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Fire Safety Update – Overnights in Scout Dens

03/10/2018

Dear Scouter,

‘Smoke rises and when it reaches a certain temperature it burns’.

In August 2017 a number of complaints had been received by the Dublin Fire Brigade and some other fire authorities regarding the safety of young people sleeping overnight in Scout Dens/ meeting places. As a result, the Dublin Fire Brigade invited representatives from Scouting Ireland to a meeting with senior officers.

Following that meeting an instruction was issued by the National Secretary forbidding overnight sleepovers until the building was approved for such an activity. In addition the National Management Committee/ Board of Directors (NMC/BOD) agreed to engage the services of a firm of fire consultants to work with the Risk Management Advisory Team (RMAT) to develop fire safety guidelines.

A document entitled ‘Fire safety Guidelines for Scouting Ireland in Scout Dens and Meeting Places’ was prepared and submitted to the NMC/BOD for consideration at its meeting on 1st September 2018. The document was duly approved and authority given for it to be circulated to the organisation.

The Safety Advisory Committee (formerly called the Risk Management Advisory Team) is in the process of preparing explanatory notes so that all can understand their responsibilities and the supports available so that young people and adults can undertake den activities in safety. It is expected that these will be circulated shortly.

Reg. No. 397094
Charity No. CHY3507

PATRON Michael D. Higgins PRESIDENT OF IRELAND



Member of World Organisation of the Scout Movement

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