

Fire prevention

The best fire protection is fire prevention! Most fires in blocks of flats start in an individual flat – see our general Fire Safety leaflet for more information, downloadable from our website or ask your Neighbourhood Officer for a printed copy.

Help to stop a fire spreading:

Test it Tuesday!

Test the smoke alarm in your flat regularly. If there is a fault, please report it to us as soon as possible so that we can repair or replace it.

Your flat entrance door

Your flat entrance door is a secret weapon against fire in your block. It has a self-closing device and is specially designed to prevent fire and smoke spreading to the communal areas, where it could cut off escape routes.

Please:

- Report any damage to the hinges or seals around your front door ASAP.
- Never wedge open your front door.
- Any alterations to doors or the internal layout of your flat must be authorised by Broadland. It may affect fire safety.
- Even changing your letterbox or adding a cat flap can affect the fire safety of your building!



Keep everyone safe

It's our responsibility to regularly review fire safety in the communal areas. However, we still need your help to keep everyone safe:

- Do not obstruct the communal areas – corridors and stairs are often the fire escape route for people in your block
- Do not prop open fire doors in communal areas
- Do not clutter the stairs, corridors and landings with personal items (such as welcome mats or plant pots) that can set fire easily
- Do not store bicycles or mobility scooters in communal areas without permission from Broadland. We will refuse permission if it puts the fire safety of the block at risk
- If you see anything in the communal areas that doesn't belong there, remove it or tell us ASAP
- Make sure you put all rubbish in the bins provided. Don't leave items lying around in the refuse area as these can easily be set on fire.

If you have any concerns about fire safety, please contact Customer Services.

To request a home fire safety check from the Fire & Rescue Service, please contact

www.norfolk.gov.uk/safety/norfolk-fire-and-rescue-service

Community Fire Safety Officers 0800 9178137

Email hq@fire.norfolk.gov.uk



Fire safety in blocks of flats

All Broadland Housing apartment blocks have a fire safety plan or strategy in case of fire

Most purpose-built housing blocks have a ‘stay put’ strategy (see box opposite).

‘Stay put’ means there is no need to evacuate the whole building if there is a fire, unless the fire service instructs you to.

Other blocks have a ‘total evacuation’ strategy. This means everyone must leave the building once the fire alarm sounds.

What is the fire strategy for your building?

You will find the fire strategy for where you live on any of the ‘fire action’ notices displayed around your building.

These notices tell you exactly what to do if a fire breaks out or you hear the fire alarm.

Do take some time to read these notices and the guidance in this leaflet.



The information may save your life one day!

IMPORTANT!

Always tell Customer Services or your Scheme Manager if you would need assistance to evacuate the building in an emergency. This information will be logged by the Fire and Rescue Service.

‘Stay put’

‘Stay put’ means each individual flat, communal area or stairwell in your building acts a separate fire-resisting ‘box’. The doors, floors and walls of each box have been designed to hold back flames and smoke for at least 60 minutes.



This compartmented design means that if a fire breaks out in one flat, it is contained there and does not spread further. Tenants in other parts of the building can safely stay in their flats.

If the fire alarm sounds in your flat:

- alert anyone else in the flat
- get out at once
- leave the building - follow the direction of the green emergency exit signs

If fire breaks out in a communal area

If you discover a fire or the fire alarm sounds in a corridor, tenant lounge, stairway etc:

- do not return to your flat
- leave the building at once
- follow the direction of the green emergency exit signs

*** Unless you are at the location of the fire, it is safe to stay in your flat until the Fire and Rescue Service direct you to leave. However, you may choose to leave if you are in doubt ***