Safety Advice

Chip Pans
Get rid of your traditional chip pan and get a thermostatically controlled deep fat fryer.
If you must use a traditional chip pan:
Never fill it more than one third full of oil.
Don't leave it unattended without turning off the heat.
If it catches fire don't throw water on it or try to carry it away. Turn off the heat and cover the pan with a damp cloth or lid and call the Fire and Rescue Service.

Unattended Cooking
If you’re called away from the cooker don't leave pans on the heat. It's the easiest thing in the world to forget about them.
Turn the handles so that they don’t stick out.

Overloaded Sockets
Only use one plug per socket unless you use a strip adaptor.
Also check for any worn or taped up cables as these can be dangerous and need replacing.

Smoking
Every year people fall asleep smoking and start a fire. Don't smoke in bed. It’s also dangerous to smoke when feeling sleepy or if you’ve been drinking.

Use a proper ashtray and make sure it can’t be knocked over easily. Don’t let the ash, butts or matches build up. Wet the contents of the ashtray before putting it in the bin.

Candles
Candles should be in a proper holder that won’t fall over, especially tea lights.
It’s never a good idea to leave candles in a room without anyone there. Extinguish them and make sure they’re out.

Remember

Keep Your Building Safe
Never wedge open doors on landings.
These have been designed to stop fire spreading.

Never tamper with dry riser landing valves.
These are designed to allow the Fire and Rescue Service to have an immediate supply of water on the floor involved in fire. It could cost lives if they are not working properly when there’s a fire. If you notice any problems with them or they have been vandalised, please contact the Housing Department immediately on 445570.

Never park so you block access to high-rise flats.
Access roads are designed so that emergency vehicles can get as near as possible.

Don’t block escape routes.
Don’t clutter the stairs, landings or corridors of your building. As a resident of the building you are responsible for ensuring that common stairs and corridors are kept clear of obstruction and flammable material such as rubbish bags.

Make an escape plan
Test your smoke alarm

If you would like more fire safety advice check out the community fire safety section of our website www.fire.gov.je or call the Fire and Rescue Service on 445906. We can even visit you and carry out a free home fire safety check.

Produced in partnership with Housing’s Tenant Participation Team
Be Safe

You are not at any more risk from fire because you live in a high-rise flat.

High-rise flats are built to be fireproof. Most fires don’t spread further than one or two rooms.

If there’s a fire in another flat in the building, you’re usually safest in your own home, unless you’re affected by the heat or smoke.

Smoke Alarm

Make sure that you have a smoke alarm and that you test it every week. It’s no use having one if it doesn’t work! If it doesn’t work, contact the Housing Department immediately.

Escape Plan

Make an escape plan for your home. You don’t have to be an expert. Just think it through. How would you get out at night? How would the kids get out?

Talk the plan through with everyone who lives in your home. Make sure everyone knows where to find the door and window keys.

Choose an escape route. Avoid lifts and make sure everyone knows where the stairs are. Make sure these routes are kept clear.

Plan to make one room your ‘safe room’ in case you can’t escape. It’s best if it’s got a window and a phone.

Fire in your building

Fire Next Door

If the fire is in the flat next door, or the flat directly below, get everyone out fast. If there’s a lot of smoke, crawl on the floor - the air will be clearer.

Call 999 or 112 and don’t go back in - wait outside for the Fire and Rescue Service.

Remember - use the stairs. Never use the lift if there’s a fire anywhere in the building.

Fire Elsewhere in Building

Remember that your flat is your safe refuge from fire. Stay there and close all windows and doors.

If your front door starts to feel warm to touch or smoke starts to come in, pack cushions, bedding, pillows and towels at the bottom of the door to block the smoke.

If you’ve got any sticky tape, put that round the door to seal it. Wet the door with water if it starts getting hotter.

Go to your ‘safe room’, open the window and wave something to let the firefighters know that you’re there.

Never leave the safety of your flat unless you’re affected by heat or smoke, or you’re told to leave by firefighters or police.

Remember - don’t even think about jumping. The Fire and Rescue Service will be with you very soon.

Fire in your flat

Can Get Out

Try to keep calm. Follow your escape plan. Shout to let everyone in the flat know. Close the door of the room where the fire is then get out and stay out. Don’t stop for valuables, your life is more important.

If there’s a lot of smoke, crawl on the floor - the air will be clearer.

When you leave the building, use the stairs. Do not use the lift.

Once outside call the Fire and Rescue Service by dialling 999 or 112. Tell them your address and what floor the fire is on.

Once clear of the building make sure you keep a safe distance to avoid being hit by falling debris.

Can’t Get Out

Alert everyone and gather in one room (ideally with a window and phone). Don’t open the door of a room that feels warm when touched with the back of your hand.

When inside this ‘safe’ room close the door and pack bedding, towels, cushions or clothing around it to keep the smoke out and call 999 or 112.

If there is no phone, go to a window, open it and shout to attract attention until someone calls the fire crews. Stay by the open window.

If you are trapped in a higher storey, lean out of the window for fresh air until the fire crews arrive and wave something to let them know that you are there.