

SHANNON COURT CARE HOME LIMITED	Date reviewed: September 26
	Next Review: 09/27
FIRE PREVENTION POLICY	

This Policy will define the rules for the prevention of fire within the Home and APPLIES TO ALL STAFF OF THE HOME WITHOUT EXCEPTION.

All staff must comply with the following rules:

1. The Home's policy on smoking is defined in the Smoking and Vaping Policy. Compliance with this Policy is mandatory.
2. Non magnetic fire doors must be kept closed at all times, unless a risk assessment is in place
3. Fire exits must be kept clear at all times and not blocked with wheelchairs and other items.
4. When using gas and electric appliances:
 - 4.1 Exercise appropriate care and caution, and where appropriate ensure such appliances are operated in accordance with manufacturers' instructions;
 - 4.2 When finished using an appliance:
 - 4.2.1. Ensure that it is switched off before leaving it.
 - 4.2.2. Ensure that naked flames are not left on cookers.
 - 4.2.3. Ensure that electric irons are not left unattended when switched on. Apart from the immediate fire risk, there is a serious risk of burning if it is accidentally picked up.
 - 4.2.4. Ensure that desk / bedside lamps are not covered with a cloth or other material at any time.
5. Ensure that there are no clothes, etc. "left to dry" by hanging over heaters .
6. Fire extinguishers must be kept in the positions marked on the Fire Plan and at no time moved to other areas or used as door-stops. These must be checked annually by the contracted company.
7. Fire escape and exit routes will be clearly marked in pictorial fashion throughout the Home.

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8. All staff must ensure that they:

8.1 Know the exact locations of all fire extinguishers and fire-fighting equipment, and be familiar with their mode of use;

8.2 Know the exact positions of all fire exits and escape routes;

8.3 Know the fire drill and assembly points outside the buildings;

8.4 Be aware of their particular responsibilities for the areas in which they work. Particular attention should be given to assisting disabled people and visitors who may not be familiar with the orientation of the Home.

9. Where possible, furniture, fixtures and fittings must be made of fire-resistant or fire-retardant fabrics and materials.

10. To reduce the risk of fire and protect all residents, staff and visitors, the use of candles, tea lights, incense, oil burners or any other naked flames is strictly prohibited in all bedrooms. These items must not be brought into or used in residents' rooms.

11. Candles may only be used in specific circumstances and be handled by staff members. Such circumstances include on birthday cakes and on anniversaries.

12. The Home manager must ensure that all fire systems and alarms are tested weekly by staff of the Home. Records will be kept of all such testing as part of the Home Manager's responsibilities.

13. All fire fighting equipment will be checked annually by a qualified fire extinguisher maintenance engineer. This will be planned as part of the procedure for Servicing, Maintenance and Calibration of Equipment and the specialist engineers will be listed on the Home's Preferred Suppliers List.

14. Lounges should be inspected last thing at night to check for the following:

14.1 Waste paper bins emptied, preferably outside the building.

14.2 Ensure all electrical appliances (T.V.s etc) are switched off.

15. Areas where oxygen is in place must have a warning sign in place and oxygen stored away from heat sources. No smoking around oxygen. Do not use paraffin based lip balms.

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Emollients

Emollients are often flammable due to their oily or greasy nature and often contain paraffin. If not handled and stored properly, they can pose a significant fire risk. This risk increases when emollients come into contact with open flames, such as cigarettes or candles.

Precaution: Ensure proper storage of emollients away from potential ignition sources. Educate staff and residents about the fire risk and establish a no-smoking policy in areas where emollients are used or stored.

Be aware that fabric such as bedding or bandages that have dried residue of an emollient on them will easily ignite and to report any fire incidents with emollients or other skin care products to yellow card scheme

people who use an emollient or skin cream to:

- **avoid smoking**
- **change and wash clothes and bedding regularly**
- **keep cream off furniture**
- **tell relatives and carers of the hazards**

There is a fire apron available for any resident who smokes they must be encouraged to wear this. Residents must not be left alone whilst smoking

Fire Drills

Fire drills will be conducted at least twice per year, with best practice being quarterly drills.

Drills will include:

- Different shifts including night staff
- Simulated fire scenarios
- Evacuation practice
- All drills will be recorded and reviewed.

Fire training booklets must be completed during introduction period when employment is commenced

If at any time you have a query regarding fire prevention and safety, fire exits or about the fire drill, please speak with the Deputy Manager, Helen Amos, at the earliest opportunity.