

## **6 double-decker buses destroyed in early morning fire**

Singapore - Residents of Ang Mo Kio estate reported being awoken by three to four thunderous 'explosions' in the early hours of Sunday morning.

At 3.30 am, six double-decker buses at Ang Mo Kio Bus Depot caught fire.

Residents from the nearby high-rise housing estate reported seeing large smoke fumes rising from the area as well as a 'smoky' smell coming from the area.

The bus depot located at Ang Mo Kio Street 63, is within walking distance of Nanyang Polytechnic, Yio Chu Kang sports stadium, as well as Ang Mo Kio Fire Station.

According to the Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF), it received a call alerting them of buses on fire at the SBS Transit Bus Depot at 3.33 am, and dispatched its resources within three minutes of being informed.

Two fire engines, one Red Rhino and one supporting vehicle, with approximately 20 personnel resources, were sent.

Fortunately, there was no casualties and the fire was brought under control within 30 minutes of the arrival of SCDF.

Bus captains who started arriving for work at around 4.15 am were initially stopped from entering the scene.

They were quickly cleared for entry as there were buses to be removed as precautionary measures.

There could be up to 500 buses parked within the depot.

The first bus left the premises around 4.40am.

"Fire was confined to the six double decked buses in the open area. The cause of the fire is being investigated," says SCDF.

## **SBS Transit to redeploy buses to minimise inconvenience to commuters**

In response to queries made by AsiaOne, Ms Tammy Tan, SBS Transit's senior vice-president, corporate communications, said:

"We are assisting the police and SCDF who are investigating the cause of the fire.

"We thank the SCDF for their quick response which helped confine the fire to six buses.

"The loss of the buses will have some impact on our operations but we will try to minimise inconvenience to commuters by redeploying buses where we can."

