

## **FIRE PREVENTION**

- Awareness of Risk
- Common Causes

### **Awareness of Risk**

The Association's residents are expected to be fully aware of fire risks, and act in a responsible manner to keep those risks to a minimum. Please read the following information carefully.

### **These are the most common causes of fire:**

- **Cooking Appliances**

Every year fires are caused by pans being left unattended. The contents of the pan heat up until they catch fire. You must keep the cooker clean to prevent a build-up of grease causing faults and ensure that the cooker is turned off at the main switch after use.

Please tell us if your shared cooker is faulty.

### **You should never:**

- Fill the chip pan more than half full.
- Leave a stew pan or chip pan unattended.
- Fry wet chips.
- Throw water on a chip pan fire.
- Attempt to throw the pan outside. If the pan catches fire you should turn off the source of the heat and cover the pan with the fire blanket.

- **Smoking**

Every year fires are caused by the careless use or disposal of cigarettes.

### **You should never:**

- Smoke in bed.
- Leave a cigarette in an ashtray without stubbing it out.
- Use combustible items such as paper cups as an ashtray.
- Throw a cigarette on the floor.

Please note that it is now illegal to smoke in communal areas.

- **Heaters**

Fires are caused by careless use of space heaters such as electric fires. For this reason, all such appliances are prohibited in the Association's properties.

- **Smoke Detectors**

Your house should have a smoke detector on each floor. If this is not the case, or you believe the detectors provided to be defective in any way, please tell us.

Do not tamper with the detectors and never remove the batteries. If there are a lot of false alarms please tell us.

- **Fire Blankets**

Your house should have a fire blanket in the kitchen. If this is not the case, or you believe the blanket to be defective in any way, please tell us.

- **Matches**

**You should never:**

- Leave matches within easy reach of children.
- Place matches on a hot surface.
- Throw a match away without making sure that it has gone out.

- **Defective Electrical Wiring**

If you think that your wiring may be defective, please tell us straight away.

**You should never:**

- Overload power sockets.
- Pass nails or screws through walls, ceilings or floorboards close to electrical sockets.
- Pull plugs out by the flex.
- Join two flexes other than by a purpose made connector.
- Run flexes under carpets or rugs as they may become damaged and not noticed.

- Use fuses with a higher amps rating than specified for the appliance.
- Twist or bend flexes sharply.

- **Defective Electrical Appliances**

**You should never:**

- Leave electrical appliances switched on or unattended.
- Disregard the manufacturers' operating and servicing instructions.
- Place materials that can catch fire near or on electrical appliances.
- Leave an electrical appliance plugged in and switched on at night if it is not designed for that purpose.
- Leave an electric blanket on when you go to bed.