



Date: 30 October 2025

Dear Resident,

We are writing to update you on the serious fire at Factory Road, Northfleet, and the work of a range of services to respond to the incident.

We have been sharing updates for our residents on our social media channels, via email and our website but as a directly affected resident we wanted to write to you about the latest situation and work to make the area safe.

Clearance work has gone well overnight, with all large items of debris removed from Factory Road. This phase of work has now been completed. The team will now focus on Lawn Road Primary School and the family hub in preparation for reopening.

Following the successful clear up and reassuring air quality monitoring results the advice to stay indoors has now been lifted. However, if you find any debris from the fire, do not touch it and report it to us here at Gravesham Council on 01474 337000.

Specialists will be reviewing the situation and identifying whether additional checks to some houses and gardens are needed. If that is the case, you will be visited by the team who will explain more.

While work continues to ensure the safety of the fire-damaged building, Factory Road and part of Northfleet High Street will remain closed until further notice. Debris has been removed from affected cars but as a precaution you should contact your insurer before driving for advice in case of damage which may not always be visible.

Rest assured that air testing has been taking place from before the works started and throughout the clearance process. Given that clean-up is almost complete, and all visible contamination removed, the overall risk to you is very low. The monitoring results provide assurance that no significant levels of asbestos can be detected in the air.

We will provide further updates as we have them on our website [Portland's fire updates – Gravesham Borough Council](#) and via social media.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.