

What is fire safety?

Fire safety involves the steps to take that minimises the chance of a fire occurring, and/or prevents a fire from spreading. Fire safety is extremely important to WHL in the design of buildings, ongoing maintenance of safety equipment & education to renters.

How does WHL minimise fire risks?

WHL ensures that all buildings and standalone properties comply with relevant fire safety requirements and standards. This is an ongoing commitment and WHL design all new builds with fire safety as a key consideration.

How can renters stay fire safe?

- Never leave cooking appliances unattended when in use
- Never leave a room with an open flame
- Avoid cluttering balconies with flammable goods, avoid BBQs and fire pits.
- Never overload power boards and ensure they're in good condition and contain a circuit breaker
- Ensure matches, lighters and any flammable substances are out of reach of children at all times
- Keep clothing or other flammable objects away from heaters
- Do not store large quantities of flammable liquids in apartments
- Understand the evacuation procedure map if in multi-dwelling properties with common areas

Smoke detectors

WHL are legally obliged to ensure smoke detectors are always installed and functional. Renters are responsible for alerting WHL if smoke detectors become faulty. Smoke detector testing will occur regularly at all properties to ensure that devices are in good working order. Tampering with smoke detectors will result in renters being issued a Breach Notice under s63A of the RTA. If you notice any irregular beeping from your smoke detector, contact your Asset Officer to report this.

Evacuation drills

Evacuation drills will be conducted at multi-dwelling properties with common areas annually. Your Tenancy Officer will send out a letter in advance with the date and time of the drill. Ensure that you are familiar with the evacuation process and emergency meeting area. These drills provide an opportunity for WHL to ensure renters know how to respond to fire alarms in a safe way. If you have any concerns about accessibility, please contact your Tenancy Officer to discuss.

If there is a fire

- Stay low to avoid smoke and leave your room / unit. Close the door behind you if possible.
- Follow the evacuation route in your property's evacuation plan. Do not use elevators where possible.
- Wait at the emergency meeting point
- When you are safe, call 000 and ask for the fire brigade. Tell them the address of your property.
- Try to alert others of the fire while maintaining a safe distance
- If you are unable to get out of your room, alert the fire brigade and stay on the line with the operator while you wait.