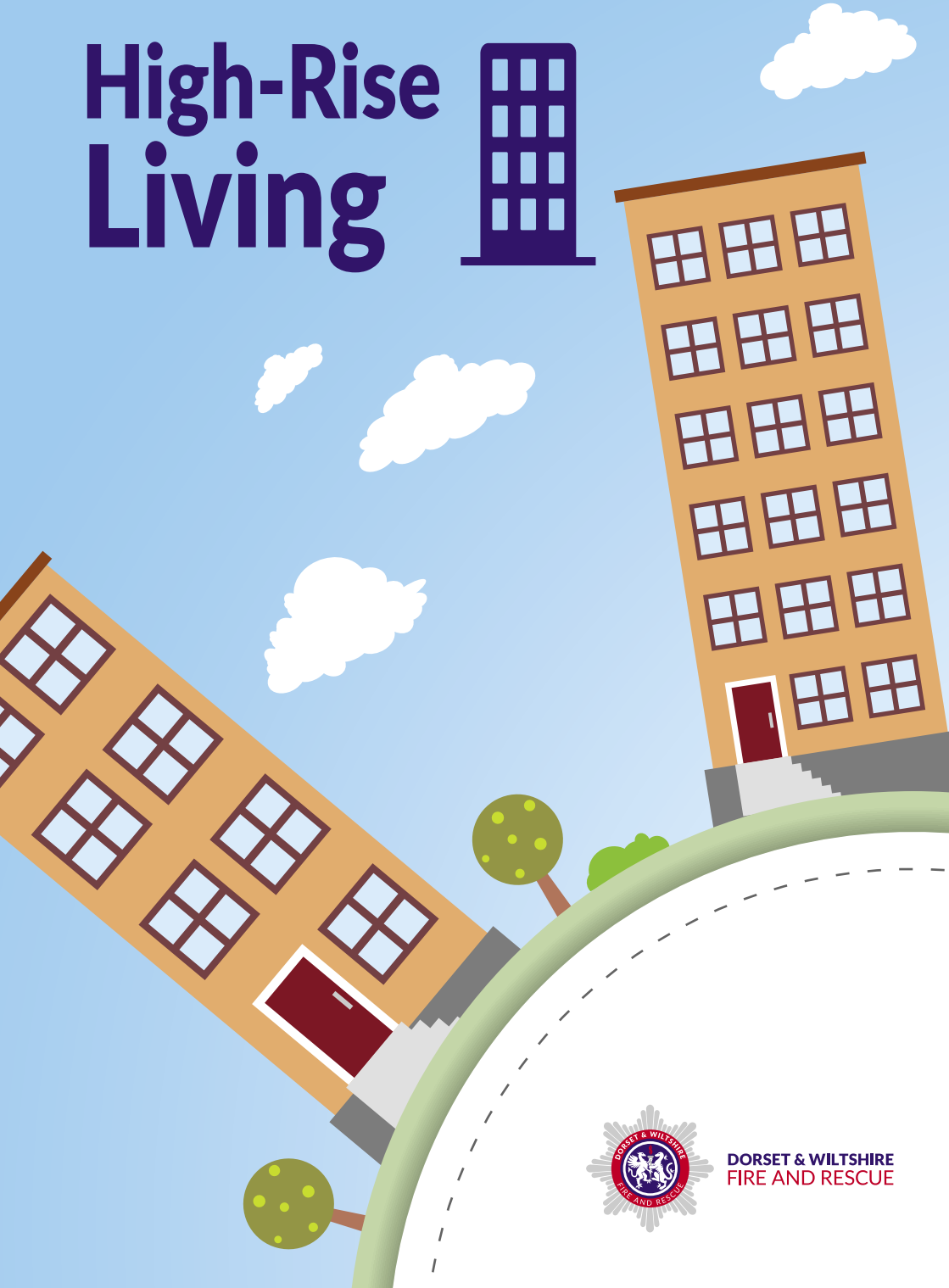
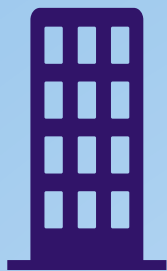


# High-Rise Living



**DORSET & WILTSHIRE**  
FIRE AND RESCUE

## Living the high life

Living in a high-rise block doesn't mean you are any more at risk from fire, but it does mean you need to consider your fire safety and the impact a fire in your home could have on other residents.

