

Keeping communal areas of buildings, “Clean and Safe”

On average twenty fires¹ occur in communal areas of blocks of flats, in London every month.

Please help us to prevent fires by keeping the communal areas of our buildings “*clean and safe*” of any rubbish or personal items, such as **bin bags, furniture and clothing**, which could be used to start a fire, or obstruct access to fire fighters trying to get into the building, or residents leaving.

For residents who use a **mobility aid or mobility scooter**, where possible you must store your aid or scooter, inside your home.

If you are considering buying a mobility scooter please contact our aids and adaptations team, so we can work with you to ensure it can be safely stored and charged. They can be contacted (need contact details)

We ask families with young children to ensure that **prams; buggies and pushchairs** are stored in a secure store outside the building, or within your home. Children’s toys should also be stored within the home.

We provide secure **bicycle** storage facilities across our estates for residents, if your estate does not currently have an external store, residents can request an installation by contacting our Neighbourhood team. For residents without access to a bicycle store, bikes should be stored inside the home not in the communal areas

As part of our commitment to building safety, our neighbourhood teams undertake regular block inspections to check that communal areas are *clean and safe*.

They will contact any resident who is using the communal area for storage and formally request that items are removed, by issue of a (tort) notice.

Where items are not removed, the council will remove the items and dispose of them after 28 days, if they are not claimed.