



Fire Safety Tenant Information Guide

We understand that you may be worried about the risk of fire in your home, but there are many ways that you can help to prevent a fire. Mid Devon District Council also has a responsibility as your landlord to act to reduce the risk of fire.

What does Mid Devon District Council do to reduce the risk of fire?

- periodic testing of electrical wiring
- annual servicing gas or solid fuel appliances
- Provision and maintenance of smoke alarms

Please let us know if you do not have working smoke alarms or if you don't think these checks have been done

Your responsibility as a tenant

It's important that you co-operate with our fire safety advice - you have an obligation to allow us access for these essential works, and that you comply with rules on fire safety in communal areas. Please turn over for more about what you can do.

Fire Safety in flats

Mid Devon District Council has a legal duty to carry out an annual fire risk assessment, which includes the following?

- ensuring fire precautions remain in place
- reviewing fire evacuation plans
- fitting fire doors to all flats
- keeping escape routes fire resistant, clearly signed and illuminated

MDDC Housing Repairs
Phoenix House, Phoenix Lane
Tiverton, Devon, EX16 6PP

Mid Devon District Council
Housing Repairs Service
www.middevon.gov.uk


**Mid
Devon**
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Contact Us:

MDDC Housing Repairs, Phoenix House, Phoenix Lane, Tiverton, EX16 6PP
repairs@middevon.gov.uk
01884 255355

What can you do to reduce the risk of fire in your home?

- Test your smoke detectors monthly
- Never remove or tamper with smoke or heat detectors
- Make sure your gas appliances are in good working order i.e. gas fire, gas cooker
- If you have a solid fuel appliance, ensure you have the chimney swept at least twice a year, depending on which fuel you use
- Avoid using candles, especially near soft furnishings
- Ensure electrical items are turned off, or unplugged when not in use.
- Ensure cigarettes are properly put out
- Avoid using chip pans
- Avoid over loading electrical sockets
- Any electrical works should be completed by a qualified and certified person
- Ensure that you keep all hallways clear of trip and fire hazards, including communal halls

REMEMBER - You should always contact the Housing Tenancy team to request permission before making any alterations to a Council property, in line with your tenancy agreement.

Where can I find out more information about fire safety?

To find out more about fire safety, check out the following sites:

www.fireservice.co.uk/safety www.electricalsafetyfirst.org.uk/guides-and-advice

What to do in the event of fire?

If you live in a flat, consult the fire evacuation plan. Most flats will have a 'stay in flat' policy, because of the protection offered by fire doors.

If you live in a house, you should make sure everyone leaves the property through the nearest exit, closing doors and windows behind you, then call the fire service straight away.

Who pays for damage after a fire?

For repairs to the building - this depends on the cause of fire. Tenants are responsible for the cost of replacing contents lost in fires, and we recommend you have a suitable home contents insurance policy.

