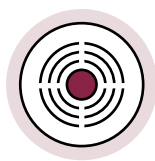


Home fire safety advice

Smoke alarms



- A fire can start anywhere in your home, and the easiest way to protect you and your family is to have working smoke alarms fitted. Smoke alarms provide an early warning of a fire and give you time to make your escape
- It's important to ensure smoke alarms are fitted in the right place, and you should always follow the manufacturer's fitting instructions
- Make sure you have a working smoke alarm in your main circulation area hallway/landing; if not, fit one as soon as possible
- To fully protect you and your family, it is recommended that smoke alarms are also fitted in the lounge and a heat alarm is fitted in your kitchen
- If your flat is on more than one level, you should fit smoke alarms on every level
- Test your smoke alarms monthly
- Never cover your alarms, and never disconnect or remove the batteries from your alarms

Stop fires from happening

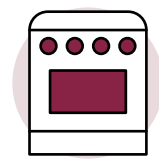
By taking a few simple steps, you can stop fires from happening in your home.

Smoking:



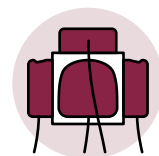
- Ideally, smoke outside in fresh air, clear of the building, and dispose of cigarettes safely
- Do not smoke in bed or anywhere you could fall asleep
- Make sure cigarettes are put out properly and use a proper ashtray
- Keep matches and lighters out of reach and sight of children
- If you use e-cigarettes, follow the manufacturer's instructions and use the correct charger

Cooking:



- Never leave pans unattended when cooking
- Never overfill chip pans. Never throw water on a chip pan fire; you should turn off the heat and close the door to the kitchen
- Never leave children alone in the kitchen whilst cooking

Electrics:



- Never overload electrical sockets
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions when using extension cables
- Do not leave items on continuous charge
- Turn off electrical appliances when not in use, and don't leave them on standby
- Follow safety guidance issued on product recalls, such as tumble dryers, washing machines, fridges, freezers, and other appliances
- Regularly remove fluff from tumble dryers

Candles:



- Candles, tea lights and incense burners should only be placed in stable, heat resistant holders
- Keep them clear of any materials that may catch fire, such as curtains, fabrics, furniture and clothes
- Never leave children alone with lit candles

Heating:



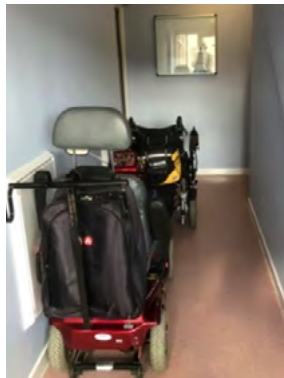
- Keep portable heaters well away from anything that can catch alight, such as furniture and bedding
- Never use damaged or defective heaters, and always follow the manufacturer's safety advice

Housekeeping:

- Never leave rubbish, waste or any belongings in the common stairways or corridors; this could affect you and your neighbour's safety

Stay safe when you go to bed

- Close all doors, as this helps to prevent fire and smoke spreading
- Switch off and unplug electrical appliances, such as TVs
- Check that cookers and heaters are turned off
- Make sure candles and tea lights are extinguished
- Avoid charging mobile phones, e-cigarettes, etc. overnight
- Don't store or charge mobility scooters on the only route out of your flat, such as the hallway. Overnight, scooters should be kept in a separate room, such as the lounge or a second bedroom



What to do in the event of a fire in your own flat

- Make an escape plan, be prepared, don't wait until it happens, and make sure everyone knows how to get out safely
- Always make sure doors and any escape windows can be easily opened in an emergency. Make sure any keys are available and kept where everyone can find them
- Don't store combustible materials in hallways, landings or balconies which could obstruct your escape

- If your smoke alarms operate or you discover a fire, follow your escape plan
- Close the door of the room where the fire is
- Make sure everyone is alerted and leave the building as quickly as possible
- Make sure your flat entrance door is closed behind you
- Make your way out of the building
- Call the fire and rescue service by dialing 999 or 112. Give them your address and flat number and wait until they confirm this back to you

What to do in the event of a fire in another flat or other part of the building (where a 'stay put' policy is in force)

- Your building is designed and constructed to restrict the spread of fire. Therefore, a fire should not spread from one flat to another. Stairways and corridors are also constructed of fire-resisting materials, which makes them safe to use in the event of a fire elsewhere in the building
- If you become aware of a fire in another flat or elsewhere in the building, you should be safe to remain in your flat while the fire and rescue service deal with the fire
- However, you should always leave your flat if it becomes affected by smoke or fire, and if told to leave by the fire and rescue service. If you are in any doubt and feel unsafe in your flat, and it's safe to use the common escape stairway, you should make your way out of the building
- If you are in the common parts of the building and you become aware of a fire, leave the building immediately and phone the fire and rescue service