



Fire Safety Guide



Fire Safety in High Rise Blocks

What can you do in your home?

8 simple steps

- Make sure you test your smoke alarm on a regular basis. If you are a tenant, please let us know if it needs replacing
- Have a safety check on your gas boiler every year – make sure you provide access to your home when your safety check is due. You will be contacted in advance by our Gas Contractor
- Think about how old your gas and electrical appliances are, and where they are positioned – if you are not sure all your appliances are safe, please contact us to get expert advice
- Do not overload electrical wall sockets
- Keep internal doors closed to stop the spread of smoke and fire
- Do not use or store petroleum spirit (petrol, diesel or paraffin) or liquid propane gas cylinders in your home
- Have a plan in case your home is involved in a fire and make sure everyone in your family knows what the plan is
- Make sure your escape routes are kept clear of obstacles

What will we do in your building?

As part of our regular maintenance work we do daily, monthly and annual checks on high rise housing to make sure that the appropriate fire prevention and safety measures are in place.

Checks we include:

- Daily checks to identify and remove any items which could block a fire escape route (including bulk rubbish)
- Monthly checks to ensure that all communal doors are in full working order and that they are fitted with a smoke seal strip to provide a barrier against fire, smoke and hot gases
- Annual checks on all smoke detection equipment
- Annual Fire Risk Assessments in every building

Communal areas are our responsibility. However, your help is extremely important in maintaining a safe environment for everybody. Please immediately report anything in your building which might be a fire risk.

Dealing with a fire

It is important to have a plan in case your home is involved in a fire, so that everyone in your family knows what to do. Make sure you take the time to discuss your emergency plan with your family before a fire happens – don't wait until it's too late!

What to do

If you have a fire in your flat

A working smoke alarm should alert you to the fire.

Don't open doors looking for the source of the fire.

Alert everyone else and leave the flat, closing the door behind you.

Don't try to save personal items, your life is more important.

Use only the designated fire escape route and exits for the building.

Once you are out of the building and in safety, dial 999 and ask for the Fire Service.

Never go back into the building until you have been told it is safe to do so.

If there is a fire somewhere in the block of flats or apartments

- The safest option may be to remain in your flat with your doors closed. You can open windows for fresh air and to attract attention to yourself
- If your flat becomes affected by smoke or fire, leave at once and close windows and doors behind you
- Use only designated escape routes and not lifts
- If you have to move through smoke keep as close the floor as possible where the air will be clearer.

Remember:

- Get out
- Stay out
- Never use a lift
- Do not try to fight the fire yourself
- Call 999 from any phone.

To help us in a fire emergency and evacuation, please tell us whenever there are changes to who is living in your flat, so that we know how many people are living in each building.



Contacts

London Fire Brigade

Visit your local fire station who can provide advice on fire risks
Call freephone 08000 28 44 28
Visit www.london-fire.gov.uk

Brent Housing Partnership

Contact us:
Brent Housing Partnership
Brent Civic Centre
Engineers Way
Wembley
HA9 0FJ
020 8937 2400
www.bhphousing.co.uk

