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Massive Blaze Engulfs Erith Industrial Estate in South London

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— Categories: Real Estate



A ferocious fire tore through an industrial estate on Maypole Crescent in Erith, south-east London, late on Friday night, leaving widespread destruction and a plume of smoke visible across the area. The inferno, which consumed a scrap yard warehouse, three diggers, and numerous vehicles, required a monumental effort from the London Fire Brigade to bring it under control.

The estate, home to approximately 20 businesses including garages, repair shops, and recycling centres, was ravaged as flames illuminated the night sky. The fire was first

reported shortly before 22:47, prompting the deployment of 25 fire engines and around 150 firefighters; it continued through the night and was largely under control by around 04:00 the following morning.

Residents were advised to keep windows and doors closed due to the heavy smoke spreading across the area; there is no specific reporting on unusually high heat at the time. Two 32-metre turntable ladders were deployed, along with a fire boat equipped with remote-operated water monitors capable of pumping 2,500 litres per minute to help fight the fire from the Thames.

The cause of the fire remains under investigation, with authorities working to determine what sparked the devastating blaze. This occurred while the London Fire Brigade had issued warnings about increased wildfire risk during hot and dry conditions, although a specific recent interview isn't referenced in available reports.

Deputy Assistant Commissioner Jamie Jenkins cautioned, "Despite recent rainfall, the risk of wildfires in London is currently severe. Dry conditions mean a single spark can lead to rapid fire spread, particularly dangerous in a city where green spaces sit close to homes and businesses."

Jenkins also reminded Londoners to act responsibly, noting that disposable barbecues are banned in many parks and urging proper disposal of cigarettes to prevent similar incidents.

As the investigation continues, the incident serves as a sobering reminder of the fragility of urban safety during extreme weather.

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