

Preventing fires

You can reduce the risk of fire by doing the following.

- Don't smoke in bed or leave cigarette ends burning.
- Keep matches away from children.
- Always use proper holders when you light candles, and don't leave them lit if no-one is in the room.
- When you are using a chip pan, make sure it is not more than one-third full of fat. Always watch it while you are cooking and remove it from the heat when you have finished.
- Don't paint or varnish gas fires.
- Don't dry clothes over heaters.
- Unplug any electrical appliances you are not using and do not run flexes under carpets.
- Don't overload sockets. Use a multi-plug extension rather than a double adaptor.

Your questions answered

What should I do if I have replaced the battery and the smoke detector still does not work?

Contact us immediately. Phone the repairs freephone number on 0800 0196 444. We will send someone out to repair or replace it.

How can I be sure the smoke detector is working?

You should test it by pushing in the test button for 20 seconds. The alarm is working if it makes a single sound. Also, if you can see the light in the middle flashing, it shows that the battery is still working.

What should I do if the alarm goes off?

Always assume it could be a fire and get your family to where it is easy to escape. Then check whether there is a fire. If you find that the detector has been set off by something else, you can reset it easily.

Useful contact numbers

Area Housing Offices

Ardrossan Housing Office	01294 605258
Beith and Dalry Housing Office.....	01294 835355
Dreghorn Housing Office.....	01294 221860
Irvine Housing Office	01294 324870
Kilbirnie Housing Office	01505 685177
Kilwinning Housing Office	01294 552261
Largs Housing Office	01475 687590
Saltcoats Housing Office	01294 602611
Stevenston Housing Office.....	01294 605281

Repairs

24 hours (freephone)	0800 0196 444
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www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk

"North Ayrshire Council is committed to promoting a safe and secure environment so that its residents are able to live peacefully in their own communities."



NORTH AYRSHIRE
COUNCIL

Hous09-06/0031



ABOUT YOUR SMOKE DETECTOR



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This document is available in other formats such as audiotape, CD, Braille, and in large print. It can also be made available in other languages, on request.

ਇਹ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਵੀ ਮਿਲ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ, ਜਿਵੇਂ ਸੁਣਨ ਵਾਲੀ ਟੇਪ 'ਤੇ, ਸੀ ਡੀ 'ਤੇ, ਬ੍ਰੇਲ ਅਤੇ ਵੱਡੇ ਅੱਖਰਾਂ ਵਿਚ। ਮੰਗ ਆਉਣ 'ਤੇ ਇਹ ਹੋਰ ਬੋਲੀਆਂ ਵਿਚ ਵੀ ਦਿੱਤਾ ਜਾ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ।

یہ دستاویز دیگر شکلوں میں بھی دستیاب ہے، جیسے آڈیو ٹیپ، سی ڈی، بڑے اور بڑے حروف کی چھپائی میں۔ درخواست کرنے پر یہ دستاویز دیگر زبانوں میں بھی مہیا کی جاسکتی ہے۔

該文件還有其他形式，如語音磁帶、CD、盲文版本及大字體版本。如有需求，還提供其他語言版本。

Ten dokument jest do uzyskania w różnych formatach: na taśmie dźwiękowej, płycie CD, brajlem i dużym drukiem. Na żądanie, można go także otrzymać w innych wersjach językowych.

The smoke detector in your home could save your life.

If a fire breaks out in your home, the smoke detector will detect the smoke in the air and set off an alarm. This will give you a chance to get out before the fire gets out of hand.

Your smoke detector must always have a battery in it.

When we fitted the detector in your home it had a new battery in it. You should only remove the battery to replace it. You are responsible for replacing the battery. A good battery should last about a year.

When the battery is low, your detector will 'beep'.

It will go off about once every three minutes. This means that it will still work for a while if a fire breaks out but you must replace the battery very soon.

You must clean and test your smoke detector regularly.

Although we fitted the alarm it is your responsibility to look after it. Air must be able to get to the sensor so you must be sure that no dust or grease builds up on it. You must test it once a week and replace the battery when it is running low. **If your house has been recently re-wired, you will have had a new hard-wired smoke detector fitted.** You should also test this on a weekly basis and report any problems with this detector on the Repairs phone number over the page.

Detectors can go off when there isn't a fire.

If this happens, leave the detector where it is but remove whatever set it off and then reset the detector.

You should not move detectors from where we have fixed them.

Looking after your detector

Testing

- Press the test button and hold it in for 20 seconds. The alarm should then sound.
- If the alarm does not sound, try cleaning the detector and test it again.
- The operation light should flash every 60 seconds. If it is not on or is on all the time, you need to replace the battery.

Cleaning

- Remove dust or cobwebs using a vacuum cleaner. Place the nozzle against the vents on the bottom of the detector.
- Clean the outside by wiping the vents with a damp cloth. Don't touch the inside of the detector.

Replacing the battery (non hard-wired detectors)

- You need to get a new nine-volt battery.
- Unclip the cover of the detector. There is an arrow at the side where you pull.
- Remove the existing battery from its clips and unclip the connector.
- Clip the connectors onto the new battery and then put it back into its clips.
- Close the detector and test it (see above) to make sure that it is working
- Hard-wired detectors have a battery which you do not need to replace.

If you stay in the multi-storey flats in Irvine, you **must** test your smoke detector. However, any repairs or replacements are the responsibility of North Ayrshire Council.

If the alarm goes off

- Take your family where it is easy to escape in case there is a fire
- Feel around each door before opening it. If there is any sign of heat, smoke or noise, **don't open the door.**
- Check all rooms for signs of smoke.

If there is a fire:

- **Do not try to tackle it yourself** – smoke and fumes can kill in minutes.
- **Get everyone out** of the house.
- **Call** the Fire Service on 999.
- **Close all doors**, if it is safe to do so, to contain the fire and stop smoke spreading.
- **Don't go back** for any reason.
- If you cannot get out, **close the door** of your room, **seal any gaps** with a rug or blanket and **call for help** from a window.

If there is no sign of smoke or fire:

- the battery may need replacing **or** something may have caused it to go off by mistake.

For example:

- A heater or clothes drier is too near it.
- A spray has been used near it.
- There are strong draughts nearby.
- Someone smokes a cigarette near it or there are a lot of cooking fumes or steam, for example, roasting meat or toast.