Tenants’ Voice

Fire Safety Edition

FAREHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL
Welcome

Welcome to our special edition newsletter, which we are issuing following the Grenfell Tower fire in London.

Our thoughts and condolences continue to be with those affected by the tragedy. In light of what happened, we want to reassure you about our approach to fire safety and tell you how you can help prevent fires from starting.

Fire safety has always been very important to us as part of ensuring the welfare of everyone living in our properties, be they flats, maisonettes or houses. We have thorough controls and regular checks in place, and work closely with the fire service to manage fire safety.

We strive to ensure that all our properties meet current fire safety requirements and we will always provide you with clear information about how fire safety applies to you where you live. As the cause and implications of the Grenfell Tower incident become clearer, we will ensure we follow the advice of the fire authorities and any lessons learnt.

Please refer to the tenant’s handbook for further advice on fire safety.
Fire Safety Guidelines

You can play an important part in helping to prevent fires. There are a few steps you can take to keep where you live safe:

**Electrical appliances**

Switch off appliances at night and buy appliances from trustworthy sources.

**Rubbish**

Put all rubbish in the designated areas and if you live in a flat ensure any bin storage areas are closed behind you.

**Kitchen fires**

Take extra care with cooking oil and make sure that handles of pans are turned inwards so they can’t be knocked off.

**Electrical sockets**

Don’t use adaptors to overload sockets and have no more than one plug in each socket.

**Cigarettes and candles**

Stub out cigarettes properly in an ash tray, and make sure they have stopped burning before you put them in the bin. Make sure candles are in a fireproof holder and don’t light them near curtains or other fabrics.

**Preventing arson**

If you live in a shared building don’t let anyone in that you don’t know and keep communal areas clear.

**Smoke alarms**

These will often be the first indicator of a fire in your home so it is important to check your smoke alarms regularly. If you think it is broken contact the responsive repairs team.

**Keep all escape routes clear**

Do not store any items in the communal areas of your building or block any fire escapes.

**Doors**

Do not remove or change any external front doors or internal fire doors. If you do wish to replace a door, please contact us first to confirm the new door meets fire safety standards.
Questions, Concerns and Further Information

Remember to report any damage to communal areas or obstructions to escape routes.

If you have any concerns please don’t hesitate to contact our Tenancy Services team

Tel: 01329 824435
Email: tenancyservices@fareham.gov.uk

Hampshire Fire & Rescue Service has some useful information online if you want to know more about fire safety and how to prevent fire.

www.hantsfire.gov.uk/keeping-safe/loveyourhome/firehazards/