

# What to do if a fire breaks out

## If a fire breaks out in your flat



**Leave the flat immediately closing the door behind you**, making sure everyone in the flat evacuates and leaves the building using the stairs.



If you're trapped in a room by smoke or fire, you need to stop smoke getting into the room. Close the door and block any gaps with spare clothing, towels or blankets. **If you can access a window open it and shout to let others know you are trapped and what your flat number is.**

## If a fire breaks out when you're in the communal area



**Leave the area immediately and exit the building using the stairs if required.** Don't try to tackle the fire yourself and only use the fire extinguishers if needed as a means of escape.

## If you've mobility issues

If you've mobility issues and are unable to use the stairs or leave the building unaided, make your way to through the nearest fire door or stairwell making sure the door is closed behind you.



Every flat front door and communal fire door is fire rated, which means if properly closed they can contain a fire for up to a minimum period of 30 minutes on each individual door.

**The more securely closed fire doors you can put between yourself and the fire the longer the protection from the fire.**

## If a fire breaks out elsewhere in the building

The building is designed to contain a fire and allow you to remain in your flat in relative safety, if the fire is in another flat or elsewhere in the building. If your flat is not affected by fire, you'll be safe to remain in your flat. **Leave your flat if it becomes affected by fire and smoke or you're directed to leave by a bpha member of staff or Fire and Rescue Service.**