It is important for your own safety, to understand what to do in the event of a fire, whether it's in your flat or somewhere else in the building.

### Did you know?

That most high-rise flats are built to delay the spread of fire for up to an hour.

## Built with your safety in mind

Your building has been designed and built with fire safety in mind.

### Lift access

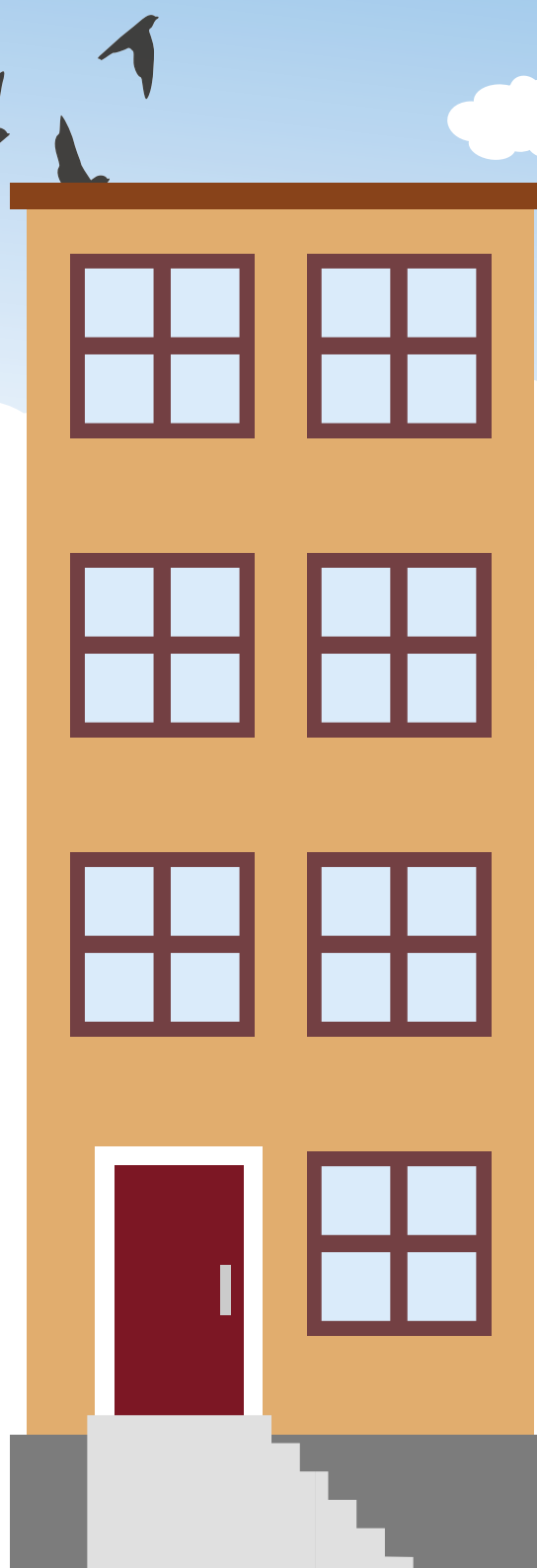
Never use the lift when evacuating the building unless it is specifically designed for use in an emergency. The fire may cause a power failure, trapping you inside.

### Emergency access

Never block emergency access to your building. We need to get as close as possible to the entrance.

### Fire doors

Flat entrance doors and fire doors in the common area must be in good condition and kept shut when not in use. You must not remove or tamper with self-closing devices or change doors without permission.



## Firefighting equipment

Dry or wet riser pipes run internally through the block and are usually painted red. The pipes provide water to higher floors to tackle fires.

It is important that any damage to this equipment is reported as soon as you see it. The building manager is also required to check fire doors and equipment on a regular basis and may require access to your flat to do this.

## Do you know your building's evacuation plan?

The building manager must tell you what you should do if there is a fire in your building.

