

64345 Fire at Debenhams on Princes Street

I would like some information concerning the fire at Debenhams on Princes Street and associated matters.

What was the cause of the fire?

This information is not recorded by The City of Edinburgh Council. If known, this may be recorded by either the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service or Police Scotland.

Whose insurance policy will pay for the damage resulting from the fire?

As above, this information is not held by The City of Edinburgh Council, however, once make safe works are complete, the relevant owners will be issued with a Dangerous Building Notice in accordance with The Building (Scotland) Act 2003. Owners will be charged expenses reasonably incurred by the Council in carrying out the emergency works.

There were some short-term shops on the ground floor. What checks were carried out by Edinburgh council regarding their fire safety policies and procedures?

Building Standards carried had carried out a site visit to these properties and were in discussions with the relevant parties. Building Standards can only act within the ambit of the legislation which governs it and in its capacity as a regulator. It cannot act in matters (including fire safety policies and procedures) out with Building Standards regulations.