

Checklist for Person-Centred Fire Risk



Name of resident			
Full address			
Date	DD / MM / YYYY	Form completed by	

1. Does the resident have an increased fire risk?

Yes If yes, tick each fire risk

No Skip to next question

- Burns or scorch marks on carpets and furniture/previous fires.
- Smoking – unsafe use of smoking or vaping materials (eg. smoking in bed).
- Use of emollient creams (lotions, creams or gels that are used to prevent dry skin).
- Air pressure mattress or oxygen cylinders are used.
- Unsafe cooking practices (eg. cooking left on or unattended).
- Overloaded electrical sockets/adaptors or extension leads.
- Faulty or damaged wiring/electric blankets that are old or worn.
- Unsafe candle/tea light use (eg. left too close to curtains or in reach of children or pets).
- Hoarding of any kind (eg. excessive storage or build up of clutter).
- Unsafe use of portable heaters (eg. placed too close to flammable items).
- Other (please specify): _____

2. Would the resident be less able to react to an alarm or a fire due to?

Yes If yes, tick each risk

No Skip to next question

- Mental health issues (eg. anxiety or depression).
- Cognitive or decision making difficulties (eg. dementia).
- Alcohol or the use of drugs (prescribed or otherwise).
- Sensory impairments (eg. hard of hearing or sight loss).
- Other (please specify): _____

3. Does the resident have a reduced ability to escape?

Yes If yes, tick each risk

No Skip to next question

- Have restricted mobility, are bed or chairbound or at risk of falls.
- Are blind or have impaired vision.
- Lacks capacity to understand what to do in the event of a fire.
- There are cluttered or blocked escape routes or internal doors are left open at night.
- Would be unable to or have difficulty unlocking the front door to escape.
- Other (please specify): _____

4. Are smoke, carbon monoxide or heat alarms fitted in the home:

Smoke **Yes**
 No

Carbon monoxide **Yes**
 No

Heat **Yes**
 (used in kitchens) **No**

What to do next

If there are any questions in sections 1–3 that have been answered 'Yes', or there are no smoke, CO or heat alarms fitted (or they are broken or poorly sited), immediate action is required. Please follow the instructions below to ensure risks are managed and that control measures are put in place.

If you are a family member or an informal carer, contact London Fire Brigade (LFB) to arrange for a free home fire safety visit:

Freephone: 0800 028 4428

Email: smokealarms@london-fire.gov.uk

Text/SMS: 07860 021 319

Book via our website: london-fire.gov.uk

Remember, extra support may be available. Contact Adult Social Care Teams or your local council.

If you are employed by a company or organisation you must follow procedures and:

- return the completed form to your manager to implement appropriate risk control measures.
- inform the resident or family members of the risks identified, if you are certain they will understand.
- note all actions taken in the care plan.
- refer to other agencies, as appropriate.

Remember, if in doubt contact LFB for advice or guidance.

Fire safety in the home

What happens during a home fire safety visit? Firefighters or trained staff will visit the resident and offer advice based on individual needs, this includes information on how to **prevent** fires, the importance of smoke alarms to **detect** a fire and having **escape** plans in the event of a fire. They will also fit smoke alarms if required.

Some basic fire safety advice has been provided below or you can download safety booklets from our website.

Prevention

- Stopping smoking is a good way to reduce fire risk.
- Anyone who smokes should try to do so outside.
- Use deep, heavy ashtrays and always make sure cigarettes are **put right out**.
- Consider using fire retardant bedding, nightwear and throws.
- Never smoke or vape:
 - in bed or in an armchair if there's a chance of falling asleep
 - on or close to an airflow pressure relief mattress.
- Oxygen is highly flammable, users should never smoke/vape or use matches and candles, or allow others to nearby.
- Emollient creams should be kept away from cigarettes and other heat sources. A build up of oily residue on bedding and clothing can increase flammability.
- Candles, tea lights and incense burners should be placed in stable, heat-resistant holders and kept well away from curtains, furniture and clothes.
- Sit at least one metre away from heaters and keep them well away from anything that can catch alight.
- Don't overload electrical sockets.
- Close all doors at night – this helps to prevent fire and toxic smoke spreading.

Early warning and detection of a fire is essential

- Fit smoke alarms in the rooms that are used the most, eg:
 - in the lounge/living room, bedrooms, landings and hallways.
 - a heat alarm in the kitchen.
 - CO alarms anywhere that gas or solid fuels are used.
- Specialist alarms can also be fitted, eg. strobe light and vibrating pad alarms for the deaf or hard-of-hearing.
- Test all alarms monthly.
- Fitting alarms that are linked and all activate together is the best way to be alerted in the event of a fire.

Note: Anyone less able to react, or with reduced ability to escape a fire, should consider Telecare monitoring services. These provide 24hr call centre support that links to detection systems fitted in the home. Staff are trained to deal with situations as they arise and will call the emergency services if needed.

Escape

- Have an escape plan and practice it regularly.
- Make sure escape routes are kept clear of anything that may slow down or block escape or exit routes.
- Mobility aids and any methods of calling for help should always be kept close to hand (eg. mobile phone, link alarm/pendant).
- Ensure security gates can be easily opened from the inside without the need for a key.
- Keep door and window keys where everyone can find them.