Your building plan will be either:

**Full (Simultaneous) evacuation** - When the alarm sounds, get everyone in your flat out of the building using emergency fire exit routes and stairs (don't use the lift - unless it is specifically designed for use in an emergency).

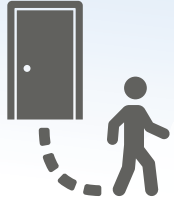
**Stay put** - You should be safe to remain in your flat but you can choose to evacuate if your flat is affected by smoke or fire. If the fire service need you to evacuate they will knock on your door.

If you are in the common parts of the building and you become aware of a fire, leave the building immediately and phone the fire and rescue service.

**The fire service will knock your door if they need you to evacuate.**

# What to do if there is a fire...

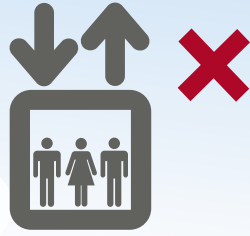
**In yours or your neighbour's flat**  
(or where there is a full evacuation strategy)



Leave your flat and close the door



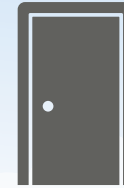
Use the stairs



Never use the lift

Get out, stay out, call 999. Never assume someone has called.

**Elsewhere in your block**  
(and where there is a stay put strategy)



Close your windows and doors



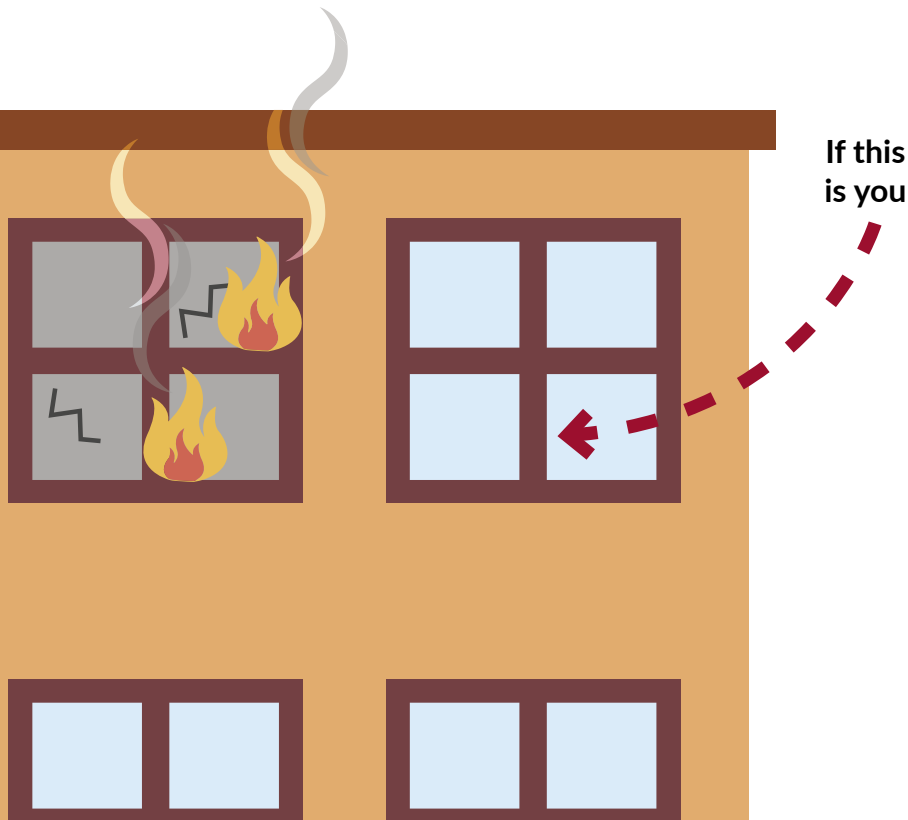
Stay in and tune in to local TV or radio



