

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

Assessment of the responses to SHK's recommendations in Final Report RO 2015:01

Background

On 26 January 2015, the Swedish Accident Investigation Authority (SHK) published Final Report RO 2015:01 concerning a fire at Textes HVB-hem in Norrtälje, Stockholm County, on 27 August 2013. The report issued recommendations to the Health and Social Care Inspectorate (IVO), the National Board of Health and Welfare, the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB) and the County Administrative Board in Stockholm.

All these authorities have submitted responses to the recommendations, see [Appendices 1-4](#).

IVO

IVO was recommended to develop procedures to ensure that the facilities are also deemed safe from a fire safety perspective, when authorising and supervising HVB homes. (RO 2015:01 R1)

SHK is able to note that IVO and SHK have differing understandings as regards the central question of how the word "safety" in the Social Services Act (2001:453) is to be interpreted and what is included in the concept. SHK's analysis and understanding as regards this question are stated in the final report (Sections 2.6 and 2.7). As IVO does not consider it part of its task when authorising and supervising to ensure that HVB homes are safe from a fire safety perspective, the recommendation cannot be considered implemented.

National Board of Health and Welfare

The National Board of Health and Welfare was recommended to investigate and consider the need for clarification through regulations or general advice to ensure that authorisation is not granted and that facilities do not commence operations before the fire safety protection has been deemed adequate for the particular target group concerned, and clarify the scope of supervision under the Social Services Act (RO 2015:01 R2).

The National Board of Health and Welfare's response is somewhat scant, and it is difficult to attain a sure understanding of what is meant by the statement that the matter will be prepared in the internal process for issues related to the form of facilities in question. However, it is possible to note that the Board has otherwise no views on the proposals or material. For this reason, SHK interprets the response as meaning that the issue will be considered in the preparation of the matter. The recommendation may therefore be considered implemented.

MSB

MSB was recommended, from a fire service operation and working environment point of view, to clarify the conditions, necessary planning and training for emergency response procedures where the fire brigade use portable ladders as the only possibility for rescue in the event of a fire and the distressed person is unable to climb down the ladder (RO 2015:01 R3).

MSB has stated, inter alia, that it will compile experiences from ladder rescues during fires, produce typical scenarios for ladder rescues and develop recommendations for the selection of tactics and methods and for risk assessment for this type of lifesaving measure. SHK assesses the recommendation to be implemented.

MSB was also recommended to follow up on the efforts made to implement the approach outlined in the MSB's supervisory guidance "Kommunal tillsyn enligt lagen om skydd mot olyckor" has been effective in the supervising municipal organisations and thus contributed to improved fire prevention in nursing and care homes (RO 2015:01 R4).

MSB has stated, inter alia, that the work of implementation needs to continue before it is deemed effective to follow up the effects of the working method in the municipalities. Two main activities are planned for implementation in 2015. In 2016, MSB will follow up and evaluate how and to what extent continued support should be designed. A follow-up of the outcome of this work will be subsequently carried out in collaboration with the county administrative boards. SHK assesses the recommendation to be implemented.

County Administrative Board in Stockholm

The County Administrative Board in Stockholm was recommended to 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).

The County Administrative Board in Stockholm was also recommended to investigate and determine whether the rescue service in Norrtälje has implemented procedures and is in practice working with, inter alia, tactical movements in as the manner reported in the impact assessment which was conducted at the time of the decommission of the part-time fire department in Norrtälje (RO 2015:01 R6).

The response of the County Administrative Board states that several supervisory visits have been made to the rescue services within the county and that these visits

have discussed the areas that SHK's recommendations have in view. These supervisory visits will also be followed up. Against this background, SHK's assessment is that the recommendations may be considered implemented.

[signature]

Mikael Karanikas
Chair Accident Investigations

Recipients

Health and Social Care Inspectorate
National Board of Health and Welfare (Ref. no. 1881/2015-1)
Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (Ref. no. 2013-4108)
County Administrative Board in Stockholm (Ref. no. 456-27466-2013)

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