

NATIONAL TRUST FOR SCOTLAND MEDIA RELEASE

19 February 2018

Minor electrical fire safely extinguished at Mar Lodge

A small electrical fire has been extinguished at the National Trust for Scotland's Mar Lodge Estate near Braemar early this morning (19 February).

The fire alarms in Mar Lodge were activated at approximately 0100hrs drawing an immediate response from on-call NTS staff.

They discovered a significant amount of smoke in the front hall of the building and evacuated all guests (around 20), as well as other staff and their families, who were resident at the time. They were given shelter in the nearby Stable Block while the Scottish Fire Service attended the incident.

Firefighters traced the source of the smoke to a faulty light fitting in the front hall. They isolated this fitting and ventilated the building, after which guests were allowed to return.

There was no significant damage to the building beyond the light fitting itself.

Mar Lodge Estate's Operations Manager David Frew said:

"The fire was small and the quick actions of our staff and the Scottish Fire Service ensured there was no danger of it spreading.

"We are very grateful indeed for their promptness and professionalism, as well as the good humour and forbearance of our guests.

"As to the cause of the minor fire, we will investigate the matter thoroughly. Our electrical systems were only just recently inspected and found to meet all required standards and we need to determine exactly what has happened and take steps to ensure there is no repetition."

- ENDS -