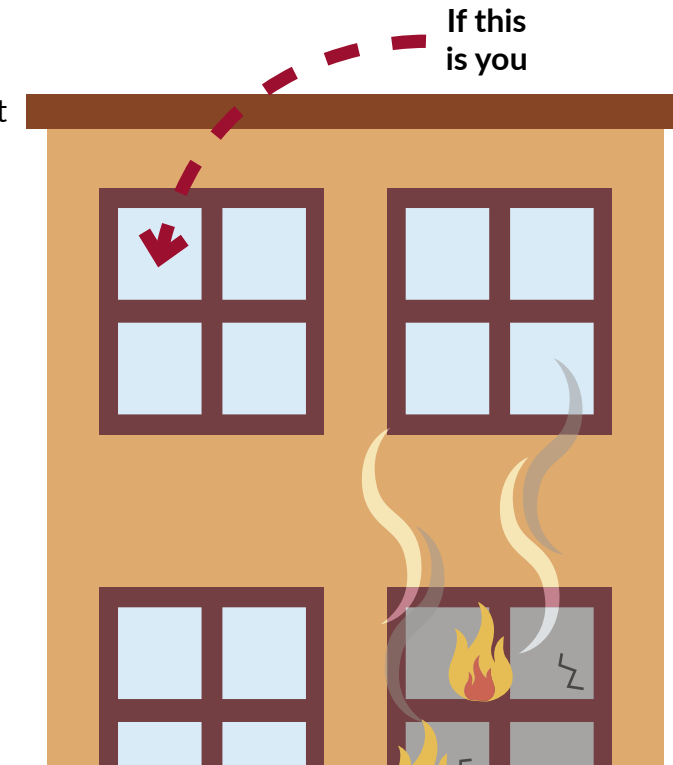
Stay put unless advised by the fire service or your flat is affected by smoke or fire

If the fire service need to fully evacuate the building, they will knock on your door.

Unnecessary evacuation can obstruct the fire service and delay them putting the fire out, but you may leave if you feel unsafe in your flat. Be aware that there may be firefighting equipment in the stairway.



If this is you



If this is you

## We'll be there

If you can see the fire service already there, then there is no need to call 999.

If every resident in a high-rise block rang 999, our control room would have less time to take calls from other emergencies.

## Don't be alarmed

Don't be alarmed by the scale of the fire service's presence.

We need a large amount of resources to get our equipment from the ground up to the floor of the fire and to protect our firefighters.



## Protect your home

- To fully protect you and your family, make sure you have a working smoke detector in your main circulation area hallway/landing
- It is also recommended that you have a heat detector fitted in your kitchen
- If your flat is on more than one level, you should have smoke detectors on every level
- If you rent your home it is your Landlord's legal responsibility to make sure there are sufficient working smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. It is also their responsibility to repair and replace any detectors that are faulty or damaged
- Test your smoke detectors once a week
- Never cover your detectors, and never disconnect or remove the batteries
- You may need to allow the building manager (or their contractor) access to your flat to check fire doors or other safety equipment. This is important to ensure that everybody in the building is kept safe



## Be prepared

- Close all doors, as this helps to prevent fire and smoke spreading
- Switch off and unplug electrical appliances, such as TVs
- Keep door and window keys accessible
- Know how to isolate the gas, electric and water supply in your flat
- Keep all exits clear, both communal corridors and in your home
- Check that cookers and heaters are turned off
- Make sure candles and tea lights are extinguished
- Avoid charging mobile phones, e-cigarettes, and so on, overnight
- Don't store or charge mobility scooters on the only route out of your flat, such as the hallway. Overnight, scooters should be kept in a separate room, such as the lounge or a second bedroom.



**DORSET & WILTSHIRE  
FIRE AND RESCUE**



## Safe & Well

For free advice and to check your eligibility for a Safe & Well visit, please see our website:



[dwfire.org.uk/safe-and-well-visits](https://dwfire.org.uk/safe-and-well-visits)



0800 038 2323



[safeandwell@dwfire.org.uk](mailto:safeandwell@dwfire.org.uk)



## Business Fire Safety

For advice regarding businesses, landlords and Fire Safety Legislation please see our website:



[dwfire.org.uk/business-fire-safety](https://dwfire.org.uk/business-fire-safety)



01722 691717



[businessfiresafety@dwfire.org.uk](mailto:businessfiresafety@dwfire.org.uk)

PASSIONATE ABOUT

**CHANGING & SAVING LIVES**