

# Specialist Estates Services Notification

## 24/07

**12<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

**For action by:**

Board Level Directors (Fire), NHS Health Boards and Trusts

**For information only:**

Chief Executives  
Estates/Facilities Directors and Managers, Fire Safety Managers,  
Fire Safety Advisors

Copy to: Head of Capital, Estates and Facilities, Department of Health and Social Care,  
Welsh Government.

Dear Colleague,

### **NHS ESTATE IN WALES - FIRE STATISTICS REPORT FIRE INCIDENTS AND UNWANTED FIRE SIGNALS 2023**

The attached report reviews the fire incidents and unwanted fire signals (UwFS) reported by the NHS Health Boards and Trusts in Wales, through the online Fire and UwFS Incident Reporting System, as mandated in WHC (2006) 74 and WHTM 05-03 Part H: Reducing false alarms in healthcare premises.

During the twelve-month period between 1st January 2023 and 31st December 2023, a total of 48 fire incidents and 1699 UwFS were reported. The number of reported fire incidents increased by 30%, likewise the number of UwFS increased by 11% compared with the previous year's figures.

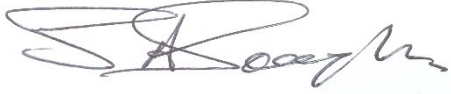
The most common causes of fire incidents, continue to be attributed to some form of electrical failure across the estate, followed by deliberate fire-raising mainly within the mental health sector. Whereas the predominant causes of UwFS include system related issues, manual call point activations and cooking related activities.

Accordingly, the report emphasises the necessity for NHS organisations to continue with their endeavours to mitigate these adverse incidents, following the recommendations made in the report.

The report is available from the Publications page of the NWSSP-SES intranet site and may be viewed [HERE](#).

Any enquiries on the content of this letter or the Fire and UwFS Incident Reporting System should be addressed to Rohan Megahey, Assistant Fire Safety Advisor  
[rohan.megahey@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:rohan.megahey@wales.nhs.uk)

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Douglas', written over a light blue horizontal line.

**Stuart Douglas BSc (Hons), PGDip, MRICS, MAPM**

**Director Specialist Estates Services**

**NWSSP Specialist Estates Services, 3rd Floor, Companies House, Crown Way, Cardiff CF14 3UB**