

# Home fire safety guide



## Keep your home safe

### Alarms

- You have at least one hard wired smoke alarm with battery back up on every level of your home. Test your alarms monthly, each alarm in your home is interlinked and will give everyone in your home the earliest warning of fire.

### Smoking

- It is safer not to smoke.
- Try to smoke outside and make sure cigarettes are put right out.
- Never smoke in bed, or anywhere else if you think you might fall asleep.
- Do not leave a lit cigarette or pipe unattended.
- Use proper ashtrays and never throw hot ash into the bin.
- Keep matches and lighters well out of the reach of children.

### Candles

- Candles, tea lights and incense burners should only be placed in stable heat-resistant holders.
- Keep candles well away from curtains, furniture and clothes.

### Heating and electrics

- Sit at least one metre away from heaters.
- Keep heaters well away from anything that can catch alight.
- Don't overload electrical sockets.
- Make sure you keep filters clean on washing machines and tumble dryers.

## Additional detection in newly built homes

- In properties approved and built post January 2016 there is a requirement to fit sprinklers in domestic premises. You may have these in your home they are discrete, they only activate if there is a fire and only activate in the room where the fire is located.

## Take extra care in the kitchen

- We fit heat detectors in some flats, in the kitchens. Smoke detectors are also fitted in hallways for early warning to residents, this is to reduce false alarms.
- Never leave pans unattended when cooking.
- Don't cook if you are tired, have been drinking alcohol or taking medication that might make you drowsy.

### If the pan does catch fire:

- Don't tackle the fire yourself or try to move the pan.
- Never throw water onto it as this can create a fireball.
- If you can do so safely – turn off the heat.
- Leave the room and close the door. Shout to warn others to get out, stay out and call 999.

## Stay safe when you go to bed

- Close all doors as this helps to prevent fire spreading.
- Switch off and unplug electrical items such as TVs and avoid charging devices like mobile phones when you sleep.
- Only leave essential appliances switched on such as the fridge or freezer, turn all others off.
- Make sure candles are out before you go to bed.
- Check your cooker and heaters are turned off.
- Never use your tumble dryer at night when you are asleep.