

Report LTCR-SS-04-14

To: Chair Burley and Members of the Social Services Committee
From: Lynne Johnson, Director of Long Term Care
Meeting Date: February 12, 2014
Subject: **Fire Safety**
Status: Recommendation adopted by Committee as presented per Resolution SSC21-14 February 12, 2014; Endorsed by County Council March 4, 2014 per Resolution CC38-14;

Recommendation(s)

THAT Report LTCR-SS-04-14 regarding Fire Safety be received for information.

Background

On Wednesday January 23, a tragic fire occurred in Quebec at a senior's home.

This report is to inform the committee on important aspects of fire safety protocols that are in place at Grey Gables, Lee Manor and Rockwood Terrace.

Protective Measures

The first part of our multi-faceted fire safety and evacuation plan is a sprinkler system which is in place at each of the homes. Grey Gables and Lee Manor have sprinklers located throughout the building(s) while Rockwood Terrace has them installed in all resident home areas which are located on the 2nd and 3rd levels of the home.

Additionally, any activation of heat and smoke detectors automatically alerts the fire department and the area of concern is identified on the addressable fire panel located in the home. Fire doors release when the fire alarm is activated and when closed, they provide a barrier to slow the spread of fire. Bedroom doors are also fire rated to provide additional protection against fire and smoke.

Fire plans are reviewed and revised annually and each home works with officials from the local fire departments to ensure that fire and emergency plans incorporate the most current safety tactics.

Training and Education

The education plan is reviewed, revised and practiced to keep all staff up-to-date on current protocols. Random fire drills take place every month on each shift. Debriefing occurs after each drill to ensure that staff understand their role and any noted deficiencies are addressed.

Financial / Staffing / Legal / Information Technology

Considerations

The care and safety of the residents, staff, visitors and volunteers is taken very seriously and extensive measures have been taken to ensure that our staff and volunteers are aware of emergency and evacuation plans.

Staffing is at the lowest level during the night shift and emergency plans take this into consideration. A goal in each of the homes, for 2014, is to enhance the drill procedure and education for night staff.

Link to Strategic Goals / Priorities

Goal 6 of the County of Grey Strategic Plan is “Achieving Excellence in Governance and Service”.

Staff play a large role in protecting and providing assistance to the vulnerable residents we care for. Regular fire and emergency prevention and management education is critical to ensuring safety. Strong effective infrastructure including fire rated doors, heat and smoke detectors with a direct link to the fire station and sprinkler systems are in place to further support the emergency management plan.

Attachments

None

Respectfully submitted by,

Lynne Johnson
Director of Long Term Care

