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07 Jul 2015

- · Storage building and contents destroyed in fire
- · National Grid and Balfour Beatty step in
- · New unit built and stocked with toys

Two local companies came to the rescue when Hindsford Primary School in Atherton was attacked by vandals who set fire to a storage building used by the school's wrap-around care club, destroying all its contents.

National Grid and Balfour Beatty who share offices in Worsley and work in partnership to carry out gas mains replacement in the North West heard about the fire and soon organised an emergency delivery of toys to replace those lost in the blaze.

The fire happened in the run-up to Christmas and the care club lost all its toys, games and sports equipment in addition to Christmas tree, decorations and nativity costumes which were also stored in the building.

Pauline Wells, Hindsford Wrap Around Care Manager said: "We're really grateful to National Grid and Balfour Beatty for helping us and contacting other companies to collect donations to replace the Hindsford Wrap Around Care storage unit after it was completely destroyed by vandals. We were also able to replace some of the equipment and also buy items that the children had asked for on a wish list."

Stephen Murray, National Grid's Head of Contract said: "The school is quite close to our offices in Worsley and when we heard about the fire, our employees wanted to help out. The first thing we did was organise a collection of toys and games for the school. Then we raised funds for a new storage unit and helped the school choose the one they wanted before our staff moved in to put it up.

"We are doing essential gas mains replacement work in the local area and so thought that this was a great opportunity to show that we do care about the people and places that our gas network serves."

Contact for media information only

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Notes for editors

Notes to Editors:

National Grid is pivotal to the energy systems in the UK and the north eastern United States. We aim to serve customers well and efficiently, supporting the communities in which we operate and making possible the energy systems of the future.

National Grid in the UK:

- We own and operate the electricity transmission network in England and Wales, with day-to-day responsibility for balancing supply and demand. We also operate, but do not own, the Scottish networks. Our networks comprise approximately 7,200 kilometres (4,474 miles) of overhead line, 1,500 kilometres (932 miles) of underground cable and 342 substations.
- We own and operate the gas National Transmission System in Great Britain, with day-to-day responsibility for balancing supply and demand. Our network comprises approximately 7,660 kilometres (4,760 miles) of high-pressure pipe and 618 above-ground installations.
- As Great Britain's System Operator (SO) we make sure gas and electricity is transported safely and efficiently from where it is produced to where it is
 consumed. From April 2019, Electricity System Operator (ESO) is a new standalone business within National Grid, legally separate from all other
 parts of the National Grid Group. This will provide the right environment to deliver a balanced and impartial ESO that can realise real benefits for
 consumers as we transition to a more decentralised, decarbonised electricity system.
- Other UK activities mainly relate to businesses operating in competitive markets outside of our core regulated businesses; including interconnectors,
 gas metering activities and a liquefied natural gas (LNG) importation terminal all of which are now part of National Grid Ventures. National Grid
 Property is responsible for the management, clean-up and disposal of surplus sites in the UK. Most of these are former gas works.

Find out more about the energy challenge and how National Grid is helping find solutions to some of the challenges we face at https://www.nationalgrid.com/group/news

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