



Fire Safety

SUMMARY

This explains some general guidance about fire safety that applies to all blocks of flats.

MOST FIRES IN BLOCKS OF FLATS START WITHIN THE FLATS

- Electrical faults for example from overloaded sockets are the most common cause.
- Cigarettes that have not been put out properly.
- Chip and frying pan fires are caused when someone forgets to turn off the gas.
- Fragranced candles are popular but make sure they are extinguished when leaving a room.

FRONT DOORS OF FLATS

Most fires in blocks of flats start within a flat not in the common parts. There is a high degree of compartmentation between each flat and between flats and the common parts. Each flat is a fire resisting box.

Your front door is a vital part of the fire safety of the block. It protects fire spreading to the common parts, the escape route for the block.

SOME PRINCIPLES OF FIRE SAFETY IN BLOCKS OF FLATS

- There is a low probability of fire spread beyond the flat of origin.
- There is a low fire risk in common areas.
- A stay put policy will apply. This means that unless the fire breaks out in your flat, it is safest to stay in your flat unless you are asked to leave by the fire brigade.
- Residents in the flat of fire origin should evacuate and call the fire service---other residents are safe to stay in their flats.

If your flat is involved in a fire

- Alert everyone in your flat
- Do Not stop to collect belongings
- Close the door to the room involved in fire, if possible
- Close the front door
- Leave via the stairs – (Do not use the lift)
- Call the Fire Brigade
- If you become trapped in your room close the door and block any gaps which might let smoke or fumes through
- Shout from the windows to attract the attention of others who can alert the Fire Brigade

What to do if a fire breaks out elsewhere in your building

It will normally be safe for you to stay in our own flat. But if your flat is affected by the heat or smoke, leave at once closing windows and doors behind you.