

County Administrative Board
Stockholm

Civil Contingencies Unit
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This document is a translation made by SHK of the original response in Swedish to the safety recommendation. In case of discrepancies between this translation and the Swedish original text, the Swedish text shall prevail in the interpretation of the response.

Notice of measures taken with reference to the recommendations issued in Final Report RO 2015:01.

The County Administrative Board in Stockholm has taken note of the Swedish Accident Investigation Authority's report RO 2015:1 and the proposals addressed to the County Administrative Board in Stockholm. The Swedish Accident Investigation Authority requests information on the measures that have been taken with reference to the following recommendations in the report mentioned in the heading above.

The County Administrative Board in Stockholm is recommended to:

1.

Take the necessary measures to ensure the reliability in the cases where municipal emergency services use multiple alarm / control centres for alerting the same rescue units (RO 2015:01 R5).

2.

Investigate and determine whether the rescue service in Norrtälje has implemented procedures for and are in practice working with, inter alia, tactical movements in the manner reported in the impact assessment conducted at the time of the decommission of the part-time fire department in Norrtälje (RO 2015:01 R6).

The County Administrative Board in Stockholm has previously given attention to the problems that the Swedish Accident Investigation Authority points to in its report. The County Administrative Board conducted supervisory visits in Norrtälje municipality by virtue of Chapter 5, Section 1 LSO on 16 October and 3 November 2014. In conjunction with supervision in Norrtälje, particular weight was attached to reporting and follow-up of the fire at Textes HVB-hem in Norrtälje. Upon this supervision, it was the understanding of the County Administrative Board that responsibilities and tasks were not so clearly defined as to enable them to receive explicit feedback on implemented measures. One example was proposals on measures to secure alarm and control as two control centres are involved. At the time of supervision, measures had been taken, but the description of some parts was perceived by the County Administrative Board to be unclear. For this reason, the County Administrative Board recommended to the municipality that measures should be taken to specify responsibilities and tasks so that they may receive more explicit feedback on which measures have been implemented.

By virtue of Chapter 5, Section 1 LSO, the County Administrative Board in Stockholm has also conducted supervisory visits to Södertörn Fire & Rescue Services on 25 November and 22 December 2015. At Södertörn Fire & Rescue Services too, particular importance was accorded to the reporting and follow-up of the fire at Textes HVB-hem in Norrtälje. Furthermore, following supervision at Södertörn Fire & Rescue Services, the County Administrative Board has recommended that the Services should clearly define responsibilities and tasks in order to be able to receive explicit feedback on implemented measures.

During both instances of supervision, the County Administrative Board received assurance that measures had been taken and that it had been ensured that problems similar to those in the fire at Textes, from an alarm perspective and control perspective, will not occur again. After the fire, a number of meetings, new instructions, exercises and training have been implemented. Following completion of supervision, meetings have been held with both of the rescue services and also with the Greater Stockholm Fire Brigade in order to follow up and ensure reliability. After the summer, a follow-up meeting will take place at Södertörn Fire & Rescue Services to further follow up measures implemented during the spring-summer period in order to obtain even greater safety and automation of alarm and control. The County Administrative Board in Stockholm has obtained in writing views from the rescue service in Norrtälje regarding the matter above.

Upon supervision in Norrtälje, the County Administrative Board took up the level of preparedness for further alarms during ongoing operations. It is the understanding of the County Administrative Board that both Norrtälje municipality, the Greater Stockholm Fire Brigade and Södertörn Fire & Rescue Services have well-developed procedures and instructions for ongoing operations. Norrtälje municipality has implemented procedures for managing further alarms during ongoing operations. Regarding the previous proposals reported by Norrtälje, among other places reported in the impact assessment conducted at the time of the decommissioning of the part-time fire department in Norrtälje, it may be noted that Norrtälje is actively working on proposals two and three since greater safety is experienced with these alternatives.

The County Administrative Board will carry out a follow-up meeting of the previously conducted supervision and have dialogue on measures that have been taken and that are intended to be taken on the basis of the conducted supervision and the Swedish Accident Investigation Authority's final report.

Summary

The County Administrative Board in Stockholm notes that measures have been taken and that further measures will be taken in order to ensure the reliability of alarm and control as multiple control centres are involved.

The County Administrative Board in Stockholm is of the opinion that the rescue service in Norrtälje is actively working with tactical movements in order to achieve a good level of preparedness for further alarms during ongoing operations.

The County Administrative Board will, in its continued supervisory activities, follow up the matters of a reasonable level of preparedness during ongoing operations and an effective alarm and control organisation.

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