

Fire Safety Advice

for residents in Mobile Homes



St Albans
City & District Council

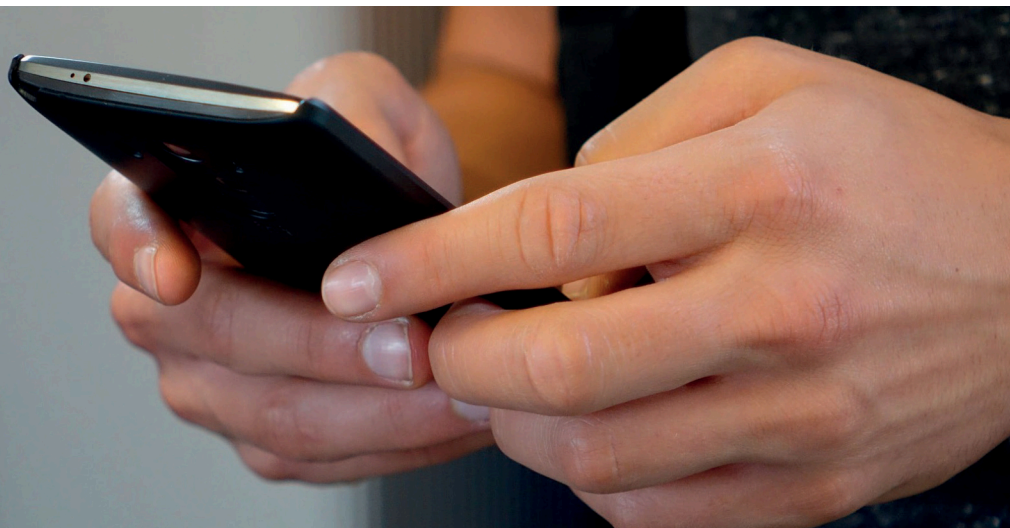
As you live on a mobile home site there are things you should know about how to prevent fires and what to do if a fire breaks out. Please read this fact sheet and keep it available for information.

Remember, because the mobile homes are very close together, you, your family and neighbour's safety depends on everyone co-operating.

In case of an emergency call the fire service immediately by telephoning 999.

Do not assume that someone else has reported it.

The local fire service is able to carry out a safe and well visit for individual residents. If you are interested in this, one can be booked via www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/fire-and-rescue/fire-station-locations/st-albans-fire-station.aspx or alternatively by calling St Albans Fire Station on **01992 507650** and requesting a safe and well visit.



If a fire breaks out in your home

- ✓ Alert anyone else in your home and your neighbours if at all possible.
- ✓ If there is smoke, keep everyone low where the air is clearer.
- ✓ Leave your home at once closing all doors and windows behind you where it is safe to do so.
- ✓ Sound the bell at the nearest fire point if safe to do so.
- ✓ Call the fire service on **999** as soon as it is safe to do so - do not assume that someone else has.
- ✓ Make your way safely to the fire assembly point at the entrance to the site.
- ✓ When the fire service arrive, confirm that there is nobody in the mobile home and whether they need to be aware of any hazardous substances.
- ✓ Familiarise yourself with your site, the location of fire points and the location of the fire assembly point.
- ✗ Do not tackle the fire yourself unless it is safe to do so. Fire can spread quickly.
- ✗ Do not let anyone stop to collect personal belongings. Personal safety is paramount and delays cost lives.
- ✗ Do not let anyone go back into the mobile home under any circumstances unless and until the fire service confirm it is safe to do so.

Things you can do to keep yourself safe and prevent fires

- Have a plan and review it regularly. Talk to everyone living in your home about what to do if a fire breaks out.
- Ensure electrical wiring is in good order. Ideally it should be tested regularly by a qualified electrician.
- It is advisable to have a smoke alarm fitted to your home. You should test your alarm each week to ensure that it is working properly. Never remove the batteries unless you are replacing them. Hoovering the alarm every six months will help to ensure that dust does not affect its ability to work if a fire occurs. Early warning of a fire saves lives. A smoke alarm will give you vital time to escape.
- Keep door and window lock keys where everyone you live with can find them.
- Do not block your fire escape route. Keep hallways clear of clutter. These are escape routes that you might need one day.
- Do not smoke in bed. This is a major cause of fires in the home. Always finish your cigarette before bed and ensure that it is properly put out.
- When using the cooker - for cooking or heating - never leave it unattended. You may wish to consider getting a fire blanket for use in the kitchen.



- Never leave children alone. Keep matches or lighters out of reach and do not let children near cooking or heating appliances when in use.
- If you have a wood burning stove this must be used with care following manufacturers instructions and safety advice.
- Never leave candles, tea-lights or incense sticks unattended. They are naked flames and heat sources and you must make sure you put them completely out at night.
- Sit at least three feet away from heaters. Never put a heater near clothes or furniture.
- Avoid the use of multi-adaptors where possible but if they are used never overload electrical circuits.
- Never run electrical appliances from light sockets.
- Before going to bed, switch off all electrical appliances, except those that are designed to be left on such as fridges. Carefully remove plugs from electric sockets. Close internal doors. Check there is nothing blocking the hallway and front door. Keep a torch handy. If a fire happens at night and the electrics fail you need to ensure your escape is not impeded.
- When using a BBQ, chiminea, you must ensure it is sat carefully. Sparks or embers can cause a fire. If using a disposable BBQ, charcoal or other fire burning material you must ensure that it is fully extinguished and cold before disposing of it safely.
- If you have gas cannisters these should be placed on a flat surface and be securely chained.



You must **not** store flammable items under your mobile home or in sheds. This includes spare or empty gas canisters, petrol cans and flammable materials or liquids. Failure to observe this is a high Health and Safety risk.

Please ensure that garden vegetation is kept under control at all times to help prevent the spread of fire.

Do not place items of furniture or rubbish outside your home. Removal of large items can be arranged through the Council's bulky waste service. Contact the call centre on **01727 809019**.

Labels on harmful products should be read carefully. You have a responsibility to ensure they are stored correctly.

This is for your personal safety and for that of your neighbours. Please keep your shed locked when not in use.



Remember your actions can affect the safety of others in your home and on your site. Please follow the advice and instructions in this fact sheet.

We are committed to providing equal access to information. If you would like this information in another format please contact the Housing Options Team on [01727 819355](tel:01727819355).

Housing Department

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