

FIRE AT SAWAS HOUSE – PINELANDS

A fire broke out at SAWAS House in Pinelands at around 22h30 on Tuesday, January 20 but thanks to the swift action of the nurse on duty, residents, the police, the fire brigade and the community, everyone was evacuated.

Six residents were hospitalized for smoke inhalation; five were released the following day and transferred to our Health Care facility in Constantiaberg. The sixth resident, Mrs Fish (84), was more severely affected and remains in hospital in a stable condition, she is expected to be discharged within the couple of days.

A total of 19 rooms have been damaged by the fire and we have made alternative accommodation arrangements for Residents at our other complexes. In addition, counseling has been made available to Residents, their families and community members.

The mopping up operation is going to take some time but already plans are in place for a clean up, followed by repairs to SAWAS House.

At this stage the exact cause of the fire is not known and we await the results of the forensic audit being conducted by the Fire Department. Once the report is available we will determine what additional measures, if any, need to be implemented.

The safety of our residents is, and always will be, a priority and it is for this reason that we regularly conduct independent audits on our evacuation procedures and equipment and also carry out fire drills.

We wish like to thank everyone for the swift action taken on Tuesday, January 20, it was a very traumatic experience for all concerned and we are pleased that all residents were safely evacuated.

Chris Mathias
Managing Director