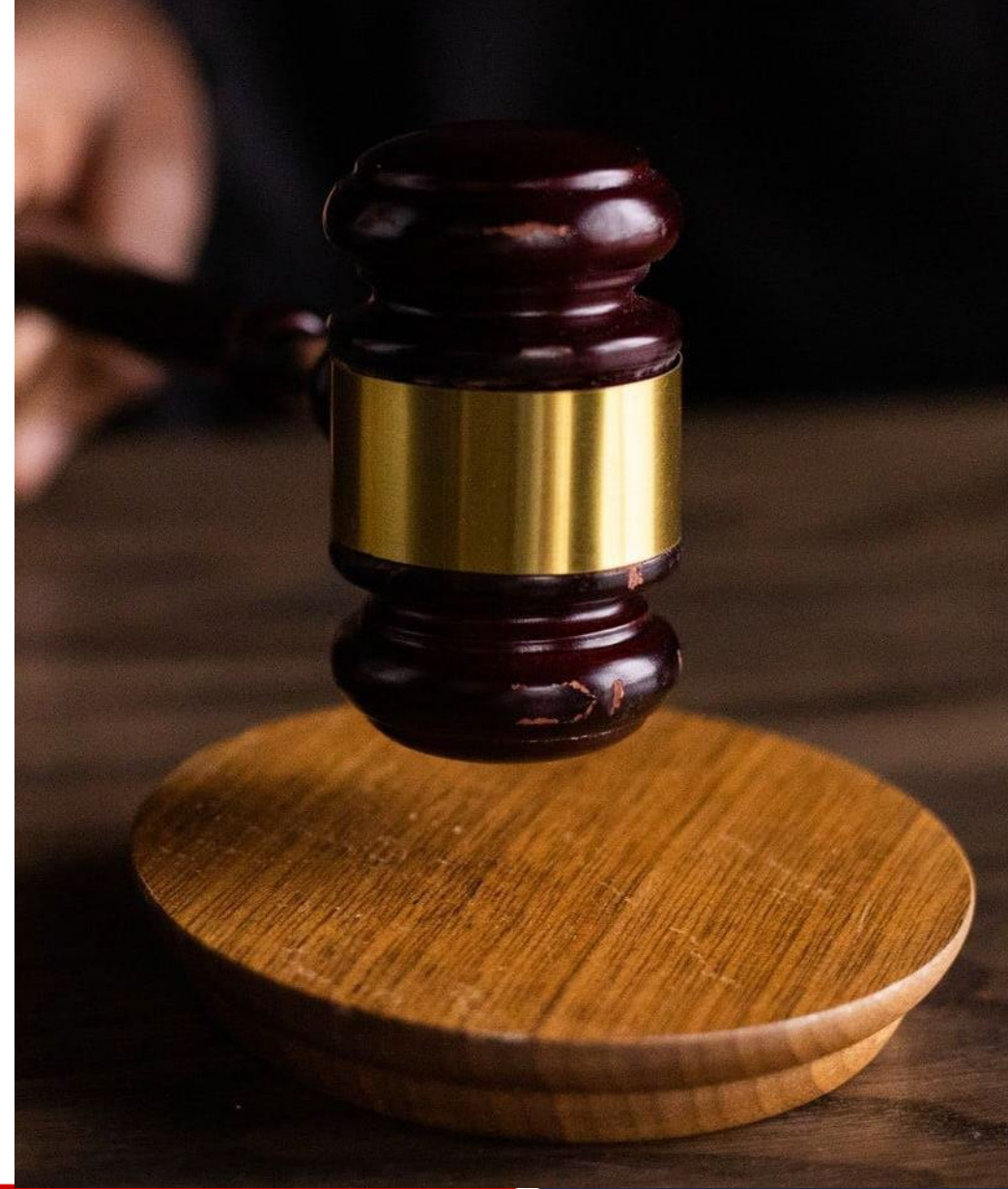
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Prosecution case

Ten offences against the Fire Safety Order taken to prosecution

- 22 April 2025 - Court proceedings ahead of sentencing hearing.
- The Responsible Person entered a guilty plea to all 10 offences with no alterations or negotiation.
- Sentencing and further outcomes will be provided to future Fire Authority meetings following the Sentencing hearing on the 17th June 2025



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