

HIGH RISE FLATS AND APARTMENTS FREE HOME FIRE SAFETY CHECK



West Midlands Fire Service offers a **Free** Home Fire Safety Check to all people who live in High Rise flats and apartments.

Firefighters will check your home and give you fire safety advice in order to keep you safe from fire and also fit a free smoke alarm(s) if required. This check will only take about half an hour of your time.

Visits will be by appointment only and will be arranged at a convenient time to suit you. Firefighters will be wearing uniforms and carrying identification cards.

If you have any questions or would like to book a free Home Fire Safety Check please contact West Midlands Fire Service on freephone **0800 389 5525** or log onto our website: **www.wmfs.net**.

Your building has been specially designed to resist fire, stop the spread of smoke and provide a safe means of escape. But should there be a fire in your block you need to ensure you protect yourself and your family.

There are simple measures you can take to keep you and your family safe:

- Install a smoke alarm in your home; test it weekly;
- Make sure your escape route is kept clear of obstructions and that doors to stairways are not damaged or faulty – if they are, report it to your concierge or local housing office.
- Have an escape plan so that if a fire does break out in your home, you and your family are fully prepared and every one knows what to do.

If the fire is **IN** your flat or apartment:

- Follow your escape plan: get everyone out, stay out, call the Fire Service out.
- Close your doors to contain the fire.
- Activate the fire alarm if the building has one.
- Go down the nearest stairs, **DO NOT** use the lift.

If there is a fire, but it is **NOT IN** your flat or apartment:

- Call the Fire Service; **NEVER** assume that someone else has already done so – you could save someone's life.
- If there is **no** smoke in the hallways or stairwells, and it is safe to do so, follow your escape plan.

However, if stairs and hallways are filled with smoke:

If it is **TOO DANGEROUS** to follow your escape plan:

- Phone the Fire Service and stay **inside** your home.
- Keep your door **closed** and put towels or bedding round the bottom of the door to block smoke.
- The Fire Service will attend very quickly to escort you to safety.