# FIRE SAFETY ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS (JANUARY – DECEMBER 2015)

#### Number of Enforcement Checks Increased by 16.3%

SCDF conducted 16,165 enforcement checks in 2015. This was an increase of 2,262 checks (16.3%) from the 13,903 checks conducted in 2014 (<u>Chart C1</u>). The rise in the number of checks is attributed to an increase in surprise enforcement checks conducted by SCDF as well as public feedback. As a result of these checks, SCDF issued 3,748 Notice of Fire Safety Offences (NFSOs) and 3,149 Fire Hazard Abatement Notices (FHANs).

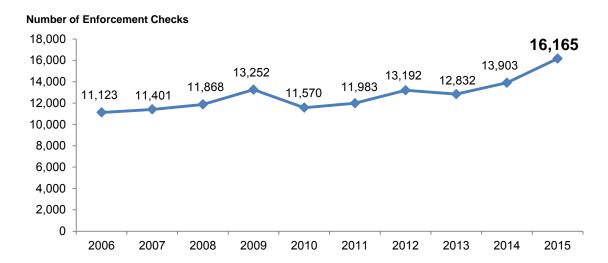


Chart C1: Number of Enforcement Checks Conducted (2006 - 2015)

## **Notice of Fire Safety Offence (NFSO)**

2. 3,748 NFSOs were issued in 2015. This was an increase of 679 notices (22.1%) from the 3,069 NFSOs issued in 2014. The most common fire safety violation is the unauthorised change of use of premises, which accounted for 50% of the total NFSOs issued in 2015. (Chart C2). SCDF views such violations seriously and will continue to step up its efforts to reach out to companies to reduce the number of such violations.

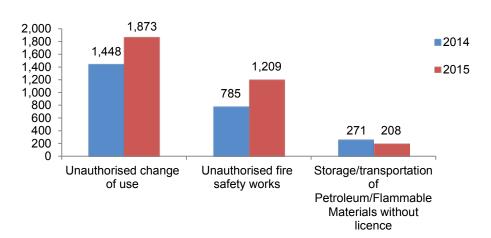


Chart C2: Breakdown of NFSOs (top three types of offences)

- 3. 91 cases of fire safety violations were brought to court in 2015. This was an increase of 21 cases (30%) compared to 2014. The top two offences included unauthorised change of use (57.1%) and unauthorised fire safety works (26.4%) (Chart C3).
- 4. SCDF views the violation of fire safety requirements seriously and will not hesitate to take firm action against those who do not make prompt rectifications despite warnings and fines. SCDF's enforcement powers against fire safety offenders are listed at <u>Annex A.</u>

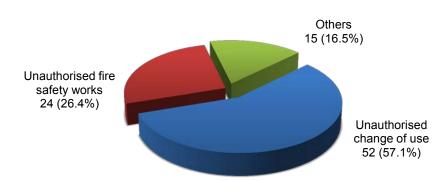


Chart C3: Court Prosecution Charges

# **Fire Hazard Abatement Notice (FHAN)**

5. SCDF issued 3,149 FHANs in 2015; this was 199 (5.9%) fewer FHANs compared to 2014. The most common violation relates to exit signs not being illuminated (20.7%) (<u>Chart C4</u>).

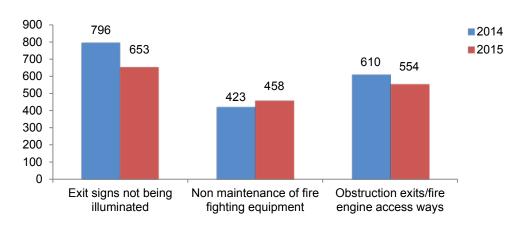


Chart C4: Breakdown of FHANs issued (top three types)

### Fire Safety Feedback

6. Members of the public who encounter any fire hazard are encouraged to report to SCDF directly. The public can submit photos and a brief description of the fire hazard using the *mySCDF* mobile application which can be downloaded from the Apple and Android App stores. They can also call the fire hazard reporting line at 1800-280-0000 or email <a href="mailto:SCDF">SCDF</a> Fire Safety Feedback@scdf.gov.sg.

# SCDF's Enforcement Powers against Fire Safety Offenders

Enforcement Action	Description
Fire Hazard Abatement Notice (FHAN)	Under the Fire Safety Act, the FHAN is a warning given to building owners and management to remove fire hazards. One of the most common fire hazards are obstructed exits.
Notice of Composition (NOC)	Offenders who fail to rectify the violations after being issued with FHANs will be served with an NOC of up to \$5,000.
Notice of Fire Safety Offence (NFSO)	An NFSO is issued when the contravention is of a serious nature which warrants a heavier penalty, e.g. unauthorised works that may pose fire safety risks. It carries a composition fine of up to \$5,000.
Court Action	Court action will be taken for serious cases. For general fire safety violations, the maximum penalty can be up t o \$10,000 and/or jail term not exceeding 6 months.
	For carrying out unauthorised fire safety works, the person responsible (eg. owner, building management, MCST <sup>8</sup> ) can be fined up to \$200,000 and/or jailed for a term not exceeding 24 months.
	In extreme cases, SCDF can exercise its powers to require a temporary closure of the premises.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Management Corporation Strata Title (MCST) refers to the managing body of a condominium or any compound which has multiple owners and shared public facilities.