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**Ref: L24/2017 - Scout Den/Meeting Place Fire Safety Notice**

25<sup>th</sup> August 2017

Dear Group Leader,

I write to inform you that Scouting Ireland have been advised by Dublin Fire Brigade (DFB), that the holding of “sleepovers” inside of Scout Dens / Meeting Places is to cease with immediate effect, unless the Den / Meeting Place in question has a current fire certificate that allows for a “sleeping risk”.

Scouting Ireland always places the safety of its members as its highest priority. Therefore, it is not permitted that “sleepovers” take place in any Scout Den / Meeting Place of any Scouting Ireland Scout Group unless such is appropriately certified for doing so. I know this action may require that programme plans will require to be changed, but as an organisation Scouting Ireland, nor I as your National Secretary, cannot ignore this advice from such a statutory authority.

The reason for extending this matter to all Scout Groups in Scouting Ireland is that it is likely that other Fire Brigades will be examining this matter, in each of their respective operational areas in the coming period and may issue such advice also.

The National Management Committee (NMC) will discuss this matter at their next meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> of September.

Scouting Ireland is currently working with Dublin Fire Brigade to develop a fire safety programme for Scout Dens / Meeting Places and will, in the next period, be in communication with you in respect of same.

In the interim, if you have any questions on the above, please do not hesitate to contact me by email to [natsecretary@scouts.ie](mailto:natsecretary@scouts.ie).

Yours in Scouting

**Charles McGuinness**  
National Secretary

CC:

Group Leaders  
County Commissioners  
Programme Commissioners  
Training Commissioner  
Risk Management Advisory Team  
Audit & Risk Management Committee  
National Management Committee

Reg. No. 397094  
Charity No. CHY3507

PATRON Michael D. Higgins PRESIDENT OF IRELAND



Member of World Organisation of the Scout Movement

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