

Advice to keep you and your family safe

Did you know that people who live in rented or shared accommodation are seven times more likely to have a fire? We want to provide you with some useful fire safety reminders. We also want to reassure you that we take fire safety seriously and work closely with Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service.

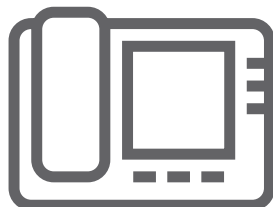


As your landlord we have a number of responsibilities to help keep you safe, this includes providing homes with smoke alarms, maintaining your homes to a good standard and checking gas appliances. Fire safety is important to us and we want to provide you with some helpful fire prevention advice.

Taking fire safety seriously could save your life.

Ways to help you stay safe

Your home is fitted with a smoke alarm. Never remove your smoke alarm's batteries and leave them out. It is your responsibility to regularly check that your smoke alarm is working. If there is a fault with your smoke alarm, report it to Housing Repairs on: 08000 281870.



Have a bedtime routine and check that:

- sockets, appliances, cookers and heaters are turned off
- candles and cigarettes have been safely put out
- doors are closed (to help prevent the spread of fire and smoke)

- you and family members know where the keys are located.



Common dangers

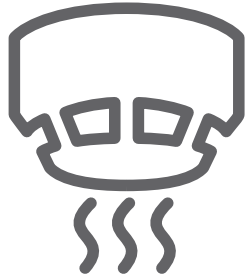
Most fires are preventable. People often put themselves and family members at risk without realising. Some of the common dangers include:

- cooking – never leave cooking unattended, do not cook if you are under the influence of alcohol
- smoking – never dispose of cigarettes in waste paper baskets, put your cigarettes out in water.
- sockets – do not put too many plugs into a socket as this can overload the socket and cause a fire
- candles – put candles in a holder and keep them away from things that can burn such as curtains and paper
- vapes / phone chargers – be careful when charging these devices as they draw extra current and are a fire risk.

As part of your tenancy agreement, you should not make any home alterations without getting our permission. One of the reasons for this is to ensure changes do not compromise fire safety. If you want to make alterations to your home, contact us for advice. Contact the Tenancy Advice Team on 01202 451915.

Safe and well visits

Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service offer residents free 'safe and well' visits. They will visit you in your home and offer advice to make you and your family safer. The appointment normally lasts around one hour and covers using electricity safely, cooking safely, making an escape plan, what to do if there is a fire and keeping children safe.



To request a free safe and well visit, telephone **0800 038 2323**

Visit their website for lots of useful fire safety advice

www.dwfire.org.uk

If there's a fire in your home

If there is a fire inside your home do not try to put the fire out yourself. Alert all the people in your property and leave, closing doors behind you. If there's lots of smoke, crawl along the floor where the air should be clearer. Telephone 999 as soon as you are in a safe place. Be ready to tell them where you live.

Remember

- Report any faults to us
- Always book your annual Gas Safety check when you receive a letter from us
- Check your smoke alarm is working and give us access to do your annual smoke detector test.

Housing & Communities – how to contact us

Repairs Desk: **08000 281870** | housing.repairs@bournemouth.gov.uk

Tenancy Advice Team: **01202 451 915** | housing.landlord@bournemouth.gov.uk

